

Covenant Call – October 2026

A Letter from Caitlin

Greetings Covenant Family,

We had a wonderful worship service on September 20th where folks shared vulnerably, passionately, and lovingly about their feelings, hopes, and dreams for our 40 days of prayer. Listed are those feelings, hopes, and dreams you shared. If you missed worship, I'd encourage you to watch the recording, which you can find here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxGx-mPiv-Y>

Thank you for your trust, faith, and support of our beloved Covenant community.

Blessings on the start of this season,

Caitlin

FEELINGS:

- This is a time for deepening our faith and relationships
- Opportunity to pray like we never do: constantly
- It will be difficult to keep up the discipline for 40 days
- Discerning God's voice vs. my own voice
- Opportunity for individual retrospection and consensus
- Our own situation parallels that of our nation
- Weariness and lack of energy
- Eagerness

HOPES:

- We actually hear God's voice
- We can discern God's will for us
- We pray with specific purpose – what is God calling us to do/be?
- Clarity as to what we want for Covenant; will we be missed if we're gone?
- Personal growth; what is it to be a Christian today?
- Flip the "weary" script; pray daily with peace
- Two paths; One that leads to death & another that curves off. Hope we discern which path God is calling us to take.

FEARS:

- We might not have the energy to accomplish what God is calling us to do
- Covenant might not exist at all
- We will be able to see our decision through?
- Is it just too late?
- Having our own ideas but not discerning God's way for us
- Not understanding what God wants us to do

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Covenant Fall Worship* and Education!



Sunday, October 4th; 11am - World Communion Sunday worship w/EIPC, and after-church potluck where you're asked to bring a dish that reminds you of "home."

Sunday, October 18th; 11am – Taizé service and children lead Prayers of the People.

Sunday, October 25th; 11am – Concluding service of our 40 Days of Prayer.

Sundays; 10am – Children Sunday School in the Sunday School room. The Sunday School lessons will follow the worship lectionary this year (this is new!), including Godly Play lessons when appropriate.

Tuesdays; 10am – Zoom Bible Study. We will be studying the Wisdom of Solomon.

Thursdays; 12pm – Zoom devotionals. We will be focusing on the upcoming Sunday's scripture lessons this year for our weekly devotionals.

Sundays, November 1st, 8th & 15th; 11am – Chorus of Generosity stewardship theme worship.

*** Always on Zoom as well**



Coat Drive with CWP

Covenant will be partnering with Children's Weekday Program (CWP) in a coat drive from October 30th-November 13th. Look for the collection box in the lobby. Let's help keep our neighbors warm this coming winter!

World Communion Sunday



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 @ 11 AM

Join Church of the Covenant & Emmanuel Indonesian Presbyterian Church for a joint worship service.

Celebrate global faith with Indonesian Communion traditions and live Angklung music. Stay for the post-worship potluck and **bring a dish that reminds you of "home" to share!**

