

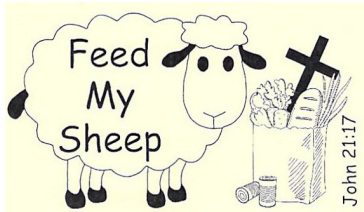


# EARTH MONTH

THE COVENANTER

April 22, 2018

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



For the month of APRIL Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB:  
*Hot Cereals, such as oatmeal, cream of wheat, or grits; canned diced tomatoes; canned meat such as chicken, ham, chili with beans, and etc; Hamburger Helper and Rice a Roni.*

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!



Our faith teaches us that we are created in the image of God. And God is creative! God has created and continues to care for this beautiful earth. So we're wondering, what about you? Do you have something you have made that you would like to share with your friends at Covenant? Are you a wood worker, gardener, painter, potter, photographer or any other type of skilled artisan?

Bring to Covenant an example of your creative work. It can be an actual example or photos we will display in Fellowship Hall on April 29th. We are celebrating Earth Day by displaying amazing works of Covenant members & friends. Bring your created work to the Fellowship Hall before the 10:45 worship to the designated area. After worship everyone will be encouraged to browse through and see your creations! I know Covenant has lots of talent and creativity. I hope you will share. *Bert Ballard-Myer*

**Covenant Stewardship Drive Update!** Dear Covenant friends, We are on our way to finalizing our pledge drive for the July 2018-June 2019 fiscal year. As of April 12th, we have received pledges to cover \$472,103 of the proposed budget of approximately \$512,192. However, we still have not heard from almost 7 families and individuals who have pledged in the past. We need your help to make sure our budget for next year is fiscally responsible and covers all of the many needs that Covenant has. If you have not yet sent in your pledge, please turn it into the office this week or to Alan and Sharon Edwards, who tabulate the pledges for us. If you have pledged in the past but are not planning to send in a card this year, please let us know. Thanks for your help in making this pledge drive a success! *Pam Knox*, Treasurer, for Stewardship & Finance ministry Team

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*Thank you to all the faithful volunteers who give their time to Covenant's youngest members and their parents by keeping the nursery on Sunday mornings. If you would like to be added to the list and volunteer one time in the next four months, please contact the church office, Lola Bell (706-614-0437) or Ellen Stoneburner (706-549-7223). It is a good way to get to know our little ones and the other adults who will be helping with you.*

**Remember in Prayer:** Ton Stam's brother Carel in France, recovering from a second heart valve surgery after the first failed; Nan Wesley's mother Kay Swan, recovering slowly in Atlanta from a broken hip in early March, in & out of the hospital, now back in her assisted living facility, but in a wheelchair – and her husband Judd Wesley's mother, in failing health with stage 4 lung cancer; a friend of Rebecca Rea - Melanie & her newborn Olivia, as the baby has many severe complications and is still hospitalized; a friend of Kay Millar – Linda, hospitalized the past 3 weeks for multiple surgeries that have not healed well; a friend of Jennifer Lloyd - Amy Robinson, hospitalized at Emory for a brain aneurysm; Nathan Weaver's father, a CPA during a stressful tax season; River Bowen, doing well with a pink cast for her broken arm; Jim McMinn, recovering well after Achilles tendon surgery; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Dianne Ralph, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

Monday	April 23	Psalm 104: 1-9
Tuesday	April 24	Psalm 104: 10-24
Wednesday	April 25	Psalm 24: 1-5
Thursday	April 26	Isaiah 30: 8-14, 19-22
Friday	April 27	Matthew 5: 13-16
Saturday	April 28	I John 4: 7-12
Sunday	April 29	John 15: 1-8



