



THE COVENANTER
March 25, 2018

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



OPPORTUNITY TO HELP!!! Covenant will be hosting homeless guests (3 families) overnight for IHN (*Interfaith Hospitality Network*) the week of **April 15-22**. Please examine your calendar and give thought and prayer of the way you can serve from the many options: set up, *take down*, provide a meal, *spend a night*, host for three hours one evening, *transport guests to the day center*, and more. The sign-up board is now in the Gallery across from the staff offices, so please sign-up and help us provide Christian hospitality to families seeking a home of their own. If you have never been an IHN helper, a training opportunity will be provided. *"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."* Hebrews 13:2



sharing resources. changing lives.

For more than fifty years, Presbyterians have joined with Christians throughout the nation in responding to Christ's love for all people by joyfully sharing that love with people in need through supporting **One Great Hour of Sharing**. The hundreds of millions of dollars Presbyterians have given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly. **One Great Hour of Sharing** funds are divided among its three programs: *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*, *Self-Development of People (SDOP)*, and *Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)*. 32% of the offering goes to SDOP, 32% goes to PDA and 36% goes to PHP. You will find an insert and envelope in your mailbox or on the table in the narthex or take a fish and fill it with coins. *Thank you!*

PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF ELDERS BEGINS! Each year Covenant elects its officers to serve a 3 year term on the Session. The involvement of the congregation is important during the entire process. Marilyn Brown is the Nominating Committee Chair with Brian Herndon as the second Elder approved by the Session. Now the congregation recommends members of the church to serve on the Nominating Committee. The 2 elders will then select one member to nominate to the congregation to be elected to serve with them on the Nominating Committee. The congregational meeting to elect the Nominating Committee will be on **Sunday, April 15** at noon, after worship. You will find a nominating form in your mailbox.

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition

EASTER
Egg Hunt

Saturday
March 31, 2018

Free Family Event

Food & Games

Time:
10 a.m to 12 p.m.
Where:
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road, Athens GA 30605

PosterMyWall.com

Remember in Prayer: The family & friends of Johnny Veasey, one of Covenant's neighbors, who died March 20 following a massive stroke. His dog Tia has a good home with the person who trained him to be a support dog for Johnny. A memorial service will be held at Covenant this Saturday, March 24, at 2:00pm. All are welcome to attend. Sandy Whitney, Cliff Brock, and Jim McMinn, all home & recovering well after surgeries this past week; Dianne Ralph, with an improved prognosis for her cancer (not pancreatic) and a gentler chemo; Jim Anderson's sister Carol, recovering well from recent surgery in MI; John Knox's brother David, with improved health & employed part-time in TN; Adam Rea, having accomplished his first marathon run! Dan & Rebecca Whitney & family, in the death of her mother Terry on March 9, who had been Bea's caregiver & also very helpful to Dan & Rebecca, as they now care for her sister's 3 children, in addition to their own two; Alice McMaster's friend Stephanie, recovering well at Emory after a second stem-cell transplant; Mrs. Bowen & neighbors, in a difficult time; Grace Eubank, doing very well now, living near her son Ben – Branchwater Village #26, 763 Medical Center Pkwy, Boaz, AL 35957 (#256-281-6362); Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topples's sister Genia in Atlanta; Justin Dean, Bill Lindstrom, Bill Willis (turned 96 on Mar.23), and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	March 26	Isaiah 42: 1-9
Tuesday	March 27	Isaiah 49: 1-7
Wednesday	March 28	Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Thursday	March 29	Psalms 116: 1-2, 12-19
Friday	March 30	Isaiah 52: 13-53:12
Saturday	March 31	I Corinthians 1: 18-25
Sunday	April 01	Mark 16: 1-8



WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant both won spelling bees in the sixth grade?



WHO'S WHO:
 Linda Rogers &
 Linda Koehler?

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #38 3/18/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$352,792.00

Received Pledges: \$368,273.59

Thank you for your faithful giving!

OGHS \$635.00

Life's A Zoo! Answers contain the names of animals or animal related terms: Example: Teen Romance: Puppy Love.

1. Slyly, Clever: _____
2. Measure of Fun: _____
3. Push and shove playfully: _____



Congregational Care Needs Your Help!

