

THE COVENANTER

February 04, 2018

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



Souper Bowl Of Caring,

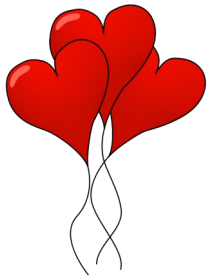
February 4th. Contribu-

tions will go to support
FEAST, the East Athens

Food Distribution, a

partnership of local churches that pur-
chase a truck load of food to distribute to
hungry families in our community. Each
truck load of food costs \$350. Covenant is
the host of the food distribution bi month-
ly, with the next one on March 17th.

Covenant will welcome Nibs Stroupe, as our guest speaker on February 18 at the 8:30am & 10:45am worship services. Nibs is the author of the book, Deep Waters Sermons for a New Vision a sermon collection— but also a manifesto. Its sermons sound forth a call for Christian preaching that is *evangelical* and *emancipatory*: un-ashamed of the good news about Christ's death and resurrection and resolute in resistance to white supremacy, male domination, and redemptive violence. For thirty-four years, Stroupe pastored at Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, a multiracial congregation in metropolitan Atlanta. The sermons of this collection present the mature fruit of that ministry, and they offer a gift and example to the next generation of preachers and workers summoned as witnesses of Jesus Christ to the American context. A book signing will follow the 10:45am worship service in the fellowship hall. Books are \$15 each (cash or check only). (see page 5 for more info)



HEART OF COVENANT — Join us on February 10 at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall for this annual adult event which includes a three course dinner and a variety of games to help you get better acquainted with Covenant members and friends. Bring a spouse, friend, or come as a single. You will rotate to different tables and be with different people for each course. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. Please

indicate if you can help set up, clean up or bring a dessert. If you have any questions please contact James Malone or Ann Haarmann.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

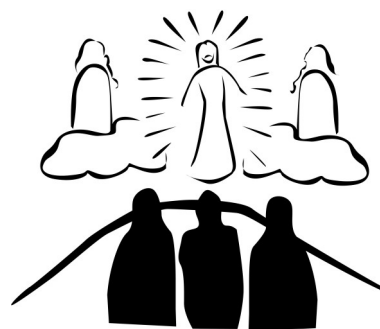
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, Georgia 30605
706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344
www.covpresathens.org
covenantp@covpresathens.org

Our monthly Presbyterian Women Bible Study will meet in the Gathering Room on Thursday, February 8, at 9:30am, to continue their study, "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews." Please read chapter 6 in your study booklet. Mark is teaching this time, and afterwards everyone will enjoy a light winter lunch of soup & bread & fruit. You won't want to miss it - come and join us!

Remember in Prayer: September Hoeler's sister Mindy, after a recent illness; Dell Whitehead's father Hubert Deaton in Gainesville, hospitalized after a recent fall; Missy Green's sister Rebecca, having serious & delicate heart surgery Feb.6; Dick & Paula Zimdars' brother-in-law David, resting at home, after a Jan.29 spinal implant for pain from chronic pancreatitis; Jeremy Reaves, in the sudden death of his friend from an auto accident; Tara Bulger, in the recent death of her mother Claudia, and as the family moves soon to Huntsville, AL, where Tara will be pastor at First Presbyterian; our neighbor Mrs. Bowen & family, in a difficult time; Grace Eubank, at High Shoals Rehab, with a fractured lumbar vertebra; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Joan Baird, Justin Dean, Don Mosley, Carl Huberty, Sharon Edwards, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - February 5 – 11

Monday	Psalm 50:1-6
Tuesday	Psalm 50:7-15
Wednesday	2 Kings 2:1-12
Thursday	2 Corinthians 4:1-4
Friday	2 Corinthians 4:5-18
Saturday	Mark 8:27-38
Sunday	Mark 9:2-9



WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant danced in the 1994 Super Bowl half-time show in Atlanta?



