

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service, Sunday, Feb. 07:

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

## THE COVENANTER February 07, 2021

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

### BOWDEN CHURCH VOCATIONS FUND

a special offering for  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
February 2021

**Named in honor of Jim & Jere Bowden's 35 year ministry here at Covenant, the Bowden Church Vocations Fund was established in 1996 by our Session.** The Bowden Church Vocations Fund has been used in the past to support Covenant members that have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. Because Montreat Youth Conferences has played such an important role in their call to Christian Ministry, a part of the BCFV will be sent annually to Montreat in gratitude for their spiritual blessing the conferences have bestowed. Covenant thus becomes a church patron to the Conference Center at Montreat. A special offering for the Bowden Church Vocations Fund will be received for the month of February, though donations are welcome all year long. Mark your check for BCFV in the memo portion. Thank you for your generous giving.

### Graduates Luncheon

Tuesday, February 09, 2021 at 12:30pm

Join Re-Gathering Task Force Chairperson, Julie Bower, and Mark Harper and Rindy Trouteaud as we answer your questions about the coronavirus and what it means for Covenant.

We'll open the ZOOM luncheon at 12:15 p.m., and if you'd like a ZOOM invitation, please contact Rindy at: [rindy@trouteaud.com](mailto:rindy@trouteaud.com). *The link to*

*the luncheon will be sent on Monday so that it doesn't get lost in your e-mails!*

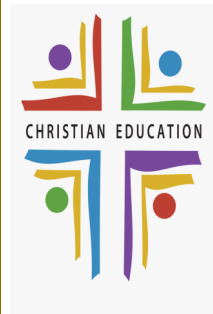


### Presbyterian Women Bible Study

Thursday, February 11 at 9:30am

Betsy Burmeister will lead us in the study of Lesson 5 entitled "Lament Over the City" using our Horizon's Bible Study book.

Please email Karen at [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org) if you would like an invite. You will receive your Zoom invite the day before so it won't get lost in email land.



During the season of Lent when we are invited to deepen our awareness of our relationship with the God who creates, redeems, and sustains us, the Christian Education Ministry Team will provide materials - online and paper - to guide and enrich your individual and family times for reflection. Some of these materials will be posted weekly online in separate e-mails to the congregation (midweek) and on our church website and in our newsletter (Fridays), and some will be mailed to our church family next week.

**Adults** – Adults may look forward to receiving the denominational devotional written by Rev. Roger Gench, editor, *Presbyterian Outlook*. (Move the blurb you included last week here. You will have to take out the line about it only appearing in the newsletter.)

**Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers** – Young people will receive in the mail the devotional, *Where Your Heart Is*. It's published by the young, super-talented team of Illustrated Ministry, and it offers opportunities for middle schoolers and high schoolers to wonder about what is happening in their lives and world and how God may be speaking to them through these events and the people involved. This devotional offers scripture and creative outlets for responding to these timely, relevant, awe-inspiring and convicting promptings of the Holy Spirit.

**Kindergarten - Fifth Graders** - Our elementary schoolers will receive in the mail a devotional for families written by the gifted pastors and Christian educators of Illustrated Ministry, *An Illustrated Lent for Families: Reflections on the Heart*. In it families and children will find stories and hands-on activities to deepen their understanding of the rich meaning of the season of Lent.

**Toddlers and Preschoolers** – Our toddlers and preschoolers will have a really fun and creative way to learn more about the stories of Lent. In a website developed by the gifted Rev. Tori Smit, parents and children will be able to navigate weekly a screen, *Lent Garden* for stories, songs, and hands-on activities. The link for this screen will be included on the website and e-mailed to the Covenant family during the week. We invite grandparents, aunts and uncles and friends to share this unique resource with others!

### ***Attention Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers!***

Let's check on with each other on Sunday! Here are the times for our ZOOM gatherings: Sunday, February 7, 5:00 p.m. - ZOOM check-in with middle schoolers.

Sunday, February 7, 5:30 p.m. - ZOOM check-in with high schoolers.

### Three new thoughts for your consideration about bringing solar power to Cov Presby . . . .

Owning solar panels to create electricity on-site at Cov Presby embraces the 21<sup>st</sup> Century movement to using renewable energy sources. It positions the Cov Presby campus to meet the electricity needs of both the current and next generation. It does so, at lower cost to the environment as well as to the financial fortunes of the church. Installing solar panels at Cov Presby approaches the future with Hope.

The 12 month period of July, 2018, through June, 2019, represented a routinely, typical, and unremarkable pre-COVID year, in which Cov Presby's ordinary work, service, and worship consumed about 86,700 KWH of electricity --- all procured from Georgia Power. The solar panel array proposed for Cov Presby would yearly substitute for this purchase about 57,900 KWH of site-produced electricity. Significantly, this would occur without leaving the residual carbon footprint produced by energy customarily furnished through the Georgia Power grid.