We need volunteers to drive the Dartz family to doctor appointments on Tuesday nights 6:00-7:30 in Watkinsville, Thursday nights 5:30-6:30 at the Cottage on Lexington Road and on Saturday mornings 10:30 - 12:00 in Watkinsville. May Dartz will accompany the children on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and both May & her husband, Ty, on Saturdays. You can sign up for one time or a combination of trips. To sign up, go to the website www.signupgenius.com. Under Login, enter the email address luannerigsby@gmail.com and password hunter. Click on **Drivers** and this should take you to the sign up page. Any questions, call Luanne Rigsby 706 224-3828.

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. *There will be a choir from all congregations (rehearsal 6pm)*

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 — DVD discussion of Peter Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*, on the life of Christ & his ministry

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- DVD discussion of Peter Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*, on the life of Christ & his ministry

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

MENU for March 28:
Spaghetti-Sausage
Sweet Peppers
Salad, Grapes



April is
EARTH
MONTH



All Covenant Youth Alumni & families are invited to gather for a reunion during the Easter Sunday Breakfast at 8:30am, April 1, in Fellowship Hall. You'll have a table to yourselves and enjoy all the goodies that Covenant always provides! As our guests, you don't need to bring a thing. What a great way to spend Easter morning! Remember our outdoor worship is at 7:30am and indoor worship at 10:45am, with 9:30am Church School in between. Hope you'll come – and share this with your other Covenant Youth alums.

Contact Julie Bower at bower.julie@gmail.com for more information. Please RSVP by March 23.



- Sunday, Mar. 25** 8:30 & 10:45am, Palm Sunday Worship
9:30am, Church School for all ages
5:00pm, Youth Group
- Tuesday, Mar. 27** 11:30pm, Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside
- Wednesday, Mar. 28** 10:00am & 6:30pm, Adult Bible Studies
5:15-7:15pm, Covenant Connection
6:30pm, Evening Devotions
7:30pm, Adult Choir
- Thursday, Mar. 29** 2:00pm, Knitters & Knotters
6:00pm, Foot Washing Service
7:00pm, Maundy Thursday Communion & Tenebrae Worship
- Friday, Mar. 30** 7:00pm, PCUSA Good Friday worship, at First Pres downtown
- Saturday, Mar. 31** 10:00am-noon, Easter Egg Hunt & Games, with community invited
- Sunday, Apr. 1** Easter Sunday - - One Great Hour of Sharing offering
7:30am, Sunrise Worship outdoors
8:30am, Covered Dish Breakfast, with Youth Alumni Reunion
9:30am, Church School for all ages
10:45am, Worship indoors - - no evening activities

This Maundy Thursday, March 29th, Covenant will be celebrating the Lord's Supper and a reading of the passion narrative as we have done for quite a few years now. This Communion/Tenebrae service will begin at 7 pm. Just prior to that service however we will be trying something new – which is actually quite old. Beginning at 6 pm, the sanctuary will be open for all who wish to come and participate in a footwashing service, modelled after the story found in John 13 of Jesus washing his disciples' feet. While this ritual has never become a sacrament of the church, it has long been used to illustrate Jesus' call to love one another in a spirit of compassion and servanthood and radical love. In fact, the name Maundy Thursday is derived from *mandatum novum*, or "new commandment," the Latin translation of Jesus' teaching in John: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34). We hope you will join us for both of these services. To be clear, you do not have to participate in the 6 pm footwashing service to attend the 7 pm communion service. But try not to be deterred from coming at 6 by the prospect of other people seeing your feet; after all, God created them, not for beauty, but so we could follow in the hard yet joyful way of Jesus. So in the words of Dr. Seuss, "Feet, feet, feet! See how many feet you meet!"

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/>

Transformed!

CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 28th, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Join the Athens College of Ministry for the annual **Transformed! Conference** where we will delve into the truth about **"Transforming the Kingdom from the Courts of Heaven!"** Conference participants will explore practical, biblical truths about their role in ushering the Kingdom of Heaven into the earth by taking an in-depth look at:

- Who Christ is in us;
- The power and authority within us as co-heirs with Christ;
- How to effectively exercise that authority in the heavenly courts; and
- The resulting transformational power of God!

