

THE COVENANTER
January 13, 2019

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



Covenant will be hosting homeless guests overnight for IHN (*Interfaith Hospitality Network*) the week of **January 20-27**. Please examine your calendar and give thought and prayer of the way you can serve from the many options: set up, *take down*, provide a meal, *spend a night*, host for three hours one evening, *transport guests to the day center*, and more. The sign-up board is now in the Gallery across from the staff offices, so please sign-up and help us provide Christian hospitality to families seeking a home of their own. If you have never been an IHN helper, a training opportunity will be provided. *"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."* Hebrews 13:2

PCUSA Joy Gift Offering

When you give to the Joy Gift Offering, you honor the wondrous gift of Jesus by nurturing the faith we have in God and one another. 50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related school and colleges equipping communities of color. 50% of your gifts provide assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. You will find a brochure and envelope in your mailbox. Please give generously.

*Every generous act of giving is from above.
James 1:17*

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP WITH
FEAST ON January 19th!**

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, Nancy Omdahl, 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



Covenant's **FEED MY SHEEP** is collecting for the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank for the month of January:

saltines, and fruit juice; and as always brown paper bags.

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough.

Remember in Prayer: Anne Page, recovering well at High Shoals Health & Rehab #161 in Bishop, after a very hopeful laparoscopic surgery for advanced colon cancer – and visitors are welcomed (before 5pm); Kathy Boardman, who had to delay her departure, but continues her preparations for ministry in state parks around the country; Jean Gibson, at The Oaks; Pauline Marshall, at Highland Hills; and Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Jan. 14	Isaiah 62: 1-5
Tuesday	Jan. 15	Psalms 36: 5-9
Wednesday	Jan. 16	I Corinthians 12: 1-11
Thursday	Jan. 17	Philippians 2: 1-5
Friday	Jan. 18	I Peter 4: 7-11
Saturday	Jan. 19	John 2: 1-11
Sunday	Jan. 20	Proverbs 3: 1-10



Title: Ready or Not?

Theme: We share in God's abundant light & life as we humbly offer the best we can.

SOMEWHERE THERE'S MUSIC. Complete these song titles with the correct name of a place:

1. Give My Regards To: _____
2. _____ on My Mind.
3. I Left My Heart in _____



1. Broadway
2. Georgia
3. San Francisco

ANSWERS TO SOMEWHERE THERE'S MUSIC:

2018-2019 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

Year to Date: Week #28

Anticipated Pledges: \$232,759.80

Received Pledges: \$232,693.20

Thank you for your faithful Giving!

Meals on Wheels \$11,588.00

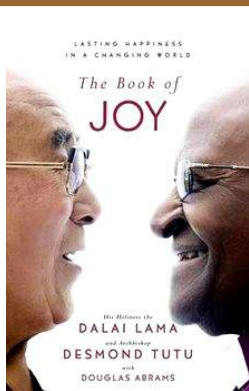


Sunday, January 27th, Covenant welcomes the Rev. Connie Tuttle to our pulpit at 8:30am & 10:45am. There will also be a meet and greet in the fellowship hall at 9:30am for any who would like to attend. Rev. Tuttle is the pastor of Circle of Grace Church in Decatur, Georgia, and has recently published a book about her discipleship journey, A Gracious Heresy: The Queer Calling of an Unlikely Prophet. Copies of the book will be available for purchase. For more info about Connie Tuttle visit this link <http://www.circleofgraceatlanta.org/meetOurPastor.html>.

Please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday morning will facilitate the discussion.

SO ALL MINISTRY TEAMS if your ministry team is storing items in that storage room please label clearly what you want to be kept otherwise it will find a new home (probably the landfill or a recycle bins). Thank you for your help and thank you to the Worship Ministry Team for taking on this enormous task.

