

THE COVENANTER  
July 14, 2019

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



**PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH FEAST ON July 20th!** Covenant Presbyterian Church in conjunction with other local churches will join together to distribute food from the Food Bank of NEGA to our neighbors. If you would like to volunteer please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway next to the mailboxes. Volunteers will need to arrive as early as 7:00 am with the distribution itself beginning at 9 a.m. for approximately 200 people. It is estimated that we will wrap things up around 10:30 a.m. If you are interested in participating in FEAST please visit our sign-up sheet in the hallway. For more information contact Sue Rathbun, Nancy Omdahl, Ed Ralph or Mark Harper. *Let us pray for God's continued blessing on this ecumenical effort in our community!*



**Kickin' It at Covenant** is back this summer. For six Wednesdays in June and July, kids and adults are welcome to come hang out for ice cream, games, and a short program. We need volunteers to help make this happen! See the available slots on the Sign-Up Genius page at <https://bit.ly/2X5tKhs>. **Schedule will be as follows:** 6:30-7:00: Lesson and activity for kids. 7:00-7:15: Ice cream 7:15-8:00: Indoor/outdoor games. Can include kickball, capture the flag, freeze tag, or one of our cooperative board games for **Wednesdays July 17 & 24**.



**ATHENS AREA EMERGENCY FOOD BANK!**

The month of JULY Covenant is collecting these items for the AAEFB: **canned sweet peas, hot cereal, and kids snacks**. Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1065 Gaines School Road  
Athens, Georgia 30605  
706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344  
[www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org)  
[covenantp@covpresathens.org](mailto:covenantp@covpresathens.org)

Dear Covenant Presbyterian, My family is deeply moved by and grateful for your thoughtfulness and generosity. As a gift for my brief almost two years working at Covenant, a beautiful gift of a blanket, lovely heartfelt cards, and monetary gifts in honor of my sister, Genia, to two organizations selected to commemorate her legacy were given. Thank you! As a gift to yourselves, please consider learning about these organizations as they are inspiring in their own unique ways! L'Arche was founded by the late Fr. Jean Vanier. A lovely interview with him can be found on the podcast: OnBeing with host Krista Tippet, entitled, "The Wisdom of Tenderness," aired on 12-20-2007 at [www.onbeing.org](http://www.onbeing.org). As for Woodlands Garden, discover an urban forest trust left to the community at [WoodlandsGarden.org](http://WoodlandsGarden.org). Maybe next time you drive to Atlanta you can swing by. God's Love and Peace to you all. *Craig Topple*

**Remember in Prayer:** Janice Patterson & family, in the death of her husband Norman on July 8; Ed Ralph & family, in the death of his wife Dianne on July 10 – with a memorial planned at Covenant for Sat. July 27 at 10:30am; Covenant’s mission team in Olomouc till July 16; High School youth & advisors at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University, July 16-20; Middlers & advisors at the Montreat Youth Conference in Maryville, TN, July 17-21; the Rev. Colleen Cook & family, upon their first Sunday, July 7, pastoring at All Saints Presbyterian Church, Columbus, GA; Pam Knox, having surgery on her injured leg July 18; John & Mary Sue Brewer, as he recovers from a recent fall; Marianne & Taylor Causey, recovering from a recent auto accident; Marcia Verbrugge, in treatment for pain in her hands & wrists; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Libby Wright & Anne Page, at Avery Place; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Ruth Brewster, at Morningside; Don Sumner, Maurine Wathen, Carol Wheeler, Jim Smith, and Elsie Bothwell, at home.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

Monday	July 15	Amos 8: 1-12	
Tuesday	July 16	Psalms 52	
Wednesday	July 17	Colossians 1: 15-28	Title: <i>We Meet in the Middle</i>
Thursday	July 18	Luke 10: 38-42	Theme: We put ourselves in each other’s shoes to understand & enjoy the goodness God gives to each.
Friday	July 19	Romans 12: 1-8	
Saturday	July 20	John 11: 17-27	
Sunday	July 21	Philippians 2: 1-5	

**WEDNESDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

**10am in the Upper Room**

Viewing and discussing Ken Curtis’ DVD on the 23rd Psalm. ALL ARE WELCOME!

**WHO’S WHO at Covenant?** Who at Covenant served in the first class of Candy Strippers for the Presbyterian Retirement Home in the Lakes & Prairies Synod in Iowa?

Who’s Who: Paula Zimdars – happy birthday on Bastille Day!

