THE COVENANTER April 14, 2019



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

HOLY WEEK BEGINS!

Sunday, April 14 Palm Sunday 8:30am & 10:45am Worship

Wednesday, April 17 5:30pm Covenant Connection 6:30pm Adult Bible Study, 7pm Taize, 7:30pm Adult Choir

Thursday, April 18 Maundy Thursday

6pm Foot Washing Service, 7pm Worship & Communion

Friday, April 19 7pm Good Friday Worship at Covenant

Saturday, April 20 10am Covenant's Great Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 21 Resurrection of the Lord/Easter

7:30am Sunrise Worship (Outside)

(wear comfortable shoes, and brings fresh flowers for the cross.)

8:30am Easter Covered Dish Breakfast

9:30am Church School, 10:45am Easter Worship (indoors)



Covenant will be hosting homeless guests overnight for IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) this week of April 21—28. Please examine your calendar and give thought and prayer of the way you can serve from the many options: set up, take down, provide a meal, spend a night, host for three hours one evening, transport guests to the day center, and more. The sign-up board is now in the Gallery across from the staff offices, so please sign-up and help us provide Christian hospitality to families seeking a home of their own. If you have never been an IHN helper, a training opportunity will be provided. "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1065 Gaines School Road Athens, Georgia 30605 706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344 www.covpresathens.org covenantp@covpresathens.org Inter Faith Hospitality Network (IHN) Training... Interested in Learning about Inter Faith Hospitality Network (IHN) and perhaps volunteering when Covenant hosts? IHN Athens now hosts regular volunteer training each month at First Baptist Church. These are available for anyone new to volunteering and also a great refresher for old hands. The next session May 2nd, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Randy and I can still do trainings that will fit your individual schedule. Call us at 706-850-0835.

The location of the IHN Day Center, where the training will take place, is now inside the First Baptist Church at 355 Pulaski Street. As you are looking at the back of the church from the parking lot it will be the door fartherest to the right marked with a sign.

Remember in Prayer: Katie Bemisderfer having outpatient eye surgery on April 19th; Family friend of the Ballard-Myers, Janet Stone, with a recurring brain tumor; Anne Page, briefly hospitalized April 7 for congestive heart failure; Gloria Pylant, healing well after carotid artery surgery April 10; Mrs. Bowen's family & community; Ben Bruner, in continued healing from an auto accident; and Missy ■ Green & family, as her adopted sister Seleta's 5-month-old son Louis is in ICU at Eggleston in Atlanta; Craiq Topple's sister, Genia in Atlanta.

DAILY BIBLE F	READINGS		
Monday	April 15	Isaiah 65: 17-25	
Tuesday	April 16	Luke 9: 18-22	Title: Utter Nonsense
Wednesday	April 17	Luke 18: 31-34	
Thursday	April 18	Acts 10: 34-43	Theme: God's promises seem so impossible
Friday	April 19	I Corinthians 15: 19-26	& ridiculous, yet God calls us to trust &
Saturday	April 20	Luke 24: 1-12	believe in new life.
Sunday	April 21	Psalm 118: 1-6, 19-24	

Upcoming Events!

<u>Upcoming Events!</u>							
Mon. Apr.22	Earth Day and IHN hosting week						
Wed. Apr.24	Administrative Professionals Day						
FINAL Adult Bible Studies, Covenant Connection, & Taizé							
Sun. Apr.28	High School Graduates Sunday & reception						
also celebrating Colleen Cook's seminary graduation							
	and hosting Central Presbyterian, worshiping with us						
Thurs. May 2	6pm, Pres Women's Salad Supper & Worship						
Sun. May 5	Older Adult Sunday						
	celebrating Christian Education volunteers						
	and saying goodbye to Coffee Worth						
Sat. May 11	2-4pm, goodbye party for Coffee Worth at Jubilee Part-						
ners							
Sun. May 19	9:30am, FINAL Church School for WoRM						
Sun. May 26	8:30am, FINAL early worship						
	9:30am, FINAL Church School for all ages						

9:45am, Summer Worship begins



Sun. June 2

Join us for this month's Restaurant Roadtrip on Tuesday, April 23, to Catch 22

Gastropub, 1021 Parkway Blvd, off Epps Bridge Road near Kohl's. Please SIGNUP on the bulletin board, so we can save a large-enough table. You can meet us there at 11:30am, or you can carpool from the church parking lot at 11:15am. Bring a friend! Separate checks.

