

THE COVENANTER
March 04, 2018

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

Come and see! You are invited to bring a bag lunch to the Fellowship Hall TODAY, Sunday, March 4, at 12:30pm, and hear a wonderful presentation from Eric Zimdars about his 2 years in the Peace Corps in Alto Parana, Paraguay, 2014-16. Remember that Covenant helped finance "Water Security for Community Production," digging a deeper well to irrigate the 100,000 yerba mate saplings produced annually by 13 small-scale, local farmers. Eric will be moving out west later this year, to pursue employment and a graduate degree – so this is our chance to learn more from him about his experience. Hope you can attend!

STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON ...ROOTED IN LOVE!... *Ephesians 3:17*

Covenant Presbyterian Church is a community of rich soil. Over the years gifted and dedicated people have created a fertile space where God's Word is taught, wrestled with, and enacted. And much good fruit has been born: children are cherished; older adults are celebrated; leaders in education, industry, science, business, human services, and in the church itself are nurtured; neighbors in need and community organizations of all kinds find welcome here. We do not agree on everything, but a spirit of respect and a desire to glorify God while serving the common good where we have been planted fills the air. Covenant is a community rooted in the love of God and one another. Mark your calendars to attend the Stewardship Luncheon, March 18th following the 10:45am worship service. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided. Sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Pledge cards will be presented at that time as we enjoy the fruit of fellowship and dream together about where God is leading us in the days to come. Rooted together in love, let us trust that hungry people will know that God is with us, not because we say so, but because they find here the fruit that offers life.

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



For the month of March Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB: *dry pasta, peanut butter and as always brown paper bags.* Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

Remember in Prayer: Nathan Weaver’s mother, called as Pastor to a PCUSA congregation in Richmond, VA, and his friend Collin Pettigrew, called as Pastor to Madison Pres Church, Madison, GA; Bill Lindstrom, having hip replacement surgery at St. Mary’s March 7; Dianne Ralph, soon to have chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer; the Howell family (DeLynda Tweedell’s colleague), whose daughter Abby is hospitalized with a severe arm injury, after the ATV accident of Oconee County HS students Feb.16; Grace Eubank, moved to a retirement facility in Boaz, AL to be near her son, Ben; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topple’s sister Genia in Atlanta; Justin Dean, Don Mosley, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - March 5–11

Monday	Numbers 21: 4-9*
Tuesday	I Corinthians 10: 9-13
Wednesday	2 Kings 18: 1-8
Thursday	John 3: 14-21*
Friday	Luke 12: 1-7
Saturday	Ephesians 2: 1-10
Sunday	Psalms 107: 1-3, 17-22



Title: *Look Up and Live*
 Theme: God provides a saving way through the wilderness of sin and darkness.

WHO’S WHO: Who at Covenant loved to dance in their youth – one dreaming of a stage career and one as a ballerina?

WHO’S WHO:
 Carolyn Hatfield
 and Linda Rogers

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD
WEEK #35 2/25/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$324,940.00
 Received Pledges: \$334,567.66
Thank you for your faithful giving!
 Bowden Vocations Fund:
 \$3,991.00

DOUBLE HITS: Part A and part B share a word. What is it?

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. Man’s Name	1. Whirlpool
2. Variety of bean	2. City in South America
3. Unsuccessful endeavor	3. sit in-elegantly

Congratulations to Grace Adams and William Kisaalita, both recently honored by UGA in its “eGA Morning” publication. Grace is an assistant professor in the College of Public Health and strives to help students see through a social justice lens, connecting their academics to practical contributions to public policy and so creating equity & well-being for all people. She will be tap dancing at the Athens Dancing with the Stars event on Sat. April 21, which benefits Project Safe. William has been named GA Athletic Association Distinguished Professor in Engineering, for his work designing a biofuel-powered cooler to keep milk safe and healthy to drink in areas without electricity, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, as he continues to engage his students to help solve real-world problems.

FEAST FOOD TRUCK DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, March 17th beginning at 7am

Covenant 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 next to the mailboxes. Volunteers will need to arrive as early as 7:00am, with the distribution itself beginning at 9am for approximately 200 people. It is estimated that we will wrap things up around 10:30am. 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!

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

March 30, 7:00 p.m.—First Presbyterian Church of Athens will host this year's Good Friday Presbyterian Community Service, which will be a Tenebrae Service led by area clergy and choirs. Meaning "darkness" or "shadows," the service of Tenebrae was first practiced in medieval times. It later became an important part of worship during Holy Week. Please join our Presbyterian brothers and sisters from the Athens area.



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

10:00am Adult Bible Study—studying 1 and 2 Peter

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 PBS DVD by Bill Moyers on hymn "Amazing Grace"

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

MENU for March 7th:
PIZZA, Salad/Fruit,
Ice Cream Sandwiches



Thanks to the congregation for helping us make Mana (essential supplies, ie toiletries, snacks, & dental care) bags for the CovConn children to give to people in need.

