



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Change your clocks before bedtime on

Saturday, March 10th!

THE COVENANTER
March 11, 2018



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

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. **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 to bring a salad, fruit, or dessert and to help set up or clean up. 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.

FEAST FOOD TRUCK DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, March 17th beginning at 7am

Covenant 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 next to the mailboxes. Volunteers will need to arrive as early as 7:00am, with the distribution itself beginning at 9am for approximately 200 people. It is estimated that we will wrap things up around 10:30am. 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!*



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 March Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB: *dry pasta, peanut butter and as always brown paper bags.* Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

Remember in Prayer: Dot Handley's sister, Carolyn Reynolds with Alzheimer's, not doing well; Mary Anna Wynes, eye surgery in Lawrenceville March 15; Wesley Whitehead, with a soccer injury; Anje Kidd's mother, recently hospitalized with a stomach virus; Jonathan Arnold & family, in the recent death of his mother Eleanor, with a 4pm memorial service at Covenant March 17; Dianne Ralph, in chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer; Bill Lindstrom, recovering after a hip replacement Mar.7; Grace Eubank, healing from a fractured vertebra, now living near her son Ben – address: Branchwater Village #26, 763 Medical Center Pkwy, Boaz, AL 35957, Phone# 256-281-6362; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Justin Dean, Dianne Ralph, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - March 12-18

Monday	Psalm 51: 1-12
Tuesday	Psalm 119: 9-16
Wednesday	Jeremiah 31: 31-34
Thursday	Hebrews 4: 12-16
Friday	Hebrews 5: 5-10
Saturday	John 12: 20-26
Sunday	John 12: 27-36



WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant has visited Bosnia?



Steve Rathbun
WHO'S WHO:

Voila! Find a word, usually a noun, which when joined with each of the words proceeding or following it forms an entirely new word-idea.

1. ____ T ____ power; wheel; fall
2. ____ D ____ stick; light; holder
3. Y _____ fever; peril, light

2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #36 3/04/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$334, 224.00

Received Pledges: \$342,034.59

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Bowden Vocations Fund:

\$4,066.00



Presbyterians for
Earth Care

Everyone Welcome
to the Green Dream
Team Ministry Meeting,
who have an
interest in environmental issues and the
PCUSA's Earth Care Ministry
March 15, 2018, 12:30—2:00pm



Come one! Come All!
Tuesday, March 20 at 9am
for an opportunity to get
your Church ready
for Easter.

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Let us pray for God's continued blessing on this ecumenical effort in our community!

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

March 30, 7:00 p.m.—First Presbyterian Church of Athens will host this year's Good Friday Presbyterian Community Service, which will be a Tenebrae Service led by area clergy and choirs. Meaning "darkness" or "shadows," the service of Tenebrae was first practiced in medieval times. It later became an important part of worship during Holy Week. Please join our Presbyterian brothers and sisters from the Athens area.



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—DVD discussion of Peter Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*, on the life of Christ & his ministry

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- DVD discussion of Peter Yancey's *The Jesus I Never Knew*, on the life of Christ & his ministry

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

MENU for March 14th:
Bar-B-Que Chicken
Mac/Cheese, Broccoli
Fruit



Thanks to the congregation for helping us make Mana (essential supplies, ie toiletries, snacks, & dental care) bags for the CovConn children to give to people in need.



All Covenant Youth Alumni & families are invited to gather for a reunion during the Easter Sunday Breakfast at 8:30am, April 1, in Fellowship Hall. You'll have a table to yourselves and enjoy all the goodies that Covenant always provides! As our guests, you don't need to bring a thing. What a great way to spend Easter morning! Remember our outdoor worship is at 7:30am and indoor worship at 10:45am, with 9:30am Church School in between. Hope you'll come – and share this with your other Covenant Youth alums.

Contact Julie Bower at bower.julie@gmail.com for more information. Please RSVP by March 23.