\sim 2018-2019 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

Fiscal Year to Date: Week #41 Anticipated Pledges: \$366,991.82 Received Pledges: \$352,341.55 It is time to catch up on pledges.

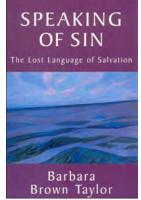
You will find your July 2018 – March 2019 statements in your mailbox.



April 19th, 7:00 p.m

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Athens will host this year's Good Friday Presbyterian Community Service,

which will be a Tenebrae Service led by area clergy and choirs. Meaning "darkness" or "shadows," the service of Tenebrae was first practiced in medieval times. It later became an important part of worship during Holy Week. Please join our Presbyterian brothers and sisters from the Athens area. Childcare provided. There will be a choir from all congregations . (rehearsal 6pm)



EMMAUS ROAD CLASS is now discussing *Speaking of Sin: the Lost Language of Salvation* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Contrary to prevailing view, Taylor calls sin "a helpful, hopeful word." Naming our sins, she contends, enables us to move from "guilt to grace." In recovering this "lost language of salvation" in our worship and in the fabric of our individual lives, we have an opportunity to "take part in the divine work of redemption." If you would like a copy of this book you can order it online. Class facilitated by Mark Harper.

You are invited to a time of reflection this Holy Week, on Maundy Thursday, April 18, at the Union Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Watkinsville – 1130 Union Church Road, just off Hog Mtn Road, across from Oconee County High School. A labyrinth will be set up in their Fellowship Hall, 10am-2pm and 4-7:30pm, for you to walk at your own pace, with guided Scriptures & prayers available, as stations of the cross, if you would like to use those resources. The pastor Jane Hull has a blog that may answer your questions = http://www.unionchristianchurch.net/ministry-blog/2019/3/29/april-1



For more than fifty years, Presbyterians have joined with Christians throughout the nation in responding to Christ's love for all people by joyfully sharing that love with people in need through supporting **One Great Hour of Sharing**. The hundreds of millions of dollars Presbyterians have given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly. **One Great Hour of Sharing** funds are divided among its three programs: *Presbyterian Dis-*

aster Assistance, Self-Development of People (SDOP), and Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP). 32% of the offering goes to SDOP, 32% goes to PDA and 36% goes to PHP. You will find an insert and envelope in your mailbox or on the table in the narthex or take a fish and fill it with coins. Thank you!



Covenant's **Lunch Bunch** meets every final Tuesday at 11:30am at DePalma's Eastside, for great

food & fellowship. Come and see on Tuesday, April 30th! Lots of laughter & good stories. Separate checks.

Wednesday, April 24, is **Administrative Professionals**

Day, so stop by the church office sometime the week of April 23-26, to say a BIG thank you to Karen Wetherington, Judy Capie, and Sharon Edwards, for all they accomplish so willingly and lovingly and efficiently at Covenant. They are greatly appreciated, and we couldn't do without them!



Maundy Thursday, April 18th, Covenant will be celebrating the Lord's Supper and remembering Jesus' last supper with his disciples before his arrest. This service will begin at 7 pm. Just prior to that service, beginning at 6 pm, the sanctuary will be open for all who wish to come and participate in a foot washing service, modelled after the story found in John 13 of Jesus washing his disciples' feet.

While this ritual has never become a sacrament of the church, it has long been used to illustrate Jesus' call to love one another in a spirit of compassion and servanthood and radical love. In fact, the name Maundy Thursday is derived from *mandatum novum*, or "new commandment," the Latin translation of Jesus' teaching in John: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34). We hope you will join us for both of these services. To be clear, you do not have to participate in the 6 pm foot washing service to attend the 7 pm communion service. But try not to be de-terred from coming at 6 by the prospect of other people seeing your feet; after all, God created them, not for beauty, but so we could follow in the hard yet joyful way of Jesus. So in the words of Dr. Seuss, "Feet, feet! See how many feet you meet!"

Learn more about the Bible!



B.A.S.I.C. on Sunday mornings from 9:40 - 10:30. Lead by Abby Horvath; and,

Covenant Connection, Wednesday evenings at 5:30 with Pastors Mark and Beecher

Middler Fundraiser for Montreat: Middler Fundraiser for Montreat: CE approved a fundraiser to help our middle school kids earn some money for Montreat. Those attending are being asked to complete 10 hours of work for any from the CovPres community who need some help. Be thinking if you have a project you could use a Middler or two to help with. Those who "hire" the middlers are asked to pay \$10/hr, and provide a minimum of 2 hours of work.



