

THE COVENANTER  
July 22, 2018

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

**5th Sunday, July 29**—Sunday, July 29 again provides for a unique worship experience. The Praise Band will be offering music. The children and youth will be sharing their experiences from the summer: VBS, Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference, and Montreat High School Conference. *Everyone in the congregation is invited to bring one personal item you cherish forward during the voluntary and place it on or around the communion table. This act may take on a variety of meanings for you and for those who witness it. You will collect these items after the worship service is over.*

**Hello everyone!** I will be putting together a 15 minute short to kick off Rally Day at the end of August and would love participants from all the younger groups at Covenant. *This means:* High schoolers, Middlers, Grade schoolers and Pre Schoolers! There will be parts available to everyone. Rehearsals will be Wednesday evenings in August. If you are interested email me at [ces0008@yahoo.com](mailto:ces0008@yahoo.com). *Christine Carpenter*

**KICKIN' IT at COVENANT!** Only one more opportunity to come out for *Kickin' It at Covenant*. Children's lesson/activity at 6:30 and ice cream/games starting at 7. We'll probably be inside all night to beat the heat. Kids will be making "dirt" truffles and talking about how Jesus can use pretty much anything to heal.

**COVENANT CONNECTION  
COMING SOON!**

We need your help so please consider being a blessing during the Covenant Connection season! There are many ways to help. Check out the Sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Any questions please see Katy McGill. Thanks!

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)



For the month of **JULY** Covenant will be collecting: saltines, savory/salty snack items for children and as always brown paper bags. *Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!*

**Remember in Prayer:** Ron Cervero & family, in the recent death of his mother; Rebecca Silver's friend, in treatment for advanced cancer; John Knox, recovering well from kidney stone surgery; Pam Knox's colleague & family, whose 18-year-old son was recently killed in an auto accident; Steve Follin & Linda Rogers' daughter Christine & her husband Jay, having to evacuate from the recent fires in Aspen, with no power & hot/smoky conditions as they return home; Craig Topple's aunt, hospitalized but slowly improving; Carrie Tweedell, competing this week in a national twirling competition, as she represents the state of Georgia; Mary Ann Johnson, moving to Lincoln, NE, this week, with Terry Centner moving later this fall; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Ashley Wolfe, at home.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday,	July 23	Ezekiel 37: 3-4
Tuesday,	July 24	Luke 4: 15-30
Wednesday,	July 25	Jeremiah 7: 1-15
Thursday,	July 26	Luke 23: 13-20
Friday,	July 27	Proverbs 31: 8-9
Saturday,	July 28	Mark 2: 1-12
Sunday,	July 29	Matthew 15: 21-28

**5th Sunday, July 29**—Everyone in the congregation is invited to bring one personal item you cherish forward during the voluntary and place it on or around the communion table. This act may take on a variety of meanings for you and for those w h o w i t n e s s i t . You will collect these items after the worship service is over.

**WHO'S WHO:** Who at Covenant recently became a certified Yoga instructor AND is now in clown school?

### 2018-19 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD WEEK #03

Anticipated Pledges: \$26,853.05

Received Pledges: \$20,857.93

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

**LIFE'S A ZOO!** Each answer contains the name of an animal.

1. Stockpile on the sly: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Loud reaction to a joke: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Contemptible one: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHO'S WHO:** Paul Brooks



Answers to Life's A Zoo!  
1. squirrel away    2. horse laugh  
3. a worm



The **10:00 Wednesday morning Bible Study** continues in July, viewing the PBS Frontline video, “From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians.” You’re welcome to join in the good discussion!

If you’d like to make a donation to the Presbyterian Student Center in memory of Stacey Bowden, make your checks out to Covenant and mark them for PSC/Stacey B – and drop them in the offering plate or bring them by the church office – and we will forward them to PSC for you.

<http://covpresathens.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/July-Dec-2018.pdf>

Click on the link above to access the new *Greeter, Reader, Usher* schedule for July—December 9:45am & 10:45am. *Thanks.*

## COVENANT CONNECTION COMING SOON!

We need your help so please consider being a blessing during the Covenant Connection season! There are many ways to help. Check out the Sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Any questions please see Katy McGill. Thanks!



Juergen Wiegel who so lovingly provides the flowers for worship will be out of town August 19, 26 and September 2. Sign up today to help provide a floral arrangement for these dates:

August 19, 26 and September 2.

See the sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes.

