

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, July 02 2023 at 10am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER July 02, 2023

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



WELCOME Aaron Carter-Enyi and Family! We have only been in Athens a few weeks, but we already feel at home. Betsy and Rich and many others have spent hours, even days, preparing the music ministry offices for new carpet and me to move into the office. The Zimdars invited us to go swimming this week. We have been truly blessed by Covenant's warm welcome of our family.

First, a little bit about our family: Quintina and I were married in 2013 and moved to Georgia in 2016. Arinze is six years old. His name is pronounced *ah-RIN-zay*. Uchendu will be four on July 2, which is also my first Sunday at the piano. Uchendu goes by Uche for short (oo-chay). Chizaram is one year old and is called Zara for short. Arinze and Uche were both born at Grady Hospital in Atlanta. Zara was born in Nigeria but received lifesaving surgery at Egleston Hospital on the Emory campus. Her full name, Chizaram, means "God heard me."

Quintina will be starting her PhD program in musicology in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music in August. She completed her Master's at UGA in May (see picture). Her mother is a choir mistress in Nigeria and taught her and her five siblings to sing in harmony together. She has been a choir singer most of her life and was a director of several church choirs and a university choir before moving to the United States.

I completed my PhD in music theory at Ohio State University in 2016 and joined Morehouse College's faculty the same year. You can find a lot about my scholarship online, including videos and articles, but less about my church service. I have nearly 18 years of experience leading congregational singing from the organ and piano. Qualifications specifically geared toward sacred music include a Master of Music in Choral Conducting with Organ as my primary instrument and a Colleague Certification in organ performance, all completed in 2011. I have ministered in a variety of denominations including Episcopal, United Church of Christ, Methodist and Lutheran (ELCA). I served as the Music Director at North Springs UMC in Atlanta from 2016 to 2019 when my family and I moved to Nigeria for me to undertake a Fulbright fellowship. We remained in Nigeria throughout the COVID pandemic, returning to the US in 2022.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve your community as your new music director and pianist, and I look forward to ministering for the first time this Sunday. I realize many of you will be travelling this weekend, so as they say in Nigeria (my wife's country of birth), we wish you journey mercies!

Aaron Carter-Enyi, Director of Music/Pianist

Covenant Food Pantry

It is summer break for our UGA volunteers so **we need your help more than ever**, Covenant friends! Click the link below to sign up for a shift or use the sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Thank you!

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

Would You Like to make a concrete contribution to a good cause?

When Don Mosely recently spoke to the Journey Class, we learned that the Coffee Worth Pavilion at Jubilee Partners is nearly complete. Only the floor remains to be poured. If you would like to help with this project and honor our faithful friend Coffee, who was a member of and attended Covenant while she lived at Jubilee Partners, please make your check to Covenant and put "CW Pavilion" in the memo line. We would like to send the proceeds to Jubilee by the July 2. Thank you!



PRAYER CONCERNS: Brian Stone and family in the passing of his Aunt Lydia on June 11 in Albany, Georgia; Bill Barstow's daughter, Linda's bone marrow biopsy showed no cancer in the bone marrow, she will return to Emory for consolidation therapy 7/3; Bruce and Karen Menke's son, Matt, at home; Traveling mercies for Joan Prittie, Valerie and Eli Stone during their trip to Covenant's sister church in Olomouc, Czech Republic July 7-22; all those traveling this holiday weekend; and our nation.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Genesis 21: 1-14, Psalm 13, Jeremiah 28: 5-9,

Psalm 89: 1-4, 15-18,

Romans 6: 12-23 and Matthew 10: 40-42

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.

A CaringBridge Site has been created for Bill Barstow's daughter Linda McCormick; she is undergoing treatment at Emory for Acute Myeloid Leukemia. CaringBridge is a social network to help people stay connected with family and friends during a health event.

Thank you all for prayers and support for the Barstow and McCormick family.



<https://caringbridge.org/visit/lindamccormick2>

We will not meet July 6 & 13 but will resume Thursday, July 20 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.

*knitter
knitter*

The Church office will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2023 for the holiday!

Happy Fourth of July!



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!

Game Night is canceled for July 21. We'll see you back on the evening of Friday, August 18!

FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE - Week #52
Anticipated Pledges — \$385,440.00
Actual Pledges — \$401,173.76
Non-Pledged - \$ 25,072.19

Thank you for your faithful giving!