**WHO'S WHO: who at Covenant is a nephew of Jim Bowden?**

WHO'S WHO:  
 Monty Nelson  
 though not  
 Covenant's JB

**2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD**  
**WEEK #42 04/15/2018**

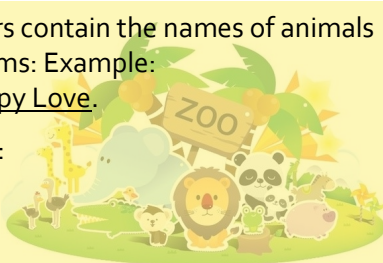
Anticipated Pledges: \$389,928.00

Received Pledges: \$405,518.71

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

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

1. Place for savings:
2. Take more than one's share:



**ACTIONS FOR ANIMALS**

- Advocate for stronger laws against poaching and trophy hunting.
- Shop with compassion. Always choose garments and accessories free of fur or fur trim.
- Don't support circuses that use wild animal acts — there are many more humane alternatives for your entertainment.
- Start the week off right with Meatless Mondays. Visit [humansociety.org/trymeatlessmonday](http://humansociety.org/trymeatlessmonday) for more information.
- Help end cosmetics testing on animals by purchasing cruelty-free health and beauty products.
- Create a safe habitat for wildlife in your own backyard.
- Keep cats indoors for their own safety as well as for the sake of birds and other wildlife.
- Encourage wildlife-friendly practices in your community.

For more information, visit [humansociety.org](http://humansociety.org). Green Dream Team



April is  
**EARTH**  
**MONTH**



## 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 (final)

Covenant Connection (final)

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 – 7:15pm Wednesday Evening Devotions

7:30pm Adult Choir

Wednesday Covenant Connection for Youth (final)

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 April 25th:**  
 Lemon Chicken Thighs,  
 mixed veggies, potato  
 wedges, celebration cake



Congratulations to Jennifer Frey for being elected by the congregation to serve with Brian Herndon and Marilyn Brown (chair) on the **2018 Nominating Committee**, now seeking to create a slate of

nominees to serve on the Session as the Class of 2021. **Nomination forms** are in your church mailboxes – so please keep this process in your prayers and make suggestions to the committee in the next 3 weeks. A drop box is on the table in the Gathering Room. Many thanks!



### "Goin' Across the Mountain" - A Musical Journey through Appalachia

FREE Concert on **Sunday, April 22, 4:00 pm**, at

Friendship Presbyterian Church, 8531 Macon Highway (441 South, across from Athens Academy) - 25 singers (including Covenant’s Carol Huber) accompanied by a Bluegrass Band, directed by Kevin Kelly – with songs and instrumentals representing life in Appalachia: family, hardships and joys, coal miners, love and unrequited love, faith and perseverance.

All are invited. Music is great. Price is right. ;) )

Join us for Lunch Bunch, every final Tuesday of the month, at DePalma's Eastside at 11:30am. Next one is Tuesday, April 24th. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks – meet you there.

You are invited to a fun concert by Gene Holshouser's son Scott and grandson Sean on Friday, May 11, at #3 Railroad Street in Arnoldsville. Bring a side dish to share in the chicken lasagna potluck at 7pm, with music beginning at 8pm. Donations are appreciated & will go to Sean's college fund, as well as the upkeep of the railroad facility. Hope to see you there!

Stop by the church office to say thank you to Karen, Judy, and Sharon, during Administrative Professionals Week (April 24-27), for all their faithful dedication and creative talents, serving Covenant so well all these years!

Heartfelt 

# THANKS



**A BIG "THANK YOU" FROM CONGREGATIONAL CARE TO ALL THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED TO DRIVE THE DARTEZ FAMILY TO APPOINTMENTS THREE TIMES A WEEK FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS. AFTER NEXT THURSDAY, THEY WILL NO LONGER NEED THOSE RIDES. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR EVERYONE'S WILLINGNESS TO HELP OUT AND FOR YOUR GENEROSITY OF TIME AND GASOLINE!**

**Check out these upcoming concerts & look for some Covenant folks performing!**

Sunday, April 22 (4pm) "Appalachian Music," Athens Chamber Singers, Friendship Pres Church

Friday & Saturday, April 27-28 (8pm) Pops Concert, Athens Symphony & the Green Flag Band, Classic Center

Sunday, April 29 (4pm) Athens Youth Symphony concert, UGA Hodgson Hall

Tues. May 1 (8pm) Kurt Weill concert featuring the opera "Down in the Valley," Athens Choral Society & UGA Opera Department, UGA's Hodgson Hall (free)

Sat. May 5 (4pm) Meridian Women's Chorus, Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Alps Road (free)

Tues. May 8 (7pm) GA Children's Chorus, UGA's Hodgson Hall (\$12)

