

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 11am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
 Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

**THE COVENANTER
 NOVEMBER 24, 2024**

Member NE GEORGIA Presbytery,
 Synod of the South Atlantic,
 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA)



**NOVEMBER IS
 THORNWELL EMPHASIS
 MONTH 2024**

Thornwell was impacted by the devastation left behind by recent hurricanes. Thornwell needs your support more than ever. Prayerfully consider a financial gift to Thornwell. Encourage your children to return a full Tom the Turkey. You can give through the church using the offering envelopes that can be found on the table as you enter the worship center.



Come enjoy a Christmas Concert by the New Horizons Band, **Sunday, December 1st.** The concert will begin at 2:00pm in the Covenant Worship Center.

Grab a bite of lunch after church and then head back for some high energy, toe-tapping, sing-along fun!
(BTW there are 5 Covenant members in this group)!

If you would like to make a donation to the Athens Wellness Clinic, those checks will be greatly accepted and appreciated. Please make payable to the Athens Wellness Clinic.

Friday, December 6 beginning at 6:00pm

ANNUAL COVENANT PROGRESSIVE DINNER! You are invited to participate in the Annual Christmas Progressive Dinner. It will be held on Friday, December 6. This covered dish dinner will begin with appetizers at 6:00 pm. You will then enjoy the main course and finally everyone will join together for dessert. We will need hosts and homes, people signed up to attend, and delicious food. Last year 46 people signed up to attend. The Fellowship Team can provide serving items (plates, cups, napkins, etc.) if needed. We will provide ham and rolls for each main meal host location. Coffee service/pot and serving ware can be provided for the dessert location. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board near the mailboxes. **If you are able to attend, please sign up by November 24th.** We want to be sure that you have a seat at the table. If you are willing to be a host, please sign up early on the bulletin board and mark that you are interested in hosting. Please confirm your willingness to host by contacting: Valerie Stone 678-360-6983 or email at valeriefreystone@gmail.com. We can't wait to join you at this fun event.

Retirees Christmas Luncheon, Tuesday, December 10

We are going to the Presbyterian Village for our Christmas Luncheon. Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board. Meet at the church at 11:30am to carpool. We will gather in the Atrium around noon with lunch at 12:30. The luncheon will cost \$12 per person. **Please sign up today and pay Sara Cooney by Sunday, December 1.**





Four times annually, Covenant is joyfully committed to coordinating important responsibilities for one week to the families temporarily housed in the two **Family Promise** apartments on Magnolia Terrace. **Our next week of service is Dec. 1-7.** We appreciate the many meals lovingly prepared and delivered to our friends at Magnolia Terrace. Please examine your ability to offer a meal, drive the van, or help to provide activities that engage the children while their parents do their weekend laundry, run errands, etc., on

Saturday afternoon (see SignUpGenius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA5AA29A4FE3-47300007-2024#/>).

Don and Julie Bower are the coordinators for this upcoming opportunity and will gladly answer any questions. Each of our responsibilities is described in some detail on the **Sign-Up Genius** site. If you are new to volunteering for Family Promise, you might want us to meet you at Magnolia Terrace to show you the meal delivery drill. We are happy to meet first-timers there. bower.julie@gmail.com or don.bower@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for continuing to help families who are experiencing homelessness achieve independence. This new model of service brings the program one large step closer.



Purchase a beautiful live poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special! They will be used in the worship center through the Christmas season. Sign up sheet is on the table in the gathering room. Please make your checks payable to Covenant and put Poinsettia in the memo portion of the check. Please put check in the drop box or bring to the church office - \$12.50 each.
Please no cash.



- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Chuck Rosenberger | 15 Sharon Edwards |
| 3 Frank Allen | William Kisaalita |
| 4 Tim Foutz | 18 Jim McMinn |
| 5 Susan Paul | 19 Kay Brooks |
| 6 Zach Huberty | 24 Holly Wolfe |
| 8 Sara Cooney | 27 William Sperr |
| Jim Newland | 29 Deb Millwood |
| 9 Eli Stone | 31 Lindsey Bowden |
| 15 Julie Bower | |

The floral arrangement in worship Sunday is in honor of Paul and Dick Zimdars' 43rd Wedding anniversary on November 27



IN OUR PRAYERS: DeLynda Tweedell's sister, Brandy Murdock waiting for results from four biopsies; Mark Harper's mom, Betty Jo Harper in hospice care in Lynchburg, VA; DeLynda Tweedell's best friends mom, Ann Mathis battling stage 4 cancer and c. difficile and is depressed; Rainey Bowen broken arm healing; Lisa Buchanan recovering from broken foot; Alice Rose fighting leukemia and heart condition; Wanda & Larry Minton's friend's son in a medically induced coma after brain surgery to control a bleed; Rich Kimmich recovering at home from an accident; Dick Zimdars at home; Bob Placek in skilled nursing at PVA and Joyce at home; Larry Hatfield remains under treatment for stage 4 colon cancer; Juergen Wiegel in PVA memory care and Heide at home; Gene Holshouser at home; and pray that goodness, mercy & compassion prevail against the evil and greed in the world.