WHO'S WHO:
Patti Priestler

WORD GAMES. Short Talk. Name abbreviations. Ex: Sandwich Favorite: BLT

1. Ed Sullivan was one: _____
2. Vital ID: _____
3. Replaces Copper Piping: _____

(see page 6)



2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #31 1/28/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$287,804.00

Received Pledges: \$297,806.14

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Joy Gift Offering: \$1,875.00

Bowden Church Vocations Fund

a special offering for
Covenant Presbyterian Church
February 2018

We continue to be grateful to God for all the gifts of the Spirit seen in Covenant's ministry of the past 52 years. We have had 8 candidates for ministry who attended Columbia Seminary in Atlanta: Andy Casto-Waters, Rob Lohmeyer, Jennifer and David Horton, Insook Lee, Boin Cho, David Fuentes, and Lauren Van Wicklen Peters and one who attended Union in Richmond, Robin Mann Murzynski. We have also supported the efforts of our members as Volunteers in Mission, on summer Mission Teams, as student interns on our church staff, and in other studies and certifications at Montreat College and Columbia Seminary. We also encouraged Susan Verbrugge and Catherine Willis Oliver as they too became PCUSA Ministers of Word & Sacrament. Named in honor of Jim & Jere Bowden's 35 year ministry here at Covenant, the BOWDEN CHURCH VOCATIONS FUND was established in 1996 by our Session to support our members who have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. This year we celebrate with Colleen Cook who is finishing her third of 4 years at Columbia Seminary this spring. Colleen is a longtime member, who was active in the choir and coordinator of our CovConn program. Please keep her in your prayers. The costs are great.

A special offering for the Bowden Fund will be received this month. Make checks out to Covenant and mark them BCFV or Bowden Fund. PLEASE RESPOND GENEROUSLY, as we support our members in this journey of faith together!
Many thanks!

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.

Covenant Connection

MENU for Feb. 7th:
Pizza, Salad, Fruit,
ice cream sandwiches

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

(Feb, 7, 21 & 28)DVD & discussion, “Briars in the Cotton Patch: The Story of Koinonia Farm”

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

7:30pm Adult Choir

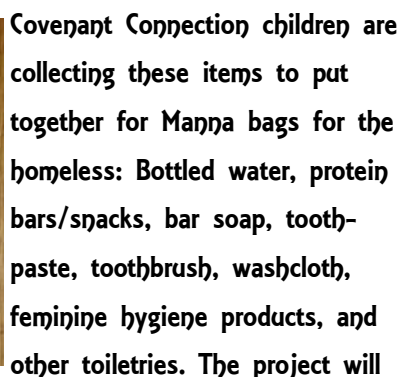
Wednesday Covenant Connection for Youth

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

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

6:00pm Family Dinner 6:30pm Faith and Film

7:15pm Depart 7:25pm Adult Choir



Lily Herndon
and Carrie Tweedell are now
taking orders for

3

FINDING SABBATH AT MONTREAT

First Presbyterian Church of Athens, Fellowship Hall, 185 E. Hancock Ave.

Wednesday, February 21, 6:30 p.m., Dinner at 5:45

Montreat Conference Center is a ministry of the PC(USA) located outside of Asheville, NC. For over 100 years, they have provided a sacred space to encounter God through relationships, renewal, recreation, and rest. Everyone is invited to join us as Montreat President Richard DuBose comes to FPC Athens. You are also welcome to join us for dinner, which begins at 5:45 p.m. For dinner reservations please visit firstpresathens.org and click the "Wed@First" button.



The season of Lent begins this year, Wednesday, **February 14th**. Join us in the evening for our annual Ash Wednesday Worship, beginning at 6:45pm, which includes song, prayer, Scripture, and the imposition of ashes. Our Covenant Connection activities will end at 6:40pm so that the participants may worship with us. May it be a meaningful way to start this season of renewal and new beginnings in the Spirit of Christ.



Healing Grief Workshop

Wednesdays

February 21 through April 18, 2018

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

The Griffin-DuBose Healing Lodge
240 Talmadge Drive

A nine-week workshop for those who have lost someone through death. The loss does not have to be cancer related.

