

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on You Tube for **Sunday, Marc16, 2025 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens> Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

## THE COVENANTER MARCH 16, 2025

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



Grief touches every corner of our lives — not just in moments of death but in quiet farewells, conflict, and lost health. *Grieving Change and Loss* invites you to embrace the wilderness of loss and rediscover the horizon of hope offered by Christ's resurrection. Rooted in the wisdom of Elisabeth Kübler-Ross and David Kessler's six stages of grief outlined in their seminal work *On Grief and Grieving*, this daily 2025 Lenten devotional offers a pathway through the heartache of life's goodbyes, guiding you toward the

promise of resurrection. Please click on this link to access the devotional: <http://www.covpresathens.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/newsletter/Lenten-Devotional-2025.pdf>

### Called Congregational Meeting

**March 30 immediately following worship**

To receive the report of the Nominating Committee, nominating a member to the office of Elder, to serve out an unexpired term.

**Covenant PW will meet in person and via Zoom on Thursday, March 20 at 9:30am**, in the Covenant Library. We will be studying Lesson #7, Economic

Climate Justice, in our Bible Study book. Pam Thompson will be leading our lesson for us. Pam Butts & Deb Millwood will be providing refreshments that day. Please join us to learn more about PW and Environmental Justice, our Bible Study theme this year! Last month we had a wonderful guest speaker, Pam Knox, a Covenant member and renowned Meteorologist! She gave an enlightening presentation to our PW group. What a great surprise to have her join us and share her knowledge with us on this relevant topic. *Thank you, Pam!!*

*For more info see page 3.*



**Asher Hill has accepted a full-time position with the Oconee Civic Center in Watkinsville.**

**His last Sunday with Covenant will be March 30. Asher has been a awesome part of Covenant and he will be greatly missed.**

**Friends and Family in Covenant**, you are cordially invited to a farewell luncheon on **Sunday, April 6th** following the service. Abby Horvath, who has been with our church for 11 years, has taken a new job and will be moving away from Athens. Join us for lunch to wish her well on her way. No need to bring anything other than yourself.

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Heide Wiegel and family in the passing of Juergen on February 23; Hank Tweedell and family in the passing of his brother, Bobby; Kathryn Fowler having surgery on March 24; Hannah Baird's best friend's mother, Michelle Gilbert; William Emerson, friend and mentor of Alice Rose, suffering from kidney failure; Friend of Joe & June Meyers, Brent Haglund of Madison, WI who suffered a severe stroke on Dec 28 is not doing well; Taylor Combs' father in law, Raul Rosales, Charleston, S.C. with lung transplant; John Wilkin's brother in law, Jim Negro in Wellsley, Mass., recovering from lung cancer surgery; Bob Placek in skilled nursing at PVA and Joyce at home; Larry Hatfield under treatment for stage 4 colon cancer; Gene Holshouser living with his son in Houston, Texas; our Country

*Please submit prayer concerns and/or celebrations to the church office 706-548-2756 or [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto: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:**

**I Peter 1:7, Mark 6: 34, Job 23: 2-3,  
Philippians 3:8, Job 2: 13, Amos 8: 4,6,  
Genesis 32:26**

*Please read in your Lenten Devotional*

**Financial Summary for Week #35**

Anticipated Pledges—\$300,145.20

Pledges Received—\$305,942.10

*Thank Covenant for your faithful giving!*

Bowden Church Vocations Fund

\$3,830.00

There will be a celebration of life for Juergen Wiegel at the Presbyterian Village on April 11 at 2pm. In lieu of flowers, consider donating to the Juergen Wiegel Student Support Fund in Microbiology at the following link: <https://gail.uga.edu/commit?search=79015003&desonly=1>

Please click on this link for the full obituary: <https://www.onlineathens.com/obituaries/pgsc1107194>

**Green Dream Team News**—The Green Dream Team Planning Committee met with Hank Tweedell (resident expert on building maintenance) for a walk-through of Covenant and discussion of possible improvements to our facility. Caly DePalma, now Chair of Building and Grounds Ministry Team joined us for this discussion on Wednesday afternoon. Hank mentioned that many updates/ improvements have been made to the facility in recent years. Some examples are: 2 water heaters have been replaced (CE building and Kitchen); Lights have mostly been changed to LED bulbs; and he stated that the roof is good and that there is ample insulation for the building. There are some areas for improvement, such as checking the Thermal Air Flow to detect Infiltration; replacing remaining incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs; changing air filters more frequently; and upgrading Thermostats to Internet-capable ones (in order to regulate the temperature better, when the building is unoccupied). These are some of the items we discussed, which we would like to discuss further at an upcoming GDT meeting (possibly in April).