## TerraCycle Adds New Item!

For the first time in a long time, TerraCycle has added a new item to the plastic packaging that it collects. Here are the acceptable items:

- Arm & Hammer Power Paks Laundry Detergent pouches (2-in-1 and 3-1)
- Oxiclean Laundry Detergent Paks pouches
- Oxiclean 2-in-1 Stain Fighter Power Paks pouches
- Oxiclean White Revive Laundry Stain Remover Power Paks pouches
- Arm & Hammer Baking Soda pouches (large bags used for cleaning and swimming pools)

These 2 brands, *Arm & Hammer* and *Oxiclean*, are the only 2 brands that are acceptable, so **please** don't save pouches from any other brands of laundry detergent pods. There is a box for the Arm & Hammer and Oxiclean pouches on the floor next to the TerraCycle drawers. *Caren Snook* for the Green Dream Team

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, Aug. 12	8:30am, First Grade Breakfast
Tuesday, Aug. 14	11:30am, Restaurant Roadtrip to Em's Kitchen on Hawthorne
Saturday, Aug. 25	Covenant BRAS performing at Groovy Nights for Project Safe
Thursday, Sept. 6	7:00pm, Worship team meeting

## Welcome our Olomouc friends- Roman and Sara Gabriel July 25 - August 3rd

### Roman Gabriel

Born: 1964 in Olomouc, all my life I'm living in Olomouc with exception of 5 years studying at University of Pardubice (chemical engineering) and 1 year of military service.

Married, almost 24 years, 2 children (Simon, 20 and Sara 18), member of The Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren in Olomouc, participant of English camps in Olomouc.

Hobby: walking, cycling, music

### Sara Gabriel

My name is Sára, I'm 18 years old and I have one older brother. Next year I'm graduating from highschool.

In my free time I play theatre, work in a student radio and do slam poetry. I'm also a big fan of literature - I love both, reading and writing.



And we are looking forward to meeting with you everyone.

*Hosts: Joan Prittie and Linda Rogers*

*Please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes if you would like to spend time with our guests.*

Save  
the  
Date

### FALL SUNDAY SCHEDULE !

Sun. Aug. 19 9:00am, Annual Congregational Meeting, with light breakfast by the Session

10:45am, Hymnsing Worship

Sun. Aug. 26 RALLY DAY

8:30am, Worship

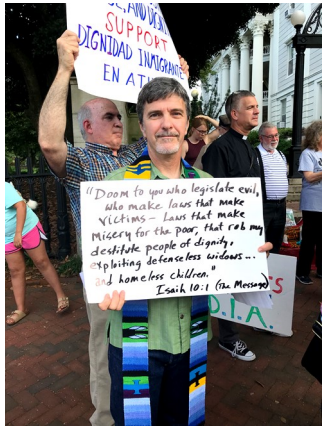
9:15am, Covered Dish Breakfast and CE Rally Day Program

10:45am, Worship

Sun. Sept. 2 8:30 & 10:45am, Worship

9:30am, Church School for all ages





**Meet Our Neighbor Katia**— Covenant has recently become a member congregation of the Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition (ISC), a group of Athens area faith communities committed to offering friendship, hope, and compassionate support to our undocumented neighbors. Through ISC we have met Katia, a 19 year-old mother of two who has lived in Athens for 17 years. Her husband was deported to Mexico a few months ago, leaving Katia with her mother and sister to try and make ends meet. Currently Katia is working some shifts at a local flea market. In the fall she will be returning to school, seeking to complete her high school education through an on-site, on-line program at the ACC School District office. Here are some ways we can help Katia immediately and in the months to come:

\*By providing Lyft gift cards or a bus pass so that she can get to work and run errands

\*By offering rides to school several times a week in the fall (once we know her schedule we will set up a Sign-Up genius for volunteer drivers)

\*By supplying her with plastic storage bins and age-appropriate books for her children (she has a one year-old boy and a three year-old girl)

\*By sharing information about local, private cosmetology schools and helping fund her tuition

Thank you for prayerfully considering entering into this relationship with Katia and her family. In these days when many of us are rightly focused on legislative efforts to enable parents and children to stay together along our borders, this is a chance to extend gospel love to a vulnerable family that is already here.

As one of my teachers likes to say, "Justice is good, but supper is essential!"

### "Try it - you may like it! "

Please consider signing up to volunteer to help in the nursery one time between September and December. It's a great way to meet Covenant's youngest and get to better know other adults." Let me know at [ellenstoneburner@gmail.com](mailto:ellenstoneburner@gmail.com).

Join us for Lunch Bunch, every final Tuesday of the month, at DePalma's Eastside at 11:30am. Next one is Tuesday, July 31st. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks - meet you there.



### Make an American Dream Come True!

Aspect Foundation is currently seeing volunteer host families for international exchange students from nearly 30 countries. Our families are loving families who can give a student a place to sleep/study, daily meals and a loving home. These students are aged 15 to 18, speak English, and have their own spending money and insurance. For more information, please call

**Mackenzie Battista at (770) 757-4656** or visit [www.aspectfoundation.org](http://www.aspectfoundation.org)

**Hello everyone!** I will be putting together a 15 minute short to kick off Rally Day at the end of August and would love participants from all the younger groups at Covenant. *This means:* High schoolers, Middlers, Grade schoolers and Pre Schoolers! There will be parts available to everyone. Rehearsals will be Wednesday evenings in August. If you are interested email me at [ces0008@yahoo.com](mailto:ces0008@yahoo.com). *Christine Carpenter*



## 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, and the Middle and High School Summer

Conferences. If you're interested in helping out, please let Craig T. know.