Topics:

Getting Acquainted	Stress Management
Understanding Grief	Anniversaries
Remembering	Memorialization
Accepting	Role Changes
Closure & Evaluation	

Facilitated by
Lauren Richards, LCSW

Pre-registration is required for this workshop.
Please call 706-475-4900

This free workshop is sponsored by the "In Their Shoes" Walk.



La Table 2018. We invite you to join at tables, Covenant and East Friendship Baptist will be hosting for a luncheon to benefit
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens!

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Time: Registration from 11:00-11:45 a.m.; Luncheon at noon

Place: Athens Country Club - 2700 Jefferson Rd., Athens, Georgia

Cost: \$50 Contribution

The funds raised through this event will support IHNA in its mission to mobilize our community to help homeless families in crisis situations achieve sustainable independence by providing emergency housing, meals and comprehensive support services.

Nibs Stroupe is a native of Helena, Arkansas and retired as senior pastor at Oakhurst Presbyterian Church in 2017, where he had been pastor since 1983. Oakhurst Presbyterian is a nationally recognized leader in multi-cultural ministries, having been featured in Time Magazine, NBC News, NPR, CNN News, CBS Radio, Christian Science Monitor, and Presbyterians Today. In 2003, the church was named as one of 300 Excellent Protestant congregations in the United States by a Lilly-based study.

He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Rhodes College with a B.A. in philosophy, and he graduated first in his class from Columbia Seminary in 1975. He was a conscientious objector in the Vietnam War era and did his alternate service by directing a halfway house for men getting out of prison in Nashville from 1970-72.

He is married to the Rev. Caroline Leach, and they have two children and two grandchildren. He and Caroline were the first clergy couple to serve in a local church as co-pastors in the former PCUS, and they were pastors at Oakhurst Presbyterian until her retirement in 2012. He is the author of four books “While We Run This Race,” “O Lord, Hold Our Hands,” “Where Once We Feared Enemies,” and a book of sermons just published “Deeper Waters: Sermons for a New vision,” by Wipf&Stock Press.

He has made contributions to many books and magazines, including The Atlantic. He is a monthly columnist for Hospitality Magazine and has written frequently for Journal for Preachers and the Feasting on the Word Series. He has led workshops on racism for more than 50 groups, and he currently serves on the national Presbyterian Intercultural Network Board. He was a member of the board of the Oakhurst Community Health Center for 6 years and served as its chair for 2 years. In 2007 he was inducted into the MLK Board of Preachers at Morehouse College, and in 2008 he and Caroline were named Peacemakers of the Year by the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. He served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and was a commissioner to the Presbyterian General Assembly in 1994. He delivered the Kulenkamp Lectures at Eden Seminary in 1997 and the Alumni Lectures at Drew School of Theology in 2006, and he will deliver a lecture at the Conference on Karl Barth and Preaching at Princeton Seminary in June, 2018. He has been adjunct faculty at both Columbia Seminary and Candler School of Theology.

His website is www.RevNibsStroupe.com, and he writes a weekly blog at www.nibsnotes.blogspot.com. His e-mail is nibs.stroupe@gmail.com.



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Colleen Cook | 18 Jim Bowden |
| 2 Heide Wiegel | Willene O’Neal |
| 3 Ben Simpson | 19 Tom Rigsby |
| 4 Michael Capie | 21 John Scott |
| 5 Paul Van Wicklen | 23 John Floyd |
| 9 Warren Combs | Ayla Dartez |
| Sallie Hale | 27 Carolyn Hatfield |
| 12 Delaney Braswell | Nate Nibbelink |
| 13 Bill Lindstrom | Barbara Parker |
| 15 Joe Covert | |
| 17 Heidi Nibbelink | |





For the month of February
Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB:
Saltines, cold cereals

and as always brown paper bags.

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

The Restaurant Roadtrip is heading to Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen, 2040 Oconee Connector, on Tuesday, February 20, at 11:30pm. It's near Loop 10 and Freddy's ice cream shop on Epps Bridge Parkway.

