

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, March 19, 2023 at 11am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
 Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER
 March 19, 2023

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

Sunday School for all ages
 begins at 9:45am!



HOLY WEEK
 AT COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2 - PALM SUNDAY
 11 AM PALM PROCESSION AND WORSHIP

**APRIL 5 - COVCONN, HANDBELLS,
 BIBLE STUDY, CHOIR**

APRIL 6 - MAUNDY THURSDAY, 7 PM WORSHIP

APRIL 7 - GOOD FRIDAY, 7 PM WORSHIP
 (AT FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH)

APRIL 8 - EASTER EGG HUNT, 11 AM

APRIL 9 - EASTER SUNDAY
 BRING FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS AND A BREAKFAST DISH
 (CASSEROLE, BREADS, AND SWEET ROLLS) TO SHARE
 7:30 AM SUNRISE WORSHIP
 8:30 AM EASTER COVERED-DISH BREAKFAST
 9:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL
 11 AM WORSHIP



In gratitude for
 Covenant's gracious and
 generous sponsorship, Bells
 of Northeast Georgia, an ad-
 vanced community hand-
 bell choir, cordially invites

you to its inaugural concert at Covenant.
 Comprised of ringers from Athens and sur-
 rounding areas, the choir's program includes
 a variety of sacred and secular music. Come
 celebrate with us! Saturday, **March 25, 4:00**
p.m., in the Worship Center.

David Boardman, Director



Covenant Church Work Day! Saturday, March 25, 8:30am—2pm.

Coffee, donuts and lunch sandwiches will be offered.

1. Plant flowering plants—ONLY azaleas, ONLY camellias, and ONLY hydrangeas.
2. We will spread mulch
3. Annuals needed for the urns and potted plants that sit in the courtyard.

4. The church sign area and the front corner need color—plants that are low maintenance and can stand the summer sun. I choose red/orange begonias because they bloom all summer and keep their color. Other suggestions? Let Carolyn know.

Jeffery Lynch who has worked part-time for us, will be with us on March 25 to help with the plantings. Jeffery will prepare the holes or most of them on Friday, March 24. There are a couple of post hole diggers so if you would like come help Jeffery. A truck load of mulch will be delivered Friday, March 24.

There will be a power washer (or 2) and a leaf blower (or 2) that someone can use.

Pray for sunshine and warmth. Bring a lawn chair, your work gloves, and a small trowel for digging the small stuff.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: ALL CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:45AM



Children's (K-5) Sunday School Class

Location: Room 214 (Next to the Journey Classroom)

This week's lesson will be taught and shepherded by Dell & Donny Whitehead and Jere Bowden. Betsy Burmeister has graciously agreed to have music time with the children at the top of the Sunday School hour each week! The children will be reading Matthew 25:31-46 and spending time connecting 'serving others' to 'serving God.' Please join us and invite your little friends!

Builders Class

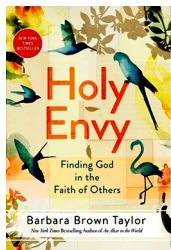
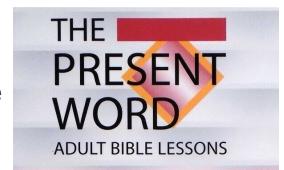
Location: The Library

What are you building? Pastor Dana is facilitating a new Sunday School class designed for people of all ages who see themselves as building something. Whether you are in the process of building a marriage, a family, a career, a legacy, or something else, you are invited to join us for a weekly faith-based discussion in the library!

The "Upper Room" Class

Location: "Upper Room" Classroom at the top of the ramp and Via Zoom

James Malone hosts and different class members facilitate the discussion of the weekly chapter in The Present Word. If you would like to participate, via Zoom please contact James at gillbillvolume1@yahoo.com.



