

THE COVENANTER

September 23, 2018

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

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

Sunday, October 7th

PEACE is ACTIVE, not PASSIVE!
PEACE is DOING, not WAITING!

By giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering we work together to share Christ's peace with one another. As we support the Peace & Global Witness Offering we share Christ's peace with one another, beyond the doors of this church, beyond the limits of this town and beyond the borders that may feel very distant. As we respond to those in need who make their homes among us as well as those who live in places far away, God is always near. Thank you for your participation. The Peace & Global Witness Offering collected on Sunday, Oct. 07, 2018 allows our church the opportunity to provide financial resources for PCUSA to actively work for justice and peace in resolving conflicts around the world. *This year, three fourths of our offering will support PCUSA ministries of justice & reconciliation, and one fourth will be used locally, to support the Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition of Athens.*

Bread and Grapes for World Communion Sunday!

Following the 10:45am worship service everyone is invited to the fellowship hall to enjoy bread and grapes and fellowship. Please bring your bread and/or washed grapes to the kitchen on Saturday, October 06 or early Sunday morning before church school.

Laurie Anderson Memorial Mission, Peace and Justice Fund—Those who knew Laurie Anderson would agree that she was a strong advocate for a world at peace, free from violence, war, hunger, poverty, injustice and oppression. Covenant congregation gave generously to start a Laurie Anderson Memorial Fund in 2014. This fund is dedicated to support Covenant church missions, including opportunities to contribute to vital issues of peace and justice in the world. We would like to continue this tradition supporting further mission work. *"As most of us have experienced, when we help others, we are truly the ones who are blessed. There are ample opportunities for us to reach beyond ourselves with a helping hand."* - Laurie Anderson. Envelopes are provided. We encourage you to give generously. It will be an opportunity to enhance the mission efforts of Covenant Presbyterian Church. *Thanks for your support. The Witness Ministry Team*

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, Georgia 30605
706-548-2756 or 706-613-2344
www.covpresathens.org
covenantp@covpresathens.org

Covenant is collecting for the Athens Area Emergency Food bank for the month of **SEPTEMBER**: *diced or stewed canned tomatoes, cold boxed cereal* and as always brown paper bags.

Thank you Covenant and may we all
have enough.



Remember in Prayer: Grace Eubank in AL, turning 98 today, Sept. 23; Paige Campbell's uncle, in failing health in TN; Dorothy Newland, having outpatient surgery Sept. 24; those affected by the recent floods & damage from Hurricane Florence - remember you can contribute directly to Pres Disaster Assistance at <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/give/> ; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta; Marion Wilmot, at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Sept. 24	Exodus 23:9
Tuesday	Sept. 25	Psalms 146
Wednesday	Sept. 26	Hebrews 13:2
Thursday	Sept. 27	I Peter 2: 9-12
Friday	Sept. 28	Genesis 37: 12-28
Saturday	Sept. 29	Genesis 39
Sunday	Sept. 30	Genesis 45: 1-7



Sunday, September 30—5th Sunday
Children and Youth
Gifts of New Immigrants

THE NAME'S THE GAME *by Marilyn Brown*.
Find the first name and discover a new word or expression.

1. _____ wrench
2. _____ forth
3. _____ Gun

2018-19 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD WEEK #12

Anticipated Pledges: \$107,412.24

Received Pledges: \$97,596.70

Thank you for your faithful giving!



3. Tommy
2. Sally
1. Allen

Answers to The Name's the Game!



Many thanks to
Hilda Clark for the
beautiful flower
arrangement in worship
on September 16th.

WHO'S WHO: Who at Covenant are on their high school Homecoming Courts this fall?

WHO'S WHO : Katie Rentz (Cedar Shoals HS) and Lily Herndon (Madison Co.HS)



HOMEcoming COURT

FEAST Food Truck Distribution:

On Saturday, September 15 the FEAST distributed over 13,000 lbs. of food to 133 families. With help from these wonderful volunteers: Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, Covenant Presbyterian, St. Gregory the Great Episcopal & UGA's Christian Campus Fellowship.