Come one and all on the monthly Restaurant Road-trip, on Tuesday, January 15, at 11:30am - this time to Mirko Pasta, on South Main Street in Watkinsville. You can meet us there, or join the carpool leaving the church at 11:15am. But please signup on the bulletin board to let us know



The Journey Class will be studying THE BOOK OF JOY. *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* is a book by the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu published in 2016 by Cornerstone Publishers. This book is the result of a 7-day meeting between the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu, two of the world's most **influential** spiritual leaders, during which they discussed one of life's most **important** questions: how do we find joy despite **suffering**? Join us Sundays at 9:30am in the Journey Class room located in the nursery hallway. Steve Bell will facilitate the class.

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Youth Group Happenings!

Want to learn more about the bible? Come to:

- B.A.S.I.C. on Sunday mornings from 9:40 - 10:30. Lead by Abby Horvath; and,
- Covenant Connection, Wednesday evenings at 5:30 with Pastors Mark and Beecher



Sunday evening programming

- *Middle School Youth Programming will be taking on a slightly new look beginning on January 27th. Fifth graders are being invited to join the 6th and 7th graders for Sunday evening programming. More details are coming.*
- *High School Youth meet regularly from 5-7pm each Sunday when there is school (according to CCSD calendar) on Monday, unless otherwise publicized announced.*



TODAY- 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. If you haven't yet paid your deposit, no worries, you can still sign up. Speak with Craig. 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, which will travel on a charter bus with youth from Greater Atlanta and Cherokee Presbyteries. Any rising 9th - graduated HS student wants to attend, please **contact Brian Herndon** for more information. A deposit of \$100 is due to "Northeast Georgia Presbytery" by Feb 1.

New Brigade for TerraCycle

Covenant has joined a new TerraCycle brigade: Late July Chip Bags. Late July makes yellow, white and blue corn chips, as well as sub-lime and sea salt multigrain tortilla chips. These bags can be put into the drawer labeled "chip and salty snack bags" along with bags from other brands of chips, pretzels, popcorn, Bugles, Cheetos, Chex Mix, etc. I will separate them as I pack them in boxes for shipment. The difference between the Chip and Snack Bag Brigade, sponsored by Lay's, and the Late July Brigade is that TerraCycle provides a mailing label for boxes of Late July bags. It also pays the Green Dream Team a small amount for shipping a minimum of 2 lbs. of Late July bags to them. No mailing label or payment is given for shipping other brands of chip and salty snack bags. I will try to find out which stores sell Late July chips and put that info in next week's newsletter. *Caren Snook* for the Green Dream Team

1/13 Ruby, 1/20 Isaac, 1/27 Eli, 2/3 Jacob

Instructions: As part of a rotation, your child is assigned to a Sunday. If you can't make the Sunday assigned, switch with someone ahead of you on the schedule, and if you can't find a replacement, *no worries, as one of the pastors will fill in. 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

January Scripture: *Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23*

Memory Verses: *"Wait for the Lord, be strong and let your heart take courage, wait for the Lord."*
Psalm 27:24

WoRM Rotation for January:

	K-2	3rd-5th	Music Time	Story Teller
1/13/19	Christine/Megan (Oasis T)	Jerry/Jere (Temple C)	Betsy	Jerry
1/20/19	Susan/Luanne (Loaves/Fishes)	combined	Betsy	Susan
1/27/19	Kay/Adam (Temple C)	Christine/Megan (Oasis T)	Betsy	Megan

PARENTS CORNER:

Our WoRM lesson for this month focuses in on the specific aspect of the birth narrative of Jesus as told in the gospel of Matthew in which Jesus and his family find themselves as refugees in Egypt. There is much talk of refugees in our national conversation--along with a specific response which seems to be popular among people who identify as Christians--a proposal to "build a wall." As people of faith, it might be helpful to explore this national conversation with our children. Some questions to consider together: what is a refugee? What does scripture tell us about how people of faith are to respond? According to Merriam-Webster: the word "*Refugee came directly from the French word réfugié with a very specific meaning: it referred to Protestants who fled France following the revocation in 1685 of the Edict of Nantes, the law that granted religious liberty and civil rights to the Protestant Huguenots for nearly a century. Over 400,000 French Protestants left France in the following years, many to Protestant England. Within a decade, refugee was being used more generally in English to refer to anyone who was forced to flee to a place of safety, often because of danger or persecution because of religious or political beliefs.*" The word derives from the plight of a people of faith who had to flee persecution. As you consider how Christians are to respond to the plight of the refugee, it is a good opportunity to share an important word of faith: compassion. Show them pictures of children who are refugees. Ask them how they might address the situation, and how they think our country should respond. Encourage them to think of Jesus' teachings, "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me," Ask your children, How would Jesus want us to respond now?

