

THE COVENANTER
November 25, 2018Member NE GEORGIA Presbytery, Synod
of the South Atlantic, General Assembly
of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Your ministry at Thornwell makes a lasting impact on the lives of hurting children and families. Last year, we received gifts that ensured that...

- ◆ 106 children found safe, loving homes through our Residential program
- ◆ 1,681 struggling children and families found hope and healing through our innovative, community-based Building Families program
- ◆ 150 children received academic support through our Learning Center
- ◆ 102 children received professional counseling and therapy services

Please see the insert and envelope in your mailbox and thank you for your generous giving.

Everyone's invited to join our retirees for their monthly **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 12:30pm to enjoy good food & fellowship and a program of Christmas music provided by Covenant's quartet of singers - Linda Rogers, Carol Huber, Rich Reaves, and Jim Anderson, with Betsy Burmeister on piano. We'll join them for some caroling too. Bring a dish to share, and bring a friend. Ham and beverages will be provided. A great way to celebrate the season of Advent!



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st at
6:30pm –**

**ANNUAL COVENANT
PROGRESSIVE DINNER!**

You are invited to join us for this moveable feast. **SING UP NOW**

on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes, to enjoy an evening of fellowship. Bring an appetizer/salad, veggie or dessert and if you would like to host a course, note that on the sign up sheet as well. Consider inviting folks that have visited church or an individual who can no longer drive in the evening.

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1065 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 **NOVEMBER: Fruit Juice, Canned Soup, Canned meats, (ie beef stew, Spam, chicken, Chili)** And as always brown paper bags. Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough.

Remember in Prayer: Judy Capie's son Michael, having tests for severe leg pain after being struck by lightning on the job; Mrs. Bowen's family & neighborhood, in difficult times; Ann Anderson, recovering from a fall; Kathy Boardman, as she prepares for her mission trek to the Southwest, leaving the church parking lot, Sat.Dec.1 at 11am; 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	Nov. 26	Jeremiah 33: 1-13
Tuesday	Nov. 27	Jeremiah 33: 14-16
Wednesday	Nov. 28	Psalms 25: 1-10
Thursday	Nov. 29	Psalms 27
Friday	Nov. 30	Psalms 28
Saturday	Dec. 1	I Thessalonians 3: 9-13
Sunday	Dec. 2	Luke 21: 25-38

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

HINTEROO. All the puzzle words have a 3-letter sequence in common. That's the "Hinteroo", which will help you find the correct answers:

1. A Sign: _____
2. Well Done! _____
3. Let the Good Times Roll: _____



Answers to HINTEROO:
 1. Libra
 2. Bravo
 3. Celebrate

I celebrate your love & care of my mother and me these past 6 weeks of turmoil. We would not have survived without the family of God praying for us and doing so much manual labor to feed us body & spirit. Our home church in Birmingham and you dear friends of Covenant continue to nurture us into a new pace of life here in Athens, moving furniture & boxes round about, helping me sort & toss 5 households of belongings, and of course your delicious visits & meals keeping us going, now and into the new year ahead. So thank you! I can never describe fully how much this support has meant to both of us. We'll end one chapter with the graveside service for my sister Elizabeth on Thurs. Nov. 29 at 11am at Westview Cemetery in SW Atlanta. We're grateful for the gift of time you've allowed me to get back on our feet again. So good to be back home with you! Blessings and peace to all. *Beecher Mathes*



Purchase a beautiful live Poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special!

They are used in the Worship Center throughout the Christmas Season. Sign up sheet is outside the church office. Make your check payable to Covenant and put poinsettia in the memo portion of your check. \$10 each.

CHIME CHOIR REHEARSALS

Sunday, November 25	12:15pm
Saturday, December 1	11:30am (tentative)
Saturday, December 8	11:30am



Everyone's invited to join our retirees for their monthly **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** on Tuesday, December 11, at 12:30pm to enjoy good food & fellowship and a program of Christmas music provided by Covenant's quartet of singers – Linda Rogers, Carol Huber, Rich Reaves, and Jim Anderson, with Betsy Burmeister on piano. We'll join them for some caroling too. Bring a dish to share, and bring a friend. Ham and beverages will be provided. A great way to celebrate the season of Advent!

