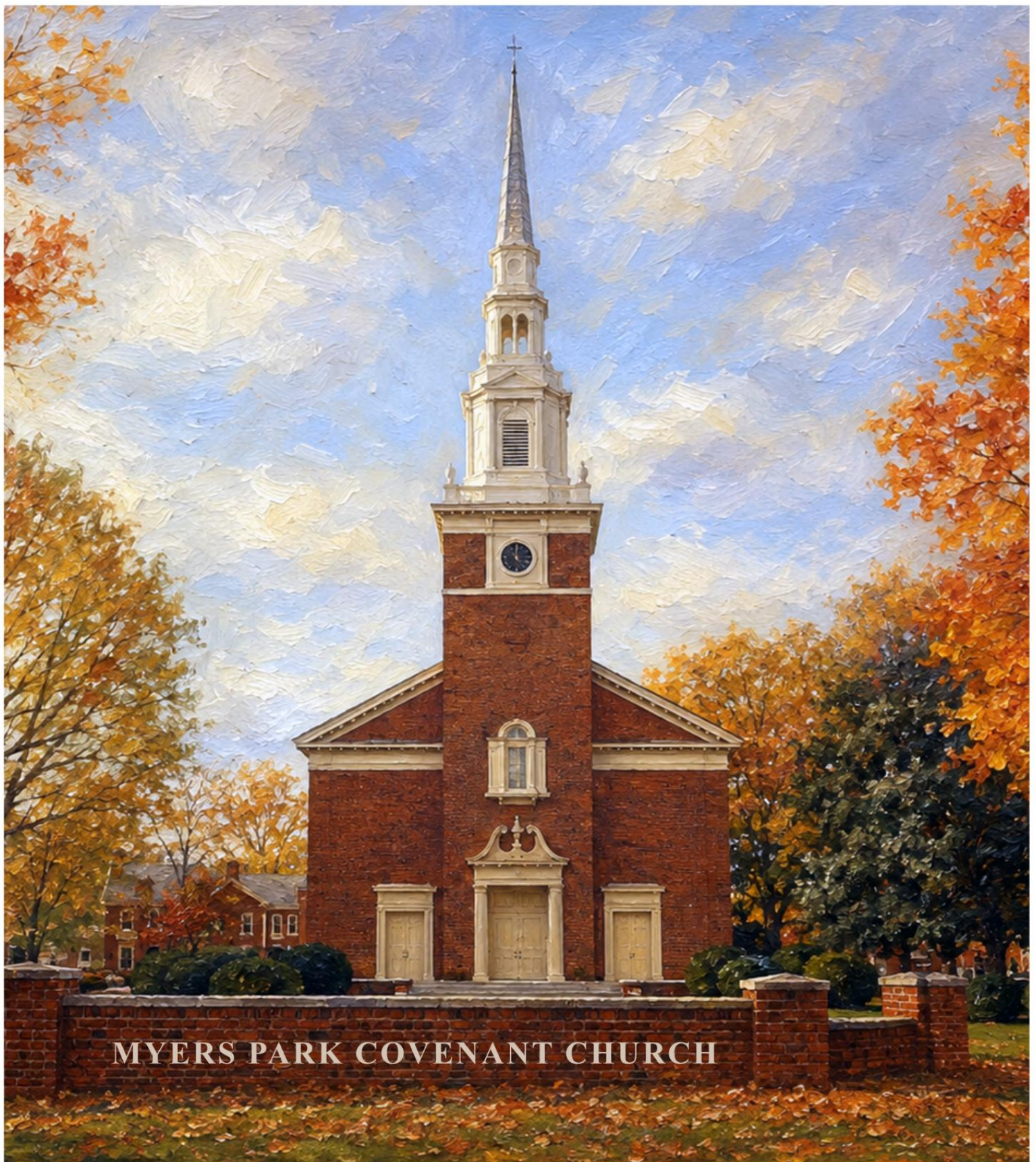




MYERS PARK
COVENANT
CHURCH

The Worship of God
Celebration Sunday
September 13, 2026 | 10:00 am

Inspired by the bold and boundless hospitality of Jesus, we are “open to all,” which means we welcome and accept all people into the life of our Church without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, economic status, political affiliation, physical or mental capacity, or religious belief. We believe that God’s call is given to all people, and we embrace the Spirit that continues to cross boundaries in order to unite the world.

