

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for **Sunday, May 14, 2023 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER May 14, 2023

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



Covenant's High School Graduates,
McKenzie Redish and Sydney Braswell,
will be honored on **Sunday, May 21** during worship.
A reception will follow.

Covenant is again serving as HOST Congregation for our Family Promise families at the Milledge Avenue Baptist Church site during the week of **May 28—June 4**.



We need volunteers for evening meal preparation, evening hosts, and overnight hosts. Please visit the Family Promise sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-2022> to volunteer or contact Phil Hale for info and assistance at phale50@hotmail.com or 706-614-0812. Thanks for your help with this much-needed local ministry.



GAME NIGHT ON FRIDAY, MAY 19

Mahjong! Have you wanted to learn to play this classic Chinese game? Mahjong lover Caly DePalma is new to Athens, has been visiting Covenant, and kindly offered to teach folks who would like to learn. She'll guide four people (or two-person teams) through mahjong on our next game night -- Friday, May 19 from 7pm to 9pm in the Fellowship Hall. (She taught the Stone family recently, and this is a fun and easy way to

learn!) **Please sign up** on the bulletin board for one of the four available slots. Game Night on May 19 will offer our usual game offerings in addition to mahjong. You're welcome to bring a game to play or we have a collection to choose from. Corn hole is available to anyone who would like to enjoy a game on the front lawn. Everyone is welcome to bring snacks for yourself or to share. All ages are welcome on game nights.

OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT FEEDBACK ON POTENTIAL EASTSIDE LIBRARY LOCATIONS!

The Athens-Clarke County government recently announced a list of 8 potential sites for a public library on the eastside of Athens. Covenant has been included as one potential site. ACC residents are encouraged to share their feedback through a survey that is available at www.accgov.com/eastsidelibrary through May 21.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Joe and June Meyers' nephew Brad Ludwig, diagnosed with prostate cancer; Bruce and Karen Menke's son, Matt, discharged from rehab and returned home, but still has a long way to go for a full recovery; the people of South Sudan and Travis Williams as he travels there on a mission trip May 12; and our nation.

Bible Readings for May 15—21

Acts 1: 6-14, Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35, Isaiah 45: 1-7,

Psalm 21: 1-7, I Peter 4: 12-14, I Peter 5: 6-11

and John 17: 1-11

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.

BRaS (Building Relationships & Support) and Covenant's Coffee House

The Fellowship Team would like to hear from you.... Covenant has mostly bounced back from restrictions during the initial phase of the Covid-19 pandemic, but there are two events still waiting to be brought back.

1. Would folks like to see the return of BRAS (Building Relationships and Support)? This group for women consisted of one or two evening get-to-know-you gatherings a year hosted by a church member in their home.
2. The second event is the Covenant Coffee House. Modeled on the Coffee House events at our sister church in Olomouc, Czech Republic, this evening gathering during the summer gave all ages a chance to share their talents and shine with such offerings as playing music, singing, recitations, magic routines, skits, original poetry readings, etc.

We'd like to get a feel for if folks would like to see these events again. Please contact Fellowship Team Chair Valerie Stone to share your thoughts. (My email address is valeriefreystone@gmail.com. Or you are welcome to share your thoughts via a note in my mailbox, text, quick chat, etc.)



Building & Grounds Needs Your Help!

MONDAY, MAY 15 10AM-12PM AND/OR FRIDAY, MAY 19, 10AM-12PM

In preparation for the Presbytery Meeting on Tuesday, May 23 the fellowship hall and breezeway floors are being stripped, tiles repaired, and vinyl floors waxed. **ALL of the furnishings and items in the FH and breezeway must be moved elsewhere.** Many hands are needed to get this task done in a timely way. If you can give us an hour of your time (or even less), or the entire two hours, this ensures that we can meet our goal.

Please show up Monday, May 15 at 10am to remove the furniture and piano and then on Friday, May 19, please come at 10am so we can move the furniture and piano back into place. Thank you for volunteering your time and efforts as we help to make Covenant look fabulous for the may 23 meeting!

Thank you, *Carolyn Hatfield*, B&G Chair

SUNDAY SCHOOL: ALL CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:45AM



Children's (K-5) Sunday School Class Our last Sunday School Class before summer break will be Sunday May 28 —Please join us for these last three weeks before break! This week's lesson will be taught and shepherded by Susan & Randy Parish and Jere Bowden. The children will be reading Luke 15: 11-32 and spending time exploring family relationships and God's for giveness. Ms. Betsy will provide the music!

Builders Class

Location: The Library

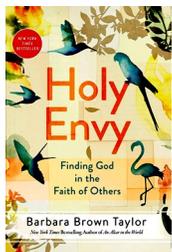
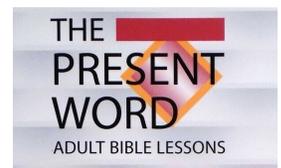
What are you building? Pastor Dana is facilitating a new Sunday School class designed for people of all ages who see themselves as building something. Whether you are in the process of building a marriage, a family, a career, a legacy, or something else, you are invited to join us for a weekly faith-based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

Loca-



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.

