

"You have exalted above all things Your name and Your word."

Psalm 138:2



C O V E N A N T

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | IGLESIA PRESBITERIANA

October 11, 2026

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church!

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church! We would love to meet you. After the service, please stop by our Welcome Table in the lobby so that we can share some information and answer any of your questions. Our church is filled with wonderful people eager to get to know you, minister to you, and help you get connected. Blessings in Christ.

Worship Service

October 11, 2026

Gathering Song

“Rise with the Sun”

Welcome

Prayer of Praise

Call to Worship

Psalm 99:1–5

Leader:

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
The LORD is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
Let them praise your great and awesome name!
Holy is he!
The King in his might loves justice.
You have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.
Exalt the LORD our God;
worship at his footstool!
Holy is he!

Song of Praise

“And Can It Be”

Confession of Sin

Reading of the Law, Exodus 20:1–11

You shall have no other gods.
You shall not make images of God or anything in creation and you shall not worship them.
You shall not take God’s name in vain.
You shall keep the Sabbath holy.
Honor your father and your mother.

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- A **Soundproof Room** is available within the kitchen if you or someone you love needs a place to be free to make some noise while still being able to participate in the worship service.
 - A **Nursing Mother’s Room** is available in the nursery wing. It offers a private environment while allowing you to hear and see into the sanctuary, if desired.
 - Large Print Sermon Notes and Lyric Sheets are available at the sound booth.
 - **Headsets** are available at the sound booth for the hearing impaired.
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You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness.
You shall not covet.

Heavenly Father, we have sinned and failed to keep your commandments. We confess that we have not loved you, our God, with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 2:13-15

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Songs of Mercy

**“His Mercy Is More”
“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (First Service)**

Sacrament of Baptism (Second Service)

Noelle Halterman, Lily Halterman, Luke Halterman

- Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
- Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
- Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
- Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
- Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

Scripture Reading

Colossians 3:1–17

Prayer of Intercession

Please pass the attendance registers down your row.

God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Checks or cash may be placed in the offering baskets as they are passed, or dropped off at or mailed to the church office at 32 Southgate Court, Suite 101, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

Song of Repentance

“O Great God”

Children age 3 through Pre-K are dismissed for Children's Church.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Todd Pruitt

1 & 2 Samuel
Part 5 - Glimpses of Grace in Terrible Times
1 Samuel 2:11–36
(Pew Bible page 212)

Song of Response

“Flee from Sin/Run to Jesus”

Announcements

Doxology

Benediction

Building map in print version, available on site.

Dear Covenant Presbyterian Family,

As you know, the session of Covenant is very cautious about how we treat the Lord's house on the Lord's Day. The gathered worship of God's people must be guarded according to God's Word. Likewise, we seek to guard the pulpit from making pronouncements that, while good in themselves, do not rise to the level of "thus says the Lord." For these reasons we have a history of not addressing certain political issues from the pulpit. For instance, we do not endorse particular political parties or candidates. Nor do we make pronouncements on a whole variety of foreign and domestic policies over which Christians of good conscience may disagree.

Acknowledging all of this, we have before us a moment which demands biblical clarity and courage from the church.

On November 3, the citizens of Virginia will have an opportunity to vote on two proposed amendments to our state's constitution which should occupy a high degree of concern for us as Christians. In fact, these two ballot measures involve issues upon which our denomination and this church hold very clear positions: violence against the unborn and marriage. Since God is the giver of life and creator of marriage any attempt by human governments to undermine, redefine, or destroy them ought to be confronted by the church.

Before these issues were "political" they were first and foremost issues of biblical truth and morality. How we treat the unborn and marriage are directly related to how we honor God and love our neighbor.

