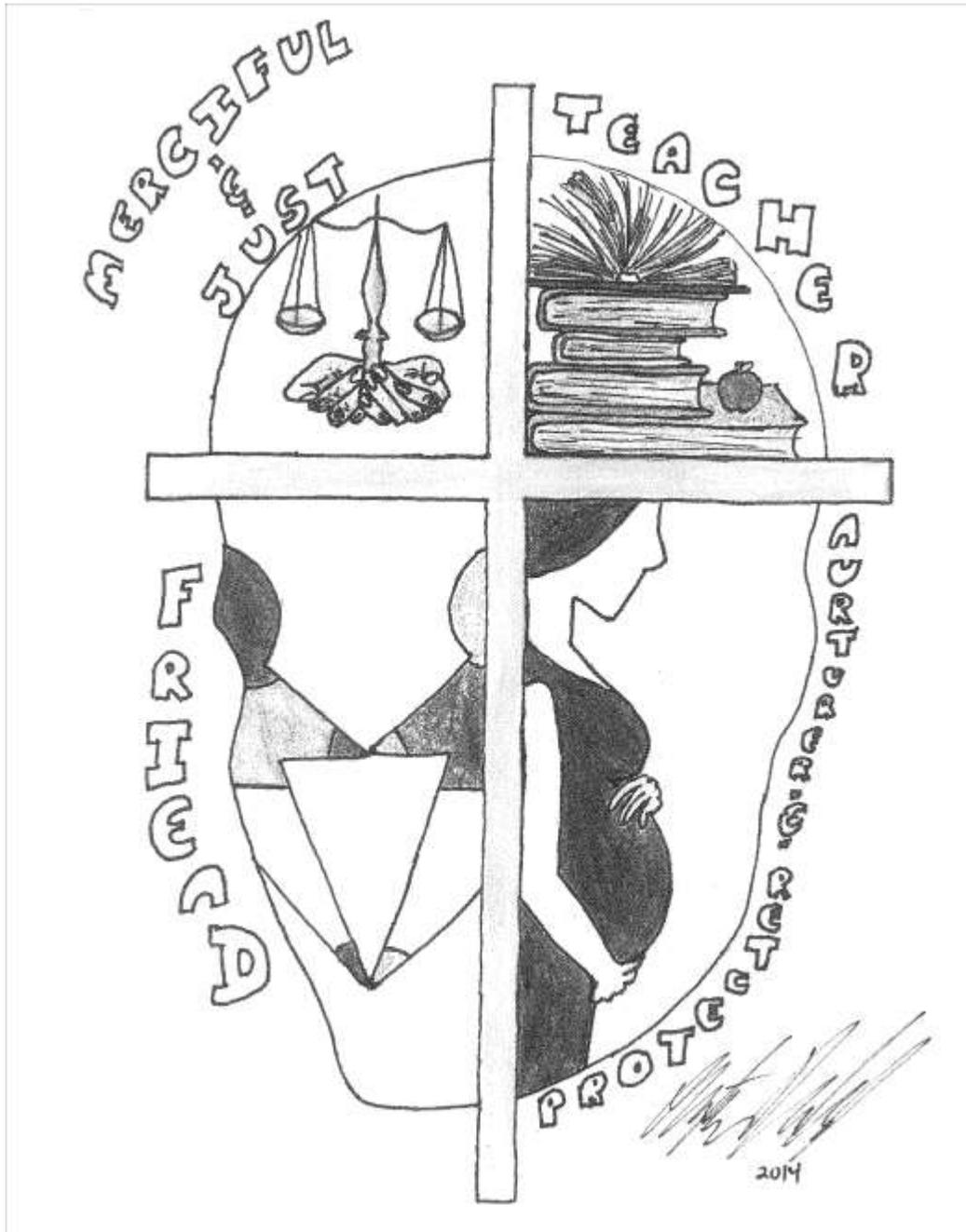


*Youth Sunday, May 11, 2014*



## *God, Our Parent*

*In the Words of our Children and Youth  
Through Scripture, Meditation, Dialogue & Prayer*

11205 Euclid Avenue ☞ Cleveland, Ohio 44106  
216.421.0482 ☞ [CovenantWeb.org](http://CovenantWeb.org)

**T**HE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT WELCOMES all who have come to worship with us. This congregation seeks to be a spiritual home for people from all walks of life, and to be involved in the vital personal and social concerns of our day. Here you will find a diversity of religious opinion, an openness to questions of faith and practice, and a commitment of respect for one another as together we seek to discern God's purposes for our lives. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to become a member or participant in our family of faith.

