



THE COVENANTER
November 24, 2019

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

THORNWELL HOME FOR CHILDREN *Hope and Joy*



Come from the overflow of giving

Today, we highlight the mission of Thornwell to raise awareness and funds for children and families in need. Thornwell began in 1875 in Clinton, SC by a Presbyterian minister, Reverend

Jacobs, who felt a call from God to care for the orphans of the Civil War. The ministry of Thornwell has grown and evolved over its nearly 150-year history to be a leader in the call to care for children and families throughout South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. What was once a dream in the heart of a young man, God anointed and blessed to become a transformative ministry that has impacted the lives of thousands. We celebrate Thornwell Emphasis

Month with a single focus: "Hope and Joy come from the Overflow of Giving." You get to be part of this. You can make a difference. You are giving hope and joy to families through the overflow of your giving. Don't forget to pick up a Turkey to fill with coins. You will find an envelope and insert in your mailbox. Thank you for your generous giving!

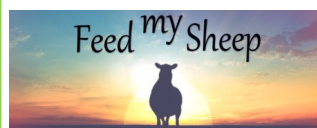


CHRISTMAS
Progressive Dinner

Covenant's Annual Progressive Dinner

Saturday, December 7
at 6:00pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for our annual progressive dinner. Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. *For more information please see page 3.*



For the month of
November

the Athens Area
Emergency Food Bank

needs these items: *canned soups, small boxes of rice, pasta and hamburger helper, and snack bags of chips.*

Thank you Covenant and
may we all have *enough!*

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Covenant's Annual Christmas Choral Worship

Sunday, December 15 at 10:45am promptly

Join us for a morning of carols and festive music. This is our annual tradition of Christmas Choral Worship and there will be offerings from our chime choir, handbell choir, children's choir and adult choir as well as solos and instrumental pieces. A catered luncheon will follow in the fellowship hall hosted by Congregational Fellowship.

Remember in Prayer: Ann Anderson during well at the Oaks; Carol Wheeler at St. Mary's; Mary Fenner diagnosed with a reoccurrence of cancer; Michael Capie recovering well from knee surgery; Anne Page at Avery Place #145; Libby Wright at Avery Place #104; Ruth Brewster at Arbor Terrace #222; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; Jean Gibson at The Oaks #101; and Anna Holshouser & John Brewer at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS for November 25—Dec. 1

Monday Genesis 1: 27-31
 Tuesday Luke 1: 26-38
 Wednesday Matthew 1: 18-25
 Thursday Isaiah 40: 3-5
 Friday Luke 19: 28-36
 Saturday John 21: 15-17
 Sunday Philippians 1: 1-6



HOMELESS TASK FORCE

Please accept this invitation to offer your thoughts, ideas, concerns and wishes for responding to homelessness at Covenant. If you haven't already had an opportunity to share your thoughts, please take time to reach out to one of the Committee Members: Paige Campbell, Hank Tweedell, Co-Chairs Chris Wilson, Tom & Sara Cooney, Linda & Phil Koehler, Brian Striggow, Chuck Rosenberger, Bert Ballard-Myer, Hilda & Alex Clark, Mark Harper, Rindy Trouteaud, Jacob Douylliez, Juergen Wiegel, Paige Cummings, Randy Parish, & Steve Rathbun

2019-2020 Financial Summary

Week #20

Anticipated Pledges: \$178,376.92

Actual Pledges: \$195,044.61

Thank you for your faithful giving!



ATHENS CHORAL SOCIETY

Carols and Lullabies

featuring

Conrad Susa's Carols &
Lullabies

Christmas in the Southwest

For choir, harp, guitar,
and marimba

Friday December 6 at 7:30pm

Hugh Hodgson Hall

FREE (no tickets required)

Everyone is invited to help the
Worship Ministry Team decorate the
Christmas Tree in the worship Center

Tuesday, December 3 at 9:30am.

Refreshments will be served!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, December 5th

Lesson begins promptly at 9:30am.

Please read the Horizons study guide, "Love Carved in Stone" chapter 4. *Join us for wonderful fellowship and light refreshments.*

Presbyterian Women's Cookie Party

Friday, December 13 at 10am

Join us at the home of Jere Bowden, 175 Takeda Way, Athens. We will have devotions, sing carols, and enjoy wonderful cookies and each other. Bring your favorite cookies to share.



Covenant Presbyterian Holiday Progressive Dinner

Saturday, December 7, 2019 6:00PM



We would like to invite everyone to join us for our annual Covenant Holiday Progressive Dinner on Saturday, December 7, 2019 beginning at 6:00pm.