BLESSING OF THE PETS

Sunday, October 7th - 4:00pm

Covenant holds an annual ***Blessing of the Pets*** worship service in our backyard worship area. All are welcome! Please keep

your pet secured either by leash or in an appropriate animal carrier. The service is approximately 30 minutes, to focus on God's good gifts of creation, especially all creatures great and small who enrich our lives and offer such amazing companionship.

Join us for Lunch Bunch, every final Tuesday of the month, at DePalma's Eastside at 11:30am. Next one is Tuesday, September 25. Always good food & fellowship to share. Separate checks – meet you there.

Wednesday

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE

WEEKLY SERVICE

Beginning September 5, 2018
7:00-7:30 PM



Please join us for a time of:

Simple Song
Silence
Communal Prayer

This service is open to the community.
All are welcome in this place.

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Rd Athens GA 30605

THE CAVE NEEDS YOU!

Please consider volunteering for Covenant's after school program, The Cave, on Friday afternoons 3:30pm- 5:30pm. There are approximately 30—40 middle and high school kids. Please email Dibenhi at dibenhi.reyna@gmail.com if you would like to help or for more information. Thanks!

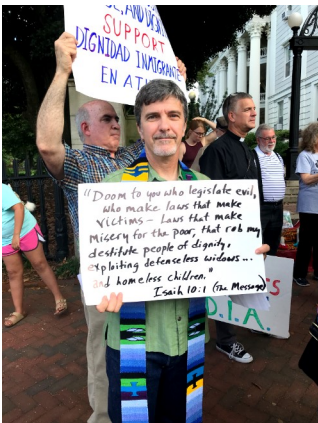
The 15th Annual IHNA Whole-In-One Golf Tournament, Monday, October 8, 2018.

Jennings Mill Country Club (1500 Cambers Ct, Bogart, GA 30677)

Individual Fee \$125—18 holes, green fees, cart, lunch and prizes.

Tournament times: 11am registration; 11am Chick-fil-A Lunch; 12:30pm shotgun start

For more information go to <http://www.ihnathens.org/golf-tournament.html>



Meet Our Neighbor Katia—Covenant has recently become a member congregation of the Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition (ISC), a group of Athens area faith communities committed to offering friendship, hope, and compassionate support to our undocumented neighbors. Through ISC we have met Katia, a 19 year-old mother of two who has lived in Athens for 17 years. Her husband was deported to Mexico a few months ago, leaving Katia with her mother and sister to try and make ends meet. Currently Katia is working some shifts at a local flea market. In the fall she will be returning to school, seeking to complete her high school education through an on-site, on-line program at the ACC School District office. Here are some ways we can help Katia immediately and in the months to come: *By providing Lyft gift cards or a bus pass so that she can get to work and run errands

*By offering rides to school several times a week in the fall (once we know her schedule we will set up a Sign-Up genius for volunteer drivers) *By supplying her with plastic storage bins and age-appropriate books for her children (she has a one year-old boy and a three year-old girl) *By sharing information about local, private cosmetology schools and helping fund her tuition

Thank you for prayerfully considering entering into this relationship with Katia and her family. In these days when many of us are rightly focused on legislative efforts to enable parents and children to stay together along our borders, this is a chance to extend gospel love to a vulnerable family that is already here.

As one of my teachers likes to say, "Justice is good, but supper is essential!"

WITNESS SUNDAY is October 21—Come and see; learn and grow!



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Our Witness Team continues to support Christ's mission to the world, offering a global focus on ways we can be helpful. This year, we will welcome Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance consultant for continuing aid to Puerto Rico after the 2018 Hurricane Maria. He will preach at both worship services, host a Q&A presentation during the Church School hour for youth & adults, and be present for individual conversation during lunch in Fellowship Hall. We hope to create a Mission Trip to Puerto Rico for the summer of 2020. Shares your ideas & talents! *Terry Centner & Sandy Whitney*, chairs
A catered luncheon will be served at 12:15pm - monetary donations are appreciated.