Sunday, Mar. 25 8:30 & 10:45am, Palm Sunday Worship

9:30am, Church School for all ages

5:00pm, Youth Group

Tuesday, Mar. 27 11:30pm, Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside

Wednesday, Mar. 28 10:00am & 6:30pm, Adult Bible Studies

5:15-7:15pm, Covenant Connection

6:30pm, Evening Devotions

7:30pm, Adult Choir

Thursday, Mar. 29 2:00pm, Knitters & Knotters

6:00pm, Foot Washing Service

7:00pm, Maundy Thursday Communion & Tenebrae Worship

Friday, Mar. 30 7:00pm, PCUSA Good Friday worship, at First Pres downtown

Saturday, Mar. 31 10:00am-noon, Easter Egg Hunt & Games, with community invited

Sunday, Apr. 1 Easter Sunday - - One Great Hour of Sharing offering

7:30am, Sunrise Worship outdoors

8:30am, Covered Dish Breakfast, with Youth Alumni Reunion

9:30am, Church School for all ages

10:45am, Worship indoors - - no evening activities



A memorial service for Eleanor Arnold, Jonathan's mother who had been living in Athens, will be held in the Worship Center at 4pm on Saturday, March 17. All are welcome. A memorial fund for our music ministry at Covenant will be established in her name.

Join us for the next **Restaurant Roadtrip**, Tuesday, March 20, at 11:30am, at Longhorn Steakhouse, 2170 West Broad Street, near Walgreens & KFC, near Hawthorne Road. Signup on the bulletin board to let us know you're coming. Separate checks. The church carpool leaves the parking lot at 11:15am.

Covenant's worship services are now available in audio 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, March 27th. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks – meet you there.

Adult Choir needs singers of all types and abilities for upcoming Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Please come to choir practice on Wed's at 7:30. It is a great way to meet others and to enhance our lives with the spiritual power of making music. Even if you can't read music, singing in the choir will provide you the fundamentals of music theory and you will be reading in no time. Please consider joining this important ministry.

Contact Cliff at cbrock@covpresathens.org or (706) 206-7099



Come join us at choir rehearsal and have some fun and chocolate!

Transformed!

CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 28th, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Join the Athens College of Ministry for the annual **Transformed! Conference** where we will delve into the truth about **"Transforming the Kingdom from the Courts of Heaven!"** Conference participants will explore practical, biblical truths about their role in ushering the Kingdom of Heaven into the earth by taking an in-depth look at:

- Who Christ is in us;
- The power and authority within us as co-heirs with Christ;
- How to effectively exercise that authority in the heavenly courts; and
- The resulting transformational power of God!

It's the power of Christ in you to transform!

If you will walk in my ways and if you will keep my commands, then you shall also judge my house and likewise have charge of my courts. (Zechariah 3:3)

Presenter: Dr. Marcia Wilbur, ACPMin President

Conference Site: Grace Fellowship Church
1120 Malcom Bridge Rd, Bogart, GA 30622

Visit the website below for more information and to register.

\$35 registration – Lunch Included

ACMin.org/Transformed-Conference

Women's Prayer Breakfast

March 17, 2018 at 9am

at East Friendship Baptist Church

400 Arch Street

For more info see
Bert Ballard-Myer, Sue Rathbun,
or Jere Bowden

ANSWERS TO Voila!:

1. Water
2. Candle
3. yellow

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. 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: March 11 - Freeman Chamblee; March 18—Thomas Bowden; March 25—George McMaster

Going underground with WoRM! 9:30 - 10:35 Sunday Mornings: The story of the Passover found in Exodus 12 is a tradition that, in Judaism, has been handed down from generation to generation, family to family since the late thirteenth century B.C.E. or for some 15,000 years. Remarkable! - a story of liberation significant enough to be told year after year for so long. As Christians, we preserve variations of the Passover tradition not only because we are part of the Abrahamic tradition, and because it is part of Jesus' story. He celebrated what is often called "the Last Supper" during the time of the Passover according to Luke 22:7ff. This month for WoRM we are going to learn about this rich Passover tradition, considering a different aspect of the story from Exodus and Luke each week. I encourage you to read these stories from Exodus chapters 12-13 and from Luke 22: 1-23 with your children as we approach Holy Week, March 25-31.

Memory Verse(s): Luke 22:19-20: "Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.' In the same way, he gave them the cup after the supper, saying, 'This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you.'"

March Rotation - 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 Mar 4th - Kay Brooks and Adam Brooks, Temple Courtyard
Mar 11th - Christine Carpenter and Jere Bowden, Oasis Theatre (combined)
Mar 18th - Nancy Omdahl and Jennifer Frey, Potter's Workshop
Mar 25th - Luanne Rigsby and Susan Parish, Loaves and Fishes

3rd - 5th Mar 4th- Patrick McMaster and Jere Bowden, Loaves and Fishes
Mar 11th - Christine Carpenter and Jere Bowden, Oasis Theatre (combined)
Mar 18th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Temple Courtyard
Mar 25th - Craig Topple and Jere Bowden, Potter's Workshop



YOUTH NEWS! - During the school year, when school is in session, youth have three weekly opportunities to get together with your friends, learn about your faith, and serve God and one another. Covenant Connection on Wednesdays, after school until 7:15; Sunday Mornings at 9:30am with Abby and BASIC; and Sunday evenings from 5-7pm at church unless otherwise indicated.

