

8:30am Worship resumes January 20th – TODAY!

## THE COVENANTER January 20, 2019

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

### 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*



### Souper Bowl Of Caring, February

**3rd.** Contributions will go to support **FEAST**, the East Athens Food Distribution, a partnership of local churches that purchase a truck load of food to distribute to hungry families in our community. Each truck load of food costs \$350. Covenant is the host of the food distribution bi-monthly, with the next one on March 16th.

*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.*



Join us for LUNCH BUNCH, every final Tuesday of the month at DePalma's Italian

Restaurant eastside at 11:30am. Always good fellowship & food. Separate checks—meet you there.

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:** All at Covenant and throughout the country, impacted by the current government shutdown, with lack of employment income, as well as the anxiety it brings to families; Karen McConnel, a volunteer with the FEAST, healing at home after a recent leg amputation; Gloria Pylant's friends, Jetta, in failing health with advanced pancreatic cancer, and Judy, in successful treatment for lung cancer; Ellen Stoneburner's brother, Bob Hansen of Minneapolis, in successful treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma; Mrs. Bowen's family, neighborhood, & community, in difficult times; Paula Zimdars' mother, Pauline Marshall, in her transition to memory care at Highland Hills #112, this past week; 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; and Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta.

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Jan. 21	Psalm 19
Tuesday	Jan. 22	Psalm 20
Wednesday	Jan. 23	Psalm 21
Thursday	Jan. 24	Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Friday	Jan. 25	I Corinthians 12: 12-26
Saturday	Jan. 26	I Corinthians 12: 27-31
Sunday	Jan. 27	Luke 4: 14-21



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

1. \_\_\_\_\_ bridge is falling down.
2. It's a long way to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The last time I saw \_\_\_\_\_.

1. London
2. Tipperary
3. Paris

ANSWERS TO SOMEWHERE THERE'S MUSIC:

#### 2018-2019 FINANCIAL REPORT YTD

Fiscal Year to Date: Week #29

Anticipated Pledges: \$259,579.56

Received Pledges: \$243,113.20

*Thank you for your faithful Giving!*

*Joy Gift Offering:*



**Sunday, January 27th,** Covenant welcomes the Rev. Connie Tuttle to our pulpit at 8:30am & 10:45am. There will also be a Meet/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>.

## EMMAUS ROAD CLASS : The Life and Witness of Dorothy Day

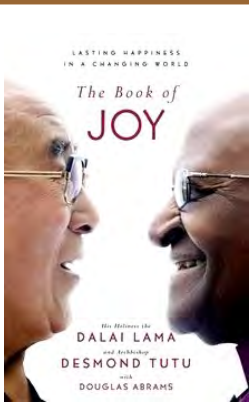


Starting on **Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**, the Emmaus Road class will begin a conversation with and about Dorothy Day, the founder of the Catholic Worker Movement and one of the most significant North American followers of Jesus in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The class will begin by watching an hour-long documentary of her life entitled, “Don’t Call Me a Saint,” and then will reflect each week through February on some of her writings (provided via email prior to the class). Please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday mornings . Mark Harper will facilitate the discussion.

The Worship Ministry Team will be cleaning out the storage room (*AKA Donny’s Old, Old office*) the beginning of February.

**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 recycle bins). Thank you for your help and thank you to the Worship Ministry Team for taking on this enormous task.

Congratulations to Colleen Cook, Covenant’s seminarian, now just months before graduation from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur. She passed her final assessment with Northeast GA Presbytery on January 15 and has been certified “ready to receive a call to ministry!” Please keep her and her family in your prayers this semester, as she seeks God’s guidance to a place & people where she can use her gifts & leadership. She’ll be with us in worship on Sunday, January 27, and you can keep up with her journey this year at her own website = [colleencookportfolio.wordpress.com](http://colleencookportfolio.wordpress.com)



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.

This fall the NAUTILIUS discussion group studied the great women of the Bible like Miriam, Mary, and Lydia. For the winter-spring semester, we move to the *Lives of Great Christians*, a Great Courses series presented by the much-acclaimed William Cook, Professor of Medieval History at the State University of New York. A Tree of Life stands in the center of the US Constitution Hall on Philadelphia’s Independence Hall. On its branches hang pictures of 100 people who have made a significant contribution to make the US Constitution what it is today. Simply press a button by each name to hear the important contribution each made. This semester we are pressing the buttons on *Lives of Great Christians* to learn the contribution of each. Class sessions begin with Professor Cook’s presentation, followed by a discussion led by various class members. We start with St. Antony, then St Augustine of Hippo. We find out the importance of Hildegard von Bingen to Martin Luther’s theses. We conclude with the contribution of Gustavo Gutierrez and Liberation Theology. Every week, the name of the person studied will appear in *The Covenant*. Come learn with us for one Sunday morning or all of them, at 9:30am in the Conference Room next to the mailboxes. *Coordinated by Warren & Arnelle Combs.*

## 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 from 4:15-6. The time will include programming, recreation, and a meal shared with the senior high group at 5:30. 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.