Special Sundays Ahead

- Sun. Sept. 30 Fifth Sunday Worship with youth & children
- Sun. Oct. 7 World Communion Sunday with 12:15pm bread & grapes reception
4:00pm, Blessing of the Pets
- Sun. Oct. 21 IHN hosting week begins
Witness Sunday with guest preacher Edwin Gonzalez
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance consultant for Puerto Rico
9:30am, Church School for youth & adults in F. Hall with Rev. Gonzalez
12:15pm, Catered Luncheon in Fellowship Hall
- Sun. Oct. 28 Guest preacher from the Czech Republic, Gerhard Frey-Reininghaus
9:30am, Church School for youth & adults in F. hall with Rev. Frey-Reininghaus
- Sun. Nov. 4 All Saints Sunday with necrology read during worship
9:30am, What It Means to be Presbyterian, led by pastors
6:00pm, Taizé Worship Service

Congratulations to Maurice Snook, a.k.a Mr. Science, on being chosen the 2018 recipient of the E. Ann Nalley Regional Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society. This award recognizes the hundreds of chemistry demonstrations that Maurice has presented in area elementary schools, in hopes of encouraging future scientists. The award will be presented at the 70th Southeastern Regional Meeting of the ACS in Augusta in November.



Congratulations to David & Erin Bell in Greenville, SC, upon the birth of *Savvy Elizabeth Bell* on Sept. 12th. All are well and sister & brother Hadley & Griffin are excited, and of course, proud grandparents Steve & Lola Bell too!

The biggest lie I tell
myself is
"I don't need
to write that down,
I'll remember it."





5th Sunday Worship

Experience - 5th Sunday Worship

Experience - The NEXT 5th SUNDAY is September 30th! At the suggestion of the "Presbyterian Planning Calendar" the theme for this 5th Sunday worship will be celebrating the gifts of New Immigrants. Ideas are beginning

to emerge as we seek to celebrate those gifts while at the same time engaging our children and youth in worship participation and leadership. Share your ideas for songs and liturgy with any of the church staff.

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service)

9/23/2018

Delaney Braswell

9/30/2018

Ruby Topple

Please let Craig Topple know if your child would like to become a part of the rotation: ctopple@covpresathens.org

Instructions: The bulletin is 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."

Going underground with WoRM! "let the little children come unto me." - Jesus

We are excited for a new WoRM school year! Great teachers and shepherd are involved, providing our children the opportunity to learn the faith! The September Schedule is:

	K – 2nd	3rd – 5th
9/23/2018	Cary Ritzler/Megan Sperr/ Jennifer Frey (Potter's Workshop)	Jerry Shannon/Jere Bowden (Oasis Theatre)
9/30/2018	Christine Carpenter/Craig Topple	Combined



This September we are looking at Exodus 1 and 2. Please look through these passages with your children. Have them read the passages with you or on their own depending on the age. Be prepared to ask and answer questions. Some learning concepts:

- * God loves all people everywhere, including us;
- * Strength and courage to do the right thing is possible when we are grounded in God's love;
- * God is good even when life doesn't seem so good. God is good even when we make mistakes. God wants us to do good so that there might be good for all.

SEPTEMBER MEMORY VERSE: Exodus 2:10 "When the child grew older, his mother took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses saying, "I drew him out of water."

YOUTH NEWS!

Sunday Mornings (9:35-10:30): Abby Horvath is back for B.A.S.I.C. in the youth room!

Sunday Evening Youth Group 5pm - 7pm at church unless otherwise announced:

Sept 23: Youth Group

Sept 30: Youth Group

Welcome Waddell Fellow, Justin Molnar, who is helping out this year!

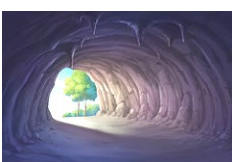
We are grateful that DeLynda Tweedell will again be coordinating evening meals. Please, consider providing one which will feed approximately 15 people and is reimbursable up to \$65/meal. Contact DeLynda at: dtweedell@hotmail.com or sign up outside the church office.

Parents will be kept informed through the Covenant, emails and Facebook. If there are any questions about what is going on, contact Craig Topple: ctopple@covpresathens.org or 505-785-4890.