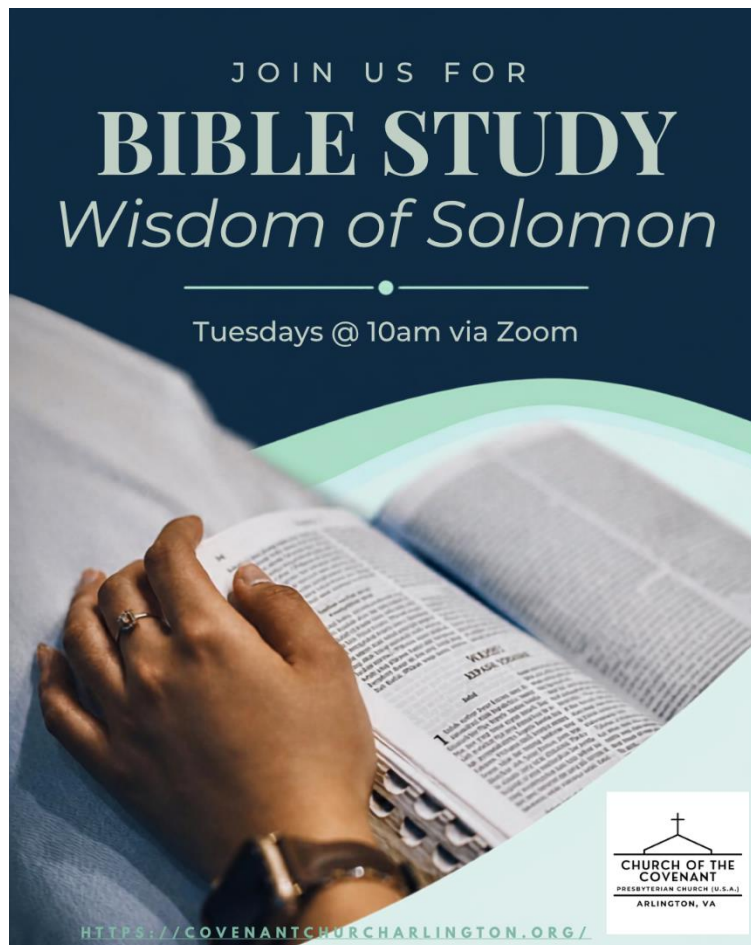


Bible Study: Fascinating Theology of the First Century (BCE or CE?)

In the first two chapters of the Wisdom of Solomon, the original first century readers of this exhortation were offered a choice of two paths: (1) The way of the ungodly that leads to death; or (2) the way of the righteous that leads to immortality.

The author of Wisdom provides an astute analysis of the thinking of nihilists, who begin with the assumption that this earthly life is all there is; it is short and sorrowful and when it's over, the body turns to ashes and the spirit dissolves "like empty air" (2:3). Therefore, they choose to seek pleasure and wealth, living by their "might as the law of right" and oppressing the righteous because they are "inconvenient" and a "burden" on their pleasure. Though the righteous suffer and are tormented by the ungodly in this life, ultimately their souls are: "in the hand of God;" "at peace;" and in "hope full of eternity." (3:1-4)

It's not too late to join this study via Zoom on Tuesdays at 10am. We're just beginning to explore N.T. Wright's understanding of "immortality" in the Wisdom of Solomon. **Email Susan Tarr at starr4321@aol.com** to get the Zoom link.



The Last Supper

You're invited to this highly-anticipated event. Please invite your friends!

Join Church of the Covenant for a 2-part workshop on planning for the end of life. We'll be led by Rev. Caitlin Culp and Death Doula Kristen Patterson, MS, MPH. We'll gather over lunch for meaningful learning and compassionate discussion on preparing for the end of life.

Topics covered:

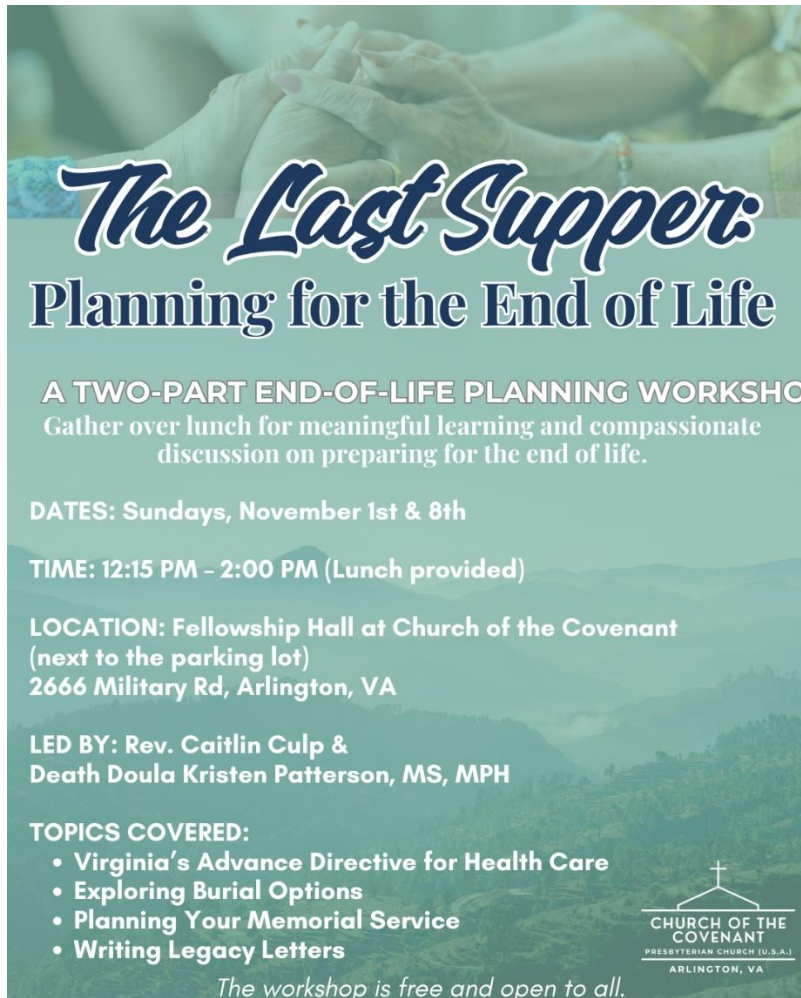
- Virginia's Advance Directive for Health Care
- Exploring Burial Options
- Planning Your Memorial Service
- Writing Legacy Letters

