

THE COVENANTER

March 08, 2020



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



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

Featuring the **Green Flag Band**, Celtic inspired traditional & contemporary folk music. Julia McDermott and Carl Rapp musicians. Linda Koehler will provide her delicious baked salmon. Please bring your favorite dish to share and a friend. Beverages will be provided.

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.*

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

SUNDAY, MARCH 8!

TURN YOUR CLOCKS

FORWARD 1 HOUR!



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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!*

WoRM CHURCH SCHOOL - Sunday, March 8 at 9:30am We will enter the season of Lent on Wednesday, and to help understand the significance of this season, Jere Bowden and Wanda Oliver will prepare some creative learning activities for our young people. This week we will look at the story of *The Three Trees* on film and continue working on our Lenten calendar.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS - SPRING BREAK!!! Youth Groups will NOT meet this week.

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 11, 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'll enjoy a relaxed evening together, 5:30-7:00 p.m. watching a movie, eating pizza and popcorn, and enjoying our friends. We will not meet for children's choir.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY



6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Adult Choir



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
YOUTH AT
COVENANT
CONNECTION on
Wed, March 11**

**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.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY! Come be a part of our weekly gatherings to study scripture! We'll meet in the home of Georgiana Sumner, 525 Westview Drive, Athens, Tuesday, March 10, 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* and a short reading from *Bread and Wine* (copies will be available at the gathering).

THE GRADUATES



Covenant Breakfast Club
Monday, March 17 at 8am.

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

Knitters & Knotters

Thursday, March 12 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. The Big Apple
2. King of beasts
3. Breakfast of champions

By Marilyn Brown

Answers to
Mottos & Monikers:
1. New York City
2. The Lion
3. Wheaties



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!).

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, April 3rd.

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!



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

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.



Prayer Concerns: Stephanie Cahill and family in the passing of her mother, March 4th in Norfolk, VA; Covenant's Puerto Rico Mission Team; Mike Swanson recovering well at home from surgery on 3/5; Paula Zimdars waiting for results; Anne Page at Avery Place #145; Ruth Brewster at Arbor Terrace #222; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; and John & Elizabeth Brewer, & Anna Holshouser at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS March 9 – March 15

Monday	Exodus 17: 1-7
Tuesday	Psalms 95
Wednesday	Psalms 96
Thursday	Romans 5: 1-11
Friday	John 4: 1-6
Saturday	John 4: 7-15
Sunday	John 4: 16-30

FINANCIAL REPORT for Week Ending 3/01/2020

ANTICIPATED PLEDGES:

\$312,159.62

ACTUAL PLEDGES:

\$307,297.73

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Meeting for the Climate Change Working Group has been postponed from Sunday, March 1 until Sunday, April 5. Meeting to be held after worship.

Thank you!

"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."

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 installation directions. Take one, install it in your most used shower & see if your water bill shrinks. You'll feel good knowing you've done something to help planet earth.



A Big Thank -You to all the Volunteers for the Presbytery Meeting!

I want to thank everyone who participated in hosting the Presbytery Meeting at Covenant last Saturday. You all did a wonderful job providing hospitality to our guests! A big event takes many volunteers and you were willing and eager to help when asked. I sincerely appreciate each of you. It is a joy to work and serve with you all! Thank you, thank you!! Gratefully, Jennifer Frey

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 the home of Georgiana Sumner

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

7:00pm CR

8pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

11:00am Memorial Service for Carol Wheeler

NO Cave

8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

9:30am Asher Hill in Worship Center

10:30am OEA in Upper Room

Church Cleaned

WEEK OF March 15, 2020—**SUNDAY—** 8:30am Worship

9:30 Church School for all

10:45am Worship

12:30pm Confirmants Faith Statements

12:30pm High School Youth Group

3:30pm Debtors Anonymous

MONDAY—**OFFICE CLOSED**

5:30pm—6:30pm Diabetes Clinic

6:30pm Scouts

7pm—8pm AA (New Freedom)

TUESDAY—

10am Adult Bible Study at the home of Katy Terry

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

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

7:00pm CR

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

NO Cave

8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

7:00am FEAST food truck distribution

10:30am OEA in Upper Room

1pm Step Up Scholarship Program in fellowship hall

WORSHIP—March 8, 2020**8:30am**

Liturgist: Rich Reaves

Ushers: Alan Edwards, Jim Smith

10:45am

Liturgist: Betsy Pless

Ushers: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Dick Zimdars, 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

WORSHIP—March 15, 2020**8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Rich Reaves, Wayne Crowell

10:45am

Reader: Marcia Verbrugge

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

Greeters: Phil & Linda Koehler

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Sue Loegel, Katy Terry

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Rich Reaves

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Don Bower (March 16—22)

Nursery/Super: Rebecca Rea

Birth—Walking: Rebecca Rea

Walking—5 years old: Adam Rea, Mike Swanson, Christine Carpenter