**Going underground with WoRM!** "let the little children come unto me." - Jesus

The teachers and shepherds of this joy-filled time of providing for the Christian education of our children are such a blessing. *Do you have a sense of call to participate in this ministry?* The leaders for the next school year will meet for a planning session over the summer (date: TBD, late July/early August) in preparation for the school year. If you are interested in learning more about how you can offer your gifts and fulfill your sense of call in this way, please contact Craig: [ctopple@covpresathens.org](mailto:ctopple@covpresathens.org)

**Child Liturgist (10:45 Service)** 3rd - 5th graders lead the *Call to Worship* each Sunday. *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. *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.*

## YOUTH NEWS! Massanetta springs with faith formation, by Craig Topple.

The energy and enthusiasm of young people is contagious--especially when there are over 200 mostly middle schoolers who gather together in one place. At 6am on Thursday, June 21, Kim Ness, youth director at First Pres, and I, loaded 11 middle school youth from both churches onto a 15 passenger bus that drives as smoothly as my minivan. From Covenant were Syndey Braswell, McKenzie Redish, Emma Rentz, and Owen Barnett. Less than 9 hours later we were in the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley--a place Presbyterians were drawn to in large numbers as early as the 17th century. And for good reason with its rolling hills covered in a lush green, deeper in some ways than what we have here in Georgia. The forecast called for rain for much of our 4 days, but we weren't going to let that put a damper on things. How could we when some 20 enthusiastic high school juniors and seniors were responsible for energizing everyone, leading workshops, and assisting with worship and keynotes? A very impressive group of students! Half of those high schoolers were group leaders, called enablers, and were assigned and responsible for some 10 youth along with two adults. Each group consisted for the most part of youth and adults from churches other than their own--so we made lots of new friends. The enablers jobs were to help us process experiences of our day, primarily the keynote portion, and guide us through our time together. Our enabler was a recent high school graduate named Emma, who is headed off to UNC Chapel Hill in the fall. She made a lasting impact on all of us. The middlers in my group--engaged and enthusiastic--came from Presbyterian churches in North Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Florida. The keynote speaker, the Rev. Allysen Schaaf, is on staff at the church where I was baptized and grew up, Decatur Presbyterian. It was great to have her leadership, as she effectively emphasized the theme of the week which was inspired by Isaiah 43:1-3: "*But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.*" *NRSV* Within these verses emerged essential aspects of our identity--we are created, claimed and called by God. As young people navigate the challenges of adolescence, these are foundational aspects of their (and all of our) self understanding. These themes were emphasized in the workshops we participated in. There were some 15 workshops of which groups participated in 4. The emphases of those I participated in included: music as prayer, created as creative beings, and consideration of the role of social media in our lives. Of course, no camp and conference is complete without essentials such as:

lots of camp food (which I thought was just fine, but I'm not picky and I could avoid eating meat which is a goal of mine in 2018);

Lots of recreation, including a giant slip and slide (yes, I slipped and "slided"), silly games involving shaving cream and sprays, water games, jump ropes, a gaga pit, canoeing, and swimming; and, *Barracks* which can withstand the countless number of young people who stay in them year after year.

A neat service project was incorporated into one night called, "Rise Against Hunger." Any process engineer would have been impressed with the streamlining of this food packaging project as we donned cooking caps and gloves and bagged and boxed 10,000 meals of a vegetable rice mixture, while pop songs old and new were blasting overhead. The kids loved it. The final night closed with a dance party--a well chaperoned middle school dance party, need I say more? After which--and it somehow segued--all 200 plus of us gathered in a large circle in a field under a clear sky for a moving candlelight vespers service. We slept well that night.

Sunday morning, we packed up, then joined together for closing worship with communion. We said our goodbyes, then off we went arriving back to Athens just after 9pm. I was so pleased to participate with our young people in this way. Presbyterian camps are done in a unique way, and for this become special places which shape the faith of our children to engage the world as an expression of that faith. Thanks be to God.