**Childcare is available for birth – kindergarten in the childcare room located in the Cornwell Center (on main level). Please see a greeter for more information.
Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

We invite you to prepare for worship in silence while listening to the prelude.

Opening Voluntary

Scherzo

John Cheetham

Carolina Brass

Choral Call to Worship

Holy, Holy, Holy, BWV B 57

German Liturgy; Felix Mendelssohn

Holy, Holy, Holy is God the Lord Sabaoth!
Ev’ry nation proclaims Thy glorious Name.
Sing hosanna in the heights!
O blest are they who come in Thy holy Name.
Sing hosanna in the heights!

Vocal Ensemble

Invocation

Tim Moore

*Opening Hymn: “We Are a People on a Journey” see p. 8

FOREVER FORWARD
Text and Music by Larry E. Schultz

Welcome

Dane Jordan

*If you are our guest today, please scan the QR code below
so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.*



*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Sing (after Passing of the Peace)

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity
may one day be restored:

Peter Scholtes

REFRAIN:

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

We will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land:
[Refrain]

***An Affirmation of Faith**

Marina Luckhoo

Please see the back page of the Order of Worship to join us in reading our Church Covenant together.

Gospel Reading – John 12:20-26 (NRSV)

Elaine Price Hudson - Deacon

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, [God] will honor.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Sermon Hymn: “O Jesus, I Have Promised” stanza 3, see pg. 9**

ANGEL’S STORY
John Ernest Bode

Sermon

“The Beginning Comes After the End”

Tim Moore

A Moment to Reflect

Church at Prayer

Marina Luckhoo

The Lord’s Prayer

Our God who is in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Amy Johnson

*You are invited to give by scanning the QR code below or
dropping your offering in the plate.*



Offertory

Locus Iste, WAB 23

Trad. Latin gradual; Anton Bruckner

Locus iste a Deo factus est,
This place was made by God,
inaestimabile sacramentum;
a priceless sacrament;
irreprehensibilis est.
it is without reproach.
Locus iste a Deo factus est.
This place was made by God.

Vocal Ensemble

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures, here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Amy Johnson

*Closing Hymn: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” see pg. 10

ST. ANNE; Arr. Jeremy Bankson
Isaac Watts

*Responding to the Word

Tim Moore

*Benediction

Choral Benediction

The Irish Blessing

Trad. Irish; Joyce Eilers Bacak

May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again, and until we meet again,
May the God that loves us all hold you in the palm of Zer's hand.
Amen.

Chancel Choir

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in G

Jeremy J. Bankson

Jon Kaplan, trumpet; Dr. Catherine Hicks, organ

*If you are our guest today, please connect with a
minister after worship and receive a Welcome Bag.*

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

OUR MINISTERS

Rev. Dane Jordan, Interim Minister of Youth | djordan@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Marina Luckhoo, Associate Minister | mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore, Interim Senior Minister | tmoore@myersparkbaptist.org

David Tang, Interim Minister of Music and Worship | dtang@myersparkbaptist.org



We welcome today's guest musicians

GUEST ORGANIST | Dr. Catherine Hicks

CAROLINA BRASS | Jesdelson Vasquez and Jon Kaplan, trumpets; Byron Johns, horn;
Tom Burge, trombone; Colin Benton, tuba

TIMPANI | Rick Dior



Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann,
Hannah Combs, and Eric Roberts.



At Myers Park Covenant Church, we strive for inclusive language. However, there are times due to the historical nature or context of the text that we choose to leave language unchanged as initially presented. Be assured that Myers Park Covenant Church holds God as non-gender-specific; God's essence encompasses all.



**Myers Park Covenant Church is a faith community on a journey
seeking a welcoming, loving, and just world.**

HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK COVENANT CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Covenant Church begins by filling out a joining card.
To receive a card or learn more, contact Rev. Marina Luckhoo at
mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org



*To learn more about upcoming events, our church portal,
social media pages, and weekly newsletter, simply scan the QR code below.*

WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

Connect with Us in one easy stop

- EVENTS
- GUESTS
- GIVE
- PRAY
- WEBSITE
- MEMBER PORTAL



 Learn more about us and how to get involved.
Just point the camera on your mobile phone at
the QR Code to access the items listed above.



