

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on You Tube for  
**Sunday, December 29 2024 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>  
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

## THE COVENANTER DECEMBER 29, 2024

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



### Youth Alumni Sunday, December 29

Join us for a pancake breakfast at **9:30am**  
prepared by Chef Patrick.

**11:00am** Worship with Pastor Tom and  
comments and music from  
fellow alums.



#### Meals on Wheels Offering—

to be received in the month of December and at the Christmas Eve service to sponsor persons who receive a daily meal through the "Meals on Wheels" program. The annual cost (including food & expenses) to provide meals for one person is \$2,000.00. Last year's offering enabled Covenant to support 6 older Athenians for this year. The congregation is encouraged to give generously. Please mark in the memo portion of your check MOW. Consider making a special gift in honor or memory of a loved one.


Did you know that Covenant Food Pantry Distributions served 19,166 food insecure neighbors during the 2024 year. Thank you Covenant Volunteers and all those who support the Food Pantry financially.

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Caly DePalma and family in the passing of her mother Ruth Murden Dec 17 in New York; Marilyn Brown recovering at home from hospital stay; Arnelle Combs at home; John Wilkin's brother in law, Jim Negro in Wellsley, Mass., recovering from lung cancer surgery; Carolyn Steuer having problems with blood pressure; Wanda Minton recovering from surgery Dec. 11; Joan Baird's niece and Hannah Baird's cousin, Lindsey Haggerty at Cleveland Clinic with probable encephalitis; DeLynda Tweedell's best friends mom, Ann Mathis recovering from surgery Dec 18; Alice Rose fighting leukemia and heart condition and back pain; 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 our country.

*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.*

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**DAILY BIBLE READINGS:**  
**I Samuel 2: 18-20; Psalm 148;**  
**Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-52**  
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**Financial Summary for Week #25**  
 Anticipated Pledges—\$214,119.04  
 Pledges Received—\$224,352.10  
*Thank Covenant for your faithful giving!*  
 Meals On Wheels—\$9,643.25

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



**THANK YOU!** Did you bake for the *Holiday Benevolence Market* or the *Sights & Sounds of Advent & Christmas* Worship Service Reception? If you did,

**Please join us....**  
 The fellowship team will need assistance taking down and storing our Christmas decorations on January 5th after church. Please join us if you are able. Many hands make light work.  
*Rebecca Silver* for the Fellowship Ministry Team

you deserve a double thank you! Items remaining after those events were frozen and later taken to the Cedar Shoals PTO Teacher/Staff Appreciation Day event on December 17. The hardworking folks helping educate kids at our neighboring high school loved the array of holiday treats and had smiles on their faces going into finals week. It was the perfect end to a productive year. Many thanks go to all the people who pitched in with Fellowship Team events this year--bakers, platter-scrubbers, dish-dryers, chair-and-table haulers, shoppers, tablecloth-launderers, planners, decorators, and more. We appreciate everyone who helped make 2024 events and fun days possible! --*From the Fellowship Team*



**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9:30am Nursery

9:30am Youth Alumni  
Breakfast

11:00am Worship

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024**

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Jim Whitney, Paige Cummings, Stephanie Cahill

**LITURGIST:** Youth Alumni

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 05, 2025**

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Jim Newland, Robyn Malone, Bob Brewster, Sarah Lamb

**LITURGIST:** Pam Knox

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE MEAL COORDINATOR**

for December: Barbara Burnett



**December 29, 2024**

Nancy Alila,  
Sandy Whitney

**January 05, 2025**

Nancy Lila, Stephanie Cahill, Jacob Page

**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



**Covenant Connection January 08, 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



**Congratulations!**  
Congratulations to Rev. Jacob Douylliez and Catherine on the birth of their son, Gibson Samuel Lee Douylliez, born Dec 12 at 12:10am weighing 8lbs10ozs. Measuring 21". Everyone is happy and healthy.



Mark your calendars for the January 11th Rock Lobsters Game benefiting Family Promise. Use this link to buy your ticket to the game and \$5 will be donated to Family Promise for every ticket sold

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Familypromise5> .

In addition, during the game, Family Promise will be selling foam pucks. At the second intermission, patrons who buy the pucks will throw them on the ice. The puck that gets closest to the target receives prizes such as gift cards to local restaurants! The proceeds from the puck sales go to Family Promise as well. Hope to see many of you there.



The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank always needs brown paper grocery bags. (*minus the cat*)

People who are experiencing short term emergencies such as job loss, medical bills, etc., go to the ARK which is sponsored by area churches, including Covenant. Some of our members helped start this program.

The people's needs are screened and various kinds of help are available for job loss, medial needs, etc. They are provided with meals for up to two weeks if needed.

