

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on You Tube for **Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens> Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER MARCH 30, 2025

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

HOLY WEEK

AT COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 13 - PALM SUNDAY
9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
11 AM PALM PROCESSION AND WORSHIP

APRIL 16 - NO COVENANT CONNECTION MEAL
HANDBELL PRACTICE 6:00 PM,
NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY, ADULT CHOIR 7:15 PM

APRIL 17 - MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7 PM WORSHIP

APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY, 7 PM WORSHIP
(AT PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE OF ATHENS)

APRIL 19 - EASTER EGG HUNT, 11 AM
(RAIN OR SHINE)

APRIL 20 - EASTER SUNDAY
7:30 AM SUNRISE WORSHIP
8-9:30 AM EASTER BREAKFAST
BRING FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS AND A COVERED DISH
TO SHARE (BAGELS, JUICE, COFFEE AND TEA WILL BE PROVIDED)
9:30 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
(PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR CLASS TO SEE IF YOU ARE MEETING)
11 AM WORSHIP

Stewardship Season has begun!

This years theme is
"A New Beginning!"

Look for your
Stewardship Packet in
the mail.

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.

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.

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.

COUNTERING (CHRISTIAN) *Authoritarianism*

reflections on our moment



a presentation by
renowned Christian ethicist

Dr. David P. Gushee

with Q&A to follow

6pm Thursday, April 10 UGA's Tate Theater

Learn more about
Dr. Gushee at
davidpgushee.com:

'Liberal democracy
needs and deserves
full Christian
support; but there is
plenty of evidence of
Christians ... being
attracted to illiberal
democracy or
outright
undemocratic
governance.'

How do Christians
offer a faithful
defense of democracy
today?



Hosted by



The Table *an inclusive Christian Campus Ministry*

and Covenant Presbyterian Church

an all inclusive family of faith



IN OUR PRAYERS: Carolyn Hatfield and family in the passing of Larry on Friday, March 21; Heide Wiegel and family in the passing of Jürgen on February 23; Hank Tweedell and family in the passing of his brother, Bobby; June Meyers home from the hospital and waiting for test results; David Knox's ex-wife, Stephanie Richards, having surgery April 7; Zeb Hendricks undergoing tests for lump in arm; Kathryn Fowler recovering from surgery on March 24; DeLynda Tweedell's Stepmother, Clarice Davis having knee surgery March 27; Carrie's roommate, Sarah diagnosed with MS; 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; our Country

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

**John 8: 32, John 1: 14, I John 4: 16,
Proverbs 17: 17, Jeremiah 31: 15,
Lamentations 1: 12, Psalm 127:2**
Please read in your Lenten Devotional

Financial Summary for Week #38

Anticipated Pledges—\$325,871.92

Pledges Received—\$332,483.81

Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!

There will be a memorial service for Jürgen Wiegel on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 2 PM in the chapel at Presbyterian Village Athens (1400 Live Oak Lane, Athens, GA 30606) with reception to follow. It's not required, but if possible, please RSVP if you plan to attend using the following link: <https://forms.gle/g66UARLL4kaFkPa19>

GREEN DREAM TEAM NEWS - The Green Dream Team had their 1st regular meeting for 2025 on March 23, at 12:15pm. There were 12 people in attendance. Gloria led our devotional. Barbara and Jere, founding members, provided a brief history of the GDT. We also had a guest speaker to kick off our March meeting. Pam Knox, a Meteorologist and Climatologist for UGA and the State of Georgia, as well as a beloved Covenant Member, spoke with us about Climate Change. She discussed some of the causes and effects of Climate Change and some ideas for actions that we can take to mitigate it. She shared with us that the science of Climate is very complicated and that many factors affect the climate in different ways. She mentioned her work with farmers in Georgia, who are having a difficult time now, due to many recent weather-related events. In order to engage with the farmers, Pam focuses her talks with them on economics and how climate changes affect economics and farming. We discussed global warming and climate change. Fossil fuel use is the biggest contributor to global warming. What we can do to decrease our carbon footprint is to conserve water and energy. Methane gas is another big contributor, from cattle and landfills, to name a couple of factors. We can decrease the amount of meat we eat and decrease the amount of food we throw away to help with this. We can also buy food from the "ugly bin" at the grocery store, to avoid that food being discarded in the landfill. We want to include some ways Covenant Members can participate in Earth Care Activities. Here are some suggestions:

