

Please click here to view Covenants Live Stream Worship Service, Sunday,
August 29: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCCkRp1t3MnecoYXnds4X03A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCkRp1t3MnecoYXnds4X03A)

THE COVENANTER
August 29, 2021

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



We have updated our plans for the celebration to honor Mark Harper and Rindy Trouteaud. We continue to try to keep everyone's safety as a top priority, in this Covid Delta environment.

Here are the details.

- Since worship on Sept. 12 will be live streamed, there will be a special segment at the end of the 10:00 AM worship service to honor and celebrate both of these very special pastors via Zoom. We hope that you will tune in to this presentation at the close of worship.

(The link will be forthcoming)

- We invite all to participate in a love offering, which will be presented to the pastors following worship on Sept. 12. Please send your check to Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1065 Gaines School Road, Athens 30605, or drop it by the church office. The Office is open Tuesday, 10am-12noon, Thursday & Friday, 10am—4pm. Designate on the check memo line the amount you wish for Mark and the amount for Rindy. Checks must be received by Friday, Sept. 10, at noon.
- At 4:00 PM the same day, Sept. 12, there will be a more personalized opportunity to thank Mark and Rindy outdoors, on the grounds at Covenant. All who wish to come can take a minute to thank them for their many contributions to Covenant and the larger Eastside community. *Participants must be vaccinated and masked.* Please RSVP for this reception by calling the church at 706-548-2756.
- The in-person 4:00 PM reception receiving line will replace the earlier suggestion to send your good wishes via video recording. There will not be a video. The receiving line will be designed for safe distancing outside.

You may also mail to the church or drop off a card or other correspondence with your good wishes and good memories. Cards must be received by Friday, Sept 10 at noon, unless you wish to bring your card in person on Sept 12 for the 4:00 PM reception.

We hope that you will find the ways that suit you best to help us honor our pastors as they look ahead to new beginnings. *To God be the glory, Let the people rejoice! Amen!*

PRAYER CONCERNS: Anne Page at Avery Place; the personnel committee as it seeks an interim pastor; the session as it moves into a season of transition; the recent reports of as many as four or five deaths of ACC homeless residents; educators, school and campus workers amidst the Delta variant upsurge; Willene O'Neal with pneumonia; Nancy Omdahl at home; Jim & Jere Bowden at home; and Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112.

Daily Bible Readings—August 29—September 5

Monday	Isaiah 35: 1-7
Tuesday	Psalms 146
Wednesday	Psalms 147
Thursday	James 2: 1-13
Friday	James 2: 14-18
Saturday	Mark 7: 24-30
Sunday	Mark 7: 31-37



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!

FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #08
Anticipated Pledges \$65,655.44
Actual Pledges— \$74,658.86
Thank you for your faithful giving!



We so appreciate those who have provided flowers for virtual worship over the last many months. Your contributions have been generous, creative and simply beautiful. If you would be willing to provide a flower arrangement for in-person worship in the upcoming weeks, please use this link to sign up on the Sunday of your choice. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-provide>

Flowers should be placed in the Worship Center by 5 PM on Saturday, and can be removed following the service on Sunday morning. For more 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!



Work is underway to revitalize the church book collection, creating a more dynamic shared library. Now through Labor Day, you are welcome to stop by and look at the books to be removed and take any you would like. Please note that there are many shelves of books we will be keeping and that these have been clearly marked, so do not take any from these sections. Also, if you come across give-away books you feel Covenant should keep for the library, you can set them aside with a note on them and your name. After Labor Day, the outdated books will be donated to several different sites. *Valerie Stone*



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Reach out to help neighbors in Haiti

The scale of the disaster facing Haiti after the Aug. 14 earthquake is becoming clearer. The quake and its aftershocks have left almost 1,300 people dead, thousands more injured and an unknown number of people are still missing. At least 13,000 homes were destroyed and roads, bridges and communication systems have been severely damaged. This catastrophe comes on top of Haiti’s ongoing struggles with endemic hunger and poverty, COVID-19 and continuing civil unrest, and as Tropical Storm Grace bears down on the region.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through our established local partners and in collaboration with ACT Alliance and its members. You may donate via [this link](#).

EGG CARTONS! EGG CARTONS!

66 egg cartons were taken to the Athens Emergency Food Bank last week.

They also need brown paper grocery bags and heavy duty plastic bags. Thank you Covenant for your support.



“On Another Note....” How Small Actions can add up to big progress for animals.

How we can help animals in our day to day life.



State Wins



Maryland is expected to become the eighth state to ban contests that award prizes for killing wild animals after its legislature voted in April to outlaw such events. In 202, the HSUS released undercover video footage showing piles of dead foxes shot during a Maryland contest.

Jere Bowden and the Green Dream Team



Birthdays!

