

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service, Sunday, April 11:

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

THE COVENANTER

April 11, 2021

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



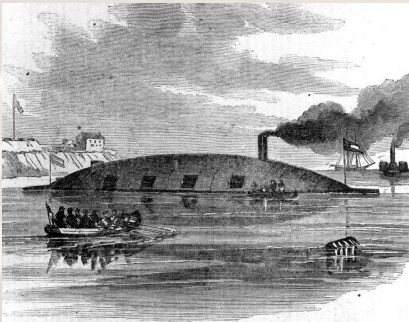
earth day, Earth Week, EARTH MONTH, maybe even earth YEAR!!!

Yep – We SHOULD be taking much better care of this planet where God put us & told us to be good stewards, Uh-oh! Atmospheric CO2 is at an all-time high, the oceans are filling with plastic & harming sea creatures, landfills are getting FULL, but we can all do what Mr. Fred Rogers said: “Do the best you can where you are with what you have.” So, for the rest of the month (& maybe even longer), the newsletter will have “actions recommendations” from Creation Justice that will give you ways maybe you never thought of that will help you help our planet. Here’s one: “*Learn how your church can become a hub of climate resilience at creationjustice.org/resilience.*” Stay tuned – Jere Bowden for Green Dream Team

RETIREE'S LUNCHEON (formerly know as The Graduates)

Tuesday, April 13 at 12:30pm via ZOOM

Join us for our monthly virtual luncheon and a program presented by Caren & Maurice Snook, “The Story of an Ironclad Ship in the Savannah Harbor”. Zoom Invitations will be sent out the day before and if you would like to hear more about this little known historical event in our “backyard” please contact Rindy, rindy@troueaud.com. If you are a “luncheon regular”, no need to request an invitation. You are on the list!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

-April 11-17 Covenant hosts three homeless families in the Family Promise program, but not in our facility. Because of COVID, Milledge Ave Baptist will continue to serve as their temporary home, for which we are thankful, but members of Covenant will serve as hosts. We need volunteers to be present throughout our week along with an evening meal. The meal preparers leave the meal inside the door. We also need church members to serve as morning hosts, afternoon hosts, evening hosts, and overnight hosts. Hosts remain in a room on the first floor of the church, and the families reside on the 2nd floor. This church facility enables everyone to remain a safe distance from each other. As a result, the COVID germ has infected NO ONE. Please click on this link to sign up. **Please note that spots are still open for overnight hosts, and meal prep** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-fpainterfaith>. *our help is needed, so use this unique opportunity to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ.*



Family Promise®
Building community, strengthening lives.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our young people, preschoolers - high schoolers, will receive in the mail this week, new spiritual formation resources for use at home. Families with children, preschool - fifth grade, will receive Illustrated Ministry's *An Invitation for Families*. This spiritual formation resource contains Bible stories, activities for families to engage in together, and coloring pages. Each week families will be invited to explore together one biblical story, and these stories will be listed on our church website. Middle schoolers and high schoolers will receive Illustrated Ministry's *Psalms Devotional* and each week our young people will be encouraged to reflect on a psalm through readings, music links, and activities designed to deepen understanding of the psalm. Links to the "psalm of the week" will be listed on the church's website.

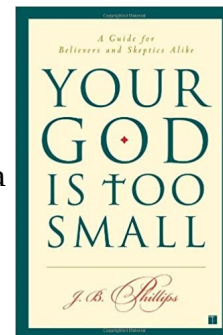
WEEK DAY BOOK STUDIES

TUESDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY—

Next Zoom Book Study, Tuesday, April 13 at 10am

Join us as we look at the book, *Your God is Too Small!*. A groundbreaking work of faith which challenges the constraints of traditional religion. In his discussion of God author J.B. Phillips encourages Christians to redefine their understanding of a creator without labels or earthly constraints and instead search for a meaningful concept of God. Facilitated by Mark Harper.

Please email Karen at karenwetherington@covpresathens.org for a zoom invitation.



IN DEFENSE OF KINDNESS

Why It Matters,
How It Changes Our Lives, and
How It Can Save the World



Bruce Reyes-Chow

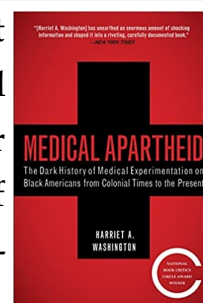
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK STUDY—

next Zoom Book Study Wednesday, April 14 at 4p.m.

When did kindness become a sign of weakness? What if kindness actually has the power to change the world? Join us as we share a conversation about kindness using Bruce Reyes-Chow's book, *In Defense of Kindness: Why It Matters, How It Changes Lives, and How It Can Save the World*. According to Reyes-Chow, culture is at a crossroads when it comes to kindness. If you would like a copy of this book, please call the church office and speak with Karen Wetherington, 706.548.2756. If you would

like a ZOOM invitation for our conversations, please contact Rindy Trouteaud, rindy@trouteaud.com.

