Covenant College
Mark 10:45 Program
(previously known as practical service)

Our Savior taught us that to be an effective leader one must first be a willing servant. Thus, we at Covenant believe that Christianity establishes the dignity of labor, and the Reformed faith in particular, emphasizes our duty to serve God by serving His church and His world in a variety of callings. As Christian brothers and sisters, we are all part of the body of Christ and, as such, we have different responsibilities to that body. To this end, Covenant College has implemented the Mark 10:45 Program (see Mark 10:42-45, I Corinthians 12, especially verses 12-27). The Mark 10:45 Program reflects the college’s three-fold Statement of Purpose:

1. To further develop our identity in Christ as individuals and as His body.
2. To learn and apply a Biblical frame of reference (thoughts and attitudes).
3. To serve as Christ would serve (actions).

Mark 10:45 – Service over Self

- **Mark 10:45 Program**
  - Required of all freshmen and sophomores.
  - Serve either on-campus with college departments or off-campus with local ministries for 15 hours per semester.

- **Mark 10:45 Opportunities**
  - Volunteer opportunities provided for student groups and halls to serve together.
  - Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to serve their local community.
  - Desire to see students graduate with servant hearts.

- **Mark 10:45 Project**
  - New Student Service Project required during Orientation.
  - Serving local ministries alongside faculty members.
**Mark 10:45 Project**

During Orientation week, new students will spend an afternoon with their Christian Mind class volunteering at a local organization or church. Students will get to hear about the organizations’ work in Chattanooga and debrief with their Christian Mind professor after the project is finished.

**Mark 10:45 Program**

Freshmen are required to complete 15 hours of service per semester. Freshmen are involved in various assignments and projects on campus. The majority of freshmen are assigned to Facilities Services or Athletics. Jobs include custodial cleaning of campus buildings, moving furniture, gym monitoring, and working at athletic events. Students can expect to work on teams with other freshmen and a student team leader.

Sophomores are also required to complete 15 hours of service per semester. Sophomores may be assigned to service positions on campus working with faculty or staff, but are encouraged to choose a service or work-related position off campus. Examples of possible on-campus positions include, but are not limited to, working with a professor, tutoring, serving as discipleship coordinator, painting, working with the athletic program, Student Senate and office work. Some examples of off-campus positions are babysitting for faculty and staff children, volunteering at a local church, Widows Harvest, the Chattanooga Nature Center, Hope for Chattanooga, Young Life, the Soup Kitchen, and various other ministries. All work must be approved by the Office of Student Development.

Juniors, seniors, married students, and students who have completed four semesters of service hours are exempt from practical service.

**Mark 10:45 Opportunities**

A consistent thread of service-over-self will connect the required offerings at the outset of a student’s time at Covenant with opportunities to volunteer willingly in order to serve the local community in the junior and senior years. Our hope is that seniors will graduate with hearts tuned to serve, seeing others as more significant than themselves (Philippians 2:3-4).

Voluntary Mark 10:45 opportunities will be emphasized during the entire tenure of a student’s time at Covenant. Whether it be hall service projects, Love Lookout, or other options that present themselves from Chattanooga and the surrounding communities, all students will have the opportunity to volunteer by contacting the Student Development office for information on Mark 10:45 opportunities throughout the year.

Any questions regarding the Mark 10:45 Program should be directed to the Covenant College Student Development Office at 706-419-1107 or studentdevelopment@covenant.edu.