

8:30am Worship resumes
Sunday, January 14th!

THE COVENANTER

January 07, 2018

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

IHN HOSTING WEEK—January 14—21

To be the church is to be hospitable. Hospitality is a major way for Christians to demonstrate the *GRACE* of God who receives us with *open arms*. This opportunity begins for us the week of **January 14th through 21st** when we host temporarily homeless guests for IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network). NOW is the time to sign-up on the board across from the Church office. Check the board to see the many ways you can practice *Christian hospitality*. You can also see the current sign-up board on Covenant's web page under Outreach and call the Church office (706-548-2756) and ask Karen to sign up for you. It is an opportunity: *Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so they entertained angels unaware. (Hebrews 13:2)*

PCUSA Joy Gift Offering

When you give to the Joy Gift Offering, you honor the wondrous gift of Jesus by nurturing the faith we have in God and one another. The Joy Gift Offering supports the development of the future racial ethnic leadership of our church and aids church workers and their families in times of need, answering a faithful call to enrich lives and ease burdens. You will find a brochure and envelope in your mailbox.

Please give generously.

"And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel. Matthew 2:6



For the month of
JANUARY

Covenant is

collecting for the AAEFB:

Saltines, dried beans, and canned salmon and as always brown paper bags. *Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!*

Today, Sunday, January 7th we will celebrate during worship the ordination and installation of our church officers.

The Session's Class of 2020 includes *Mary Barnett, Ellen Stoneburner and Luanne Rigsby.*

Many thanks to them for their willingness to serve.

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, Georgia 30605
706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344
www.covpresathens.org
covenantp@covpresathens.org



PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH FEAST ON January 20th!

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, Juanita Floyd, Ed Ralph or Mark Harper. *Let us pray for God's continued blessing on this ecumenical effort in our community!*

Remember in Prayer: Gabe Harper, with an injured hand; Dell Whitehead's mother, hospitalized with failing health in Gainesville, and her father, recovering at home with many broken bones from an earlier auto accident; Kay Millar & family, as her son-in-law Justin Dean has surgery Jan.10 in Los Angeles, to remove a tumor from his auditory nerve; Julius Bostick and family in the passing of his brother in Augusta; a neighbor, Anthony's, mother Fanny Smith with dementia, and severe arthritis; Patrick McMaster's brother Neal, having hip surgery this month; Patti Priester, recovering from an icy fall & her daughter from a successful hip surgery in NY; Stephanie Cahill's cousin, with pneumonia; Jason Green's friend, beginning college at Athens Tech; Ashley Metz's aunt, who is ill; Debbie Waters, a friend in the community, upon the death of her daughter; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Carl Huberty, Sharon Edwards, Grace Eubank, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS -

Monday,	January 08	Psalm 139: 1-16
Tuesday,	January 09	Psalm 139: 17-24
Wednesday,	January 10	Psalm 140
Thursday,	January 11	I Corinthians 6: 1-11
Friday,	January 12	I Corinthians 6: 12-20
Saturday,	January 13	I Samuel 3: 1-10
Sunday,	January 14	John 1: 43-51

We will welcome Rev. Joyce Lieberman to the Covenant pulpit Sunday, Jan 14th at both worship services.

Rev. Lieberman is the Executive and Stated Clerk of the Synod of the South Atlantic. We are grateful for her friendship and leadership with our session retreat weekend.

WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant was born the farthest north & maybe the coldest?



WHO'S WHO:
Dianne Ralph in
Canada and Anje
Kidd in Alaska

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #27 12/31/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$250,668.00

Received Pledges: \$265,969.94

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Defibrillator Fund: \$ 1,650.00

Meals On Wheels: \$ 11,819.00

The Name's The Game. Add the correct first name.

- _____ club.
- _____ glott.
- _____ -chise.



**ANSWERS TO
NAMES THE
GAME:**
1. Billy
2. Polly
3. Fran



**Every Cookie Has A
MISSION**

TO HELP GIRLS DO GREAT THINGS

Lily Herndon and Carrie Tweedell are now taking orders for Girl Scout Cookies. Cookies will be in the first week of February and are the same as last year: Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Dosidoes, Trefoils & Savannah Smiles are \$4 per box. S'mores & Toffeetastic are \$6 per box. Thank you for your support of these Girl Scouts.