The "Journey" Class

Location: "Journey" Classroom Room 216 and Via Zoom

Phil and Sallie Hale host and different class volunteers will facilitate discussion. The Journey class is currently reading and discussing the book Holy Envy by Barbara Brown Taylor. If you would like to participate via Zoom please contact Phil at phale50@hotmail.com.

Lenten Collection Drive for Cedar Shoals Families in Need

Many students and families from Cedar Shoals High School are struggling to meet their basic needs at this time. The school has a "Care Center" that is usually stocked with easy-to-prepare food items and the hygiene products most needed by their students. Right now their Care Center is very low on these supplies so we are going to hold a collection for them during the upcoming Lenten season. Please see the list of needed items below and bring your donations to the table set up across from the mailboxes.

Food items needed:

Ramen noodles, microwavable meals (Mac & Cheese cups, soup cups, etc.), granola bars, breakfast bars, peanut butter, saltine crackers, peanut butter crackers

Personal Care Items needed:

Deodorant for males and females, tampons, shampoo and conditioner for all hair types (including black hair care products), hand sanitizer, bar soap

COVENANT'S EASTER COVERED DISH BREAKFAST

Mark your calendars and thumb through your recipe box! The traditional covered dish breakfast will return to Covenant this Easter!

On Easter morning of **April 9**, after the Sunrise Service (7:30am) yet before Sunday School (9:45am) there will be an Easter Covered Dish Breakfast (8:30am). We will have coffee, juice, and bagels ready, but we are looking forward to your breakfast casseroles, breads, sweet rolls, and such. Please bring enough to feed your family and a few extra people.

Questions? Contact Valerie Stone, Fellowship Chair, at valeriefreystone@gmail.com.



Montreat Youth Conference 2023

This summer the Covenant youth are joining with the Oconee Presbyterian Church youth group for Week 1 of Montreat Youth Conference 2023

Dates: June 4th - 10th, 2023

Ages: Completed 8th grade - Graduating Seniors

Cost: \$450/per youth; reach out to Donny Whitehead

(donnywhitehead@gmail.com) to inquire about potential scholarships

Registration Deadline April 21: contact Kailey Gray at OPC (Kailey@opcusa.org) to RSVP & get more info

Montreat Middle School Conference at Maryville College 2023

This summer the Covenant youth are joining with the First Presbyterian Church youth group for the Montreat Middle School Conference at Maryville College

Dates: July 19-23, 2023

Details: Montreat Middle School conference includes keynote, worship, recreation, singing, small group and many other activities with other middle schoolers from around the country.

Ages: Current 6th, 7th and 8th graders

Cost: Cost is \$350/person. Reach out to Donny Whitehead (donnywhitehead@gmail.com) to inquire about potential scholarships.



Register: Deposit of \$100 due by 3/31 to reserve spot. Final balance due by 5/31.

Contact Kim Ness, Director of Youth Ministries at kness@firstpresathens.org

SCHEDULE for Sunday

9:30am – 12 noon –

NURSERY

ages birth to Kindergarten

9:45am – Sunday School
for K-5th,

Journey Adult Church
School Class,

Upper Room Adult
Church School Class

10:30am Fellowship

11:00am Worship

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Liturgist: Jim Newland

Ushers/Greeters: Chris Wilson, Katy Terry, Bill Barstow, Catharine Tyson

Pianist: Connor Austell

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Liturgist: Luanne Rigsby

Usher/Greeters: Stephanie Cahill, DeLynda & Hank Tweedell,
Paige Cummings

Pianist: Connor Austell

OPEN & CLOSE THE BUILDING

Chris Wilson 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



March 19, 2023

Tim Foutz, Pam Knox

March 26, 2023

Dell Whitehead, Phil Hale

Ministry of Flowers Sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes to provide flowers for worship services. You can arrange them yourself or order from a florist. If you would like to commemorate an event please let the church office know so we can publish it in the newsletter and/or bulletin. Thank you, *Worship Ministry Team*

online readers:

East Friendship Baptist Church Women's
Prayer Breakfast at 480 Arch Street
Saturday, March 18 at 9:30am

If you would like to attend or for more information please contact Jere Bowden, Bert Ballard-Myer or Gloria Pylant

Wonderful Wednesdays for March 29, 2023

COVCONN 5:30pm—6:30pm Dinner & Fellowship.

