

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, May 1 at 10am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

THE COVENANTER
May 01, 2022

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

WE WELCOME Rev. Will Norman | Executive Campus Minister at the Presbyterian Student Center for UGA, guest speaker today.

Will grew up in metro Atlanta, GA. He earned his M.Div. at Columbia Theological Seminary, where he also met his partner, the Rev. Christin Johnson Norman (UGA '09). Christin and Will have a 3 year old son named Jack, and a newborn (Fall 2021) named Remy. Prior to being called to the PSC, Will has served as a solo pastor, young adult minister, director of music and arts, youth minister, and college & campus minister both in Atlanta and in Northern California. He describes his call to the PSC, saying "Campus ministry is a kind of first love of mine. It is an incredible privilege to be invited into the lives of students as they journey through one of the most challenging and rewarding seasons of the life of faith. I will never take it for granted."



MISSIONS—LOCAL & WORLDWIDE
(FORMERLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH)
LUNCH & LEARN SUNDAY, MAY 1

Join us following worship for Chili & Cornbread and learn more about our impact on the local community including the homeless, food pantry, and other mission outreach opportunities. Guest speakers are Travis Williams, Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator, Andie Besceglia, UGArden and John Morris, Advantage Behavior's Street Missions.

Zoom will also be available for those who cannot attend in person.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY! HOST WEEK

May 8–15

Covenant is the host congregation for Family Promise during the week of May 8-15. Again this time, the families are staying at Milledge Avenue Baptist Church. Volunteering is safe and easy at MABC, and with the Day Center open with FP staff present during weekday business hours we will not need daytime hosts. We DO need evening meals preparers and evening and overnight hosts. We will likely have 3 families in the program. The sign-up genius site is here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-2022>



For more information contact Phil Hale (phale50@hotmail.com), 706-614-0812. *Thank you!*

PRAYER CONCERNS: Mary Berry & family in the passing of Joe Berry. The memorial service will be at First Presbyterian Athens at 2pm on Sunday, May 1; Mary Anna Wynes recovering from toe surgery, Friday, April 29; Beecher Mathes and family in the passing of her mother, Jacqueline Mathes. Helen Epps and the family of Richard Bouldin following his passing on 4/17. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at 3:00pm, at Lord and Stephens West Chapel; Sally Boardman, waiting for report; Bert Ballard-Myer's mom, Agnes started radiation treatment; Nancy Omdahl continuing to receive chemo treatments; Pauline Marshall recovering from a fall.

Daily Bible Readings May 2—8

Monday Acts 9: 36-43
 Tuesday Psalm 23
 Wednesday Isaiah 53: 1-6
 Thursday Psalm 114
 Friday Revelation 7: 9-17
 Saturday John 10: 22-30
 Sunday Luke 22: 67-70

Daily Bible Readings May 9—15

Monday Acts 11: 1-9
 Tuesday Acts 11: 10-18
 Wednesday Psalm 148
 Thursday Leviticus 19: 9-18
 Friday Psalm 24: 1-6
 Saturday Revelation 21: 1-6
 Sunday John 13: 31-35

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.

Stewardship Drive

2022-2023

GOOD NEWS!

Almost all of the pledges have been returned and we are so close to meeting our goal. If you have not mail back your pledge card please do so today.

Thank you to all that have turned in their pledge cards!

God's Kingdom-building work starts here at Covenant and stretches out into our community and across the world.

You can also email your pledge to Karen at kwetherington@covpresathens.org.



Notes on the Preparation and the Offertory: J.C.F. Bach was the fifth son of Johann Sebastian Bach. Zipoli was an eighteenth-century Jesuit missionary who taught music to the Guarani people of Paraguay. Three hundred years later, Covenant supported Eric Zimdars in his Peace Corps hydrology and agricultural projects work in a Guarani community in Paraguay from 2014-2016.

COVENANT'S COVID POLICIES (EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 2022)

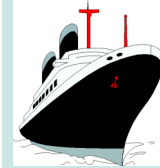
We look forward to worshipping with you. We continue to strive to protect our loved ones and believe in transparency. Our current COVID policies are based on the CDC's community level rating for Athens Clarke County.

Guidelines for gathering inside Covenant Presbyterian Church:

Green Rating – Mask wearing is optional. Indoor and outdoor food and drinks are permitted. Anyone showing signs and symptoms of COVID is invited to worship with us virtually. Please be considerate of personal preferences to remain contact-free and social distance.

Any changes to ACC's rating will be announced in the *Covenant-er*, online, and in worship. You can check [ACC's current CDC rating](#) here.

Pastor Dana will be away for a church leadership retreat in North Carolina from Wednesday, April 27 through Sunday, May 1. He will be back in the office May 3.



Karen will be on vacation May 8–19.



CHRISTIAN ED MEETING

(second meeting)

Sunday, May 15 at 2pm



Nursery

The Toddler room has been freshly painted and cleaned and is now available for parents & children during worship. **Beginning May 1** supervision will be provided. If you would like to be added to the list of volunteers to assist once a quarter please contact the church office or Ellen at ellenstoneburner@gmail.com. *Thanks!*

THE GRASS IS DEFINITELY GREENER...

