



EARTH MONTH

THE COVENANTER

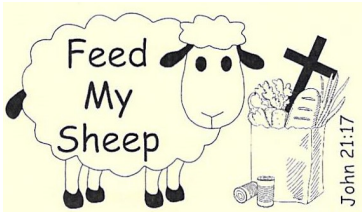
April 29, 2018

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



Join us for 5th Sunday Worship  
by the Children and Youth of Covenant!

TODAY—April 29th 8:30am and 10:45am



For the month of APRIL Covenant is collecting for the AAEFB:  
*Hot Cereals, such as oatmeal, cream of wheat, or grits; canned  
diced tomatoes; canned meat such as chicken, ham, chili with  
beans, and etc; Hamburger Helper and Rice a Roni.*

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!



Our faith teaches us that we are created in the image of God. And God is creative! God has created and continues to care for this beautiful earth. So we're wondering, what about you? Do you have something you have made that you would like to share with your friends at Covenant? Are you a wood worker, gardener, painter, potter, photographer or any other type of skilled artisan?

Bring to Covenant an example of your creative work. It can be an actual example or photos we will display in Fellowship Hall on **April 29th**. We are celebrating Earth Day by displaying amazing works of Covenant members & friends. Bring your created work to the Fellowship Hall before the 10:45 worship to the designated area. After worship everyone will be encouraged to browse through and see your creations! I know Covenant has lots of talent and creativity. I hope you will share. *Bert Ballard-Myer*

COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*Thank you to all the faithful volunteers who give their time to Covenant's youngest members and their parents by keeping the nursery on Sunday mornings. If you would like to be added to the list and volunteer one time in the next four months, please contact the church office, Lola Bell (706-614-0437) or Ellen Stoneburner (706-549-7223). It is a good way to get to know our little ones and the other adults who will be helping with you.*

**Remember in Prayer:** Missy Green & Asher Hill & family in the sudden death of her father, Phil Basinger, 4/26 in a truck fire accident. Memorial information will be forth coming; Julius Bostick, one of Covenant's custodians, in the sudden death of his nephew; Jeremy Reaves, recovering from a tonsillectomy April 27; Wyatt Pless & family, in the recent death of his 101-yr-old grandmother Evelyn, with memories of his father's death too; Paige Campbell's uncle Don, moving to a rehab facility, though still undiagnosed; Eric Zimdars, upon his recent move to Seattle to study for a masters in environmental engineering at the University of WA; Amanda Silver in Seattle, as she is newly employed in management at Boeing; Katharine Follin, seeking employment in Denver, after graduating from Mercer this month; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Jim McMinn, Dianne Ralph, Bill Willis, and Ashley Wolfe, at home.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	April 30	Psalm 98
Tuesday	May 01	Psalm 99
Wednesday	May 02	Psalm 100
Thursday	May 03	Acts 10: 1-33
Friday	May 04	Acts 10: 34-48
Saturday	May 05	I John 5: 1-6
Sunday	May 06	John 15: 9-17



**WHO'S WHO: who at Covenant** was a "first born," the second born, the third born, AND the fourth in birth order?



**WHO'S WHO:**  
Betsy Burnmeister  
(2nd of mother's  
children, 3rd of  
father's  
children, and a  
middle child but  
also the  
baby!)

### 2017-18 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

WEEK #43 04/22/2018

Anticipated Pledges: \$399,212.00

Received Pledges: \$409,446.71

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

The 10am Wed. Morning Adult Bible Study will continue through May, viewing the PBS DVD, "The Life and Times of St. Paul" narrated by David Suchet. You are welcome to join in the good discussion!

**THANK A TREE FOR GOOD HEALTH!** Trees are a valuable community asset for many reasons, but public health may be among the least known. As early as 1881, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead said that the influences of nature "touch us so quietly that we are hardly conscious of them." The health benefits from trees and other greenery are examples of these quiet providers, and their benefits can be broken into these into four categories.

**PHYSICAL:** Trees filter the air, sequester carbon, and provide oxygen. Their shade also reduces gasoline evaporation and even prolongs the life of asphalt surfaces.

