

THE COVENANTER  
February 25, 2018

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

**Bowden Church Vocations Fund—a special offering for Covenant Presbyterian Church**

We continue to be grateful to God for all the gifts of the Spirit seen in Covenant's ministry of the past 52 years. We have had 8 candidates for ministry who attended Columbia Seminary in Atlanta: Andy Casto-Waters, Rob Lohmeyer, Jennifer and David Horton, Insook Lee, Boin Cho, David Fuentes, and Lauren Van Wicklen Peters and one who attended Union in Richmond, Robin Mann Murzynski. We have also supported the efforts of our members as Volunteers in Mission, on summer Mission Teams, as student interns on our church staff, and in other studies and certifications at Montreat College and Columbia Seminary. We also encouraged Susan Verbrugge and Catherine Willis Oliver as they too became PCUSA Ministers of Word & Sacrament. Named in honor of Jim & Jere Bowden's 35 year ministry here at Covenant, the BOWDEN CHURCH VOCATIONS FUND was established in 1996 by our Session to support our members who have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. This year we celebrate with Colleen Cook who is finishing her third of 4 years at Columbia Seminary this spring. Colleen is a longtime member, who was active in the choir and coordinator of our CovConn program. Please keep her in your prayers. The costs are great. *A special offering for the Bowden Fund will be received this month. Make checks out to Covenant and mark them BCVF or Bowden Fund. PLEASE RESPOND GENEROUSLY, as we support our members in this journey of faith together!*

**STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON ...ROOTED IN LOVE!... Ephesians 3:17**

Covenant Presbyterian Church is a community of rich soil. Over the years gifted and dedicated people have created a fertile space where God's Word is taught, wrestled with, and enacted. And much good fruit has been born: children are cherished; older adults are celebrated; leaders in education, industry, science, business, human services, and in the church itself are nurtured; neighbors in need and community organizations of all kinds find welcome here. We do not agree on everything, but a spirit of respect and a desire to glorify God while serving the common good where we have been planted fills the air. Covenant is a community rooted in the love of God and one another. Mark your calendars to attend the Stewardship Luncheon, March 18th following the 10:45am worship service. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided. Sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Pledge cards will be presented at that time as we enjoy the fruit of fellowship and dream together about where God is leading us in the days to come. Rooted together in love, let us trust that hungry people will know that God is with us, not because we say so, but because they find here the fruit that offers life.

COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



For the month of February Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB: *saltines, cold cereals, and as always brown paper bags.* Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

**Remember in Prayer:** Jonathan Arnold & family, in the death of his mother Eleanor on Sun.Feb.18, with a memorial planned at Covenant for Sat.Mar.17; Judy Capie, having an outpatient lung procedure Feb.27; Dianne Ralph, after gastric bypass surgery at Piedmont Athens Regional Feb.19 and diagnosed with pancreatic cancer; family & friends of Kate Jones, student at Oconee County HS, after her sudden death in an ATV accident Feb.16; Alice McMaster's friend Stephanie, at Emory thru April for a second stem-cell transplant; Patrick McMaster's brother Neal, recovering from hip surgery Feb.19; Caren Snook's neighbor Tom, needing a liver transplant, yet unqualified for the national list; Linda Turner, our presbytery's longtime admin.assistant, still hospitalized as she recovers from gallbladder removal and pancreatitis Feb.12; John Knox's brother David, in a difficult time as well as moving & selling his home; Melissa Cobb's work at the Project Safe thrift store & all helped by this ministry; Missy Green's sister & Asher Hill's aunt Rebecca, recovering well at home from a recent, difficult heart surgery; our Cedar Shoals neighbor Mrs.Bowen, in a difficult time; Joan Baird & Sharon Edwards, healing well & feeling much stronger; Grace Eubank, at High Shoals Rehab, with a fractured lumbar vertebra; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Justin Dean, Don Mosley, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - February 26-March 4**