The food for each day is put into a separate brown bag. The meals are nutritionally sound. Menus and recipe's are included.



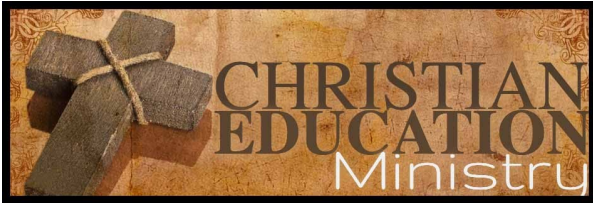
Did you receive a Christmas gift you can't use? Will you be doing some cleaning out for New Year? In January we'll be bringing back our annual Bingo game night. Please set aside a few items you don't want but that someone else might treasure and we'll use these for Bingo prizes. Stay tuned to the Covenanter for the date.



Dear Covenant Family,  
We are extremely grateful for your contribution towards our traditional wedding. Your gifts helped make the event a huge success, and we will forever be grateful for this blessing at the start of our life as a young married couple.

We hope that you all have a Merry Christmas.

Love, The Betts  
(Winnie Mburu)



## 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](mailto: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—WILL RESUME JANUARY 5th**

**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—Will resume Sunday, January 5, 2025**

### **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 at least quarterly, on weekday nights or Saturdays. *Check this spot for a new forum in the near future.*

# 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#/>

## Adopt-A-Campus-Kitchen-Meal for our Neighbors Experiencing Homelessness

As you may know, UGA's Campus Kitchen has volunteers who come to Covenant a several days every week during the semester to prepare meals for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. They need volunteers to cover these meals during breaks while UGA students are away. When the students are away, the recipients of these meals at the Homeless Day Center and Bigger Vision often must just go without. Please sign up below if you are available to shop, cook or deliver these meals:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-46944399-adoptacampuskit#/>



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

*Bring the whole family ...visitors from out of town, kiddos on Christmas break...to serve at the Covenant Food Pantry for the next few weeks! Our usual UGA student volunteers are away during the holidays and we need your help. If you bring kiddos, please consider bringing them to the morning shift to pack bags. Children will need to be supervised by a family member...*

# Covenant by the Week!

## December 29, 2024

**SUNDAY - 9:30am** Nursery  
9:30am Youth Alumni Breakfast in Fellowship Hall  
No Church School  
**11:00am Worship—Youth Alumni Sunday**  
12:30pm 12 Step Group  
NO Covenant Youth Connection will resume Jan 5

**MONDAY** Office Open 10:00am  
6:00pm Scouts  
7:00pm 12 Step Group

**TUESDAY** Office Open 10am  
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting

**WEDNESDAY**  
Office CLOSED



**THURSDAY** Office CLOSED  
**9:30am preparing bags for food distribution**  
**1pm Covenant Food Distribution**  
NO Knitters & Knotters

**FRIDAY** Office CLOSED  
7pm— 12 Step Group Meeting

**SATURDAY**  
10:30am 12 Step Group

## January 5, 2024

**SUNDAY - 9:30am** Nursery  
9:45am Sunday School for all ages  
**11:00am Worship**  
**Following worship taking down decorations**  
12:30pm 12 Step Group  
12:30pm—2pm Session Training  
5pm Covenant Youth Connection

**MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED**  
7:00pm Bells of NEGA  
6:00pm Scouts  
7:00pm 12 Step Group

**TUESDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside  
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting

**WEDNESDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
**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**  
**1pm Covenant Food Distribution**  
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
6:30pm Finance Ministry Team Meeting

**FRIDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
7pm - 12 Step Group Meeting

**SATURDAY**  
10:30am 12 Step Group



*The poinsettias in worship were given in memory and honor of those listed below:*

*In Memory of:*

Debra Fagher  
Dan Stoneburner  
Larry & Karen Burns  
Burmeister Siblings  
Bob Reaves  
Jake Tinga  
Joyce Minor  
George & Marie Zimdars  
Stan & Pauline Marshall  
Beth Nunnally  
Margaret & Truman Terry  
Katherine & Ashton Longstreet  
Paul Spain

*In Honor of:*

William Isaac Griffin  
Jarrad Pittard  
Lily Harper Toledano  
Fiona Brooke Toledano  
Willene O'Neal

*Given by:*

Sara Cooney  
Ellen Stoneburner  
Ellen Stoneburner  
Betsy Burmeister  
Rich Reaves  
Tinga Family  
Pam Butts & Deb Millwood  
Dick & Paula Zimdars  
Dick & Paula Zimdars  
Katy Terry  
Katy Terry  
Chris Wilson  
Chris Wilson

*Given by:*

Branden Douty  
Branden Douty  
Joe & June Meyers  
Joe & June Meyers  
Jennifer Frey