Hello December

Sunday, Dec. 2	8:30am Worship (final) 9:30am Church School (WoRM) (final)
Monday, Dec. 3	8am Covenant Breakfast Club
Tuesday, Dec. 4	<u>6:30pm</u> Stated Session Meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 5	10am Adult Bible Study 5pm Youth (downstairs with adult supervision) 5:30pm–7:00pm CovConn 7:00pm Taize 7:30am Adult Choir
Thursday, Dec. 6	2pm Knitters & Knotters
Friday, Dec. 7	10am Presbyterian Women Cookie Party
Saturday, Dec. 8	10:30am Adult Choir Rehearsal 11:30am Chime Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, Dec. 9	10:45am Christmas Choral Worship Catered Luncheon (all are welcome)
Tuesday, Dec. 11	12:30pm Graduate Covered Dish Luncheon with Christmas Carols 6:30pm Finance
Wed., Dec. 12	5:30pm–7:00pm CovConn with Santa 7:00pm Taize
Thurs., Dec. 13	2pm Knitters & Knotters
Sunday, Dec. 16	10:45am Worship
Sunday, Dec. 23	10:45am Worship (Christmas Pageant with Children and Youth)
Monday, Dec. 24	5:30pm Christmas Eve Worship with Communion and Candlelight
Tuesday, Dec. 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS—OFFICE CLOSED

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Chuck Rosenberger
2	Bob Smith
3	Frank Allen
4	Tim Foutz
5	Susan Paul
6	Zak Huberty
8	Sara Cooney Jim Newland Carole VanSickle Donald Whitehead
9	Eli Stone
10	Lola Bell
11	Peggy Johnson Rachel Wolfe
15	Julie Bower Sharon Edwards William Kisaalita
17	Gabe Harper Sandra Chumba
18	Jim McMinn Eve Bower
19	Kay Brooks
20	David Fuentes
24	Dianne Simpson Holly Wolfe
27	Juanita Floyd William Sperr
31	Lindsey Bowden





ANGEL TREE.

Each ornament on the tree represents a need or wish of young children connected to the Athens DFCS. This year we are sponsoring 3yo Alora, 2.5 yo Sophia, and 5yo Kason. Covenant folks and Athens Mothers Center (AMC) moms are encouraged to take an ornament, purchase the item indicated, and turn it in **unwrapped to the church office by Dec 4**. If you have questions, call or message me at 706.424.5907. If anyone with the means would like to privately sponsor a child's full wish list, message me and I can provide the name of this year's coordinator at DFCS.

Ruby Basham for the Athens Mothers Center



Santa Claus Express 2018

Each year Presbyterian Women celebrate the holidays with residents of the health services centers at Presbyterian

Home, Quitman, Presbyterian Village, Austell, and our residents at Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments. In September, the joyous task of collecting gifts for our residents begins. Santa's elves pick up the gifts from depot churches and deliver them to the campuses to be wrapped for residents. Santa himself delivers the gifts to residents at Christmas parties. Whether carefully selected from a store or made lovingly by hand, these gifts remind our residents of the joys of the holidays. Throughout the year, gifts are given to honor birthdays and to welcome new residents, and are treasured prizes for games and therapy sessions. Please select items from the "Suggested Gift Items" and place them in clear, plastic sandwich or storage bags.

PLEASE do not wrap your gifts. See list of suggested items on pg 9. Leave in the container in the hallway across from the church offices no later than November 28th.

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

Athens Master Chorale,

Joseph Napoli, Conductor

30th anniversary season

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

The Classis Center Atrium at 4pm

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

A Ride to 5:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship at Covenant

If you would prefer not to drive after dark and would like to have someone pick you up for the 5:30 Christmas Eve service, please call the church office to be placed on a pick up list. You will be notified of further details as we identify those who would like to have a ride.



It is time for the Worship Ministry Team to create the schedule for *Ushers, Scripture Readers, and Greeters* for the first half of the new calendar year 2019. If you are not on the current schedule(s) and would be willing to participate in the Sunday morning worship with any of these responsibilities, please let Julie Bower or Dick Zimdars know by December 2. We look forward to including YOU!

5th Sunday Worship - 5th Sunday Worship,

Dec 23 - Children and Youth are being asked to participate in the following ways: Musically, if your youth/child would be willing to offer a special musical piece that fits with the season, please let Betsy Burmeister <betsy.b.happy@hotmail.com> know;

In a **Christmas Pageant**, please let Christine Carpenter (facebook or ces0008@yahoo.com know of your youth's/child's willingness to participate in a more traditional pageant;

And, there will be other liturgical aspects to the worship service; please let Craig ctopple@covpresathens.org know if you will be in town and willing to participate in any way.

