

THE COVENANTER

January 28, 2018

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



Souper Bowl Of Caring, February 4th.

Contributions will go to
support **FEAST**, the East
Athens Food Distribution,
a partnership of local

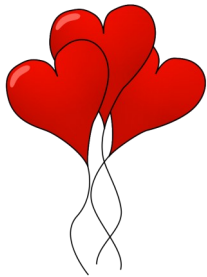
churches that purchase a truck load of food to
distribute to hungry families in our community.
Each truck load of food costs \$350. Covenant
is the host of the food distribution bi monthly,
with the next one on March 17th.

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

Our monthly Presbyterian Women Bible Study will meet in the Gathering
Room on Thursday, February 8, at 9:30am, to continue their study, "Cloud of
Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews." Please read chapter 6 in
your study booklet. Mark is teaching this time, and everyone will enjoy a light
winter lunch afterwards, of soup & bread & fruit. You won't want to miss it -
come and join us!

Remember in Prayer: Warren Combs' cousin Hank, doing well at home now; Paula Zimdars' aunt & uncle, in transition to Kansas City to live near children, after 40 years in Iowa; Marcia & Jim Verbrugge's neighbor Eleanor, in failing health with advanced cancer; Dell Whitehead's father Hubert Deaton in Gainesville, recovering from a fall with 2 broken bones, pain, & confusion; Nathan Weaver's co-worker Bob, in the recent death of his son Daniel; Missy Green's sister Rebecca, having serious & delicate heart surgery Feb.6; Jeremy Reaves, in the sudden death of his friend Casey in AL; Kay Millar's son-in-law Justin, recovering well at home now, after Jan.10 surgery; Grace Eubank, at High Shoals Rehab, with a fractured lumbar vertebra; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Joan Baird, Justin Dean, Don Mosley, Carl Huberty, Sharon Edwards, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - January 29 – February 4th

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Psalms 147: 1-11, 20c

I Corinthians 9: 16-23

Mark 1: 29-39

WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant lost a swim race to his student, in a 32-degree lake with an iceberg?

WHO'S WHO:
Juergen Wiegell

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #30 1/21/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$279,231.00

Received Pledges: \$287,117.00

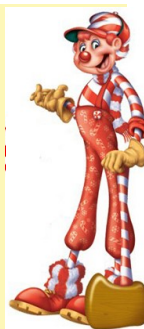
Thank you for your faithful giving!

Joy Gift Offering: \$1,075.00

WORD GAMES. Short Talk. Name abbreviations.

Ex: Sandwich Favorite: BLT

1. Basic knowledge: _ _ _
2. Builder of Dams and Lakes:
_ _ _
3. What you graduate with: _ _ _

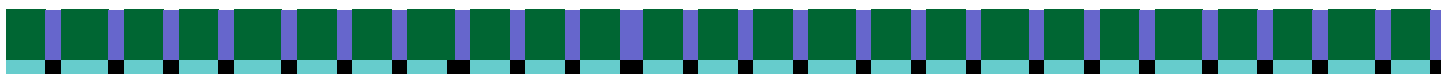


Lily Herndon and Carrie Tweedell are now taking orders for Girl Scout Cookies. Cookies will be in the first week of February and are the same as last year: Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Dosidoes, Trefoils & Savannah Smiles are \$4 per box. S'mores & Toffeetastic are \$6 per box. Thank you for your support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

ANSWERS TO:
SHORT TALK:

1. ABC's
2. TVA
3. GPA

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.31) 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 31st
Baked Potato/Chili
Salad, fruit,
brownies

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. Registration forms are on the bulletin board by the mailboxes.

FINDING SABBATH AT MONTREAT

First Presbyterian Church of Athens, Fellowship Hall, 185 E. Hancock Ave.

Wednesday, February 21, 6:30 p.m., Dinner at 5:45

Montreat Conference Center is a ministry of the PC(USA) located outside of Asheville, NC. For over 100 years, they have provided a sacred space to encounter God through relationships, renewal, recreation, and rest. Everyone is invited to join us as Montreat President Richard DuBose comes to FPC Athens. You are also welcome to join us for dinner, which begins at 5:45 p.m. For dinner reservations please visit firstpresathens.org and click the "Wed@First" button.



"Many thanks for all the congregational support provided to our IHN families during host week January 14-21. We had approximately 42 volunteers spend over 310 hours showing hospitality during their time with us."



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.



La Table 2018. We invite you to join at tables, Covenant and East Friendship Baptist will be hosting for a luncheon to benefit
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens!

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Time: Registration from 11:00-11:45 a.m.; Luncheon at noon

Place: Athens Country Club - 2700 Jefferson Rd., Athens, Georgia

Cost: \$50 Contribution

The funds raised through this event will support IHNA in its mission to mobilize our community to help homeless families in crisis situations achieve sustainable independence by providing emergency housing, meals and comprehensive support services.