The two proposed amendments for Virginia's constitution are as follows:

- 1. Ballot Question 1 would enshrine in our state's constitution a right for unlimited abortion at any time during the pregnancy up to the point of birth. Abortion is a clear violation of God's law. It is a great wickedness that violates everything the Scriptures teach us about violence against the innocent, loving our neighbor, defending the powerless, and rescuing those being led away to slaughter. This amendment even removes any requirement for parental consent for a minor seeking abortion. Therefore, by this amendment the state will assist children both in murder and in dishonoring their parents.*
- 2. Ballot Question 2 would remove the definition of marriage as the "union between one man and one woman" from our state's constitution. This is in direct violation of the law of God and therefore dishonors our Lord and tempts our neighbors to sin. God is the designer and governor of marriage and we dishonor him and mock him when we seek to redefine it. Not only that, we damage the very stability upon which healthy societies are built, thus harming our neighbor.*

The significance of altering our state's constitution in these matters is that they will render unconstitutional all efforts to abolish and even limit abortion. The same is true for any legal efforts to limit marriage to one man and one woman and stop sinful attempts to give it an ever-widening definition.

Scripture tells us that sin is a reproach to any nation (Proverbs 14:34). But we have the rather unique opportunity to act against these efforts. We do so by voting, a privilege God has mercifully provided for us. Surely, pushing back against state-sponsored wickedness is worth whatever time it takes to vote.

With great affection in Christ,

The Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church

Children’s Ministries

Check-in

Check in your children for Sunday ministries at any of our four stations (Main, Nursery, or Children’s Wing lobbies). All participating children must wear their printed nametag.

Nursery

Nursery is available for infants (newborns, creepers, and crawlers), walkers (confident walkers), and toddlers (twos and threes) during today’s services if enough volunteers are secured.

Children’s Church

Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten’s Children’s Church is held in the Activity Room (first service) and C-105 (second service). Children are released at a specified time during worship and will return for the doxology and benediction. Please pick them up at the end of the service from the front row on the piano side of the sanctuary.

Early Childhood Sunday School

Sunday School for Preschool and Pre-K (10:00–11:00 a.m.)

Preschool classroom: C-106
Pre-K classroom: C-104

Elementary Sunday School

Sunday School for Grades K–5 (10:00–11:00 a.m.)

After check-in, Grades 1–6 meet in the Activity Room before heading to class. Kindergarten goes directly to their classroom during the Sunday School hour. Parents of first through third graders will pick their children up from their classrooms. Children in fourth grade and older will be dismissed to meet their parents.

Kindergarten: C-108 & C-109	1st: C-200	2nd A: C-202	2nd B: C-203	3rd: C-204	4th: C-205	5th: C-206
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Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School for Grades 6–12 (10:00–11:00 a.m.)

6th Grade meets in Room C-207 | led by Ruling Elder Gary Shickel and Becky Shickel, and Clark and Brooke Driver
Jr. High, Grades 7–8, meets in Multi-purpose Room West | led by Mike Martin, Tyler Garman, Ashley Hormel, and Colleen Ernst
Sr. High, Grades 9–12, meets in the Youth Room | led by Pastor John Kidd, Mike Bollen, Alexis Stevens, and Ruling Elder Isaac Hutchison

(Building map on previous page)

Fall Adult Sunday School

September 6 through November 29, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Grace Changes Everything *meets in the Sanctuary, taught by Pastor Todd Pruitt* | Early in the seventeenth century the Reformed faith hung in the balance. A popular movement led by students of the theology professor Jacob Arminius were arguing for a version of the faith which departed sharply from the rich inheritance gained from such men as Augustine (5th century) and the Protestant Reformers of the sixteenth century. Their theological innovations took the form of a document which specifically refuted five key points of doctrine affirmed both in Scripture and by the Protestant Reformers. Such a challenge demanded a response. From 1618–1619 the Dutch Reformed Church convened a special synod in the town of Dordrecht (Netherlands) and crafted a thorough response: The Canons of Dordt. This document not only refuted the five points of Arminianism, but it established the pastoral implications of the Scriptures' remarkable teachings concerning the gracious nature of salvation by grace alone through faith alone. This study will cover the history, explore the biblical foundations, and apply the comforting truths of the Doctrines of Grace.

Welcome to Covenant (Membership Class) *meets in Multi-purpose Room East, taught by Pastor Burress McCombe and Ruling Elder David Lee* | Scripture makes it clear that church membership is an invaluable facet of life in Christ's kingdom. If you're a Christian, then it is vital to belong to a local church, and we pray that you will take this next step. While taking this class does not bind you to membership, it is the first step toward becoming a member. If you have questions about the class, contact Sarah Plonsky (sarahp@cov-pres.org).