WEDNESDAY COVENANT CONNECTION at 5:30pm—7:00pm

5:30—6pm Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher

6:-6:30pm supper 6:30-7:00pm Faith and Film with Craig Barber



"The Cave" - Fridays after school for Youth! Every Friday, 3:30pm—5:30pm, that school is in session. The goal of the Cave is to provide a safe, supervised space for youth while fostering positive relationships among the youth's peers and adults alike. *Volunteers are needed.* Please contact Dibenhi at dibenhi.reyna@gmail.com.

Wonderful Wednesdays

10:00am Adult Bible Study—This fall we explore the relationship between our Christian faith and science, guided by a DVD series from Living the Question, “Painting the Stars: Science, Religion, and an Evolving Faith!” Facilitated by Mark Harper.

COVENANT CONNECTION (CovConn)

MENU

Breakfast Casserole,
(bacon, cheese, spinach, feta, tomato)
biscuits, fruit

5:30pm—6:00pm K-2nd grade choir; 3rd—5th Servant Time

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

6:30pm—7:00pm 3rd—5th Grade Choir; K-2nd Servant Time

WEDNESDAY COVENANT CONNECTION For Youth

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

5:30pm “Wednesday School—Bible Study” for Middle School Youth led by Mark and Beecher (optional for High School), High School Youth continue to fellowship

6:00pm Dinner

6:30pm Faith and Film

7:00pm Depart

6:30pm Adult Bible Study—This fall, it's **Jesus: Countdown to Calvary**, narrated by actor Hugh Bonneville who is a Cambridge theology graduate. This PBS production explores the last 6 days of Jesus' life. Facilitated by Beecher Mathes

TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE

7:00pm—7:30pm

Come & join us for this new offering at Covenant every Wednesday night.

This introspective worship is built on these 3 tenets: *repetitive song, prayer, and silence.*

Led primarily by the pastors and Cliff Brock, the services will include devotional music and chants from the Taize tradition, along with scripture and prayer. This time of centering and prayer is open to the community, so please share this invitation with colleagues and neighbors and all who are spiritually hungry and thirsty.

Highlights of the stated Session meeting on Tues. Sept. 18 include: 1) welcome to our newest member, Kathy Stege, who is transferring from the Unitarian/Universalist Fellowship in Athens; 2) approval of request from the Andrew Team to clear the loblolly pines on Gaines School Road and some trees & brush from the end of our lane, to improve the visibility of our buildings & grounds – and to add solar lighting for our sign in front; 3) many thanks to Ellen Stoneburner, Betsy Burmeister, & John Chamblee, who will research the best ideas for a new playground; 4) review of our recent Rally Day season and approval of these dates: Sun. Aug. 11, 2019, annual congregational meeting with light breakfast – and Sun. Sept. 8, 2019, Rally Day kickoff with light breakfast; 5) ongoing discussion of future staffing; and 6) approval of Advent dates recommended by the Worship Team: Sun. Dec. 9 thru Sun. Jan. 13, no 8:30am worship – and children's focus for worship on Sun. Dec. 23 at 10:45am, with adult focus on Mon. Dec. 24 at 5:30pm. *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.*

Welcome to our newest Covenant member, Kathy Stege, who met with the Session on Sept. 18, transferring from the Universalist/Unitarian Fellowship in Athens. She grew up with Lutheran and Episcopalian roots and became UU in her college years, living in Macon the past 30 years. Kathy is already active in the Nautilus Class, the Adult Choir, the Wednesday night Bible Study, and The Cave, attending as many Covenant events as she can! So introduce yourself to the taller lady who wears hats, and put her contact info in your church directory 255 Rocky Drive, Athens, GA 30607 478-955-3422 kath22steg@gmail.com

To the Staff and Congregation of Covenant Presbyterian Church;

The New Freedom Group of Alcoholics Anonymous would like to thank you for the many years of support you have extended us. Your generous offerings have touched countless lives.

We recently celebrated our 41 st year, which without the support of Covenant Presbyterian would not have been possible. Although no amount of money could possibly convey our deepest appreciation, as a small token of our gratitude, we are enclosing a dollar for every year we have been in existence.

