

Our Mission & Beliefs

Church of the Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church is a place where the Bible is taught as the standard for meeting the deepest needs of people in our day. We seek to proclaim the historic, biblical faith given to us in God's infallible word. We emphasize the complete sovereignty of God over all things, and our responsibility to glorify our Heavenly Father. We preach the whole gospel of Christ for salvation and for all of life.



Congregational Life

Church of the Covenant is a mid-sized community of believers with 101 communicant members and 47 non-communicant members, an average morning worship attendance of 120 people, and average Sunday School attendance of 75. We hold morning worship service each Lord's Day at 10:40 a.m., evening worship at 6:00 p.m., and Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. We strive for joyful, reverent, and thoughtful worship; in our worship we sing from the *Trinity Psalter Hymnal* and often include other rich psalms and hymns.

Ministry opportunities include: Small Group Bible studies; men's and women's reading groups, Youth Group, boys' and girls' groups, Vacation Bible School, men's prayer breakfast, fellowship meals, evangelism outreach, meal ministry, short-term mission trips, and more.

Key Dates in Our History

- Spring 1980: Families form a Bible study with the desire to see a Bible-believing Presbyterian church started in Hackettstown.
- September 1980: Ron Pearce sent by Calvary Community OPC (Harmony, NJ) to help lead the studies as pastoral intern.
- January 4, 1981: First morning worship service in a family's living room.
- September 27, 1981: organized as a particular church.
- November 6, 1981: Ron Pearce ordained and installed as pastor.
- October 1996: Property purchased for new church building.
- July 2001: First service in new (and current) church building on Blau Road.
- October 2018: Jim Jordan called as associate pastor.
- April 2022: Pastor Pearce retires from full-time ministry.
- September 2025: Pastor Jordan accepts call to Uruguay mission field.



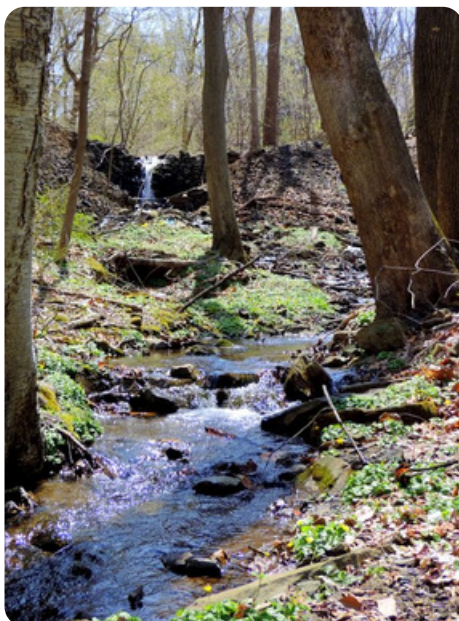
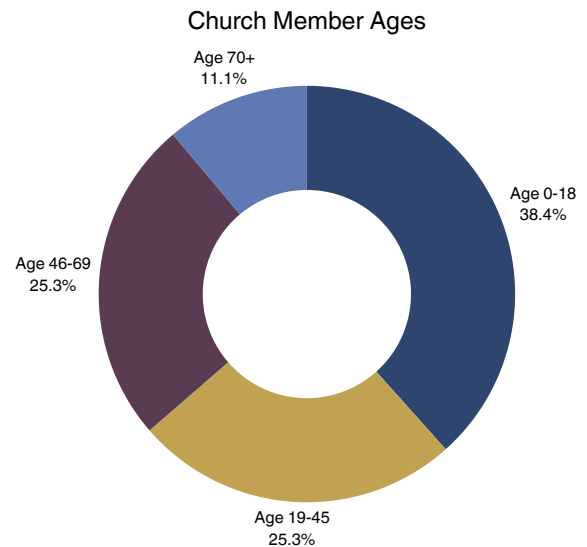
Membership & Community

Most members of Church of the Covenant are concentrated in Warren County, though some come from as far as 30+ miles away. Members in Warren County come from towns including Belvidere, Blairstown, Hackettstown, Phillipsburg, and Washington.

Church of the Covenant's membership is diverse in age, background, gifts, and talents. Members range from charter members to new converts; adults baptized as infants at Church of the Covenant who are now raising their children, to newly Reformed believers.