Please signup to let us know you're coming. You can meet us there or join a carpool from the church at 11:15am. Always good food & fellowship!



YOGA AT COVENANT!

Thursdays at 6:30pm

Everyone is welcome!

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/>

ANSWERS TO:
SHORT TALK:
1. MC
2. SSN
3. PVC

Join us for Lunch Bunch, every final Tuesday of the month, at DePalma's Eastside at 11:30am. Next one is Tuesday, February 27th. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks – meet you there.

Come one, come all, to our monthly Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon. On Tuesday, February 13, at 12:30pm, in the Fellowship Hall, Melody Lane Cartledge will provide pulled pork, so everyone else bring a side dish, salad, bread, or dessert to share. Our program will be on the how & why of living to be 100 years old! Centenarians have good stories & wisdom to offer, and Mary Ann Johnson will glean the best for us from her work at UGA. Hope to see you there!

The Christian Education team is getting back to monthly meetings! Our next CE meeting is Tuesday, February 6, at 6:00pm. Please join us!

The effects of plastic bags on the environment are really quite devastating. While there are many objections to the banning of plastic bags based solely on their convenience, the damage to the environment needs to be controlled. There is no way to strictly limit the effects of plastic bags on the environment because there is no disposal method that will really help eliminate the problem. While reusing them is the first step, most people either don't or can't based on store policies. They are not durable enough to stand up to numerous trips to the store so often the best that citizens can do is reuse them when following pooper scooper laws.

The biggest problem with this is that once they have been soiled they end up in the trash, which then ends up in the landfill or burned. Either solution is very poor for the environment. Burning emits toxic gases that harm the atmosphere and increase the level of VOCs in the air while landfills hold them indefinitely as part of the plastic waste problem throughout the globe. Check out the Green Dream Team Bulletin Board for more information.

5th Sunday Worship - Next 5th Sunday is April 29. Parents, children, and youth and others can begin to think about and prepare special offerings. Music is coordinated with Cliff Brock (cbrock@covpresathens.org); Other worship aspects are coordinated with Craig T. (ctopple@covpresathens.org) and Mark (mharper@covpresathens.org)

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service) -Children in 3rd - 5th grades are invited to lead the Call to Worship each Sunday. Next three Sundays.
Feb 4 - Jacob Page
Feb 11 - Luke Shannon
Feb 18 - Eli Stone



Going underground with WoRM! 9:30 - 10:35 Sunday Mornings

Parents/Caregiver learning note: For the *February* lesson we turn to Matthew 3, with an emphasis on John the Baptist, Jesus' baptism and our own baptism, and Lent! I love the season of Lent for so many reasons. Among them, the importance of the children (and us) remembering their own baptisms. Many were most likely baptized as infants and do not remember that experience. I encourage you to share your and their story of baptism. If your child has not yet been baptized, you can encourage them to consider that when the time is right for them and you. Water, essential to life, is an essential part of the experience, and also a powerful metaphor. As you and your children interact with water in your day-to-day lives, I encourage you to think of ways water is a deep part of the faith experience, our connection with God, the Earth, and one another.

February Rotation - *Thanks be to God for our volunteers!*

K - 2nd

Feb 4th - Kay Brooks and Adam Brooks, Temple Courtyard
Feb 11th - Nancy Omdahl and Rosa Peña, Loaves and Fishes
Feb 18th - Christine Carpenter and Jennifer Frey, Oasis Theatre (combined classes)
Feb 24th - Luanne Rigsby and Susan Parish, Potter's Workshop

3rd - 5th

Feb 4th - Craig Topple and Annemarie Braswell, Potter's Workshop
Feb 11th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Temple Courtyard
Feb 18th - Christine Carpenter and Jennifer Frey, Oasis Theatre (combined classes)
Feb 24th - Patrick McMaster and Jere Bowden, Loaves and Fishes

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

YOUTH NEWS! - Can you provide a meal for Sunday Night Youth group? If so, please contact DeLynda Tweedell, and thank you! Sign up sheet is outside the church office.

