

THE COVENANTER
September 15, 2019

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

Thank you Beecher! Some wise soul once said that the first and last word that each child of God should speak is "thank you." Today we have a wonderful opportunity to thank Beecher Mathes for 26 years of loving us as Covenant's associate pastor. Think of that: 26 years of worship leadership, preaching, praying, singing, suggesting, nudging, remembering, going to meetings, listening, compassionately responding, enduring times of frustration, doubt, and physical pain, and then leading, praying and embracing us some more. I'm pretty sure that there are no current associate pastors in this presbytery who have served one congregation for so many years and with such unmatched devotion. And I bet we'd be hard-pressed to find many around the country. As a dedicated member of the Presbytery of Northeast Georgia, Beecher has offered creative and consistent leadership ranging from planning and hosting Good Friday gatherings to working with Jubilee Adult Ministry (the JAM team). Here at Covenant she has modeled a willingness to refocus her gifts and energies to meet the ever-changing realities of an ever-changing congregation. For example, following a period of dedicated study to receive her certification in Older Adult Ministry Beecher shifted from devoting considerable time to our middle school youth ministry to working with our growing older adult population and teaching the rest of us what it takes to truly love everyone God has led our way. Please let Beecher know how much she is loved and appreciated, not only at our lunch today, but when you see her at Publix or maybe at a Hodgson Hall concert or wherever the Spirit brings you together. Through the ministry and friendship of Beecher Mathes, we have been blessed!



PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH FEAST ON Sept 21! 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, Nancy Omdahl, Ed Ralph or Mark Harper. *Let us pray for God's continued blessing on this ecumenical effort in our community!*

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

New Pictorial Directory Receptionists Needed On Thursday and Friday, Sept. 26 & 27, 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm, and Saturday, Sept. 28, 10:00 am - 8:00 pm, The Portrait Cafe will be taking pictures for the new church directory. *Please don't forget to sign up* - we all enjoy knowing who's who at Covenant! They have asked us to supply a "receptionist" to check in individuals and families who come for their photography appointments. If you can help with this task, please sign up on the sheet under the photography poster on the bulletin board outside the worship center.

Remember in Prayer: Family & friends of Covenant member Maurine Wathen, upon her death Sept.3, from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma - a memorial service will be held at Covenant on Sun.Sept.22 at 3pm; Jere Bowden's sister Jan hospitalized in Atlanta, slowly recovering from open heart surgery Aug.21; Cliff Brock, beginning a new position as church organist at First Pres in Corvallis, OR; Claire Chaumet, retired pastor in France who visited Covenant & the Boneyes, awaiting brain surgery; Steve Bell's friends, Rick & Mike, both having had recent strokes; gratitude for the wonderful relationship with the women of East Friendship Baptist Church; blessings & recovery for so many devastated in the Bahamas; prayers and practical support options for our homeless neighbors, at the church and around town, especially as winter approaches; Anna Holshouser at Comer Health & Rehab #311; Anne Page at Avery Place #145; Libby Wright at Avery Place #104; Ruth Brewster at Morningside #108; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; Jean Gibson at The Oaks #101; and Sally Boardman, John Brewer, Beda Cain, John Scott, and Elsie Bothwell, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Sept. 16	Job 12: 7-10
Tuesday	Sept. 17	Mark 10: 46-52
Wednesday	Sept. 18	Luke 10: 29-37
Thursday	Sept. 19	Genesis 37: 9-11
Friday	Sept. 20	Mark 4: 35-41
Saturday	Sept. 21	Isaiah 44: 21-28
Sunday	Sept. 22	Psalms 19: 1-6

The
HEAVENS
 declare the
Glory of God;
 the **SKIES**
 proclaim the work of
His Hands.
Psalm 19:1

Wonderful Wednesdays September 18th

10am Adult Bible Study in the Upper Room

Fellowship and discussion using Ken Curtis' DVD series on the Beatitudes

Covenant Connection

5:30pm – 6pm Choir

6:00pm – 6:30pm Family Dinner

6:30pm -7:00pm Servant Time

Sign up today at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b4ca9ab23a3f49-covenant>

to help Rindy with Servant Time and to make birthday cupcakes. *Thank you!*

6:30pm – 7:30pm Evening Adult Bible Study *join us for a though provoking look at the Jesus of the 70's .*

7:30pm Adult Choir

2019-2020 Financial Summary

Week #10

Anticipated Pledges: \$89,188.45

Actual Pledges: \$92,846.79

For the month of

September

Covenant will collect for the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank these food items:

Canned Pasta (ie: beef ravioli, Spaghetti O's and etc),

Saltine Crackers

and

As always brown paper bags.

