

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, February 20 at 10am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

THE COVENANTER

February 20, 2022

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



Join us in the evening March 2 at 6:30pm for Ash Wednesday Worship. This service includes songs, prayer, scripture and the imposition of ashes.

May it be an meaningful way to start this season of renewal and new beginnings in the Spirit of Christ.

(Live stream will be available)

Bowden Church Vocations Fund

*a special offering for
Covenant Presbyterian Church*

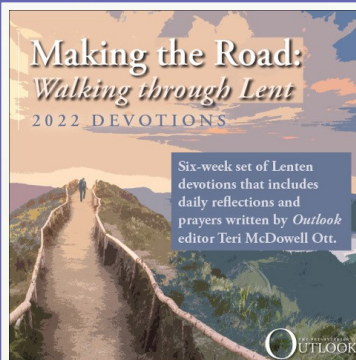
February 2022

We continue to be grateful to God for all the gifts of the Spirit seen in Covenant's ministry of the past 60 years.

Named in honor of Jim & Jere Bowden's 35 year ministry here at Covenant, the BOWDEN CHURCH VOCATION FUND was established in 1996 by our Session to support our members who have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. *A special offering for the Bowden Fund will be received this month.*

Make checks out to Covenant and mark them BCVF or Bowden Fund. PLEASE RESPOND GENEROUSLY, as we support our members in this journey of faith together!

Many thanks!



LENTEN

DEVOTIONALS—These devotions are based on the Spanish poet Antonio Machado's poem, "Walker." Machado writes: "Walker, there is no road, the road is made by walking."

Machado's poem resonates because it feels as if there is no road in front of us. The soil of our well-worn Lenten path has been overturned by the pandemic. If we want to follow Christ this Lent, we'll need to prepare the way and make the road. We'll need to rethink and recreate our Lenten practices. This six-week set of Lenten devotions includes daily reflections and prayers written by *Outlook* Editor Teri McDowell Ott. Each week we will make the road to Jerusalem through the following themes: *Walking through Lent, Walking in the wilderness, Walking in prayer, Walking with others, Walking in hope, and Walking through Holy Week!* Hard copies are on the table in the narthex or you can go to this link: [Lenten Devotionals](#) for an online copy. *Readings begin March 6th.*



Ready to start getting out more? Come on out to Covenant on the evening of Friday,

February 25 from 7pm to 9pm for Game Night fun and fellowship. We'll have a few board games available or you are welcome to bring your own. *(Following current Covid-19 guidelines, there will not be refreshments and masks/vaccinations are strongly encouraged.)*

PRAYER CONCERNS: Asher Hill's grandmother, (Doug Hill's mother) Barbara passed away Feb. 13 in Missouri; Bob & Joyce Placek—Bob returned home from skilled nursing following a valve replacement surgery; Joyce will be starting radiation soon; DeLynda Tweedell's father, Larry having ongoing health issues with his lungs; Bert Ballard-Myer's parents, Bob & Agnes Myer with health concerns; Helen Springs at home; Michael Capie recovering from rotator cuff surgery Feb 17th; Beth Nunnally at home in hospice care; Nancy Omdahl recently started chemo again; Pauline Marshall at Highland Hills #112; health care professionals at home and around the world; the food insecure and homeless; and our nation.

Please submit prayer concerns and/or celebrations to the church office 706-548-2756 or kwetherington@covpresathens.org. or before worship service fill out the Prayer Concern form and put in offering plate or give to Pastor Dana.

Daily Bible Readings February 21-27

Monday	Psalm 57; 145
Tuesday	Psalm 54; 146
Wednesday	Psalm 65; 147 1-11
Thursday	I John 5: 13-21
Friday	John 12: 9-19
Saturday	2 Timothy 1: 1-14
Sunday	Exodus 34: 29-35



He was transfigured before them ...
and his clothes became dazzling white ...
Mark 9:2-3, NRSV



We 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.

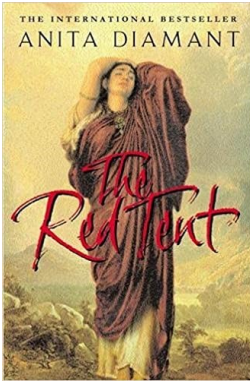
We are looking for ringers to ring the REALLY BIG Sub-bass bells.