THE COVENANT FOOD PANTRY
NEEDS YOUR HELP

PLEASE SIGN UP TO KEEP THIS VITAL EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM FLOURISHING THROUGH THE SUMMER. FEEL FREE TO USE THE BELOW SIGNUP GENIUS LINK OR THE PAPER SIGNUP AT THE CHURCH. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

Thursdays
10-noon: Setup
1-3 p.m.:
Distribution

**Volunteer SignUp
Genius Link**

signupgenius.com/go/409084aa5aa22a20-covenant#/



Caring Hands Offering

Care, Share, Serve – Presbyterian Homes of Georgia continues to serve our senior residents

and their families. PHGA cares for some of the most vulnerable among us by providing excellent care, even if resident(s) have outlived their financial means. "In 74 years of ministry, not one resident has ever been asked to leave Presbyterian Homes' care because they have outlived their financial resources." With your help this year, that promise will continue. A gift to the Caring Hands Fund is life-changing for God's seniors at Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. Your gift may serve a meal or pay for a dental visit, provide hearing aids or foot care, or may fund a ride to a doctor's appointment. Please help by making a life-changing difference! Visit www.PHGAinc.org to learn more about this vital ministry and please prayerfully consider a gift to support God's seniors in our care through the Caring Hands Fund. You're welcome to donate on the website by clicking the DONATE button directly at <https://www.PHGAinc.org/CaringHands> or thru Covenant with Caring Hands in the memo portion of the check.

SCHEDULE for Sunday

9:30am – 12 noon Nursery
for ages birth to
kindergarten

9:45am Church School
for

K – 5th grade (final 5/28)

The Journey Adult Class, &
Upper Room Adult Class
will continue through the
summer

11:00am Worship

*beginning June 4
Worship 10:00am*

SUNDAY, MAY 14

Liturgist: Warren Combs

Ushers/Greeters: Dennis & Carol Calbos, Sarah Lamb & Bob Brewster

Pianist: Connor Austell

SUNDAY, MAY 21

Liturgist: Jerry Shannon

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

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



Nursery
Ministry

May 14, 2023

Clayton & Grace Adams

May 21, 2022

Luanne Rigsby, Wyatt Herndon

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*

The floral arrangement in worship Sunday, May 7 given by Paula & Dick Zimdars in memory of Paula's mom, Pauline Marshall.

The floral arrangement in worship Sunday, May 14 is given by Janet Smith & Dorothy Newland in memory of their mothers, who were sisters.

*Thank you for being a part of
Wonderful Wednesdays!*

CovConn & Adult Bible Study has concluded for the summer but we will resume in the fall.

Wednesday, May 24 will be the final Hand Bells and Adult Choir practice until the fall.

Covenant's Breakfast Club

Monday, May 15, 2023

at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge
Road at 8:00am

Join us for a time of good food
and fellowship!

LIBRARY CORNER

*When We Are All Strong Together:
Understanding Gender Discrimination*

In honor of Mother's Day, here is a book supported by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. Jennifer Butler and Melissa Gillis explore gender as it relates to such topics as violence, the media, health, and economics. It includes a list of worship resources.

Found at Bay F, Shelf 2.

—Church Librarian Valerie Stone

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 #45
Anticipated Pledges — \$333,360.45
Actual Pledges — \$353,175.66
Non-Pledged - \$ 24,167.00
Thank you for your faithful giving!

*Knitter
Knitter* **Thursday, May 18 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.

PENTECOST SUNDAY, May 28 We will celebrate with cake and punch after church.

PUNCH AND COOKIES begins June 4 after worship whenever someone signs up to share. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the mail boxes. Thank you in advance to all who sign up! And yes purchased cookies are just fine! It is all about fellowship. (please no red punch)



You're Invited!
Covenant Youth Pentecost Decorating Party!
Saturday, May 27
10 a.m.-noon
Pentecost is the birthday of the Church! Join us to decorate the church and have a pizza lunch together afterward!
Please RSVP to Amy Baer by May 26 so that we are sure to have enough pizza!



To everyone who helped make Covenant's 2023 Strawberry Festival a success! We appreciate everyone who came out. A very sweet thank you goes to those who brought desserts to share as well as those who helped with setup and cleanup. And Hip Hip Hooray for the band, New Horizons, treating us to some wonderful live music!
Congratulations goes to our bakeoff winners...
Yummiest—Brian Herndon's Strawberry Torte,
Most Springlike- Eli Stone's Strawberry Fool Layered Cups,
and Prettiest—Luanne Rigsby's Strawberry Trifle

WANTED

A new or looking new undamaged 9 x 12 rug, preferably oriental style for the Narthex to replace the rug that is currently there. Colors in the Narthex are maroon, yellow and the floor is green/grey, so most colors are worth considering. If you have a rug that you are willing to donate or if you know of someone that has please contact Carolyn Hatfield at 706-255-9021 or Betsy Burmeister at 706-248-2816. Thank you!

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 1/2 hours

BUILDING AND GROUNDS



NEEDED: TWO GROUND STEWARDS.

THESE GROUND STEWARDS WOULD FILL IN AS SUBSTITUTES FOR A GROUND STEWARD WHO IS SICK OR AWAY AND CAN NOT FULFILL THE WEEK'S PICK-UP DUTY.

Duties include picking up trash, emptying trash containers and refilling with a clean bag and items left behind by homeless visitors and others. All trash is placed inside the dumpster. Grabbers, trash pickers and trash bags are provided. A wheelbarrow is also available for your use. You supply your own gloves. If interested please contact Carolyn Hatfield or any of the Ground Stewards listed in the Covenanter. This is a much-needed volunteer position. Thank you, *Carolyn Hatfield*, Chair of Building & Grounds



The K-5 Sunday School class collected hygiene items for the homeless as an extension of last weeks class. They brought them in Sunday, May 7 and were very proud of them!