For those who may not have attended previously the progressive dinner is an event where you share hors d'oeuvres at one home, have dinner at a second and finally enjoy dessert and coffee at a third location. As you progress through the night you will meet and dine with several different groups of people and everyone meets at the dessert home to finish off the night.

Covenant provides the ham and rolls, so dinner guests are encouraged to bring covered dishes to share. It's a great way to share food and fellowship before the busy holiday rush begins.

The progressive dinner signup sheet is on the bulletin board beside the church office. If you would like to host for hors d'oeuvres, dinner or dessert please include your phone number, address and how many guests you can accommodate on the signup sheet.

Thanks and Happy Holidays to All

The Congregational Fellowship Committee



G3 Gathers Again

The Graduates Gaming Group will get together again on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 10 AM. Several games will be available to try. You do not have to have gray hair to attend – all are welcome. Eight people had a great time playing Tripoley in November. We hope that a few more fun-loving folks will join us in





The Witness Ministry is holding an information meeting this **Sunday, November 24th at 12:15 pm** to share our plans for the **March 5-14, 2020 Mission Trip** to San Sebastian, Puerto Rico. We will discuss our trip plans including travel, lodging, work-site locations and the opportunity for cultural tourism.

We have booked group airline tickets that we must confirm within the next two weeks, so now is the time to find out if you want to join us in Puerto Rico and help be the hands and feet of Covenant's world mission.

The meeting will be in the conference room and be only 30 minutes, so stay after church this Sunday to learn about this exciting mission opportunity!



**INTERFAITH
Thanksgiving Worship**
Sunday, November 24,
at 4 p.m., at the Pied-
mont College Meeting
House, 595 Prince Ave.
Athens, 30601, join Rev.
Eskildsen and members
of the UUFA Chalice Choir for the 4th Annual
Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship service.

Want to give a helping hand? Join our ministries
at **Our Daily Bread**, the soup kitchen for Athens,
based at First Baptist Church downtown.
Dorothy Newland coordinates preparing lunch on
fifth Wednesdays, arriving at 10am. The next day
of service is Wednesday, January 29, 2020. Contact
Dorothy at 706-202-0474 if you would like to help.
Paige Cummings coordinates preparing lunch on
first Fridays monthly, arriving at 11am. Contact
Paige at paigemercercummings@gmail.com if you
would like to help. The next day of service is
Friday, December 6, 2019..



Congratulations to the Graduates' Lunch!

For quite a while now, the gradu-
ates have used all washable
plates, cups and utensils at their monthly
lunch. For this achievement, the group has
earned a Green Star from the Green Dream
Team. Let the Green Dream Team know when
your group does something "green" and your
group will also earn a Green Star. Look for the
Green Star posters on the Green Dream Team
bulletin board.

Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team

TRUE COLORS. Answers contain
specific colors. **Ex:** Vermont Uplands
Answer: Green Mountains

1. part of a cloud, maybe
2. Oil
3. Embarrassed

Answers to *True Colors*:
1. silver lining 2. black gold
3. red faced



November 25	begin reading the Advent Devotional
November 28 & 29	Church office closed for Thanksgiving
December 7 at 6pm	Covenant's Annual Progressive Dinner <i>sign up on bulletin board</i>
December 08	Final 8:30am worship
December 10 at 12:30pm	Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon
December 13 at 10am	Presbyterian Women Cookie Party at home of Jere Bowden
December 15 at 10:45am	Christmas Choral Worship & Luncheon <i>hosted by Fellowship</i>
December 22 at 10:45am	Child Friendly Program
December 24 at 5:30pm	Christmas Eve Worship
December 25th	Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day (Office Closed)



THE GRADUATES

Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon

What do Paul Revere, John Bunyan, Ian McMillan, PT Barnum, and David Boardman have in common? You guessed it (maybe!); they're all famous handbell ringers. One of these incredible musicians will be with us at our December Graduates Luncheon to share a little history about handbells and to invite us to the table to ring! Join us:

Tuesday, December 10 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Jim Bowden will bring the **Christmas ham** and you are invited to bring side dishes and desserts to share!



NO Tuesday Morning Bible Study on 11/26. We will resume on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 10:30am at the home of Georgianna Sumner's, 525 Westview Dr., 30606.

We will begin looking at our faith in a fresh way using Anne Lamott's book, *Grace (Eventually) : Thoughts on Faith*. Copies will be ordered, and if you would like a book, please call the church office, 706.548.2756.