We all agreed that this discussion was enlightening and has given us ideas for action items for the Green Dream Team, Building and Grounds, and others who might wish to get involved. Hank has also said he is willing to come to a GDT Meeting and facilitate this discussion and answer questions. *Thank you, Hank!* We look forward to continuing this discussion with you. This month the Green Dream Team will meet on March 23, at 12:15pm in the Covenant Library. Please bring a Brown Bag Lunch and join us! We will have a Guest Speaker at our meeting- Pam Knox, Covenant member and Meteorologist! She will speak on Climate Change and the effects on our Environment. Pam speaks regularly to many groups, local and away, and recently spoke with our Covenant PW on this topic. As we have mentioned earlier, our Covenant PW is studying Environmental Justice for our current Bible Study. Pam did an excellent job with her presentation to us and we are delighted that she is willing to speak with the GDT this month! Thank you, Pam!

Please join us for this wonderful opportunity to learn more from an accomplished scholar and respected Meteorologist in our congregation! or questions, please contact Jennifer Frey ([jenofrey@gmail.com](mailto:jenofrey@gmail.com)) or another member of the Green Dream Team for more information.



**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9:30am Nursery

9:30am CHURCH SCHOOL  
for all ages!

11:00am Worship

**SUNDAY, March 16**

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Sandy Whitney, Jim Newland, Bob Brewster & Sarah Lamb

**LITURGIST:** Kirche Rogers

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23**

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Dennis & Carol Calbos, Susan & Randy Parish

**LITURGIST:** Lisa Buchanan

**Congregational Care for March:** Ansley Land & DeLynda Tweedell



**March 16, 2025**

Lily McKay, Adam & Rebecca Rea

**March 23, 2025** Lily McKay, Sandy Whitney, Luanne Rigsby

**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 March 19, 2025**

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

6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

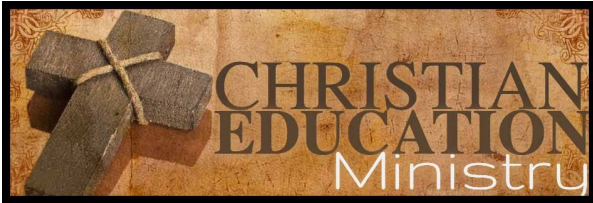
6:15pm Adult Bible Study facilitated by Pastor Tom

7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

**The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank always needs brown paper grocery bags. 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. Thank you Covenant and *May We All Have Enough!***

(continued from page 1)

**Our PW will also be joining with the NEGA PW in Cleveland, GA for our Annual Meeting on March 15.** This is always a delightful day with our PW sisters from the NEGA Presbytery. Please consider attending with us to have worship, fellowship, and to learn more about what PW is doing locally and around the world! Presbyterian Women are a vibrant group dedicated to service, as well as spiritual growth and fellowship. Come and see what PW is learning and doing!! For more information, contact Jennifer Frey ([jenofrey@gmail.com](mailto:jenofrey@gmail.com)).



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

**The “GOD-BOTHERERS” Class at 9:30am.** 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. We are currently reading and discussing Josh Scott’s, [Bible Stories for Grown-ups](#). (and the Bible stories covered in it)

**The "UPPER ROOM" at 9:30am.** 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 9:30am**

Location: "Journey" Classroom Room 216. On Sunday, February 2, we will begin our next class-selected book, [Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi](#), written by [Amy-Jill Levine](#). Professor Emerita at Vanderbilt University, Dr. Levine (AJ) describes herself as a “Yankee Jewish feminist who taught in a predominantly Christian divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt.” 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 9:30am.** Taught by Katy Arora and volunteer shepherds meet each week downstairs in the “Temple Courtyard” classroom.