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, JULY 16



Forming a Nominating Committee for the Election of Elders

Each year, Covenant elects elders to serve a 3-year term on the Session. The involvement of the congregation is important during the entire process. Donny Whitehead is the Nominating Committee chair this year, with Julie Bower as the second (inactive) elder approved by the Session.

The congregation elects a member of the church to serve as the third person on the Nominating Committee. The two elders have nominated **Jere Bowden** for election by the congregation. There will be a called congregational meeting on **Sunday, July 16, immediately following worship** to elect the third member of the Nominating Committee. For questions, please contact Donny or Julie.

For the month of June Covenant Food Pantry served 1,657 food insecure neighbors, that includes 532 children and 313 senior adults.

Thank you Covenant and may we all have enough!

SCHEDULE for Sunday
 9:30am – 12 noon Nursery
 for ages birth to
 kindergarten
 8:30am Church School
 for
 The Journey Adult Class,
 &
 Upper Room Adult Class
*will continue through the
 summer*
Worship 10:00am

SUNDAY, JULY 2

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Randy & Susan Parish, Jim & Sandy Whitney

LITURGIST: Jim Anderson

SUNDAY, JULY 9

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Robyn Malone

LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

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



**Nursery
 Ministry**

July 02, 2023


Adam & Rebecca Rea

July 09, 2023

Sandy Whitney, Stephanie Cahill

Ministry Sign up on the bulletin board next to the
 of mailboxes to provide flowers for worship
Flowers services. You can arrange them yourself
 or order from a florist. If you would like to commemo-
 rate an event please let the church office know so we can
 publish it in the newsletter and/or bulletin. Thank you!
*The lovely floral arrangement in worship today is given
 by Betsy Burmeister & Rich Reaves!*

Covenant's Breakfast Club
Monday, July 03, 2023
**at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge
 Road at 8:00am**
 Join us for a time of good food
 and fellowship!



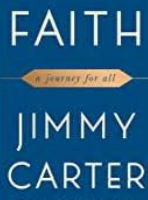
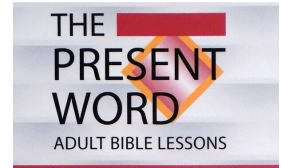
PUNCH AND COOKIES begins June 4 after worship
 whenever someone signs up to share. Please sign
 up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the
 mail boxes. Thank you in advance to all who sign
 up! And yes purchased cookies are just fine! It is all
 about fellowship. (please no red punch)

July 2 Rebecca & Kent Silver
July 9
July 16

LIBRARY CORNER
*Games Grandmas Play: Life Lessons on the
 Christian Faith and Grandchildren*
 Grandmother of nine Joan Jacobs explores
 the grandmother/grandchild relationship,
 "showing grandmothers how to offer practi-
 cal guidance and spiritual wisdom in a way
 that encourages development of their grand-
 children." Found at Bay G, Shelf 2. —
 Church Librarian Valerie Stone

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
The "Journey" adult church school class will meet during the Summer on Sunday mornings in Rm. 216 at 8:30 beginning on June 4 and continuing until Rally Day. Our book for discussion will be *Faith: A Journey for All* by Jimmy Carter.



OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE – WITH CONNECTIONS:

Grown-up children of Covenant Church, Elodie Schimmel Covert (daughter of Gijs & Louise Schimmel & Jason Covert (son of Edie & Joe Covert) have lived & worked at Black Mountain Home for Children in Black Mountain North Carolina for many years. The home

needs new beds & mattresses for all the children. Because the beds must meet state licensing stipulations, each bed costs \$114.00. If you feel moved to make a gift of any amount you may mail a check to Black Mountain Home for Children, 80 Lake Eden Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711. The Schimmels, The Coverts, Jason, Elodie & the children thank you for whatever you can give.



What is the Olomouc partnership all about?

(It's pronounced "Ol-oh-moats.")



The idea of congregational partnerships was promoted by Rev. Ken Meeks in the Northeast Georgia Presbytery's online newsletter in 2008. When we think of ourselves as "bestowers," reaching out to churches in other parts of the world only to offer aid, we miss opportunities for sharing and learning. Covenant elders attended a Church Partnership Network (CPN) conference in Annapolis where from American representatives learned about the Evangelical Church of the Czech Brethren (ECCB). Covenant was matched with Evangelický Kostel church in Olomouc (population 100,378) in the eastern province of Moravia. The two progressive churches are of similar mind and mission, and both are in small cities that are homes to universities.