Knitters & Knotters

Thursday, Dec. 5th at 2pm

Join us for a great time of fellowship & ministry as we join together to make blankets, hat, scarves, pillows, etc. for those in need. Everyone is invited, beginners welcome!



Lunch Bunch

DePalma's Italian Restaurant (eastside)

Tuesday, November 26 at 11:30am

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

Covenant Breakfast Club Monday, Dec. 2 at 8am.



Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road.

Join us for a good time of conversation and food.

Restaurant Road Trip

We'll carpool to Social Circle for the Christmas buffet lunch at the Blue Willow Inn:

Wednesday, December 18

Meet in the church parking lot to carpool, 10:45 a.m.

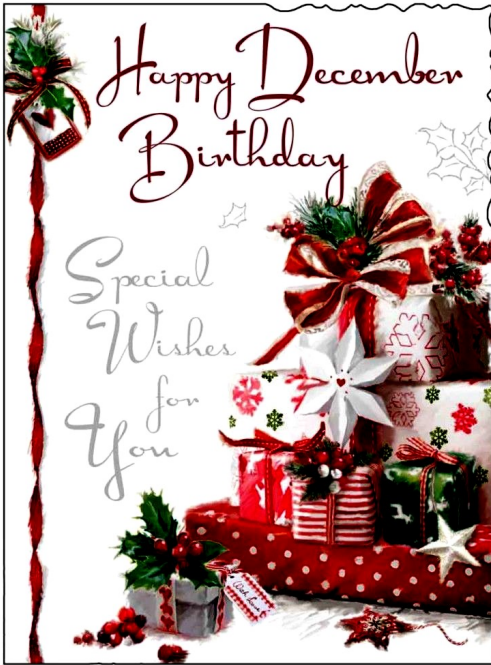
The cost will be \$13.95 (drinks not included), and after lunch we'll visit the Inn's gift shop for some last-minute holiday shopping. Reservations by December 15 are necessary, and a sign-up sheet may be found on the bulletin board outside the church office.

An Afternoon to Remember—Join us at the Athens Botanical Gardens for a special concert performed by the New Horizons Band, the older adult band sponsored by the UGA Community Music School. Our very own Katy Terry, Chris Wilson, and Chuck Rosenberger are members, and they invite us to come enjoy the music of Christmas with them:

Saturday, December 14

2:00 p.m.

Athens Botanical Gardens



- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Chuck Rosenberger | 11 Peggy Johnson |
| 2 Robert Smith | 12 Sally Boardman |
| 3 Frank Allen | 15 Julie Bower |
| 4 Tim Foutz | Sharon Edwards |
| 5 Susan Paul | William Kisaalita |
| 6 Zak Huberty | 18 Jim McMinn |
| 8 Sara Cooney | 19 Kay Brooks |
| Heather Jarboe | 24 Dianne Simpson |
| Jim Newland | Holly Wolfe |
| Donald Whitehead, Jr. | 27 Juanita Floyd |
| 9 Eli Stone | William Sperr |
| 10 Lola Bell | 31 Lindsey Bowden |

Purchase a beautiful live Poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special! They are used in the Worship Center throughout the Christmas Season. Sign up sheet is outside the church office. Make your check payable to Covenant and put poinsettia in the memo portion of your check. \$10 each. Please do not leave cash. Thank you!



THE GRADUATES continued from page 5

Lunch and a Movie— Do you enjoy an afternoon out with friends for lunch and a movie? Our Graduates Council is interested in getting people together for an occasional movie and lunch outing in Athens. This month we're considering the new Tom Hanks' movie, *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*. According to the Los Angeles Times movie critic: "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" is the most beguiling thing, a movie that feels entirely truthful even within its own Neighborhood of Make-Believe. Loosely based on actual events, it follows the relationship between an ill-tempered magazine writer and the nicest man in America: Fred Rogers, or Mr. Rogers, as he is known to the millions of children who have embraced his long-running program. Directed with a gossamer-light touch by Marielle Heller, the picture occupies that eerie zone where drabness meets eccentricity, truth blurs into fiction and a beloved TV personality can merge, almost seamlessly, with a beloved film actor. That actor would be Tom Hanks, who quickly lays your doubts to rest in the movie's daring, disarming prologue. With a song on his lips, Hanks' Mr. Rogers walks into a familiar house and goes through a set of equally familiar motions, donning a red cardigan and a pair of sneakers. Soon, he is peering intently into the camera, the better for us to see every detail of the actor's transformation, the graying hair and the twinkling smile. Mostly, though, we're drawn in by the unhurried rhythms of his speech as he tells us about a friend of his, Lloyd Vogel, who's going through a tough time."