If you notice the scripture for the month, verses 16-18 of the story are left out of what we will be sharing in WoRM. You can decide if you want to share those with your child. But, it leads one to ponder: What might have happened to Jesus had his parents not fled? We look forward to a good month of learning about and growing in faith.

Wonderful Wednesdays January 16th

10:00am Adult Bible Study— Bible overview using the Disciple Bible Study curriculum.
Facilitated by Mark Harper.

COVENANT CONNECTION (CovConn)

MENU for January 16th

Breakfast Casserole-
Bacon Cheddar Spinach,
Feta, Tomato

Biscuits, Fruit, Milk

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—led by Beecher. DVD video, "The Dark Ages: An Age of Light" a lively journey through Christian & Islamic art in the early middle ages, full of beauty in a barbaric time

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

WHO'S WHO at Covenant? Who at Covenant once worked on a newspaper in the Turks & Caicos, a non-extradition country?

Who's Who: Robyn Malone

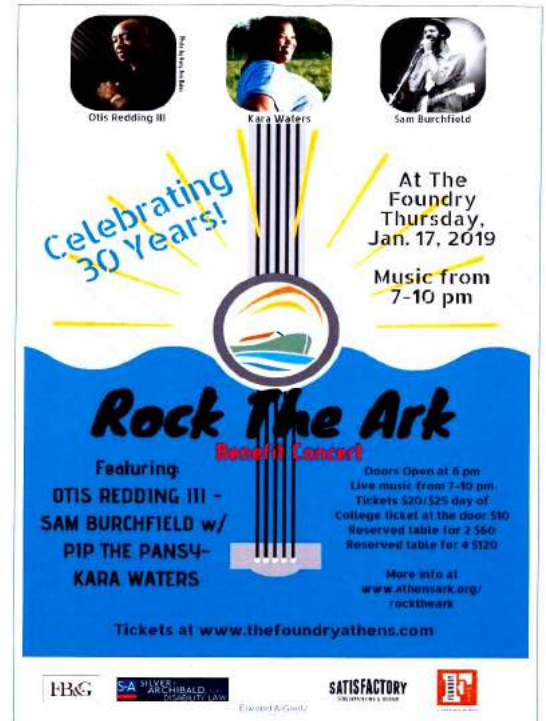
~8:30am Worship resumes January 20th~

ONLINE READERS:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

10am—11am at Covenant

Join us in the Worship Center to hear Cliff Brock's presentation on TAIZE. (A small group of AGO members will be attending.) Cliff will tell of his experience at TAIZE and how it inspired him to bring it back to his church and expand the canon a little. He will also mention John Bell and the Iona Community.



Celebrating 30 Years!

At The Foundry Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019
Music from 7-10 pm

Rock The Ark
Benefit Concert

Featuring:
OTIS REDDING III -
SAM BURCHFIELD w/
PIP THE PANSY-
KARA WATERS

Doors Open at 6 pm
Live music from 7-10 pm
Tickets \$20/\$25 day of
College ticket at the door \$30
Reserved table for 2 \$60
Reserved table for 4 \$120

More info at
www.athensark.org/
[rocktheark](http://rocktheark.com)

Tickets at www.thefoundryathens.com

HB&G SA SILVER PACHA RDALD TROUSERS LOW SATISFACTORY THE JEWELLERY SHOP



Lily Herndon and Carrie Tweedell are now taking orders for Girl Scout Cookies. Cookies will be in the first week of Feb. and are: Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs, Dosidoes, Trefoils, & Savannah Smiles, are \$4 per box. S'mores and Toffeetastic are \$6 per box. Thank you for your support of the Girl Scouts.