I am truly thankful to all those in the Covenant congregation who contributed to the Ben Bruner Fund. The purpose of the fund was to help Ben go with his Cedar Shoals ROTC unit to Normandy France to celebrate the 70th anniversary of D-Day. That trip was a wonderful gift to Ben who would not have been able to go without this help from you. All of the funds were not used by Ben for that trip. Now Ben is a freshman cadet at the University of North Georgia, Dahlonega. He was a good student at Cedar Shoals and earned grants and scholarships for his freshmen semester at UNG. Some fees were not covered by these grants/scholarships. The remaining dollars in the Ben Bruner Fund have been used to pay some of the remaining fees. Thank you all so much for your contributions to help this deserving young man.

Ben has now finished his first semester at UNG-Dahlonega and I am happy to report that he made all A's during this first semester!!!

If you would like to send him a note of encouragement, his mailing address is Ben Bruner, Box 6769, UNG Post Office, 82 College Circle, Dahlonega, GA 30596. *Catharine Tyson*

Join us for the next **Restaurant Roadtrip**, Tuesday, March 20, at 11:30am, at Longhorn Steakhouse, 2170 West Broad Street, near Walgreens & KFC, near Hawthorne Road. Signup on the bulletin board to let us know you're coming. Separate checks. The church carpool leaves the parking lot at 11:15am.

Covenant's worship services are now available in audio on the church website. Click on or enter this address to access <http://covpresathens.org/wp/sermons/>

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

ANSWERS TO DOUBLE HITS:

1. Eddy
2. Lima
3. Flop

Adult Choir needs singers of all types and abilities for upcoming Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Please come to choir practice on Wed's at 7:30. It is a great way to meet others and to enhance our lives with the spiritual power of making music. Even if you can't read music, singing in the choir will provide you the fundamentals of music theory and you will be reading in no time. Please consider joining this important ministry.

Contact Cliff at cbrock@covpresathens.org or (706) 206-7099

Women's Prayer Breakfast

March 17, 2018 at 9am

at East Friendship Baptist Church

400 Arch Street

For more info see
Bert Ballard-Myer, Sue Rathbun,
or Jere Bowden



The monthly **Presbyterian Women's Bible Study** will meet on Thursday, March 8, from 9:30-11:00am, in the Gathering Room for missions, devotions, and great discussion on this year's topic, "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews," led by Beecher. Read chapter 7 in your study booklet and Psalm 95, as well as Hebrews 3:1-19, 4:1-11, 6:9-12, and 11:1-3. Hope to see you there!

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. Instructions: Practice with your child. During the Voluntary of the worship service, the liturgist may join the pastors in the chancel. To begin, invite the congregation, "Please join me in the Call to Worship." Next three Sundays: March 4- Wesley Whitehead; March 11 - Freeman Chamblee; March 18—Thomas Bowden

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

Parents/Caregiver learning note: The story of the Passover found in [Exodus 11 - 12](#) is a one that, in Judaism, has been handed down from generation to generation, family to family since the late thirteenth century B.C.E. or for some 15,000 years. Remarkable! A story of liberation significant enough to be told year after year for so long. As Christians, we preserve variations of the Passover tradition not only because we are part of the Abrahamic family, but also because it is part of Jesus' story. He celebrated what is often called "the Last Supper" during the time of the Passover according to Luke 22:7ff. This month for WoRM we are going to learn about this rich Passover tradition, considering different aspects of the story from Exodus and Luke each week. I encourage you to read these stories from [Exodus chapters 11 - 12](#) and from [Luke 22: 1-23](#) with your children as we approach Holy Week, March 25-31.

Memory Verse(s): Luke 22:19-20: "Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.' In the same way, he gave them the cup after the supper, saying, 'This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you.'"

We celebrate communion Sunday March 4. Help your child listen for those words from the memory verses from Luke.

March Rotation - Please help prepare your children for Sunday School by telling them who their teacher and shepherd will be, and how awesome they are :)

K - 2nd Mar 4th - Kay Brooks and Adam Brooks, Temple Courtyard
Mar 11th - Christine Carpenter and Jere Bowden, Oasis Theatre (combined classes)
Mar 18th - Nancy Omdahl and Jennifer Frey, Potter's Workshop
Mar 25th - Luanne Rigbsby and Susan Parish, Loaves and Fishes

3rd - 5th Mar 4th- Patrick McMaster and Jere Bowden, Loaves and Fishes
Mar 11th - Christine Carpenter and Jere Bowden, Oasis Theatre (combined classes)
Mar 18th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Temple Courtyard
Mar 25th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Potter's Workshop

In light of this month's lesson, in case you missed it a few weeks ago:



Moses' first and last day as a lifeguard.

