

THE COVENANTER  
March 01, 2020

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



**Today - March 1** we welcome the  
Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Director of the Presbyterian  
Church (USA) Office of Public Witness. He will preach  
at the 8:30am & 10:45am worship service, and a  
Sunday School presentation at 9:30am in the  
fellowship hall.



At our recent session retreat, we spent time thinking about what "home" meant to us. And we tried to imagine how Covenant could feel more like home to both members and neighbors. What makes us want to be here? What makes us feel at peace? What about this place and community makes us feel like our best, truest selves? In other words, what is it about Covenant that would inspire us, not to just go through the motions of church life, but to really ENGAGE with God, with one another, and with our neighbors? To help us -- and you -- respond to questions like these, we invite you to come to an "engagement day" on **TODAY—March 1st, following the 10:45 a.m. worship service.** This event will take place in the fellowship hall and will feature a light but delicious lunch of homemade chilis and soup. After grabbing a bite, you will be encouraged to circulate among a number of tables where a facilitator will encourage you to consider how one of your deep interests could intersect with something that is happening, or might happen, at Covenant. These tables will not represent Ministry Teams, but will raise what we hope are provocative questions, like: *\*Do you like cooking? \*Do you like to build things and/or make things beautiful? \*Do you like to be outdoors? \*Do you like building connections with kids? families? adults of all ages? \*Do you like music? \*Do you like to engage in social justice issues? \*Do you like numbers or technology?* We want to hear from you and to learn what gets your heart beating and spirit moving. We want to engage with you so that together we can better engage with one another and the community we are called to serve.

COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Athens, Georgia 30605  
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# LENT

**WoRM CHURCH SCHOOL** - Sunday, March 1 at 9:30am We will enter the season of Lent on Wednesday, and to help understand the significance of this season, Rindy Trouteaud and our shepherds, Jere Bowden and Wanda Oliver, will prepare some creative learning activities for our young people. This week we will look at the story of Jesus' time in the wilderness, plant narcissus bulbs, and work on our Lenten calendar.

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS** - This week we'll meet at our usual time, 12:30ish - 2:00 p.m. for lunch and a "Lenten" conversation about faith inspired by the video series, *Tales from the Madhouse*. It's a video series about characters who've met Jesus, failed to connect with him, and are now haunted by that missed opportunity.

**Parents... a reminder!!!** If your young person is registered for one of the Montreat youth conferences - high school or middle school - the second \$100 deposit is needed to help with the cost of registration. The final deposit (\$85 for high schoolers, \$150 for middle schoolers) will be received in April.

**CONFIRMATION**—Our confirmands will meet with their mentors to complete their mission projects on their own schedules and gather again, Sunday, March 15 to craft their group affirmation of faith to be used in the worship service on Palm Sunday.

### Wednesday, March 4, 2020

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 facilitates.

### **Covenant Connection**

5:30pm - 7:00pm

We will enjoy an intergenerational event during Covenant Connection, *Bringing the Wilderness in Art Project* where we will make wilderness vase displays that will be used to enhance our Lenten worship. **Please bring a clean, clear glass vase (one larger than a single bloom vase) or a mason jar to use for this project. All other materials will be supplied.** Our children's choir will meet and our middle school and high school youth will meet for popcorn and movie time.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY



6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Adult Choir



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
YOUTH AT  
COVENANT  
CONNECTION on  
Wed, March 4**

Faith & Film following supper downstairs  
in the youth rooms with pop corn!

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

6:30pm - 7:30pm will resume March 18th.

Wednesday evening Bible studies will resume after spring break, **Wednesday, March 18**. Lewis Smede's book, Keeping Hope Alive for a Tomorrow We Cannot Control, will guide our conversations.

*In this fearful and cynical age, when doom-and-gloomers forecast catastrophe and fearmongers try to get us to hedge our bets on the future with insurance policies and safety nets, we need to rediscover real hope. Lewis Smedes says, "Hope is as native to our spirits as thinking is to our brain. Keep hoping, and you keep living. Stop hoping, and you start dying." He shows how hope powers every good thing we accomplish and helps us overcome every bad thing we encounter. He talks about how to keep hope alive in difficult times, discern false hope from true hope, and move beyond worry to trust in God. If you would like a book, please call Karen Wetherington in the church office to place your order, 706.548.2756.*

### **TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY!**

Come be a part of our weekly gatherings to study scripture! We'll meet in the home of Katy Terry, 105 VFW Drive, Watkinsville, **Tuesday, March 3, 10:00 a.m.**, and our conversations will center around Lenten spiritual practices using Heidi Haverkamp's book, *Holy Solitude: Lenten Reflections with Saints, Prophets, and Rebels* will guide our discussion.

