

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for **Sunday, September 11 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
 Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER
September 11, 2022

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



Graduates Covered Dish Luncheon (Covenant's Retirees)

Tuesday, September 13 @ 12:30pm

The Graduates, Covenant's Retirees, began meeting over 25 years ago. At that time only 10% of Covenant's members were retired. This group has had luncheons, taken trips, visited restaurants locally and out of town, held seminars, had outreach projects, and enjoyed fellowship through many changes at Covenant. The most consistent activity has been a monthly luncheon at the church. Because of COVID we have not had a luncheon in 2½ years. We will begin our luncheons September 13 at 12:30 at the church.

Our luncheons begin at 12:30 and end by 2:00 p.m. They are covered dish, potluck, so we never know what exactly the menu will be. Sometimes there is a speaker or a program, sometimes not. This upcoming luncheon will emphasize fellowship and getting to know our transitional pastor, Dana Waters, better. Our planning committee consists of *Ann Anderson, Sara and Tom Cooney, Juanita Gilbert, Linda and Phil Koehler, Bill Lindstrom, Robyn Malone, Pat Tinga, Catharine Tyson, Mary Anna Wynes*. Please contact one of these if you have questions or suggestions. See you for lunch-September 13.



COVENANT'S FALL PICNIC
Sunday, September 18
5pm - 8pm

Come and catch up with friends while enjoying Phil Hale's famous BBQ and coleslaw. Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on. Outdoor games will be available too! If it rains, we will picnic inside.

P.S. A couple more side dishes are needed. Please contact Kay Brooks if you would like to bring one.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS
for September 14

COVENANT CONNECTION—CovConn (grades k—5th)

5:15pm Servant Time
 6:00pm Family Dinner (prepared by Patrick)
 6:30pm Children's Choir with Ms. Betsy


Covenant Connection for Youth & Young Adults

5:15pm Gathering Time
 6:00pm Family Dinner
 6:30pm Faith & Film with Popcorn

ADULTS

6:00pm Covenant Handbell practice
 6:30pm Adult Bible Study with Pastor Dana
 7:15pm Adult Choir practice

Office Hours
 Tuesday—Friday
 10am—4pm

 **COVID 19 Community Level:**
YELLOW Rating –
 You are encouraged to follow your own comfort levels with masking.

**NEW FALL SCHEDULE
for Sunday**

9:30am – 12 noon –

NURSERY

ages birth to Kindergarten

**9:30am – Worship & Arts
(K-5th),**

Journey Adult Church
School Class,

Upper Room Adult
Church School Class

10:30am Fellowship

11:00am Worship

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 – WORSHIP

Liturgist: Jerry Shannon

Ushers/Greeters: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Jim & Sandy Whitney

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 – WORSHIP

Liturgist: Luanne Rigsby

Ushers/Greeters: Randy & Susan Parish, Robyn Malone

OPEN & CLOSE THE BUILDING

Patti Huberty 1st Sunday Judy Capie 2nd Sunday

Pam Knox 3rd Sunday Tim Foutz 4th Sunday

Dick Zimdars 5th Sunday

GROUNDS STEWARDS

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

NURSERY HELPERS

September 11, 2022

Joan Baird and Marie Ballard-Myer

September 18, 2022

Patrick and Alice McMaster

Church Family! This is your Mission Study Task Force, hard at work. As discussed, we want to share with you the progress we are making as we work on our 6-month charge of creating a complete mission study review to support our search for a new Pastor.

In the three weeks since we presented the survey results, we have:

- Reviewed the demographics of our local neighborhoods, schools, and counties
- Reviewed the financial reports of the church and compared the budget and savings from 2018 through 2022 (5-year-review)
- Developed a written excerpt of the history of the congregation to include membership trends

We will be focusing next on our Mission statement and the vision of our Session Leaders. We also plan to invite specific Covenant members to come and support our initial reviews to receive feedback and input into the report.

We will send another update in October.



Congratulations to Asher Hill on his new position at the Morton

Theatre as their Assistant

Technical Director—Monday thru Thursday, which began 9/6/2022.

Asher will still be working his magic

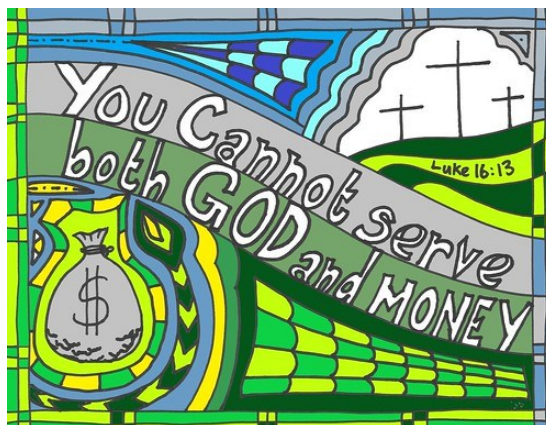
here at Covenant but on a part time basis. His hours will be

Fridays 10am–4pm and Sunday mornings.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Tom Mote and family in the passing of Nancy Omdahl Wednesday, 9/7 (arrangements will be announced later); Shirley Reinert at St. Mary's in ICU with pneumonia; DeLynda's father, still having health issues, and her stepmother as his caregiver; Bert and Marie Ballard-Myer's friend Trish has improved and is resuming chemotherapy treatments; prayers for our partnership church in Olomouc, Czech Republic as they work with the other ECCB churches to help the Ukrainian Refugees during this time of war and resettlement.