DATES: Sundays, November 1st and November 8th

TIME: 12:15pm-2:00pm (lunch provided)

LOCATION: Fellowship Hall at Church of the Covenant (next to the parking lot) 2666 Military Rd, Arlington, VA

REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/mv2K6MQqcGRASTKa7>



The Last Supper
Planning for the End of Life

A TWO-PART END-OF-LIFE PLANNING WORKSHOP
Gather over lunch for meaningful learning and compassionate discussion on preparing for the end of life.

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(next to the parking lot)
2666 Military Rd, Arlington, VA

LED BY: Rev. Caitlin Culp &
Death Doula Kristen Patterson, MS, MPH

TOPICS COVERED:

- Virginia's Advance Directive for Health Care
- Exploring Burial Options
- Planning Your Memorial Service
- Writing Legacy Letters

The workshop is free and open to all.


CHURCH OF THE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
ARLINGTON, VA



Playground, Pizza, and Pumpkins

**PLAYGROUND, PIZZA,
AND PUMPKINS**



**RECREATION, LUNCH,
AND PUMPKIN DECORATING**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

12:30 PM

POTOMAC OVERLOOK PARK



CHURCH OF THE
COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
ARLINGTON, VA



Update from Othow

Psalm 73:26 (NLT): "My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; He is mine forever."

Even if his health failed, Asaph knew this would not mean God had failed him. Job, too, knew that God would not fail him even if his life should end. He testified, "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he shall stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God" (Job 19:25–26). Amen.

I and the people of Pochella are doing well, although the Radio I am managing was damaged by lightning three months ago. But I praise God for the protection on us. Currently I am mobilizing the equipment to repair the damage. My family are still in the refugee camp in Kenya, and the

living has become hard there. I am hoping they shall get the resettlement for the third-Country to have access to education and others services, because now the violence is continuing in my country.



The World Food Programme (WFP) issued a critical warning in September 2026 that over a million vulnerable people in South Sudan risk losing life-saving food and nutrition assistance by October.

-Othow Okoti



We're glad you were born! Covenant sends Happy Birthday wishes to:

October 08 – **Caitlin Culp**

November 08 – **Hille Blackshaw**

October 10 – **Wyatt Aasen (2019)**

November 08 – **Bill Murphey**

October 10 – **Riley Uemura**

November 09 – **Jane Binkley**

October 15 – **Charles Okpala**

November 11 – **Nora Whalen**

October 23 – **Emma Natiello**

November 12 – **Susan Hurdle**

October 24 – **Joyce Tannahill**

November 16 – **Theo Fetter (2005)**

November 19 – **Aaron Tarr**

November 20 – **Susanne Tribble**



Upcoming Events at Covenant

Check your weekly Thursday emails for all important upcoming events!

Sunday School: Sunday mornings @ 10:00 am.

Bible Study: Tuesdays @ 10:00 am

Zoom Devotional: Thursdays @ 12:00 pm.

World Communion Sunday (with EIPC): Sunday, October 4th.

Sunday, October 18th: Taizé service and children lead Prayers of the People @ 11am.

Session Meeting: Sunday, October 18th @ 9am.

Walking Group: Sunday, October 25th; 8:00 am @ Potomac Overlook Park.

Sunday, October 25th: Concluding service of our 40 Days of Prayer @ 11am.

Playground, Pizza, and Pumpkins: Sunday October 25th; 12:30pm @ Potomac Overlook Park.

Mission/Outreach Team Meeting: Monday, October 26th @ 7:30pm.

40 Days of Prayer Reflection: Thursday, October 29th @ 12:30pm and Thursday, November 19th @ 7:30pm.

Chorus of Generosity stewardship theme worship: Sundays, November 1st, 8th & 15th; 11am.

The Last Supper: Sundays, November 1st, 8th; 12:30pm.



Connect With Covenant

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/@churchofthecovenantarlingtonva>

f <https://www.facebook.com/CovenantArlington>



<https://covenantchurcharlington.org/>

Weekly Zoom Devotional; Thursdays @ 12:00 pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81145588523?pwd=mk9SSHeaz8cApcDQyzpPSkYEJBtRKG.1>

Church Zoom link:

<https://cofc.zoom.us/j/86035210161?pwd=dUQ2Y2VwdThDUWVVT3B6VGZQldGQT09>



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*Office Hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs: 10am-3:00pm