

## THE COVENANTER

May 20, 2018

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



**Kickin' It at Covenant** is back again this year! For six Wednesdays in June and July, this is time to learn more about the Bible, share some ice cream, and play games together. On each day, we'll have a Bible lesson and activity starting at 6:30 pm, followed by ice cream at 7, and then indoor and outdoor games afterwards. We'll be kickin' it on **\*\*June 13, 20 and 27\*\*** and then again on **\*\*July 11, 18, and 25\*\***. The theme for this summer's lessons is **DIRT**: learning all about the stuff of God's creation and how God brings good fruits from it (and from us). *We can't make this happen without help! Each week we'll need to folks to lead the lesson and activity, one person to bring ice cream, and two volunteers to help lead game times. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d44aaa72da7fa7-kickin> or on the sign up sheets in the church hallway. **Kickin' It** is also not just for kids! Adults are welcome, too. We'll have a few board games on hand, but feel free to **BYOG** (bring your own game) starting at 6:30. Questions? Contact Jerry Shannon at [jerry@shannons.us](mailto:jerry@shannons.us) or 612-298-0003. Hope to see you there!*

**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 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 brochure in your mailbox or on the table in the Gathering Room. Thank you!

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1065 Gaines School Road  
Athens, Georgia 30605  
706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344  
[www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org)  
[covenantp@covpresathens.org](mailto:covenantp@covpresathens.org)



**TODAY—May 20th at 10:45am**—Join us as we celebrate the birthday of the Church over 2000 years ago! Enjoy the decorations and a wonderful reception. Remember to wear red—and be sure to get a nametag for this special day.

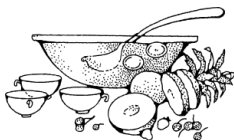
**Remember in Prayer:** The Bowden family, in the sudden death of Stacey Bowden on May 13; Dennis Calbos, healing well after wrist/elbow surgery May 7; France Boney's son-in-law, recovering from heart surgery May 14; Nkaku Kisaalita, after his car was stolen & then recovered; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Bill Willis and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	May 21	Psalm 28
Tuesday	May 22	Psalm 29
Wednesday	May 23	Isaiah 6: 1-8
Thursday	May 24	Romans 8: 12-17
Friday	May 25	Romans 8: 18-27
Saturday	May 26	John 3: 1-10
Sunday	May 27	John 3: 11-17



**WHO'S WHO:** Which former Covenanter taught the 2008 Montreat Youth Conference how to say, "Praise the Lord!" in Swahili?



## 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 #46 05/13/2018**

Anticipated Pledges: \$427,064.00

Received Pledges: \$435,481.12

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

CARING HANDS FUND: \$665.00

**WHO'S WHO: Sandra Chumba—**  
*Bwana Yesu asifiwe!*

## SUMMER SEASON BEGINS SOON!

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, (punch & cookies after Worship)

**Thank you** so much for all the condolences, food, cards, flowers, donations, offers to help my family and me, and general support when Phil passed away. Thank you, Mark, for being at our house the night of the accident, giving us spiritual support. Phil's passing was a shock to me but I thank God that he gave us 50 years together and blessed us with a terrific family--I accept that this is all part of God's plan. You are a very thoughtful, caring congregation. Thank you. In God We Trust, *Linda Basinger*

NAME PLUS: Answers are names or nicknames

- Serving dish, with lazy \_\_\_\_\_
- Overly proper \_\_\_\_\_
- Dwindle, with out \_\_\_\_\_

(see page 3 for answers)

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.



**No you are not seeing things!** The IHN board is back up with another opportunity for Covenant to host IHN families June 3 – 10.



Please check out the sign up board in the hallway across from the church offices to see the many ways you can help. Any questions please see Steve Rathbun.