Donations are welcome.

Please come a little early to help set up and/or stay to help clean up. There will be homework and activity time for kids of all ages.

6:00pm Handbell Practice

6:30pm Adult Bible Study with Pastor Dana

7:15pm Adult Choir

COMING SOON

Be on the look out for your 2023-2024 pledge packet that will be mailed March 23!

Featuring:
The
Randall
Bramblett
Band
and
Special
Guests


At The
Marigold
Auditorium in
Winterville
Friday,
March 24, 2023
Doors open at
7pm
Music starts at
8pm

Rock The Ark
Benefit Concert

Celebrating
34 Years of
assisting the
community

Tickets \$25
\$30 at door

More info at
www.athensark.org/rocktheark



Scan code for ticket sales on Eventbrite.com



Elwood & Goetz
FINANCIAL PLANNING • INVESTMENTS



John Lyndon Law Office




The Ark would like to help you Spring Clean your cabinets!

In 2022 with the help of so many of you that responded to our call for vases, The Ark was able to create our *Adopt-a-Mom* flower bouquets in glass vases. Since the many of our adopted moms are single moms who have been to the Ark or are patients in hospice care, we do not get these vases returned for reuse. So please if you have any small vases that do not “spark joy” for you...know that they will definitely spark joy in the hearts of our warrior moms and grandmothers who receive flowers from The Ark for Mother’s Day! Please keep in mind that we need small vases—large ones cannot be used. Please contact the ARK at 706-353-3530 to arrange for pick up or drop off!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Every time we set a table
where all hungry hearts can eat;
every time we welcome neighbors
and we add an extra seat;
and every time we live as servants,
free to wash each other's feet,
In our living, in our giving, we are there.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING!

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WAYS TO GIVE —

- + Through your congregation
- + Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- + Text OGHS to 91999 to give
- or-You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P.O. Box 643700,
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Nan Cantrell and family in the passing of her brother, John Fahling March 13th, after a long struggle with cancer; Jerry Shannon and family in the passing of his mom, Chris Shannon, on March 4 in California; Joe and June Meyers' nephews Ted and Mike, both are undergoing treatment for Stage IV prostate cancer; Louis Wild, husband of DeLynda's friend, not doing well after surgery and his wife, Pam weary and scared; Pastor Dana's mom Joy, returned home and resuming cancer treatment; Larry & Carolyn Hatfield's niece Stephanie has begun chemo for an aggressive type of breast cancer; prayers also for her husband Craig and their three young children; our nation.

Bible Readings for —March 20—26

**Exodus 4: 10, Mark 6: 37-38, I Corinthians 13: 12,
John 8: 31-32, Philipians 4: 13, John 12: 26,
Ephesians 4: 29**

5th Sunday in Lent

*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.*

Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein... "

Do you feel appreciation and awe for the beautiful and diverse home that God has given us?
Do you have concerns about mankind's impact on this home?

The Green Dream Team needs new leadership and members. The team has worked for the past decade in the areas of worship, building and grounds, education, and outreach to inform and implement changes that reflect our responsibility for environmental stewardship. Many of our members have moved or are finding themselves in the "aging" category. We can no longer serve as leaders, but would be willing to shepherd a new team into existence and remain available to help in any way we can. Over the years we have worked on everything from acquiring dishware/flatware to cut down on waste, helped inform and implement recycling for the church and its members, taught classes in Covenant Connection, encouraged environmental awareness and climate issues for study in the adult church school, put up educational bulletin boards, invited speakers, etc.

If you feel a deep connection to God's creation and feel that stewardship of the earth and it's biodiversity of life is important to our religious faith and you would be willing to take a leadership role in this, we invite you to let Jere Bowden or Barbara Burnett know of your interest.