## NEXT FOUR SUNDAYS:

Jan 20: No Regular Youth Group → instead:

**On Sunday, Jan 20**, all middle and senior high youth are encouraged to attend the Ecumenical MLK Worship service at Mt. Pleasant Baptist which begins at 5pm. Meet at the church at 4:15 to ride together, and a meal out most likely will follow the worship service. Be on the lookout for details on GroupMe. Then,

**On Monday, Jan 21**, youth will meet at Cedar Shoals High School for the MLK Day of Service kick off which is from 8:30-9:30, after which, we will come to the church to do some work projects set up by Rich Reaves. Food will follow the service. Things should wrap up between 11 and noon.

Jan 27: Youth Group - Middlers at 4:15-6; Senior High 5-7

Feb 3: Youth Group - Middlers at 4:15-6; Senior High 5-7; Youth Leader Meeting @ 7

Feb 10: Youth Group - Middlers at 4:15-6; Senior High 5-7

**The Lasagna Lunch** on Jan 13th, the major fundraiser for the Cov Pres Youth Program, was a huge success. Thus far nearly \$2000 has been raised. Many thanks to the leadership of Delynda and Hank Tweedell who organized and made sure it ran smoothly, as well as to Bert Ballard-Myer, Sue Rathbun and all the adult leaders who pitched in. And to the youth (and their parents)--who prepped, cleaned, cooked, and waited tables--*way to go!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**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. So far 8 youth have registered and paid their deposit. If you haven't yet registered or paid your deposit, no worries, you can still sign up. Speak with Craig. For more information visit [montreat.org](http://montreat.org), and contact [ctopple@covpresathens.org](mailto: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 Jan 31. For more information visit [montreat.org](http://montreat.org), and contact [ctopple@covpresathens.org](mailto: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.

**Child Liturgist  
(10:45 Service)**

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

1/20 Isaac, 1/27 Eli, 2/3 Jacob, 2/10 Ruby

*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."*

*Psalms 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 12<sup>3rd</sup>

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

## MENU for January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Spaghetti-Sausage/  
sweet peppers, salad,  
grapes, ice cream  
sandwiches

## 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—led by Beecher Mathes. 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 please share this invitation with colleagues and neighbors and all who are spiritually hungry and thirsty.



**WHO'S WHO at Covenant?** Who at Covenant used to have a pet quail who laid an egg every 3 days?



**Building and Grounds Ministry Team Meeting**  
**January 27, 2019, after the 10:45am worship service.**  
**YOU ARE INVITED!** If you are interested in joining the B&G Ministry Team or just want to know more please plan to attend this meeting. See you there!



Who's Who:  
Colleen Cook



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.

### SKYWATCH! WATCH THE



LUNAR ECLIPSE AT  
SANDY CREEK  
PARK (NOT NATURE

CENTER) ON JANUARY 20TH

9:30PM-11:30PM!

### Community Tree Council Positions Open:

Covenant currently has two members on the Athens Clarke Community Tree Council, Pam Knox and Phil Hale. This broad based citizens' group works closely with the county government, especially the Community Forester. Its purpose is to provide information, outreach and education that promotes the responsible stewardship of trees and sustainability of community forest resources. At present there are several vacancies on the Council. If you are interested or just want more information, please contact Phil or Pam.

Covenant's next meeting of BRAS (Building Relationships & Support) for women is Saturday, February 16, from 6-9pm, at the home of Valerie Stone, 106 Buckeye Branch. Come for an evening of fellowship, laughter, and delicious food. Bring a dish to share. Please RSVP to Valerie or to Bert Ballard-Myer.

## 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. Terry Kay, a 2006 inductee into the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame, will be one of the featured speakers. 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.

### 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

**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-** 9:30am Athens Mothers 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 Adult Choir

7:30pm LA Support Group

**THURSDAY—**

2pm Knitters &amp; 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 in Fellowship Hall

**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: Juergen Wiegel

Ushers: Juergen &amp; 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: Tim Foutz

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

**WEEK OF January 27, 2019****SUNDAY- IHN ENDS****8:30am WORSHIP**

9:30am Meet/Greet in FH with Rev. Connie Tuttle

10:45am Worship

12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous

3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous,

5pm Youth Groups

**MONDAY—** 5pm—10pm Cedar Creek Association Meeting in FH

OFFICE CLOSED

**TUESDAY-**

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

10am Adult Bible Study

10am—1pm Presbytery CO-Ord Team Meeting

11:30am Lunch Bunch at DePalma's Italian Restaurant Eastside

1:30pm—3:00pm Presbytery Action Team Meeting

8pm New Freedom in Fellowship Hall

**WEDNESDAY—**

10:00am 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 &amp; Knotters

6:30pm YOGA

7pm Celebrate Recovery

**FRIDAY—**

9:30am Athens Mothers Center

8pm New Freedom

**SATURDAY—** Fellowship Hall Cleaned**WORSHIP—January 27, 2019****8:30am-**

Reader: Gijs Schimmel

Coffee: Warren/Nell Combs

Ushers: Elsie Bothwell, Jim Smith

**10:45am—**

Reader: Steve Follin

Ushers: Jim &amp; Dorothy Newland, Dick Zimdars, Stephanie Cahill, Betsy Pless

Greeters: Phil &amp; Sallie Hale

Congregational Care: Marilyn Brown

Counters: Sue Loegel, Judy Capie

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Jan. 28—Feb. 3)

Nursery/Super: Pam Knox

Birth—Walking: Pam Knox

Walking—5 years old: Sue Loegel, Lindsey Bowden, Steve Bell