

THE COVENANTER

May 06, 2018

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

Covenant's High School Graduates: Anna Cobb, Emma Goodrick,
Jason Green, Trinity Lorrain, Timothy Simpson and Elyna Gorshenin.
They will be honored in worship today with a reception following.



CARING HANDS FUND—Did you know?

- ◆ That more than 1700 individuals and 200 Presbyterian congregations through out the state contribute to the Caring Hands Fund annually.
 - ◆ That every dollar contributed goes directly to support 400 of our most financially vulnerable residents.
 - ◆ That Presbyterian Homes of Georgia now spends about \$3 million each year keeping the promise we made 69 years ago to continue to provide a home for, and to give quality care to any resident who has outlived his or her financial resources.
 - ◆ That no resident has ever been asked to leave due to outliving their financial resources.
- Make a life-changing difference! Support the Caring Hands Fund with your gift. You will find a envelope and insert in your mailbox or on the table in the Gathering Room. Thank you!



It's PCUSA Older Adult Week, as our retirees, The Graduates, gather for our monthly covered dish luncheon on **Tuesday, May 8, at 12:30pm**, in Fellowship Hall. So bring a dish to share. Beverages are provided. Let's also bring something for "Show & Tell" – an object or a photo of it – something you treasure for the good memory it brings you. We'll also have display

tables available. Always a good hour of visiting – so come and join us!

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: Carl Cartledge, having eye surgery for glaucoma on May 8, in Atlanta; Valerie Stone's friend, with advanced cancer, and the challenges this presents to her family & community; Jeremy Reaves, slowly healing from a tonsillectomy April 27, after more bleeding; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topples' sister Genia in Atlanta; Jim McMinn, Dianne Ralph, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

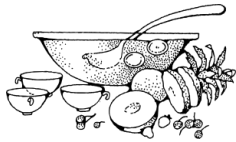
Monday	May 07	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26
Tuesday	May 08	Psalms 1
Wednesday	May 09	Psalms 92: 12-15
Thursday	May 10	Proverbs 3: 13-18
Friday	May 11	Galatians 5: 22-26
Saturday	May 12	1 John 5: 9-13
Sunday	May 13	John 17: 6-19

OLDER ADULT SUNDAY

Title: *The Gift of Long Life*

Theme: It takes time and experience, to grow fully into the Fruits of the Spirit God intends us to be.

WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant never-got a high school diploma, but has earned a master's degree?



SUMMER PUNCH AND COOKIES!

Sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes to provide refreshing punch and other goodies after the 9:45am worship service beginning **June 3**. (Please no red punch)

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD WEEK #44 04/29/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$408,496.00

Received Pledges: \$418,613.64

Thank you for your faithful giving!

WHO'S WHO:

Colleen Cook

SUMMER SEASON BEGINS SOON!

Sunday, May 13	final 8:30am Worship
Sunday, May 20	final 9:30am Church School for K-12, BASIC, Emmaus & Nautilus Classes
Sunday, May 27	final 9:30am Church School for Upper Room Class, Final 10:45am Worship
Sunday, June 3	8:30am Journey Church School Class, 9:45am Worship begins

THANK A TREE FOR GOOD HEALTH! Trees are a valuable community asset for many reasons, but public health may be among the least known. As early as 1881, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead said that the influences of nature "touch us so quietly that we are hardly conscious of them." The health benefits from trees and other greenery are examples of these quiet providers, and their benefits can be broken into these into four categories.

PHYSICAL: Trees filter the air, sequester carbon, and provide oxygen. Their shade also reduces gasoline evaporation and even prolongs the life of asphalt surfaces.

HUMAN ACTIVITY: Studies have found that community trees encourage healthful outdoor activities that fight obesity, reduce cholesterol, and even increase brain functions.

SOCIAL SUPPORT: By encouraging people to be outside, trees have been found to provide benefits such as reducing crime and promoting creativity in children.

The Green Dream Team

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!

