



Dedicate *Common English* PEW BIBLES at Covenant

The Ministry of Faith Formation (MoFF) offers Covenant Community members to purchase and dedicate *Common English* pew Bibles for use in our sanctuary! While we continue to use a number of the “red” *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV) Bibles in worship we would like to replace those older versions with the *Common English* translation so that everyone has the opportunity to read the same version of scriptures during worship. Our older NRSV translations will be donated to a local congregation.

Wait, if we already have pew Bibles, why do we need more new pew Bibles?

The *New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible was originally published in 1989, more than three decades ago. A lot has changed in our world since that time, and MoFF supports a more inclusive translation of the Bible for regular use in our worship services.

Plus, the new pew bibles are printed with **larger, easier to read fonts!**

The *Common English Bible* (CEB) was completed in 2011, with input from the Presbyterian Church (USA). Information from the [CEB website](#) describes this new translation: *The Common English Bible is not simply a revision or update of an existing translation. It is a bold new translation designed to meet the needs of Christians as they work to nourish and deepen their faith.*

A key goal of the translation team was to make the Bible accessible to a broad range of people; it's written at a comfortable level for over half of all English readers. Easy readability can enhance church worship and participation, and personal Bible study.



Pew Bible Dedications

Covenant members may dedicate pew Bibles in honor of or in memory of loved ones, with a permanent plaque inside the front cover. You may [complete an online form HERE](#) or fill out a paper form, available from a church usher on Sunday or in the church office during the week. To dedicate one pew Bible, the suggested donation is \$25 or as you are able. Members will be asked to select a dedication “In HONOR of” or “In MEMORY of” a special person. Consider the name and identification of the person as you would like it to appear on the customized dedication plaque that will be located inside the front cover (e.g. “In Honor of Suzanne A. Woolworth, Sister of Ann Williams,” or “In Memory of Rev. James Dowd”).

Pew Bible Dedication Payment

You may submit payment through the church office or on our church website, through Realm. To access online giving, [click THIS LINK](#) to go to Covenant’s “Giving” webpage. At the bottom of the page, click the “Make a Donation” button, which will take you into Realm, our online giving portal. You may select “Pew Bible” from the drop-down Fund menu, and your contribution will be documented in the church office. If you want to write a check, please make it payable to “The Church of the Covenant” and include “Pew Bible” in the memo line of the check.

Celebrating the arrival of *Common English Bibles* in the pews at Covenant

MoFF will sponsor a special dedication Sunday for these new Bibles around the beginning of the church program year in September, to continue to familiarize our worship community with this new, inclusive version. For more information, please contact Matthew Garrett, Worship & Music working group leader: mgarrett@covenantweb.org.