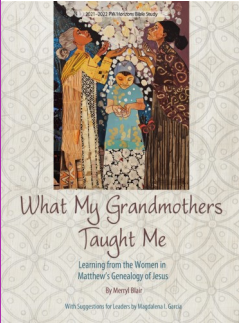


Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, October 10 at 10am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

THE COVENANTER
October 10, 2021



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



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY—

We are so excited to resume fellowship and Bible study and want to encourage all of you who missed the first lesson to join us October 14! We also hope those who were present will be able to continue! Next meeting will be October 14, at 9:00am via Zoom. Please note the change of our start time from 9:30 to 9:00am. We would like to allow plenty of time for fellowship, as well as Bible study, so we agreed to this change. Ellen and June will be leading our study of Lesson Two. Thank you, Ellen and June!! Look for your Zoom invite a day or so before the meeting.

An excerpt from the [Companion to the Book of Common Worship](#) (Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151)

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the “glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs” (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God’s justice and peace in every nation.



To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God’s end in time. In this context, it is appropriate for a congregation on All Saints’ Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year.

Please email Karen at kwetherington@covpresathens.org for your loved ones and/or friends to be included in the necrology for **All Saints Sunday, November 7, 2021** by November 4.

Please click on this link <https://www.covpresathens.org/documents/session-minutes/> for the session minutes. When you scroll down you will see links to earlier minutes. If you would like minutes from 2020 please let me know at kwetherington@covpresathens.org.

PRAYER CONCERNS: our healthcare workers at the local hospitals amid the Covid 19 pandemic; Beth Nunnally; Nancy Omdahl undergoing new treatment; Pat Tinga at home and having physical therapy; Jim & Jere Bowden at home; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; our nation.

TO OUR BELOVED CHURCH FAMILY One of the greatest blessings of our life has been to remain in Athens following Jim's retirement in 2005 as pastor of Covenant Church for 35 years. Although out of the loop, we have been on the sidelines watching Covenant grow in caring for & serving others, following the way of Jesus Christ. We have personally been the recipients of that care. Jim's diagnosis in June of this year of bladder cancer with affected lymph nodes turned our expectations of being volunteer campground rangers in Montreat for the summer into every 3 week visits to the oncologist for IV immunotherapy (NOT chemo) Keytruda treatments, with loss of appetite & extreme fatigue as the worst side effects. The PET scan he had on 9/21 showed that the tumor and affected lymph nodes are shrinking. For that we are very grateful & gratefully thank our tireless prayer warriors. Treatment will continue as before, with another PET scan in 2 months. We don't know what the future holds, but we do know that we are in God's hands & YOU are in OUR hearts. We appreciate your prayers, care, support, love...it keeps us going. - Jere & Jim Bowden

Daily Bible Readings October 11—17

Monday	Job 36: 1-7, 16-18
Tuesday	Psalms 104: 1-9
Wednesday	Psalms 91: 9-16
Thursday	Isaiah 53: 4-12
Friday	Hebrews 5: 1-10
Saturday	Hebrew 2: 5-12
Sunday	Mark 10: 35-45

Pat Tinga took a bad fall recently and is recuperating at home for the next few weeks. She is not able to host visitors but would love to receive notes from friends. Her address is pmtinga@att.net or 190 Springtree Rd, Athens 30605.



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 #14
Anticipated Pledges — \$114,898.00
Actual Pledges — \$109,170.12
Thank you for your faithful giving!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

HOST WEEK—OCTOBER 10—17

Covenant is the host congregation for Family Promise during the week of October 10-17. Three families are currently in the program, four parents and ten children, all working to get back on their feet in their own living space. While in the program, they are at Milledge Avenue Baptist Church. The families are very comfortable at this site. Volunteering is so, so easy there, and you stay safely apart from everyone. We are in need of volunteers for several slots on Thursday through Saturday, Oct 14 - 16th. Please click on the following link to find a good spot to help these families as they get back on their feet.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-fpainterfaith>



LET'S RESUME THE MINISTRY OF "GROUNDS STEWARDS" !!!!!

Volunteering so far: Chris Wilson, Katy Terry, Phil Hale, Don Bower, Randy Parish, Susan Parish, Alex Clark. We could really benefit from 3 more folks, at least.

VOLUNTEER

Regular policing of the Cov Presby grounds by two person teams, one team per week, now merits resuming. Our grounds stewards remove litter from across the campus as well as empty the trash and recycle containers into bags for deposit in the trash bins outside the kitchen. A disposal service empties these bins once a week. If interested in taking part, please contact Rich Reaves, 706-248-2819, or Karen Wetherington at the church office.

