



## Events

For more  
events &  
info, visit:

cogpca.org/events



SCAN ME

**YOU'RE INVITED**

# CHURCH PICNIC

**Sunday, September 14th**  
Immediately after church

Spend a relaxing afternoon enjoying old friends and making new ones at the Church Picnic. We'll have lots of food, yard games, a bounce house, cotton candy, and much more.

Register online or in the Welcome Center

## Fall Women's Bible Study

### ISAIAH: THE LORD SAVES

By Kathleen Buswell Nielson

Study days / times are as follows:

- Tuesday morning 10:30 to 12
- Tuesday evening 7 to 8:30
- Wednesday morning 10 to 11:30 (childcare provided)
- Wednesday evening (zoom) 7 to 8:30

**Begins week of September 15th**  
Book costs \$15

To Register: contact Brenda Wilson  
(wtwilson1@verizon.net)

**Awards Luncheon**

**GOLF OUTING 2025**

**Great Prizes including Gowns Tickets**

**Quail Valley, Littlestown PA**

**SHOTGUN START AT 8AM**

**FRIDAY October 10th**

**ENTRY FEE \$75pp**

**REGISTER NOW PAY LATER**

**jimbeachley@gmail.com**  
410.340.3172

## Sunday Morning Christian Education

### Children

9:15am "Lord Teach Us to Pray" Fellowship Hall  
 10:30am Rainbow Room-Nursery - infant-age 3  
 Kids worship during sermon in Room #6- age 3-2nd grade

### Adults

9:15am "Lord Teach Us to Pray" Fellowship Hall  
 9:15am Matthew- Room #9  
 10:10am Prayer Meeting in the Church Office

**GIVING**

SECURELY GIVE ONLINE OR VIA SANCTUARY GIVING BOXES

**COGPCA.ORG/GIVE**

August 17, 2025

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Embracing our savior, his church, and our partnership in his continuing mission



## Covenant of Grace PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



9:15am Christian Education

\*Coffee and Tea available in the Welcome Center between  
 Christian Education and Worship  
 10:30am Worship Service

## Connect with Us

Covenant of Grace - church office

410-833-2160 office@cogpca.org

Sr. Pastor Mark Samuel | mark@cogpca.org

Assistant Pastor, Ken Harris | ken@cogpca.org



@COGPCA



https://cogpca.org



We are so glad you're here! At Covenant of Grace we strive to be a hospitable, gospel-centered fellowship committed to helping people know God, become more like Jesus, and serve his world. As we worship together today, our prayer is that Jesus would be glorified, his word made clear, and his people equipped and empowered to love and serve God & their neighbors. Soli Deo Gloria!  
~Pastor Mark Samuel

## Children @ Covenant of Grace

Your children are welcome in all parts of worship at Covenant of Grace! To help support the full participation of families in worship, we make available a kid's worship program during the sermon for children ages 3 - 2nd grade as well as a nursery and cry room. Christian education classes are available for all ages (see back cover). Have a child with special needs? Please let us know & we'll make every effort to accommodate.

After the Service an Elder will be up front with stickers for children who share what they learned this morning.

## Week at a Glance

### Sun. August 17, 2025

10:30am Worship Service

### Tues. August 19, 2025

7:00pm Deacon Meeting

### Wed. August 20, 2025

7:00pm Hymn Sing- Emory Grove

### Thurs. August 21, 2025

11:00am Ladies Game Day  
7:00pm Men's Bible Study

### Fri. August 22, 2025

8:50am Wo. Prayer Mtg. (Zoom)

# Order of Worship

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....PASTOR MARK SAMUEL**  
**CALL TO WORSHIP.....from PSALM 67**  
**SONGS OF PRAISE**

GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN #129  
 REDEEMED #557

## INVOCATION PRAYER

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RENEWAL....based on Psalm 67, Isaiah 56 & Matthew 15**  
 Heavenly Father, we know that one day all the peoples of the world will praise you, people from every tribe and tongue will bow before your throne. Help us to be a light to those around us, declaring your saving power and redeeming love, for you desire that your church would be a house of prayer for all peoples. But we have fallen short of this mighty call, and withhold your love and truth through pride, self-centeredness, and distraction with lesser things. By your grace, cleanse our hearts, so that the words of our mouth would not slander, curse, or ridicule, but edify, encourage, and bless you, our neighbors, our family members, our friends, and even our enemies. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE.....EPHESIANS 1:7**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH.....ELDER GREG COARD**  
**DEACON STEWARDSHIP MOMENT .....DEACON MATTHEW HARRIS**  
**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

## SONG OF PREPARATION

HIS MERCY IS MORE

**SCRIPTURE READING\*.....ACTS 26: 1-32**  
**THE SERMON.....PASTOR MARK SAMUEL**

"I AM PERSUADED!"

## SONG OF REFLECTION

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION #338

**CONFESSION OF FAITH.....APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. †The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic‡ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE LORD'S TABLE

## SONG OF COMMITMENT

DOXOLOGY

## BENEDICTION

\*Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are invited to attend Kids worship in room #6.

†Jesus' 'descent into hell' refers to His death and burial, God's wrath toward sin being poured out on him in our place.

‡By 'catholic,' we mean the universal church made up of all Christians who are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.



## Sermon Notes

**Title:** I am Persuaded

**Text:** Acts 26: 1-32

**Message:** As Christians, our chief goal must not be to defend ourselves, but to live and act in a way that persuades our neighbors and the world toward embracing Christ Jesus by faith.

**Outline:**

For anyone to be persuaded of the gospel, including you, four things are essential:

I. The witness must be believable.

II. The belief must be reasonable.

III. The significance must be both personal and universal.

IV. The power must be Spiritual.



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## Prayer Requests

Need prayer reach out to the church office or send an email to [prayer@cogpca.org](mailto:prayer@cogpca.org)

**Steve Danko:** Pray for continued strength for Steve's sister Lesia as she continues Chemo treatments and continued healing for Steve's mom's arm.

**Linda Davidson:** Please pray for improvement and healing of back pain that started 2 months ago and is getting worse.

**Teresita Metzbower:** Continue to pray that Teresita's tolerance to therapy will improve and that her body strengthens after having a stroke.

**Karen Van Fossen:** Pray for Karen's brother-in-law Rich as he begins chemo treatments for advanced prostate cancer.

**Terry Zentz:** Terry continues to improve daily as she recovers from an infection. Continue to pray for strength as Terry works to get back her mobility.

## Missionary Prayer- RUF

**Reformed University Fellowship known as RUF** connects the big truths of the Bible with the big questions college students face. They reach students for Christ and equip them to serve. COG supports three RUF Campus Ministry staff members:

**Jacob (and Pei) Jasin** -RUF International at Johns Hopkins University. Biblical hospitality is the backbone of RUF International ministries. Jacob works with both graduate and doctoral candidates. One of the students who graduated and was leaving said, "RUF-I is the most important thing in my life in America—more important than my degree."

Pray that God will bring new Christian friends into the lives of the students as they return to their home country.

**Trip (and Joy) Beans** - University of Maryland Baltimore Campus (UMBC.) Trip has been at UMBC RUF for 5 years

We will be working on a last fundraising push for the end of the year. We would like to raise \$50,000.00 additional to balance out some financial transitions our ministry is going through. We will be preparing our staff team for the fall. Our new intern, Titus, will be joining the staff made up of Ruth (full time staff), Joy (part-time staff), and me. We are excited to hit campus!

**Ruth Wilmot** - University of Maryland Baltimore Campus (UMBC.) Ruth interned at UMBC for a year which transitioned into full time ministry in June '24. She has been focusing on establishing a Women's Group and working with small group Bible studies.

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