

Please click here to view Covenants LIVE STREAM Worship Service on YouTube for **Sunday, October 31 at 10am**: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

THE COVENANTER  
October 31, 2021



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

### Interim Pastor Coming to Covenant

Covenant Presbyterian Church will welcome Reverend Dana Waters as our interim pastor, beginning December 1. Session approved the Personnel Committee's nomination of Reverend Dana at its October 26 meeting. Currently pastor of McDonough Presbyterian Church in McDonough GA, Reverend Dana and his wife Kira will move to Athens, where they are currently looking for a home in our community. In the Presbyterian Church, interim pastors have two significant missions. First, they serve all of a pastor's normal functions: preaching, moderating Session, leading staff, serving at weddings and funerals, and helping us when we need it. Second, interims help the congregation begin the search for a new "called and installed" pastor, doing a self-examination to determine who we are and our goals and missions. For all of that, the denomination requires special training and experience.

Reverend Dana Waters has substantial preparation for Covenant's interim position. He has a Masters of Divinity from Columbia Seminary and additional training in mediation, heads of staff functions, youth ministry, and interim pastor functions. He has served as associate pastor for youth and mission ministries in Clemson, and director of youth ministry in Atlanta and Aiken.

Please join Session and the Personnel Committee in welcoming Dana and Kira Waters to Athens and Covenant Presbyterian Church. Personnel Committee: *Randy Parish, Bill Barstow, Gloria Pylant, Katy Terry, and Charlie Hunnicutt*

Come  
*Worship*  
With Us

COVENANT IS NOW HAVING IN PERSON WORSHIP

In the Fellowship Hall

October 31, 2021 at 10:00am

*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-worship>

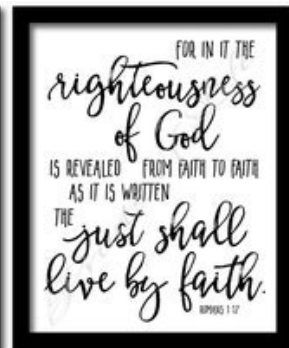
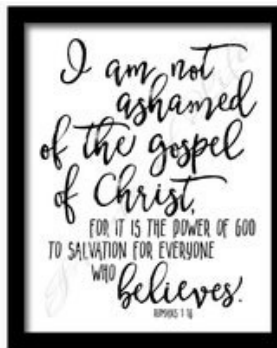
Live Stream is still available for those who cannot attend in person worship at 10:00am at this link:

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

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Kathy Boyle-Gast's mother, Lois E. Gibbs, age 94, passed away at her residence in Orchard of Athens Memory Care, in the late evening of Wednesday, October 27. Plans for a memorial service at Lois' home church, First Baptist Church, Athens, are in the making and further information will be forthcoming. Bill Rigsby as he undergoes heart ablation; family and friends of Joshua Sampson, local teacher that passed away recently; the people of India as they struggle with COVID-19; Nancy Omdahl undergoing new treatment; Pat Tinga at home and having physical therapy; Jim & Jere Bowden at home; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; and our nation.

### Daily Bible Readings November 1—7

Monday	Habakkuk 2: 1-4
Tuesday	Ruth 1: 1-18
Wednesday	Psalms 146
Thursday	Hebrews 9: 11-14
Friday	Mark 12: 28-34
Saturday	John 8: 31-36
Sunday	Romans 1: 16-17, 3: 21-28



The Worship Ministry Team would like to encourage everyone to submit **Concerns and Celebrations, and Announcements** to Karen Wetherington at [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org) or 706-548-2756, each week, for placement in the *Covenanter*. 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 *Covenanter*, 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](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 #17**  
 Anticipated Pledges — \$139,517.81  
 Actual Pledges — \$137,907.12  
*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.*

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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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

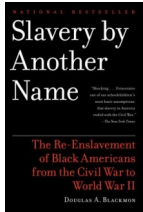
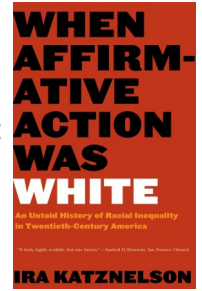
Sponsored by:  
Athens Community Tree Council,  
in partnership with Sandy Creek Nature Center and the Winterville Tree Commission



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](mailto: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 November 4th @ 7 PM to complete this essential read.



Our next book will be Slavery by Another Name by Douglas Blackmon, and we will likely have one session, and Prof. Blackmon will be joining our group to discuss his influential work. It will be awesome! Stayed tune for the date and time.



**Church School Classes via ZOOM!**

**Upper Room Class**

Sunday, Oct. 31 at 11:30am, 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](mailto:gillbillvolume1@yahoo.com), to receive your CHRISTIAN ZOOM invitation.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Journey Class**

Sunday, Oct. 31, 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](mailto:rathbun@uga.edu), to receive your ZOOM invitation.



Proud parents of the bride, Kent & Rebecca Silver, wish to announce the marriage of their daughter Amanda Silver to Shaun Minter on October 24, 2021 in Athens. The wedding was officiated by Rev. Thomas Buchanan. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Groups Meeting at Covenant:**

(these small groups may or may not be meeting at Covenant at this time)

**Sunday, Monday, Tuesday**—Campus Kitchen (UGA),

**Monday**—Scouts at 6:30pm; Bells of Northeast Georgia Choir 7pm,

**Tuesday**- (2nd Tues of each month) Stamp Club 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

**Sunday** (upper room) 12 Step Group 12:30pm



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

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bower.julie@gmail.com)) or Karen Wetherington ([kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto: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!*

# ORPHAN SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2021



## **Children in care:**

Nationally approximately : 424,000

Georgia approximately: 11,630

**Number of foster homes in Georgia: 8,026**

**Children in need of an adoptive placement:**

Nationally approximately: 122,200

Children in Georgia waiting on adoption: 141

**Websites that include children that are legally free for adoption:**

It's My Turn Now: <https://itsmyturnnow.dhs.ga.gov/WebForms/Home.aspx>

Adopt US Kids: <https://www.adoptuskids.org/>

## **Other ways to help:**

Become a foster or adoptive parent—If interested—submit an inquiry form on <https://fostergeorgia.com/inquiry-form/> or call: 1-877-210-KIDS

Volunteer/support organizations that support foster & adoptive parents

Chosen for Life Ministries <https://chosenforlifeministries.org/>

Promise 686 <https://promise686.org>