

Please click here to view Covenants LIVE STREAM Worship Service on YouTube for **Sunday, October 24 at 10am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

THE COVENANTER
October 24, 2021



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

GOOD NEWS

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Last week the Worship Team/Re-Opening Task Force recommended to the Session that the church reopen for in-person worship starting this Sunday, October 24. They recommended the worship time be 10:00am. They also recommended we continue with the conditions that were in place when we opened in August.

The Session approved these recommendations. The recommendations are:

Please do not plan to attend in-person gatherings if you:
are feeling ill in any way

have been diagnosed with a current case of COVID-19 or recently exposed to someone who has.

Guidelines for Gathering inside Covenant Presbyterian Church

We request that all adults who enter our facility be fully vaccinated.

Wear a mask at all times while on the property.

Maintain six-foot social distancing at all times.

Children are welcome but must remain in the company of their parents/guardians.

Other than household members (who may sit together), please leave 6ft or more between you and others' chairs in the Fellowship Hall.

We will encourage a contact-free experience for all. Please refrain from hugs, hand shakes, etc;

Attendance will be limited to 75. Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA5AE2EA6F8C52-covenant> I hope you can join us this Sunday for in-person worship at 10:00am. I look forward to meeting you in person.

Live Stream is still available for those who cannot attend in person worship at 10:00am at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens> .

Rev Glenn Doak, Bridge Pastor

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.*



Work Morning Tasks, 10-23-21

The upcoming Saturday's (10-23-21) work morning at Cov Presby, which will start at 9:30 a.m., is being scaled back. This is because carpet and pew installation in the worship center / sanctuary remains ongoing. However, worship will occur in the Fellowship Hall this coming Sunday. So, Saturday clean-up efforts will focus on this area (FH), including the breezeway (BZ), restrooms (RR), and kitchen (K).

Volunteers are needed to:

- Vacuum floors in the FH, BZ, RR, and K
- Clean windows and mirrors, inside and outside, in the FH, BZ, RR and K
- Set-up 75 chairs in the FH
- Equip these chairs with 75 dusted-off hymnals and song books

Also needed are volunteers to:

- Breakdown cardboard boxes for recycling, and transport them to dumpsters located behind the "Tag Office" on Lexington Road
- Transport from storage behind the K a container of used engine oil for disposal by some local engine-oil changing retailer
- Remove from storage behind the K and transport to the metal disposal service at the Athens-Clarke landfill a pair of metal waste cans, a propane tank, a metal sign, a metal and plastic fertilizer tool, a broken metal and fiber board folding table
- Bag-up overflowing trash from storage behind the K for disposal in a nearby dumpster
- Repair from storage behind the K a white folding table by inserting a missing bolt in the leg folding mechanism
- Remove 12 floor anchor brackets from three pews presently stored in the music room hallway
- Clean-off the seasonal debris from the main sidewalk and patio pad in front of the FH

With these tasks addressed, the work morning will be completed.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Lois Settles recovering from a fall and in rehab; 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 healthcare workers at the local hospitals amid the Covid 19 pandemic; and our nation.

Daily Bible Readings October 25—31

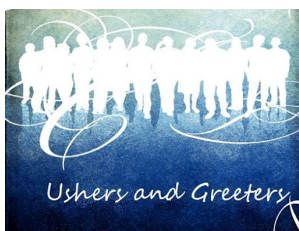
Monday	Psalm 119: 1-8
Tuesday	Psalm 119: 9-16
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 6: 1-9
Thursday	Psalm 146
Friday	Hebrews 9: 11-14
Saturday	Ruth 1: 1-18
Sunday	Mark 12: 28-34



Beginning next week, the Worship Ministry Team would like to encourage everyone to submit **Concerns and Celebrations**, and **Announcements** to Karen Wetherington each week, for placement in the *Covenant*. We have listened to many people raise the issue of how much time we devote to these important additions to our service. For that reason we ask that you help us move these important additions to the *Covenant*, so that our services may end in a timely manner. Let's all give it a good try. Please submit those to Karen by Wednesday, each week. It will continue to be the pastor's discretion to highlight concerns, celebrations, and announcements that he or she feels necessary during worship. *Thank you from the WMT.*

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 #16
Anticipated Pledges — \$131,310.77
Actual Pledges — \$134,052.12
Thank you for your faithful giving!



The Worship Ministry Team is working feverishly (for real!) to put together a Greeter/Usher rotation schedule for our return to in-person worship in our newly renovated worship center. *Thank you to those who have already signed up.* If you would be willing to serve Covenant in this way, please let one of the following people know today: Chris Wilson, Katy Terry, or Julie Bower. *We appreciate you!*



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*

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.



Tree ID on the Greenway

Sat., October 30th, 2021, 10am-noon
Sandy Creek Nature Center
Rain or Shine
Pre-registration Required

Spend a Fall morning with experts who will teach you about native tree species. Small, socially-distanced groups will be guided on an ADA-accessible (friendly for mobility-impaired and strollers) route, or on a natural surface path. You'll even have a chance to win sapling offspring from "The Tree That Owns Itself" or other door prizes. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free, but donations appreciated at www.athenstreecouncil.com

Pre-register using the link in comments by October 22nd
NOTE: limited to the first 70 enrollees

Program questions: Edith Jackson, 706-877-5818 or Registration questions: Sandy Creek Nature Center, 706-613-3615

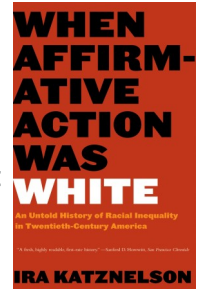
Sponsored by:
Athens Community Tree Council,
in partnership with Sandy Creek Nature Center and the Winterville Tree Commission



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.

[Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services: Nature Programs \(myrec.com\)](http://Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services: Nature Programs (myrec.com))

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB—"Join the Covenant Social Justice Book Club as we discuss Ira Katznelson's "When Affirmative Action Was White." In this "penetrating new analysis" (New York Times Book Review) Ira Katznelson fundamentally recasts our understanding of twentieth-century American history and demonstrates that all the key programs passed during the New Deal and Fair Deal era of the 1930s and 1940s were created in a deeply discriminatory manner. Through mechanisms designed by Southern Democrats that specifically excluded maids and farm workers, the gap between blacks and whites actually widened despite postwar prosperity. Join us starting October 28th @ 7 PM to explore this essential read. Our first session will cover Chapters 1-3 (pages 1-80)."



Church School Classes via ZOOM!

Upper Room Class

Sunday, Oct. 24 at **11am**, 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.

Journey Class

Sunday, Oct. 24, 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.



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

for the Sundays in 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.

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.*

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!