

THE COVENANTER

December 01, 2019

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



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)



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!*

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 Progressive Dinner

Saturday, December 7 at 6:00pm

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual Covenant Christmas Progressive Dinner. Covenant Provides the ham and rolls so dinner guests are encouraged to bring covered dishes to share. It is a great way to share food and fellowship. Sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. 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.

The Congregational Fellowship Committee



CHRISTMAS
Progressive Dinner

WoRM CHURCH SCHOOL December 01, 2019 at 9:30am

The Story of the First Christmas: Angels! Rindy Trouteaud, Jere Bowden,
& Wanda Oliver.

YOUTH GROUPS December 01, 2019— MIDDLELERS: noonish—2:30pm. We will gather after church for lunch and working on the Christmas Eve Luminaries



HIGH SCHOOL: noonish—2:30pm. We will gather after church for lunch and working on the Christmas Eve candles.

PARENTS MEETING: We will meet briefly in the fellowship hall after Worship, Sunday December 1 to consider the 2020 youth group program, including a winter retreat, confirmation classes, and a request for a change in the Sunday evening meeting time.

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".

Wonderful Wednesday

Wednesday, 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

6:30pm—7:30pm Adult Bible Study

We continue our study of John and will look at
stories of disciples, Chapter 4 & 5.

6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Adult Choir



**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT YOUTH AT
COVENANT
CONNECTION on
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;

Tuesday Morning Bible Study on 12/03.

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.*

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!



Lunch Bunch

DePalma's Italian Restaurant (eastside)

Tuesday, December 31 at 11:30am

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

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!

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.

Covenant Breakfast Club Monday, Dec. 2



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

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 December.

THE GRADUATES LUNCH & 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*. 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.

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

Remember in Prayer: Mark Harper's father, Curtis in hospital; Ann Anderson during well at the Oaks: Carol Wheeler at The Oaks, Room #201; 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.

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!



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.

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.



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..

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

1. Powerful home brew
2. 1s, 10s, 20s, etc.
3. Aristocrat

By Marilyn Brown

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

THINGS YOU SHOULD NEVER BUY AGAIN!

1. Styrofoam cups. Styrofoam is forever. It is not biodegradable.
2. Bleached Coffee Filters. Dioxins, chemicals formed during the chlorine bleaching process, contaminate groundwater and are linked to cancer.
3. Teak & Mahogany. Every year 27 million acres of rain forest are destroyed. Rainforests are home to over half of the world's wild plant, animal and insect species.
4. Items made with PVC plastic. PVC is found in everyday plastics and is a known human carcinogen.

The Green Dream Team

Designated Opportunities to Give Covenant Presbyterian Church 2019-2020

As the Christmas season approaches with the New Year 'just around the corner' practicing generosity to help others brings delight to our hearts and to the holiday season. Someone has said, "The best way to catch the spirit of Christmas is to give it to someone else." To help us restore life-giving balance, Covenant offers alternatives, so that giving can once again become the sign of the season which celebrates the gift of God's serving love, born in a stable in Bethlehem long ago. On the table in the narthex are opportunities to give. Please make your check payable to: Covenant Presbyterian Church and designate how you want your contribution to be used.

Answers to *True Colors*:

1. white lightning
2. green backs 3. blueblood

WEEK OF December 01, 2019—**SUNDAY—**

8:30am Worship
 9:30 Church School for all
 10:45am Worship
 3:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 noonish to 2:30pm— 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— 10am Chime Choir Rehearsal
 10:30am OEA in Upper Room
 6pm Covenant's Progressive Dinner

WORSHIP—December 01, 2019**8:30am**

Reader: Bruce Menke Coffee: Shirley Hunt
 Ushers: Wayne Crowell

10:45am

Reader: Juergen Wiegel
 Ushers: Don Bower, Heide Wiegel, Phil & Sallie Hale, Dianne Simpson
 Greeters: Sarah Lamb & Bob Brewster
 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

WEEK OF December 08, 2019—**SUNDAY—**

8:30am Worship (FINAL)
 9:30 Church School for all
 10:45am Worship 12:15pm Climate Crisis Team Meeting
 3:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 TBA Youth Groups

MONDAY—

OFFICE CLOSED
 6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 12:30pm Graduates Luncheon
 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—

6:30pm Yoga
 7:30pm Happy Squares
 7:30pm CR

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 10 am PW Cookie Party
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

9am—12noon Adult Choir Rehearsal in Worship Center
 10:30am OEA in Upper Room

WORSHIP—December 08, 2019**8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell Coffee: Shirley Hunt
 Ushers: Judy Capie

10:45am

Reader: Sandy Whitney
 Ushers: Susan & Randy Parish, Bill Rigsby, Jim McMinn, Katy Terry
 Greeters: Tim & Karen Foutz
 Congregational Care: Chuck Rosenberger
 Counters: Judy Capie, Ellen Stoneburner
 Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
 Plant Care: Frank Allen
 Open the Building: Alan Edwards
 Close the Building: Hank Tweedell
 Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden (Dec. 9-15)
 Nursery/Super: DeLynda Tweedell
 Birth—Walking: DeLynda Tweedell
 Walking—5 years old: Carrie Tweedell, Clayton & Alice Adams