

Please click here to view Covenants LIVE STREAM Worship Service on YouTube for **Sunday, November 28 at 10am:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

THE COVENANTER  
 November 28, 2021

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

**THANK YOU!** *thank you!*

**Thank You, Reverend Glenn**

Reverend Glenn, thank you for serving as Covenant's bridge pastor...bridging the period from Mark Harper's departure to Dana Water's arrival. This has been such a crazy time for Covenant (and the world). The pastoral ministry that we had known for so long ended while we were still trying to figure out how to worship and serve our community in the midst of a pandemic. You brought experience, wisdom, and love to our church, and we thank you so much! We wish you all the best as you return now to your well-deserved retirement.



**Meet and Greet for Kira and Dana Waters**

Let's welcome and get to know Dana and Kira! The

Fellowship Ministry Team is organizing in-person gatherings for coffee, lunch, or light supper with approximately 10 – 12 individuals. Please go to the Sign Up Genius at [this link!](#) to find a time and event that works for you. Events are being planned through December and January.

We are looking for additional Covenant members to host! Meet and greets can be in your home, at the church, or other location of your choosing. To host a get-together, please contact Susan Parish (956-220-6004 or 706-850-0835).

*'tis the*  
**SEASON**

Please join The Fellowship Ministry Team for some holiday fun!

**Saturday, December 4 at 10 am.** Help decorate the outside of the church for the Christmas season. Many hands make light work.

**Sunday, December 4** following the 10AM Worship. Reception to Welcome Dana & Kira

**Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.** Walk the UGA Botanical Garden Winter Wonderlights together! You can read about the event and purchase your ticket for the 6:30 pm start time at: <https://botgarden.uga.edu/wonderlights/>. Parking is available at the UGA soccer/softball complex with shuttle service to the Botanical Gardens.

See Kay Brooks if you have any questions.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Beth Nunnally as she begins 20 radiation treatments; Nancy Omdahl anticipating surgery in early December for a growing cystic mass; Tamara Stam's mom recovering from a bad fall; Jim & Jere Bowden at home; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; the food insecure and homeless as the holiday season approaches; Covenant's new interim pastor, Dana Waters and wife, Kira; and our nation.

**Daily Bible Readings November 29—December 05**

Monday	Amos 1: 1-5, 13-2:5
Tuesday	Amos 2: 6-16
Wednesday	Amos 3: 1-11
Thursday	Amos 3: 12—4:5
Friday	Luke 1: 67-79
Saturday	Philippians 1: 3-11
Sunday	Luke 3: 1-6



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 or give in person. Thank you for your faithful giving!

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #22**  
 Anticipated Pledges — \$180,552.46  
 Actual Pledges — \$180,897.32  
*Thank you for your faithful giving!*  
*Thornwell—\$1,550.00*



The Worship Center will be graced with beautiful poinsettias for the Christmas holidays. If you would like to purchase one in honor or memory of someone please contact Karen at [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org) or office number 706-548-2756. They are **\$15.00** each. (due to price increase) You can mail a check or put it in the offering plate. Please indicate in the memo portion of the check Poinsettias and indicate who they are in honor or memory of. Thank you!

**Library Corner:  
Vegetable Gardening for the Soul**



A stack of books came in recently, and the donations followed a theme. It immediately struck me how many paths there are to grow spiritually. We may find God through social justice or classic theology. Practices such as prayer, meditation, or art may lead us forward. This anonymous donor seemed to find a spiritual path in nearby nature – the garden. One of the books is called *Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith* by Fred Bahnson. Another is *The Earth Knows My Name: Food, Culture, and Sustainability in the Gardens of Ethnic Americans* by Patricia Klindienst. Still another is *Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture* by Toby Hemenway. These books can be found in Bay G, Shelf 4. And while you're in the library, take a few minutes to come ramble through our related books on nature and ecology (Bay G, Shelf 3). –Valerie Stone