From July, 2018, through June, 2019, Cov Presby spent about \$12,900 buying electricity. Producing power on-site using the array of solar panels proposed could save around \$7,500 per year --- or \$270,000 over the installation's 30 year life span. This savings projection relies upon conservative estimates that employ 2018-2019 pricing rates, and make no guestimate for inflation creep in the expense of grid produced power over the next three decades. Neither do they take credit for any allowance from sales back to the Georgia Power grid for excess energy created on site. The \$94,500 cost of the Cov Presby solar panel installation would be recovered from savings on electricity purchases within the first 11 years of operation, leaving another 19 years of positive return from the investment. *Rich Reaves*



The six-week Lenten journey is an opportunity to take on a new spiritual discipline. This year, congregations are invited to pray with Scripture as a way of discerning God's movement in our personal lives and in the life of the world around us. These devotions start with Ash Wednesday and will guide your journey through Holy Week. The devotions will be posted each week in the Covenanter.



**February 17th at 7pm via Zoom!**

***Look for more info next week!***

**Prayer Concerns:** Greg Huberty and family in the passing of his Uncle Bob Vanvonderen from covid; Ginger Davis-Beck and Woody as she enters hospice care at home; Beth Nunnally's mother Gloria entering hospice care at St. Mary's; Gloria Pylant's friend Dan Kannon with salivary gland cancer; Lisa Buchanan, wife of Friendship Presbyterian pastor Tom Buchanan, hospitalized with multiple health issues; Anne Page with a hip infection and in hospice care at Avery Place; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112.



**It's A Boy!**

Congratulations to Grace & Clayton Adams and big sister Bonnie on the birth of Theodore Garland Adams born on February 3, 2021 at 9:01 a.m. He weighed in at 9 pounds, 1 ounce. He is currently in the NICU for an infection in his lungs, but doing much better.

Proud grandparents are Travis & Kathy Adams!

**Daily Bible Readings** February 8-14, 2021

Monday Psalm 50: 1-6  
Tuesday Psalm 50: 7-15  
Wednesday Psalm 52  
Thursday 2 Corinthians 4: 1-2  
Friday 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6  
Saturday 2 Corinthians 4: 7-14  
Sunday Mark 9: 2-9

we have this  
**TREASURE**  
in earthen vessels



**Little Food Pantry** — 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, packaged crackers, healthy snack items. Small individual personal hygiene items (ie: soap, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, and shampoos) in a zip lock bag with a granola bar of some kind is also needed. Please remember everything must be sealed (air tight) to prevent ant infestations...*Please no raisins. Thank you to all that help keep the Little Food Pantry stocked.*

**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](http://www.covpresathens.org) and click on online giving. And as always you can mail your check to the

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #32**  
Anticipated Pledges \$ 276,923.08  
Actual Pledges— \$ 284,706.49  
*Thank you for your faithful giving!*





For ten years, the major fund raiser to support Family Promise (formerly known as IHN) has been a wonderful luncheon, complete with fabulously decorated tables, first hand information about how it has changed lives, and an inspirational speaker. This year is different - we can't have 350 people gather in a banquet hall. What is not different is that homelessness is still with us, and Family Promise needs our help more than ever. So there is a new plan. On February 23 there will be a virtual La Table. The best part is that no matter your schedule, you can attend. You can access it on YouTube or [www.ihnathens.org](http://www.ihnathens.org). The presentation will be very short, just a few speakers and some lovely photos of past La Tables. It will be accessible any time after noon, Tuesday, February 23.

*We hope that many from Covenant will experience this year's La Table and the joy of so many working together for a common cause. Please direct questions to Susan Parish at [sdp51@yahoo.com](mailto:sdp51@yahoo.com), 956-220-6004 or Ellen Stoneburner at [ellenstoneburner@gmail.com](mailto:ellenstoneburner@gmail.com), 706-296-4468.*

**ITEMS NEEDED!** Covenant is collecting these items for families in need. They will be distributed during the food pantry distribution.

**Gently used:** COATS for ADULTS & KIDS, WARM SOCKS, WARM HATS and SCARFS



Please drop them off at the church during Food

Pantry hours, Thursdays 1pm—4pm or Office hours, Tuesday 10am—noon, and



## ARBOR MONTH

*- we love trees!*

February 2021 —

In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees. This holiday - Arbor Day - was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska. Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and world.

Although National Arbor Day is in April, each state typically celebrates Arbor Day during their regional planting season. Georgia Arbor Day is celebrated on the third Friday of February.

One of the best ways to celebrate Arbor Day is to plant a tree!



There is an urgent need for **egg cartons** for the **Athens Area Emergency Food Bank**.

Elsie Bothwell was kind enough to take the ones that have lived in the hallway of the church, but they need many more. Thank you for your help!

## **Covenant's Emergency Food Pantry**

*Jesus said, "You give them something to eat."* 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 days and hours have changed.***

***It is now on THURSDAYS, 1pm—4pm.***

### **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](mailto:bppless@gmail.com)

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.*



# ***Online Healing Grief Workshop***

Wednesdays, February 17– April 14, 2021

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

You can download Webex on your phone or access their website at [webex.com](https://webex.com) in order to join the sessions once we send out the link.

A nine-week workshop for those who have lost someone through death.  
The loss does not have to be cancer related.

## Topics:

Getting Acquainted	Stress Management
Understanding Grief	Anniversaries
Remembering	Memorialization
Accepting	Role Changes
Closure & Evaluation	

Pre-registration is required for this workshop. **Spots are limited!**

Please call **706-475-4900**

This free workshop is sponsored by the "In Their Shoes" Walk