Daily Bible Readings for September 12—18

Monday	Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1
Tuesday	Psalm 79: 1-9
Wednesday	Amos 8: 4-7
Thursday	Psalm 113
Friday	I Timothy 2: 1-7
Saturday	Luke 16: 1-13
Sunday	Matthew 6:24 - 34



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.



Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes to provide a floral arrangement for worship. Thank you!

Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is in desperate need of brown paper bags. You can bring them to the church and place on the table in the gathering room where the egg cartons go. And they still need egg cartons.

Thank you!



Please click on this link for more information: [80+ Capital Campaign](#)



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS....

- ♦ Fall Picnic — *September 18*- Come enjoy barbecue and good company on Covenant's grounds from 5:30pm to 8pm!
- ♦ Game Night — *September 23*. What new game will you learn or what old one can you teach?
- ♦ World Communion Reception — *October 2*. Enjoy a reception after worship on Sunday that features different types of bread and grapes. We're celebrating unity with churches of many denominations across the globe.
- ♦ Game Night — *October 21*. Got a favorite game you'd like to show every- one? Let us know!
- ♦ Game Night— *November 18*. The holiday season is coming. Come try out some games that you can later share with family.



- ♦ Holiday Decorating Party — *November 27*. After church on Sunday, let's decorate the outside of the church and the Fellowship Hall. Covid-19 precautions allowing, we hope to offer a light lunch.
- ♦ Christmas Progressive Dinner— *December 3*. Covid-19 numbers permitting, we hope to bring back Covenant's beloved tradition where people sign up to share parts of a meal in different homes. (December 10 is the backup date if UGA plays in the SEC Championships on December 3.)

COVID-19 UPDATE as of 8/28/22

- masks are optional
- indoor food and drinks are allowed
- everyone is encouraged to participate according to their personal level of comfort

With the recent change in guidance and relaxed restrictions from the CDC, the Session has approved a change to Covenant's COVID policies. Masks are now optional and indoor food and drink restrictions have been lifted. Everyone is encouraged to follow their own comfort levels with masking and dining. Accommodations such as distanced seating and outdoor options for events will be available. Virtual worship will also continue to be provided.

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 faithful giving!

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #10**

Anticipated Pledges — \$74,123.07

Actual Pledges — \$70,098.57

Non-Pledged — \$3,586.00

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Olomouc/Ukraine Refugees \$4,915.10



Church School Classes IN PERSON & via ZOOM!

UPPER ROOM CLASS- Sunday mornings at **9:30am**, 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, **9:30am**, Phil and Sallie Hale host and different class volunteers facilitate discussion using the book, **Braiding Sweetgrass** by Robin Wall Kimmerer. If you would like to participate, please contact Phil at phale50@hotmail.com



Knitter and Knotters —

Thursday, September 15 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: *An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess*

Author Jen Hatmaker began to feel that her life was filled with excess—too much to eat, too many choices, too many belongings cluttering her house, and too much waste. What if she boiled many areas in her life down to seven? What would it be like to rotate between only seven items to wear? To give away seven items every day for a month? To choose only seven places to spend money? This account of her experiment is described as

“...funny, raw, and not a guilt trip in the making, so come along and consider what Jesus’ version of rich, blessed, and generous might look like in your life.” (Bay E, Shelf 2)
— Church Librarian *Valerie Stone*.



Covenant's Food Pantry

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.

**Covenant's Emergency Food Pantry Thursdays,
1pm—3pm.**

Next food distribution is on Thursday, September 15

Feeding over a 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. Please consider volunteering at [SIGNUP GENIUS](#). You can also share the 2-hour time slot with 2 friends! *(the UGA Student Volunteers are gone for the summer) And all those who have been volunteering from the start...THANK YOU VERY MUCH!*

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN 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. *(did you know that about \$500 will purchase 2,883 lbs of food from the Food Bank of NEGA which feeds approximately 111 families each week)*
- We can use paper grocery bags and some plastic bags to pack the food. If you call the church, someone could even come out to your car and get it.

For the month of August 1,424 food insecure persons were served.

That includes 438 Children, 208 senior adults, and 778 Adults.

Thank you Covenant and *May we All have Enough!*



COFFEE CLOSET

If you like coffee, tea, or chocolate consider buying organic, Fair Trade products from our Coffee Cabinet in the Gathering Room. Fair Trade products return more of your purchase price to the farmers, and also insures that the workers are paid and treated fairly. The coffee we sell is excellent, and cheaper than fair trade coffee offered in stores. If you want more information about Equal Exchange and their products (including many more than we can stock) check out their web site. I would be happy to include your special requests, and save shipping costs for all! <https://shop.equalexchange.coop/>
Have a question or request contact Sandy Whitney at sandrawhitney08@gmail.com.