Please submit prayer concerns and/or celebrations to the church office 706-548-2756 or kwetherington@covpresathens.org or before worship service fill out the Prayer Concern form and put in offering plate or give to the Pastor.

 * **DAILY BIBLE READINGS:** *
 * **Jeremiah 33: 14-16, Psalm 25: 1-10,** *
 * **I Thessalonians 3: 9-13,** *
 * **I Thessalonians 4: 16-17, Psalm 27,** *
 * **Isaiah 64: 1-8, Luke 21: 25-26** *

Financial Summary for Week #20
 Anticipated Pledges—\$171,511.53
 Pledges Received—\$171,231.17
Thank Covenant for your faithful giving!
 Thornwell Home for Children—\$2,003.50



HANGING OF THE GREENS
 Hanging of the Greens—
 Sunday, November 24
 following worship. We will
 enjoy a light soup lunch and
 decorate the fellowship hall for Christmas inside and
 out. Please become a part of the team. Many hands
 make light work. Your help will be a gift to us all.



LUNCH BUNCH

Each month on the first
 Tuesday of the month at
 11:30am at DePalma's Ital-
 ian Restaurant (eastside). All are welcome
 to join us for a good time of fellowship
 and food.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL— *Patterns of Divine Possibility*



Step into a journey of discovery this Advent with a devotional that challenges us to see beyond familiar binaries and embrace the complex, natural patterns of our creator in the world. In this devotional, *Outlook* Editor/Publisher Teri McDowell Ott invites us to open our eyes to the intricate designs of God's creation that often go unnoticed. From art to everyday life, this devotional series invites us to see God's world as more than either/or. It's a call to step into divine possibility, with curiosity and openness, just as the Advent season prepares us to welcome Christ into the world. The devotionals are available on the table in the gathering room and on the desk as you come through the double glass doors.

The Editor has requested that the devotional NOT be posted online.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30am Nursery

9:45am Church School for
all Ages

11:00am Worship

5:00pm Youth Group

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024

USHERS/GREETERS: Bob Brewster, Sarah Lamb, Luanne & Bill Rigsby

LITURGISTS: James Anderson, George McMaster

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 01, 2024

USHERS/GREETERS: Katy Terry, Robyn Malone, Phil & Sallie Hale

LITURGISTS: Warren Coombs, Jacob Page

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MEAL COORDINATOR

for November: June Meyers

OPEN & CLOSE THE BUILDING

Chris Wilson 1st Sunday Judy Capie 2nd Sunday

Pam Knox 3rd Sunday Tim Foutz 4th Sunday

Brian Striggow 5th Sunday

GROUNDS STEWARDS

First Monday Week—Katy Terry & Chris Wilson

Second Monday Week—Don Bower & Alex Clark

Third Monday Week—Phil Hale & Phil Koehler

Fourth Monday Week—Susan & Randy Parish

5th Monday Week—Ellen Stoneburner & June Meyers



November 24, 2024

Nursery
Ministry

Lily McKay,
Luanne Rigsby,
Sandy Whitney

December 01, 2024

Adam & Rebecca Rea, Ada Brock & Larson



Covenant Connection resumes December 4, 2024

5:30pm with a family style meal prepared by our own
Chef Patrick McMaster. (donation \$3 each)

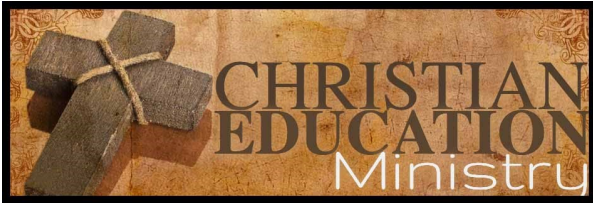
6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:15pm Adult Bible Study facilitated by Pastor Tom

7:15pm Adult Choir rehearsal in Worship Center



Covenant's Presbyterian Women put together goodie bags for students at Lydia's House and the Presbyterian Student Center for exam week.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

The "GOD-BOTHERERS" Class at 9:45am. Join us in the library for this exciting class facilitated by Pastor Tom. This class is for anyone of any age who wrestles with tough questions.