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!

The Restaurant Roadtrip is heading to Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen, 2040 Oconee Connector, on Tuesday, February 20, at 11:30pm. It's near Loop 10 and Freddy's ice cream shop on Epps Bridge Parkway.

Please signup to let us know you're coming. You can meet us there or join a carpool from the church at 11:15am.

Always good food & fellowship!



YOGA AT COVENANT!

Thursdays at 6:30pm

Everyone is welcome!

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/>

Join us for Lunch Bunch, every final Tuesday of the month, at DePalma's Eastside at 11:30am. Next one is Tuesday, January 30th. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks – meet you there.

Come one, come all, to our monthly Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon. On Tuesday, February 13, at 12:30pm, in the Fellowship Hall, Melody Lane Cartledge will provide pulled pork, so everyone else bring a side dish, salad, bread, or dessert to share. Our program will be on the how & why of living to be 100 years old! Centenarians have good stories & wisdom to offer, and Mary Ann Johnson will glean the best for us from her work at UGA. Hope to see you there!

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 they 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 28 - Ruby Gene Topple
Feb 4 - Luke Shannon
Feb 11—Jacob Page

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 21 - Christine C (Oasis Theatre)

Jan 28 - Patrick M (Loaves and Fishes)

Raising our children in the faith is a gift we give and receive.

YOUTH NEWS! -Sunday January 28th - Youth take over Skate Inn w/ an 80s theme!

Presbyterian youth groups have rented out Skate Inn: 295 Commerce Blvd, Bogart, GA 30622

5 - 5:15 - Drop off at church: 5:15 - 5:35 - Supper at church: 5:40 - Depart to Skate Inn:

8:20-8:30 - Pick up at Church: (Option to meet group there.) Cost = \$2 Invite a friend!

Meals for Sunday Night Youth - Contact DeLynda Tweedell to volunteer to provide a meal. Thanks!

Wednesday evening programming is back in full swing.

3:45 - 5pm: Study Hall/Hang out; 5:15 - 6: Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher

6 - 6:30: Supper; 6:30-7:15 - Movie with Craig B. and Juergen

Sunday Morning

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

Next Three Sunday Evening programs

Jan 28: Youth Group - 80's Skate Night (See above)

Feb 4: Youth Group (Youth Leader Meeting @ 4) Youth Groups at 5pm

Feb 11: Youth Groups at 5pm

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!*

Contact Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Cave Manager, for more information or to volunteer:

cotsakiscordon@gmail.com

WEEK OF January 28, 2018**SUNDAY-**

8:30am WORSHIP
 9:30am Church School for All Ages
 10:45am Worship
 5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

5:30pm—9:00pm Cedar Creek Association Meeting in FH

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside
 1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
 8pm New Freedom in Fellowship Hall

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-

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA
 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

3:30pm The Cave
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—January 28, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Sonja Holden

Ushers: Wayne Crowell, Alan Edwards Coffee Maker: Shirley Hunt

10:45am

Liturgist: Ruby Gene Toppie

Reader: Terry Centner

Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Jerry & Sarah Shannon

Greeters: Brian & Wyatt Herndon, Maurine Wathen

Congregational Care: DeLynda Tweedell

Counters: Judy Capie, Sue Loegel

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden

Nursery/Super: Annemarie Braswell

Birth—Walking: Annemarie Braswell

Walking—5 years old: Sydney & Delaney Braswell, Lindsey Bowden

WEEK OF February 04, 2018**SUNDAY- SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

8:30am WORSHIP
 9:30am Church School for All Ages 10:30am Elder Review of Communion
 10:45am Worship 12:15pm Cong. Care Team Meeting in Conf. Room
 4pm Youth Leader Meeting
 5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

Beecher on leave through Feb. 12
 8:00am Covenant's Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel
 6:00pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
 8pm New Freedom
 7:00pm Christian Education Meeting

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- 9:30am PW Bible Study & light lunch

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA
 7pm Worship Team Meeting
 7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY-

3:30pm The Cave
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

6:30pm Heart of Covenant
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned



WORSHIP—February 04, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell Coffee Maker: Warren & Nell

10:45am

Liturgist: Luke Shannon

Reader: John Chamblee

Ushers: Phil & Linda Koehler, Jim Newland & Dorothy Newland,
 Dianne Simpson

Greeters: Terry Centner, Mary Ann Johnson, Sallie Hale

Congregational Care:

Counters: Judy Capie, Ellen Stoneburner

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Feb. 5-11)

Nursery/Super: Don Bower

Birth—Walking: Don Bower

Walking—5 years old: Jennifer Frey, Elsie Bothwell, Adam Brooks