

THE COVENANTER

June 28, 2020

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

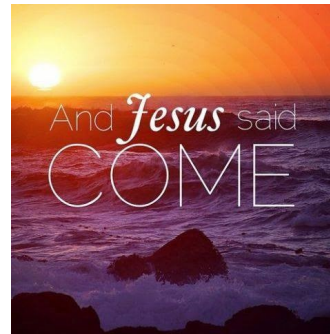
. Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service, Sunday, June 28st :

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCkRp1t3MnecoYXnds4X03A>

Prayer Concerns: Mike Swanson in home palliative care; Joe & Mary Berry, Joe having trouble with his foot, being sent to specialist for further test; Sandy Perkins and family in the passing of her son in Memphis, Tenn June 14th; Robyn Malone's father-in-law, Jim Ansley, recovering from unexpected open heart surgery in Brevard, NC; Our Nation, for protesters, police, elected officials and church leaders; John, Mary Sue, & Elizabeth Brewer with health issues; the Sardis Presbyterian Church in Jefferson; for those who are affected by the COVID-19 illness, as well as their caregivers, our healthcare professionals, government leaders and those who are working around the clock to minimize the impact of this virus; Ginger Davis-Beck undergoing cancer treatments; Paula Zimdars undergoing radiation treatment; Anne Page struggling with rehab at Heritage; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; & Anna Holshouser at home.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS— June 29-july 5

Monday	I Corinthians 1: 18-20
Tuesday	I Corinthians 1: 21-25
Wednesday	I Corinthians 1: 126-31
Thursday	Proverbs 8
Friday	Romans 7: 15-25a
Saturday	Matthew 11: 16-19
Sunday	Matthew 11: 25-30



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

The directories have arrived.

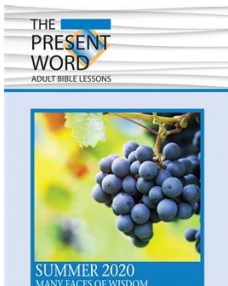
They will be available for p/u on Tuesday and Friday 10am–12noon. Or call the church office to pick up yours during the food distribution Tuesday or Thursday, 1pm–4pm.



During the Covid-19 crisis we are scheduling online opportunities to grow in discipleship. Church school classes for all ages, midweek studies, and youth group programs from Montreat are available online, and the links to these opportunities which require ZOOM invitations may be viewed weekly on our church website: covpresathens.org. Please make it a habit to check the website often for links to our weekly newsletter and other communications, online giving, and our Sunday morning virtual worship services!

The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship has a series of virtual events and learning opportunities for adults and high schoolers this summer. Every Friday, 1:15 p.m., peace activists from around the world gather for casual conversation, updates and connection. A virtual book club will begin in August and the book that will be read and discussed is , *How to Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X Kendi. Please consider joining these discussion groups which promise to be lively and engaging!

After exploring virtual VBS options, we will make available for families of preschoolers - 5th graders, weekly activities and resources created by Illustrated Ministry, *Compassion, Learning to Love Like God*. Envelopes of stories and activities will be mailed weekly to families. Questions? Please contact Rindy Trouteaud, rindy@trouteaud.com.



The Summer 2020 copies of *The Present Word* curriculum for adults have arrived! If you would like a copy so that you may participate in the Sunday virtual Upper Room class hosted by James Malone and facilitated by various class volunteers, please contact the church office to arrange a pick-up of your book during our drive-thru Food Pantry hours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.

Let's Lift Our Voices Together!

As the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions to shelter-in-place continue, we would like to make available copies of our hymnal, *Glory to God*, for those who would like to join in the singing of hymns during our virtual worship services on You Tube. If you would like a copy to keep in your home, please contact the church office to arrange a pick-up of your book during our drive-thru Food Pantry hours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.





