

THE COVENANTER February 03, 2019

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



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. Thank you!

Feed d My Sheep

ATHENS AREA EMERGENCY FOOD BANK The month of February Covenant is collecting these items for the AAEFB: Pork & beans, canned salmon and snacks items such as

crackers, granola bars, fruit snacks, etc. Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

Bowden Church Vocations Fund a special offering for COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH February 2019

We continue to be grateful to God for all the gifts of the Spirit seen in Covenant's ministry of the past 53 years. We have had 8 candidates for ministry who attended Columbia Seminary in Atlanta: Andy Casto-Waters, Rob Lohmeyer, Jennifer and David Horton, Insook Lee, Boin Cho, David Fuentes, and Lauren Van Wicklen Peters; and 1 who attended Union in Richmond, Robin Murzynski Mann. We have also supported the efforts of members as Volunteers in Mission, as Young Adult Volunteers, as Mission Teams, as student interns on our church staff, and in other studies and certifications at Montreat College and Columbia Seminary. We also encouraged Susan Verbrugge and Catherine Willis Oliver as they too became PCUSA Ministers of Word & Sacrament.

Named in honor of Jim and Jere Bowden's 35-year ministry here at Covenant, the Bowden Church Vocations Fund was established in 1996 by our Session to support our members who have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. This year, we celebrate with Colleen Cook who is finishing her 4 years of study at Columbia Seminary this spring. Colleen is a longtime member, who was active in the choir and coordinator of our Covenant Connection program. Please include her in your prayers as she seeks a call to ministry. With your help, we'll keep her debt-free as she begins new work.

A special offering for the Bowden Fund will be received this month, though donations are welcome all year long. Make checks out to Covenant & mark them BCVF or Bowden Fund. Please respond generously, as we support our members in this journey of faith together, wherever it may lead us. Many thanks!

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Heart of Covenant. "A Night in Italy" Saturday. February 9 at 6:30pm Join us for this annual adult event which includes a three course dinner, catered by DePalma's and a variety of games with prizes, 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. Donations accepted at the door. 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.

Remember in Prayer: Caren Snook's niece's husband, Larry Harper, at home with hospice care for lung cancer; Jeremy Reaves & friends, in the sudden death of their colleague Liz Barraza, who was killed at her home in TX; Diane Davies, healing well at home from a recent knee replacement, abdominal infection, and a partial colectomy surgery Fri.Jan.25; Mrs. Bowen's family & community, in difficult times; Anne Page, now at Avery Place in Winterville, room #116 (visitors are welcome); 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, in Highland Hills memory care; and Craig Topple's sister Genia in Atlanta.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Feb. 04	Psalm 138
Tuesday	Feb. 05	Psalm 139
Wednesday	Feb. 06	Isaiah 6: 1-8
Thursday	Feb. 07	I Corinthians 15: 1-11
Friday	Feb. 08	Luke 4: 31-37
Saturday	Feb. 09	Luke 4: 38-44
Sunday	Feb. 10	Luke 5: 1-11



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

- 1. _____ Blues.
- 2. The Girl from _____.

3. I Found My Thrill on _____

- Blueberry Hill
 - 2. Ipenema
 - i. St. Louis

ANWERS TO SOMEWHERE THERE'S MUSIC:



You can find a registration form on the table in the gathering room or on the sign up bulletin board.



Happy Valentine's Day! The **Presbyterian Women's Bible Study** will meet at 9:30am on Thursday, February 14, reading chapter 6 in their booklet, "God's Promise: I Am with You." Scriptures include: Isaiah 41:8-13, Isaiah 43:1-7, and Psalm 46:1-11. All women are invited. <u>This month we will stay after-</u> wards for a lite lunch of soup, bread, and fruit. <u>Bring your favorite to share.</u> Always good conversation, devotions, & missions.

EMMAUS ROAD CLASS : The Life and Witness of Dorothy Day



Starting on **Sunday, January 13**th, 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 20th 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. Keep up with her journey this year at her own website = colleencookportfolio.wordpress.com



The Journey Class will be studying **THE BOOK OF JOY**. <u>The Book of Joy</u>: <u>Lasting Happiness in a Changing World</u> 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 Covenanter*. 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 Sunday evening programming

- ⇒ Middle School Youth Programming is underway! Fifth graders have joined 6th and 7th graders for Sunday evening programming from 4-6. The time will include programming--right now they are watching "Star Wars" from a faith perspective; followed by recreation and a meal shared with the senior high group. Sunday evening adult leaders are Jeremy Reaves, Dibenhi Reyna, and Mark Harper. Parents are welcome to sit in on any session as the group forms.
 - High School Youth meet regularly from 5-7pm each Sunday when there is school (according to CCSD calendar) on Monday, unless otherwise publicized announced. All meetings are announced through "GroupMe." Sign up with Bert Ballard-Meyer.