It's the power of Christ in you to transform!

If you will walk in my ways and if you will keep my commands, then you shall also judge my house and likewise have charge of my courts. (Zechariah 3:3)

Presenter: Dr. Marcia Wilbur, AMin President

Conference Site: Grace Fellowship Church
1120 Malcom Bridge Rd, Bogart, GA 30622
Visit the website below for more information and to register.

\$35 registration – Lunch Included

AMin.org/Transformed-Conference

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.

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



Come join us at choir rehearsal and have some fun and chocolate!

ANSWERS TO Life's A Zoo:
1. Foxy
2. Barrel of Monkeys
3. Horse Around

5th Sunday Worship Experience - It's that time again. April 29 is the next fifth Sunday, where children and youth and the congregations collective creativity inspire worship. Share your ideas with anyone on staff. Musical ideas with Cliff; Liturgy/sermon ideas with Mark; and prayer ideas with Beecher.

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service) 3rd - 5th graders lead the *Call to Worship* each Sunday. Next three Sundays: **March 25 - George McMaster; April 1 - Delaney Braswell ; April 8— Luke Shannon** *Instructions:* The bulletin will be emailed by the end of the week on your week. Practice with your child. During the "Voluntary" of the worship service, the liturgist may join the pastors in the chancel. To begin, your child can invite the congregation, "Please join me in the Call to Worship." *Need to switch weeks? Please do so with someone who is leading in weeks after your child and let the office know.*

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

A WoRM teacher was walking around observing her Potter's Workshop full of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

Parents/Caregiver learning note: Holy Week. What makes something holy? Ruby Gene has been singing all the verses to the song, "There's a hole in the bucket." This conveys a different image. Now we focus in on the final events of the last week of Jesus' life before resurrection. Read with your child the stories throughout the week, as you discover what makes the week Holy together. You can find daily readings at www.pcusa.org/devotions

Easter is drawing closer. **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.'*

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 25th - Susan Parish and Dell Whitehead, Loaves and Fishes **3rd - 5th** Mar 25th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Potter's Workshop



"I don't know all Ten Commandments. The only ones I remember are 'settle down', 'act your age' and 'take that out of your mouth'."

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 pm; 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 25 - Stuffing Easter Eggs for interfaith community get together (this was switched back)

April 1 - No Youth - Easter Sunday

April 8 - Frozen Chosen Cup at Oconee Presbyterian Church

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 outside the church office. **Dates Available: April 15,22, & 29, May 6!**

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



All visitors, new members, and even those who want a refresher! You are invited to a class discussion led by the pastors on **“What It Means to Be Presbyterian,”** held in the Upper Room (up the ramp) on Tuesday, April 10, from 7:00-8:30pm. Refreshments will be provided by the Congregational Care Team – thank you! We’ ll answer questions first and then briefly cover PCUSA history & government, worship & sacraments, and any theological points that engage you. PLEASE SIGNUP on the bulletin board by the mailboxes. Hope to see you there!

Highlights of the stated Session meeting on Tues.Mar.20 include: 1) an informative presentation by Caren Snook as a member of the GA Climate Change Coalition, seeking an endorsement from our Session for their work on water & air pollution. More info can be found at this website – citizensclimatelobby.org – and the Session will consider this at their meeting on April 17th; 2) planning for Covenant’s Maundy Thursday worship & holy communion service; 3) gratitude for Marilyn Brown’s acceptance as chair of the 2018 Nominating Committee, with assistance from Brian Herndon. Input for nominees to a third position is being sought from the congregation, with a called Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, April 15, at 12 noon, following worship; 4) a brief discussion of Covenant’s Sanctuary Task Force, with a proposal to be considered on April 17, to join the Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition of other communities of faith supporting immigrant families in Athens; 5) discussion of a request for Covenant to host a political rally, with the resulting decision being to host only requests for forums with all candidates represented; and 6) update on the bathroom renovations, with hopes to begin around April 9. *Ongoing copies of the minutes of Session meetings, as well as Ministry Team minutes, can be found on the table in the narthex. All Session meetings are open to anyone’s attendance.*

