

8:30am Worship resumes TODAY!
Sunday, January 14th!

THE COVENANTER January 14, 2018

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

We welcome Rev. Joyce Lieberman to the Covenant pulpit TODAY—Sunday, Jan 14th at both worship services, 8:30am & 10:45am. Rev. Lieberman is the Executive and Stated Clerk of the Synod of the South Atlantic. We are also grateful for her friendship and leadership with our session retreat this weekend.

PCUSA Joy Gift Offering

When you give to the Joy Gift Offering, you honor the wondrous gift of Jesus by nurturing the faith we have in God and one another. The Joy Gift Offering supports the development of the future racial ethnic leadership of our church and aids church workers and their families in times of need, answering a faithful call to enrich lives and ease burdens. You will find a brochure and envelope in your mailbox.

Please give generously.

“And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel. Matthew 2:6



HEART OF COVENANT—Join us on **February 10 at 6:30pm** in the fellowship hall for this annual adult event which includes a three course dinner and a variety of games to help you get better acquainted with Covenant members and friends. Bring a spouse, friend, or come as a single. You will rotate to different tables and be with different people for each course. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. Please indicate if you can help set up, clean up or bring a dessert. If you have any questions please contact James Malone or Ann Haarmann.

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 January 20th!

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

Remember in Prayer: Dell Whitehead & family, in the death of her mother Jan.7, with a memorial service on Jan.13 at 3pm at First United Methodist Church in Gainesville, GA – as the family looks forward to reconnecting with folks here at home in the weeks ahead; Dell Whitehead’s father, transitioning soon to a memory care facility in Gainesville, GA; Kay Millar & family, as her son-in-law Justin Dean had successful surgery Jan.10 in Los Angeles, to remove a tumor from his auditory nerve, with Lesley also in L.A. as the family cares for the children at home; Don Mosley of Jubilee Partners, having a hip replacement this month; Patrick McMaster’s brother Neal, having hip surgery this month; the McMaster family, as their boxer Molly is in failing health; Patti Priester, recovering from an icy fall; the Topples’ friends, in difficult times; Larry Hatfield’s sister-in-law, recovering from open heart surgery Jan.8; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topples’ sister Genia in Atlanta; Carl Huberty, Sharon Edwards, Grace Eubank, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS -

Monday,	January 15	Acts 17: 24-28
Tuesday,	January 16	Psalm 62: 5-12
Wednesday,	January 17	Isaiah 40: 6-8
Thursday,	January 18	Ecclesiastes 12: 13-14
Friday,	January 19	Luke 4: 14-21
Saturday,	January 20	Mark 1: 14-20
Sunday,	January 21	Luke 5: 1-11

Title: *We Are But a Breath*

Theme: We will not last as we are, but the word of the Lord within us endures forever.

WHO’S WHO: Who at Covenant studies ukelele at the Frank Hamilton Folk School, led by 83-yr-old Frank Hamilton who is one of the copyright holders for “We Shall Overcome”?

WHO’S WHO:
Mary Cook

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #28 1/07/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$259,952.00

Received Pledges: \$274,180.94

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Meals On Wheels: \$ 11,819.00

Joy Gift Offering: \$75.00

WORD GAMES. Short Talk. Name abbreviations.

Ex: Sandwich Favorite: BLT

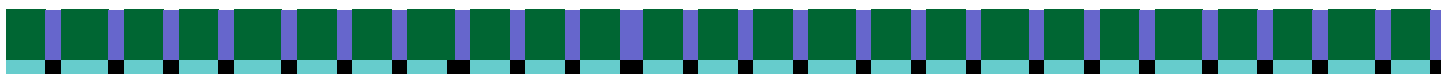
1. Doctor’s stand-in: _ _ _
2. Out on Points: _ _ _ _
3. Police Alert: _ _ _ _



Lily Herndon and Carrie Tweedell are now taking orders for Girl Scout Cookies. Cookies will be in the first week of February and are the same as last year: Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Dosidoes, Trefoils & Savannah Smiles are \$4 per box. S’mores & Toffeetastic are \$6 per box. Thank you for your support of these Girl Scouts.