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: *The Red Tent*

Anita Diamant's 1997 novel became a *New York Times* bestseller, but did you have the time to read it back then? This fictionalized account of Dinah, daughter of patriarch Jacob, explores the traditions of ancient womanhood and brings to life a slice of the Old Testament. It can be found with other fictional spiritual journeys in our library (Bay G, Shelf 1). – Church Librarian Valerie Stone

TerraCycle No Longer Taking Personal Care Products

TerraCycle just announced that it would no longer accept personal care products such as liquid soap bottles, shampoo bottles, lotion tubes, mascara and lipstick tubes, etc. So please don't bring any more of these items to Covenant. TerraCycle IS still accepting these items: toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes and floss containers, disposable razors and blades, Arm & Hammer detergent and pool salt pouches, Late July corn chip bags, plastic wrappers and bags from all Kroger brands, such as frozen veggies, chips and pretzels, frozen chicken & fish, Luvsome pet products, etc., worn-out ball point pens. The Green Dream Team also accepts dead batteries and empty ink cartridges; these things are recycled at CHaRM.

Call me with questions: 706-543-3753.
Caren Snook for the Green Dream Team



Save the date -

Tuesday, March 22, 2022,

to help support Family Promise
Athens and enjoy the company of fellow
Covenanters at the return of the in person
La Table luncheon.

Questions may be directed to
Ellen Stoneburner at 706-296-4468 or
ellenstoneburner@gmail.com.

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

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday & Thursday—Campus Kitchen (UGA), 9:30am

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday—7pm New Freedom Group in Conference Room

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

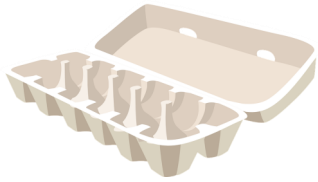
Tuesday—More Than Four Quartet 9:30am—11:00am; (2nd Tues of each month) Stamp Club 7pm in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday—Bigger Vision Meal Prep (kitchen) 8:30am; Covenant Handbell Choir 6pm—7:15pm;
12 step group 7pm (downstairs)

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

Saturday—(upper room) 12 Step Group 10:30am;

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



EGG CARTONS! EGG CARTONS!

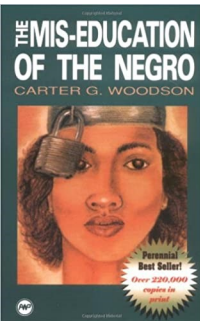
The Athens Emergency Food Bank are still in need of egg cartons and brown paper grocery bags. PLEASE NO PLASTIC BAGS!

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 previous years please let me know at kwetherington@covpresathens.org.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #33
 Anticipated Pledges — \$279,035.62
 Actual Pledges — \$272,408.25
Thank you for your faithful giving!
BCVF—\$943.00



Join the **Covenant Social Justice Book Club**, starting on February 21, 2022 at 7 PM via Zoom as we discuss 'The Mis-Education of the Negro'. In 'Miseducation', Carter G. Woodson shows us the weaknesses of education curriculums that fail to include African American history and culture. 'Miseducation', originally published in 1933, is still very relevant to modern discussions of race, history, education, and curriculum.

Join us starting **Feb 21 @ 7 PM** for our first session where we will cover pages 1-61



CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

Church School Classes via ZOOM! Upper Room Class

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, 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 the book, *Speaking of Faith*, by Krista Tippett. If you would like to participate, please contact Phil at 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, February 24 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.

Next food distribution is on Thursday, February 17!

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 January Covenant volunteers and staff served 892 food insecure neighbors.

This includes 501 adults, 289 children, and 102 Senior Adults!

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



FOOD BANK
OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Empty Bowl is Back!

March 30th from 11:30am to 1:30pm

About Empty Bowls

Come join us for our 22nd Empty Bowls luncheon on Wednesday, March 30th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Classic Center in downtown Athens!

Guests will be presented with a stunning display of one-of-a-kind pottery from which they will select a bowl of their very own. They will then eat a delicious meal of local soups and salad. Following the meal, guests will get to take home their “empty bowl” as a symbolic gesture reminding all of us that there are far too many of our friends and neighbors who suffer from food insecurity and hunger. Get your tickets here: [EMPTY BOWLS TICKETS](#) or for more information contact tmassey@foodbanknega.org or call 706-354-8191 ext. 123 for more information.

About FBNEGA

The Food Bank of Northeast Georgia (FBNEGA) works to break down the barriers surrounding food inequity and insecurity through a variety of highly effective programs.

Our ultimate goal is to end food insecurity in our 14-county service area. The programs FBNEGA operates work to feed all members of the community in need of food but place a special focus upon vulnerable populations including seniors, children, their household members.

The FBNEGA distributes over 10 million meals yearly to the 14 counties in our service region through a wide variety of programming and in collaboration with an extensive network of partners, including other not-for-profits, churches, schools, soup kitchens, and many others.