## OUR VISION

The Church of the Covenant aspires to be a welcoming spiritual home where we are:

- ∞ Challenged to live God's inclusive love,
- ∞ Empowered to express Christ's compassion, and
- ∞ Equipped to do justice within the community and throughout the world.

**CONVINCED OF GOD'S GRACE**, the Church of the Covenant seeks to be open and affirming, welcoming all people.



- ∞ *Units of the Easy Listener system, large-print bulletins, and individual seat cushions are available from the ushers.*
- ∞ *Please sign the signature book found at the end of your pew.*
- ∞ *We ask that you please turn off cell phones and pagers; refrain from walking in the aisles during the sermon and prayers or taking pictures during the service; and, if you are double parked, move your car immediately following the service.*
- ∞ *Copies of recent sermons are available on the kiosks and on our website at [CovenantWeb.org](http://CovenantWeb.org).*
- ∞ *Please remember that, as a welcoming congregation, our building is open. As such, you will not want to leave your belongings unattended.*

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

MAY 11, 2014

YOUTH SUNDAY ~ MOTHER'S DAY

10:00 A.M.

*God, Our Parent  
In the Words of our Children and Youth*

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter the sanctuary reverently and let the power and inspiration of the music prepare you to experience the majesty and glory of God.

For those who may wish to read them in advance, the scriptures today are Genesis 2:8–9, 15–17; 3:6, 8; 1 Corinthians 13:11–12; Deuteronomy 32:1–2, 11–12; Psalm 25:4–5, 8–9; 119:33–37; Proverbs 1:5–9; Matthew 23:37; Isaiah 66:13, 49:15; and John 15:12–15.

\* Those who are able may stand.

*Please note that during this service individual dialogues are interspersed throughout.*

THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO  
Covenant Carillonneur

PRELUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God*

J.S. BACH  
Arr. A.B. Couper  
Youth Handbell Choir

WELCOME

KYLE LANGMACK

\* CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

\* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

KYLE LANGMACK

One Voice: I would know you, Lord.

**Response: But how can I know what I have not seen?**

I would hear your voice, Lord.

**But how do I recognize your voice in the noise around me?**

I would follow in your ways.

**But who will guide me along the right paths?**

**In Unison: We see you, we sense you, we hear you; we come to know you through our relationships with others. And now, hoping to deepen our relationship with you, let us come together to worship God.**

\* HYMN 311

*We Meet You, O Christ*

NORMANDY

# DIALOGUE 1: *God of Justice and Mercy*

(Please be seated.)

SCRIPTURE

*Genesis 2:8–9, 15–17; 3:6, 8*

SAVANNAH GOINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

JULIA HAISS

**God, we confess that we don't always understand the boundaries that you have placed upon us. We fail to see that the boundaries are not there to restrict our fun. They are there to give us the fullness of life. You have given us moral limits, yet we engage in behaviors that do not promote our physical well-being. You give us boundaries to ensure that we can live together in harmony, yet we use the boundaries to better ourselves when it is helpful, but not when it is inconvenient. Often we use your boundaries to make ourselves higher than our neighbor. Instead of seeking justice and peace, we seek revenge for perceived wrongs with subtle words and actions that exclude the other. Forgive us for our self-centered ways and guide us toward a more holistic life that draws the full creation into your presence. Listen as we privately confess our sins.**

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN (*in silence*)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One Voice: Hear the word of the Lord.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. God will not always accuse, nor will God harbor anger forever. God does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities." For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us" (*Psalm 103:11-12*).

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

Response: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

UBI CARITAS



U - bi ca - ri - tas \_\_\_\_\_ et a - - - mour. \_\_\_\_\_ U - bi  
Love and car - ing are \_\_\_\_\_ there is God. \_\_\_\_\_ Where Love and



ca - ri tas \_\_\_\_\_ De - us i - bi est. \_\_\_\_\_ Where  
car - ing are, \_\_\_\_\_ there \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ God. \_\_\_\_\_

MEDITATION 1 *Stepping out of Bounds—God’s Justice, God’s Mercy* COLLIN DENBOW

\* HYMN 298 *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy* IN BABILONE

SCRIPTURE *1 Corinthians 13:11–12* CARTER LANGMACK

### DIALOGUE 2: *Learning*

SCRIPTURE *Deuteronomy 32:1–2, 11-12* JUSTIN MITCHELL

Listen, O heavens, and I will speak; hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.

Teach me to learn, so I may understand all that you have to teach.

Teach me to know your word so I may unlock your mystery.