Thank you Covenant

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH AT COVENANT CONNECTION!

For middle and high school students.

3:30pm—5:30pm Supervised fellowship/recreation in the youth rooms 5:30pm—6:00pm Bible Study; 6:00pm—6:30pm Family Dinner; 6:30pm—7:00pm Faith & Film



Lunch Bunch

DePalma's Italian Restaurant
(eastside)

Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 11:30am

Join us for a great time of food and fellowship. Separate checks!

KNITTERS AND KNOTTERS

Join us on Thursdays at 2pm for a great time of fellowship and ministry as we join together to make blankets, hats, scarves, pillows, etc. for those in need. Everyone is invited, beginners welcome! See Pat Tinga for more information.

The Nautilus Class will meet today Sept 15 for a light breakfast and overview of our study of Barbara Brown Taylor's books, *An Altar in the World*. It's a practical guide for how we can follow through on the benediction we hear each Sunday to "Go and be Christ's Church in the world." We've reached out to Professor Taylor to join us at some point this Fall.



Covenant Breakfast Club

Monday, September 16th at

8am. Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road. Join us for a good time of conversation and food.

SHORT TALK. *Supply the initials for the following: ex. Sandwich favorite. Ans. BLT*

1. Cares for your choppers
2. New Deal president
3. Team standout

By Marilyn Brown

Answers to **SHORT TALK:**
1. DDS 2. FDR 3. MVP

WHO'S WHO at Covenant? Who at Covenant played the accordion as children?



WHO'S WHO:

Jere Bowden & Beecher Mathes



We welcome Kim McClain to Covenant's church staff as Piano Accompanist, playing for worship 2 Sundays a month and accompanying the Adult Choir and other ensembles. She has studied piano since the age of 7 and accompanied school & church choirs since age 11. She was a fine arts major at Valencia College in Orlando and studied with several distinguished teachers along the way. In the past, she has worked with Carol Huber at Southern Mutual Insurance as a corporate secretary and also for 2 law firms as a paralegal. In the last 40 years, Kim has served as an accompanist for many different local ensembles including the Athens Chamber Singers, the University of Georgia, Town and Gown, and dozens of churches and schools. Kim is a long-time Oconee County resident and has three children and a dog named Ollie. She enjoys weekends in the mountains with her husband and playing music with her family. We look forward to many years of fruitful worship and fellowship together. Introduce yourselves to Kim & put her contact info in your church directories 1360 Ashford Road, Watkinsville, GA 30677

New Pictorial Directory! September 26, 27 & 28—Sign up for your family portrait today! Everyone who participates will receive a complimentary 8x10 professional family portrait, one printed directory, smart phone app, and online directory. All appointments are on a first-come, first-serve basis, so make your appointment today. We need everyone to participate to help make this directory complete. Additional quality family portraits will be offered at competitive prices. Thank you for your participation! Quick Tip for your photos: Please avoid wearing green, as we will be using Green Screen Technology to photograph (Like what they use in action and superhero movies!) Please click the following link to make an appointment:

<https://www.appointmentquest.com/scheduler/2220147538.1?schedule=covenantpresbyterianchurch>

or call to set an appointment: 1-877-896-9667 ext. 360.

*****IMPORTANT***** When on the website to schedule an appointment, *an email address is required to go to the next page and confirm the appointment, so anyone who doesn't have an email address can use: dfox@theportraitcafe.com.* You can see the attachment titled "How to Make an Appointment Online for easy step-by-step instructions.

Please check your contact info in the large notebook on the desk at the front doors. Correct or add anything that you wish to appear in the new directory. If everything is okay then just place a check mark beside your information. Thank you!

TerraCycle #1 Super Star: Toothbrush, Toothpaste Tubes & Floss Containers!