Sat. May 19 (7:30pm) Rutter's "Requiem" & Handel's "Coronation Anthems," Athens Master Chorale, UGA's Hodgson Hall (\$)







**VBS 2018, Maker Fun Factory!** Mark your calendars with our Vacation Bible School Week, May 29—June 1st. Tuesday—Friday. [Online Registration](#) now open! Children ages 4 years old (by September 1, 2018) through rising 5th Graders are invited to join us for this exciting week as summertime begins! \*\*\*VBS Registration Fee: \$15.00/child\*\*\* Fee covers daily snacks, crafts, consumables, and take-home materials (including VBS Music CD). You can pay with cash or check on the first day of VBS or drop payment by the church office. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Athens with VBS 2018 on the 'subject' line. At Maker Fun Factory children will learn

they are created by God for a specific purpose, as well as have many opportunities to fully use their imaginations and let their creativity soar! In order for the children to be as creative as possible, we need your help with collecting a wide array of art supplies. We need aluminum food cans (not soda cans), aluminum coffee cans, cardboard round “Morton” salt containers, shoe boxes, tissue boxes, egg cartons, paper towel rolls, toilet paper rolls, yarn, buttons, soda bottle tops, and milk gallon tops. So, in other words, bring your recycling to us!

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!** As we are in partnership with First, we don't need very many volunteers, but we do need some. The categories are: help each of the four mornings (8:45 - 12:45), including with the mission project - it would be great to **get 5 adults** to help in this category, or if your time is limited, spend about an hour to: - help with drop off (8:30-9:30a) - help with pick up (12 - 1p) For those who can commit to the entire morning each of the four days, there will be a volunteers' gathering with volunteers from First Pres on Wednesday May 9 from 5:15pm-7:15pm at First Pres. Natalie will provide a light dinner for all of us. An email will be sent by the end of next week with information regarding the VBS theme, daily schedule, and volunteer duties. We will use our time together on May 9<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans, walk through the schedule, and answer any last minute questions! Looking forward to a great experience for our children and all who are involved. *Craig*

Calling all women! The annual **Presbyterian Women's Salad Supper** is Thursday, May 3, at 6:00pm in the Gathering Room – also our National Day of Prayer. Bring a friend, and bring a salad or dessert or bread to share. Friends from East Friendship Baptist Church will also be invited, and we'll enjoy a moment of worship in the Music Room, before our potluck. Bring a penny or a dollar for each year of your age, to give to the PCUSA Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering, going this year to ministries in Minnesota, Oregon, and Honduras. Always a wonderful celebration together! *Come & see!*



The Board of Directors of the Presbyterian Student Center invite you to join us to celebrate

### ANDY COOKE'S

Ten years as Campus Minister to bid him a fond farewell as he begins the next chapter of his life with Katelyn in Charlotte. We will “tailgate at the PSC on Friday April 27 at 7:00pm. Please bring stories, anecdotes and good wishes. RSVP to Leslye by April 23rd to... [Leslye @ pscuga.org](mailto:Leslye@pscuga.org) or 706-548-5932

**5th Sunday Worship Experience** - April 29 is fast approaching for our next fifth Sunday worship experience. Children and youth and the congregation's collective creativity will inspire worship! *Share your ideas with anyone on staff.* Or more specifically, **musical ideas** with Cliff and Sarah; Katie Rentz and Adam Brooks have offered to share **the message** and will work with Mark; Beecher will work with children to **coordinate prayer**; Craig will help with **liturgy** and various moving parts. *We look forward to our children offering their gifts to God!*

**Child Liturgist (10:45 Service)** 3rd - 5th graders lead the *Call to Worship* each Sunday. Next three Sundays: **April 22— Ruby Topple; April 29-5th Sunday; May 6-Karl Ritzler** *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**

Easter Joke: (We're still in the season of Easter!) Q: How does the Easter Bunny stay fit! A. Eggs-ercise and Hare-robics! 

**LEARNING NOTE:** Covenant has been living into a Earth Care month during April. During Covenant Connection, the children have been working together on a project leaning how we can celebrate and care better for God's Creation. Sunday April 22, WoRM will have a special Earth Day emphasis. And Sunday, April 29, children and youth will lead worship around this theme. Let us continue to teach and be taught by our children about how we live into our responsibility to be STEWARDS of God's creation--our home.



