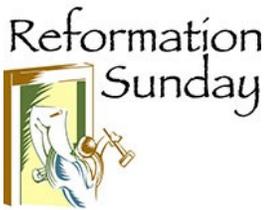


THE COVENANTER
October 28, 2018

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



TODAY—OCTOBER 28—We will welcome, Gerhard Frey-Reininghaus, who worked for the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren for 26 years and recently retired April of this year. He will speak at 8:30am & 10:45am worship and Church School at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. LUNCH WITH GERHARD! Join us for a soup and sandwich luncheon immediately following the October 28th 10:45am service.

All Saints Sunday! Sunday, November 4th at 8:30am & 10:45am



This commemoration of the saints goes to the heart of our faith; death has not won (1 Corinthians 15:55-57); in all we do we are accompanied by fellow Christians, living and dead (Hebrews 12:1); and in the end, we will join others in praising God eternally (Revelation 7:9-10). We will refer to them during a moment of recognition & prayer during worship. *Please check the list in the gathering room table for additions and or corrections.*

ATHENS COMMUNITY TAIZE SERVICE AT COVENANT!

Join Covenant November 4 at 6pm for this meditative service with readings, silence, and Taize chants. (new and old). This is an ecumenical service and all are welcome.

FEAST FOOD TRUCK DISTRIBUTION! Saturday, November 17 beginning at 7am Covenant 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 help please sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Volunteers need to arrive as early as 7am, distribution beginning at around 9am. More info see Mark Harper, Sue Rathbun, or Juanita Floyd.



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Everyone's invited to the monthly **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** on Tuesday, November 13, at 12:30pm, in Fellowship Hall. We are taking this opportunity to honor and thank all Military Veterans. Guest speakers will be two of Covenant's veterans. Juanita Floyd will provide delicious turkey and fixings for everyone! Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share – and bring a friend. See ya there.

Remember in Prayer: Betty Pallas and family in the recent passing of her husband, Jim; Shirley Hunt healing well at home; Beecher and her mother Jacqueline; those affected by the recent floods & damage from Hurricane Michael—remember you can contribute directly to Pres Disaster Assistance at <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/give/>; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topple’s sister Genia in Atlanta; Marion Wilmot, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|
| Monday | Oct. 29 | Isaiah 25: 6-9 |
| Tuesday | Oct. 30 | Psalm 24 |
| Wednesday | Oct. 31 | Revelation 21: 1-6a |
| Thursday | Nov. 01 | John 11: 32-44 |
| Friday | Nov. 02 | Ruth 1: 1-18 |
| Saturday | Nov. 03 | Psalm 146 |
| Sunday | Nov. 04 | Mark 11: 28-34 |



HINTEROO. All the puzzle words have a 3-letter sequence in common. That’s the “Hinteroo”, which will help you find the correct answers:

1. Good for clammy hands: _____
2. Honcho of all Honchos: _____
3. A street car’s moniker: _____

**2018-19 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD
WEEK #17**

Anticipated Pledges: \$152,167.33
 Received Pledges: \$135,052.82
Thank you for your faithful giving!
 Peace & Global Witness: \$1,125.00



- Answers to HINTEROO:
1. Resin
 2. President
 3. Desire

**2018 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET—
A Not So Silent Night**

**A big thanks to everyone who signed up!
 Please send your submissions to
 kwetherington@covpresathens.org. Devotionals
 are NOW due. Questions? See Pam Knox or call
 the church office.**



SAVE THE DATE! The fall workshop “Let’s Talk!” for our presbytery’s Presbyterian Women will be held Saturday, October 27, from 9am–2pm, at Sardis Pres Church in Jefferson. All are welcome. Mark Harper is one of the leaders this year, along with Sardis pastor Cheryl Barnes, on the topic of racism & immigration. This event is FREE and includes breakfast & lunch. REGISTER by Mon. Oct. 22 with Julie Usry (706-814-4005) usryj@comcast.net - and SIGNUP on the carpool list on the bulletin board – hope we have a good turnout!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28—We welcome, Gerhard Frey-Reininghaus, who worked for the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren for 26 years and recently retired April of this year.