Child Liturgist (10:45 Service)

NOTE: Beginning Dec 2, the Child Liturgist, along with siblings, parents, and/or friends, will also assist with the placement of the Nativity Scene figurines.

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

11/25 Isaac Ritzler

12/2/18 Eli Stone

12/9/18 Jacob Page

12/16/18 Delaney Braswell

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. November Scripture: Exodus 15 - 17 *Memory Verses:* "When the dew evaporated, there was something thin and flaky on the surface of the desert. It was as delicate as frost. When the Israelites saw it, they didn't know what it was and asked each other, "What is it?" Moses said to them, "This is the food that the Lord has given you to eat. The Lord has commanded that each of you is to gather as much of it as he needs." Exodus 16:14-16a (*Good News Translation*)

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

DATE	K-2	3rd-5th	Music Time	Story Teller
11/04/2018	Luanne/Susan (Loaves/Fishes)	Jerry/Jere (Oasis Theatre)	Betsy B.	Megan
11/11/2018	Christine/Jennifer (Oasis)	Patrick/Jere (Loaves/Fishes)	Betsy B.	Christine
11/18/2018	Kay/Adam (Temple Courtyard)	Combined	Betsy B.	Adam
11/25/2018	Christine/Jere (Loaves & Fishes)	Combined	Betsy B.	Pageant Workshop

Parents Corner: "What is it?!" It's not unusual for me to suggest to my girls they try a new food. First question they ask, "What is it?!" Any of you remember the original name for the Atlanta Olympic games mascot? "Whatizit!" "What is it?!" That's what the Israelites asked when they saw "manna" for the first time, "What is it?!" In November, we continue our Exodus journey, which will be the last visit to this dramatic story in WoRM for the school year (we'll be back in Egypt after the birth of Jesus). Like a frog, we leap over the plagues (feel free to look through those with your child(ren)), and emerge on the other side of the "Red Sea" (Exodus 15:22). This emergence could be seen as a birth or even a baptism--the Israelites are a new creation, who now have to figure out what this new life is all about. It's hard! So, it should be no surprise there is a fair amount of "grumbling" as they "wander in the wilderness" for 40 years. Moses and his brother Aaron have their hands full of challenging "children." But, the story is preserved because it is a story of struggle, identity, and growth, alongside God's liberation, faithfulness, and provision. Quail and Manna rain down from heaven! Water springs forth from rocks! The people of God learn to live in community, to trust God will provide, to take only what they need, and to take Sabbath rest. Continue to read through chapters 15 - 17 with your children--before going to bed, after supper, whenever is convenient. I'd love to hear any questions that surface in these readings. This story has inspired peoples for generations. Now it's our children's turn to get caught up in the Story of God found in these pages!

Remember: Please help prepare your children for WoRM by telling them who their teacher and shepherd are and where their lesson will be: Temple Courtyard, Potter's Workshop, Loaves and Fishes, or Oasis Theatre.

Why did the chicken cross the road? Because she saw what happened to the turkey!

Wonderful Wednesdays Resumes Nov. 28th

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)

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

5:00pm Supervision for Middle and High School Youth in the youth rooms begins—
Youth Rooms will NOT be open until then.

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—

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



Covenant's Annual Christmas Choral Worship

Sunday, December 9, Beginning promptly at 10:45am

Join us for a morning of carols and festive music on Dec. 9th at 10:30. This is our annual tradition of Christmas Choral Worship, and there will be offerings from our chime choir, adult and children's choir, as well as solos and instrumental pieces. We will also hear the premiere of the song entitled *A Not so Silent Night* lyrics written by Mark Harper with music by Cliff Brock.

Please join us for this music filled service.

A Catered Luncheon of sandwiches, veggies, and fruit hosted by Congregational Fellowship will follow in the fellowship hall. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

WHO'S WHO at Covenant? Who at Covenant once received a standing ovation for a performance in Greece?

Who's Who: Kathy
Boardman

YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS!

Youth Leaders wanted! Would you be willing to help out with the Sunday Evening youth programming from time to time. We have a group of committed adult leaders, but sometimes schedules don't always permit enough adults to be present as we need. Please contact Craig to say "yes" or for more details:

ctopple@covpresathens.org



Sunday Mornings, 9:35-10:30, Abby Horvath is leading B.A.S.I.C. in the youth room!