1. Save your clean, reusable plastic shopping bags and bring them to Covenant to be reused at the weekly Food Pantry (to place fresh/frozen items for distribution)
2. Save large paper shopping bags and bring to Covenant for the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank
3. Reduce food waste
4. Compost
5. Recycle (We hope to have some recycling bins for hard to recycle items soon)
6. Save cold water from faucets or shower, as you wait for water to warm. Reuse that water to water plants or fill toilets
7. Consolidate shopping trips/ errands to reduce amount of driving
8. Walk or ride bicycle; Car-pool
9. Consider how environmentally friendly are the products that you buy
10. Encourage your family and friends to participate in these activities too!

There are more suggestions for individual actions for Earth Care on the Green Dream Team table by our bulletin board in the alcove. Please take a handout home with you! We also have a list of Resources for more information on Earth Care available too.

Our next Green Dream Team Meeting will be April 13, 12:15pm in the Covenant Library.

IN SEARCH FOR COMMON LANGUAGE IN DIVIDED SOCIETY

How could our societies have so quickly become polarized on political, cultural, and other issues? What are the churches doing? What does the gospel of the crucified and risen Christ say about this?

Join the ECCB-PC (USA) Partnership's online conference on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at 2 PM EST (USA) / 8 PM CET (CZE). The conference will be held in English at <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/93768208441>. All are welcome. Pre-registration via email at slama@etf.cuni.cz would be appreciated.

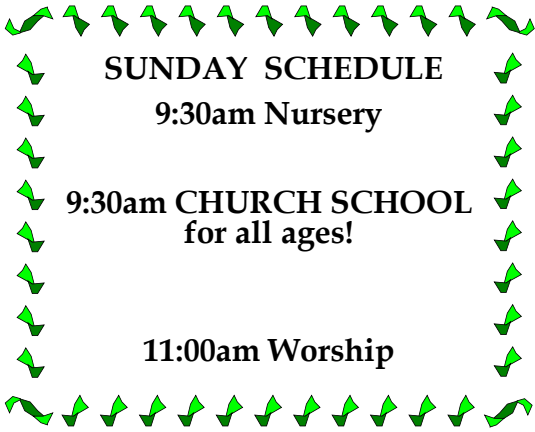
Within a 90-minute timeframe, Professor Petr Kratochvíl, an expert in international relations and Christian ethics, and Professor James Calvin Davis, an expert in the role of religion in American democratic life, will offer presentations. These will be followed by discussion in smaller breakout rooms and a short plenary session. Moderation: Professors Mark Douglas and Petr Sláma. You are welcome to stay and chat with your friends in breakout rooms afterwards.



**Charles
University**



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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30am Nursery

9:30am CHURCH SCHOOL
for all ages!

11:00am Worship

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

USHERS/GREETERS: Caly DePalma, Katy Terry, Jim & Sandy Whitney

LITURGIST: Kirche Rogers

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

USHERS/GREETERS: Alan Edwards, Judy Capie, Jim Newland,
Robyn Malone

LITURGIST: Jim Newland

Congregational Care for March: Ansley Land & DeLynda Tweedell
For April: Catharine Tyson



March 30, 2025

Lily McKay, Dell Whitehead,
Ada Brock & Larsen Rea

April 6, 2025 Lily McKay, Brian Herndon,
Ellen Stoneburner

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 April 2, 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. Thank you Covenant and *May We*
All Have Enough!

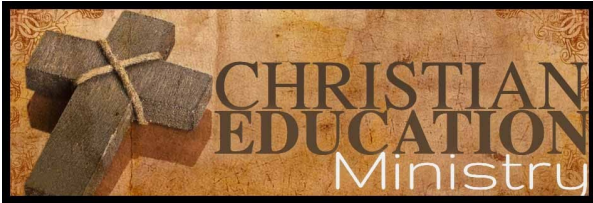
Retirees Covered Dish Luncheon
Tuesday, April 8 at 12:30pm
Kent & Rebecca Silver will present pictures of their trip
to Egypt. The main dish will be provided. Please bring
a side dish to share. Beverages will be provided.

