

## THE COVENANTER

June 07, 2020

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

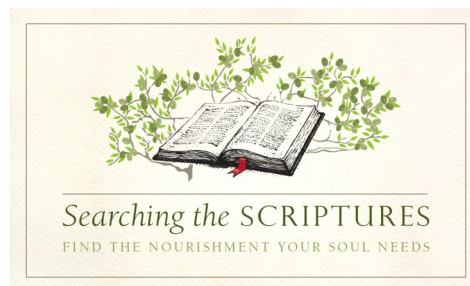
Join us for Holy Communion with items you have available in your home. Please click here to view  
Covenants Worship Service, Sunday, June 7th :

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCkRp1t3MnecoYXnds4X03A>

**Prayer Concerns:** Mark & Gabe Harper testing positive for COVID-19, June 4th; Paige Campbell's cousins husband, Drew Mangrum having aortic valve replacement 6/10, Fairview, TN; Gene Holshouser recovering well from cataract surgery, 6/4; Anne Page recovering from hip surgery Monday, 5/25; Prayer request: Mike Swanson hospitalized for infection treatment; John, Mary Sue, & Elizabeth Brewer with health issues; the Sardis Presbyterian Church in Jefferson; for those who are affected by the COVID-19 illness, as well as their caregivers, our healthcare professionals, government leaders and those who are working around the clock to minimize the impact of this virus; Paula Zimdars undergoing radiation treatment ; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; & Anna Holshouser at home.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS—June 1—7

Monday	Psalm 13
Tuesday	Psalm 42
Wednesday	Psalm 43
Thursday	Psalm 12
Friday	Psalm 90
Saturday	Psalm 116: 1-15
Sunday	1 Corinthians 12: 21-26



COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1065 Gaines School Road  
Athens, Georgia 30605  
706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344  
[www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org)  
[covenantp@covpresathens.org](mailto:covenantp@covpresathens.org)

—END OF YEAR—  
**GIVING**  
STATEMENTS

We are coming to the close of Covenant's fiscal year, 2019/2020 . If you would like a copy of your giving statement please email Karen at [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org). or call the church office. A copy can be sent electronically or post mail.

**HOW TO GIVE.** There is a new online giving option through the Presbyterian Foundation at this link <http://covpresathens.org/wp/contributions/> . Or you can click on this link [www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org) and click on online giving. And as always you can mail your check to the church office. Thank you for your faithful giving!

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #48**  
Anticipated Pledges \$428,102.80  
Actual Pledges \$419,719.45  
*Thank you for your faithful giving!*



Woody and I are so appreciative of all the prayers, cards, e-mails and offers for help that I have received from my Covenant family since my cancer diagnosis and treatment began. I will continue chemotherapy through most of the summer. Knowing that I have the love and support of so many friends really helps. *Ginger Davis-Beck*

Please pray, hard, for our congregation and committees and Session and leadership as we seek positive, supportive efforts to honor the Reverend Al Sharpton's eloquent words: "We aren't asking for any favors, all we ask is that you get your knee off our necks!" (The link to his eulogy speech at George Floyd's funeral is provided here: <https://youtu.be/QAvPo5DVHOk> ) Addressing racism is a church issue, a health issue, a housing issue, a food insecurity issue. At Covenant Presbyterian Church we are committed to and engaged in fighting structural racism both at its root and its consequences. But we are ever aware of our shortcomings, and that we must do better. How will we respond to the groundswell of outcries to remove the boot of racism from the necks of the black communities here in Athens Georgia and elsewhere? *Tamara Stam*



**The Covenant coffee closet** still has lots of coffee, tea, and hot chocolate ! Although the regular office hours and services are suspended, the church is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the Food Pantry from 1 - 4 PM. *Please call the church office at 706-548-2756 and place your order and when you would like to pick it up. A food pantry volunteer will hand your order as you drive through the parking lot.* In this time of uncertainty, let's not forget the hard working farmers and their families who depend on the Equal Exchange folks to buy their coffee at a Fair Price !!!  
Any questions please contact Sandy Whitney at [sandrawhitneyo8@gmail.com](mailto:sandrawhitneyo8@gmail.com).