**Middlers (4th—7th) Class at 9:30am.** Betsy Burmeister facilitates this class downstairs in the “Potter’s Workshop” classroom.

## **Covenant Youth Connection—Sunday, March 16 meeting at 3:45 to go to Jubilee Partners**

Beginning Sunday March 9 Sunday School will begin at 9:30am  
(instead of 9:45am) for all classes children to adults!

### *Countering (Christian) Authoritarianism*

A presentation by renowned Christian ethicist,  
Dr. David P. Gushee with Q & A to follow.

Thursday, April 10 at 6pm

UGA’s Tate Theater

Learn more about Dr. Gushee at  
[davidgushee.com](http://davidgushee.com)

### Spring Concerts

Bells of Northeast Georgia  
*Handbell Ensemble*

*at Covenant Presbyterian Church*

*March 29 at 4pm*

*(free admission)*



# WAYSTOSERVE @COVENANT

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Covenant Cooks "First Tuesday" Dinners

Sign up to volunteer here: [https://](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/)

[www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/)



## 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 Food Pantry (Every Thursday)**

Sign-up to volunteer here: [https://](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/)

[www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/)

Thank you to all who bring their plastic bags to the Pantry. It is a great help. For the month of January Covenant served 1,551 food insecure neighbors.



## You Invited to "Jammin' in our Jammies!"

Join us on March 28th in support of the children and

families at Athens Area Homeless Shelter" because there truly is no place like home, where sweet dreams come true!

Purchase tickets at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/jammin-in-our-jammies>



## DONATIONS NEEDED: Cedar Shoals Care Center Needs for March

The students of Cedar Shoals are needing **bar soap and sanitary pads for girls**. Please order from our Amazon Wishlist link [HERE](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SVZ12J14YBNN/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2) or at [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SVZ12J14YBNN/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_2](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SVZ12J14YBNN/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2)

and your donation will be sent directly to the church OR purchase items like those on this list and leave them on the hallway collection table this month.

# Covenant by the Week!

**March 16, 2025**

**SUNDAY - 9:30am** Nursery  
9:45am Sunday School for all ages  
**11:00am** Worship  
12:30pm 12 Step Group  
**3:45pm** Covenant Youth field trip to Jubilee Partners  
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

**MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED**  
6:30pm—8pm Scouts in Fellowship Hall  
7:00pm Bells of NEGA  
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom

**TUESDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
6:00pm—8pm Campus Kitchen  
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting -

**WEDNESDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal  
5:30pm Covenant Connection  
6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
6:15pm Adult Bible Study  
7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

**THURSDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
9:30am—11am Campus Kitchen  
9:30am PW Bible Study  
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution  
1pm Covenant Food Distribution  
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
7:00pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting

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

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

**March 23, 2025**

**SUNDAY - 9:30am** Nursery  
9:45am Sunday School for all ages  
**11:00am** Worship  
12:30pm 12 Step Group  
**2:00pm** Youth at UGA Women's Softball game  
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

**MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED**  
**4:00pm** Athens Free Clinic  
6:30pm—8pm Scouts in Fellowship Hall  
5:00pm Bells of NEGA in Worship Center  
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom

**TUESDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
11:00am Retirees Planning Meeting  
4:30pm Socrates Café with Mimi  
6:00pm—8pm Campus Kitchen  
6:15pm Stated Session Meeting  
7pm 12 Step Group Meeting -

**WEDNESDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal  
5:30pm Covenant Connection  
6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
6:15pm Adult Bible Study  
7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

**THURSDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
9:30am—11am Campus Kitchen  
9:30am PW Bible Study  
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution  
1pm Covenant Food Distribution  
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters

**FRIDAY** Office Open 10am—4pm  
1:30pm OLLI Group in Library  
7pm - 12 Step Group Meeting

**SATURDAY**  
10:30am 12 Step Group  
4pm Bells of NEGA concert in Worship Center