**If you would like a book, please call Karen Wetherington in the church office to place your order, 706.548.2756.**

# THE GRADUATES



**Covenant Breakfast Club**  
**Monday, March 2 at 8am.**  
 Cracker Barrel on Epps  
 Bridge Road. Join us for a good time  
 of conversation and food.

## Knitters & Knotters

**Thursday, March 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

Let's meet for good food,  
 great company, and  
 interesting conversation  
**Tuesday, March 31, 11:30 p.m., at**  
 DePalma's Italian Café (eastside)  
 1965 Barnett Shoals Rd

**MOTTOS and MONIKERS.** Identify the following  
 people or places from the descriptors on the left:

1. King of the Cowboys
2. The Law West of the Pecos
3. Good to the very last drop

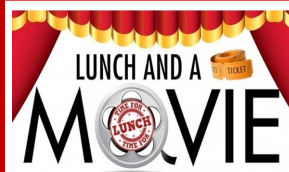
By Marilyn Brown

**Answers to  
 Mottos & Monikers:**  
 1. Roy Rogers  
 2. Judge Roy Bean  
 3. Maxwell House



**Graduate Gaming Group**  
**will Meet March 3, 2020 at**  
**10:00am**

The March meeting of the G3  
 (Graduate Gaming Group)  
 will be held on Tuesday,  
 March 3rd at 10 am. All ages  
 of adults are welcome to participate in this  
 group, so come and bring a friend.



Mark your calendars!  
 We'll meet for lunch and  
 a movie on Tuesday,  
 March 24, time and  
 movie to be announced  
 later. By popular request, we'll go to the  
 AMC Dine-in Theater on Lexington Avenue  
 (but enjoy lunch elsewhere!).



**GRADUATES COVERED DISH LUNCHEON –**  
**March 10th at 12:30pm – St. Patrick's Day Celebration**

Featuring the **Green Flag Band**, Celtic inspired traditional & contempo-  
 rary folk music. Julia McDermott and Carl Rapp musicians.  
 Please bring your favorite dish to share and a friend. Beverages will be  
 provided.

**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, April 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, March 6, 2020.

**FEED MY SHEEP for MARCH**  
Covenant is collecting these items for the Athens Emergency Food Bank:  
*Saltines, dried pasta and salty snacks.*

And as always brown paper bags.

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



### **Puerto Rico Mission Donation Board**

**Help your mission team help the families  
that we will be working with to restore their  
communities.**

**Select an envelope of any amount  
you wish to donate and please return  
envelope with your contribution.  
Bring your donation to the church office or  
place it in Sunday's offering plate.**



### **PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH FEAST ON March 21, 2020!!**

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 Goodyear, Nancy Omdahl, Ed Ralph or Mark Harper. *Let us pray for God's continued blessing on this ecumenical effort in our community!*

### **FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 6:30pm**



## Did you know that Covenant has an Emergency Food Pantry?

*In partnership with the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, our Emergency Food Pantry exists to distribute food to families and individuals in need. For some, this need is on-going. For others, this need may be temporary. Covenant's Food Pantry is available on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 1PM-4PM.*

**Did you know that we need volunteers to help distribute the food?**

**Here is what is needed:**

1. Two volunteers each Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1-4. You can just sign up for 1 day, or for multiple days. You can also share the 3-hour time slot with 2 friends!
2. When someone comes in requesting food, one person will assist the person in filling out the required one page form, and the other person will go to the food pantry, put the food in the bag, place it in the grocery cart and take the cart to the person.

**Interested?** Call or email Betsy Pless 540-1719 [bppless@gmail.com](mailto:bppless@gmail.com)

OR- click the link below for an easy sign up.

**Please sign up for Covenant Food Pantry!**

**Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:**

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/login/entry/611848298042>

2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)

3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.



**Monday, March 2** at the Presbyterian Student Center at UGA  
3pm – 5:30pm.

Jimmie Hawkins, preaching. Appreciating Diversity,  
Eliminating Greed and Preserving Creation.



### **The Presbyterian Student**

**Center** has an urgent need for folks to help provide meals for their Tuesday night dinner and church service. They have had very few volunteers this year and could really use your help.

You can search for available dates and sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f4ca4af2ca1fb6-tuesday>. Please

contact Pam Knox to ask about dietary needs or other information or if you need someone to help.

**Prayer Concerns:** Paula Zimdars undergoing more tests; Anne Page at Avery Place #145; Ruth Brewster at Arbor Terrace #222; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; and Louie Boyd, John & Elizabeth Brewer, & Anna Holshouser at home.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS March 2 – March 8

Monday	Psalm 121
Tuesday	Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17
Wednesday	Genesis 11: 31-32
Thursday	Genesis 12: 1-4
Friday	Genesis 13
Saturday	Genesis 17: 1-8
Sunday	Genesis 25: 7-10

### FINANCIAL REPORT for Week Ending 2/23/2020

#### ANTICIPATED PLEDGES:

\$303,240.77

#### ACTUAL PLEDGES:

\$300,672.73

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

Bowden Church Vocations Fund:

\$4,920.00

Thank you to everyone who  
helped with the Memorial  
Reception for  
Olivia Chamblee Wright on  
Saturday, February 22.



