

THE COVENANTER
December 08, 2019

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



Covenant's Annual Christmas Choral Worship

Sunday, December 15 at 10:45am promptly

Join us for a morning of carols and festive music. This is our annual tradition of Christmas Choral Worship and there will be offerings from our chime choir, hand-bell choir, children's choir and adult choir as well as solos and instrumental pieces. A catered luncheon will follow in the fellowship hall hosted by Congregational Fellowship.

Meals on Wheels - received in the month of December to sponsor persons who receive a daily meal through the "Meals on Wheels" program. The annual cost (including food & expenses) to provide meals for one person is \$1,848.00. Last year's offering enabled Covenant to support close to 7 older Athenians for this year. The congregation is encouraged to give

generously as a way to participate with members and friends making deliveries: *Ann Anderson, Jim & Jere Bowden, Marilyn Brown, Phil Hale, Sue & David Loegel, Phil & Linda Koehler, Dorothy & Jim Newland, Caren Snook, and Heide & Juergen Wiegel.* **Consider making a special gift in honor or in memory of a loved one. You will find an envelope in the pews. Please make checks out to Covenant and earmark MOW. Thank you!**

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon

What do Paul Revere, John Bunyan, Ian McMillan, PT Barnum, and David Boardman have in common? You guessed it (maybe!); they're all famous handbell ringers. One of these incredible musicians will be with us at our December Graduates Lunch-

eon to share a little history about handbells and to invite us to the table to ring!
Join us: **Tuesday, December 10 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall** Jim Bowden will bring the **Christmas ham** and you are invited to bring side dishes and desserts to share!



WoRM CHURCH SCHOOL December 08, 2019 at 9:30am

We look deeper into the Christmas story and hear the words of the angels..."be not afraid!"

Susan Parish and Luanne Rigsby will lead us in creative activities assisted by Jere Bowden and Wanda Oliver.

YOUTH GROUPS December 08, 2019—

HIGH SCHOOL: Our high school youth group will gather at 5:00 p.m. to begin making plans for the annual Lasagna Fundraiser which will be held on January 12.

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS will meet at 5:00 p.m. for a movie and dinner. We will complete assembling the luminaries during this time together. The Shannon family will provide a meal for both groups.



Mark your calendars! Middle and high schoolers are invited to help with the luminaries on Christmas Eve. Jeremy and Rich Reaves will begin positioning luminaries (up to 250 luminaries) around the church campus at 1:30 p.m. Christmas Eve, and young people are invited to help with the project as their schedules permit. DePalma's pizza will be provided!

Wednesday, December 11

10am Adult Bible Study in the Upper Room
Using Miriam Dunson's book, *A Very Present Help*,
the Wednesday morning Bible study which meets in
the Upper Room, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
Mark Harper leads the exploration.

Covenant Connection

5:30pm—6pm Servant Time—

We will complete our table decorations for the Christmas Chorale luncheon (December 15) during Servant Time. Come to the Journey classroom at 5:30 p.m. to help with the assembling of snow globes and decorating pine cone Christmas trees.

6:00pm—6:30pm Family Dinner—

6:30pm -7:00pm Carol/Joy Choir

6:30pm—7:30pm Adult Bible Study

We continue our study of John and will look at stories of disciples, Chapter 4 & 5.

6:20pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Adult Choir



WEDNESDAY NIGHT
YOUTH AT
COVENANT
CONNECTION on
Wed, Dec. 11th

*For middle and high
school students.*

3:30pm—5:30pm Supervised fellowship/
recreation in the youth rooms;
5:30pm—6:00pm Bible Study;
6:00pm—6:30pm Family Dinner;
6:30pm—7:00pm Faith & Film

Covenant Connection Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 18

5:30pm—7:00pm

Santa and his elves will make a visit, and we will hear a Christmas story and have fun with Christmas crafts and maybe a game or two!

Covenant Connection will resume on Wednesday, January 8th. We will have postings for volunteers on Sign-Up Genius and ask that you consider how you may serve our church family

THE GRADUATES

Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon

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Tuesday, December 10 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Jim Bowden will bring the **Christmas ham** and you are invited to bring side dishes and desserts to share!



Lunch Bunch

DePalma's Italian Restaurant (eastside)

Tuesday, December 31 at 11:30am

Join us for a great time of food and fellowship. Separate checks!

Knitters & Knotters

Thursday, Dec. 12th at 2pm

Join us for a great time of fellowship & ministry as we join together to make blankets, hat, scarves, pillows, etc. for those in need. Everyone is invited, beginners welcome!