**Memory Verse:** Psalm 24:1 - "The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."

**April Rotation** - Help prepare your children for Sunday School by telling them who their teacher and shepherd will be, and how awesome they are  

**K-2nd Teacher/Class Rotation**  
 April 22 - Kay Brooks, Adam Brooks, Shepherd - Outside!  
 April 29 - Christine Carpenter - Oasis Theatre

**3rd - 5th Teacher/Class Rotation**  
 April 22 - Craig and Jere - Outside!  
 April 29 - Craig and Jere - Oasis Theatre

The **final** Covenant Connection of the year is Wednesday April 25. What a great year we've had connecting with one another and with God! This is such a fine evening for all who participate--and it would not happen without the amazing volunteers. *Thanks be to God for each of you!*

**YOUTH NEWS!** - *get together with your friends, learn about your faith, and serve God and one another.* Come to any and all of:

- Covenant Connection Wednesdays, after school until 7:15;
- Sunday Mornings at 9:35am BASIC with Abby and;
- Sunday evenings from 5-7pm at church unless otherwise indicated.

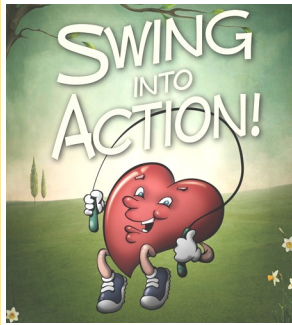
**NEXT THREE SUNDAY EVENING PROGRAMS**

April 22— finalizing 5th Sunday Worship with topic: Peacemakers with the Earth!

April 29—Cook out at Sardis Presbyterian Church in Jefferson. *Our sister church in Jefferson is hosting an areawide youth event and we have been invited. We will meet at CovPres at 1pm, food will be served there beginning at 1:30pm. A special speaker has been invited to share at 3pm. We will return to the church no later than 6pm.*

**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** - **Did you know the Cave is averaging 25-30 students each Friday?** Covenant's free after school program for middle and high school students Fridays 3:45-5:30 is a wonderful contribution to the community. *Thank you volunteers who make this valuable program happen!* Contact Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Cave Manager, for more information or to volunteer: cotsakiscordon@gmail.com



### Congregational Care

#### CARD Drive

These kinds of greeting cards are needed NOW:

*Birthday*

*Get Well*

*Sympathy*

Please place them in the crate in the hall.

We can CARDLY thank you enough!

### Building Relationships and Support - A Covenant women's fellowship group.

*Let's get together!*

Hey ladies it has been awhile since we have been together.

So let's share some food, fun and laughter!

**Host:** Bert Ballard-Myer

**When:** Friday, May 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

**Where:** Akademia Brewing Company

150 Crane Dr, Athens, GA 30606

[akademiabc.com](http://akademiabc.com)

**Please RSVP and let me know if you are coming.**

**We need a head count: Bert Ballard-Myer:**

[mysammie1@yahoo.com](mailto:mysammie1@yahoo.com) or Text: 706-207-2665

**ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!**

**Highlights of the stated Session meeting** on Tues. Apr. 17 include: 1) welcome to reactivated member, Jimmy Avants, and to new members, Clayton & Grace Adams & Bonnie - and Bruce & Karen Menke; 2) approval of baptisms - Natalie Foskey on April 22 and Eli Stone on May 20; 3) approval for Covenant to join the Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition in Athens; 4) approval of an endorsement by the Citizens Climate Lobby; 5) hope to begin bathroom renovations in early May, to finish by late summer; and 6) approval of these dates to kickoff our fall season of ministry = Sunday, August 19 - 9:00am, light breakfast provided by the Session, followed by our Annual Congregational Meeting (childcare provided) - and 10:45am Worship; Sunday, August 26 - 8:30am Worship resumes - 9:15am, light finger-food congregational potluck breakfast, followed by our Annual Rally Day program - and 10:45am Worship; Sunday, September 2 - 8:30am Worship, 9:30am Church School, and 10:45am Worship.