Dear Covenant Family,

On Thursday, June 4th, my son Gabe and I tested positive for COVID-19. Currently we are both feeling fine, and planning on quarantining at home for the next fourteen days. My only known contact with someone who tested positive was last Thursday, May 28th. This was one of our wonderful food pantry volunteers from the UGArden; we learned the news of her positive test just yesterday afternoon. Please pray for Emma's health and well-being; at the moment, she, too is asymptomatic -- which should be a good reminder for all of us that this is one sneaky virus. The few of us in the fellowship hall that day were all masked and well-distanced -- so I really have no idea if I caught the virus from her. It seems equally likely that I picked it up at Aldi or somewhere some other time. If any of you were in close proximity to me since last Thursday, I would encourage you to go ahead and get tested as soon as possible. I have alerted the staff and we will be altering worship for at least the next two weeks, with Rindy recording at home this week, and me doing something similar the next. Rindy plans to be tested this weekend, and Karen was going to be tested as I write. I think we've done a good job of social distancing around the office but my positive test absolutely requires that they be checked out as well. We've also decided to close down the drive-up food pantry for at least this coming week, and then re-evaluate. I do plan, for now, to continue facilitating the Zoom book study on Bonhoeffer on Wednesdays, and participating in any other meetings.

I am deeply grateful for your prayerful support, but mostly for this strange reminder that we all live by nothing less than grace. Grace and peace to all of you, *Mark*



Piedmont Urgent Care is now offering both Covid-19 tests, and antibody tests for everyone, with test results available in 6 hours. Please contact Piedmont Urgent Care for further information.

If you need a helping hand or (just someone to reach out to you) during "Sheltering in Place due to the Covid-19 pandemic, please contact Congregational Care Ministry Team and we will do our best to be of assistance.

Let us know of your needs by either calling Luanne Rigsby at (706) 769-1066 (home) or (706) 224-3828 (cell) or emailing her at [luannerigsby@gmail.com](mailto:luannerigsby@gmail.com) or Don Bower at [dbower@uga.edu](mailto:dbower@uga.edu).





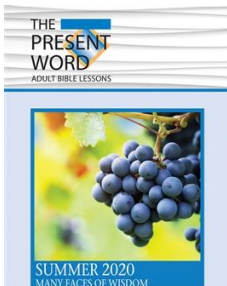
During the Covid-19 crisis we are scheduling online opportunities to grow in discipleship. Church school classes for all ages, midweek studies, and youth group programs from Montreat are available online, and the links to these opportunities which require ZOOM invitations may be viewed

weekly on our church website: [covpresathens.org](http://covpresathens.org). Please make it a habit to check the website often for links to our weekly newsletter and other communications, online giving, and our Sunday morning virtual worship services!

### *An Update About Our Virtual Ministries for Children and Adults*

In June families of preschoolers-5th graders will have the opportunity to participate in a virtual VBS experience. Boxes of materials and a list of supplies that may be found in your home for this 5-day camp will be available for pick-up during our drive-thru Food Pantry hours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m. You will receive an e-mail letting you know when your family box will be ready.

Questions? Call or text Rindy Trouteaud, 678.231.7556. *Please note that the Food Pantry will be closed all next week.*



The Summer 2020 copies of *The Present Word* curriculum for adults have arrived! If you would like a copy so that you may participate in the Sunday virtual Upper Room class hosted by James Malone and facilitated by various class volunteers, please contact the church office to arrange a pick-up of your book during our drive-thru Food Pantry hours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m. *Please note that the Food Pantry will be closed all next week.*

### *Let's Lift Our Voices Together!*

As the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions to shelter-in-place continue, we would like to make available copies of our hymnal, *Glory to God*, for those who would like to join in the singing of hymns during our virtual worship services on YouTube. If you would like a copy to keep in your home, please contact the church office to arrange a pick-up of your book during our drive-thru Food Pantry hours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m. *Please note that the Food Pantry will be closed all next week.*





*Jesus said, "You give them something to eat."*

## Covenant's Emergency Food Pantry

Members, and friends of Covenant have been giving generously of their time and talents to the Emergency Food Pantry. As you can imagine, the need is great. I believe most of you received Mark's email about he and Gabe (his son) testing positive for COVID-19. We have decided to close the food pantry for this upcoming week, June 7—14, to re-assess our procedures, institute some new procedures and just make sure we are doing all we need to do to keep everyone safe. We will be in touch next week. Thanks so much for your continued support. **Betsy**

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

**STAY SAFE**—If there is any reason at all that you should NOT physically volunteer-consider the following:

Make a financial donation to the Food Pantry by sending a check to Covenant and write "food pantry" in the subject line. *(You could send it in at the same time you send in your pledge).*

We can use grocery bags (paper or plastic), and small boxes to pack the food. If you call the church, someone could even come out to your car and get it.

If you are able to physically be present as a volunteer:

Click the link below for an easy sign up or call or email Betsy Pless 540-1719  
[bppless@gmail.com](mailto:bppless@gmail.com)

You can just sign up for 1 day, or for multiple days. You can also share the 3-hour time slot with 2 friends!

**HOW TO 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.*