ANSWERS TO:
SHORT TALK:
1. PA
2. TKO
3. APB

SANCTUARY MOVEMENT TASK FORCE-At our session meeting on August 15th, the session voted to create a "Sanctuary Task Force" that would explore ways Covenant might respond in faith and compassion to undocumented immigrants in the Athens area. One of the primary ways might be to support work already being undertaken by our friends at Oconee Street United Methodist Church under the leadership of our Green Acres neighbor JoBeth Allen. Please take a moment to read the "Athens-Area Sanctuary Coalition Proposal" that JoBeth distributed at our session meeting and prayerfully consider whether you might want to be a part of this effort. Feel free to contact Mark Harper or Sue Rathbun if you have interest or questions.



CE CORNER

The purpose of Christian Education at Covenant Presbyterian Church is to nurture our discipleship, build our spirit of community and cultivate clarity of thought about our faith.

Wonderful Wednesdays 10:00am Adult Bible Study

Covenant Connection

5:15pm – 6:00pm k-2nd grade choir; 3rd – 5th Servant time

6:00-6:30pm Family Dinner for children, youth and adults

6:30pm – 7:15pm 3rd – 5th grade Choir; K-2nd Servant Time

6:30pm Adult Bible Study

(thru Jan.24) DVD & discussion, "Briars in the Cotton Patch: The Story of Koinonia Farm"

6:30pm – 7:15pm Wednesday Evening Devotions

7:30pm Adult Choir

Wednesday Covenant Connection for Youth

3:30pm Supervision for Middle & High School Youth in the youth rooms begins

5:15pm "Wednesday School" for Youth led by Mark & Beecher

6:00pm Family Dinner 6:30pm Faith and Film

7:15pm Depart 7:25pm Adult Choir

MENU for Jan 17
Spaghetti –
sausage/sweet pep-
pers, salad, grapes
& ice cream

SAVE THE DATE! The Congregational Connections Ministry Team of NEGA Presbytery will present "Discussions in the Round" on **Saturday, February 3, from 9am-1pm**, at the UGA Presbyterian Student Center on Lumpkin Street. The cost is \$10, which will include lunch. Chad Pittman, who leads the PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer group in Atlanta, will share his thoughts on why churches are called to connect & serve together. (Remember Dave Bowden, Andy Waters, and Melissa Cobb have been some of the YAV's from Covenant in past years.) Bring your ideas & questions, so we can learn from each other, large & small congregations, how to go about ministry in our churches – especially in the areas of youth & adult ministries, Sunday School with our kids, missions, worship, and officer training. Be watching for more info to register for this event.



Healing Grief Workshop

Wednesdays
February 21 through April 18, 2018
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

The Griffin-DuBose Healing Lodge
240 Talmadge Drive

A nine-week workshop for those who have lost someone through death. The loss does not have to be cancer related.

Topics:

Getting Acquainted	Stress Management
Understanding Grief	Anniversaries
Remembering	Memorialization
Accepting	Role Changes
Closure & Evaluation	

Facilitated by
Lauren Richards, LCSW

Pre-registration is required for this workshop.
Please call 706-475-4900

This free workshop is sponsored by the "In Their Shoes" Walk

Sanctuary Task Force News: **"Hospitality Beyond Borders"**



Hospitality Beyond Borders is Koinonia Farm's ministry to immigrants and detainees at nearby Stewart Detention Center. If the men are deported, they are required to wear their prison jump suits on to the plane. However, if provided, they are allowed to carry a backpack with one change of clothes. Koinonia works to provide these items.

Order one of several of these backpacks. If you choose, give as gifts to loved ones or friends and we will send a card explaining the program and the importance of your gift in their honor.

Cost is \$75 each and this purchase is considered a donation. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt.

HBB75 Backpack, one shirt, a pair of pants, a pair of underwear, socks and shoes. \$75

Koinonia Farm's Mission:

We are Christians called to live together in intentional community sharing a life of prayer, work, study, service and fellowship. We seek to embody peacemaking, sustainability, and radical sharing. While honoring people of all backgrounds and faiths, we strive to demonstrate the way of Jesus as an alternative to materialism, militarism and racism.

Please consider making a donation. Make checks out to Covenant and mark it Hospitality Backpacks and place in offering or drop it off in the office.

You can also send a check directly to the address below or donate online.