SANCTUARY MOVEMENT TASK FORCE-At our session meeting on August 15th, the session voted to create a "Sanctuary Task Force" that would explore ways Covenant might respond in faith and compassion to undocumented immigrants in the Athens area. One of the primary ways might be to support work already being undertaken by our friends at Oconee Street United Methodist Church under the leadership of our Green Acres neighbor JoBeth Allen. Please take a moment to read the "Athens-Area Sanctuary Coalition Proposal" that JoBeth distributed at our session meeting and prayerfully consider whether you might want to be a part of this effort. Feel free to contact Mark Harper or Sue Rathbun if you have interest or questions.

2018 Ministry Team Chairs

Building & Grounds	Alex Clark+
Care & Nurture of Young Children	Ellen Stoneburner, Lola Bell+
Christian Education	Katy McGill, Mary Barnett
Community Outreach	Patti Huberty
Congregational Care	Marilyn Brown, Luanne Rigsby
Congregational Fellowship	James Malone, Ann Haarmann+
Stewardship & Finance	Dennis Calbos
Witness	Terry Centner, Sandy Whitney
Worship	chair – Julie Bower+
	liaison to Session – Dick Zimdars
Clerk of the Session 2018	Cheryl Devaney+
Substitute clerks	Terry Centner, Luanne Rigsby
+ denotes not serving on current Session	



CE CORNER

The purpose of Christian Education at Covenant Presbyterian Church is to nurture our discipleship, build our spirit of community and cultivate clarity of thought about our faith.

Wonderful Wednesdays Resume January 10th

10:00am Adult Bible Study

Covenant Connection

5:15pm – 6:00pm k-2nd grade choir; 3rd – 5th Servant time

6:00-6:30pm Family Dinner for children, youth and adults

6:30pm – 7:15pm 3rd – 5th grade Choir; K-2nd Servant Time

6:30pm Adult Bible Study

6:30pm – 7:15pm Wednesday Evening Devotions

7:30pm Adult Choir

Wednesday Covenant Connection for Youth

3:30pm Supervision for Middle & High School Youth in the youth rooms begins

5:15pm "Wednesday School" for Middle School Youth led by Mark & Beecher

(optional for High School), High School Youth continue to fellowship

6:00pm Family Dinner 6:30pm Faith and Film 7:15pm Depart

MENU for Jan 10
Pizza, salad, fruit,
brownies

Sanctuary Task Force News: **"Hospitality Beyond Borders"**



Hospitality Beyond Borders is Koinonia Farm's ministry to immigrants and detainees at nearby Stewart Detention Center. If the men are deported, they are required to wear their prison jump suits on to the plane. However, if provided, they are allowed to carry a backpack with one change of clothes. Koinonia works to provide these items.

Order one of several of these backpacks. If you choose, give as gifts to loved ones or friends and we will send a card explaining the program and the importance of your gift in their honor.

Cost is \$75 each and this purchase is considered a donation. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt.

HBB75 Backpack, one shirt, a pair of pants, a pair of underwear, socks and shoes. \$75

Koinonia Farm's Mission:

We are Christians called to live together in intentional community sharing a life of prayer, work, study, service and fellowship. We seek to embody peacemaking, sustainability, and radical sharing. While honoring people of all backgrounds and faiths, we strive to demonstrate the way of Jesus as an alternative to materialism, militarism and racism.

Please consider making a donation. Make checks out to Covenant and mark it Hospitality Backpacks and place in offering or drop it off in the office.

You can also send a check directly to the address below or donate online.

Koinonia Farm

1324 GA Hwy 49 South

Americus, GA 31719

877.738.1741

donate@koinoniafarm.org

Any questions please contact: Sue Rathbun, Bert Ballard-Meyer or Mark Harper

ULEAD - Athens – Looking for Volunteers

What is ULEAD? U-Lead Athens is, in our students' words, United, Unafraid, Undefeated, and Unstoppable Leaders. Students and/or their parents are also undocumented or un(der)documented immigrants. Every Thursday night, Clarke County high school students and recent graduates who have lived in the US most of their lives gather to work with volunteer mentors: spectacular students with UGA's Undocumented Student Alliance (USA), faculty from CCSD and UGA, and community members. The Oconee Street United Methodist Church donates the space. Students identify and apply for colleges that will accept students with varying immigration statuses, prepare for standardized tests, and search and apply for scholarships. They plan to work in fields such as biology, engineering, education, heating and air conditioning, medical information technology, international relations, and psychology; they have expertise in music, art, multiple languages, and public speaking.

