

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service, Sunday, April 25:

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

## THE COVENANTER

### April 25, 2021

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

#### **Stewardship Campaign for 2021-2022: To Breathe Again!**

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. When he said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:21-22).

After more than a year of living behind locked doors and sheltering in place and feeling like a boulder is sitting on our collective chests, we need to breathe again. We need this promise that, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God will enable us to go into our neighborhood and world as instruments of His holy peace.

We hope that you will continue your amazing and faithful support of our mission to be an outpost of the Beloved Community through your generous financial offering for this coming fiscal year. With your giving packet that you should receive in the mail this week, you will find a proposed budget and pledge card. It would be most helpful to our stewardship team if you return your pledge commitment by May 12th. In the meantime, let us remember that God is with us and that every breath we take is a gift from Him.

#### **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!*

**Join your fellow Piedmont colleagues, along with their family and friends, for COVID vaccines – doing the right thing for our patients, community and you.**

That's right! Piedmont is proud to offer a vaccination day exclusively to Piedmont employees and those who matter most to them. Bring your spouse, parents, siblings, in-laws, best friend or the next-door neighbor – anyone who matters to you – and make getting vaccinated an experience to celebrate while following the 3Ws (Wear a mask, Watch your distance, and Wash your hands).

**When:**

Friday, April 30, 2021 – Extended hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Where:**

Dedicated vaccination centers in Athens, Columbus and Sandy Springs – you will receive the address to the center during registration.

**Who:**

You, your family and friends are all invited! Your guests do not need to be Piedmont patients.

**How:** Register now to help stop COVID in its tracks. Each participant must register for their first or second vaccine dose to help Piedmont adequately manage vaccine supply. Walk-in appointments are not available. Call the COVID Vaccine Line at 470.271.6970 or schedule online<<http://s.bl-1.com/h/dgG8M9l9?url=https://phcapps.piedmont.org/vaccine/>> and select April 30, 2021 at the time of registration. Participants receiving their first vaccine dose during Friends & Family Vaccination Day should plan to receive their second dose on May 21, 2021. Check your email often for more information coming soon.

Our commitment to making a positive difference in every life we touch has never been more urgent or crucial than it is today. Offering COVID-19 vaccines to our Piedmont family and their loved ones is just one more way Piedmont is demonstrating this commitment.

---

**Help us make a positive difference in every life we touch!**

**Let us continue to protect each other and our communities by practicing the 3 W's: Wear a Mask, Watch Your Distance, and Wash Your Hands.**



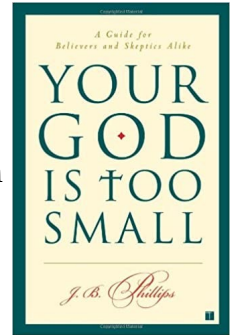
## WEEK DAY BOOK STUDIES

### TUESDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY—

**Next Zoom Book Study, Tuesday, April 27 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](mailto: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

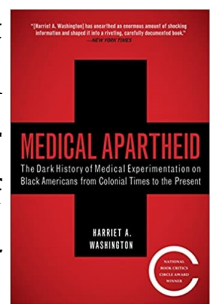
### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK STUDY—

**next Zoom Book Study Wednesday, April 28 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](mailto: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](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org).



**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Dot Handley, office volunteer and friend of Covenant, having a tough week physically; Anne Page in hospice care at Avery Place; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112.

**Daily Bible Readings—April 26 - May 2**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Psalm 24:1</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>John 1:3</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Leviticus 25:23</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Psalm 65: 9-13</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Romans 8: 18-25</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Job 12: 7-10</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mathew 5: 1-5</b>



**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 bottles of water; 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*

**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 church office. Thank you for your faithful giving!

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #42**

Anticipated Pledges \$ 363,461.54

Actual Pledges— \$ 371,494.47

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

**OGHS—\$1,750.00**



**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!*





**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!*

### From TerraCycle: BIG News from Kroger

Not long ago, the Green Dream Team signed up to collect a new type of plastic packaging: bags and wrappers from Kroger's Simple Truth (organic or not) products. That was good news, but the BIG news is that this program has been expanded so that **now, plastic bags and wrappers from ALL Kroger products can now be recycled with TerraCycle.** This includes Kroger Brand, Private Selection, HemisFares, Luvsome, Comforts, Abound and other Kroger brands. It's almost impossible to shop in Kroger and not buy some of their products! So start saving your Kroger packaging and look for the drawer labeled "Kroger Packaging". *Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team*



### Earth Care Everyday!

Actions you can take now:

1. get involved in gardening and/or food access justice. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the disparities in food distribution systems. Growing your own food can lower your grocery bill and it cuts down emissions from food transportation. You can also volunteer at a community garden that supplies fresh produce to food pantries.
2. Bookmark [creationjustice.org/action](https://creationjustice.org/action) to participate in timely monthly action opportunities.

**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!**



## **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.*