**Speaking in Celebration, the B&G MT commends the following volunteers as weekly Grounds Stewards each month.**

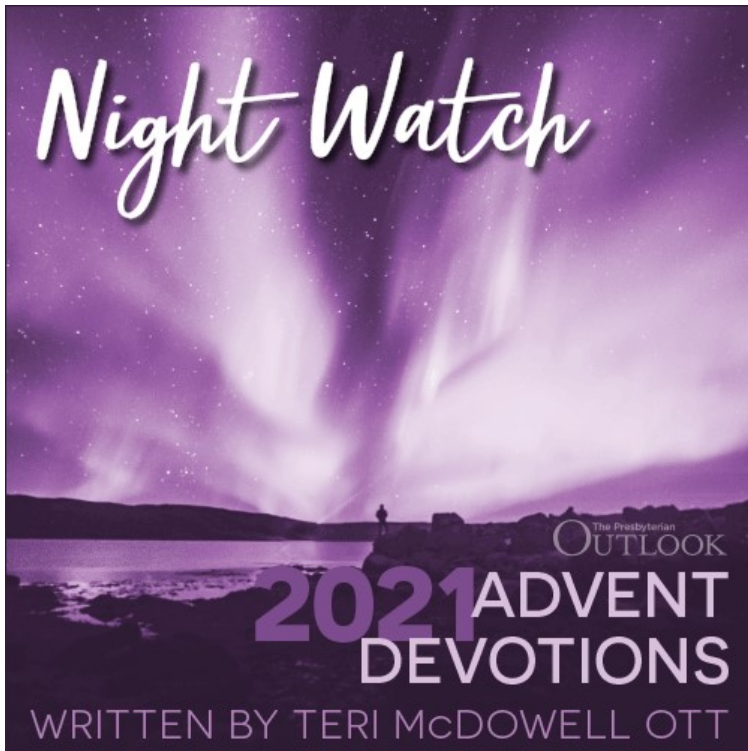
First Monday week = Katy Terry & Chris Wilson;      Second Monday week = Don Bower & Alex Clark  
Third Monday week = Phil Hale & Phil Koehler;      Fourth Monday week = Susan & Randy Parish  
Fifth Monday week = Ellen & Dan Stoneburner



**THORNWELL HOME FOR CHILDREN**

***Serving JESUS, by serving others!***

Today we highlight the mission of Thornwell to raise awareness and funds for children and families in need. Thornwell began in 1875 in Clinton, SC by a Presbyterian minister, Reverend Jacobs, who felt a call from God to care for the orphans of the Civil War. The ministry of Thornwell has grown and evolved over its nearly 150-year history to be a leader in the call to care for children and families throughout South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. What was once a dream in the heart of a young man, God anointed and blessed to become a transformative ministry that has impacted the lives of thousands. We celebrate Thornwell Emphasis Month with a single focus: Serving Jesus, by Serving Others! You get to be part of this. You can make a difference. You are giving hope and joy to families through the overflow of your giving. Please mark your checks for Thornwell or pick up an giving envelope on the table in the narthex.



Hope is hard to find during a long pandemic. Dark feelings of grief, loss, anger, betrayal and despair plague our souls and our communities. As the light fades and the evenings grow long this December, the season of Advent reminds us that God is with us in the night.

We can see and observe God at work in the dark, marvel at the beauty of creation lit by moon and stars, and rest from the day's labor. Darkness is often associated with evil and suffering, but a devotional exploration of "night" bears witness to Christ's Good News. Exploring biblical happenings that occur at night – visions, angel visits, prisoners set free – we will move through this Advent season as watchful disciples, keeping vigil for the One who is promised to arrive like a thief in the night.

Please email Karen at [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org) if you would like a hard copy of this years Advent Devotional. [Click on this link](#) to access the devotional online.