The main need we have is for people who can be College Coaches for the academic year, committing to attending each Thursday, 6:00-8:00 and working with one student as they go through the process of college exploration, test prep (we have content areas specialists), application, scholarship hunts, etc. We do the training and supply lots of support. It's incredibly rewarding!

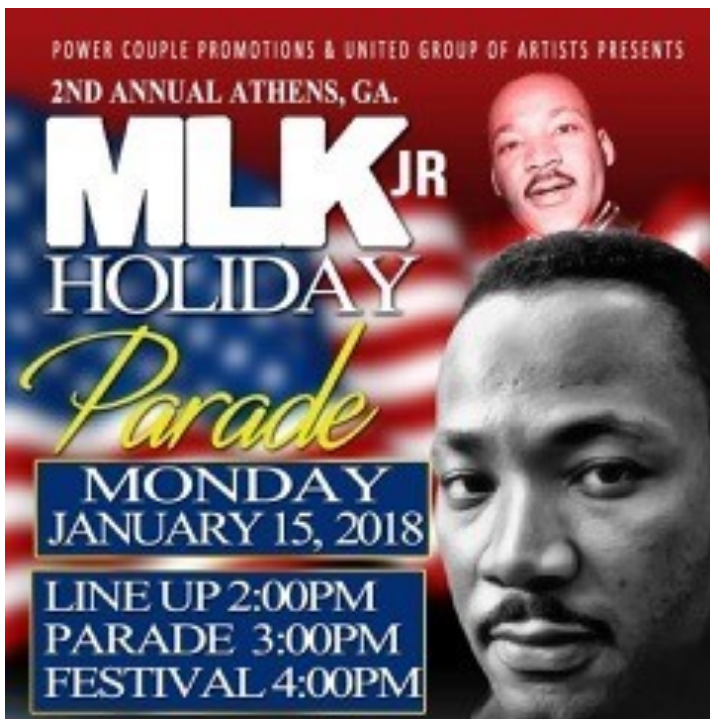
Other much needed services: Provide dinner or donation for 60-75 people – If you bring dinner, please stay and eat and get to know us. Provide meal supplements such as iced tea, lemonade, salad, or dessert – chocolate is especially welcome! Provide transportation occasionally, either to or from our meetinghouse at Oconee Street United Methodist Church (595 Oconee Street) or to college for and admissions interview, campus visit or scholarship interview.

Whether it is books, dinner, or your financial support, any donation is greatly appreciated.

Click on the link below to find out what we're in need of and how you can help.

E-mail: uleadathens@gmail.com by phone: 706-224-1411 or 706-521-4082 www.uleadathens.org

Please consider becoming a volunteer: Any questions please contact Sue Rathbun or Mark Harper



Please join us for the second annual MLK Jr Holiday Parade on Monday, January 15, 2018. Please meet us down town Athens at 2 pm for line up. Look for the Covenant youth group and folks with the Covenant banner. If you have any questions please contact: Sue Rathbun or Bert Ballard-Myer.

Many thanks to our Covenant family for the cards and gifts to the office staff this Christmas Season.

Judy, Sharon, & Karen

Covenant is now capable of making CD's of the Worship Service. They will be available in the Church Office. The audio portion is also available on the church website. Click on or enter this address to access <http://covpresathens.org/wp/sermons/>



YOGA AT COVENANT!

Thursdays at 6:30pm

Everyone is welcome!

CovPres Children and Youth - This is Our Page! Submit items you'd like to go in the Covenant to ctopple@covpresathens.org, who can't guarantee all submissions will be published :).

5th Sunday Worship- What a 5th Sunday worship experience we had Dec 31! It was busy and full service with many moving parts, but as watching it unfold joy was in people's eyes, and kind encouraging words were shared. What a talented group of children and youth and others who helped. Many turned in pledge cards of ways you plan to be Simeons and Annas in the lives of the CovPres children in 2018.

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service) -Sign your child up for January in the New Year. 3rd grade and up reading level please. Go to signupgenius.com. Search using the email: ctopple@covpresathens.org for the the "Child Liturgist" signup.

Going underground with WoRM!

This Spring, WoRM has a regular teacher rotation! Once during the month the K - 2nd class will be led by: Luanne Rigsby, Kay Brooks, Christine Carpenter, and Nancy Omdahl, along with their Shepherds. Each has particular gifts which fit like a glove with the workshop rotation. They will be a blessing to our children as they grow in the faith.