Sincerely,



Cat S. on behalf of
New Freedom Group



Presbyterian Women

Nurture Faith, Support Mission, Work for Justice & Peace, & Build Community

All women are invited to the October **Presbyterian Women's Bible Study** on Thursday, October 11, at 9:30am, in the Gathering Room, on "God's Promise: I Am With You." We enjoy missions, devotions, fellowship & refreshments, so come and see! Study booklets (\$11) are in the copy room. Read chapters 2 & 3, and especially the less familiar Bible passages from Judges and Haggai.

SAVE THE DATE! The fall workshop "Let's Talk!" for our presbytery's Presbyterian Women will be held Saturday, October 27, from 9am-2pm, at Sardis Pres Church in Jefferson. All are welcome. Mark Harper is one of the leaders this year, along with Sardis pastor Cheryl Barnes, on the topic of racism & immigration. This event is FREE and includes breakfast & lunch. REGISTER by Mon.Oct.22 with Julie Usry (706-814-4005) usryj@comcast.net - and SIGNUP on the car-pool list on the bulletin board - hope we have a good turnout!

Come one & all on the next **Restaurant Roadtrip** to Zoe's Kitchen, 145 Alps Road, on Tuesday, October 16, at 11:30am.

Signup on the bulletin board to let us know you're going, and/or carpool from the church at 11:15am. Separate checks. Good Mediterranean food this month, and always great fellowship!



Our Covenant retirees invite you to their monthly **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** on Tuesday, October 9, at 12:30pm, in Fellowship Hall. We'll hear from Rich Kimmich about "Attracting Birds to Your Backyard," creating bird-friendly environments, both at home and at the Botanical Gardens where he volunteers. Beverages are provided, and we'll celebrate Coffee Worth's 99th birthday (Oct.28) with a cake for her! So bring a dish to share, and bring a friend!

2018 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET—*A Not So Silent Night*

A big thanks to everyone who signed up! Please send your submissions to kwetherington@covpresathens.org. Devotionals are due in the office by Sunday, October 7. Questions? See Pam Knox or call the church office.

WEEK OF September 23, 2018**SUNDAY-**

8:30am Worship
 9:30am Church School for all Ages
 9:30am "What It Means to be Presbyterian" Class
 10:45am Worship
 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 4pm AED CLASS
 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
 5:00pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Eastside
 8pm New Freedom in FH

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
 5:30pm—7:00pm CovConn
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study
 7:00pm Wednesday Taize Worship
 7:30pm LAG Meeting
 7:30pm 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 in FH

SATURDAY— Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—September 23, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Rich Reaves

Coffee: Warren Combs

Ushers: Heidi & Kent Wolfe

10:45am—

Liturgist— Delaney Braswell

Reader: Don Bower

Ushers: Kent Silver, Shirley Reinert, Steve Rathbun, Hank Tweedell

Greeters: Linda Koehler,

Congregational Care: Luanne Rigsby

Counters: Paige Campbell, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Alex Clark

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Sept. 24—30)

Nursery/Super: Marie Ballard-Myer

Birth—Walking: Marie Ballard-Myer

Walking—5 years old: Adam & Rebecca Rea, Christine Carpenter

WEEK OF September 30, 2018**SUNDAY- 5TH SUNDAY WORSHIP**

8:30am Worship
 9:30am Church School for all Ages
 10:45am Worship
 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
 5:00pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED

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

TUESDAY-

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

WEDNESDAY-

10am Adult Bible Study
 5:30pm—7:00pm CovConn
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study
 7:00pm Wednesday Taize Worship
 7:30pm LAG Meeting
 7:30pm 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

WORSHIP—September 30, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Gijs Schimmel

Coffee: Shirley Hunt

Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

10:45am—

Liturgist— Ruby Topple

Reader: Marcia Verbrugge

Ushers: Julie & Don Bower, Robyn Malone, Linda Koehler

Greeters: Steve Rathbun, Robyn Malone

Congregational Care: Luanne Rigsby

Counters: Bill Barstow, Randy Parish

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Jim Bowden

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Oct. 1—7)

Nursery/Super: Don Bower

Birth—Walking: Don Bower

Walking—5 years old: Brian, Wyatt & Lily Herndon