All Nations Class *meets in the Library, facilitated by several members including Kellie Grathwol, Deb Grathwol, and Jeremy Samsoe* | This class provides a welcoming environment to connect across language and cultural differences as we visit, read the Scripture passage, pray together, and have open discussion.

Through the Roof Adults *meets in W-10, led by members Linda Krause, Jason Miller, and Sarah Pruett* | This class provides adults affected by disability the opportunity to connect and digest God's Word in an easy-to-understand format. Join us on the first, third, and fifth Sundays.

Through the Roof Support Group *meets in W-10, led by members Laura Flint and Sarah Pruett* | This class provides parents, grandparents, and caregivers the opportunity to connect, share resources, and discuss challenges that come with living and caring for a child or adult with a disability. Join us on the second and fourth Sundays.

Covenant Family Life

Moms & Tots Playgroup

Moms & Tots Playgroup is for moms and caregivers with children from birth to 5 years old. It is a time during the week for our children to play and for us to have conversation and fellowship. We'd love for you to join us Wednesdays 9:30- 11:30 a.m.! For more information, contact Katie Garbee or Susanna Glenn.

October 14: Myers Pumpkin Patch

October 21: Purcell Park Kids Castle

October 28: Potluck and guest speaker

Youth Ministries

Today, October 11: No Youth Group.

Next Sunday, October 18: No Youth Group. See you at the Fall Festival!

Children's Choir

Wednesdays, 4:00–5:00 p.m., Activity Room

Children's Choir has begun and all children in kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to join. In Children's Choir, your child will learn to sing with proper technique, read music and sight-sing, play fun music games and musical instruments, and prepare choral pieces to sing for the church body—all for the glory of God! We need parent assistants; please consider volunteering. For more information, contact Lisa Updike (lisa@cov-pres.org).

Seniors' Lunch

Wednesday, October 14, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Multi-purpose Rooms

Men's and Women's Ministries invite everyone 65 and older to join us for lunch! We want to honor you with a delicious meal, encourage you with teaching from Scripture, and provide an opportunity for discussion. Register using the QR code on the opposite page or visit the events page on our website. For more information, contact Aaron Roberts (aroberts@cov-pres.org).

Fall Festival

Sunday, October 18, 3:00–6:00 p.m., The Marsh Farm, Port Republic

Join us for a fun family event for the entire church body! We will enjoy fellowship with one another and share the joy God has given us with our friends in the community.

Through the Roof Game Night

Saturday, October 24, 5:30–8:00 p.m., Activity Room

Get to know our friends in Through the Roof at our Game Night. This event is for high school-aged teens and adults with disabilities and their families to connect with other families in our church for an evening of fun. We'll have crafts, group games, plus dinner and dessert. Register using the QR code on the opposite page or visit the events page on our website. For more information, contact Sarah Pruett (sarah.pruett@cov-pres.org).

Prayer Night

Sunday, November 1, 6:00–7:00 p.m., Multi-purpose Room East

Because of the vital importance of prayer, we will gather for corporate times of prayer on the first Sunday evening every other month. We hope you will make plans to join us as we seek the Lord in prayer for each other, the church, our neighbors, and our nation.

Women's Bible Conference

Friday, January 15–Saturday, January 16, 2027

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Bible Conference. This will be a special time of teaching by Lydia Brownback from 1 Peter, encouragement, and fellowship you won't want to miss.

Women's Bible Studies

We welcome all women to participate in a Bible study. These are wonderful opportunities for fellowship, connection, and growth in God's Word. Visit our website (Ministries/Women/Bible Studies) for study details and contact information.

Men's Bible Studies

We welcome you to join a morning or afternoon Bible study this season. This is a great weekly opportunity to meet other men in the church, grow in your faith, and encourage others to do the same. Visit our website (Ministries/Men/Bible Studies) and use the contact information to reach out to a leader for more details.