The work is to be supervised and there must be two adults present at the place of work. All jobs will be approved by an adult youth leader and a parent/caregiver of the youth. "Hiring" can begin as early as late March early April and will last through mid July.

Sunday evening programming

Middle School Youth - 4-6pm High School Youth - 5-7pm.

All meetings at the church unless otherwise indicated

UPCIOMING YOUTH GROUPS!

April 14th: Middlers will be meeting at *3pm* to work around the church to earn money for their funds for the Maryville Montreat Retreat. Recreation will be at our regular time at 5pm, followed by dinner at 5:30pm, and go home at 6.

High School - Regular youth group

***Saturday, **April 20th** - **HIDE THE EGGS!** 6th and 7th graders are asked to meet at the church with adult youth leaders to hide The Easter Eggs for the children. **5th graders, this is your last year to hunt eggs, so show up at 10am for that fun event.**

Apr 21: No Youth Group \rightarrow Easter Sunday

Apr 28: Youth Group

May 5: End of Year Party

Just Around the Corner!

Montreat High School Conference, June 2-8. We are less than two months away from this fun filled, faith forming event. Nine youth from Covenant, Athens, will share lodging at the GA Lodge with youth from Covenant, Augusta who together will join youth from across the region for week 1 programming. This year's theme is "Let Love Lead" (read more on the Montreat website). Thanks to the church's generosity, and the Lasagna Lunch fundraiser, youth and their parents are only responsible for paying approximately 25% of the cost. What a gift. We will commission the youth on Sunday, June 2, after which they will head to the hills!

Middle School Conference -- *Montreat at Maryville College, July 17-21*. Six youth will travel with Sarah Shannon, Mary Barnett, and Jeremy Reaves to Maryville College for five days of fun and faith formation. This year's theme is "For Such a Time is This" (read more on at montreat.org. It's not too late to sign up. If you know you (your child) want to go, please speak with Craig.

<u>Presbyterian Youth Triennium</u> is July 16-20. Four youth, plus Brian Hernden will travel to Purdue University for this special event (which in my humble opinion is one of the best events of the denomination). What is Presbyterian Youth Triennium? *A gathering of* over 3000 students from PCUSA churches all over the country. The Northeast Georgia Presbytery delegation will travel on a charter bus with the delegation from Greater Atlanta and Cherokee Presbyteries. Please **contact Brian Herndon** with youth from Greater Atlanta and Cherokee Presbyteries. Any rising 9th - graduated HS student wants to attend, please **contact Brian Herndon** for more information.

Child Liturgist

(10:45 Service)

4/21 Jacob, 4/28 Ruby, 5/5 Eli
Instructions: As part of a rotation, your child is assigned to a Sunday. If you can't make the Sunday assigned, switch with someone ahead of you on the schedule, and if you can't find a replacement, no worries, as one of the pastors will fill in. 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 the Call to Worship." If you haven't already please let Craig Topple know if your child would like to be a part of the rotation. ctopple@covpresathens.org.



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

March/April Scripture: Luke 22:39-46

Memory Verses: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord"!

WoRM Rotation for upcoming Sundays:

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Date	Teacher/Shepherd	Teacher/Shepherd	Music	Story Teller				
4/14/19	Palm Sunday Rehears	sal Choral Music						
4/21/19	Craig/Jere	Combined	Betsy	Craig				
4/28/19	Kay/Adam (Temple Courtyard)	Jerry/Jere (Oasis Theatre)	Betsy	Adam/Kay				
5/05/19	Luanne/Susan (Potters Workshop)	Patrick/Jere (Loaves and Fish)	Betsy	Susan				

Parents Corner:

Palm Sunday is upon us! I remember a processional I was involved in as a child. We lined up outside the church, palm branches in hand. The adult leaders encouraged us to rehearse our lines: "Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" As we waited, Allanwhose mother made really good lasagna--and I decided the word "lasagna" sounded close to "hosanna" and would make a fine substitute word. So in we process with the other children shouting, "Lasagna in the highest!" Strange words, like "hosanna" take central stage on special Sundays, like Palm Sunday. Hosanna is an *ancient exclamation used to express adoration, praise, or joy*. It's kind of like saying, "Hurray!" As we sing loud hosannas on Sunday, and your child is shouting something like "lasagna" or wondering what hosanna means, share your faith by joyously celebrating the humble entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as a king who came not rule not by power and might, but by sacrifice and love.