YOUTH NEWS! - During the school year, when school is in session, youth have three weekly opportunities to get together with your friends, learn about your faith, and serve God and one another. Covenant Connection on Wednesdays, after school until 7:15; Sunday Mornings at 9:30am with Abby and BASIC; and Sunday evenings from 5-7pm at church unless otherwise indicated.

Next Three Sunday Evening programs

March 4 - Youth Group, Highway Clean up/ Game night

March 11- No Youth Group - CCSD Spring Break

March 18 - Rec/dinner/topic, peacemaking and guns

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

Help Prevent Hangry moments! Can you provide a meal for Sunday Night Youth group? If so, please contact DeLynda Tweedell, and thank you! Sign up sheet is out-

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 Coridon, Cave Manager, for more information or to volunteer: cotsakiscor-





Everyone of all ages is invited to learn more about immigration issues in the Athens area on Tuesday, March 13, at the **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** in Fellowship Hall, at 12:30pm. Bring a dish to share; beverages are provided. Members of Covenant's Sanctuary Task Force will talk with us, as well as Joel Siebentritt, Outreach Ministry Chair of Oconee Street United Methodist Church, one of 11 Athens communities of faith & action, who have joined efforts to support families of undocumented residents. Good information & stories to hear, plus time for questions & answers.



Dear Congregation,

By now you should have received an envelope with the proposed budget for July 2018-June 2019 along with a pledge card in your mailbox at home. If you have children and/or youth, they may also receive pledge cards. If you have not received the letter yet, please check with the church office to make sure that one was mailed to you.

The proposed budget for the coming fiscal year is very similar to the one for our present fiscal year, with an increase of just over 2% overall. The biggest change to the budget is a 2% increase in staff salaries for all staff members to cover cost of living increases. The increase in salaries for Mark and Beecher also requires increases in their health care and pension benefits, and those are included on the table. Karen Wetherington also received a 2% increase in compensation but it was included as an increase to her IRA per her request. The other significant change is a restoration of the 5% cuts we made to the ministry teams last year to make our budget balance. Since each ministry team worked on this year's budget request separately, we did our best to honor their current requests while restoring what they lost in the present year's budget. Individual ministry teams also made some changes to reflect their best estimate of their needs for the next fiscal year.

I am happy to say that we are financially in good shape for the July 2017-June 2018 fiscal year, with income higher than expenses paid so far, so I have no worries at this time that our budget for this year will not be met. But keep those pledge checks coming! Since next year's budget has only minor changes from last year, Stewardship & Finance has determined that a special meeting to discuss the budget will not be necessary for this year. However, if you have any questions about the budget, please feel free to catch me before or after church, email me at pnknox@yahoo.com or call me at home in the evenings at 706-543-9560.

Thank you all for the many ways that you support Covenant!

Sincerely,

Pam Knox, Treasurer

WEEK OF March 04, 2018**SUNDAY-**

8:30am Worship
 9:30am Church School for All Ages
 10:45am Worship
 12:30pm Eric Zimdars Presentation on Peace Corps Project
 4:00pm Youth Leader Meeting
 5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

5:00pm—8:30pm Pinewood Derby in the Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
 7pm CE Meeting 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

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

THURSDAY- 9:30am PW BIBLE STUDY

10:00am Committee on Ministry 2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA
 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)
 8pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 NO The Cave
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—March 04, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Wayne Crowell, + Coffee Maker: Shirley Hunt

10:45am

Liturgist: Wesley Whitehead

Reader: Juergen Wiegel

Ushers: Juergen & Heide Wiegel, Hank, DeLynda & Carrie Tweedell

Greeters: Bob Brewster & Sarah Lamb, Sallie Hale

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Caren Snook, Pam Knox

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Alex Clark

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (March 5—11)

Nursery/Super: DeLynda Tweedell

Birth—Walking: DeLynda Tweedell

Walking—5 years old: Luanne Rigsby, Tim Foutz, Carrie Tweedell

WEEK OF March 11, 2018**SUNDAY- DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS**

8:30am Worship
 9:30am Church School for All Ages
 10:45am Worship
 NO Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

6pm—Scouts

TUESDAY- Craig on leave through Mar 14th

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 12:30pm Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon
 1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

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

THURSDAY-

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA
 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 3:30pm The Cave
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

7am—10am FEAST food truck distribution
 9:00am EFBC Women's Prayer Breakfast
 4pm Memorial Service for Eleanor Arnold
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—March 11, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Bruce Menke

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell Coffee Maker: Steve Bell

10:45am

Liturgist: Freeman Chamblee

Reader: Carol Huber

Ushers: Steve & Sue Rathbun, Julie Bower, Robyn Malone,
 Mary Ann Johnson

Greeters: Phil & Linda Koehler, Donny Whitehead

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Judy Capie, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (March 12-19)

Nursery/Super: Ellen Stoneburner

Birth—Walking: Juergen Wiegel

Walking—5 years old: Ellen Stoneburner, Richard & Marcia Page