Koinonia Farm

1324 GA Hwy 49 South

Americus, GA 31719

877.738.1741

donate@koinoniafarm.org

Any questions please contact: Sue Rathbun, Bert Ballard-Meyer or Mark Harper

ULEAD - Athens – Looking for Volunteers

What is ULEAD? U-Lead Athens is, in our students' words, United, Unafraid, Undefeated, and Unstoppable Leaders. Students and/or their parents are also undocumented or un(der)documented immigrants. Every Thursday night, Clarke County high school students and recent graduates who have lived in the US most of their lives gather to work with volunteer mentors: spectacular students with UGA's Undocumented Student Alliance (USA), faculty from CCSD and UGA, and community members. The Oconee Street United Methodist Church donates the space. Students identify and apply for colleges that will accept students with varying immigration statuses, prepare for standardized tests, and search and apply for scholarships. They plan to work in fields such as biology, engineering, education, heating and air conditioning, medical information technology, international relations, and psychology; they have expertise in music, art, multiple languages, and public speaking.

The main need we have is for people who can be College Coaches for the academic year, committing to attending each Thursday, 6:00-8:00 and working with one student as they go through the process of college exploration, test prep (we have content areas specialists), application, scholarship hunts, etc. We do the training and supply lots of support. It's incredibly rewarding!

Other much needed services: Provide dinner or donation for 60-75 people – If you bring dinner, please stay and eat and get to know us. Provide meal supplements such as iced tea, lemonade, salad, or dessert – chocolate is especially welcome! Provide transportation occasionally, either to or from our meetinghouse at Oconee Street United Methodist Church (595 Oconee Street) or to college for and admissions interview, campus visit or scholarship interview.

Whether it is books, dinner, or your financial support, any donation is greatly appreciated.

Click on the link below to find out what we're in need of and how you can help.

E-mail: uleadathens@gmail.com by phone: 706-224-1411 or 706-521-4082 www.uleadathens.org

Please consider becoming a volunteer: Any questions please contact Sue Rathbun or Mark Harper



For the month of JANUARY

Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB:

Saltines, dried beans, and canned salmon

and as always brown paper bags. Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

Please add Patti Priester's birthday Jan. 26th, to your list
Happy Birthday!



Signup now on the bulletin board for the next **Restaurant Roadtrip** on Tuesday, January 16, at 11:30am, at Fatz Café on Lexington Road near Tuckston Methodist Church. You can meet us there - or carpool from the church at 11:15am. Just let us know you're coming. Separate checks. Easy parking. Hope you can attend!

Covenant is now capable of making CD's of the Worship Service. They will be available in the

Church Office. The audio portion is also available on the church website. Click on or enter this address to access

<http://covpresathens.org/wp/sermons/>



YOGA AT COVENANT!

Resumes January 25th

Thursday at 6:30pm

Everyone is welcome!

The effects of plastic bags on the environment are really quite devastating. While there are many objections to the banning of plastic bags based solely on their convenience, the damage to the environment needs to be controlled. There is no way to strictly limit the effects of plastic bags on the environment because there is no disposal method that will really help eliminate the problem. While reusing them is the first step, most people either don't or can't based on store policies. They are not durable enough to stand up to numerous trips to the store so often the best that citizens can do is reuse them when following pooper scooper laws.

The biggest problem with this is that once they have been soiled the end up in the trash, which then ends up in the landfill or burned. Either solution is very poor for the environment. Burning emits toxic gases that harm the atmosphere and increase the level of VOCs in the air while landfills hold them indefinitely as part of the plastic waste problem throughout the globe. Check out the Green Dream Team Bulletin Board for more information.

CovPres Children and Youth - This is Our Page! Submit items you'd like to go in the Covenanter to ctopple@covpresathens.org, who can't guarantee all submissions will be published :).

5th Sunday Worship - Next 5th Sunday is April 29. Parents, children, and youth and others can begin to think about and prepare special offerings. Music is coordinated with Cliff Brock (cbrock@covpresathens.org); Other worship aspects are coordinated with Craig T. (ctopple@covpresathens.org) and Mark (mharper@covpresathens.org)

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service) -Children in 3rd - 5th grades are invited to lead the Call to Worship each Sunday. Next three Sundays.
Jan 14 - George McMaster
Jan 21- Delaney Braswell
Jan 28 - Ruby Gene Topple

Going underground with WoRM!

This winter/spring, WoRM has a regular teacher rotation! Once a month the K - 2nd class will be led by: Luanne Rigsby, Kay Brooks, Christine Carpenter, and Nancy Omdahl, along with their Shepherds. Each has particular gifts which fit like a glove with the workshop rotation. They will be a blessing to our children as they grow in the faith.