**HUMAN ACTIVITY:** Studies have found that community trees encourage healthful outdoor activities that fight obesity, reduce cholesterol, and even increase brain functions.

**SOCIAL SUPPORT:** By encouraging people to be outside, trees have been found to provide benefits such as reducing crime and promoting creativity in children.

*The Green Dream Team*

You are invited to a fun concert by Gene Holshouser's son Scott and grandson Sean on Friday, May 11, at #3 Railroad Street in Arnoldsville. Bring a side dish to share in the chicken lasagna potluck at 7pm, with music beginning at 8pm. Donations are appreciated & will go to Sean's college fund, as well as the upkeep of the railroad facility. Hope to see you there!



Calling all women! The annual **Presbyterian Women's Salad Supper** is Thursday, May 3, at 6:00pm in the Gathering Room – also our National Day of Prayer. Bring a friend, and bring a salad or dessert or bread to share. Friends from East Friendship Baptist Church will also be invited, and we'll enjoy a moment of worship in the Music Room, before our potluck. Bring a penny or a dollar for each year of your age, to give to the PCUSA Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering, going this year to ministries in Minnesota, Oregon, and Honduras. Always a wonderful celebration together! *Come & see!*

#### Congregational Care CARD Drive

These kinds of greeting cards are needed NOW:

*Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy*

Please place them in the crate in the hall.

We can CARDLY thank you enough!

#### Building Relationships and Support - A Covenant women's fellowship group.

*Let's get together!*

Hey ladies it has been awhile since we have been together.

So let's share some food, fun and laughter!

**Host:** Bert Ballard-Myer

**When:** Friday, May 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

**Where:** Akademia Brewing Company  
150 Crane Dr, Athens, GA 30606

[akademiabc.com](http://akademiabc.com)

**Please RSVP and let me know if you are coming.**

We need a headcount: Bert Ballard-Myer:  
[mysammie1@yahoo.com](mailto:mysammie1@yahoo.com) or Text: 706-207-2665

**ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!**

#### Check out these upcoming concerts & look for some Covenant folks performing!

Friday & Saturday, April 27-28 (8pm) Pops Concert, Athens Symphony & the Green Flag Band, Classic Center

Sunday, April 29 (4pm) Athens Youth Symphony concert, UGA Hodgson Hall

Tues. May 1 (8pm) Kurt Weill concert featuring the opera "Down in the Valley," Athens Choral Society & UGA Opera Department, UGA's Hodgson Hall (free)

Sat. May 5 (4pm) Meridian Women's Chorus, Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Alps Road (free)

Tues. May 8 (7pm) GA Children's Chorus, UGA's Hodgson Hall (\$12)

Sat. May 19 (7:30pm) Rutter's "Requiem" & Handel's "Coronation Anthems," Athens Master Chorale, UGA's Hodgson Hall (\$)



PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH FEAST ON May 19th! Covenant Presbyterian Church 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 in the hallway next to the mailboxes. 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!*



**VBS 2018, Maker Fun Factory! Mark your calendars** with our Vacation Bible School Week, May 29—June 1st. Tuesday—Friday. [Online Registration](#) now open! Children ages 4 years old (by September 1, 2018) through rising 5th Graders are invited to join us for this exciting week as summertime begins! \*\*\*VBS Registration Fee: \$15.00/child\*\*\* Fee covers daily snacks, crafts, consumables, and take-home materials (including VBS Music CD). You can pay with cash or check on the first day of VBS or drop payment by the church office. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Athens with VBS 2018 on the 'subject' line. At Maker Fun Factory children will learn

they are created by God for a specific purpose, as well as have many opportunities to fully use their imaginations and let their creativity soar! In order for the children to be as creative as possible, we need your help with collecting a wide array of art supplies. We need aluminum food cans (not soda cans), aluminum coffee cans, cardboard round "Morton" salt containers, shoe boxes, tissue boxes, egg cartons, paper towel rolls, toilet paper rolls, yarn, buttons, soda bottle tops, and milk gallon tops. So, in other words, bring your recycling to us!