Hilda Clarke, *Congregational Care Ministry Team*

**YEAH. WELL - - -** It is TRUE THAT February 14 =  
ATHENS Arbor Day & February 21 = GEORGIA Arbor  
Day, & the focus is on TREES, but guess what??  
Athens Clarke County Water Department is giving  
away free water-saver showerheads this month,  
and your ever-vigilant Green Dream Team has put a  
bag of these handy-dandy gadgets on the table in  
front of the GDT bulletin board along with installa-  
tion directions. Take one, install it in  
your most used shower & see if  
your water bill shrinks. You'll feel  
good knowing you've done some-  
thing to help planet earth.



### Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

**Thursday, March 12**

**Beginning promptly at 9:30am.**

Please read the Horizon's study guide,  
"Love Carved in Stone" chapter 7. Please come and  
be fed spiritually and physically.

**33rd Annual Gathering  
of**

**Northeast Georgia  
Presbyterian Women**

Saturday, March 21, 2020 at

First Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ga

*All PW are invited. Please see the bulletin board for  
Registration Form or Marcia Verbrugge or Jennifer Fry.*

"The **COMMUNITY TREE COUNCIL** is  
a citizen's advisory committee of the  
Athens Clarke County government. Phil  
Hale & Pam Knox faithfully serve on this  
committee; Jere Bowden served for over  
20 years. **YOU** could be a member,  
too! Talk to Phil or Pam or call Rodney  
Waters, Community Forester (706-613-  
3561) if you feel moved by the spirit  
to apply."

**WEEK OF March 1, 2020—**

**Special Guest Speaker, Jimmy Hawkins**

**SUNDAY—** 8:30am Worship

9:30 Church School for adults in the fellowship hall

10:45am Worship

12:15pm Lite Lunch & **ENGAGE!** in Fellowship Hall

12:30pm High School Youth Group

3:30pm Debtors Anonymous

**MONDAY—**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

8:30am Covenants Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Rd

6:30pm Scouts

7pm—8pm AA (New Freedom)

**TUESDAY—**

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

10am Graduates Gaming

10am Adult Bible Study at Katy Terry's

6:30pm FINANCE Meeting 8pm New Freedom

**WEDNESDAY—**

8:30am—9:30am New Freedom

10:00am Adult Bible Study

5:30pm—7:00pm Covenant Connection

**THURSDAY—**

2pm Knitters and Knotters

6:15pm Yoga

7:30pm CR

**FRIDAY—**

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

3:30pm The Cave

8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY—** Fellowship Hall Cleaned

10:30am OEA in Upper Room

**WEEK OF March 8, 2020—**

**SUNDAY—** 8:30am Worship

9:30 Church School for all

10:45am Worship

No Youth Groups

3:30pm Debtors Anonymous

**MONDAY—**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

6:30pm Scouts

7pm—8pm AA (New Freedom)

**TUESDAY—**

10am Adult Bible Study at Georgiana Sumners'

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

12:30pm Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon with Green Flag Band

7pm Athens Stamp Club

8pm New Freedom

**WEDNESDAY—**

8:30am—9:30am New Freedom

10:00am Adult Bible Study

5:30pm—7:00pm Covenant Connection

**THURSDAY—**

9:30am PW Bible Study

9:00am Exams

11:00am COM

2pm Knitters and Knotters

6:15pm Yoga

7:30pm CR 8pm Happy Squares

**FRIDAY—**

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

11:00am Memorial Service for Carol Wheeler

3:30pm The Cave

8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY—** 9:30am Asher Hill in Worship Center

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**WORSHIP—March 1, 2020**

**8:30am**

Reader: Bruce Menke

Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

**10:45am**

Reader: Sallie Hale

Ushers: Robyn Malone, Juergen Wiegel, The Tweedell Family

Greeters: Steve Rathbun, Jim Anderson

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Caren Snook, Bill Barstow

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Brian Striggow (March 2—8)

Nursery/Super: Valerie Stone

Birth—Walking: Valerie Stone

Walking—5 years old: Brian & Eli Stone, Chuck Rosenberger

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**WORSHIP—March 8, 2020**

**8:30am**

Reader: Rich Reaves

Ushers: Alan Edwards, Jim Smith

**10:45am**

Reader: Luanne Rigsby

Ushers: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Dick Zimdars, Stephanie Cahill,

Betsy Pless

Greeters: Tim & Karen Foutz

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Pam Knox, Ellen Stoneburner

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden (March 9—15)

Nursery/Super: Ellen Stoneburner

Birth—Walking: Ellen Stoneburner

Walking—5 years old: Brian & Wyatt Herndon, Katy McGill