Covenant has been collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and floss containers since 2012. During the past 7 years, Colgate has paid the postage to ship 16 large cartons of these items to TerraCycle. In addition, Colgate has paid the Green Dream Team a total of \$142.92. The GDT has used this money to pay the postage to ship boxes of plastic packaging for which TerraCycle has no corporate sponsor. So, if you find TerraCycle confusing, and can concentrate on saving only 1 kind of packaging, the best things you can save are toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and floss containers. *Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team*

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE! Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas as a Category 5 hurricane on September 1, 2019 and stalled over the islands for 24 hours, causing massive damage. So far, it is reported that 27 lives have been lost. PDA is working with partners in the Bahamas to respond to immediate needs with a solidarity grant. Presbyteries in the U.S. are assessing the need and PDA stands ready to assist as needed.

Using our Hurricanes account, [DR000194](#), allows us to respond immediately to the needs internationally and domestically where needed most.
Contribute to:

Disaster Relief-Hurricane and Typhoon Relief (DR000194)

To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE



Who are the Graduates at Covenant? When Covenant was established over 50 years ago, the congregation was made up mostly of families with children. There were no retired persons. In the early 1990's when our denomination was emphasizing Older Adult Ministry the Session at Covenant established a Task Force to look into OAM at Covenant. The Task force came up with 34 names of retirees at Covenant. The church invited these 34 retirees to come to a luncheon at the church and 33 of them showed up. They said they wanted activities geared to the new stage of life. This group called themselves "The Graduates", to signify a graduation from one successful stage of life to the next stage of new opportunities and joyful growth.

Today Covenant has over 150 retired members. The Graduates still have monthly luncheons –covered dish, with a short program ranging from Jim Bowden, Bill Powell and Jake Tinga putting on grass skirts and (trying) to do a hula dance, to talks on world travel such as Terry Centner telling about his travels in Tibet, to this year's talk by Bill Lindstrom and his therapy dog, Sophie on the compassionate volunteer work in local hospitals and nursing homes. Programs have also included members sharing their hobbies, such as Jim Verbrugge telling us about oriental rugs and Maurice Snook talking on the 2017 solar eclipse. Besides luncheon, The Graduates have made trips to sight see and eat on "road trips" to Atlanta, Braselton, Lake Oconee, and area new restaurants and old favorites. They have arranged seminars on such topics as End of Life issues and Estate Planning.

Looking ahead, The Graduates will continue their present activities and hope to add new ones. All retirees at Covenant are invited to join with us. If you need more information please contact a member of the Graduate Planning Committee-Ann Anderson, Jim Bowden, Juanita Gilbert, Linda Koehler, Phil Koehler, Bill Lindstrom, Robyn Malone, Pat Tinga, Catharine Tyson, Mary Anna Wynes, Betsy Pless or Rindy Trouteaud.

WoRM CHURCH SCHOOL begins this Sunday September 15th at 9:30am!

This week we look at the creation story in Genesis 1.

WoRm leaders and shepherds: Rindy Trouteaud, Jere Bowden and Wanda Oliver

SNACKS NEEDED FOR WoRM: such as goldfish crackers, animal crackers, etc.

Please leave them in the bin on the floor next to the *Feed My Sheep* table.

Thank you!



YOUTH GROUPS 5pm - 7pm

Middle school - Exodus Bible study using the movie, "Raiders of the Lost Ark"

High School - "Let's Talk" using a video by Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber

MEALS: This Sunday, September 15th, the dinner will be provided by the Tweedells. We are grateful that DeLynda Tweedell will again be coordinating evening meals. Please consider providing one which will feed approximately 15 youth and leaders and is reimbursable up to \$65/meal.

Contact DeLynda if you have any questions at 706-540-2473 or you can sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. *Thank you!*





World Communion Sunday – October 06, 2019

Blessed are the peacemakers. By giving to the *Peace & Global Witness Offering* we work to share Christ's peace with one another, beyond our doors, beyond our community and across boundaries. 25% of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our community. 25% of this Offering will go to our mid-council joining with other congregations in our area to support peacemaking work in our region. 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians around the globe. Please give generously. *If We All Do A Little, It Adds Up to A Lot.*

Bread and Grapes for World Communion Sunday!

Following the 10:45am worship service everyone is invited to the fellowship hall to enjoy bread and grapes and fellowship. Please bring your bread and/or washed grapes to the kitchen on Saturday, October 05 or early Sunday morning before church school.