**TerraCycle + Kroger Packaging = \$\$**

A few weeks ago, I mailed our first box of Kroger packaging to TerraCycle and it earned \$13.65. This is important because TerraCycle does not pay the shipping costs for packaging such as candy bags and wrappers, so the \$13.65 will go toward that.

If you shop at Kroger, saving plastic bags and wrappers for TerraCycle is easy because there are so many items that qualify. A few examples: bread bags, frozen vegetable and fruit bags, chip and salty snack bags, bags from cookies, nuts, coffee and fresh produce such as carrots, apples, potatoes, etc. Also, wrappers from packages of paper products and bottled water.

Remember, only Kroger brands count. This includes Simple Truth, Private Selection, Luvsome pet products, as well as the ordinary Kroger brand. *Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team*

**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.

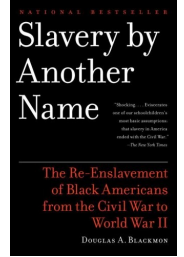
Thank you *Covenant* and may we all have enough!



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](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org).

## SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, December 9 at 7pm we will begin our new book study on the book *Slavery by Another Name* by Douglas Blackmon. There will probably be one session. Prof. Blackmon will be joining our group to discuss his influential work. It will be awesome! December 9 at 7pm. Look for your Zoom invitation the day before.



### Church School Classes via ZOOM!

#### Upper Room Class

Sunday, November 28 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 ZOOM invitation.



CHRISTIAN

EDUCATION

**Journey Class**—Sunday, November 28 **8:30am—9:30am**, 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.

### 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**- More Than Four Quartet 9:30am—11:00am; (2nd Tues of each month) Stamp Club 7pm

**Wednesday**—Covenant Handbell Choir 6pm—7:15pm; 12 step group 7pm (downstairs)

**Thursday**—Knitters & Knotters 2pm (conf. room); 12 Step Group 7pm(conf. room)

**Saturday**—(upper room) 12 Step Group 10:30am; 11/20 UGA Campus Kitchen at 12 noon

**Sunday** (upper room) 12 Step Group 12:30pm; 11/21 UGA Campus Kitchen at 12 noon

### Knitter and Knotters –

*Resumes Thursday, December 2*

(Please be sure and wear your mask)

Join us for a good time of fellowship and fun!

## "Fix-It Persons" Being Sought



The B&G MT is faced with a variety of tasks that merit being addressed, but not all can be accomplished by B&G members themselves. Other folks are invited to contribute their talents and time. For example . . .

*Nandina seedlings should be uprooted from the lirioppe and iris beds along the exit driveway*

*Nandina and boxwood hedges around the campus buildings should be cut to heights of 24"-30"*

*The Memorial Garden slope should be cleared of all volunteer seedlings except for gardenias, azaleas, and crepe myrtles; and the Memorial Garden's circular sitting area should feature the present roses and annual flowers*

*The front patio floral pots should be maintained with seasonal plantings*

*The enter driveway flower bed as well as front yard main sign floral areas should be maintained with seasonal plantings*

*Debris surrounding the Brian Koehler shed should be removed to the landfill*

*Periodically left-off shopping carts should be returned to pertinent retailers*

*Remove 20+ boxes of old church records to UPS for disposal by shredding.*

*Assess and repair door thresholds from hallways into activity rooms, as well as screen and repair any faulty stair step coverings.*

*Transport 5+ cathode ray TV units for disposal to the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials.*

These, along with other tasks, will be posted for reference on the B&G MT bulletin board, near the Memorial Garden stairway entrance. Feel free to pose questions for guidance, as well as to sign-up to address, and to sign-off when completing a task.

B&G Ministry Team: *Alex Clark, Brian Striggow, Hank Tweedell, Rich Reaves 706-248-2819, Carolyn Hatfield, Chris Wilson*

## 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 Thursdays, 1pm—4pm.**

**Thanksgiving week the food pantry will be on Tuesday, November 23, 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
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.*

*Isaiah 58:10—Feed the hungry and help those in trouble, then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.*