*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.*

**WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS** who met with the Session on April 17. So introduce yourselves and add their info to your church directories. We look forward to many more years of work & worship & fellowship together! **Jimmy Avants** has reactivated his membership at Covenant. We're glad he's with us again, living 3 houses away in Green Acres, and with a great history of participation, as his sons Gary & Clyde grew up in Covenant's youth group in years past and Jimmy is a Covenant Elder. His wife of 58 years, Rose Mary, died on October 4, 2017, having transferred to Athens with Jimmy in 1969, from Little Rock, AR, and Washington, DC, where he had worked with the US Department of Agriculture. His contact info is: 540 Greencrest Drive, 30605 (706-549-1819).

**Bruce & Karen Menke** moved to Athens 3.5 years ago (to be near family who teach at UGA), worshiping with us at the 8:30am service all that time and enjoying the Journey Church School class. They are transferring their membership from Atascocita Presbyterian Church in Humble, TX, outside of Houston, where Bruce sang in the choir and both enjoyed outings for retirees and a book club. Karen is a Presbyterian Elder, and Bruce is a retired lawyer & headhunter. Church is a very important part of their lives, coming from Episcopalian, Union, Baptist, and Presbyterian backgrounds. Their contact info is: 113 Buttonwood Loop, 30605 (706-850-5791).

**Clayton Adams & Grace Bagwell Adams** have been worshiping with us since 2015, though Clayton spent much of his youth here, connecting through presbytery & Montreat & Camp Buc & Covenant's youth group with the Coverts, the Cerveros, the Pages, and others. In fact, Clayton proposed to Grace at Camp Buc! Clayton's father Travis and brother Collin are both PCUSA pastors, and Clayton is transferring his membership from the Mountain Presbyterian Church in Blairsville, GA. A church in PA his father once attended is the same one Mark Harper has served. Grace grew up in Spartanburg, SC, and was baptized in the Southern Baptist tradition, coming to us by profession of faith. It has been a challenging year, with the death of her mother and the birth of 9-month-old Bonnie, yet on April 21 she is tap-dancing with Seth Hendershot in Dancing with the Stars Athens to support Project Safe. With degrees from Converse College and UGA graduate school, Grace is an assistant professor in UGA's College of Public Health, focused in health policy & management and the Institute of Gerontology. Clayton works for the state of GA in the department of education. Their contact info is: 110 Knottingham Drive, 30606 (706-745-1234).

**WEEK OF April 22, 2018**

**SUNDAY- IHN WEEK ENDS**

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

**MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

6:30pm 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-**

Administrative Professionals Day— *say thank you to Sharon, Judy & Karen*  
10am Adult Bible Study (final)  
5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn (final)  
6:30pm WED (final)  
7:25pm Adult Choir

**THURSDAY-**

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  
3:30pm The Cave  
8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY— Fellowship Hall Cleaned**

**WORSHIP—April 22, 2018**

**8:30am—**

Reader: Coffee: Lola Bell

Ushers: Kent & Heidi Wolfe

**10:45am—**

Liturgist: Ruby Topple

Reader: Marcia Verbrugge

Ushers: Heide & Juergen Wiegel, The Tweedell Family

Greeters: Phil Hale, Paige Campbell, Bill Rigsby

Congregational Care: Carolyn Hatfield

Counters: Caren Snook, Sue Loegel

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (April 23-29)

Nursery/Super: Pam Knox

Birth—Walking: Pam Knox

Walking—5 years old: Sandy Whitney, Tim Foutz, Carrie Tweedell

**WEEK OF April 29, 2018**

**SUNDAY- 5th Sunday Worship**

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

**MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

6:30pm 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-**

7:25pm Adult Choir

**THURSDAY-**

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
6pm PW Salad Supper  
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 29, 2018**

**8:30am—**

Reader: Sonja Holden Coffee: Warren & Arnelle Combs

Ushers: Elsie Bothwell, Carol Calbos

**10:45am—**

Liturgist: 5th Sunday

Reader: 5th Sunday

Ushers: Sue & Steve Rathbun, Robyn Malone, Betsy Pless,  
Mary Ann Johnson

Greeters: Brian & Wyatt Herndon, Maurine Wathen

Congregational Care: Carolyn Hatfield May: Ellen Stoneburner

Counters: Bill Barstow, Randy Parish

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (April 30 — May 6)

Nursery/Super: Don Bower

Birth—Walking: Don Bower

Walking—5 years old: Robyn Malone, Wyatt Herndon