LIBRARY CORNER: *Orthodoxy: A Modern Translation* by G. K. Chesterton

Considered a classic and a masterpiece by writers such as C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, "These few but powerful pages chronicle Chesterton's intellectual journey to explain why he believes in Christianity, and how he came to view it as the most rational and logical approach to understanding the universe. With humor, common sense, and a style all his own, Chesterton (1874-1936) welcomes you on a whimsical journey of rediscovery, revealing how the answers to life's deepest questions were hiding in plain sight all along."



This book can be found at Bay F, Shelf 3. —Church Librarian Valerie Stone



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.

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 30 at 5:00pm. Dinner and a program.



EXCITING NEWS ABOUT 10:30 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY AT COVENANT!

We’re thrilled to announce a refreshed schedule that allows everyone to connect and enjoy a time of fellowship! Sunday School classes now run from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., followed by 30 minutes of coffee, conversation, and community in the gathering room before 11 a.m. worship.

We encourage attendees to step out promptly after class, grab a cup of hot decaf or full-throttle coffee, and savor a few moments with your church family and visitors seeking fellowship. Who knows, there might even be a sweet snack waiting to brighten your day! Let’s fill the room with conversation, friendship, and delicious aromas. See you there at 10:30 a.m.!

Remember, fellowship is sweeter when we all join in!

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#/



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#/>

COVENANT FOOD PANTRY

NEEDS YOUR HELP



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#/

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.

A Special Offer to CPC from Preacher Green's! Paul Allen, Operating Partner at nearby Preacher Green's Restaurant (1995 Barnett Shoals Rd), is an old friend of Covenant Church, and has made a standing offer to us: On the Tuesday through Thursday following the THIRD SUNDAY of every month, just present your worship service bulletin for a 10% discount on your meal! Paul is grateful for his relationships at Covenant, and wishes to express this in a concrete way!

So hold on to your April 20 bulletin, and consider a Preacher Green's visit Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday!

Join the
**Covenant
Birthday
Brigade**

Starting in April, our Covenant Birthday Brigade will begin making birthday cakes for children with a birthday while living at the Athens Area Homeless Shelter. Please let Amy know if you are willing to bake a cake once or twice a year!

OUR FRIENDS AT JUBILEE PARTNERS ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

Size 8 boys clothes, 1 nightstand (bedside table), 1 very small living room end table, a few sturdy bookshelves of various sizes, car seat for 8 month old, pillow protectors, plastic/waterproof mattress covers that sip all the way around (twin, full, and queen), dish soap (small bottles) 2-3 mops with sponge bottoms, dish towels, wash cloths, diaper wipes, 2-3 headlamps (for residents walking around property at night)

If you would like to help with passports please make your check out to JUBILEE PARTNERS with passport in the memo portion. Mail to Jubilee Partners, P. O. Box 68, Comer, GA 30629.

Here are some general needs that your contributions will also help:

Counseling for mons and children who have experienced abuse, Clothing for new families (that they do not have in their clothing store), weekly groceries for families, medicine and vaccinations, legal fees, gas for appointments.

Contact DeLynda Tweedell for more info!

Covenant by the Week!

March 30, 2025

SUNDAY - 9:30am Nursery
9:30am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Worship
12:15pm SEL in Fellowship Hall
12:30pm 12 Step Group
5:00pm Youth dinner and a program
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED
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
12:00pm CCL Meeting in Library
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's
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 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

April 6, 2025

SUNDAY - 9:30am Nursery
9:30am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Worship
Following Worship—Abby's farewell luncheon
12:30pm 12 Step Group
NO COVENANT YOUTH GROUP
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED
4pm 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
12pm CCL Meeting in Library
12:30pm Retirees Covered Dish Luncheon
4:30pm Socrates Café with Caly DePalma
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 preparing bags for food distribution
1pm Covenant Food Distribution
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters

FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm
10:00am PW Easter Basket Project
2pm Memorial Service for Jürgen Wiegel at PVA
7pm - 12 Step Group Meeting

SATURDAY
10:30am 12 Step Group