Jan 7th - Kay Brooks, Adam Brooks, Shepherd (Temple Courtyard)

Jan 14th - Christine Carpenter (Oasis Theatre)

Jan 21st - Nancy Omdahl (Loaves and Fishes)

Jan 28th - Luanne Rigsby, Susan Parish, Shepherd (Potter's Workshop)

3rd - 5th January Rotation

Jan 7 - Craig T (Loaves and Fishes - for *Greek*)

Jan 14 - Craig T (Temple Courtyard -- Potter's Workshop)

Jan 21 - Christine C (Oasis Theatre)



YOUTH NEWS!

Lasagna Lunch - January 7. What an event! Many many thanks to all who helped and all who ate! Over \$1800 was raised for youth programming, particularly assistance for youth trips or OFTs. Thanks to the generosity of this congregation, youth typically only are asked to pay for 35% of trip costs. What a blessings!
OFTs - Opportunities for Transformation 2018.

Lockin at OPC - Jan 14/15. Sign up was January 7th.

Winter Retreat - President's Day Weekend (Feb 17-19). Sign up by Jan 14

Montreat! - Senior High Youth - June 3 - 9. Sign up by January 14

Massanetta Springs - Middle School Conference: June 21 - 24. Sign up by Feb 11.

Wednesday evening programming is back in full swing beginning Jan 10.

3:45 - 5pm: Study Hall

5:15 - 6: Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher

6 - 6:30: Supper

6:30-7:15 - Movie with Craig B.

Sunday morning

B.A.S.I.C. Sunday school with Abby happens every Sunday at 9:30am in youth room.

Sunday evening program will resume after MLK weekend.

Sign up/ questions/ feedback - ctopple@covpresathens.org

The Cave - the Covenant Sponsored free after school program for middle and high school students. It will resume Friday, January 5th! *Thank you volunteers who make this valuable program happen!*

WEEK OF January 14, 2017

SUNDAY- IHN BEGINS

8:30am WORSHIP resumes - Rev. Joyce Liberman

9:30am Church School for All Ages

10:45am Worship - Rev. Joyce Lieberman

Youth Lock-In at Oconee Pres

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

8am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)

11:30am Restaurant Roadtrip to Fatz Cafe

8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study

5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn

6:30pm Wednesday Evening Devotions

6:30pm Adult Bible Study

7:25pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters

7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

3:30pm The Cave

8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY- 7:30am FEAST food truck distribution

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WEEK OF January 21, 2017

SUNDAY- IHN ENDS

8:30am WORSHIP

9:30am Church School for All Ages

10:45am Worship 12:15pm Congregational Care Team Meeting

5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center

1:00pm Presby. Coordinating Team Meeting

1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)

8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study

2pm Grad Council Meeting

5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn

6:30pm Wednesday Evening Devotions

6:30pm Adult Bible Study

7:25pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters

6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA

7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

8pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY-

3:30pm The Cave

8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—January 14, 2017

8:30am

Reader: Bruce Menke

Ushers: Judy Capie, Elsie Bothwell Coffee Maker: Dennis Calbos

10:45am

Liturgist: George McMaster

Reader: Paige Campbell

Ushers: Heide & Juergen Wiegel, Steve & Sue Rathbun

Greeters: Jim Whitney, Bert Ballard-Myer, Arnelle Combs

Congregational Care: DeLynda Tweedell

Counters: Paige Campbell, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Jim Bowden

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Jan. 15-21)

Nursery/Super: Joan Baird

Birth—Walking: Joan Baird

Walking—5 years old: Chuck Rosenberger, Sandy Whitney, Anna Cobb

WORSHIP—January 21, 2017

8:30am

Reader: Gijs Schimmel

Ushers: Arnelle Combs, Judy Capie Coffee Maker: Warren Combs

10:45am

Liturgist: Delaney Braswell

Reader: Mary Barnett

Ushers: The Tweedells, Robyn Malone, Mary Ann Johnson

Greeters: Phil Hale, Paige Campbell, Bill Rigsby

Congregational Care: DeLynda Tweedell

Counters: Randy Parish, Pam Knox

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Alex Clark

Grounds Stewards: Ed & Dianne Ralph (Jan 22-28)

Nursery/Super: Marie Ballard-Myer

Birth—Walking: Marie Ballard-Myer

Walking—5 years old: Hannah Barnett, Jim & Marcia Verbrugge