And thank you for your willingness to help!  
*Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it! Hebrews 13:2 NLT*

### 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!



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

**Highlights of the stated Session meeting** on Tues. May 15 include: 1) approval of 2018-19 budget; 2) celebration of upcoming wedding for Abby Horvath & Lizz Dorsey, Sat. June 23; 3) approval to change the name of Stewardship & Finance to "Finance Ministry Team;" 4) decision to ask each Ministry Team to review their mission statements, to find where "stewardship" language can be used & encouraged, in current or new activities; 5) Personnel Committee's acceptance of a request from Craig Topple to move from full-time to part-time, 20 hrs/week; and 6) gratitude to our 4 commissioners who attended NEGA Presbytery's meeting on Tues. May 15 = Julie Bower, Luanne Rigsby, Chuck Rosenberger, and Dick Zimdars. *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.*

### Local Businesses Going Green – Part 1

If you have eaten at DePalma's recently, you may have noticed that you were not given a straw with your water, tea, or soft drink. If you absolutely need a straw, you can ask for one. If the plastic straws have not yet been used up, that's what you will get. But when the plastic straws are gone, paper straws will be available. (Some of us are old enough to remember when paper straws were the norm!) Many thanks to Patrick McMaster for making the decision to move toward a greener way of doing business.

*Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team*



**Answers to Names Plus: 1. Susan; 2. Prissy; 3. Peter**



For the month of MAY Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB: *Saltines, mac & cheese, 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](http://www.bcberryfarmga.com). 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.



Litter is a BIG problem in Clarke County.

You can help solve the problem by stopping by the Green Dream Team bulletin board and picking up a "Litter Hot Line" that sticks to the back of your cell phone. Then,

when you see someone tossing litter from their car, get the license # and call the "Litter Hotline" (706-613-3506).

## Covenant's Coffee House

**Tuesday, July 24th at 6:30pm**

Share your talents! Covenant members and friends are so gifted—please indulge us with your gifts! Sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes.



The **10:00 Wednesday morning Bible Study** will continue this summer, using the DVD, "Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land through the 5 Books of Moses," with video of Egypt & Israel and narration by author Bruce Feiler.

*You're welcome to join in the good discussion!*





**5th Sunday Worship Experience -**  
*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 “Maker’s Fun Factory”, “Kickin’ It at Covenant” 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 20-Eli Stone ; May 27—**

*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 20—combined classes (final)

**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! See page 7 for important info**

Sunday Mornings at 9:35am BASIC with Abby will continue through May 20 (final)

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

We look forward to summer activities including:

**VBS** May 29-June 1—

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!!*



In gratitude for your friendship  
**Jubilee Partners**  
invites you and your family for  
**FREE BLUEBERRY PICKING**



**Please come on any *two* of the following dates:**

Tuesday, June 19, 5pm-dark	Saturday, July 7, from 9:30am-noon
Tuesday, June 26, 5pm-dark	Monday, July 9 from 5pm-dark
Tuesday, July 3, 5pm- dark	Tuesday, July 17, 5pm- dark.

Jubilee is located a 1/2 mile south of downtown Comer on Hwy. 22 at 427 Jubilee Rd.

**What to bring: this coupon, picking buckets,  
and close-toed shoes.**

Please print your name here for our records:

\_\_\_\_\_ # in your party \_\_\_\_\_  
Your employer/church \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
cut here



In gratitude for your friendship  
**Jubilee Partners**  
invites you and your family for  
**FREE BLUEBERRY PICKING**



**Please come on any *two* of the following dates:**

Tuesday, June 19, 5pm-dark	Saturday, July 7, from 9:30am-noon
Tuesday, June 26, 5pm-dark	Monday, July 9 from 5pm-dark
Tuesday, July 3, 5pm- dark	Tuesday, July 17, 5pm- dark.

Jubilee is located a 1/2 mile south of downtown Comer on Hwy. 22 at 427 Jubilee Rd.