Jan 7th - Kay Brooks, Adam Brooks, Shepherd (Temple Courtyard)

Jan 14th - Christine Carpenter (Oasis Theatre)

Jan 21st - Nancy Omdahl (Loaves and Fishes)

Jan 28th - Luanne Rigsby, Susan Parish, Shepherd (Potter's Workshop)

3rd - 5th January Rotation

Jan 7 - Craig T (Loaves and Fishes - for *Greek*)

Jan 14 - Craig T (Temple Courtyard --> Potter's Workshop)

Jan 21 - Christine C (Oasis Theatre)

Jan 28 - Patrick M (Loaves and Fishes)

Raising our children in the faith is a gift we give and receive.



YOUTH NEWS!

Lasagna Luncheon January 7—purchase a ticket at the door. \$8 adults, \$4 children 4-12, under 4 FREE!

OFTs - Opportunities for Transformation 2018. Schedules have been released. Please contact Craig if you want to know what various opportunities your youth has for transformation in 2018.

Lockin at OPC - Jan 14/15. Sign up by January 7th.

Winter Retreat - President's Day Weekend (Feb 17-19). Sign up by Jan 14

Montreat! - Senior High Youth - June 3 - 9. Sign up by January 14

Wednesday evening programming is back in full swing beginning Jan 10.

3:45 - 5pm: Study Hall

5:15 - 6: Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher

6 - 6:30: Supper

6:30-7:15 - Movie with Craig B.

Sunday morning

9:40-10:30: Youth are encouraged to learn more B.A.S.I.C.s of Scripture led by Abby H.

Sunday evening program will resume after MLK weekend.

Sign up/ questions/ feedback - ctopple@covpresathens.org

THE CAVE—The Cave - the Covenant Sponsored free after school program for middle and high school students. *Thank you volunteers who make this valuable program happen!*

The Cave follows the CCDS Calendar. If there is a full day of school Friday, The Cave is open 3:40 - 5:30!

The Cave will resumed, Jan 5, 2018. All CovPres youth can come to **The Cave**.

Contact Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Cave Manager, for more info.mation: cotsakiscordon@gmail.com

WEEK OF January 7, 2017

SUNDAY-

9:30am Church School for All
10:45am Worship with Holy Communion
and Ordination/Installation of Elders
12:15pm Lasagna Luncheon Youth Fund Raiser in FH

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

7pm—9pm Drayton Square in Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn
6:30pm Wednesday Evening Devotions
6:30pm Adult Bible Study
7:25pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY-

9:30am Presbyterian Women's Bible Study
10am Committee on Ministry Meeting in the FH
2pm Knitters & Knotters
7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)
8pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY-

SESSION RETREAT through Saturday at Rock Eagle
9:30am Athens Mothers Center
3:30pm The Cave
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WEEK OF January 14, 2017

SUNDAY- IHN BEGINS

8:30am WORSHIP resumes - Rev. Joyce Liberman
9:30am Church School for All
10:45am Worship - Rev. Joyce Lieberman
Youth Lock-In at Oconee Pres

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

8am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
11:30am Restaurant Roadtrip to Fatz Cafe
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn
6:30pm Wednesday Evening Devotions
6:30pm Adult Bible Study
7:25pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters
7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

3:30pm The Cave
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

7:30am FEAST food truck distribution
Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—January 07, 2017

10:45am

Liturgist: Owen Barnett

Reader: Sarah Shannon

Ushers: Mitchell Wolfe, Kent Silver, Marie Ballard-Myer,

Greeters: Joan Baird, Hannah Baird, Sandy Whitney

Congregational Care: DeLynda Tweedell

Counters: Judy Capie, Ellen Stoneburner

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (Jan. 8-14)

Nursery/Super: Ellen Stoneburner

Birth—Walking: Ellen Stoneburner

Walking—5 years old: Jim Anderson, Ann Haarmann, Stephanie Cahill

WORSHIP—January 14, 2017

8:30am

Reader: Bruce Menke

Ushers: Judy Capie, Elsie Bothwell Coffee Maker: Dennis Calbos

10:45am

Liturgist:

Reader: Paige Campbell

Ushers: Heide & Juergen Wiegel, The Tweedell Family

Greeters: Jim Whitney, Bert Ballard-Myer, Katie Bemisderfer

Congregational Care: DeLynda Tweedell

Counters: Paige Campbell, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Jan. 15-21)

Nursery/Super: Joan Baird

Birth—Walking: Joan Baird

Walking—5 years old: Chuck Rosenberger, Sandy Whitney, Anna Cobb