CONGREGATION *(In unison)* *Psalms 25:4–5* CARTER LANGMACK

**Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths: guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.**

Teach me to understand you so I may never be alone.

Teach me to open my eyes so I may become more aware of the world around me.

SCRIPTURE *Psalms 25:8–9* JUSTIN MITCHELL

Good and faithful is the Lord: therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his ways.

Teach me that others have feelings so I can bring love, not hurt to others.

Teach me how to forgive others so I may be free from hatred.

Teach me to understand others so I may be more caring.

Teach me to love my neighbor so I may love myself.

Teach me to love myself so I may truly love my neighbor.

SCRIPTURE *Psalms 119:33–37* CARTER LANGMACK

Teach me, O Lord to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end. Give me understanding and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. Turn my eyes away from worthless things, preserve my life according to your word.

Teach me to pray more often so I may better talk with you.

Teach me to be good so I will not hurt myself by testing your boundaries.

Teach me to be helpful so I may be a better helper to others in need.



## LITANY PRAYER

**One Voice:** God, I see you as I ponder the deeper mysteries of learning. But your very presence is a mystery I cannot prove with rational thought.

**Response:** **You are known to me, you are mystery.**

I see you in the beauty of art and music, and in the best of media that move us beyond ourselves.

But we are a culture obsessed with surface-level art and media that obscure our vision of your presence in the world.

**You are known to me, you are mystery.**

I see you in the miracle of new life, in babies and grandparents; it is a wonder to me that humans have been given the ability to create life.

But why can't I always see you as easily in the stranger, in the person I don't always agree with, in the person I don't really like? Why can't I always see your image in myself?

**You are known to me, you are mystery.**

## PRAYERS

KYLE LANGMACK

*Includes intercession for people affected by gun violence with the tolling of the tower bell.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *(In unison)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

CARTER LANGMACK

## \* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*All who are able may stand, row by row, as the ushers walk forward with the offering plates. All are invited to sing.*

All creatures, your Creator bless,  
 And worship God in humbleness.  
 O sing ye! Alleluia!  
 Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
 And praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENIORS

\* CLOSING CHARGE

\* HYMN

*The Living God*

J. CONNER

(As the music introduction plays, parents, guardians, and families are invited to come forward and stand with their children. Children sing verse 1, families and children verse 2, and full congregation verse 3. Children and families may return to the pews at the end of the hymn.)

The Living God

J. Conner

How can I know you \_\_\_\_\_ and see your face? \_\_\_\_\_ How can I  
 shows me \_\_\_\_\_ the way to go, \_\_\_\_\_ the one who  
 oth - ers \_\_\_\_\_ the love I've known, \_\_\_\_\_ pass on the

touch you \_\_\_\_\_ feel your em - brace? \_\_\_\_\_ Are you so dis - tant, \_\_\_\_\_ so far a -  
 teach - es \_\_\_\_\_ the truths they know, \_\_\_\_\_ the one who com - forts \_\_\_\_\_ my tears a  
 won - ders \_\_\_\_\_ that I've been shown, \_\_\_\_\_ com - fort the wea - ry \_\_\_\_\_ a - long the

way? \_\_\_\_\_ How can I know the liv - ing God to - day? \_\_\_\_\_ The one who  
 way \_\_\_\_\_ be - comes the face of God for me this day. \_\_\_\_\_ May I show  
 way \_\_\_\_\_ and be the face of God to you this \_\_\_\_\_ day. \_\_\_\_\_

POSTLUDE

*Fast Forward*

HOWARD ROWE

Gretchen Drushel, trombone

THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON



## ABOUT OUR SERVICE TODAY

THE THANKS OF THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION are extended to Jennifer Conner, Kaori Hongo, John Marsh, Sybil Marsh, Jonathan Moyer, Jim Tomaszewski, Ann Williams, and the Covenant children, youth, and families for their preparation of today's service. *God our Parent* was the theme for this year's Workshop Rotation classes. Today's Youth Sunday service is in the words of our children and youth as they had opportunities to study and discuss throughout these past months. Congratulate our children and youth at today's celebratory reception, complete with cake.