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

Nov 25: Youth Group

Wednesday Covenant Connection at 5:30 -7pm

(5pm Youth are invited to hangout in the youth rooms- The youth rooms will not be open until 5pm as there will not be adult supervision until that time)

5:30 - 6 - Bible Study with Pastors Mark and Beecher

6-6:30 - Supper

6:30 - 7 - Faith and Film with Craig Barber

Mark Your Calendars! The Christian Ed team is looking ahead to some great summer activities for youth

Lasagna Lunch, Jan 13 after church. Participants in any summer youth conference are expected to assist with this yummy event.

Montreat High School Conference, June 2-8. An awesome week is in store for any rising 9th - graduated from HS! We will again share the GA Lodge with Covenant Augusta. Registration has begun, and if you know you (your child) wants to go, please submit a \$100 deposit by Dec 1. For more information visit montreat.org, and contact ctopple@covpresathens.org

Middle School Conference--Montreat at Maryville College, July 17-21. A unique energetic week is in store for rising 6th - completed 8th graders! Registration has begun, and if you know you (your child) wants to go, please submit a \$100 deposit by Feb 1. For more information visit montreat.org, and contact ctopple@covpresathens.org

Presbyterian Youth Triennium is July 16-20 at Purdue University. What is Presbyterian Youth Triennium? A gathering of over 3000 students from PCUSA churches all over the country. The Northeast Georgia Presbytery is planning to send a delegation. Space for each church in the presbytery is limited, but if any rising 10th - graduated HS student wants to attend, please contact Brian Herndon. We estimate 40-45 students from the presbytery joining in this summer adventure.

WEEK OF November 25, 2018**SUNDAY-**

8:30am Worship
 9:30am Church School for all Ages
 10:45am Worship
 12:15pm Chime Choir Rehearsal
 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 1pm—4pm Officer Training
 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
 5:00pm Youth Groups

MONDAY-

OFFICE CLOSED
 6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 7pm—8pm The School of Thought (Cliff Brock)
 8pm New Freedom

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS-

10:00am Adult Bible Study
 5:30pm—7:00pm Cov Conn
 (youth rooms will open with Adult Supervision at 5pm)
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study
 7:00pm Taize
 7:30pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY—

2pm Knitters & Knotters
 7pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 NO CAVE
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY—

11:30am Chime Choir Rehearsal (tentative)
 6:30pm Progressive Dinner
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WEEK OF December 02, 2018**SUNDAY-**

8:30am Worship (final until January 20)
 9:30am Church School for all Ages (final WoRM)
 10:45am Worship
 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 1pm—4pm Officer Training
 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous
 5:00pm Youth Groups 5pm Elder Review

MONDAY-

OFFICE CLOSED
 8am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road
 6:00pm Scouts

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mother's Center
 6:30pm Session Meeting
 7pm—8pm The School of Thought (Cliff Brock)
 8pm New Freedom

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS-

10:00am Adult Bible Study
 5:30pm—7:00pm Cov Conn
 (youth rooms will open with Adult Supervision at 5pm)
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study
 7:00pm Taize
 7:30pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY—

2pm Knitters & Knotters
 7pm Celebrate Recovery (Mary McGarity)

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 10am PW Cookie Party NO CAVE
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY— 10:30am Adult Choir Rehearsal

11:30am Chime Choir Rehearsal
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—November 25, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Dennis Calbos

Coffee: Lola Bell

Ushers: Kent & Heidi Wolfe

10:45am—

Liturgist— Isaac Ritzler

Reader: Steve Follin

Ushers: Phil & Sallie Hale, Jerry & Sarah Shannon, Dianne Simpson

Greeters: Gloria Pylant, Maurine Wathen

Congregational Care: June Meyers

Counters: Judy Capie, Ellen Stoneburner

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Nov. 26—Dec. 2)

Nursery/Super: Annemarie Braswell

Birth—Walking: Annemarie Braswell

Walking—5 years old: Patrick, Alice, George & Lila McMaster

WORSHIP—December 02, 2018**8:30am**

Reader: Bruce Menke

Coffee: Shirley Hunt

Ushers: Dennis & Carol Calbos

10:45am—

Liturgist— Eli Stone

Reader: Phil Hale

Ushers: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Deck Zimdars, Stephanie Cahill, Betsy Pless

Greeters: Anna, Shari & Jimmy Cobb

Congregational Care: Chuck Rosenberger

Counters: Pam Knox, Bill Barstow

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Dec. 3—9)

Nursery/Super: Sandy Whitney

Birth—Walking: Sandy Whitney

Walking—5 years old: Brian & Lily Herndon, Marcia Page