Vacation Bible School - First Pres will once again be hosting VBS May 28 - 31st, and CovPres Children are invited to sign up through their website: https://firstpresathens.org/z_extra_pages/

<u>vacation-bible-school-form/</u> Any youth or adults who want to volunteer

are welcome to do so.

Kickin' It at Covenant will happen again this summer for three in June and three in July. Many thanks to Jerry Shannon for again helping organize these events! If you have ideas, let him know. More info to follow!

Wonderful Wednesdays-April 17

10:00am Adult Bible Study— Bible overview using the Disciple Bible Study curriculum.

MENU April 17th

Chicken & Veg Nachos with fixings, salad, fruit, strawberries and ice cream

COVENANT CONNECTION (CovConn)

5:30pm—6:00pm K-2nd grade choir; 3rd—5th Servant Time

6:00pm—6:30pm Family Dinner for children, youth and adults

6:30pm—7:00pm 3rd—5th Grade Choir; K-2nd Servant Time

WEDNESDAY COVENANT CONNECTION For Youth

5:00pm Supervision for Middle and High School Youth in the youth rooms begins Youth Rooms will NOT be open until then

5:30pm "Wednesday School—Bible Study" for Middle School Youth led by Mark and Beecher (optional for High School), High School Youth continue to fellowship 6:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Faith and Film 7:00pm Depart

6:30pm Adult Bible Study—led by Beecher Mathes. DVD video, "The Dark Ages: An Age of Light" a lively journey through Christian & Islamic art in the early middle ages, full of beauty in a barbaric time
7:00pm TAIZE
7:25pm Adult Choir

<u>TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE</u> 7:00pm—7:30pm Come & join us for this new offering at Covenant every Wednesday night. This introspective worship is built on these 3 tenets: *repetitive song, prayer, and silence.*

Led primarily by the pastors and Cliff Brock, the services will include devotional music and chants from the Taize tradition, along with scripture and prayer. This time of centering and prayer is open to the community, so please share this invitation with colleagues and neighbors and all who are spiritually hungry and thirsty.

Chuck and Chandler Rosenberger would like to share a video for the **JDRF Ride to Cure Diabetes**. It stars our precious granddaughter Laurel (Clair's daughter), who was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in December. Her father, Ryan Bertram, is hoping to participate in this 100 mile ride to help raise funds to cure diabetes. He and Clair live in Suwanee and he is a middle school band teacher in Gwinnett County. He produced the video, and also composed the music for it. Thanks for watching. Here is the link: https://www2.jdrf.org/site/TR? fr id=7733&pg=personal&px=12590804

WHO'S WHO at Covenant? Who at Covenant left April 6 on a mission across America?

Who's Who: Kathy Boardman and her dog Robbie, helping connect & support folks in RV and state parks (serialpilgrim@gmail.com)

MAY THE 4th BE WITH YOU!

May 4th 2019, 10am—noon

Water Treatment Plant Tour & Workshop Tour, 10am—11am: see your drinking water treatment plant & learn about the Force of Water

Workshop, 11am-12noon:

Water Your Drinking? Spring water? Purified water? Tap water? Join us as we discuss the different types of water & take the taste test challenge

Register for tour, workshop or both at thinkatthesink.com.

Each year Covenant elects its officers to serve a 3-year term on the Session, after the work of a nominating committee in gathering a slate of new officers. This year, Dick Zimdars is the Nominating Committee chair with Judy Capie as the second Elder approved by the Session, and they are nominating to the congregation Wayne Crowell, to serve with them on the Nominating Committee. Please make plans to attend the Congregational Meeting to consider Wayne's election TODAY, Palm Sunday, April 14, at noon immediately following worship. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the meeting, with prior permission of the nominee. Thanks to all for participating in this important process, as we seek our officers for the Session's Class of 2022.

You are invited to drop by Jubilee Partners, (427 Jubilee Rd, Comer, Georgia) on Saturday, May 11th, between 2-4pm. Bring a finger food and a hug for Coffee Worth as she sets off for her daughter's house in Florida. PW Salad Supper & Worship, Thursday, May 2, at 6:00pm, in the Gathering Room, as we enjoy our annual Salad Supper, plus special worship in the Music Room. Bring a penny (or a dollar) for the years in your age, to give to these ministries supported by the 2019 PW Birthday Offering: the Disaster Response Team of the Presbytery of Charlotte in NC, the Effingham Child Development Center in Illinois, the Presbyterian Homes & Services in Phelps, KY, and the Wings of Refuge home in lowa Falls. Thank you!

