

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

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

## THE COVENANTER

### February 28, 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 who have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. Because Montreat Youth Conferences have 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 of 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.

#### Retirees' Luncheon (formerly know as The Graduates)

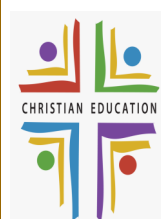
##### Tuesday, March 9-12:30pm – 1:30pm

Our wonderful Buildings and Grounds Ministry Chairperson, Rich Reaves, will update us on the progress of our solar panel plans. Join us for our monthly virtual gathering as we enjoy a meal (virtually), conversation, and a informative program, and warm fellowship. For a ZOOM invitation, contact Rindy Trouteaud, [rindy@trouteaud.com](mailto:rindy@trouteaud.com). For easy access, the invitation will be sent on Monday, March 8.

**Are you looking for a way to express your holiday creativity?** - Join us in the gathering area near the sanctuary on Tuesday March 9, 10a.m. - noon as we paint ceramic Easter eggs. We will wear masks, and social distance with 6 people for this group activity. There is a small cost of \$3.00 per activity which will cover materials and paint supplies. This is to be a fun activity to get together safely during a pandemic. No experience is required! Classes will begin March 9th, and if more than 6 people are interested we may possibly do another session on Thursday, March 18th. Please contact Anna Holshouser at (706)296-1666 to be put on the list for this group activity.



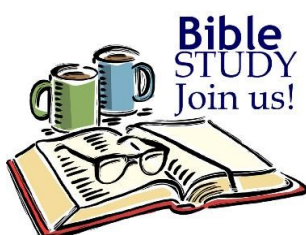
Covenant members and friends are invited to bake Easter cookies to be given out on our Thursday food distribution just before the holiday. Please bag the cookies in groups of 8-12, and bring them to the church between March 29 and April 1. They will be given out on the Thursday before Easter.



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.

## New Adult Study Opportunities

### **Emmaus Road Class-**



We just finished the seven-week video series based on the book, "The Bible Tells Me So" by Peter Enns. For the next five weeks, the Emmaus Road class will continue Peter Enns' personal journey to discover a new, more honest way to love and appreciate God's Word. We will read and discuss five biblical texts to see "What the Bible Has to Say to Us Today" in light of what we know now about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The class dates and readings are:

February 28th / The Book of Jonah

March 7th / The Book of Nahum

March 14th / Genesis, Chapter 19

March 21st / Psalm 89

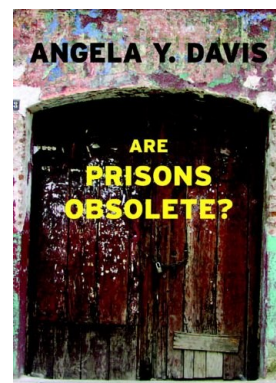
March 28th / Matthew, Chapter 5

Come and join us for this five-week study and the fellowship of this faithful group. To receive the Zoom meeting invite contact Bob Trouteaud: [bob@trouteaud.com](mailto:bob@trouteaud.com) or [404-405-6085](tel:404-405-6085)

### **Prepare to join the Covenant Social Justice Book Club** when it kicks off in March!

We will meet on Monday, March 22 & 29 at 7pm, we will work through Angela Davis' "Are Prisons Obsolete" and explore the history of the American prison system through the work of one of our country's most impactful justice activists, Angela Yvonne Davis.

More about Angela Davis: Born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1944, Davis studied at Brandeis University, the Sorbonne, and with Herbert Marcuse at the Goethe Institute. In 1998, Davis was one of the twenty-five organizers of the historic Berkeley, California conference "Critical Resistance: Beyond the Prison Industrial Complex." She is the author of many books, including *Are Prisons Obsolete?* and *The Meaning of Freedom*. She currently teaches in the History of Consciousness Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz. *Email [twilliams@covpresathens.org](mailto:twilliams@covpresathens.org) for more info.*



[https://www.amazon.com/Are-Prisons-Obsolete-Angela-Davis/dp/1583225811/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=4FWNYNH437VP&dchild=1&keywords=are+prisons+obsolete&qid=1613758436&s=books&sprefix=are+pri%2Caps%2C176&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Are-Prisons-Obsolete-Angela-Davis/dp/1583225811/ref=sr_1_1?crid=4FWNYNH437VP&dchild=1&keywords=are+prisons+obsolete&qid=1613758436&s=books&sprefix=are+pri%2Caps%2C176&sr=1-1)

### 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*



It was pointed out that last Sunday's blessing of those moving to Presbyterian Village might have given the impression that all those beautiful people were also leaving Covenant and transferring their memberships elsewhere. That is by no means the case! While some may choose to worship with the

Village community under the leadership of newly appointed chaplain the Rev. Christin Johnson Norman, or attend one of the churches in closer proximity to their new home, they will remain part of the Covenant family. And since we're not that far away, we hope that they will be part of the worshiping community that gathers at 1065 Gaines School Road whenever that happens again. And happen it will! *Mark*