Gerhard arrived in the Czech Republic for a two-year postgraduate study program with his first wife Adelheid in 1991 from a church in Köngen, Württemberg state. However, he did not return to Germany when the two years passed. It was a time when the Protestant Theological Faculty was facing a rapid increase in the number of its students, and Gerhard took on the difficult task of helping the Faculty find a new building. He was immensely hardworking in his fundraising activities, always open to suggestions, kind and enthusiastic – and always somehow managing to spread this atmosphere and attitude among all his collaborators. Without his help, the Protestant Theological Faculty would never have been able to develop the way it did in the new conditions. With his wife, Gerhard established the international department at the Faculty, which remains very active up until today. His work at the faculty was followed by an invitation of the Synodal Senior back in the day, Pavel Smetana, to work at the Ecumenical Department of the Central Church Office. Gerhard’s mission, right from the beginning, was to work on healing the wounds inflicted by the Second World War upon both nations. A Czech-German working group was thus established, Gerhard being the secretary for the Czech part. The starting point of this cooperation was a statement made by the ECCB’s Synod in 1995 on the topic of the expulsion of the Sudetenland Germans. As a result from the working group the book The Dividing Wall Has Fallen (1996) was published, which had the aim of seeking reconciliation and mutual understanding. Through his work, Gerhard demonstrated and reminded everybody that reconciliation is the true focal point of the Gospel. It was also as a result of Gerhard’s effort that an agreement was signed between the ECCB and the EKD in 2003. Cooperation in the field of combatting the sexual abuse of women and children in the Czech-German bordering areas followed this agreement.

However, Gerhard Frey-Reininghaus’ work did not only focus on Germany. He also initiated the cooperation of the American Working Group in the Czech Republic and the Czech Mission Network in the USA. He established and developed contacts with a number of churches across Europe and also supported the ECCB’s friendship with the Presbyterian Church of South Korea. It was Gerhard’s initiative, that this informational bulletin has been issued for the many international partners of the Protestant Theological Faculty, of the ECCB and its Diaconia.

Gerhard also proved a very skilled organizer and coordinator, for example when coordinating the aid during the floods of 1997 and 2002, organizing the Meeting of Christians in Prague in 2005 or during the celebrations of the 600th anniversary of the death of Jan Hus in July 2015. Gerhard supported these events with his detached view, his good estimates and communication, and he managed the preparatory teams with professional routine.

At the good-bye party for Gerhard, organized by the Synodal Council on 1 April 2017 and attended by approximately 150 Czech and international ecumenical partners, gratitude for his understanding, openness and friendliness were most often expressed. Gerhard’s work has enriched our lives and serves as inspiration for many. We are glad that Gerhard’s friendship lasts and we can still meet him in various roles dealing with Czech and international ecumenical activities.

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens—Below are statistics that show the financial value of Covenant’s volunteer hours, meals provided, bed nights and financial support for 2017.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Hosting Weeks: | 4 |
| # of Volunteers: | 53 |
| Volunteers Hours: | 811.50 |
| Financial Value of Volunteers Hours (\$12/hr) | \$9,738.00 |
| Meals Provided: | 392 |
| Financial Value of Meals Provided (\$5/person) | \$1,960.00 |
| Bed Nights provided (\$35/person) | \$6,860.00 |
| Financial Support: | <u>\$3,350.49</u> |
| Total Financial Support Value: | \$21,908.49 |

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

Special Sundays Ahead

Sun. Oct. 28 Guest preacher from the Czech Republic, Gerhard Frey-Reininghaus
9:30am, Church School for youth & adults in F. hall with Rev. Frey-Reininghaus

Sun. Nov. 4 All Saints Sunday with necrology read during worship
9:30am, What It Means to be Presbyterian, led by pastors
6:00pm, Taizé Worship Service

Are You A "Wishful" Recycler?

TerraCycle only accepts plastic packaging from specific products. The TerraCycle collection drawers are clearly labeled with the acceptable products.

They are:

- * Candy bags and wrappers
- * Cereal bags (liner bags from boxes of cereal)
- * Cheese bags and wrappers
- * Chip and salty snack bags
- * Arm & Hammer detergent power pak and baking soda bags
- * Toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and floss containers
- * Personal care bottles and tubes (shampoo, liquid soap, makeup containers, lotion tubes, etc. NO mouthwash, artificial tears, deodorant containers.)

Any bags or wrappers that originally contained any other kind of food products contaminate the recycling drawers. Please be mindful of what is acceptable and what is not.

Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st at 6:30pm –

ANNUAL COVENANT PROGRESSIVE

DINNER! You are invited to join us for this moveable feast. Add your name to the signup sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailbox-



es, to enjoy an evening of fellowship. Bring an appetizer/salad, veggie or dessert and if you would like to host a course, note that on the sign up sheet as well. Consider inviting folks that have visited church or an individual who can no longer drive in the evening.