Opportunities to Serve and Connect

Moms & Tots Playgroup Childcare Needed

Moms & Tots Playgroup needs three child-protection-approved volunteers to provide childcare one Wednesday a month for two hours (9:30–11:30 a.m.). If you are willing to serve, please contact Katie Garbee.

Greeters & Ushers Needed

As we head into the fall, we need more volunteers to fill our greeter and usher teams. Members, please consider fulfilling your membership vows by helping carry out Covenant's vision to welcome and worship in the name of Christ. Our needs are twofold:

- We have an immediate need for ushers for the second service on the first, third, and fifth Sundays. Ushers help to facilitate worship by greeting people at the sanctuary doors and collecting tithes and offerings.
- As we near the end of construction, we are planning how our welcome teams will need to grow to fit our new space. Whether you join as a single, a couple, or as a family, we would love to have you! Please consider joining our greeter team as we welcome members and guests into worship!

Please sign up to serve through the QR code below or by contacting Sarah Plonsky (sarahp@cov-pres.org).

Meals Needs

Are you able to provide a meal to one of the families or groups in our church body? This is a great opportunity to encourage and connect, even with those you might not know. You might consider teaming up with someone to provide a meal. Thank you for sharing Christ's love in this way. You may sign up at www.takethemameal.com. Contact the church office for passwords.

Michael & Cayla Ball, Harrisonburg

Larry & Amy Chico, Rockingham

Glenn & Laurie Loucks, Rockingham

Dylan & Madison Nappier, Broadway

Mosby Kids' Club Snacks (last name: Mosby, password: mosby), Harrisonburg



Scan this QR
code to view
and register
for events.

Events & Signups

Giving Information

Electronic Giving

We have set up online giving as a convenience for you to give on a one-time or ongoing basis. Visit our website, www.cov-pres.org, and click on “GIVE” or log on to Church Center to manage your donations from there. There is a feature that lets you donate to cover the processing fees charged by credit card companies. The box is automatically checked with the amount filled in. If you’d rather not add this amount to your donation, simply uncheck the box. You may also donate through Church Center. After you log on, click on the “GIVE” button.

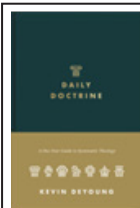


Online Banking - Bill Pay

Another easy and convenient way to give is to use the online bill pay feature, often available through online banking at many banks; you will need to check with your bank to verify its availability. When using this feature, request that a paper check be sent to the church office rather than an electronic check, and a check in the amount you designate will be sent directly from the bank to Covenant Presbyterian Church. Please have your bank use the following mailing address: 32 Southgate Ct., Suite 101, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Recommended Reading

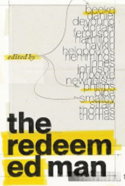
The Book Nook is currently featuring these and other excellent titles. If a particular book is not available in our Book Nook, you may purchase it from your favorite book seller.



Daily Doctrine by Kevin DeYoung

“Using the time-honored genre of a daily devotional, Kevin DeYoung has produced a book that looks at the great doctrines that the Bible teaches. And in doing so, he enables us to grasp more fully the beauty and significance of Christian doctrine both for Bible reading and for how we live our lives.”

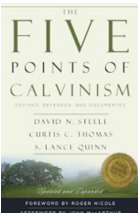
—Carl R. Trueman



The Redeemed Man edited by Joel Beeke, Richard Phillips, and Paul Smalley

“For a culture deeply confused about manhood, this book is a timely and desperately needed resource. With contributions from a team of trusted pastors, it provides a remarkably comprehensive guide to the whole of a man’s life.”

—Scott Aniol



The Five Points of Calvinism by Steele, Thomas, & Quinn

“It is a privilege to commend this enlarged and revised edition to a new generation. A model of clarity, full of biblical teaching.”

—Sinclair Ferguson

“One could hardly wish for a better study resource to show the five points’ faithfulness to Scripture. This disciplined display of the heart of the gospel calls for three of the loudest cheers we can give.” —J. I. Packer

“Truly a classic--clear, concise and warm in its presentation of historic Reformed theology. This latest edition is even better than the original.”