ON OUR SIDE OF THE FENCE, AND GROWING EVERY WEEK!

In the past we've used church members at varied stages of youth to mow and maintain the church grounds. As Hank Tweedell moves on from many hard years in this role, we are looking for his replacement. One alternative is to endure the expense of an outside lawn service, but Building and Grounds wants to make sure we've plumbed all of our options within the church first. Are you, or do you know of, an adult or responsible teenager that would be interested in this work?

We've determined through experimentation that the entire lawn can be mowed with a push mower in about five hours. A riding mower would clearly be preferred. The church doesn't own one but might purchase one if the right individual committed to the work. Anyone? Anyone?

Potential candidates, questions, or opinions - Contact Brian Striggow on Buildings and Grounds – (706) 340-6352 or misterflask@gmail.com

April 1-
May 31

A \$25 donation sends love, flowers, and a card to a worthy mother in our community!



THE ARK
UNITED MINISTRY OUTREACH CENTER

Adopt -a- Mom 2022

The Ark honors single warrior moms, grandmothers raising their grandbabies, and isolated mothers in our local nursing homes and hospice care programs!

Go to
www.athensark.org/adoptmom2022
to adopt today!

All proceeds benefit The Ark's Single Working Mothers Fund, which assists single moms who experience an unexpected loss of income or an unexpected expense. Help us prevent disconnections and evictions!





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.

HOW TO GIVE. There is a new online giving option through the Presbyterian Foundation at this link <https://www.covpresathens.org/online-giving/>

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

FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #43

Anticipated Pledges — \$352,897.70

Actual Pledges — 360,657.02

Thank you for your faithful giving!

One Great Hour of Sharing \$ 2,600.00



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, to receive your ZOOM invitation.

CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

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



Knitter and Knotters —

Thursday, May 5 at 2pm

Join us for a good time of fellowship
and fun!

THE MUSIC SEARCH COMMITTEE is actively seeking applicants for music director & piano accompanist. If anyone in the congregation knows someone who is interested, please give their contact information to *Katy Terry, Gloria Pylant, Betsy Burmeister, Laura Foskey, Jerry Shannon or Abby Horvath.*



LIBRARY CORNER — *Blue Like Jazz: Nonreligious Thoughts on Christian Spirituality* by Donald Miller

Donald Miller is one of those authors who welcomes you into his world and tells it like it is. This faith memoir is a collection of essays that take a frank look at modern Christianity. My personal favorite is called “Confession” and describes a project he took on with a small group of fellow Christians while studying at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. The group constructed a temporary confessional booth in a commons area and then welcomed fellow students in. But the booth wasn’t so that the students could confess their sins. Instead, the Christians confessed the shortcomings of the Christian faith across the centuries—the brutality of the crusades, the horrors of the inquisition, colonialism, Christians embracing slavery, etc. The resulting discussions were rich. Throughout his book, Miller doesn’t always come to tidy conclusions, but he asks important questions. This title can be found with other personal spiritual journeys in Bay F, Shelf 4. — Church Librarian *Valerie Stone* (If you would like to write a few sentences highlighting a book or DVD in our library, please contact me.)

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, May 5!

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.

The Food Pantry distribution for the month of March served 1,055 food insecure folks including 298 children and 198 senior adults.

Thank you Covenant and May We All Have Enough!

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF ELDER

The Nominating Committee is charged to nominate four persons for the office of elder to serve on the Session for a three year term. Please make known to the committee persons you want to be considered. You are encouraged **to seek permission** from those persons whom you suggest to the committee. In this way everyone is more deeply involved in the election process.

According to the *Book of Order*, "Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world." Persons recommended for this Office will serve on the Session which meets the 4th Tuesday of every month. The Session may meet briefly the 1st Sunday morning of every month to plan for Holy Communion and to receive members into the church. Session members also provide leadership (in pairs) for the ministry teams of the church.

Please list below the names you wish the Nominating Committee to consider for the office of Elder of Covenant Presbyterian Church. Please give prayerful thought as you consider persons for this important office. Remember; seek their consent before entering the names below.

Elders Presently Serving on Session

Classes: 2022-Brian Striggow, Chris Wilson, Don Bower, Kay Brooks

2023- Linda Koehler, Clayton Adams, Kathy Boardman, Jennifer Frey

2024- Katy McGill Arora, Abby Horvath, Bert Ballard-Myer, Valerie Stone

I suggest the following person(s) to the Nominating Committee to be considered for elder** to serve on the Session, Class of 2025::

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

** I have permission to submit the above name(s) for consideration for elder.

Please submit your recommendations to Kay Brooks at kbrooks1471@charter.net , Donny Whitehead at donnywhitehead@gmail.com, Marie Ballard-Myer at littlere62@yahoo.com or place in the drop box on the table in the gathering room by May 15th. *Thank you!*



COVENANT STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Saturday, May 7 from 5 pm – 8 pm

Dust off your strawberry recipes and plan to join the fun with a picnic on the back lawn, outdoor games, and a strawberry bake-off.

Need strawberries? Plan to pick on Friday, May 6 at 3:30 pm.

More details coming . . .

Kay Brooks & Valerie Stone, Fellowship Ministry Chairs