Restaurant Road Trip

We'll carpool to Social Circle for the Christmas buffet lunch at the Blue Willow Inn:

Wednesday, December 18

Meet in the church parking lot to carpool,
10:45 a.m.

The cost will be \$13.95 (drinks not included), and after lunch we'll visit the Inn's gift shop for some last-minute holiday shopping. Reservations by December 15 are necessary, and a sign-up sheet may be found on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Covenant Breakfast Club Monday, Dec.



16 at 8am. Cracker Barrel

on Epps Bridge Road. Join

us for a good time of conversation and food.



An Afternoon to Remember—

Join us at the Athens Botanical Gardens for a special concert performed by the New Horizons Band, the older adult band sponsored by the UGA Community Music School. Our very own Katy Terry, Chris Wilson, and Chuck Rosenberger are members, and they invite us to come enjoy the music of Christmas with them: Saturday, December 14, 2:00 p.m., Athens Botanical Gardens.

THE GRADUATES LUNCH & A MOVIE— Do you enjoy an afternoon out with friends for lunch and a movie? Our Graduates Council is interested in getting people together for an occasional movie and lunch outing in Athens. This month we're considering the new Tom Hanks' movie, *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*. Possible dates for this outing are Tuesday, December 17 or Friday, December 20. We plan on a 2:00 showtime at the University 16 Cinemas, 1793 Oconee Connector, but this will depend of the theater schedule. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Remember in Prayer: Family & Friends in the passing of Carol Wheeler, December 6th; Ann Anderson during well now at home; Anne Page at Avery Place #145; Libby Wright at Avery Place #104; Ruth Brewster at Arbor Terrace #222; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; Jean Gibson at The Oaks #101; and Anna Holshouser & John Brewer at home.

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. Please do not leave cash. Thank you!



Presbyterian Women's Cookie Party

Friday, December 13 at 10am

Join us at the home of Jere Bowden, 175 Takeda Way, Athens. We will have devotions, sing carols, and enjoy wonderful cookies and each other. Bring your favorite cookies to share.



Increase the FEAST!



Beginning in January 2020, our FEAST food distribution will be happening every month! In partnership with the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, Milledge Avenue Baptist Church, St. Gregory the Great Episcopal, and the Christian Campus Fellowship, we will continue to serve over 10,000 pounds of food to between 150 and 175 families on the third Saturday of each month. And can you guess what each truck load of food costs? A grand total of \$350! Talk about stretching a dollar – or a modern version of the loaves and fishes!

Of course, the food would not wind up in the pantries of our neighbors without the gracious hospitality of all of you who volunteer. We are so grateful for your commitment to this ministry. Please contact Nancy Omdahl, Mark Harper, or Sue Goodyear if you would like to learn more.

In addition to serving what we believe is an ongoing and growing need among our food insecure neighbors, a new partnership with the Mobile Medical Clinic of the UGA School of Medicine will be offering free health care at each distribution. The healing, life-giving spirit of Jesus is at work on the Eastside, so please come and join us. The next FEAST will take place on January 18th. We hope to see you then!

Want to give a helping hand? Join our ministries at **Our Daily Bread**, the soup kitchen for Athens, based at First Baptist Church downtown.

Dorothy Newland coordinates preparing lunch on fifth Wednesdays, arriving at 10am. The next day of service is Wednesday, January 29, 2020. Contact Dorothy at 706-202-0474 if you would like to help. Paige Cummings coordinates preparing lunch on first Fridays monthly, arriving at 11am. Contact Paige at paigemercercummings@gmail.com if you would like to help. The next day of service is Friday, January 3, 2019.

TRUE COLORS. Answers contain specific colors. **Ex:** Vermont Uplands

Answer: Green Mountains

1. No IOU's here
2. Power problem
3. Lay off notification

By Marilyn Brown

At the 10:45 service on December 8, guest violinist Itamar Zorman will play the Offertory, celebrating the 74th wedding anniversary of George and Marie Zimdars and the 38th wedding anniversary of Dick and Paula Zimdars. For more about Mr. Zorman, an Athens resident, see www.itamarzorman.com

Out of Darkness — An Advent Concert
Sunday, December 8 at 7pm

Emmanuel Episcopal

498 Prince Ave

Wednesday, Dec. 11 7pm

Friendship Presbyterian Church, 8531

Macon Highway

Free admission-open to the public



THINGS YOU SHOULD NEVER BUY AGAIN!