TAKE THEM A MEAL – As you know, Anna Holshouser died this summer. Her husband Gene is 93 years old and still lives alone at the house in Oglethorpe County. His son in Texas has requested that we take a meal to him occasionally and keep tabs on him. Don Bower and I have set up a *Take Them a Meal* website so people can sign up for meal slots. We have set it up for Wednesdays and Saturdays through October, but if you sign up for a slot and wish to change the day, just call Gene and let him know. The phone number is on the website. You can call me if you have questions. Call Linda at 706-549-6464. Thank you!

Linda Koehler and Don Bower, Congregational Care Co-Chairs

The link: <https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=HAHP2506&welcome=1>

EGG CARTONS! EGG CARTONS!

The Athens Emergency Food Bank are still in need of egg cartons and brown paper grocery bags and heavy duty plastic bags.

Thank you *Covenant* for your support.





The Worship Ministry Team requests the assistance of our fellow Covenanters for hosting our new Bridge Pastor, Reverend Glenn Doak, during Worship on Sundays. This person would also serve as Liturgist during the Service. The Liturgist would read the first Scripture and perhaps one or two other items. Volunteers are needed for the Sundays

of Oct 17, and Oct 24, as well as the weeks of November and December. We are excited to welcome Rev Doak to Covenant and we need your support! If you are able to assist us, please notify Jennifer Frey, Co-Chair of WMT, at jenofrey@gmail.com.

The Worship Ministry Team is also looking for volunteers for our Communion Ministry Team. This team purchases and prepares the Communion Elements, helps with set-up and clean-up on Communion Sundays. When we have sufficient volunteers for this team, we divide the group into three sub-groups (Prep, Set-up, and Clean-up). This way the time required of each volunteer is minimal per Sunday and only 3 or 4 Sundays per year. We need to reorganize this team as soon as possible, since we are hoping for a return to in-person worship in the near future. Please consider volunteering for this vital ministry! If you would like to support Covenant in this way, contact Jennifer Frey at jenofrey@gmail.com.



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 live stream 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!

If you have a fall arrangement of faux flowers that you'd be willing to share with the Worship Ministry Team, please let Julie Bower know. Fresh flowers are not always feasible, and we would welcome the addition of a nice fall arrangement to use on the Sundays when we are not able to provide fresh flowers for worship. We appreciate your support.

Groups Meeting at Covenant: (these groups may or may not be meeting at Covenant at this time)

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday – Campus Kitchen (UGA), **Tuesday**- (2nd Tues of each month) Stamp Club 7pm

Monday – Community Handbell Choir 7pm,

Wednesday – Covenant Handbell Choir 6pm; 12 step group 7pm (downstairs)

Thursday-(conference room) 12 Step Group 7pm, **Saturday** – (upper room) 12 Step Group 10:30am

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB – New book study coming soon!



Church School Classes via ZOOM!

Upper Room Class

Sunday, Oct. 07 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, Oct. 07, 9am – 10am, Steve Rathbun hosts and different class volunteers facilitate discussion using Isabel Wilkerson's book, *Caste – the Origins of Our Discontent*. If you would like to participate, please contact Steve at rathbun@uga.edu, to receive your ZOOM invitation.

Church Library -- The church library is currently being re-organized with the goal of creating a dynamic educational collection helpful to church members. We are looking for donations of recent, well-written books relevant for current member needs—spiritual growth, spiritual memoirs, social justice, Bible study aids, the current American political landscape, care of the planet, ministry aids, etc. Please think quality over quantity, donating books you would recommend to others. There are boxes in the church library where you can drop off your donations. If you have more than 20 books to donate or you need help transporting books, please contact Kathy Boardman (boardman.kathy@gmail.com) or Valerie Stone (valeriefreystone@gmail.com, 678-360-6983). In particular, we hope to have multiple copies of books recently used by Covenant's Sunday school classes and book clubs so that church members can check out and read the books they've been hearing about. Please note that all books given to Covenant will be donated to other places once they are no longer needed.

Upper Room Book Swap – All educational books available to church members have been moved to the library. The bookcase in the Upper Room is now a pleasure reading swap area for uplifting books. You are welcome to take a book (or two) and leave a book (or two) in its place. Unlike the church library, these books do not need to be checked in or out. This collection will be thinned out and donated elsewhere as needed.



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:

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 September 2021 Covenant's Food Pantry volunteers and staff served 431 food insecure families over 5 days. (690 adults, 377 children and 143 senior adults.)

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!