**Thank you** to all who have provided floral arrangements in the past. We especially appreciate the amazing talent of Juergen Wiegel, who has contributed his time and skill to provide beautiful arrangements and to coordinating the floral schedule for many years. If you would be willing to provide a flower arrangement for weekly virtual worship services, please check the dates below. We are now hoping to provide arrangements for Mar 21 through June 27. It is important to note that the services are actually recorded on Fridays, every week. This means that the flowers need to be placed in the worship center on Friday morning, by 10 AM. Please use the following link to view the available dates and to sign up. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-provide> . For further information please contact Julie Bower (bower.julie@gmail.com) or Karen Wetherington (kwetherington@covpresathens.org) The Worship Ministry Team appreciates each one who contributes to the beauty of our worship services in this way. Thank you!



**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Woody Beck and family in the passing of Ginger Davis-Beck on Saturday, Feb 20th; Gloria Pylant's friend, Amy Huff-Smith of Carrolton, upon the death of her husband Mark; Alice Rose's friend Joy, suffering from damage to her cornea; Sally and David Boardman, ongoing prayers as Sally recovers from surgery to remove a brain tumor; Eh Kaw, a Burmese friend through Jubilee Partners, recovering from a kidney infection.; Anne Page with a hip infection and in hospice care at Avery Place; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112.

### Daily Bible Readings—March 1—7

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. Please click on this link to access this weeks devotions for March 1—7.



[https://www.covpresathens.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Lent-Devotions\\_2021\\_FULLset.pdf](https://www.covpresathens.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Lent-Devotions_2021_FULLset.pdf)

**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

A neighbor in Pinewoods Mobile Home Park is in immediate need of a stove. If anyone has one to spare, please contact Mark Harper.  
Many thanks!"

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #34**  
**Anticipated Pledges \$ 294230.77**  
**Actual Pledges— \$ 307,276.49**  
**Bowden Vocations Church Fund**  
**\$3,102.17**

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*





## A R B O R M O N T H *w e l o v e t r e e s !*

February 2021 – After more than a century, this national holiday continues to embody the importance of planting trees. In the midst of the pandemic, celebrating Arbor Day looked much different in 2020. One thing, however, remained constant. People were committed to showing their appreciation for trees. Some planted trees in their yards while others spent time in nature. Many communities celebrated online as much as possible, and some cities even encouraged residents to draw or paint trees and hang them in their windows to share the spirit of Arbor Day with neighbors passing by. All in all, it was inspiring to see the strong desire to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees—a passion for conservation and the environment that cannot be stopped even the face of global crisis.

**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. Also needed are sweat-

pants, sweatshirts  
and socks! Please

drop  
them off  
at the



church during Food

Pantry hours, Thursdays 1pm – 4pm  
or Office hours, Tuesday 10am –  
noon, and Fridays 10am – 4pm.

Thanks!



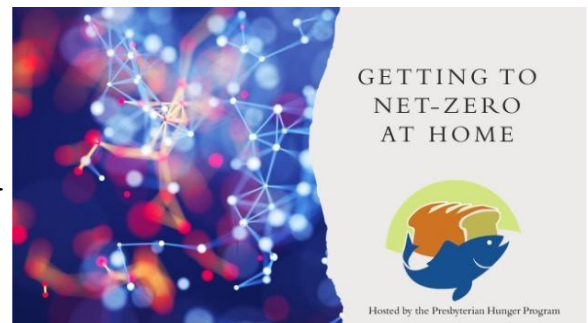
**TerraCycle Continues**—Though many things have changed, I continue to collect recyclables for TerraCycle. I recently shipped a huge box of personal care packaging items that earned \$11.70 for the Green Dream Team. That money will help pay the postage on a box of cheese wrappers that I will ship soon. I have an almost-full box of toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes and floss containers that I will ship when it is full. It will earn more

money for postage. If taking your recyclables to the church is inconvenient and you live near me (160 Plantation Dr., off Old Lexington and Whit Davis Rds.) feel free to drop bags of stuff on my front porch.

(Two friends routinely do this, so you won't be the first!) If you want to contact me first, call 306-543-3753 or email [caren.m.snook@gmail.com](mailto:caren.m.snook@gmail.com). Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team

Join the **Presbyterian Hunger Program** on **March 10th at 3:30pm** for this webinar featuring Rev. Dr. Patricia Tull, an environmental theologian, A.B. Rhodes Professor Emerita of Hebrew Bible at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and author of *Inhabiting Eden*. Using her own net-zero home in Indiana as a model, Trisha will overview some of the promising ways homes can be built or renovated to become efficient enough to power not only themselves but family transportation and food production.

Join the Zoom meeting at <https://bit.ly/2NlGjFL>



## **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.*