1 Jennifer Frey	9 Nami Kisaalita	27 Chris Harper
Bob Urich	12 Joyce Placek	28 Alice Herndon
Dennis Calbos	Steve Follin	29 Anne Page
3 Beecher Mathes	15 Jimmy Avants	
Megan Sperr	16 Mary Barnett	
4 Adam Brooks	20 Zoe Brewster	
5 Kay Swan	22 Mark Bell	
8 Shari Cob	25 Janet Smith	

Calling all Day-trippers and Bibliophiles! Sara Covin-Juengst, some may recognize from Columbia Seminary, retired to the tiny community of Willington, SC, and established a cultural center. A handful of hardy volunteers maintain 2 book stores there, one of which has been called “the largest religious bookstore in South Carolina.” This bookstore at Willington on the Way receives donations from individual as well as church libraries, and is a source for seminarians, scholars and the inquisitive alike. The second shop caters to readers of general fiction and non-fiction.

Covenant is making a large donation to Willington and we need help transporting the books! A BODACIOUS BOOK DROP DAY TRIP could include browsing the book stores, a talk and tour of the history center, exploring the Savannah Valley Railroad Trail, experiences through McCormick Arts Council at the Keturah (MACK), a meal and stroll at Hickory Knob State Park or Maddy’s Pub in Washington, or wherever your curiosity leads you. There are even lots of camping opportunities in the area. Explore the informative links below. Even if you change your mind later, go ahead and express interest ASAP to your tour director, Kathy, at boardman.kathy@gmail.com. Tell her what you are most interested in doing and include your prioritized choice of the 5 Saturdays in October. An indication of vehicle space available for books and energy level for moving them will be helpful, as well as the best time to call to follow up. The goal is to have books arrive at Willington on no more than 2 Saturdays to keep the event simpler at each end, and also to provide an opportunity for folks in multiple vehicles to experience the trip together. Reality is, muscle and enthusiasm may have very different schedules. Cheers!

<https://www.augustachronicle.com/story/special/2020/12/03/day-trip-willington-boasts-lsquoaparadisersquo-for-lovers-of-old-used-books/115092604/>

<https://mccormickschamber.org/what-to-do/>

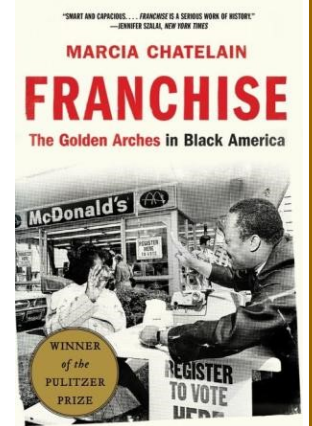
<https://www.washingtonwilkes.org/>

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB –

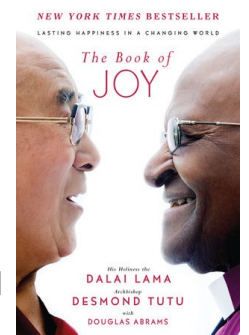
You should really think about joining our next book club. This month we will tackle “Franchise: The Golden Arches in Black America” by Marcia Chatelain. In *Franchise*, historian Marcia Chatelain uncovers a surprising history of cooperation among fast food companies, black capitalists, and civil rights leaders, who—in the troubled years after King's assassination—believed they found an economic answer to the problem of racial inequality.

With the discourse of social welfare all but evaporated, federal programs under presidents Johnson and Nixon promoted a new vision for racial justice: that the franchising of fast food restaurants, by black citizens in their own neighborhoods, could finally improve the quality of black life. Synthesizing years of research, *Franchise* tells a troubling success story of an industry that blossomed the very moment a freedom movement began to wither. *Franchise* is the 2021 Pulitzer Prize Winner in History.

Our next session is **August 30, 2021 @ 7 PM** via Zoom. We will cover up to page 121. Our sessions usually run from 7 PM to 8:15-30 PM.



BOOK STUDY—Tuesday, August 31 at 10am via ZOOM! Join us as we delve into the “**The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World!**” *The Book Of Joy* is the result of a 7-day meeting between the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu, two of the world's most influential spiritual leaders, during which they discussed one of life's most important questions: how do we find **joy** despite suffering? This book offers us a rare opportunity to experience their astonishing and unprecedented week together, from the first embrace to the final good-bye. We get to listen as they explore the Nature of True Joy and confront each of the Obstacles of Joy—from fear, stress, and anger to grief, illness, and death. They then offer us the Eight Pillars of Joy, which provide the foundation for lasting happiness. Throughout, they include stories, wisdom, and science. Finally, they share their daily Joy Practices that anchor their own emotional and spiritual lives.



Church School Classes via ZOOM!



Upper Room Class

Sunday, August 29 at **1pm**, James Malone hosts and different class members facilitate the discussion of the weekly chapter in *The Present Word*. If you would like to participate, please contact James at gillbillvolume1@yahoo.com, to receive your ZOOM invitation.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Journey Class

Sunday, August 29, 8:30am – 9:30am, Steve Rathbun hosts and different class volunteers facilitate discussion using Brian McLaren's book, *Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith World*. If you would like to participate, please contact Steve at rathbun@uga.edu, to receive your ZOOM invitation.

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 July Covenant served 353 food insecure families for a total of 1,481 people that includes 506 children and 146 senior adults. *Thank you Covenant!*