Monday	Psalm 19
Tuesday	Psalm 20
Wednesday	Psalm 21
Thursday	Exodus 20: 1-17
Friday	I Corinthians 1: 18-25
Saturday	John 2: 1-12
Sunday	John 2: 13-22



**LENT**

**WHO'S WHO:** Who at Covenant once played golf with Billy Graham in Black Mountain, NC?



**WHO'S WHO:**  
Beecher's father  
Al, also a  
Presbyterian minister

**DOUBLE HITS:** Part A and part B share a word.  
What is it?

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>A</b>               | <b>B</b>          |
| 1. where swallows go   | 1. put up with    |
| 2. Beagle call         | 2. body of water  |
| 3. navigational device | 3. farm implement |



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

Change your clocks before  
bedtime on

**Saturday, March 10th!**

**Citizens' Climate Education**

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE FAITH COMMUNITIES**

JOIN US FOR AN EXPLORATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ISSUES IT POSES FOR THE FAITH COMMUNITIES.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>  
2:00-3:30 PM  
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1065 GAINES SCHOOL ROAD

LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED.  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT US AT:  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ATHENSCL](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ATHENSCL)

**2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD**  
**WEEK #34 2/18/2018**

Anticipated Pledges: \$315,656.00  
Received Pledges: \$322,149.14  
*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

Bowden Vocations Fund:  
\$3,291.00

**SANCTUARY MOVEMENT TASK FORCE**-At our session meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 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. 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

(Feb. 7, 21, & 28) "Cotton Patch Gospel," the gospels of Matthew & John translated into present day Southern vernacular

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 Feb. 28th:  
Pork Chops  
Mac/Cheese  
Broccoli  
Fruit



**Covenant Connection children are collecting these items to put together for Manna bags for the homeless: Bottled water, protein bars/snacks, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, washcloth, feminine hygiene products, and other toiletries. The project will**

**begin February 28th. Please leave your contributions in the box in the hallway in front of the church office. Thanks!**



The monthly Presbyterian Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, March 8, from 9:30-11:00am, in the Gathering Room for missions, devotions, and great discussion on this year's topic, "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews," led by Beecher. Read chapter 7 in your study booklet and Psalm 95, as well as Hebrews 3:1-19, 4:1-11, 6:9-12, and 11:1-3. Hope to see you there!

I am truly thankful to all those in the Covenant congregation who contributed to the Ben Bruner Fund. The purpose of the fund was to help Ben go with his Cedar Shoals ROTC unit to Normandy France to celebrate the 70th anniversary of D-Day. That trip was a wonderful gift to Ben who would not have been able to go without this help from you. All of the funds were not used by Ben for that trip. Now Ben is a freshman cadet at the University of North Georgia, Dahlonega. He was a good student at Cedar Shoals and earned grants and scholarships for his freshmen semester at UNG. Some fees were not covered by these grants/scholarships. The remaining dollars in the Ben Bruner Fund have been used to pay some of the remaining fees. Thank you all so much for your contributions to help this deserving young man.

Ben has now finished his first semester at UNG-Dahlonega and I am happy to report that he made all A's during this first semester!!!

If you would like to send him a note of encouragement, his mailing address is Ben Bruner, Box 6769, UNG Post Office, 82 College Circle, Dahlonega, GA 30596

Catharine Tyson

## TIREd of the Trash?

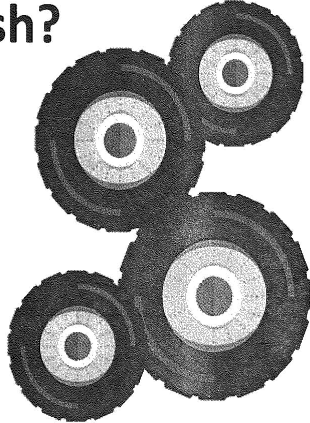
### Tire Amnesty Week


**March 26 to March 31, 2018**

Bring abandoned tires to the

- ACC Landfill, 5700 Lexington Road  
Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Saturday 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
- Or to the CHaRM, 1005 College Avenue  
Monday 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
Wednesday 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
Saturday 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM


Passenger vehicle tires only, 6 tire limit  
Questions? Call 706-613-3508





**No disposal fee during Amnesty Week**

Sponsored by:  
The Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful Board of Directors  
and the Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Department.