NEXT THREE SUNDAYS:

HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLERS YOUTH SUNDAYS!

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

- Feb 10: Youth Group Middlers at 4pm-6pm; Senior High 5pm-7pm
- Feb 17; No Youth Group

Feb 24: Youth Group-Middlers at 4pm-6pm; Senior High 5pm-7pm

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 <u>montreat.org</u>, and contact ctop-ple@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 <u>montreat.org</u>, and contact <u>ctopple@covpresathens.org</u>

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.

WHO'S WHO at Covenant? Who at Covenant was a classmate of the founder of the "Souper Bowl", the Rev. Brad Smith who started it in 1900 at his PCUSA church in Columbia, S.C.?



Congratulations to Missy Green for receiving the Athens Clarke County 2018 Citizen Employee of the Year Award, for her outstanding work with the Central Communications Bureau, as a 911 dispatcher for the police department. Who's Who: Karen W. Redwine at Columbia Theology Seminary

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

2/3/ Jacob; 2/10 Ruby; 2/17 Isaac; 2/24 Eli

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
2/3/19	Jerry/Jere (Oasis T)	Craig/Jere (Potters Workshop)	Betsy	Jerry
2/10/19	Patrick/Megan (Loaves/Fishes)	Jerry/Jere (Oasis Theatre)	Betsy	Megan
2/17/19	Kay/Adam (Temple Courtyar	d) combined	Betsy	Adam
2/24/19	Luanne/Susan (Potters Workshop)	Patrick/Jennifer (Loaves & Fishes	a) Betsv	Susan or Luanne

Parents Corner: "Say you're 'sorry.'" Have you ever said this to a child? Children surely know feelings of remorse. Think of some incidents which may have caused your child to feel bad about what he or she did. Did she smoosh a bug by accident? Did he hurt a sibling on purpose, but later felt bad for it? Did a friend get left out of a game? Did he act in a way displeasing to his parents? Our children most often know when they've caused hurt, and certainly know when they have been hurt. It can help to have words accompany those feelings, such as "sorry." In "biblical times," a commonly held belief that the relationship between physical ailments/illnesses and sin was causal--one became ill primarily as a result of sins one had committed. Significant emphasis was placed on cleansing and purification rituals as a way to intercept any physical ailment that would otherwise surely be coming a "sinners" way. We have a similar mentality today. It's not unusual when one falls ill, particularly chronically so, to at least consider, "Did I do something to deserve this?" Our WoRM lesson this month comes from Luke 5:17-25. It gets at the intersectionality between "sin" and physical illness. Often in this story, we focus on the faith of friends, the shock of opening a hole in the roof of the house where Jesus was teaching, and the miracle of Jesus telling the man to "take up his mat and walk!" But, not to be lost, at the heart of the pericope is Jesus pronouncing forgiveness to the paralyzed man. Was Jesus suggesting his physical condition was a result of sin? What was Jesus hoping might happen by forgiving the man's sins? We will likely never know. Still, it shows how essential forgiveness was in the ministry of Jesus. We can internalize guilt, as well as rancor to the point that it contributes to illness. Contrarily, think of how liberating forgiveness is: to be forgiven, and to forgive. Our president may be the only person who thinks he doesn't need to be forgiven of anything. The rest of us can probably think to just earlier in the day before reading this of a time when there may have been a need to say, "sorry;" or someone has needed to say "sorry" to us. The 12 steps know this well! What a gift when the one you say sorry to says, "I forgive you." Now, with an Ignatian twist, imagine the words spoken by Jesus are said to you; "your sins are forgiven, my friend." We look forward to a good month of learning about and growing in faith.

Wonderful Wednesdays-February 6th

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

COVENANT CONNECTION (CovConn)

MENU for February 6: Pizza, Salad, Fruit

Ice Cream Sandwiches

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.



Come one, come all, to the **Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon** on Tuesday, February 12, at 12:30pm, in Fel-



lowship Hall. This month we welcome Covenant's Bill Lindstrom & Sophie, who is a certified pet therapy dog, visiting those who have special needs – helping reduce blood pressure, pains, & stress, and having a general calming effect, as

well as putting a smile on their faces! Bill works through the Athens Area Council on Aging to meet Sophie's clients. Always a great time of good food & fellowship. Bring a dish to share, and bring a friend.

