

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for
Sunday, July 09 2023 at 10am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER July 09, 2023

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

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.

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#/>



PRAYER CONCERNS: Linda Koehler having knee replacement surgery July 10 at St. Mary's; Bill Barstow's daughter, Linda at home after consolidation therapy at Emory; 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; and our nation.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

**Genesis 25: 19-34, Psalm 119: 105-112,
Isaiah 55: 10-13, Psalm 65: 1-8, Psalm 65: 9-13,
Romans 8: 1-11 and Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**

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 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 Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is in need of egg cartons. Please be sure they are clean and dry. You can leave them on the table as you go into the gathering room. Thank you!



The Oconee County Library needs our support, especially if you are a Oconee County resident.

There will be a library board meeting July 10th at 4:30pm at the Oconee County Library.

Over the past several weeks, a small group of people have been acting ugly to employees and volunteers of the library. The reason: this small group is trying to get the board to ban books that portray LGBTQIA+ in a positive light. They have actually come into the library and tried to take down displays that were set up for Pride month. Please, especially if you are a Oconee County resident be at the Oconee Library on Monday, July 10th at 4:30pm to show your support for the LGBTQIA+ community.

If you cannot be there please email or call the library and voice your support for the library to carry these books. *Please contact Bert Ballard-Myer at mysammie1@yahoo.com if you have any questions.*

Highlights of the June 27 Session Meeting

Clayton Adams read a devotional that included an invitation to *Pause* (and breathe), *Listen* (read Luke 6:22-23), *Think* (contemplate being hated for doing what you know is right and how Christ experienced this), *Pray* (ask God to guide our actions and help us act out of love), and *Go* (spread the word).

Kathryn Fowler reported that the Finance Ministry Team is working on developing financial policies, looking at what Covenant currently does and what policies other churches use. They are pulling together a working group to continue this process.

The Session has called for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 16, after worship for the purpose of electing the third member of the Nominating Committee to decide next class of elders. The Session approved a motion to amend Rev. Dana Waters' interim contract to reflect the salary/housing allowance in the 2023/24 budget. Linda Koehler and Clayton agreed to serve as commissioners to August 26 Presbytery meeting.

Dick Zimdars introduced a discussion about solar panels and a fundraiser concert to dedicate the digital grand piano purchased in the summer of 2020. The Session commissioned the Building & Grounds Committee to further research the solar panel project with updated estimates and information about government support, asking them to present their findings to the Session by the end of October.

Dana shared a document with four weeks of tentative paternity leave dates and a list of guest preachers as well as pastors on call. He explained this fell within the new PC(USA) policy giving twelve weeks of paid family leave. The Session encouraged Dana to take the time he needs to help his family and agreed to readily revisit the schedule should Dana wish for more time.

Dana noted that one summer Session meeting is traditionally a social gathering to build fellowship. Usually the July meeting (July 25) is a social time, but Dana suggested that this be swapped with August 22 since his paternity leave will likely start before the August date. After discussion it was decided that the next Stated Session Meeting will be on July 25. The Session meeting in August will be social.

Kathryn Fowler shared that the PNC received training in May from the Presbytery. They decided on co-chairs – Linda Rogers and Karen Foutz. The Mission Discernment Profile is now underway and this is the “public face” the church puts out to those who will apply. They are also trying to think ahead with their budget to make sure their needs are covered.

Bert Ballard-Myer shared information about the Athens Pride Parade on June 3. They sold 54 tee shirts and had over 30 people participating. Valerie gave an update on the Olomouc ministry and the Church Partnership Network conference that will be held July 9-14 at our sister church in the Czech Republic. Valerie, her son Eli, and Joan Prittie will represent Covenant.

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!

Covenant by the Week!

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
2pm -4pm Waters Baby Shower

July 16, 2023

Sunday 8:30am Church School
10:00am Worship
12:30pm 12 Step Group
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
Campus Kitchen
1pm - 2pm Cov Food Pantry
2pmKnitters & Knotters
7:00pm 12 Step Group

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

Saturday 10:30am 12 Step Group

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 9

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi
USHERS/GREETERS: Jim & Dorothy Newland, Robyn Malone
LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

SUNDAY, JULY 16

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi
USHERS/GREETERS: Luanne & Bill Rigsby, Alan Edwards, Judy Capie
LITURGIST: Ansley Tweedell

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 09, 2023
 Pam Knox, Stephanie Cahill
 July 16, 2023
 Tim Foutz, Sandy Whitney

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!

Covenant's Breakfast Club
Monday, July 17, 2023
at Cracker Barrel on Epps Bridge Road at 8:00am
 Join us for a time of good food and fellowship!



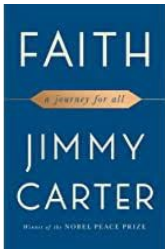
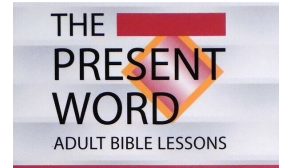
PUNCH AND COOKIES begins June 4 after worship whenever someone signs up to share. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the mail boxes. Thank you in advance to all who sign up! And yes purchased cookies are just fine! It is all about fellowship. (please no red punch)

July 9 Kay Brooks
July 16
July 23

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 practical guidance and spiritual wisdom in a way that encourages development of their grandchildren." 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.