The Lindsay Group will provide secure destruction of your confidential and sensitive materials for FREE with their mobile shredding units that destroy materials onsite under your supervision.  
The ACC Recycling Division will recycle the shreds.



Area residents and small businesses can shred up to 2 boxes (size of a bankers box) of documents for free. Additional boxes can be shredded for a \$5.00 fee per box, payable in **CASH**.

\*The Lindsay Group now offers hard drive destruction for \$10.00 per hard drive. Cash Only.  
Size: 8.5 in. x 5.5 in. x 1 in.

## SHRED EVENT

**Saturday April 21, 2018**  
**9 AM – 12 PM**  
**CHaRM 1005 College Ave.**  
**Athens, GA 30601**

For more information contact  
ACC Recycling Division: (706) 613-3512,  
recycle@athensclarkecounty.com,  
or athensclarkecounty.com/recycle

Join us for Lunch Bunch, every final Tuesday of the month, at DePalma's Eastside at 11:30am. Next one is Tuesday, February 27th. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks – meet you there.

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/>

**ANSWERS TO DOUBLE HITS:**

1. Stomach
2. Bay
3. tiller

**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](mailto: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. Instructions: Practice with your child. During the Voluntary of the worship service, the liturgist may join the pastors in the chancel. To begin, invite the congregation, "Please join me in the Call to Worship." Next three Sundays:  
Feb 25 - Karl Ritzler; March 4- Wesley Whitehead;  
March 11 - Freeman Chamblee

### Going underground with WoRM! 9:30 - 10:35 Sunday Mornings

**Parents/Caregiver learning note:** Come to the conclusion of *February* lesson, but our Lenten journey continues into March. On a recent Sunday morning Betsy played a hymn, "These Treasured Children," with the following verses which speaks to our baptismal covenant--part of our Feb lesson: *"These treasured children present now are bound to us by sacred vow: with love, we make a heartfelt claim to welcome them in Jesus' name. Our ancient story we shall tell, till these our children know it well within their souls and minds and hearts, for this is where their journey starts."*

**Memory Verse: Matthew 3:17** - Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased." Explore with your children what this voice might have sounded like?

**February Rotation** - *Thanks be to God for our volunteers!* Please help prepare your children for Sunday School by telling them who their teacher and shepherd will be, and how awesome they are :)

**K - 2nd** Feb 4th - Kay Brooks and Adam Brooks, Temple Courtyard

Feb 11th - Nancy Omdahl and Rosa Peña, Loaves and Fishes

Feb 18th - Christine Carpenter and Jennifer Frey, Oasis Theatre (combined classes)

Feb 24th - Luanne Rigsby and Susan Parish, Potter's Workshop

### 3rd - 5th

Feb 4th- Craig Topple and Annemarie Braswell, Potter's Workshop

Feb 11th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Temple Courtyard

Feb 18th - Christine Carpenter and Jennifer Frey, Oasis Theatre (combined classes)

Feb 24th - Patrick McMaster and Jere Bowden, Loaves and Fishes



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

**YOUTH NEWS!** - *During the school year, when school is in session, youth have three weekly opportunities to get together with your friends. CovConn on Weds, after school until 7:15pm; Sunday Morning at 9:30am with Abby and BASIC; and Sunday evenings from 5-7pm for Youth Groups, at church unless otherwise indicated.*

### Next Three Sunday Evening programs

Feb 25: Youth Group - regular time. W/A/M night-leave from church to visit to Highland Hills Assisted Living to help lead evening worship.