Veronica Bromelmeier	Savannah Goins	Naomi Marsh	Christopher Moyer
Keasia Clark	Katherine Hagen	Graham Miller	Kate Tracanna
Collin Denbow	Victoria Hagen	Greer Miller	Asha Stewart
Gretchen Drushel	Julia Haiss	Camron Mitchell	Laila Stewart
Donald Goins	Carter Langmack	Justin Mitchell	
Jonathan Goins	Kyle Langmack	Kaileigh Mitchell	

Gretchen Drushel created the cover image and Jennifer Conner designed the t-shirt image. The Children, Youth, and Families Committee members include Ann Williams (chair), Jennifer Conner, John Marsh, LaShawna Adams Mitchell, and David Pulliam. Staff include Kaori Hongo, Willie Howard, Jonathan Moyer, Jonyrma Singleton, and Mindy Stewart.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL URN are given to the glory of God; by Gayle Everhart in memory of her Aunt Maxine, born May 15; and in memory of Marcella "Marcie" Fisher Anderson, also born May 15, by Glenn G. Anderson, Sr., Glenn G., Jr., and Eleanor Hitchcock Anderson, Marcella Anderson Distad, Robert Fisher Anderson, and their families.

BELIEVING GOD CALLS US TO BE PEACEMAKERS, by Session action, we include in the prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession and Petition once each month specific concern for people affected by gun violence and addressing the evil of gun violence in our nation, marked by the tolling of the tower bell.

USHERS TODAY are John Bromelmeier, Ted Adams, James Greene, Keith Kallay, and Chris and Marilyn Langmack. GREETERS are Shirley Thompson and Arnie and Susan Dahm.

STEPHEN MINISTERS are church members trained to support individuals who are facing difficulties and would like a caring Christian presence during this struggle. If you would like someone to pray or talk with, you are invited to visit with a Stephen Minister in Christ Chapel following worship today.

MIDWEEK MUSIC & MEDITATION IS WEDNESDAYS FROM 4:30-5 PM.

**FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD ON MAY 18**, Dr. Campbell's sermon is entitled "Church with a Conscience - Redux." Scripture lessons are Psalm 73:1–11, 16–20, 28 and Luke 5:36–39. The Lay Worship Leader is Jim Tomaszewski. Officers for the 2014–15 year will be ordained and installed.

**SINCE A GUNMAN FIRED ON SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children, 204 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. The following are reported dead by gunshot since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of April, 2014: Babul Kumer Saha, Diveen Martin, Herman Louis Groce III, Jamal Rolling, Gino Zavarella III, Larry E. Smith Jr., Daniel P. Marco, Crissie Denise Jordan, Steven L. Gardner, Herman H. Coleman Jr., Jerome Alexander, Gregory Love, Theodore J. Wright Jr., Rayshawn Demon Armstrong, Freddie Bogarty Jr., and Donald A. Williams Jr. The reducing gun violence task force of the Church of the Covenant's Outreach and Social Justice Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the church office area. Anyone desiring to help address the evil of gun violence in our community and nation is invited to attend. The Task force will not meet in May, but resumes meeting on June 10.

### **IN THE COVENANT FAMILY**

**THIS WEEK WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS** Erik Kratky, Rolf Krotseng, Ed Pembroke, Marjorie Wadsworth, and other Covenant members and friends who are struggling with illness, convalescing, or are homebound.

**COVENANT MEMBER ISABELLE GOESER** has moved from Judson Manor to the Tremont Retirement Community in Houston, Texas, to be with her daughter. Please call the church office for her new address.

You will find copies of *Love Lasts On*, Dr. Campbell's letter to the congregation, in the narthex, at the cloister door, and in the kiosks.

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

**TUESDAY NOON ORGAN RECITALS** continue this week, with Jonathan Moyer performing. The McGaffin Carillon with carillonneur George Leggiero begins at 12 pm and the recital follows, 12:15–12:45 pm. Bring a friend; bring your lunch - or enjoy one of our local University Circle restaurants following the recital. On May 20, hear Organ Plus! with Elena Mullins & Sian Ricketts of Case Western Reserve University.

#### **BE KIND TO YOUR CAR (AND YOUR TASTE BUDS!)**

#### **CAR WASH AND BREAKFAST, SUNDAY, MAY 18, 8:30 AM THROUGH WORSHIP SERVICE**

Plan to get your car washed Sunday morning, May 18. Drive into the church parking lot where we will wash, and if you wish, clean the inside of your car. Then go to the Dining Room and have breakfast before worship, or just pull in and your car will be washed during worship. Our youth are sponsoring the car wash and breakfast to help raise funds for their mission trip to Kentucky, June 15 through 21. You can begin to line up Sunday morning beginning at 8:30 am until time for worship. There is no set price; this is a free will offering for both breakfast and the car wash.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY–ABINGTON ARMS MEAL PREPARATION:** Every other month volunteers from Church of the Covenant and Park Synagogue prepare and serve a meal for 60+ residents of Abington Arms, a senior living facility at 11501 Mayfield Road. **Would you prepare a specified entrée to serve 12 people and deliver it to Abington Arms by 4:30 pm on Wednesday, May 28?** For more information or to volunteer, please contact Martha Goble (440.449.5405; [martha.goble@att.net](mailto:martha.goble@att.net)) or Beth Holbein (216.371.4744; [b\\_holbein@att.net](mailto:b_holbein@att.net)).

