

Please click here to view Covenants LIVE STREAM Worship Service on YouTube for **Sunday, January 9 at 10am:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

## THE COVENANTER January 9, 2021

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



*Today, Sunday January 9 we celebrate during worship the ordination and installation of our church officers.*

*The session's class of 2024 includes Katy McGill Arora, Abby Horvath, Burt Ballard-Myer, and Valerie Stone.*

*Many thanks to them for their willingness to serve.*

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. **WAYS TO GIVE:**

- Through Covenant (mark for Joy Offering)
- Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)
- Text CHRISTMASJOY to 91999 to give or visit [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



**Covid Updates** The session discussed current COVID safety guidelines at a called meeting on January 4. **Covenant will discontinue offering food and drinks during times of fellowship until further notice.** For those participating in worship in person, thank you for wearing a mask and social distancing. Worship services will continue to be live-streamed on our YouTube channel. Everyone is encouraged to take part in worship using the format that is best for you. We trust that God meets us wherever we are gathered!

 Join Kent & Rebecca Silver as they host Covenants new pastor, Dana Waters and wife, Kira for supper on Friday, January 21 at 6:30pm. Six slots available. Please sign up on the link below:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-meet1>

**PW Bible Study**  
**Thursday, January 13 at 9:30am**  
Join us via ZOOM for a time of study and fellowship.  
Email Karen at [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens.org) if you would like a ZOOM invitation.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Bruce Butts facing shoulder replacement surgery at St. Mary's on January 11; Willene O'Neal with severe nerve pain; Patti Huberty's sister in law, Shelly Coe, in ICU at Emory; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; health care professionals at home and around the world; the food insecure and homeless; and our nation.

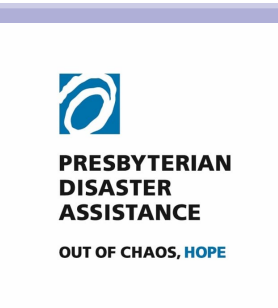
**Daily Bible Readings January 10 - 16**

Monday	Psalm 5; 145
Tuesday	Psalm 42; 146
Wednesday	Genesis 4: 1-16
Thursday	Genesis 4: 17-26
Friday	Hebrews 3: 12-19
Saturday	Hebrews 4: 1—13
Sunday	Mark 3: 7—19



**Congratulations to Katy (McGill) & Saurabh Arora** who are expecting their first child in July of 2022.

**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 **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.*



**PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE**—In the early hours of December 11th, several tornadoes ripped through multiple U.S. states, resulting in extensive damage and significant loss of life. PDA is in touch with affected presbyteries to coordinate resources and assistance. To register interest in volunteering for rebuilding efforts when they are ready, email [PDA.CallCenter@pcusa.org](mailto:PDA.CallCenter@pcusa.org). To support our response, designate gifts to [DR000015](#) If you wish to give thru Covenant please designate on your check or envelope *PDA Tornado*.



The handbell choir is composed of different “orchestral” sections requiring varying levels of musical and physical skills. Think strings, winds, brass and percussion. Each have different demands and importance within the ensemble.

In the handbell “orchestra,” the treble bells generally play the melody and sometimes ring multiple bells simultaneously. The battery and bass bells lay down the rhythmic and chordal foundations. Bell size and weight dictate the nuances required for optimal ringing. There is something for every skill level!

The bells outlined above are what you’ve seen and heard in worship thus far.

We also have the REALLY BIG Sub-bass bells, which complete and support the entire structure of the choir. Generally, these bells ring notes of long duration.

Thus, for the ringer, it’s easier to read and follow the music.

We are looking for ringers to ring the REALLY BIG Sub-bass bells.

There are fewer technical demands than the smaller bells, but a certain amount of strength is required, as is a basic ability to read music. However, no previous ringing experience is necessary. Compared to other instruments, you can learn to ring relatively quickly.

Being in the handbell choir is a definite commitment. What you see and hear in worship is the result of weekly rehearsals, focused work, and good times. It is very much a team effort, and everyone has to be there for it to work.

And when it works -- !!!

Interested in trying a bell?

Contact me or a member of the choir.

David Boardman (706) 318-0048 (cell)

## Library Corner *100 Journeys for the Spirit*

Sometimes we all need a little beauty. This “coffee table book” by multiple authors introduces the reader to holy places all over the world—churches, cathedrals, mosques, shrines, monasteries, and even some remote landscapes. The color photographs are a visual treat. This book would be wonderful to check out and enjoy one peaceful sip at a time over your morning coffee. It can be found at Bay I, Shelf 2. —*Valerie Stone*



### OPEN AND CLOSING THE BUILDING

Patti Huberty 1st Sunday  
Judy Capie 2nd Sunday  
Pam Knox 3rd Sunday  
Tim Foutz 4th Sunday  
Dick Zimdars 5th Sunday  
Thanks to all. We celebrate your willingness!  
*Rich Reaves, B&G*

### 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

### 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 in Fellowship Hall

**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

## **Update on Anomalies in Carpet Installation**

Inspection was conducted on November 19, 2021, by A1 Flooring Inspection, to assess anomalies in the recently laid carpet for the Cov Presby worship center.