**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

Please RSVP and let me know if you are coming.

We need a head count: Bert Ballard-Myer:

mysammie1@yahoo.com or Text: 706-207-2665

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!

The **Restaurant Roadtrip** on Tuesday, May 22, will head downtown to enjoy a light lunch at 11:30am, at Lindsey's Culinary Market, 520 North Thomas Street, near the intersection with North and Dougherty. Limited parking in their lot, with a few around the apartment building on the extension of Dougherty. A carpool leaves from the church by 11:15am. Please SIGNUP to let us know your plans.

The Nacoochee Presbyterian Church in Sautee has a planned mission trip this June 11-20. They have a program titled "Intercultural Encounter to Guatemala and the Mam People" and have room for 2 people from Covenant. If you are interested, contact Terry Centner (terrycentner@gmail.com) for an agenda & more info. The cost is \$1350 plus airfare.

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

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 (\$)



FREE SOFA-BED! Dark green, burgundy, rust stripes. One very small patch is cat-scratched. Caren Snook, 706-543-3753, caren.m.snook@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!

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH FEAST ON May 19th! Covenant Presbyterian Church 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 in the hallway next to the mailboxes. 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!*



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 9th 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*



For the month of MAY Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB:

Saltines, mac & Cheese, and pork & beans and as always brown paper bags. Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

Who wants to pick some blueberries, blackberries, & mulberries? A former Covenant youth & youth director, Laura Pallas, and her husband Cameron Phillips from Australia have begun Buffalo Creek Berry Farm in Lexington, north of Hwy.78. Website: www.bcberryfarmga.com (going live next week). It's their first crop of berries, and they need lots of help picking them, in June & July. Perhaps we can turn this into a fund-raiser for a good Covenant ministry? Or you can pick-your-own at \$12/gallon. You can also take home the bucket (\$1) or bring your own containers. Berries will keep well, refrigerated 5 days. So if you'd like to participate, on **Saturday, June 16, from 10am-noon**, please SIGNUP on the bulletin board. We'll have more information in early June.

5th Sunday Worship Experience - The children and youth and all who participated in the most recent manifestation of 5th Sunday worship were such an inspiration!

Praise God! We continue to receive such positive feedback. The theme of Caring for Creation rang through as part of our created identity. And the CovPres Maker Fair

was beautiful! Big shout out to the preachers: Katie Rentz, Adam Brooks, and Andrew Mote! Wow! Truly a wonderful worship experience on Sunday, April 29. *The NEXT 5th SUNDAY is July 29! We will combine a mixture of the summer experiences of our young people as they participate in VBS, and the Middle and High School Summer Conferences.*

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service) 3rd - 5th graders lead the *Call to Worship* each Sunday. Next three Sundays: **May 6-Ruby Topple; May 13-Wesley Whitehead; May 20-Eli Stone** *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.* Summer NOTE: As we move into the summer months, child liturgists will come on a volunteer basis. If you would like your child to lead the call to worship over the summer, contact Karen in the office and let her know which Sundays work for your family.

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

Parents/Caregiver learning note: As we come to the end of Eastertide and approach the season of Pentecost, we will look at what has been traditionally called, "The Great Commission" as told in Matthew 28:16-20. Take the time to read this passage with your child(ren) and consider the ways we are to share the gospel such as: a. their foremothers and forefathers who have been part of the passing of the good news to you; b. what does it mean to obey?; as well as, c. Baptism. On Pentecost Sunday, Eli Stone will be baptized. A wonderful opportunity to celebrate the gift of baptism and fulfill the "great commandment." Thanks be to God for the children!