**Want to give a helping hand?** Join our ministries at **Our Daily Bread**, the soup kitchen for Athens, based at First Baptist Church downtown. Dorothy Newland coordinates what has been Covenant’s contribution = preparing lunch on fifth Wednesdays, arriving at 10am, leaving by 1pm, eating lunch there if food is still available. Their next day of service is Wednesday, July 31. And Paige Cummings coordinates what has been Central’s contribution = preparing lunch on first Fridays monthly, arriving at 11am. Their next day of service is Friday, August 2. It’s both a faithful and fun experience, meeting new friends, and showing God’s love for all. Come & see!

**2018-2019 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD**

Fiscal Year to Date: Week #53  
 Anticipated Pledges: \$465,453.00  
 Received Pledges: \$436,207.04

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month of JULY Covenant is collecting these items for the AAEFB: **canned sweet peas, hot cereal, and kids snacks.** Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

If you know of a “fun fact” about a Covenant member or friend or yourself (!), then please give it to Beecher for the **Who’s Who** column in the newsletter. *Thanks!*



The **Restaurant Roadtrip** heads to South Kitchen in downtown Athens, 247 Washington Street (in the old Georgian Hotel) on Tuesday, July 16, at 11:30am. Come with us! You can carpool from the church parking lot at 11:15am, or meet us there. Please sign up on the bulletin board by the church mailboxes to let us know your plans. Separate checks.

**Congratulations** to Ssempe & Alice Kisaalita, upon his UGA graduation with a masters in biomanufacturing & bioprocessing. They’ve moved to Austin, TX, for his employment at Molecular Templates. Blessings on your new journey in life!



Covenant Breakfast Club  
Monday, July 15th at 8am.  
Cracker Barrel on Epps  
Bridge Road. Join us for a good time  
of conversation and food.

**What’s In A Name?** Find the first name that fits: Example: \_\_\_\_\_ sled.

Answer: bob

1. \_\_\_\_\_mell
2. \_\_\_\_\_budd
3. \_\_\_\_\_downs

*By Marilyn Brown*

Answers to *What’s in a Name*  
1. cara 2. Rose 3. pat



**10th Annual 2019**

**Annual Fund-Raiser**  
benefiting **Athens Nurses Clinic Healthcare**  
*with compassion*

**Featuring:**

**Live Music!**

**& Fresh Tomato Sandwiches**

**Saturday, July 20th**

**4:30pm—7pm**

**More info at**

[www.tomatoesatterrapin.com](http://www.tomatoesatterrapin.com)



**Handchime & Handbell Choirs Kickoff Evening**

For all returning handchime and handbell ringers, Covenant and Central, and all Covenant musicians interested in or curious about ringing (basic music reading skills necessary)

Wednesday, July 31

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

We’ll gather, get to know each other, have some fun, ring a little.

Bells will be available for you to try. It will be a relaxed evening.

And please let me know if you’re attending so we’ll have enough materials for everyone.

David Boardman, Director, Handbell Choirs [makeminesupine@hotmail.com](mailto:makeminesupine@hotmail.com) 706-318-0048

*I recently started subscribing to Richard Rohr's daily meditation emails from The Center for Action and Contemplation.<sup>1</sup> The summary for last week included this contemplation that I found helpful and wanted to share. I hope you find it rejuvenating for your body, mind, and spirit! - Karen Fletcher*

**Practice: Allowing God to Speak** In Franciscan theology, love comes before knowledge. We truly know only that which we love. When we stand back analyzing and coolly calculating, we will never really know anything at a deep level. It is only by stepping out and becoming vulnerable with someone that we come to know them. Love precedes understanding.

Take that leap of faith in love that allows God to speak to you. I cannot prove to you with any kind of logic or philosophy that God speaks to us. But I invite you to step out, trust, and listen. Say, "Love, if you are in fact Love, then show yourself in my life and speak to my heart." Prayer of the Heart is a contemplative practice that engages our openness to experiencing this leap of faith and love. The following is adapted from Teresa Blythe's book *50 Ways to Pray*.<sup>1</sup>

Begin in a seated position and take five relaxed breaths.

Ask yourself, "What is my longing?" or "What is it that I seek from God?"

Name the response that arises with a word or short phrase, for example: freedom, love, inner balance, healing, or joy.

Consider your preferred name for the Divine: God, Jesus, Wisdom, Father, Mother, Mystery, Spirit.

Combine your name for God with your longing; for example, "Freedom in Christ" or "Spirit of joy."