IHN has been blessed with towels! Thanks to all that donated towels to be used by our IHN guests when they try out our new shower. Covenant really came through and we are so appreciative. Such an abundance of towels. Bright & bold, soft & subdued, brand new & slightly used – all will wrap our guests in a blanket of Love. *Thank you one and all!*



5th Sunday Worship Experience - Our next 5th Sunday worship experience will be on a 4th Sunday during a month with 5 Sundays. Sunday, December 23 rather than Sunday, Dec 30th presents a good time to live into the spirit of the Christmas season and the spirit of 5th Sundays, as we seek the Spirit's leading in and through our children and youth--think Choral Music Sunday, children and youth focused, along with a Christmas Pageant. Please consider musical offerings your child might present in worship which live into the spirit of the season.

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service)

10/28 Eli Stone
 11/04 Delaney Braswell
 11/11
 11/18 Ruby Topple

Please let Craig Topple know if your child would like to become a part of the rotation: ctopple@covpresathens.org

Instructions: The bulletin is 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

Going underground with WoRM! "let the little children come unto me." - Jesus We are excited for a new WoRM school year! Great teachers and shepherd are involved, providing our children the opportunity to learn the faith! **The October Scripture: Exodus 3: 14** Memory Verse: God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I Am has sent me to you."'

October Schedule is:

| DATE | K-2 | 3rd-5th | Music Time | Story Teller |
|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| 10/07/2018 | Christine/Megan (Oasis) | Craig/Wanda (Hebrew) | Betsy B. | Megan |
| 10/14/2018 | Kay/Adam (Temple Courtyard) | Christine/Jennifer /Jerry (Oasis) | Betsy B. | Christine |
| 10/21/2018 | Luanne/Susan (Potters Workshop) | Carrie/Jere (Temple Courtyard) | Betsy B. | Craig |
| 10/28/2018 | Patrick/Jerry (Loaves & Fishes) | Combined | Betsy B. | Jerry |

Parents Corner: Fellow Parents, learning Bible stories is such an important part of our self-understanding: we become connected with a deeper story; we come to recognize ourselves as part of God's story. However, if you're like me, you may cringe at aspects of some of the stories found in the Hebrew Scriptures (aka Old Testament); and, even some from the New Testament. Our challenge is often to hold those troubling aspects of the Story together with those comforting aspects, and help our children to do that as well, as they encounter a people of faith trying to make sense of who they are, who God is, and who they are in relationship with God and others in the world. All this to say, in October we continue our journey with the Israelites found in Exodus this month, specifically chapters 3-4. We find what might be considered disturbing aspects, but also aspects essential to our understanding as a "people of the Book". Please take the time to read through these chapters with your children over the course of this month. Maybe it becomes part of a family "bedtime routine" to read it together, or separately before going to bed. Take time to allow your children to ask questions, and ask your own questions! It's okay to say, "that would be a good question to ask at WoRM, or "let's go ask Pastor" about that. There's some of the coolest stuff here in these chapters, including the "Burning Bush," and Moses turning a stick into a snake! The Exodus is a story of conflict and oppression, as well as liberation and redemption. It has inspired peoples for generations. Now it's our children's turn to get caught up in the story of God found in these pages! **Remember**, be sure to help prepare your children for WoRM by telling them who their teacher is and where their lesson will be. The **renovation of Loaves and Fishes** room seems to be near completion. As soon as word comes we can move back in there, we'll do so.



YOUTH NEWS!

Sunday Mornings (9:35-10:30): Join Abby Horvath for B.A.S.I.C. in the youth room!

Sunday Evening Youth Group 5pm - 7pm at church unless otherwise announced:

Oct. 28: Halloween Bowling! We will join with other area youth-in costume-for a night of fun and bowling at [Showtime Bowl](#). 5:00pm Dinner at Covenant; 5:30pm departure for bowling alley to arrive by 6pm; 7:30pm P/U at bowling alley--555 Macon Hwy, Athens, GA 30606 706-548-1028.
 Nov. 04: 5pm Youth Group (Youth Leader Meeting 7pm)
 Nov. 11: 5pm Youth Group
 Nov. 18: No Youth Group (Thanksgiving break)

Parents will be kept informed through the Covenant, emails and Facebook. If there are any questions about what is going on, contact Craig Topple: ctopple@covpresathens.org or 505-785-4890.