After 10+ years as a certified earth care congregation within the PCUSA, the yearly recertification is very straightforward and simple. Many stewardship practices are already in place at Covenant on a permanent basis. You may choose to meet on any schedule and prioritize your own visions for how to move forward. There are many websites both within the Presbyterian Church as well as other denominations from which to glean lots of good ideas.

Websites recommended by the PCUSA for earth care congregations:

www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregation/

www.presbyterianmission.org/eco-journey/, www.blessedtomorrow.org/about-blessed-tomorrow

www.creationjustice.org

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 #37**

Anticipated Pledges — \$ 274,255.38

Actual Pledges — \$ 278,630.45

Non-Pledged - \$ 20,714.00

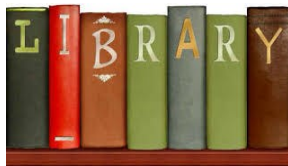
Thank you for your faithful giving!

OGHS—\$ 450.00

*knitter
knitter*

Thursday, March 23 at 2pm

Join us for a good time of fellowship and fun while making blankets for people recovering from illness and for clients of Highland Hills, Family Promise and Project Safe.



Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, A Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson This book by Mitch Albom was a runaway bestseller in the late 1990s. Perhaps you missed it the first time around. Or maybe it is a good time to reread it. The book recalls time that the author spent with a favorite college professor who was dying. "Their rekindled relationship turned into one final 'class': lessons in how to live."

This book is shelved with other books discussing the second half of life. (Bay G, Shelf 2)
– Church Librarian Valerie Stone

Covenant Food Pantry

Thursdays, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

The student volunteers are back but we still need you! Click the Signup Genius link below to find a time that works for you. As always, if you have trouble using this link, feel free to contact me and I will sign you up (Amy Baer at abaer@covpresathens.org).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aa5aa22a20-covenant#/>



If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry, and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. Isaiah 58:10

The food pantry uses renewable, recyclable sustainable paper bags that contain a minimum 40% post-consumer material.



PRESBYTERIAN
STUDENT CENTER
at The University of Georgia

Check out the sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes if you are interested in preparing and serving dinners at the PSC at UGA 1250 S. Lumpkin Street, Athens. We will get in touch with you soon to set up a meeting to answer questions and discuss logistics.

Thank you!

Bert Ballard-Myer, *Chair Missions Outreach*
Local/Global



Quilt show at Oaks at Cedar Shoals Saturday, March 18 at

3pm Brian Striggow's mom, Marge is having a quilt show at Oaks at Cedar Shoals, 1291 Cedar Shoals Drive at 3pm with Brian's sister, Michelle playing the dulcimer.

**Covenant Hosts May 23rd
 Presbytery Meeting**

On May 22 and 23 volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks supporting the NEGA Presbytery meeting hosted by Covenant on Tuesday, May 23. Beginning at 9:15am volunteer timeslots will range from 90 minutes to 5 hours. On May 22 a setup crew will be needed for about an hour in the afternoon.

Crew Leaders, with staffing numbers are:

Setup	Susan Parish, 6—12	1 hour
Parking	Donny Whitehead, 6	90 mins
Registration	Randall Parish, 5	90 mins
Kitchen	Susan Parish, 4	2 hours
Greeters/Ushers	Dick Zimdars, 6	1/5 hours

Sign up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board after Easter.

More than just a meal delivery



Every March is **March for Meals**, a month-long nationwide celebration of Meal on Wheels and our senior neighbors who rely on this essential service to remain healthy and independent at home.

At the Athens Community Council on Aging, we're spending the month celebrating our champions — the volunteers, clients, community leaders and partners all involved in this effort. One of our champions is Dorothy Newland, our longest-running volunteer at 50 years and counting. Here's a glimpse at Meals on Wheels through the eyes of her granddaughter, Georgia Gwinnett College student AnnaBeth Newland, who often volunteered with her over the years.