1. Styrofoam cups. Styrofoam is forever. It is not biodegradable.
2. Bleached Coffee Filters. Dioxins, chemicals formed during the chlorine bleaching process, contaminate groundwater and are linked to cancer.
3. Teak & Mahogany. Every year 27 million acres of rain forest are destroyed. Rainforests are home to over half of the world's wild plant, animal and insect species.
4. Items made with PVC plastic. PVC is found in everyday plastics and is a known human carcinogen.

The Green Dream Team

Designated Opportunities to Give

Covenant Presbyterian Church

2019-2020

As the Christmas season approaches with the New Year 'just around the corner' practicing generosity to help others brings delight to our hearts and to the holiday season. Someone has said, "The best way to catch the spirit of Christmas is to give it to someone else." To help us restore life-giving balance, Covenant offers alternatives, so that giving can once again become the sign of the season which celebrates the gift of God's serving love, born in a stable in Bethlehem long ago. On the table in the narthex are opportunities to give. Please make your check payable to: Covenant Presbyterian Church and designate how you want your contribution to be used.

Answers to *True Colors*:

1. in the black
2. blackout
3. pink slip

WEEK OF December 08, 2019—**SUNDAY—**

8:30am Worship (FINAL)
 9:30 Church School for all
 10:45am Worship
 12:15pm Climate Crisis Team Meeting 12:30pm Youth Groups
 3:30pm Debtors Anonymous

MONDAY—

OFFICE CLOSED
 6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 12:30pm Graduates Luncheon
 5pm—6pm Diabetes Clinic
 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY—

8:30am—9:30am AA
 10am Morning Adult Bible Study
 5:30pm—7:00pm Covenant Connection
 6:20pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:30pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY—

6:30pm Yoga
 7:30pm Happy Squares
 7:30pm CR

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 10 am PW Cookie Party
 8pm New Freedom

NO CAVE

SATURDAY—

9am—noon Adult Choir In Worship Center
 10:30am OEA in Upper Room
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—December 08, 2019**8:30am**

Reader: Wayne Crowell Coffee: Shirley Hunt
 Ushers: Jim Smith, Wayne Crowell

10:45am

Reader: Sandy Whitney
 Ushers: Susan & Randy Parish, Bill Rigsby, Jim McMinn, Katy Terry
 Greeters: Tim & Karen Foutz
 Congregational Care: Chuck Rosenberger
 Counters: Judy Capie, Ellen Stoneburner
 Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
 Plant Care: Frank Allen
 Open the Building: Alan Edwards
 Close the Building: Hank Tweedell
 Grounds Stewards: Jim Bowden (Dec. 9-15)
 Nursery/Super: DeLynda Tweedell
 Birth—Walking: DeLynda Tweedell
 Walking—5 years old: Carrie Tweedell, Clayton & Alice Adams

WEEK OF December 15, 2019—**SUNDAY—**

9:30 Church School for all
 10:45am CHRISTMAS CHORAL Worship
 12:15pm Fellowship Luncheon in fellowship hall
 3pm—4pm Youth Groups Skating
 3:30pm Debtors Anonymous

MONDAY—

OFFICE CLOSED
 6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 5pm—6pm Diabetes Clinic
 8pm New Freedom

WEDNESDAY—

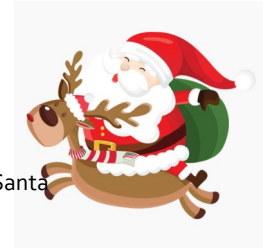
8:30am—9:30am AA
 10am Morning Adult Bible Study
 5:30pm—7:00pm Covenant Connection with Santa
 6:20pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:30pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY—

6:30pm Yoga
 7:30pm CR

FRIDAY—

9:30am Athens Mothers Center
 8pm New Freedom



NO CAVE

SATURDAY—

10:30am OEA in Upper Room
 Fellowship Hall Cleaned

WORSHIP—December 15, 2019**10:45am**

Reader: Carol Huber
 Ushers: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Dick Zimdars, Stephanie Cahill, Betsy Pless
 Greeters: Jim & Dorothy Newland
 Congregational Care: Chuck Rosenberger
 Counters: Paige Campbell, Sue Loegel
 Flowers: Juergen Wiegel
 Plant Care: Frank Allen
 Open the Building: Jim Bowden
 Close the Building: Alex Clark
 Grounds Stewards: Wayne Crowell (Dec 16-22)
 Nursery/Super: Joan Baird
 Birth—Walking: Joan Baird
 Walking—5 years old: Lily Herndon, Christine Carpenter, Phil Hale