Possible dates for this outing are Tuesday, December 17 or Friday, December 20. We plan on a 2:00 showtime at the University 16 Cinemas, 1793 Oconee Connector, but this will depend of the theater schedule. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office.

WoRM CHURCH SCHOOL November 24th at 9:30am

We finish our look at the Lord's Prayer with activities led by Rindy Trouteaud and Megan Sperr and our shepherds, Jere Bowden and Wanda Oliver.



YOUTH GROUPS NOVEMBER 24th 5pm—7pm

Middle schoolers and high schoolers will meet in the church parking lot at 3:15p.m. to carpool to the Piedmont College Meeting House to attend the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (4:00 p.m.) and afterwards, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Bring money for your meal!

Parents - please be sure to reserve your young person's spot for our Montreat youth conferences for high schoolers (June 7 - 13, 2020) and middle schoolers (July 15-19, 2020) by November 24. A deposit of \$100 will secure your reservation, and if you pay by check, please note in the left corner, "Montreat Youth Conference - your young person's name" or "Montreat Middle School Conference - your young person's name".

NO Wonderful Wednesday November 27 will resume December 4th!

10am Adult Bible Study in the Upper Room
Using Miriam Dunson's book, *A Very Present Help*,
the Wednesday morning Bible study which meets in
the Upper Room, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
Mark Harper leads the exploration.

Covenant Connection

5:30pm—6pm Servant Time- making snow globes
for the Christmas Choral Worship Luncheon

6:00pm—6:30pm Family Dinner—

6:30pm -7:00pm Carol/Joy Choir

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 Adult Bible Study

We continue our study of John and will look at the
story of the woman at the well, Chapter 4.

6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Adult Choir

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH AT COVENANT CONNECTION on Nov. 26!



Wed, Dec. 4th
*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



deck the halls...

The Congregational Fellowship Ministry
Team will be decorating in the Fellowship
Hall on **November 30th** (the Saturday after
Thanksgiving). Come and join us at
11:00am as we **DECK THE HALLS!**

SUNDAY—

8:30am Worship
9:30 Church School for all
10:45am Worship
12:15pm Puerto Rico Mission Trip Information Meeting
3:30pm Debtors Anonymous
5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY-

OFFICE CLOSED
6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
5pm—6pm Diabetes Clinic
8pm New Freedom in FH

WEDNESDAY—

8:30am—9:30am AA
No Morning or Evening Adult Bible Study , No Handbell Rehearsal
No Covenant Connection. No Adult Choir

THURSDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
7:30pm CR

FRIDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

8pm New Freedom in FH

SATURDAY– 11am Deck the Hall in the Fellowship Hall

10:30am OEA in Upper Room

WORSHIP—November 24, 2019

8:30am

Reader: Dennis Calbos Coffee: Dennis Calbos
Ushers: Heidi & Kent Wolfe

10:45am

Reader: Jim Newland

Ushers: Robyn Malone, Juergen Wiegel, Tweedell Family

Greeters: Shari Cobb

Congregational Care: November—Carolyn Hatfield

Counters: Katy Terry, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Alex Clark

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Nov. 25—Dec. 1)

Nursery/Super: Don Bower

Birth—Walking: Don Bower

Walking—5 years old: Lindsey & Thomas Bowden, Sue Loe

SUNDAY-

8:30am Worship
9:30 Church School for all
10:45am Worship
3:30pm Debtors Anonymous
5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY-

8:00am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
9:30am Decorating the Worship Center
10am-4pm New Hope House in FH
5pm-6pm Diabetes Clinic
8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY—

8:30am—9:30am AA
10am Morning Adult Bible Study ,
5:30pm—7:00pm Covenant Connection
6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY– 9:30am PW Bible Study

6:30pm Yoga
7:30pm CR

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

10:30am OEA in Upper Room
6pm Covenant's Progressive Dinner

WORSHIP—December 01, 2019

8:30am

Reader: Bruce Menke Coffee: Shirley Hunt
Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

10:45am

Reader: Juergen Wiegel

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

Greeters: Jim & Dorothy Newland

Congregational Care: Chuck Rosenberger

Counters: Bill Barstow, Pam Knox

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Alexander Clark (December 2—8)

Nursery/Super: Pam Knox

Birth—Walking: Pam Knox

Walking—5 years old: Brian Herndon, Sandy Whitney, Megan Sperr