**What to bring: this coupon, picking buckets,  
and close-toed shoes.**

Please print your name here for our records:

\_\_\_\_\_ # in your party \_\_\_\_\_  
Your employer/church \_\_\_\_\_

**As we move into the summer months**, we are excited that our youth and children will continue to have rich opportunities to grow in their faith and discipleship to Jesus: VBS, in partnership with First Presbyterian Church, is right around the corner and will be followed by our senior highs heading for the Montreat Youth Conference the first week of June. Over six Wednesdays in June and July, Kickin' It at Covenant will offer a weekly gathering to study scripture and enjoy ice cream and recreation together. And later in June, our middlers and their leaders will be traveling to Massanetta, Virginia for a middle school youth conference. The organizational leadership behind all this comes from many dedicated volunteers, but is finally pulled together by our Director of Children and Youth ministry Craig Topple. It's hard to believe that Craig has been with us for almost a year now, and we rejoice in the gifts that he brings to our community. In the coming fiscal year, Craig has requested that his hours be reduced to half-time so that he can pursue ministry in the other sphere of his vocation as a hospital chaplain with St. Mary's Healthcare. Most of you will still see Craig around here the same way you have this year, and his wife Trasie and their children Ruby Gene and Zia will remain active members in our worshiping life and Covenant Connection. Covenant leadership will be looking for help leading the Cave and Sunday evening youth fellowship specifically and has already started this process. Personnel, the pastors, and the session all feel like this is a workable move and believe that it would be in the best interest of our young people and their families not to look for a full-time replacement for Craig, but to enable him to keep building the relationships he has established over the past year. We also think that his continued leadership, even in a part-time capacity, will help us to discern the best staffing configuration for Covenant once Beecher retires in September 2019. We are grateful for the many fruits of children and youth ministry that have been born in our first year with Craig, and we can't wait to see where God will be leading us in the days to come.

**WEEK OF May 20, 2018**

**SUNDAY- DAY OF PENTECOST**

9:30am Church School (final) for WoRM, BASIC, Emmaus & Nautilus classes

10:45am Worship

Noon—Pentecost Reception

**MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

8am Covenant's Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Rd

5pm—9pm The Challenger's Banquet (J. Baird)

**TUESDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

11:30am Restaurant Road Trip at Lindsey's Culinary Mkt

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

8pm New Freedom

**WEDNESDAY-**

Beecher on leave through May 31st

10am Adult Bible Study

6:30pm Adult Choir Party at The Grit on Prince Avenue

**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

8pm New Freedom in FH

**SATURDAY—**

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

**WEEK OF May 27, 2018**

**SUNDAY-**

10:45am Worship

**MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

**TUESDAY-**

**Join VBS at First Pres. downtown**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside

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

8pm New Freedom in FH

**WEDNESDAY-**

**Joint VBS at First Pres. downtown**

10am Adult Bible Study

6pm—7pm Project Free in FH

**THURSDAY-**

**Joint VBS at First Pres. downtown**

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters

6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA

7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

**FRIDAY-**

**Joint VBS at First Pres. downtown**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center Open House in FH

8pm New Freedom in FH

**SATURDAY—**

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

---

**WORSHIP—May 20, 2018**



**10:45am—**

Liturgist—Eli Stone

Readers: Various

Ushers: Bill & Luanne Rigsby, Dick Zimdars, Robyn & James Malone

Greeters: Hank & DeLynda Tweedell, Tim Foutz

Congregational Care: Ellen Stoneburner

Counters: Caren Snook, Judy Capie

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (May 21-27)

Nursery/Super: Annemarie Braswell

Birth—Walking: Annemarie Braswell

Walking—5 years old: Delaney & Sydney Braswell, Sarah Shannon

---

**WORSHIP—May 27, 2018**

**10:45am—**

Liturgist—

Reader: Mary Barnett

Ushers: Stephanie Cahill, Julie & Don Bower, Susan & Randy Parish

Greeters: Karen Foutz, Julie & Don Bower

Congregational Care: Ellen Stoneburner

Counters: Ellen Stoneburner, Judy Capie

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (May 28—June 3)

Nursery/Super: Marie Ballard-Myer

Birth—Walking: Marie Ballard-Myer

Walking—5 years old: Richard & Marcia Page, Jennifer Frey