Prior to this time, it was reported to the color coordination committee as well as to the Session that a condition commonly known within the trade as “side match error” was likely present in the utilized carpet. Such a condition leaves both a visibly non-seamless seam along side-by-side carpet strips, along with noticeable color variation across laid carpet strips. This is the current situation.

Recently released findings of the inspector state: “the customer’s concerns are due to errors during the dyeing cycle of the manufacturing process. This is a manufacturing related issue. The carpet manufacturer’s tolerances and warranties will prevail.” Such findings confirm the guestimate of “side match error”.

As a result, the “making it right” remedy for this situation is removal and replacement of the flawed carpet.

Upon last November’s stoppage of payment to Carpets Unlimited after installation, and at the outset of the inspection process, the installer was told that completing the job properly and according to contract was the desired goal; and that the product delivered was not satisfactory due to the anomalies presented.

From comments, as I understood them, made to me by members of the color coordination team as well as other individuals at Cov Presby, taking such a clear stance on the remedy to be pursued seemed appropriate.

As a result, replacement carpet is scheduled to be in Athens later this month. Its cost will be borne by the manufacturer, Shaw Carpet. Preliminary discussions concerning its installation took place yesterday morning.

Since the crew to do the re-installation work already has experience with doing it once, and because no time is needed to factor in painting or lighting upgrades, installing new replacement carpet can be targeted for completion over 4 to 5 days. The local installer has requested double inspection of the new carpet by the manufacturer, in an effort to avoid any repeat of this problem. Upon the installation of new replacement carpet, along with its acceptance as satisfactory, Cov Presby will owe the remaining balance per the original contract.

I trust that this news is satisfactory.

Kind regards, Rich



### EGG CARTONS! EGG CARTONS!

The Athens Emergency Food Bank are still in need of egg cartons and brown paper grocery bags. PLEASE NO 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](mailto:kwetherington@covpresathens).

**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 #26  
Anticipated Pledges — \$213,380.00  
Actual Pledges — \$227,022.51  
*Thank you for your faithful giving!*  
*Meals on Wheels: \$9,252.00*

Join the **Covenant Social Justice Book Club** in January 2022 as we discuss Chinua Achebe's "Things Fall Apart." Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, Things Fall Apart explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order. With more than 20 million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, Things Fall Apart provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. Achebe does not only capture life in a pre-colonial African village, but he also conveys the tragedy of the loss of that world while broadening our understanding of our contemporary realities. **Join us** starting **January @ 20th @ 7 PM** via Zoom to explore this essential read. Our first session will cover Chapters 1-14 ( pages 1-135). TW



### Church School Classes via ZOOM!



#### Upper Room Class

Sunday mornings 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.

**JOURNEY CLASS**—Sunday mornings, 8:30am—9:45am , Phil and Sallie Hale host and different class volunteers facilitate discussion using Isabel Wilkerson's book, *Caste—the Origins of Our Discontent*. Soon we will complete this book and early next year we'll begin a study of the book, *Speaking of Faith* by Krista Tippett. If you would like to participate, please contact Phil at [phale50@hotmail.com](mailto:phale50@hotmail.com) to receive your Zoom invitation.

#### Covenant Church Office Hours

Monday — closed  
Tuesday — 10am — 12 noon  
Wednesday — closed (*working from home*)  
Thursday & Friday 10am — 4pm

#### Knitter and Knotters —

*Thursday, January 6 at 2pm*  
(Please be sure and wear your mask)  
Join us for a good time of fellowship and fun!

## 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.**

**(Please note there will NOT be a food pantry on Thursday, January 20)**

### 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!

**Please sign up for Covenant Food Pantry!**

Feeding 100 families every week is hard work and we need your help! Our drive-thru pantry is awesome and you should join us and impact your community.

<https://givepul.se/6xemwu>

1. Have you been exposed to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19? [See the CDC's risk assessment guidance.](#)
2. Do you have symptoms consistent with COVID-19? Symptoms can include a cough or shortness of breath or at least two of the following: Fever, Chills, Repeated shaking with chills, Muscle pain, Head-ache, Sore throat, New loss of taste or smell. [See the CDC's symptom information.](#)

If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, we ask you **not** to register. We are doing all we can to align with best practices and keep our community healthy.

*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.*

For the month of December Covenant volunteers and staff served 1,111 food insecure neighbors

This includes 626 adults, 336 children, and 149 Senior Adults!

Thank you Covenant and *May We All Have Enough!*