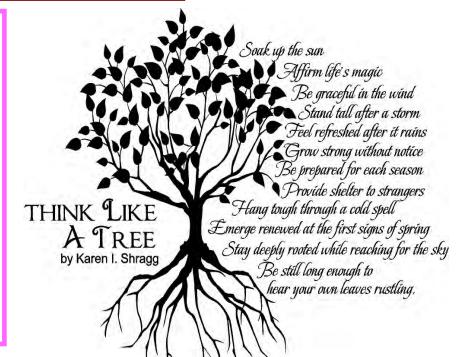


Covenants Great Easter Egg Hunt

All Children up to and including 5th grade are invited to hunt eggs on Saturday, April 20 at 10am. If it rains we will hunt them inside the fellowship hall! Refreshments will be served after the hunt.

Any questions see Ellen Stoneburner.





"Think Like a Tree" by Karen I. Shragg from the book _The Tree That Time Built: A Celebration of Nature, Science, and Imagination_edited by Mary Ann Hoberman and Linda Winston (Naperville IL: Sourcebooks, 2009). *Read by Eli Stone on April 7*.

ATHENS AREA EMERGENCY FOOD BANK! The



month of APRIL Covenant is collecting these items for the AAEFB: *instant mashed potatoes, canned sweet peas, dried pasta, and cereal*. Thank you Covenant

and may we all have enough!

WEEK OF April 14, 2019 -SUNDAY- PALM SUNDAY

8:30am Worship
9:30 Church School
10:45am Worship
12:05pm Congregational Meeting
12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous,
4pm Middlers, 5pm HS Youth Groups



MONDAY– 8am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Rd.

6:30pm Scouts OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center Easter Party in FH 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY— 8:30am—9:30am AA 10:00am Adult Bible Study 5:30pm—7:00pm COVCONN 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm Taize 7:25pm Adult Choir 7:30pm LA Support Group

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters 6pm Foot Washing Service 7pm Celebrate Recovery

7pm Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion by intinction

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center 6pm rehearsal for Community Choir 7pm PCUSA Good Friday Worship at Covenant with Taize Tenebrae 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

gam Women's Prayer Breakfast at EFBC 10am Covenant's Great Easter Egg Hunt Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—April 14, 2019

8:30am-

Reader: Gijs Schimmel Coffee: Lola Bell

Ushers: Rich Reaves,

10:45am-

Reader: Sandy Whitney

Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Jerry & Sarah Shannon, Dianne Simpson

Greeters: Joan & Hannah Baird

Congregational Care: Dell Whitehead/Susan Parish

Counters: Randy Parish, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Ed Ralph (April 15-21)

Nursery/Super: Dell Whitehead Birth—Walking: Dell Whitehead

Walking—5 years old: Megan Sperr, Christine Carpenter, Lily Herndon

WEEK OF April 21, 2019 - IHN HOSTING WEEK BEGINS SUNDAY - EASTER SUNDAY

7: 30am SUNRISE WORSHIP (outsideo 8:30am Easter Covered Dish Breakfast/ Youth Alumni Reunion 9:30am Church School 10:45am Easter Worship (indoors) 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous NO Middlers, NO HS Youth Groups

HE IS Risen

MONDAY-

6:30pm Scouts
OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center 11:30am Restaurant Road Trip to Catch 22 Gastropub 6:30pm Stated Session Meeting 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY— 8:30am—9:30am AA 10:00am Adult Bible Study 5:30pm—7:00pm COVCONN (final) 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm Taize 7:25pm Adult Choir 7:30pm LA Support Group

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters 6:3opm YOGA 7pm Celebrate Recovery

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY- Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—April 21, 2019

7:30am- SUNRISE WORSHIP OUTSIDE

Reader: Sonja Holden

Ushers: Warren & Arnelle Combs, Steve & Lola Bell

10:45am-

Reader: Steve Follin

Ushers: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Dick Zimdars, Betsy Pless,

Stephanie Cahill

Greeters: Julie Bower, Jim Whitney

Congregational Care: Dell Whitehead/Susan Parish

Counters: Ellen Stoneburner, Paige Campbell

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark
Close the Building: Alex Clark

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (April 22—28)

Nursery/Super: Lola Bell Birth—Walking: Lola Bell

Walking—5 years old: Sandy Whitney, Chuck Rosenberger, Steve Bell