Four ruling elders currently serve on session, and we are blessed with five active deacons. We are part of the OPC's Presbytery of New Jersey & Puerto Rico. Officers have frequently served on various denomination and presbytery committees including diaconal ministries, home missions, ministerial care, and psalter hymnal.

Church of the Covenant enjoys close fellowship with several other NAPARC churches in the region, including sister churches in the PCA and URCNA. Over the years we have had special joint services with these brothers and sisters, including Reformation Day and Good Friday services. The predominant religious affiliation of Warren County is Roman Catholicism.



Hackettstown, New Jersey, is a thriving town of 10,248, plus several surrounding municipalities. Warren County, New Jersey, is located in the scenic northwest New Jersey highlands, and includes charming towns, historical landmarks, rich farmland, breathtaking hiking and scenery, and much more. More than 109,000 people call Warren County home. Warren County borders the Delaware River, Easton, PA, and the Lehigh Valley to the west, the New York metropolitan area to the east, and the Pocono Mountains to the northwest. Hackettstown's location provides easy access to big cities while retaining a small-town charm.

Pastor Job Description

Church of the Covenant (OPC) is a church committed to Reformed theology and the gospel of Jesus Christ, and has a warm, welcoming community of believers. The pastor role at Church of the Covenant involves faithfully preaching the Word of God and administering the sacraments, tenderly and skillfully shepherding the flock, and discipling the saints.

DUTIES

Preaching & Teaching

- Preach regularly at morning and evening services
- Disciple members through prayer, Bible studies, and new member's Sunday school class
- Administer the sacraments of the Lord's Supper (twice per month) and baptism
- Facilitate leadership training seminars to mentor potential officers
- Supervise and mentor pastoral interns on occasion
- Officiate special services including weddings and funerals

Shepherding & Leadership

- Plan and lead weekly and special worship services in conjunction with the ruling elders
- Mentor and disciple members of all ages including new and mature believers
- Cultivate interpersonal relationships and build rapport with and among the flock
- Visit the sick, shut-in, and infirmed
- Provide or facilitate pastoral counseling as needed for members
- Model personal evangelism and equip and support members in evangelistic efforts
- Willing to serve as moderator of session, trustee, and congregational meetings
- Oversee church office staff of two
- Attend presbytery meetings and serve on committees as needed

GIFTS & COMPETENCIES

- Able to preach expository, Christ-centered, gospel-saturated sermons from the whole Word of God
- Display an aptitude and passion for preaching and leading worship
- Commitment to the confessional standards and mission of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and Church of the Covenant
- Show strong disposition for shepherding and discipleship
- Exhibit personal discipline and flexibility to prioritize time and ministries
- Must have wisdom and discernment to handle interpersonal conflicts according to biblical principles
- Inspire the flock by building consensus and mobilizing people for ministry
- Demonstrate a high proficiency in written and oral communication

GRACES

- A godly man, showing clear evidence of devotion to the Lord and a passion for Christ
- A devoted student of God's Word and the work of shepherding God's people
- Must be characterized by love: of wife and children if applicable, Christ's sheep, and the lost
- A leader characterized by humility and teachableness
- Fosters a robust and rich prayer life, and be able to lead the church in this way
- Exemplifies hospitality, leading and encouraging members in this area
- Committed to reading resources that will grow his faith, knowledge, and ministry.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master of Divinity degree from accredited Reformed theological seminary
- Must be licensed or ordained in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, ordained in another NAPARC church, or pursuing licensure in the OPC

SALARY & BENEFITS

- This is a full-time salaried position. Compensation and benefits will be commensurate with the selected candidate's qualifications, experience, and the OPC's ministerial recommendations.
- Compensation package includes housing allowance, health insurance and/or health reimbursement, retirement, study leave, and vacation time.

How to Apply

Qualified and interested candidates may send applications to: search@cocopc.org. Please include a cover letter, resume, and [ministerial information form](#).

We look forward to hearing from you, and we trust that our faithful God will provide our next pastor in His time.

Pulpit Search Committee (session plus three members elected by the congregation):
Ruling elders: Keith Cuomo, Aron Gahagan, Joel Pearce, and Rev. John Vroegindewey; Gerry Cruz (chair), Marshall Cuomo, Rebecca Pearce