Heart of Covenant

Saturday,

February 9 at 6:30pm



Join us for this annual adult event which includes a three course dinner and a variety of games to help you get better acquainted with Covenant members and friends. Bring a spouse, friend, or come as a single. You will rotate to different tables and be with different people for each course. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Please indicate if you can help set up, clean up or bring a dessert. If you have any questions please contact James Malone or Ann Anderson.

Welcome to the new pastor & family of First Presbyterian Church in downtown Athens – Ryan Baer, his wife Amy, and three children, twins Nathan & Daniel (7), and Joshua (4). Ryan was born in New Mexico and grew up in north Texas. Ryan received his Master of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary in 2007 and his Doctor of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary in 2018. From 2008 to 2012 he was the Pastor and Head of Staff of Lakeside Presbyterian Church in West Palm Beach, Florida, and since 2012 he has served as the Pastor and Head of Staff of Ridglea Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, Texas. Ryan's first day in the office will be February 11, 2019, and he will preach his first sermon on February 17, with a reception to follow the 11:00 a.m. service. Read more & see photos on the church website <https://firstpresathens.org/home/introducing-ryan-baer/>.

LA TABLE 2019—A Luncheon Benefit For Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens

On Tuesday, February 26, 2018, IHNA will host its annual *La Table* luncheon at the Athens Country Club, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Attendees are asked to make a contribution of \$50, (Please make your check out to Covenant with LaTable on the memo portion put in offering plate or leave in the church office) a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. The funds raised through this event will support IHNA in its mission to mobilize our community to help homeless families in crisis situations achieve sustainable independence by providing emergency housing, meals and comprehensive support services. Please sign up on the bulletin board. See Ellen Stoneburner for more information.

WEEK OF January 13, 2019**SUNDAY-**

9:30am Church School resumes for all ages
 10:45am Worship/Ordination Installation of Elders
 12:15pm Lasagna Luncheon to support Youth Mission Trips
 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous
 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous,
 5pm Youth Groups

MONDAY- OFFICE CLOSED**TUESDAY-**

11:30am Restaurant Roadtrip to Mirko Pasta, Watkinsville
 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 Adult Choir
 7:30pm LA Support Group

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm YOGA
 7pm Celebrate Recovery

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY-

7am FEAST Food Truck Distribution
 9am Women's Prayer breakfast at EFBC
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—January 13, 2019**10:45am-**

Reader: Paige Campbell

Ushers: Julie Bower, Kent Silver, Robyn Malone

Greeters: Joan & Hannah Baird

Congregational Care: Marilyn Brown

Counters: Paige Campbell, Caren Snook

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Jim Bowden

Close the Building: Jim Bowden

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Jan 14—20)

Nursery/Super: Don Bower

Birth—Walking: Don Bower

Walking—5 years old: Chuck Rosenberger, Sandy Whitney,

Mary Barnett

WEEK OF January 20, 2019**SUNDAY- IHN BEGINS****8:30am WORSHIP RESUMES**

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

MONDAY-

8:00am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge
 OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY-

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 Adult Choir
 7:30pm LA Support Group

THURSDAY-

2pm Knitters & Knotters
 6:30pm YOGA
 7pm Celebrate Recovery
 7:30pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY- Session Retreat at Rock Eagle

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY- (return from Session Retreat at Rock Eagle)

Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—January 20, 2019**8:30am-**

Reader: Bruce Menke

Coffee: Dennis Calbos

Ushers: Judy Capie, Alan Edwards

10:45am-

Reader: Mary Barnett

Ushers: Juergen & Heide Wiegel, The Tweedell Family

Greeters: Bert Ballard-Myer, Katie Bemisderfer

Congregational Care: Marilyn Brown

Counters: Pam Knox, Randy Parish

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Hank Tweedell

Grounds Stewards: Alex Clark (Jan. 21—27)

Nursery/Super: Marie Ballard-Myer

Birth—Walking: Trasie Toppie

Walking—5 years old: Marie Ballard-Myer, Richard & Marcia Page