### LOOKING TO JUNE

**KATIE G. CANNON, PHD, UNION PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY, SUNDAY, JUNE 1 AT 2 PM**

The 2014 Covenant Lecture Fund Lecture, presented by Dr. Katie Cannon, is *Through Fire and Brimstone: Black Women’s Literature as Embodied Wisdom*. Professor Cannon will also give the sermon at the 10 AM service of worship. This lecture, co-sponsored by The Cleveland Ecumenical Institute for Religious Studies, is free and open to the public. Sign up in the church office to join others for lunch before the lecture.

**PARADE THE CIRCLE, SATURDAY, JUNE 14: WATCH FOR DETAILS.**

Mark your calendars to march with us in Parade the Circle, Saturday, June 14. Details are being finalized. Watch for more information!

<b>The Church of the Covenant Activities Schedule</b> <b>Sunday, May 11 through Sunday, May 18</b> <i>See full building schedule for the Interfaith Center and other outside activities.</i>		
<b>SUNDAY, MAY 11</b>		
8 am	Organ Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:30 am	Crèche ( <i>infants through pre-kindergarten</i> )	Education Wing
8:15 am	Youth Sunday Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11 am	Snacks for Students	Narthex
11 am	Celebration Reception : Youth Sunday& Mother’s Day	Reception Room
12:30 pm	Science of Spirituality	Sonia Golden Room
1 pm	EfM Grads II	Herrick Room
<b>MONDAY, MAY 12</b>		
12 pm	University Circle Al Anon Family Group	Herrick Room
5:30 pm	Adult Education	Office Area
6:30 pm	Citizen Circle	Herrick Room
6:30 pm	Membership Committee	Office Area
7:30 pm	Session Working Group	Sonia Golden Room
<b>TUESDAY, MAY 13</b>		
10 am	Staff Meeting	Office Area
10 am	Covenant Cache	Activities Room
12:15 pm	Organ Recital	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Pastor Nominating Committee	Library

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14		
12 pm	UC Bible Study	Library
4:30 pm	Midweek Music and Meditation	Christ Chapel
5:30 pm	Trustees	Sonia Golden
5:30 pm	12 Steps to Freedom	Activities Room
7 pm	Deacons	Dining Room
7:15 pm	Outreach/Social Justice Committee	Office Area
12 pm	UC Bible Study	Library
4:30 pm	Midweek Music and Meditation	Christ Chapel
THURSDAY, MAY 15		
10 am	Covenant Cache	Activities Room
12 pm	Ohio Fair Lending	Library
7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
FRIDAY, MAY 16		
6 pm	Confirmands' Lock-in	Lower Level
SATURDAY, MAY 17		
9:30 am	Mentor-Confirmands' Breakfast	Dining Room
SUNDAY, MAY 18		
8/9 am	Organ Rehearsal / Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:30 am	Crèche ( <i>infants through pre-kindergarten</i> )	Education Wing
8:30	Breakfast (youth fundraiser)	Dining Room
8:30	Car Wash (youth fundraiser)	Parking Lot
10 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11 am	Snacks for Students	Narthex
11 am	Reception	Reception Room
11:15 am	Senior Highs	Youth Lounge
11:30 am	Chapel/Psalter Choirs	Choir Room
1 pm	EfM Grads I	Herrick Room

## CAMPUS CORNER

### SCC: Student Community at Covenant

 **11AM Snacks for Students, in the narthex (lobby).** Come say hello to others awaiting graduation, hard-working graduate students and visiting interns. **Life is better with friends!**

 **Cheers for all here last Sunday for a delicious welcome to incoming officers of SCC (Student Community at Covenant), our thanks to those who served, and a send-off for graduating Treasurer and super hand bell ringer Erica.**

 **In Cleveland for the summer? Watch this space for "something to do" each Sunday after worship, and friends to join. And check out facebook: SCC: Student Community at Covenant. We are here for you.**

 **And the Chaplain's ear is listening for you anytime: txt 216-233-5151, [efviz@yahoo.com](mailto:efviz@yahoo.com).**