WEDNESDAY COVENANT CONNECTION at 5:30pm—7:00pm
 5:30—6pm Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher
 6:-6:30pm supper 6:30-7:00pm Faith and Film with Craig Barber
 Please note: there will **NOT** be CovConn on 10/31

"The Cave" - Fridays after school for Youth! Every Friday , 3:30pm—5:30pm, that school is in session. The goal of the Cave is to provide a safe, supervised space for youth while fostering positive relationships among the youth's peers and adults alike. *Volunteers are needed. Please contact Dibenhi at dibenhi.reyna@gmail.com.*

Wonderful Wednesdays

10:00am Adult Bible Study—This fall we explore the relationship between our Christian faith and science, guided by a DVD series from Living the Question, “Painting the Stars: Science, Religion, and an Evolving Faith!” Facilitated by Mark Harper.

COVENANT CONNECTION (CovConn)

NO EVENING ACTIVITIES!
October 31st!



Covenant is collecting for the Athens Area Emergency Food bank for the month of **OCTOBER:** *canned tomatoes, canned pasta, canned meats (spam, beef stew, chicken – no seafood)* and as always brown paper bags. Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough.

The Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement is sponsoring a **GET ON THE BUS & VOTE** tour. It is a nonpartisan movement designed to motivate youth (18 & up) and minority voters. We are looking for volunteers to drive people to the polls on Saturday, October 27th (9-3pm), Friday, November 2nd, and Monday, November 5th. Please contact Bert Ballard-Myer at mysammie1@yahoo.com or 706.207.2665 if you are interested in volunteering to drive, or if you need to sign up for a ride to the polls.

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

will meet immediately following the 10:45am worship service on November 4th. All current members and anyone interested in learning more about the fellowship Team and its works are invited to attend.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study

November 8th at 9:30am

Join us in the Gathering Room for a time of Bible study, fellowship and service. Childcare is available upon request.

SAVE THE DATE: PW Cookie Party 12/7



The Congregational Fellowship Ministry Team will be decorating in the Fellowship Hall on November 24 (the Saturday after Thanksgiving). Come and join us at 11:00am as we “*deck the halls!*”

WEEK OF October 28, 2018

SUNDAY- REFORMATION SUNDAY

8:30am Worship
9:30am Church School for all Ages
10:45am Worship
12:15pm Soup/Sandwich Luncheon (please sign up on bulletin board)
12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
5:00pm Youth Groups

MONDAY-

OFFICE CLOSED
6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
12:30pm Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside
7pm—8pm The School of Thought (Cliff Brock)
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
NO EVENING ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-

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

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
NO Cave
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WEEK OF November 04, 2018

SUNDAY- ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

8:30am Worship
9:30am Church School for all Ages
10:45am Worship
12noon Congragational Fellowship Team Meeting
12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
5:00pm Youth Groups
6pm Community Taize Worship

MONDAY-

8am Covenant's Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
7pm—8pm The School of Thought (Cliff Brock) 7pm CE Meeting
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
5:30pm—7:00pm CovConn
6:30pm Adult Bible Study
7:00pm Wednesday Taize Worship
7:30pm Adult Choir
7:30pm LAG

THURSDAY- 9:30am PW Bible Study in the Gathering Room

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
NO Cave
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—October 28, 2018

8:30am

Reader: Sonja Holden
Coffee: Arnell & Warren Combs
Ushers: Alan Edwards, Arnelle Combs

10:45am-

Liturgist—Eli Stone
Reader: Mary Barnett
Ushers: Susan & Randy Parish, Bill Rigsby, Julie & Don Bower
Greeters: Bert Ballard-Myer, Katie Bemisderfer
Congregational Care: Linda Koehler
Counters: Caren Snook, Ellen Stoneburner
Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
Plant Care: Frank Allen
Open the Building: Alan Edwards
Close the Building: Phil Koehler
Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Oct. 29—Nov 4)
Nursery/Super: DeLynda Tweedell
Birth—Walking: DeLynda Tweedell
Walking—5 years old: Tim Foutz, Carrie Tweedell

WORSHIP—November 04, 2018

8:30am

Reader: Steve Bell
Coffee:
Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

10:45am-

Liturgist—
Reader: Juergen Wiegel
Ushers: Kent Silver, Marie Ballard-Myer, Shirley Reinert, Steve Rathbun
Greeters: Phil & Sallie Hale
Congregational Care: June Meyers
Counters: Paige Campbell, Randy Parish
Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
Plant Care: Frank Allen
Open the Building: Steve Bell
Close the Building: Jim Bowden
Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Nov 5—11)
Nursery/Super: Ellen Stoneburner
Birth—Walking: Ellen Stoneburner
Walking—5 years old: Phil Hale, Paula Zimdars, Jennifer Frey