Our next Restaurant Roadtrip will take us



down the street to "A Taste of India" in the Ansonborough complex, at the corner of Gaines School Road & Cedar Shoals Drive. Join us on **Tuesday, February 19, at**

11:30am. Separate checks. Meet you there. Please signup on the bulletin board to let us know how big a table to reserve! Always great food & fellowship to share.

Congregational Care Ministry Team Meeting <u>TODAY</u> Feb. 3rd

There will be a meeting of the Congregational Care Ministry team on February 3, 2019 at 12:15 p.m. (after worship) in the conference room next to the mailboxes. We will be discussing our activities for the upcoming year, updating of the PIF and addressing Valentine Cards for our college students and homebound members and friends of Covenant. All are welcome! Please come and help us discover how we might better care for one another. Needed: School Supplies & Toiletries for WORM Project! Last week's WORM Church School lesson was about Mary, Joseph and Jesus fleeing to Egypt for their safety and how even today people have to leave their homes quickly for the same reason. The children decorated knapsacks that will be donated to children in transition. Now we need to fill the bags with school supplies, toiletries or anything you think someone who has had to flee their home quickly might need. Please place items in the box in the hallway outside the office. *Thank You!*



Lily Herndon and Carrie Tweedell are now taking orders for Girl Scout Cook-

ies. 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.

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 February 03, 2019

SUNDAY-8:30am WORSHIP 9:30am Church School for all ages 10:45am Worship 12:15pm Congregational Care Ministry Meeting 12:30pm—2:30pm Debtors Anonymous 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, 4pm—6pm Middle School Youth Group 5pm—7pm Youth High School Youth Groups

MONDAY-

8am Covenant Breakfast Club at Cracker Barrel 6:30pm Scouts OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center 10am Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Christian Education Meeting 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY-

10:00am Adult Bible Study 2pm Grad Council Meeting 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

7:00pm Worship Team Meeting

Coffee:

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center 7:00pm Dance Group (Youth Rooms) 8pm New Freedom

SATURDAY – Fellowship Hall Cleaned 6:30pm Heart of Covenant in Fellowship Hall

WORSHIP—February 03, 2019

8:30am-

Reader: Wayne Crowell

Ushers: Steve & Lola Bell

10:45am-

Reader: Jim Newland

Ushers: Susan & Randy Parish, Bill Rigsby, Julie & Don Bower

Greeters: The Herndon Family

Congregational Care: Luanne Rigsby

Counters: Judy Capie, Bill Barstow

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alex Clark

Close the Building: Rich Reaves

Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Feb. 4- 10)

Nursery/Super: Lola Bell

Birth—Walking: Lola Bell

Walking—5 years old: Adam & Rebecca Rea, Adam Brooks 8

WEEK OF February 10, 2019

SUNDAY-8:30am WORSHIP 9:30am Church School for all ages 10:45am Worship 1:30pm Called Session Meeting 3:30pm Overeaters Anonymous 4pm—6pm Middle School V 4pm—6pm Middle School Youth Group 5pm—7pm Youth High School Youth Groups

MONDAY-

6:30pm Scouts OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY-9:30am Athens Mothers Center 10am Adult Bible Study 12:30pm Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon 7pm NF Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY-

10:00am Adult Bible Study 2pm Grad Council Meeting 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-

9:30am PW Bible Study in the Gathering Room 9:30am Examination Board Meeting 11:00am Committee on Ministry 2pm Knitters & Knotters 6:30pm YOGA 7pm Celebrate Recovery 7:30pm Happy Squares

FRIDAY-

9:30am Athens Mothers Center 10:00am Green Dream Team Meeting 7:00pm Dance Group (Youth Rooms)

SATURDAY–Fellowship Hall Cleaned 6pm Building Relations'& Support

WORSHIP—February 10, 2019

8:30am-

Reader: Steve Bell

Coffee: Lola Bell

Ushers: Judy Capie, Alan Edwards

10:45am-

Reader: Juergen Wiegel

Ushers: Kent Silver, Marie Ballard-Myer, Shirley Reinert, Steve Rathbun,

Julie Bower

Greeters: Maurine Wathen, Gloria Pylant

Congregational Care: Luanne Rigsby

Counters: Sue Loegel, Paige Campbell

Flowers: Juergen Wiegel

Plant Care: Frank Allen

Open the Building: Alan Edwards

Close the Building: Phil Koehler

Grounds Stewards: Hank Tweedell (Feb. 11—17)

Nursery/Super: Christine Carpenter

Birth—Walking: Christine Carpenter

Walking—5 years old: Clayton & Grace Adams, Phil Hale

8pm New Freedom

8pm New Freedom