



2024

**DIRECTED MINISTRY
OPPORTUNITIES**

**Discover meaningful
opportunities that align
your heart's passion
and commitment
with the Covenant's
mission and ministry**



The following opportunities help us move **faithfully forward** in our commitment to join in God's mission to make more disciples among more populations in a more caring and just world.

SERVE LOCALLY: START & STRENGTHEN CHURCHES

CHURCH PLANTING

Post-pandemic evaluations of church planting have led to new and improved assessments and training:

- Our assessment process is more in-depth and robust.
- Our training is fully digital and can be accessed anytime, anywhere.
- Our training is cohort-based, so planters are in community as they develop their plans.
- Every planter has a coach to help them to be healthy, focused, and fruitful.

The result is healthier planters, greater congregational fruitfulness, and stronger partnerships between new churches, their conference, and the denomination.

Studies show that church planting is the most effective means by which people come to know Christ. Our goal in 2024 is to plant 10 churches as we work to get back on track since the pandemic, and we plan to assess, train, and deploy Covenant pastors to plant 12-15 churches in 2025.

REQUEST: \$150,000 to assess, train, and fund each church plant/project.



SERVE LOCALLY: START & STRENGTHEN CHURCHES

MISSIONAL VITALITY

Through the PHCheck Church Health Survey and workshops, coaching, and online resources, **Missional Vitality provides multiple tools to help congregations to become missionally healthy.** Last year 3,500 congregants participated in the PHCheck process, 75 churches accessed vitality resources, and 34 pastors received six sessions each with a personal vitality coach. Covenant churches overall show strength in the areas of generosity, compassion, mercy, and justice ministries, and leaders' character and competency, while demonstrating room for growth in outreach and work/life balance for pastors.

Our goal for 2024 is to provide vitality resources to 150 churches.

REQUEST: \$25,000 for training and workshops, PHCheck consultations, and coaching of pastors and leaders.

SERVE LOCALLY: MAKE AND DEEPEN DISCIPLES

CRESCENDO

In most Covenant churches, “Boomers” are a significant untapped resource for missional impact. Crescendo coaches are being trained to equip lay leaders in every church to prepare and unleash this age demographic for kingdom impact across the mosaic of our multiethnic denomination. Crescendo coaches partner with conferences and local churches to engage, educate, and mobilize the 60+ population in our churches and communities to pursue vital, purposeful living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

REQUEST: \$10,000 to recruit, train, and support Crescendo coaches.

SERVE LOCALLY: MAKE AND DEEPEN DISCIPLES

WEEK OF PRAYER DEVOTIONAL

For more than 60 years, the Evangelical Covenant Church has provided materials for our annual Week of Prayer. Through this resource, we have leaned into God's contemplative rhythms while sitting with God's words and reflections from various voices from our communities. Music, including songs from the Covenant hymnal, has been a powerful aspect of worship. **Our dream is to see new music birthed from the Covenant by producing songs of prayer to accompany the Week of Prayer resource in the new year.**

REQUEST: \$30,000 to produce and record original music to be released with our future Week of Prayer resource.

SERVE LOCALLY: MAKE AND DEEPEN DISCIPLES

HOLISTIC DISCIPLESHIP

Support of evangelism empowers the local church to engage in holistic discipleship through resources that bring people together to live out our call to share the transformative story of Jesus Christ.

REQUEST: \$10,000 to create resources for all ages—children, youth, adults, and boomers—to equip and empower churches in holistic discipleship.





SERVE LOCALLY: LOVE MERCY DO JUSTICE

ADVOCACY FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE INITIATIVE

This important Covenant ministry is developing new interactive, in-person training to help clergy and lay leaders create safe sanctuaries that address intimate-partner violence and sexual assault.

REQUEST: \$25,000 for training facilitators, scholarships, and curriculum.

SERVE LOCALLY: MAKE AND DEEPEN DISCIPLES AND LOVE MERCY DO JUSTICE

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP CURRICULUM

One of the biggest crises facing the church is how to effectively reach and disciple the next generation for Christ. Unprecedented numbers of young people are leaving the church. Believing that children are fully a part of the body of Christ, and in the hope that the next generation will celebrate the diversity of God's kingdom, we developed the Justice Journey for Kids curriculum.

This groundbreaking resource has made an amazing kingdom impact in the Covenant and beyond, including being featured at a Lilly Grant conference for churches across the nation who are striving to develop, enhance, and reimagine their children's ministry offerings. Justice Journey for Kids has emerged as a discipleship resource that is connecting with and empowering the emerging generation to live boldly for Christ in compelling and transformative ways.

In response to several requests from congregations, we are seeking to adapt this curriculum for vacation Bible schools. With this curriculum, the Covenant is leading the way in reaching the next generation.

REQUEST: \$30,000 for creation, compilation, and distribution of Justice Journey for Kids vacation Bible school materials.

SERVE LOCALLY: LOVE MERCY DO JUSTICE

IMMERSIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES SCHOLARSHIPS

Immersive Learning Experiences have been created to help Covenanters more faithfully participate in mission through our cultural mosaic. Sankofa is our longest standing experience, followed by the Journey to Mosaic and our newer and powerful Indigenous and Immigration Immersion Experiences.