While we shelter in place, Jesus will continue visiting us in the most unusual of places! On no particular schedule, a plastic figurine of Jesus, *Flat Jesus*, may show up on your doorstep or in your mailbox, and you are invited to create a scene anywhere you choose, include your family, pets, anything you'd like, and *Flat Jesus*, take a photo using your cellphone or some device, and send it to the church office Karen Wetherington will post it on the church's FaceBook page, and we'll have fun guessing where, and maybe who (if you disguise yourselves!) *Flat Jesus* may be visiting. *Travels with Flat Jesus* will be a wonderfully creative, quirky, fun way to stay connected during this season of quarantine. Once *Flat Jesus* visits you, you may "send him packing" to the home of another Covenant friend.

Cov Presby seeks 9 to 12 volunteers, on **Friday, July 3, 2:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.**, to sweep the grounds picking up litter and other accumulated debris, for subsequent disposal during the following Monday's regular trash bin emptying.

Volunteers must be willing and prepared, at a minimum, to: (a) perform the work masked, (b) observe reasonable interpersonal distancing, even while working out-of-doors, (3) bring and use their own masks and gloves, since such essentials will not be furnished, and (4) maintain a keen eye to avoid posion ivy.

Volunteers should address their availability and interest in taking part via email to Rich Reaves at: rich@icje.law.uga.edu.

The clean-up sweep will proceed using three teams of workers assigned across three complementary sectors of the church grounds.

Thank you, Rich Reaves, Co-Chair B&G MT

PS - "To expect to remain respected, property cannot be left neglected". Sounds corny? Maybe so; yet, it has proven accurate various times in multiple public maintenance settings over several decades.



!!!VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!!

FAMILY PROMISE (Formerly IHN)

From July 12-19 Covenant hosts three homeless families in the Family Promise program, but not in our building. Athens Church of Christ (ACOC), a wonderful facility for the families, will continue serving as their temporary home. We do need volunteers to be on-site throughout our week, along with dinner meals. Dinner preparers just drop the food at a table inside the door...Susan Parish will let food volunteers know food issues/preferences/etc. We also need two over-nighters each night, and volunteers through the day.

The families have been at ACOC since the beginning of the pandemic... the address is 3720 Mars Hill Road. The families are very comfortable at this site. Volunteering is so, so easy here, and you stay safely apart from everyone. We will have three families during our week. Two families will be brand new to the program, since two others just graduated to their own homes.

Volunteer sign up will be via an on-line link. The link does not yet extend to our week, so we will let everyone know when it is up. We will also include a video showing the ACOC facility and the safety precautions there.

Please check out the link when we forward it....find a good spot to help these families as they get back on their feet.

Members of the Covenant congregation are invited to submit nominations for the session. Nominations must be received by July 15, and should be sent to any of the three members of the nominating committee: Helen Epps - 706-769-8938 or eppshelen@gmail.com

Patti Huberty - 706-549-5038 or pattih720@gmail.com

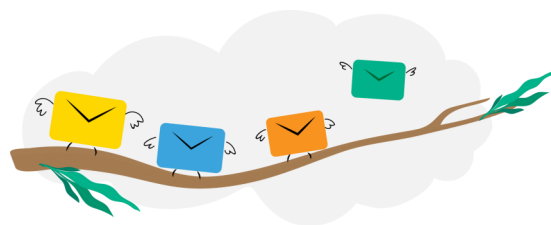
Bill Barstow - 706-546-7495 or 706-614-9078 or webarstow@gmail.com

HOW TO GIVE. There is a new online giving option through the Presbyterian Foundation at this link <http://covpresathens.org/wp/contributions/> . Or you can click on this link www.covpresathens.org and click on online giving. And as always you can mail your check to the church office. Thank you for your faithful giving!

Anne Page is currently in rehab at Heritage Athens, Room 604. 960 Hawthorne Avenue Athens, GA 30606.

She would love to receive cards from her Covenant family.

FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #51
Anticipated Pledges \$454,861.16
Actual Pledges \$443,327.45
Thank you for your faithful giving!