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!** As we are in partnership with First, we don't need very many volunteers, but we do need some. The categories are: help each of the four mornings (8:45 - 12:45), including with the mission project - it would be great to **get 5 adults** to help in this category, or if your time is limited, spend about an hour to: - help with drop off (8:30-9:30a) - help with pick up (12 - 1p) For those who can commit to the entire morning each of the four days, there will be a volunteers' gathering with volunteers from First Pres on Wednesday May 9 from 5:15pm-7:15pm at First Pres. Natalie will provide a light dinner for all of us. An email will be sent by the end of next week with information regarding the VBS theme, daily schedule, and volunteer duties. We will use our time together on May 9<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans, walk through the schedule, and answer any last minute questions! Looking forward to a great experience for our children and all who are involved. *Craig*



1 Arnelle Combs	5 Janna Dresden	16 Steve Rathbun	26 Tim Bemisderfer
Ann Anderson	Mary Cook	19 Sue Loegel	Luke Shannon
Hannah Baird	6 Evan Knox	Annie Meyers	27 Joan Prittie
2 Elsie Bothwell	7 Katharine Himley	Ansley Tweedell	28 Emily Bower
Linda VanSickle	8 Sandy Perkins	21 Carl Cartledge	Spencer Baird
3 Alex Clark	10 Caren Snook	22 Kent Silver	Eric Zimdars
Wesley Whitehead	12 Abby Horvath	23 Tim Simpson	Isaac Carpenter
	Marcia Verbrugge	Ruby Basham	31 Ssempha Kisaalita
	13 Catharine Tyson	24 Dick Zimdars	
	Bastiaan Schimmel	Ntumwa Kisaalita	
	14 Teresa Mauldin	25 Carol Calbos	
	15 Brandon Doughty	Emmy Ballard-Myer	



**5th Sunday Worship Experience** - *We look forward to our children offering their gifts to God* -as we focus on the theme of *Caring for Creation!* Three high school juniors have been working with Mark on the message-- Katie Rentz, Adam Brooks, and Andrew Mote. We will truly be in for a wonderful worship experience this Sunday, April 29.



**Child Liturgist (10:45 Service)** 3rd - 5th graders lead the *Call to Worship* each Sunday. Next three Sundays: **April 29-5th Sunday; May 6-Karl Ritzler ; May 12-Wesley Whitehead**  
*Instructions:* The bulletin will be emailed by the end of the week on your week. Practice with your child. During the “Voluntary” of the worship service, the liturgist may join the pastors in the chancel. To begin, your child can invite the congregation, “Please join me in the Call to Worship.”  
*Need to switch weeks? Please do so with someone who is leading in weeks after your child and let the office know.*

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

**Parents/Caregiver learning note:** Covenant has been living into a Earth Care month during April. During Covenant Connection, the children have been working together on a project learning how we can celebrate and care better for God’s Creation. On Sunday April 22 we collected many bags of trash! Ada Brock made a great observation as we filled the plastic bags we were carrying--”We’re creating trash to pick up trash!” If you’re concerned about the use of plastics, please make efforts to cut down your use, and even join the #BantheBag campaign going on in Athens which would limit or even prohibit the use of plastic bags in retail/grocery stores. It’s happened in other cities. It can happen in Athens. Let us continue to teach and be taught by our children about how we live into our responsibility to be STEWARDS of God’s creation--our earthly home! **Memory Verse:** Psalm 24:1 - “The Earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof.”

**April Rotation** - Help prepare your children for Sunday School by telling them who their teacher and shepherd will be, and how awesome they are :) April 29 - Christine Carpenter, Jere Bowden, and Craig Topple will work together with others to facilitating worship prep and Sunday school.

Truly, Covenant Connection is a fantastic blessing to so many volunteers, youth, children and families. WAY TO GO COVENANT! What a great year we’ve had connecting with one another and with God! Thanks be to God for each of you! Let’s get some rest even as we look forward to the next school year! *Craig*

**YOUTH NEWS!** - *get together with your friends, learn about your faith, and serve God and one another.* Come to any and all of:

Sunday Mornings at 9:35am BASIC with Abby and;  
 Sunday evenings from 5-7pm at church unless otherwise indicated.