Sankofa: 10 scholarships at \$475—An immersive discipleship experience modeled after the freedom rides of the civil rights movement, exploring how we pursue reconciliation and unity in divisive times.

Journey to Mosaic: 10 scholarships at \$500 (offered in some conferences)—An immersive discipleship experience that celebrates the beautiful diversity of the Church and explores how the gospel breaks down the dividing walls of hostility, empowering us to be ambassadors of reconciliation.

Immigration Immersion: 10 scholarships at \$600 —An immersive discipleship experience offering firsthand exposure to what is happening along the US southern border, moving us beyond partisan politics to a deeper understanding of Scripture’s call to welcome the stranger.

Indigenous Learning Experience: 10 scholarships at \$600—An experience where we learn from Indigenous elders how to build healthy relationships with Native communities and how to live in harmony with the earth and the broader community of creation.

REQUEST: \$21,750—Scholarship support for all immersive learning scholarships.





SERVE CLERGY

COACHING

It can be difficult to be a pastor! The nature of pastoral ministry can lead to burnout, fatigue, and isolation. Counseling, spiritual direction, personal retreats, and sabbaticals are essential resources we offer to help keep Covenant leaders healthy. Conflict resolution and management skills are a growing need as pastors are often at the forefront of navigating relationships among congregants and families. Coaching is an important and helpful tool to equip pastors with intuitive and insightful communication skills to better serve their congregations.

REQUEST: \$10,000

SERVE CLERGY

MINISTERS' CARE AND CRISIS FUND

The Ministers' Care and Crisis Fund is a tangible way the Covenant can support pastors in tumultuous and traumatic times. **The fund exists to provide financial relief to ministers in times of crisis and need.** Unexpected difficulties tap pastors' emotional and relational well-being, which can make it hard to reach out to ask for help. Their stories are held with care and confidentiality. Last year, 39 families were assisted with \$82,000.

REQUEST: \$80,000

SERVE GLOBALLY

GLOBAL PERSONNEL SUPPORT

Global personnel and ministries rely on churches and individuals to make their work possible. All global personnel are required to raise 100 percent of their support every year. **In 2024, global personnel support level was increased by \$3,000 per individual to meet rising ministry costs and inflation in the countries they serve.** Consider making a gift to help meet the increase to ensure they can continue serving in places where God has called them.

REQUEST: \$171,000 to meet budget increases for personnel and their families in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, MENA, Europe, and Africa.



SERVE GLOBALLY

GLOBAL CLERGY SUPPORT

Numerous pastors in our partner churches globally find themselves without a steady income. Many serve in multiple churches and take on additional jobs to support their families, as the communities they serve often lack the financial resources to adequately support them. **Your gift to global clergy support plays a crucial role in providing a living wage for these pastoral leaders.**

REQUEST: \$150,000 to support pastors in DR Congo, Kenya, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Colombia.

SERVE GLOBALLY

EDUCATION FOR GLOBAL PERSONNEL KIDS

The Covenant is dedicated to the holistic care of our global personnel, including their children's education. **Quality education is crucial for the formation of children, which fosters their academic, personal, and spiritual development.** Your gift toward education for children of global personnel will make a difference and enable global personnel to continue to serve in the places where they are called.

REQUEST: \$120,000 to support educational needs for 56 Covenant global personnel kids.



How can I support God's mission through the Covenant?

Gifts are needed for general mission, directed mission, and designated mission to support God's whole mission to the whole world through the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Which types of giving are right for you?

GIFTS TO **GENERAL** MISSION

Support general mission and ministry through our five mission priorities.

- Church Planting throughout US and Canada
- International Partnerships
- Equipping and Supporting Pastors
- Care and Credentialing
- Evangelism and Discipleship
- Resourcing and equipping churches to serve alongside people on the margins as they seek community transformation

GIFTS TO **DIRECTED** MISSION

Support specific, directed ministry projects. Once a project is complete, any remaining funds may be used to support another ministry in that mission priority.

- Global Personnel
- Covenant Partnership with Global Churches
- Advocacy for Victims of Abuse
- Crescendo
- Missional Health
- Immersive Learning Scholarships
- Youth Development

GIFTS TO **DESIGNATED** MISSION

Support specific ministry projects. Funds remain restricted even when project is complete.

- Covenant World Relief and Development
- Covenant Kids Congo
- Paul Carlson Partnership
- FREE Anti-sex Trafficking Initiative
- Financial Leadership, Thriving in Ministry, and Excellence in Preaching

Your support of the directed ministry projects is a tangible way to express ongoing commitment to our common mission across the Covenant—local church, conference, and denomination—**3 Strand Strong**. We believe we are better together, doing more than we ever could on our own.

To make a gift online visit: giving.covchurch.org

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DIRECTED MINISTRY PROJECTS
CONTACT MISSION ADVANCEMENT AT [GIVING@COVCHURCH.ORG](mailto:giving@covchurch.org)**