Little Food Pantry – We continue to seek out new and faithful ways to respond to the needs of the food insecure and homeless friends in our community. UGA students built a Little Food Pantry on our church campus. It is located outside the doors of our fellowship hall. Little Food Pantries are scattered throughout Athens, and their purpose is to respond to the emergency food needs of hungry folks. We encourage you to help us keep our Little Food Pantry stocked with pop-top single serve canned goods that do not require cooking, peanut butter and jelly, packaged crackers, healthy snack items. Small individual personal hygiene items (ie: soap, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, and shampoos) in a ziplock bag with a granola bar of some kind is also needed. Please remember everything must be sealed to prevent ant infestations...

The Covenant coffee closet still has lots of coffee, tea, and hot chocolate ! Although the regular office hours and services are suspended, the church is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the Food Pantry from 1 - 4 PM. *Please call the church office at 706-548-2756 and place your order and when you would like to pick it up. A food pantry volunteer will hand your order as you drive through the parking lot.* In this time of uncertainty, let's not forget the hard working farmers and their families who depend on the Equal Exchange folks to buy their coffee at a Fair Price !!! Any questions please contact Sandy Whitney at sandrawhitney08@gmail.com.



Dear Covenant Family,

I hope many of you tuned in to last Saturday's virtual Poor People's Campaign Rally. If you did, you joined over 2 million participants nationwide, according to the most recent count

by Repairers of the Breach, one of the principle organizing groups for the rally. If you were not able to watch, I think it remains available for viewing at www.June2020.org. As a follow up, we are offering a link to the PPC's Policy Platform. This document is a summary of the "Legislative and Policy Priorities of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival." I commend your prayerful attention to the vision and hope it contains, especially as we enter election season. Grace and peace, Mark

Please click on the link below to access the PPC's Policy Platform:

http://covpresathens.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/PPC-Policy-Platform_v6.pdf



Piedmont Urgent Care is now offering both Covid-19 tests, and antibody tests for everyone, with test results available in 6 hours. Please contact Piedmont Urgent Care for further information.

If you need a helping hand or (just someone to reach out to you) during "Sheltering in Place due to the Covid-19 pandemic, please contact Congregational Care Ministry Team and we will do our best to be of assistance. Let us know of your needs by either calling Luanne Rigsby at (706) 769-1066 (home) or (706) 224-3828 (cell) or emailing her at luannerigsby@gmail.com or Don Bower at dbower@uga.edu.





Jesus said, "You give them something to eat."

Covenant's Emergency Food Pantry

Members, and friends of Covenant have been giving generously of their time and talents to the Emergency Food Pantry. As you can imagine, the need is great.

Covenant's Emergency Food Pantry will be starting up again on Tuesday, June 16th after taking a week off to reassess our safety procedures. New procedures will be in place in order to keep our volunteers and neighbors safe. All current Food Pantry volunteers have received specific information about these new procedures. Please see below information if you are interested in volunteering with the Emergency Food Pantry.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

STAY SAFE—If there is any reason at all that you should NOT physically volunteer-consider the following:

Make a financial donation to the Food Pantry by sending a check to Covenant and write "food pantry" in the subject line. (*You could send it in at the same time you send in your pledge*).

We can use grocery bags (paper or plastic), and small boxes to pack the food. If you call the church, someone could even come out to your car and get it.

If you are able to physically be present as a volunteer:

Click the link below for an easy sign up or call or email Betsy Pless 540-1719
bppless@gmail.com

You can just sign up for 1 day, or for multiple days. You can also share the 3-hour time slot with 2 friends!

HOW TO SIGN UP: Please sign up for Covenant Food Pantry!

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/login/entry/611848298042>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.



For the month of May Covenant served **469** food insecure households. This number includes 280 children and 100 senior citizens. Total number of individual people served was 1,082. *Thank you Covenant Volunteers and all those who have contributed so generously to this ministry!*