We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org

*We occasionally take photographs during our worship service. If you would prefer not to be included,
please contact Laura Geer | Communications Director | lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org.*

One License A-729324 | WorshipCast License CCS # WC-12779 | CVLI Video License #504 239 870



MYERS PARK COVENANT CHURCH

PROGRESSIVE FAITH  WORKING FOR JUSTICE

Our new logo is made up of a “mark,” the new church name, and a tag line.

The mark is inspired by the compass star in Heaton Hall. The entwined compass rose and circle represent directional points that evoke guidance and vision. The four points play two roles: creating an abstract cross and calling out the four pillars of Myers Park Covenant Church: spirituality, inclusivity, community and justice.

The design is symmetrical and looping, always connected, much as Myers Park Covenant Church is connected to the community and its journey of faith. The tagline’s role is to quickly show MPCOV’s identity and ties to the Covenant. PROGRESSIVE FAITH. WORKING FOR JUSTICE.

Our Name Change to Myers Park Covenant Church

On Friday, June 26, 2026, Myers Park Baptist Church officially announced the results of the congregational election to change our name to **Myers Park Covenant Church**.

As we begin this exciting new chapter, you may notice a mix of our old and new names across our website, printed materials, signage, and other communications over the next few months. We are working diligently to update everything as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued support during this transition. We are excited for all that lies ahead and look forward to embracing this new season together.

We Are a People on a Journey

Text and Music by Larry E. Schultz



We are a peo-ple on a jour-ney, o - pen to all and closed to none,
O - pen to all new light be-fore us, guid - ing be-yond what we can see,
When on our jour-ney we en-coun-ter stran-gers ig-nored or friends in need,
Come, lift your voice in cel - e - bra-tion; join the pro-ces - sion through the world:



led by ex - am - ple shown by Je - sus warm - ly em - brac - ing ev' - ry - one.
trust - ing a faith in - formed by rea - son, chal - lenged with - in com - mu - ni - ty,
na - ture neg - lec - ted, life en - dan - gered, vic - tims op - pressed by pow'r and greed,
grow - ing, ex - plor - ing, march - ing, sing - ing, ban - ners of love for all un - furled!



On the path of faith pro-gres - sing firm - ly, stead - fast, bold - ly free,
we'll ex - plore vast ways of wis - dom, search for mean - ing all a - round
we will take a stand for jus - tice, we will join our hands for peace;
Liv - ing just - ly, serv - ing kind - ly, walk - ing hum - bly through our days,



we will move for - ev - er for - ward grow - ing in di - ver - si - ty,
as we move for - ev - er for - ward seek - ing truth wher - ev - er found,
then we'll move for - ev - er for - ward bear - ing hope that fear may cease,
let us move for - ev - er for - ward rais - ing songs of joy and praise,



grow - ing in di - ver - si - ty.
seek - ing truth wher - ev - er found.
bear - ing hope that fear may cease.
rais - ing songs of joy and praise!

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;
 2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near;
 3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;

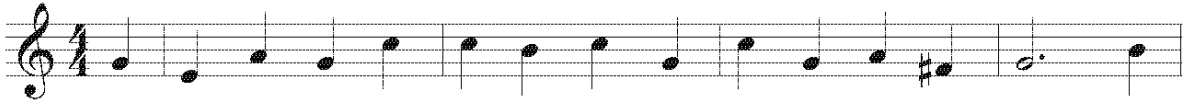
nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

Words by Isaac Watts

Music by William Croft
arranged by Jeremy J. Bankson



O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come, Our
Be - fore the earth in or - der stood, be - fore this house was named, from
A thou - sand a - ges in Your sight Are like an eve - ning gone, Short
O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come, Still



shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home;
ev - er - last - ing You are God to end - less years the same.
as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
be our guard while trou - bles last And our e - ter - nal home!