Covenant Connection!

3:45 - 5pm: Study Hall/Hang out
5:15 - 6: Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher
6 - 6:30: Supper
6:30-7:15 - Movie with Craig Barber and Juergen Wiegel

Next Three Sunday Evening programs

Feb 4: Youth Group - Worship/Arts/Music (Youth Leader Meeting @ 4), supper provided by the Tweedell's (TACO BAR)!
Feb 11: Youth Group - Topic, Preparing for the Lenten Journey
Feb 18: No Youth Group, Winter Retreat
Sign up/ questions/ feedback - ctopple@covpresathens.org

Sunday morning's at 9:30

B.A.S.I.C. Sunday school with Abby Horvath happens every Sunday at 9:30am in youth room.

Sunday Evenings: 5-7pm at church unless otherwise specified.

We are exploring the Beatitudes, specifically, experiencing the blessing of being peacemakers



The Cave - the Covenant Sponsored free after school program for middle and high school students from 3:45-5:30 every Friday there is a regular school day. *Thank you volunteers who make this valuable program happen!* Contact Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Cave Manager, for more information or to volunteer: cotsakiscordon@gmail.com

WEEK OF February 04, 2018**SUNDAY- SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

8:30am WORSHIP

9:30am Church School for All Ages 10:30am Elder Review of Communion

10:45am Worship 12:15pm Cong. Care Team Meeting in Conf. Room

1pm Called Session Meeting 4pm Youth Leader Meeting

5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

Beecher on leave through Feb. 12

8:00am Covenant's Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel

6:00pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)

8pm New Freedom

7:00pm Christian Education Meeting

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 PW Bible Study & light lunch

10:00am COM 2:00pm Knitters & Knotters

6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA 8:00pm Happy Squares

7pm Worship Team Meeting

7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

3:30pm The Cave

8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

11:30am Climate Change Lobby Meeting

6:30pm Heart of Covenant

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

**WORSHIP—February 04, 2018****8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell

Coffee Maker: Warren & Nell

10:45am

Liturgist: Luke Shannon

Reader: Carol Huber

Ushers: Phil & Linda Koehler, Randy & Susan Parish,

Dianne Simpson

Greeters: Terry Centner, Mary Ann Johnson, Sallie Hale

Congregational Care: Marilyn Brown

Counters: Judy Capie, Ellen Stoneburner

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Feb. 5-11)

Nursery/Super: Don Bower

Birth—Walking: Don Bower

Walking—5 years old: Phil Hale, Adam Brooks

WEEK OF February 11, 2018**SUNDAY-**

8:30am WORSHIP

9:30am Church School for All Ages

10:45am Worship

12:15pm Witness Ministry Team Meeting (Upper Room)

5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

Beecher on leave through Feb. 12

6:00pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

12:30pm Graduates Covered Dish Lunch with Mary Ann Johnson

7:00pm Athens Stamp Club

1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)

8pm New Freedom

7:00pm Christian Education Meeting

WEDNESDAY- ASH WEDNESDAY

10am Adult Bible Study

5:15pm—6:40pm CovConn

6:45pm—7:15pm ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

7:25pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY-

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters

6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA 7:00pm Sanctuary Task Force Meeting

7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

3:30pm The Cave

8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY- Winter Treat for Youth thru 2/19

4:00pm Ann Haarmann & Jim Anderson Wedding

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—February 11, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Steve Bell

Ushers: Judy Capie, Jim Smith

Coffee Maker: Lola Bell

10:45am

Liturgist: Jacob Page

Reader: Steve Follin

Ushers: Bill Rigsby, Julie Bower, Dick Zimdars, Jim & Dorothy Newland

Greeters: Anna, Shari & Jimmy Cobb

Congregational Care: Marilyn Brown

Counters: Sue Loegel, Pam Knox

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Alex Clark

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Feb. 12-18)

Nursery/Super: Christine Carpenter

Birth—Walking: Christine Carpenter

Walking—5 years old: Carolyn Hatfield, Jennifer Frey, McKenzie Redish