Repeat these words aloud or silently, perhaps in rhythm with your breath: "Freedom" on the in-breath, "in Christ" on the out-breath. Breathe naturally, without trying to control the body's natural pace.

After several minutes, stop the repetition and rest, abiding in contemplative silence.

[1] <https://cac.org>

[2] See Teresa A. Blythe, *50 Ways to Pray: Practices from Many Traditions and Times* (Abingdon Press: 2006), 36.

June 26, 2019

It is with great joy and hope that I can now share the news that two of our staff openings have been filled! **Rindy Trouteaud** has accepted our invitation to become Covenant's first Coordinator of Education and Congregational Life. And **Jacob Douylliez** will be our new Director of Music Ministry. Both Rindy and Jacob are ordained PCUSA ministers, and obviously have last names that reflect their close spiritual connection to our founding French reformer, John Calvin! Rindy most recently has been the pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, compassionately guiding our sisters and brothers there through a stormy season of transition. Prior to Central, she served the congregation of Monticello (Ga) Presbyterian Church, and worked with numerous congregations within Greater Atlanta Presbytery. Rindy lives in Tucker with her husband Bob; together they are the parents of two grown children, Alex and Chloe, and the grandparents of five. Rindy was also a classmate of Beecher's at Columbia Theological Seminary. Jacob and his wife Catherine currently live in Oconee County on Piccadilly Farm and Nursery in Bishop, which is owned and operated by her family. They are the proud parents of eight month old Valerie. Before moving to Bishop, Jacob was the pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Marion, NC. He is a graduate of Piedmont College in Demorest, and Princeton Theological Seminary. We welcome both Rindy and Jacob, and their families, into the Covenant family - and can't wait to see how God will bless our congregation and community through their inspired servant leadership. They will begin their work here on July 1.

Grace and peace, *Mark Harper*

**WEEK OF July 14, 2019—**

**SUNDAY—**

9:45am Worship  
2:30pm Debtors Anonymous  
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

**MONDAY—**

8:00am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road  
9am—4pm Project Safe-Super Heroes  
OFFICE CLOSED

**TUESDAY- Youth & Leaders leave for the Triennium at Purdue U.  
Covenant's Mission Team returns from Olomouc**

9am—4pm Project Safe-Super Heroes  
9:30am Athens Mothers Center  
8pm New Freedom

**WEDNESDAY— Middlers & Leaders leave for Montreat Conf**

9am—4pm Project Safe-Super Heroes  
8:30am—9:30am AA  
10am Adult Bible Study  
6:30pm Kickin' It

**THURSDAY— 9am—4pm Project Safe-Super Heroes  
2pm Knitters & Knotters**

**FRIDAY- 9am—4pm Project Safe-Super Heroes  
9:30am Athens Mothers Center  
8pm New Freedom**

**SATURDAY— 7:00am FEAST food truck distribution  
Fellowship Hall Cleaned**

**WEEK OF July 21, 2019—**

**SUNDAY—**

9:45am Worship  
2:30pm Debtors Anonymous  
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

**MONDAY— OFFICE CLOSED**

**TUESDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mothers Center  
8pm New Freedom

**WEDNESDAY—**

8:30am—9:30am AA  
10am Adult Bible Study  
6:30pm Kickin' It (final)

**THURSDAY—**

2pm Knitters & Knotters  
7:00pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting  
7:30pm Happy Squares

**FRIDAY-**

8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY—**

10:30am Memorial Service for Dianne Ralph  
Fellowship Hall Cleaned

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**WORSHIP—July 14 2019**

**9:45am**

Reader: Paige Campbell

Ushers: Paige Cummings, Kent Silver Phil & Linda Koehler,  
Bob Trouteaud

Greeters: Jim & Sandy Whitney

Congregational Care: Bert Ballard-Myer

Counters: Judy Capie, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (July 15—21)

Nursery/Super: Marie Ballard-Myer

Birth—Walking: Marie Ballard-Myer

Walking—5 years old: Steve & Lola Bell, Luanne Rigsby

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**WORSHIP—July 21, 2019**

**9:45am**

Reader: TBD

Ushers: Robyn Malone, Juergen Wiegel, Hank, DeLynda &  
Carrie Tweedell

Greeters: Katie Bemisderfer, Bert Ballard-Myer

Congregational Care: Bert Ballard-Myer

Counters: Pam Knox, Randy Parish

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (July 22—28)

Nursery/Super: Ellen Stoneburner

Birth—Walking: Juergen Wiegel

Walking—5 years old: Jim & Ann Anderson, Ellen Stoneburner