**Bathroom Renovation update from Pam Knox as of June 16** I've been asked a number of questions about the status of the bathroom renovation project and thought I would provide a short discussion of what has been done, how it is being paid for, and when it will be finished. Most of this is based on information from Hank Tweedell and Karen Wetherington. Information is also available in Session minutes from February 4, 2018. The work is being done by Grahl Construction. There are two different projects underway. A shower is being added to the basement next to the WORM cooking room for use by IHN visitors. The cost of this portion of the renovation is approximately \$25,000. Upstairs, the Fellowship Hall bathrooms have been gutted and new men's and women's rooms are in the process of being plumbed, with three stall in each bathroom plus new double sinks along with mirrors. At the time I looked at it, the rough plumbing was in and the contractors were about to pour the cement floors. Once those are dry, they will frame in the walls and install tiles and fixtures. The process of connecting the Fellowship Hall bathrooms to the kitchen sewer line should help alleviate ponding of water near the entrance to the portico in the parking lot when they resurface that part of the lot. The cost of the upstairs renovation was estimated to be approximately \$95,000, but some additional costs were incurred when asbestos was discovered in the demolition and had to be removed. The original sewer line from Gaines School Road to the Fellowship Hall bathrooms was determined by camera inspection to have collapsed (which is why they were shut down earlier than expected), and replacing that would have cost about \$100,000 due to the depth of the line, so Covenant is fortunate that the separate sewer line from the kitchen was already available. Hank was not sure when the work would be completed, but it could be as early as three weeks. There should be no problem finishing by the end of July, well before the fall season begins. Costs for the renovation project will be somewhat higher than originally expected due to the discovery of the asbestos as well as changes made in the design of the project by Session as the contract was finalized. Most of the cost will be covered by the Jubilee Campaign account, which also covered the roof replacement. Some of the Jubilee money is also reserved to renovate the playground, so additional money for the bathroom renovation will come from the Capital Reserve Fund. Jim Bowden has also requested that some additional funds be made available from the Bowden Book Fund. At this point I cannot tell you the exact amounts from each source since the final bill has not yet come in.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me and I will do my best to answer them. *Pam Knox*

Leaders of Covenant ministries & programs! Please plan to submit what you would like in our **Fall Brochure** NOW, or by the latest Friday, August 3, as we are publishing the next week.

Email [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org) with your submissions! *Many thanks.*

**FIRST GRADE BREAKFAST** for Covenant's first graders.

Sunday, August 12th is a special day for our First Graders,

**River Bowen, William Sperr & Zia Topple.**



The parents will attend a special parent's workshop, while the children enjoy breakfast with the Pastors. The children will have a special tour of the Worship Center, during which time will be spent talking about baptism and communion. Our first graders will be introduced to the congregation during the service and will be presented with their very own copy of our Presbyterian Hymnal, *Glory to God*. *(If you know of any first graders that are not listed above and would like to be included please let the church office know.)*

## **WEEK OF July 22 , 2018**

### **SUNDAY-**

9:45am Worship  
11:00am Punch and Cookies  
1:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous  
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

### **MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

9am—4pm Project Safe

### **TUESDAY-** Beecher on leave thru 7/31

9am—4pm Project Safe  
9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside  
6:30pm Covenant Coffee House  
8pm New Freedom

### **WEDNESDAY-**

9am—4pm Project Safe  
10am Adult Bible Study  
5:30pm—8:30pm Project FREE!  
6:30pm—8pm Kickin' It! (final)

### **THURSDAY-**

9am—4pm Project Safe  
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA  
7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

### **FRIDAY—**

9am—4pm Project Safe  
9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
8pm New Freedom in FH (celebrating their 41st year in Athens)

### **SATURDAY—**

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

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## **WORSHIP—July 22, 2018**

### **9:45am—**

Liturgist—

Reader: Steve Follin

Ushers: Jerry & Sarah Shannon, Dick Zimdars, Betsy Pless, Steve Rathbun

Greeters: Phil & Sallie Hale

Congregational Care: Catharine Tyson

Counters: Ellen Stoneburner, Judy Capie

Punch & Cookies: Reaves/Burmeister

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (July 23—29)

Nursery/Super: Luanne Rigsby

Birth—Walking: Luanne Rigsby

Walking—5 years old: Richard & Marcia Page

## **WEEK OF July 29 , 2018**

### **SUNDAY- 5th Sunday Worship**

9:45am Worship  
11:00am Punch and Cookies  
1:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous  
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

### **MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

### **TUESDAY-** Beecher on leave thru 7/31

9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside  
8pm New Freedom in FH

### **WEDNESDAY-**

10am Adult Bible Study  
5:30pm—8:30pm Project FREE!

### **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—**

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

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## **WORSHIP—July 29, 2018**

### **9:45am—**

Liturgist—

Reader: Phil Hale

Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Jim & Dorothy Newland, Dianne Simpson

Greeters: Paige Campbell, Bill Rigsby

Congregational Care: Catharine Tyson

Counters: Caren Snook, Bill Barstow

Punch & Cookies: Robyn Malone

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (July 30—August 5)

Nursery/Super: Christine Carpenter

Birth—Walking: Christine Carpenter

Walking—5 years old: Patrick, Alice & Lila McMaster