The Piedmont Gardeners present

25th ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR OF ATHENS

Saturday, April 21, 2018

10am—4pm Rain or Shine

\$15 advance, \$20 at the gardens on tour day, \$10 students with ID

Tickets available at: *Always, Always Flowers, Appointments at Five, Avid Books, Cofer’s Home & Garden Showplace, Frontier, Goodness Grows Nursery, The State Botanical Gardens of Georgia Gift shop, Thomas Orchards & Nursery.*

For more information, including photos of the beautiful gardens please visit www.piedmontgardens.org

Welcome to our newest member, Charles Hunnicutt, who met with the Session on March 20. He’s been worshipping with us since the fall of 2013, off & on, as he’s gradually transitioned to life in Athens. Charles is a lifelong Presbyterian, born in LaGrange, GA, and a graduate of UGA & the law school. He spent time in Belgium & Scotland, later working for the Jimmy Carter campaign in Brussels & Europe. Thrilled to be a page on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, during his junior & senior high school years, Charles wanted to return to DC where he worked for 43 years, specializing in the law of international trade & transportation, and joined Westminster Presbyterian Church where he was ordained both a deacon and an elder. He has chaired the DC presbytery committee on social justice, as well as the Dean Rusk Center at UGA’s law school. Friends with Kent & Rebecca Silver, Charles also enjoys Tai Chi at Athens Community on Aging (with Shirley & Bob Reinert) and OLLI classes & trips. His partner of 43 years Wayne Amos is a lifelong Episcopalian, and so Wayne has joined St. Gregory’s on Barnett Shoals Road. We look forward to getting to know them even better and the coming years of ministry & worship we will share together. Introduce yourselves and put his contact info in your church directory: 930 Hill Street, Athens 30606 (276-452-4145)

GRADUATES COVERED DISH LUNCHEON APRIL 10TH AT 12:30PM Retirees, don’t forget! Everyone’s welcome to join the fun at **The Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** in the Fellowship Hall, on Tuesday, April 10, at 12:30pm. Beverages are provided, so bring a dish to share – and bring a friend too. Dr. Lisa Renzi-Hammond of UGA’s Institute of Gerontology will present a program on brain health & memory, sharing ways to cope with common forgetfulness and give your brain a boost. Y’all come!



WEEK OF March 25, 2018

SUNDAY- PALM SUNDAY

8:30am Worship
9:30am Church School for All Ages
10:45am Worship
5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

6pm– Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother’s Center
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma’s eastside
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)
6pm Foot Washing Worship Service
7pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother’s Center
3:30pm The Cave
7pm Good Friday Worship at First Presbyterian
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY–

10am—12pm Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition Easter Egg Hunt
Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—March 25, 2018

8:30am

Reader: Sonja Holden

Ushers: Judy Capie, Arnelle Combs Coffee Maker: Alan Edwards

10:45am

Liturgist: George McMaster

Reader: Sallie Hale

Ushers: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Dianne Simpson, +

Greeters: Robyn Malone, Don & Julie Bower

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (March 26-April 1)

Nursery/Super: Annemarie Braswell

Birth—Walking: Annemarie Braswell

Walking—5 years old: Susan Parish, Sydney & Delaney Braswell

WEEK OF April 01, 2018

SUNDAY- EASTER WORSHIP

7:30 am Easter Sunrise Worship
8:30am Easter Breakfast with Youth Alumni
9:30am Church School
10:45am Easter Worship
No Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

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

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother’s Center
1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
7pm Christian Education 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-

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– Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—April 01, 2018

7:30am Easter Sunrise Worship

Reader: Steve Bell

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell, Jim Smith

10:45am

Liturgist: Delaney Braswell

Reader: Phil Koehler

Ushers: Bill & Luanne Rigsby, Dick Zimdars, Jim & Dorothy Newland

Greeters: Randy & Susan Parish

Congregational Care: Carolyn Hatfield

Counters: Ellen Stoneburner, Judy Capie

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (April 2—8)

Nursery/Super: Joan Baird

Birth—Walking: Joan Baird

Walking—5 years old: Adam & Rebecca Rea, Hannah Barnett