Next Three Sunday Evening programs

March 11- No Youth Group - CCSD Spring Break

March 18 - Stuffing Easter Eggs for interfaith community get together

March 25 - Rec/dinner/topic, peacemaking and guns

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

Help Prevent Hungry 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 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

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





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 Siebentritt, 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.



Dear Congregation,

By now you should have received an envelope with the proposed budget for July 2018-June 2019 along with a pledge card in your mailbox at home. If you have children and/or youth, they may also receive pledge cards. If you have not received the letter yet, please check with the church office to make sure that one was mailed to you.

The proposed budget for the coming fiscal year is very similar to the one for our present fiscal year, with an increase of just over 2% overall. The biggest change to the budget is a 2% increase in staff salaries for all staff members to cover cost of living increases. The increase in salaries for Mark and Beecher also requires increases in their health care and pension benefits, and those are included on the table. Karen Wetherington also received a 2% increase in compensation but it was included as an increase to her IRA per her request. The other significant change is a restoration of the 5% cuts we made to the ministry teams last year to make our budget balance. Since each ministry team worked on this year's budget request separately, we did our best to honor their current requests while restoring what they lost in the present year's budget. Individual ministry teams also made some changes to reflect their best estimate of their needs for the next fiscal year.

I am happy to say that we are financially in good shape for the July 2017-June 2018 fiscal year, with income higher than expenses paid so far, so I have no worries at this time that our budget for this year will not be met. But keep those pledge checks coming! Since next year's budget has only minor changes from last year, Stewardship & Finance has determined that a special meeting to discuss the budget will not be necessary for this year. However, if you have any questions about the budget, please feel free to catch me before or after church, email me at pnknox@yahoo.com or call me at home in the evenings at 706-543-9560.

Thank you all for the many ways that you support Covenant!

Sincerely,

Pam Knox, Treasurer

WEEK OF March 11, 2018

SUNDAY- DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

8:30am Worship
9:30am Church School for All Ages
10:45am Worship
NO Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

6pm– Scouts

TUESDAY- Craig on leave through Mar 14th

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
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- 12:30pm—2pm Green Dream Team Meeting

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—

7am—10am FEAST food truck distribution
9:00am EFBC Women's Prayer Breakfast
4pm Memorial Service for Eleanor Arnold
Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—March 11, 2018

8:30am

Reader: Bruce Menke

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell Coffee Maker: Steve Bell

10:45am

Liturgist: Freeman Chamblee

Reader: Carol Huber

Ushers: Steve & Sue Rathbun, Julie Bower, Robyn Malone,
Mary Ann Johnson

Greeters: Phil & Linda Koehler, Donny Whitehead

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Judy Capie, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (March 12-19)

Nursery/Super: Valerie Stone

Birth—Walking: Juergen Wiegel

Walking—5 years old: Valerie Stone, Don Bower

WEEK OF March 18, 2018

SUNDAY-

8:30am Worship
9:30am Church School for All Ages
10:45am Worship
NO Youth Groups 12:15pm Stewardship Luncheon

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

8:30am Covenant's Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge
6pm– Scouts

TUESDAY-

9am—2pm B&G Workday to get ready for Easter
9:30am Athens Mother's Center
11:30am Restaurant Road Trip to Longhorn Steak House
1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)
6:30pm Session 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-

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

WORSHIP—March 18, 2018

8:30am

Reader: Dianne Simpson

Ushers: Elsie Bothwell, Jim Smith Coffee Maker: Lola Bell

10:45am

Liturgist: Thomas Bowden

Reader: Sandy Whitney

Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Shirley Reinert, Jerry & Sarah Shannon

Greeters: Dell Whitehead, Sue & Steve Rathbun

Congregational Care: Hilda Clark

Counters: Randy Parish, Ellen Stoneburner

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden (March 19-25)

Nursery/Super: Lola Bell

Birth—Walking: Lola Bell

Walking—5 years old: Anje Kidd, Nathan Weaver, Steve Bell