March 4 - Youth Group, Highway Clean up/ Game night

March 11—SPRING BREAK! No Youth Groups

Sign up/ questions/ feedback - [ctopple@covpresathens.org](mailto:ctopple@covpresathens.org)

**Help Prevent Hangry moments!** Can you provide a meal for Sunday Night Youth group? If so, please contact DeLynda Tweedell, and thank you! Sign up sheet is outside the church office. **Dates Available: March 4, 18, April 15, 22, & 29, May 6!**

**The Cave** - the Covenant Sponsored *free* after school program for middle and high school students from 3:45-5:30 every Friday there is a regular school day. *Thank you volunteers who make this valuable program happen!* Contact Christina Cotsakis Cordon, Cave Manager, for more information or to volunteer: [cotsakiscordon@gmail.com](mailto:cotsakiscordon@gmail.com)

### Sunday morning's at 9:30

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

**Sunday Evenings: 5-7pm at church unless otherwise specified.**

*We are exploring the Beatitudes, specifically, experiencing the blessing of being peacemakers*



*"Pssst!... Two passes... Best prices."*

***Come and see!*** You are invited to bring a bag lunch to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, March 4, at 12:30pm, and hear a wonderful presentation from Eric Zimdars about his 2 years in the Peace Corps in Alto Parana, Paraguay, 2014-16. Remember that Covenant helped finance “Water Security for Community Production,” digging a deeper well to irrigate the 100,000 yerba mate saplings produced annually by 13 small-scale, local farmers. Eric will be moving out west later this year, to pursue employment and a graduate degree – so this is our chance to learn more from him about his experience. Hope you can attend!



- |                      |                    |                 |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2 John Knox          | 14 Sonja Holden    | 26 Andrew Mote  |
| 3 Jack Pannecoucke   | 16 James Malone    | McKenzie Redish |
| Rad Brosius          | 17 Bill Parker     | 29 Don Hoeler   |
| Ben Whitney          | Ron Simpson        | 30 Phil Koehler |
| 5 Sam Brewster       | Dorothy Zimmer     | Rhys Dartez     |
| Josh Ballard-Myer    | 18 David Loegel    | 31 Edie Covert  |
| 6 Betsy Pless        | 19 Thomas Bowden   |                 |
| 8 Richard Page       | 23 Donny Whitehead |                 |
| 9 Junan Crisler      | Bill Willis        |                 |
| Trasie Topple        | Owen Barnett       |                 |
| 10 Kent Wolfe        | 24 Preston Devaney |                 |
| 13 Francesca Cervero | 25 Karen Redwine   |                 |



Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition

# EASTER

## Egg Hunt

Saturday  
March 31, 2018

**Free Family Event**

**Food & Games**

**Time:**  
10 a.m to 12 p.m.

**Where:**  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1065 Gaines School Road, Athens GA 30605

PosterMyWall.com

Everyone of all ages is invited to learn more about immigration issues in the Athens area on Tuesday, March 13, at the **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** in Fellowship Hall, at 12:30pm. Bring a dish to share; beverages are provided. Members of Covenant's Sanctuary Task Force will talk with us, as well as Joel Siebenritt, Outreach Ministry Chair of Oconee Street United Methodist Church, one of 11 Athens communities of faith & action, who have joined efforts to support families of undocumented residents. Good information & stories to hear, plus time for questions & answers.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP!**  
February 27th at 7pm  
Join us  
at  
The Globe  
199 N Lumpkin St, Athens, GA 30601  
Topic of discussion:  
*God & Guns!*

*Congratulations* to Jim & Ann Haarmann Anderson, who were married at Covenant on Saturday, February 17, with great joy & celebration!