Join Us After Worship Starting Next Sunday for a **SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP**



FAITH & COMMUNITY

Sept 20 | 12:15–1:15p | Heaton Hall

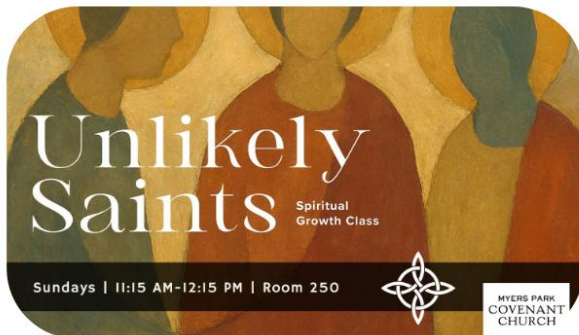
As America marks 250 years since the Declaration of Independence, join author & historian Frye Gaillard for a thought-provoking conversation about our nation's past, present, & future. Drawing from his new book, he will examine the challenges & possibilities facing American democracy. Light lunch provided.



QUEER-IES

Sept 20 | 11:15a – 12:15p | Room 254

Queeries creates a sacred, safe space that honors diverse identities, theological viewpoints, and lived experiences for LGBTQ+ individuals and allies. Our vibrant conversations invite curiosity, honest questions, and mutual courtesy.



UNLIKELY SAINTS

Sept 20 | 11:15a – 12:15p | Room 250

Scripture can be complicated and confusing. To address these challenges, join us as we take an open minded and imaginative approach to seeking how God continues to be known to us through the Bible. This fall, Unlikely Saints will spend several Sundays exploring what the Apostle Paul had to say about the nature of the church in his letters.



FOR CHILDREN

Sept 20 | 11:15a – 12:15p | Room 211

This year, we are excited to launch Godly Play for school-aged children. Rooted in storytelling and imagination, this engaging curriculum helps children explore Scripture, faith, and worship through sacred stories, parables, creative response, and wonder in a welcoming and nurturing community.



FOR YOUTH

Sept 20 | 11:15a – 12:15p | Youth Hall

Sept 20 | 4–6p | Youth Hall

Join us for a new youth discipleship experience that brings the Bible to life. Through storytelling, meaningful conversations, and interactive activities, students will explore how God's story connects with everyday challenges and opportunities, building faith, friendships, and a deeper understanding of Christ's call in their lives.

Our Covenant

We, the members of the Myers Park Covenant Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God's grace we are experiencing love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful. We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith. We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God's active presence in the world. We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity. We covenant to be a community of God's New Creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant together to nurture this church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in the world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God's presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God's kingdom on Earth.

GET INVOLVED AT MPCOVENANT

NEXT WEEK

TUES, Sept 15	10am Mahjong Open Play Room 255 (Education Bldg Upstairs) 10am Creative Friends Room 32 (Education Bldg Downstairs)
WED, Sept 16	11:30am Weekly Meditation Zoom (See Our Website for the Link) 5pm Wednesday Supper Connections Dinner Heaton Hall 5:45pm Wednesday Supper Connections Programs (Social Media & Digital Wellness - programs for Adults, Youth, & Children) Heaton Hall
THU, Sept 17	10am Cuppa Community Amelie's (Park Road Shopping Center) 2pm Mahjong Open Play Room 255 (Education Bldg Upstairs)
SAT, Sept 19	8am MOJO Fall Gardening Day Pinewood Elementary School 10am Union Pride El Tapatio Salon (209 E. Myers St, Monroe, NC)

COMING SOON

SUN, Sept 20	10am Worship Sanctuary 11:15am Spiritual Growth Adults (Unlikely Saints Room 250) (Queeries Library) Youth (Youth Hall) Children (Godly Play Room 211) 12:15pm Faith & Community Forum & Light Lunch Reflections on an American Crisis with Frye Gaillard Heaton Hall 4pm Youth Fellowship Youth Hall
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SAVE THESE DATES

WED, Sept 23	12pm Taizé Prayer Service Chapel
FRI, Sept 25	9am Greenway Biking Group Contact Paula Fricke for Location
SAT, Oct 17	3-8pm Community Fall Festival Front Lawn of the Cornwell Center