The "UPPER ROOM" at 9:45am. Location: "Upper Room" Classroom at the top of the ramp and Via Zoom. James Malone hosts and different class members facilitate the discussion of the weekly chapter in *The Present Word*. If you would like to participate, via Zoom please contact James at gillbillvolume1@yahoo.com.

The "JOURNEY" at 9:45am

Location: "Journey" Classroom Room 216. On Sunday, Nov. 2, we will begin study and discussion of our newly-selected book, *The Substance of Faith and Other Cotton Patch Sermons* by Clarence Jordan (foreword by Jimmy Carter). We share leadership with class participants volunteering to lead our discussion each week. Class facilitated by Phil Hale.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Juniors (K-3rd) Class at 9:45am. Taught by Katy Arora and volunteer shepherds meet each week downstairs in the "Temple Courtyard" classroom.

Middlers (4th—7th) Class at 9:45am. Betsy Burmeister facilitates this class downstairs in the "Potter's Workshop" classroom.

Covenant Youth Connection—Sunday, November 24 at 5:00pm

THE COVENANT FORUM—

In addition to its many classes and educational opportunities, Covenant is also pleased to host "The Covenant Forum." This class will feature special speakers, panel discussions, and stimulating presentations, bringing together the heart and the mind for the life of faith! These events will be held at least quarterly, on weekday nights or Saturdays. *Check this spot for a new forum in the near future.*

Knitters & Knatters

THURSDAYS AT 2PM.

Join us for a good time of fellowship and fun while making blankets for people recovering from illness and for clients of Highland Hills, Family Promise and Project Safe.



Meals are needed for the Buchanans while Lisa heals from a broken foot.

Click on this link to sign up:

<https://takethemameal.com/BQB12901>

If you need to sign in the name is Buchanan and password is Buchanan.

WAYS TO SERVE @ COVENANT



Please look through these volunteer opportunities coming up at Covenant and sign up if you can help!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
Athens Free Clinic @ Covenant Volunteers are needed to welcome the medical team into the church building and to sit at the front desk to greet clients as they arrive for their appointments. Here is the link to sign up for all of our upcoming volunteer spots: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-athens#/>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
Covenant Cooks "First Tuesday" Dinners
Sign up to volunteer here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
Covenant Food Pantry (Every Thursday) Sign-up to volunteer here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/>

Used Sleeping Bags & Tents Collection

The weather is turning colder and our neighbors experiencing homelessness could use your used sleeping bags and tents. At this time, we are only collecting these two items. If you have any to spare, you can leave them on the purple table outside the church office and Corky Callaway will deliver them to the Sparrow's Nest for distribution to our neighbors in need.



BAKERS NEEDED: Holiday Benevolence Market @ Covenant, Sunday, December 8

We need your help to make this market a great success by volunteering for the event and helping us fill our dessert buffet with homemade treats! Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/.../409084AA5AA22A20...>

Covenant by the Week!

November 24, 2024

SUNDAY - 9:30am Nursery
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Worship—following worship *Hanging of the Greens* with a light lunch in the FH
12:30pm 12 Step Group
5pm Covenant Youth Connection
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

6:00pm Scouts
7:00pm 12 Step Group
7:00pm Bells of NEGA
6pm—8pm Campus Kitchen

TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1pm Covenant Food Distribution
1pm New Horizon Strings Rehearsal
4:30pm—5:30pm OLLI GROUP
5:30pm—6:00pm Classic City Brass Rehearsal in FH
6pm—8pm Campus Kitchen
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
11:30am New Horizons Band in Fellowship Hall
NO COVENANT CONNECTION—will resume Dec 4
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY OFFICE CLOSED



FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED

7pm 12 Step Group Meeting

SATURDAY
10:30am 12 Step Group

December 01, 2024

SUNDAY - 9:30am Nursery
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Worship
12:30pm 12 Step Group
2:00pm New Horizons Band Concert at Covenant
5pm Covenant Youth Connection
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

4pm—7pm Athens Free Clinic
6:00pm Scouts
7:00pm 12 Step Group
7:00pm Bells of NEGA
6pm—8pm Campus Kitchen

TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's
1pm New Horizon Strings Rehearsal
6:00pm Stated Session Meeting
4:30pm—5:30pm OLLI GROUP
5:30pm—6:00pm Classic City Brass Rehearsal in FH
6pm—8pm Campus Kitchen
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
11:30am New Horizons Band in Fellowship Hall
5:30pm Covenant Connection
6pm Handbells Choir
6:15pm Adult Bible Study with Pastor Tom
7:15pm Adult Choir in worship center
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
11:00am—12noon Abundance Athens in FH
1pm Covenant Food Distribution

FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
6:00pm Covenant Progressive Dinner
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting

SATURDAY
10:30am 12 Step Group