Join the Covenant Social Justice Book Club as we explore Harriet Washington's, *Medical Apartheid*. This book details the ways both slaves and freedmen were used in hospitals for experiments conducted without their knowledge and tackles modern issues, revealing the root causes of many of the disparities that we see today with COVID-19. No one concerned with issues of public health and racial justice can afford not to read this eye-opening book. So Join us starting **Monday, April 26th @ 7 PM** as we embark on a powerful journey. Please read the introduction and chapters 1-7. Send Karen an email if you would like to receive a ZOOM invitation for this book study, kwetherington@covpresathens.org.





ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING 2021! For more than 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work toward a better world. Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Your gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated gifts, while Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32 percent. Please indicate on the memo portion of your check or giving envelope OGHS. *Thank you for your generous giving!*

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!*



6	Laura Foskey	22	Nan Cantrell
9	Lynda Hale		Jeri Lynn Whitney
11	Mary Anna Wynes	23	Jacob Page
	Nick Shealy	26	Sandy Whitney
12	Anna Cobb		Hannah Barnett
14	Deb Agostini	27	Bob Trouteaud
2	Karl Barnett	28	Don Bower
	Sylvia Huber		Hilda Clark
	Juergen Wiegel	29	Alan Edwards
	Nkaku Kisaalita		
3	Bob Brewster		
4	Phil Hale (Rosebud)		
5	Marilyn Brown		
	20	Stephen Fraedrich	
	22	Marsha Crowell	



PRAYER CONCERNS: Anna and Gene Holshouser are celebrating the birth of great-great-granddaughter, Aaliyah Charlet, daughter of Amber Charlet, granddaughter of Jennifer Rossi. Please pray for mother and child as they deal with Jennifer's COVID illness complicated by multiple sclerosis; Anne Page in hospice care at Avery Place; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112.

Daily Bible Readings—April 12—18

Monday	Psalm 4
Tuesday	Psalm 5
Wednesday	Psalm 6
Thursday	I John 3: 1-7
Friday	Acts 3: 1-11
Saturday	Acts 3: 12-19
Sunday	Luke 24: 36-43

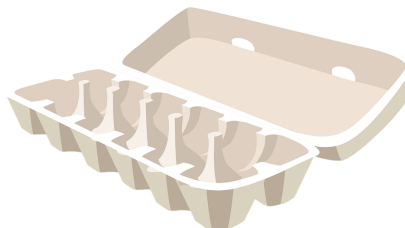


Little Food Pantry – We encourage you to help us keep our Little Food Pantry stocked with pop-top single serve canned goods that do not require cooking, peanut butter, packaged crackers, healthy snack items. Small individual personal hygiene items (ie: soap, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, and 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 and click on online giving. And as always you can mail your check to the

FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #40
Anticipated Pledges \$ 346,153.85
Actual Pledges— \$ 354,263.07
Thank you for your faithful giving!

The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is in need of Egg cartons! You can bring them by the church, Tuesdays 10am—12 noon, Thursdays, 1pm—4pm or on Fridays, 10am—4pm. Thanks!





ITEMS NEEDED! Yes! Covenant is still 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 sweatpants, sweatshirts and socks! AND.....children's summer clothes,

Personal size shampoos and conditioners, lotions, toothpastes, etc (like you get by staying at a hotel) for distribution during the Thursday food distributions.

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: Spotlight on Toothbrushes, etc. Are you wondering what the best thing is that you can save for TerraCycle? If so, the answer is worn-out toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes and empty floss containers. Why is that? TerraCycle provides UPS shipping labels for boxes of these items and it also pays the Green Dream Team 2 cents for each item sent. This does not sound like much, but between October 2012 and March 2020, TerraCycle paid the GDT a total of \$166.02. This is important because



TerraCycle does not provide shipping labels for other packaging materials such as cheese and candy bags and wrappers. The GDT uses the \$\$ that it earns from some items to pay the shipping cost for other items. I have an almost-full box of toothbrushes, etc. and I want to ship it soon! Please bring all that you can to either the church or my house! *Caren Snook* for the Green Dream Team

Going solar" at Covenant Presbyterian . . .

1. 1. Reflects a witness statement by the faith community, affirming God's Grace remains with us today and in future, with improved campus operations for the next 30 years.
2. 2. Represents a concrete and redemptive act taken locally, while being globally mindful as to better practices of stewardship for the earth and all of its creatures
3. 3. Removes from the carbon / greenhouse gas footprint created by the Georgia Power grid that portion associated with the church's electric power usage.
4. 4. Enables noticeable financial savings away from continued purchase of electricity over the next 30 years, creating a potential for alternative use of such financial resources.
5. 5. Provides a site-based and church-owned source of electric power, along with added capacity to convert the campus's natural gas heating of space and water, more economically to electrical units over future time, again reducing undesired carbon / greenhouse gas residuals from use of fossil fuel.



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

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 March, Covenant volunteers distributed food to 898 food insecure neighbors which included 204 children and 98 senior adults. Thank you volunteers and everyone who contributed to this ongoing ministry!