—R.C. Sproul

Covenant Care Connections

Counseling

Greg Becker, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), provides counseling free to members of Covenant. He is the first step in receiving individual or family counseling through Covenant. You may make an appointment with him by scanning the QR code or calling him at the church office. At your first appointment, Greg will help you to determine the best course of care which may utilize Journey Counseling Ministry or other fee-based community resources.



After-Hours Care Line

A pastor is on call when the church office is closed. In the case of a personal or family emergency (serious illness or death) on the weekend or after office hours, call 540-755-4725. If the phone is not answered, leave a message. Please note that this number is to be used only in the case of emergencies that occur outside of business hours.

Ministry Contacts are available on the church app directory or by contacting the church office (office@cov-pres.org, 540-433-3051)

Adult Sunday School

Aaron Roberts

American Heritage Girls

Christine Say

Children's Ministry

Lisa Updike

ESL

Sarah Kalichman

Greeters and Ushers

Sarah Plonsky

Home Groups

Aaron Roberts

Kids' Club

Sarah Kalichman

Dawn Frederick

Men's Ministry

Aaron Roberts

Mercy Ministry

Terry Pennington

Missions Ministry

Keith Fowler

Moms & Tots Playgroup

Susanna Glenn

Katie Garbee

Prayer Chain

Church Office

Trail Life

Mark Say

Through the Roof

Sarah Pruett

Welcome and Assimilation

Sarah Plonsky

Women's Ministry

Sarah DeBoer

Worship Ministry

Burress McCombe

Youth Ministry

John Kidd

Stay Connected: Download Church Center



Staff & Officers

Pastoral Staff • Teaching Elders

Todd Pruitt, Lead Pastor
Tim Frost, Executive Pastor
Burress McCombe, Pastor of Worship
John Kidd, Pastor of Youth Ministries
Aaron Roberts, Pastor of Adult Discipleship
Phil Mahaffey, Pastor of Cross-Cultural Ministries

Ministry Staff

Greg Becker, Director of Congregational Care and Counseling
Grace Good, Director of Administration
Lisa Updike, Director of Children's Ministries
Kendal Butler, Associate Director of Finance
Sarah DeBoer, Associate Director of Women's Ministries
Colleen Ernst, Associate Director of Youth Ministries
Sarah Kalichman, Cross-Cultural Community Liaison, MNA
Sarah Plonsky, Associate Director of Welcome and Assimilation
Sarah Pruett, Associate Director of Accessibility Ministries
Rachel Stratman, Youth Ministry Associate

Support Staff

Sharon Armentrout, Hospitality Coordinator
Nancy Frutuoso, Ministry Support
Rebecca Griffin, Ministry Support
Kellie Hutchison, Ministry Support
Nínive Logie, Ministry Support
Melissa Ritter, Ministry Support
Reilly Zwanzig, Ministry Support

Facility Staff

Drew Brunk, Facilities Manager
Gus Kagey, Custodian
Jeremy Keplinger, Custodian

Ruling Elders

Hal Baker**	Mike Marsh*
Greg Becker	J.D. Patton
Larry Chico	Don Perkuchin**
Ryan Chico	Gary Shickel
Steve Draper**	Jim Smith
Isaac Hutchison	John Stevens
David Lee	Anthony Tongen
Josh Lookabill	Jerry Weniger*

Deacons

Mark Bentz*	Daniel Long
Mike Brady	Justin Michael
Marshall Butler	Greg Montgomery
Mike Downey	Terry Pennington
Doug Frederick	Matt Reidenbach
Chris Goehner	Mark Shickel
Dennis Houff	John Wickenheiser*
Ben Jacobsen*	Michael Wilburn
Chet Landes	Mike Yoder*
Reid Linn**	

**Sabbatical **Emeritus*

Contact Information

Worship Facility

546 W. Mosby Rd.
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Office & Mailing Address

32 Southgate Ct., St. 101
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Office Hours

Mon, Wed–Fri: 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Tue: 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Phone: 540-433-3051

Email: office@cov-pres.org

Web: www.cov-pres.org

Bulletin announcements (by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday): bulletin@cov-pres.org

Covenant Presbyterian Church

A member of the Presbyterian Church in America
www.pcanet.org