Church Partnership Network (CPN) -- <http://czechpres.net>

http://czechpres.net/Partnership/Athens_Olomouc/Athens_Olomouc.htm

Olomouc Evangelický Kostel Church: <http://olomouc.evangnet.cz/>

ECCB / Českobratrská Církev Evangelická: www.e-cirkev.cz

(The bottom two websites are not in English but offer interesting photos.)

Soon after the conference, visits between the two churches began. Thirty-four Covenant folks have visited Olomouc while eleven of their church members have visited Athens. Some visits were purely social while others were for CPN conferences or English Camp. So far, Covenant has developed four English Camps for fellowship and sharing culture while simultaneously offering those in Olomouc a chance to practice their English. During each week-long Camp, there are small group discussions for all ages, outings, music, presentations, and the Coffee House talent show. Camps were every two years (2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019), but Covid-19 sidelined the 2021 English Camp as well as an Olomouc group that planned to visit Athens in 2020. The partnership is now in a rebuilding phase.

After hosting online conferences for several years, the Church Partnership Network is offering an in-person conference called "Together On the Way" from July 9-14—and the site is our partner church! The conference's American planning committee includes Covenant Elder Valerie Stone (English Camp 2019). The Olomouc planning committee reported that no American youth signed up and asked Valerie's 14-year-old son, Eli, to attend and help since he was a team member in English Camp 2019. Covenant's presence is rounded out by Joan Prittie (English Camps 2015 and 2019). Covenant's three attendees are creating a half-hour devotional program celebrating fellowship through food. Main sessions include Together in the Family, Together in the Church, Together in Society, and Together in the World. Topics will include the challenges of declining church memberships, ministry to Ukraine refugees (including some attendees), climate change / environmental issues, and overcoming racism / xenophobia.

We look forward to a week of fellowship and learning while also rebuilding our partnership. Covenant's attendees plan to bring home fresh ideas and build support for ongoing connections!

--Elder Valerie Stone, [valeriefreystone at gmail](mailto:valeriefreystone@gmail.com)

Covenant by the Week!

July 02, 2023

Sunday 8:30am Church School
10:00am Worship
12:30pm 12 Step Group
No Campus Kitchen

Monday 11am New Horizons Band
7:00pm 12 Step Group

Tuesday Office **CLOSED** for holiday
7:00pm 12 Step Group

Wednesday Office Open 10am–4pm
11:30am New Horizons Band

Thursday Office Open 10am–4pm
NO Campus Kitchen
1pm - 2pm Cov Food Pantry
No Knitters & Knotters
7:00pm 12 Step Group

Friday Office Open 10am–4pm
8:00pm 12 Step Group

Saturday 10:30am 12 Step Group

July 09, 2023

Sunday 8:30am Church School
10:00am Worship
12:30pm 12 Step Group
NO Campus Kitchen

Monday 11am New Horizons Band
7:00pm 12 Step Group

Tuesday Office Hours 10am–4pm
7:00pm 12 Step Group

Wednesday Office Open 10am–4pm
11:30am New Horizons Band

Thursday Office Open 10am–4pm
NO Campus Kitchen
1pm - 2pm Cov Food Pantry
No Knitters & Knotters
7:00pm 12 Step Group

Friday Office Open 10am–4pm
8:00pm 12 Step Group

Saturday 10:30am 12 Step Group



July BIRTHDAYS!

2 Ada Brock Rea	10 Lee Wolfe	20 Robert Baird
3 Luanne Rigsby	11 Brian Stone	Helen Epps
Neveen Charles Arora	Wyatt Pless	Patti Huberty
4 Dan Stoneburner	13 Alex Simpson	21 Stephane Cahill
Dell Whitehead	14 Paula Zimdars	22 Charles James
7 Chis Devaney	16 Emma Rentz	27 Brian Herndon
Dorothy Newland	18 Paul Brooks	Katy Terry
8 Pam Butts	Mark Johnson	28 Leona Hale Rea
9 France Boney	19 Missy Green	30 Bruce Butts
Nat Whitney	Gijs Schimmel	Don Sumner