Opportunity to Practice Hospitality– *Family Promise of Athens*

To be the church is to be hospitable. Hospitality is a major way for Christians to demonstrate the GRACE of God who receives us with *open arms*. This opportunity begins for us the week of **OCTOBER 6—13** when we host temporarily homeless guests for *Family Promise of Athens*.

(IHNA) **NOW** is the time to sign-up on the board across from the Church office. Check the board to see the many ways you can practice *Christian hospitality*. You can also call the Church office (706-548-2756) and ask Karen to sign up for you. It is an opportunity as Scripture emphasizes: *Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so they entertained angels unaware. (Hebrews 13:2)*

An easy ride near the church! Come and join us at Keba Sandwiches (behind Walgreens) on Barnett Shoals Road, for the next **Restaurant Roadtrip** gathering, on Tuesday, Sept.17, at 11:30am. Great food, fun, and fellowship! Meet you there – NO carpool this time. Separate checks. Please sign up on the bulletin board though, to let us know you're attending.

WITNESS SUNDAY

September 22, 2019



The Olomouc team will be sharing their experiences from the Olomouc Mission Trip this summer during worship. Then join us for a reception in the fellowship hall with special desserts made from recipes brought back from the Czech Republic.

WEEK OF September 15, 2019—

SUNDAY—

8:30am Worship
9:30 Church School for all
10:45am Worship
12:15pm Retirement Luncheon for Beecher
2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
5pm—7pm Youth Groups

MONDAY— 8am Covenant’s Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel
OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
11:30am Restaurant Road Trip to KEBA
5pm—6pm Diabetes Clinic
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY—

8:30am—9:30am AA
10am Adult Bible Study with Mark Harper
5:30pm—7pm Covenant Connection
6:30pm—7:30pm Evening Adult Bible Study with Rindy Troutaud
7:30pm Adult Choir
7:30pm LAG

THURSDAY—

2pm Knitters & Knotters
6:30pm—8pm YOGA
7:30pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting
7:30pm Happy Squares (business meeting)
7:30pm CR

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
3:30pm The Cave
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY— 7:00am FEAST Food Truck Distribution
Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—September 15, 2019

8:30am

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Wayne Crowell, Cheryl Devaney

10:45am

Reader: Marcia Verbrugge

Ushers: Susan & Randy Parish, Bill Rigsby, Jim McMinn, Katy Terry

Greeters: Sarah Lamb & Bob Brewster

Congregational Care: Luanne Rigsby

Counters: Katy Perry, Paige Campbell

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Sept. 16-22)

Nursery/Super: Valerie Stone

Birth—Walking: Valerie Stone

Walking—5 years old: Brian & Eli Stone, Mike Swanson

WEEK OF September 22, 2019—

SUNDAY— WITNESS SUNDAY

8:30am Worship
9:30 Church School for all
10:45am Worship
3pm Memorial Service for Maurine Wathen
3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
5pm—7pm Youth Groups

MONDAY— OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
11:30am Lunch Bunch to DePalma’s Italian Eastside Restaurant
5pm—6pm Diabetes Clinic 6:30pm Stated Session Meeting
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY—

8:30am—9:30am AA
10am Adult Bible Study with Mark Harper
5:30pm—7pm Covenant Connection
6:30pm—7:30pm Evening Adult Bible Study with Rindy Troutaud
7:30pm Adult Choir
7:30pm LAG

THURSDAY— Portrait Café 1 pm—8pm

2pm Knitters & Knotters
6:30pm—8pm YOGA
8:00pm Happy Squares
7:30pm CR

FRIDAY- Portrait Café 1 pm—8pm

9:30am Athens Mothers Center in FH
3:30pm The Cave
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

Portrait Café 9:45am—8pm
8am—4pm Scouts Fun Day
Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—September 22, 2019

8:30am

Reader: Sonja Holden

Ushers: Heidi & Kent Wolfe

10:45am

Reader: Jim Anderson

Ushers: Don Bower, Heide Wiegel, Phil Hale, Dianne Simpson

Greeters: Phil & Linda Koehler

Congregational Care: Luanne Rigsby

Counters: Bill Barstow, Sue Loegel

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Jim Bowden

Grounds Stewards: Ed Ralph (Sept. 23-29)

Nursery/Super: DeLynda Tweedell

Birth—Walking: DeLynda Tweedell

Walking—5 years old: Sandy Whitney, Carrie Tweedell,

Chuck Rosenberger