"Someone asked me recently if I didn't think God was unfair, allowing me to have Parkinson's and other medical problems when I have tried to serve him faithfully. I replied that I did not see it that way at all. Suffering is part of the human condition, and it comes to us all. The key is how we react to it, either turning away from God in anger and bitterness or growing closer to him in trust and confidence."  
*Billy Graham 1919-2018*

**Highlights of the stated Session meeting** on Tues. Feb. 20 include: 1) review of proposed budget for July-June 2018-19; 2) many thanks to Marilyn Brown and Sue Rathbun for serving as commissioners in Milledgeville at the presbytery meeting on Feb. 24; 3) gratitude to Gloria Pylant for serving on the Personnel Committee, as Paul Brooks rotates off, with Phil Hale serving as 2018 Chair; 4) approval of an open-date for a congregational meeting to elect the 2018 Nominating Committee; 5) approval to serve Holy Communion on Sun. April 8, rather than on Easter, April 1; and 6) approval of summer Sunday schedule = Sun. May 13 is final date for 8:30am worship; Sun. May 20 is final date for Church School for children & youth; and Sun. June 3 begins 9:45am worship. *Ongoing copies of the minutes of Session meetings, as well as Ministry Team minutes, can be found on the table in the narthex. All Session meetings are open to anyone's attendance*

**WEEK OF February 25, 2018**

**SUNDAY-**

8:30am WORSHIP  
9:30am Church School for All Ages  
10:45am Worship  
2pm Citizens Climate Lobby Meeting in FH  
5pm Youth Groups

**MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

6:00pm Scouts

**TUESDAY-** 9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
11:00am—2pm La Table at the Country Club  
11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside  
1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)  
7pm Theology on Tap at the Globe (Downtown)  
8pm New Freedom in FH

**WEDNESDAY-**

10am Adult Bible Study  
5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn  
6:30pm Adult Bible Study  
6:30pm WED  
7:25pm Adult Choir

**THURSDAY-**

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

**FRIDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
3:30pm The Cave  
8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY-**

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

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**WORSHIP—February 25, 2018**

**8:30am**

Reader: Dianne Simpson

Ushers: Heidi & Kent Wolfe                      Coffee Maker: Shirley Hunt

**10:45am**

Liturgist: Karl Ritzler

Reader: Jim Newland

Ushers: Kent Silver, Marie Ballard-Myer, Julie Bower, Shirley Reinert

Greeters: Tim & Karen Foutz, Julie Bower

Congregational Care: Bert Ballard-Myer

Counters: Sue Loegel, Judy Capie

Flowers: Ginger Davis-Beck

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Feb. 26-March 4)

Nursery/Super: Pam Knox

Birth—Walking: Pam Knox

Walking—5 years old: Brian & Wyatt Herndon, Brad Sperr

**WEEK OF March 04, 2018**

**SUNDAY-**

8:30am WORSHIP  
9:30am Church School for All Ages  
10:45am Worship  
12:30pm Eric Zimdars Presentation on Peace Corps Project  
4:00pm Youth Leader Meeting  
5pm Youth Groups

**MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

5:00pm—8:30pm Pinewood Derby in the Fellowship Hall

**TUESDAY-** Craig on leave through Mar 15th

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

**WEDNESDAY-**

10am Adult Bible Study  
5:15pm—7:15pm CovConn  
6:30pm Adult Bible Study  
6:30pm WED  
7:25pm Adult Choir

**THURSDAY- 9:30am PW BIBLE STUDY**

10:00am Committee on Ministry                      2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA  
7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)  
8pm Happy Squares

**FRIDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
3:30pm The Cave  
8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY-**

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

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**WORSHIP—March 04, 2018**

**8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell                              Coffee Maker: Dennis Calbos

**10:45am**

Liturgist: Wesley Whitehead

Reader: Juergen Wiegel

Ushers: Juergen & Heide Wiegel, Hand, DeLynda & Carrie Tweedell

Greeters: Bob Brewster & Sarah Lamb, Sallie Hale

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Caren Snook, Randy Parish

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Steve Bell

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (March 5—11)

Nursery/Super: DeLynda Tweedell

Birth—Walking: DeLynda Tweedell

Walking—5 years old: Luanne Rigsby, Tim Foutz, Carrie Tweedell