### **NEXT THREE SUNDAY EVENING PROGRAMS**

April 29—Cook out at Sardis Presbyterian Church in Jefferson. *Our sister church in Jefferson is hosting an area-wide youth event and we have been invited. We will meet at Cov Pres at 1pm, food will be served at Sardis Pres. beginning at 1:30pm. A special speaker has been invited to share at 3pm. We will return to the church no later than 6pm.*

May 6—End of year party (details to follow)

**YOU HELPED PREVENT HANGARY MOMENTS!** Thanks again to all who provided meals for your youth this school year—The Sperrs provided our last meal, and it was great! We look forward to the meals we’ll enjoy during the ‘18—’19 calendar!

### **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*

**The Cave** - Did you know the Cave is averaging 25-30 students each Friday? Covenant’s free after school program for middle and high school students Fridays 3:45-5:30 is a wonderful contribution to the community. *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 April 29, 2018**

### **SUNDAY- 5th Sunday Worship**

8:30am Worship  
9:30am Church School  
10:45am Worship  
5pm Youth Groups

### **MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

6:30pm Scouts

### **TUESDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)  
6:30pm Witness Team Meeting  
8pm New Freedom

### **WEDNESDAY- 10am Adult Bible Study continues through May**

7:25pm Adult Choir

### **THURSDAY-**

2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
6pm PW Salad Supper  
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—April 29, 2018**

### **8:30am—**

Reader: 5th Sunday                      Coffee: Warren & Arnelle Combs  
Ushers: Elsie Bothwell, Carol Calbos

### **10:45am—**

Liturgist: 5th Sunday  
Reader: 5th Sunday  
Ushers: Sue & Steve Rathbun, Susan Parish, Betsy Pless,  
Mary Ann Johnson  
Greeters: Brian & Wyatt Herndon, Maurine Wathen  
Congregational Care: Carolyn Hatfield              May: Ellen Stoneburner  
Counters: Bill Barstow, Randy Parish  
Flowers: Juergen Wiegel  
Plant Care: Frank Allen  
Open the Building: Jim Bowden  
Close the Building: Hank Tweedell  
Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (April 30 — May 6)  
Nursery/Super: Don Bower  
Birth—Walking: Don Bower  
Walking—5 years old: Robyn Malone, Wyatt Herndon

## **WEEK OF May 6, 2018**

### **SUNDAY- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES SUNDAY**

8:30am Worship  
9:30am Church School  
10:45am Worship  
12:15pm High School Grad Reception  
5pm Youth Groups EOY Party (final)

### **MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**

8:00am Covenants Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel  
6:30pm Scouts

### **TUESDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
12:30pm Grads Covered Dish Luncheon  
1:30pm Grief Recovery—Upper Room (Pattie Priester)  
7:00pm Athens Stamp Club in FH  
8pm New Freedom

### **WEDNESDAY-**

10am Adult Bible Study  
7:25pm Adult Choir

### **THURSDAY-**

10:00am COM Meeting  
1pm—3pm P3 in FH  
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters  
6:30pm—8:00pm YOGA  
7:00pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)  
8:00pm Happy Squares

### **FRIDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mother's Center  
3:30pm The Cave (final)  
6:30pm B R A S at Akademia Brewing Co.  
8pm New Freedom

### **SATURDAY— Fellowship Hall Cleaned**

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## **WORSHIP—May 06, 2018**

### **8:30am—**

Reader: Bruce Menke                      Coffee: Shirley Hunt  
Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

### **10:45am—**

Liturgist: Karl Ritzler  
Reader: Kathryn Fowler  
Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Shirley Reinert, Jerry & Sarah Shannon  
Greeters: Terry Centner & Mary Ann Johnson, Gloria Pylant  
Congregational Care: Ellen Stoneburner  
Counters: Paige Campbell, Randy Parish  
Flowers: Juergen Wiegel  
Plant Care: Frank Allen  
Open the Building: Steve Bell  
Close the Building: Rich Reaves  
Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden (May 7—13)  
Nursery/Super: Christine Carpenter  
Birth—Walking: Christine Carpenter  
Walking—5 years old: The McMaster Family