Memory Verse: Matthew 28:19-20: "Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age." (*GN7*)

May Rotation - Help prepare your children for Sunday School by telling them who their teacher and shepherd will be, and how awesome they are :) May 6 - combined class, Craig Topple and Jere Bowden; May 13 - combined class, Nancy Omdahl and Adam Brooks

WoRM Teachers and Shepherds for the 2018/2019 year are needed. Be part of the privilege and joy of nurturing the faith of our children, helping to fulfill our baptismal vows. If you have any interest in being part on a regular basis during the next school year, please speak with Craig or anyone on Christian Ed. We will plan together and come up with a rotation that works for all of us and meets needs of our children. WoRM is great way to "*let the little children come unto me.*" - *Jesus*



YOUTH NEWS!

Sunday Mornings at 9:35am BASIC with Abby will continue through May 20;

Sunday evening programming, 5 - 7pm, concludes for the school year this Sunday, May 6

Thanks to all who helped the youth programming throughout the school year!

We look forward to summer activities including:

VBS May 29-June 1 - Youth volunteers assist with the programming. Let Craig know if you can help.

Montreat High School Conference, June 3-9

Massanetta Middle School Conference, June 21-24

Youth Leader retreat - TBD

The Cave - Covenant's free after school program for middle and high school students Fridays 3:45-5:30 continues to be an important mission, a success by many measures including volunteer opportunities, and a healthy place for youth to gather on Friday afternoons. It really makes a positive difference. *Thank you volunteers who make this program happen! And a huge **Thank you** to Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Cave Manager, for your amazing gifts offered for this program!!* The last CAVE of the year is Friday, May 11!

WEEK OF May 6, 2018**SUNDAY- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES SUNDAY**

8:30am Worship
 9:30am Church School
 10:45am Worship
 12:15pm High School Grad Reception
 5pm Youth Groups EOY Party (final)

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

8:00am Covenants Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel
 6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 12:30pm Grads Covered Dish Luncheon
 1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
 6:30pm S&F Meeting 7:00pm Athens Stamp Club in FH
 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
 NO Adult Choir

THURSDAY-

10:00am COM Meeting
 1pm—3pm P3 in FH
 2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA
 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)
 8:00pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 3:30pm The Cave (final)
 6:30pm B R A S at Akademia Brewing Co.
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY— Fellowship Hall Cleaned**WORSHIP—May 06, 2018****8:30am—**

Reader: Bruce Menke Coffee: Shirley Hunt

Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

10:45am—

Liturgist: Karl Ritzler

Reader: Kathryn Fowler

Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Shirley Reinert, Jerry & Sarah Shannon

Greeters: Terry Centner & Mary Ann Johnson, Gloria Pylant

Congregational Care: Ellen Stoneburner

Counters: Paige Campbell, Bill Barstow

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden (May 7—13)

Nursery/Super: Christine Carpenter

Birth—Walking: Christine Carpenter

Walking—5 years old: Adam & Rebecca Rea

WEEK OF May 13, 2018**SUNDAY- OLDER ADULT SUNDAY**

8:30am Worship (final)
 9:30am Church School
 10:45am Worship
 3:00pm Piano recital for Betsy Burmeister's students (in worship center)

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9am—3pm NEGA Presbytery meeting at Athens Korean Church
 9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
 6:30pm Session Meeting
 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
 7:25pm Adult Choir (final)

THURSDAY-

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

FRIDAY-

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

SATURDAY—

7:00am FEAST Food Truck Distribution
 9:00am Women's Prayer Breakfast at EFBC
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—May 13, 2018**8:30am—**

Reader: Wayne Crowell Coffee: Arnelle & Warren

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell

10:45am—

Liturgist: Wesley Whitehead

Reader: Sarah Shannon

Ushers: Phil & Linda Koehler, Dianne Simpson, Julie & Don Bower

Greeters: Anna, Shari & Jimmy Cobb

Congregational Care: Ellen Stoneburner

Counters: Caren Snook, Pam Knox

Flowers: Julie Bower

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Jim Bowden

Grounds Stewards: Ed Ralph (May 14-20)

Nursery/Super: Annemarie Braswell

Birth—Walking: Annemarie Braswell

Walking—5 years old: The Stone Family, Delaney Braswell