

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for **Sunday, September 03, 2023 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER September 03, 2023

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



The office
will be
closed

Tuesday, September 5 for
Labor Day!

WELCOME BACK PASTOR DANA!

*Sunday, September 03 at 11:00am we welcome Pastor Dana back
from family leave.*

Due to the increase in Covid cases at Covenant and the surrounding area the session strongly encourages folks to wear masks to worship until further notice. We hope that the current case positivity rate will subside very soon. *The safety of all who worship at Covenant is our primary concern.*



VISITOR LUNCHEON Sunday, September 10 Following worship

All visitors are invited to join us on Sunday, September 10 in the fellowship hall for a light lunch and time to get to know each other better.



The Retiree's Covered Dish Luncheon Tuesday, September 12 at 12:30pm

The Retiree's luncheon resumes. Please join us and bring a dish to share and a friend.
More information to follow.

GAME NIGHT! Friday, Sept. 15 at 7pm

All ages welcome. Bring your own games or enjoy some of ours. Also you are welcome to bring snacks for yourself or to share. *Save these game night dates: October 20 and November 17.*

Wonderful Wednesdays Return September 06

5:30pm Covenant Connection—join us for a delicious family dinner prepared by our own *Chef Patrick* and popcorn by Mr. Hank and fellowship. (\$3.00 donation per meal)

6:15pm Adult Bible Study begins September 13
facilitated by Pastor Dana

6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal makeminesupine@hotmail.com

7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal acarter-enyi@covpresathens.org



Fall Picnic, Sun- day, Sept. 17 5:30pm – 8:00pm.

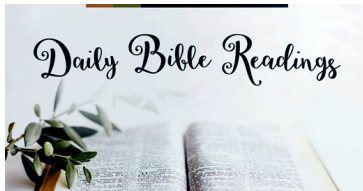
Phil Hale will once again take up his role of chef for bar-b-que sandwiches. Please bring side dishes, and desserts for yourself and to share. Bring chairs and outdoor games.
RAIN OR SHINE!

Click or enter the link below in your browser to access **COVENANT'S FALL BROCHURE 2023-2024**

<https://www.covpresathens.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Covenant-Fall-Brochure-2023-24-1.pdf>

Hard copies are available on the Congregational desk or in the narthex.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Rich Reaves and family in the passing of his brother, Bob S. Reaves, August 24 in Seminole, Florida; Ellen Stoneburner and family in the passing of Dan, Thursday, August 17; Brad Courtney recovering from a serious fall; family and friends of 19 year old Cole Epps who passed away on August 21: Linda Ford's good friend, Nancy Parker's 100 year old mother, Addie in the hospital after a recent fall; Colleen Cook having foot surgery 9/6 in Columbus, Ga; Heide & Juergen Wiegel as Juergen deals with Alzheimer's; Diane Frost, DeLynda's aunt, who had a stroke June 19 has recovered and back to work; Bill Barstow's daughter, Linda at home after completing another round of consolidation chemo; all those affected by the recent hurricane; and our nation.



**Exodus 12: 1-4, Psalm 149, Ezekial 33: 7-11,
Psalm 119: 33-40, Romans 13: 8-14,
and Matthew 18: 15-20**

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.

Knitters & Knotters
Thursday, September 7 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
knotted*

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 FOR THE
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY.**



FOLKS - THE B&G MT NEEDS YOUR HELP.

It's been two months since hedge shrubbery around the campus buildings has been pruned. This growth is mostly nandina, spirea, holly, and gardenia. Thanks to Catherine Tyson's generosity we have a battery powered pruning shears and blower to lighten the workload. This job takes about an hour.

Please see Rich Reaves, 706-248-2819, if you're available to volunteer to complete this task. Thank You!



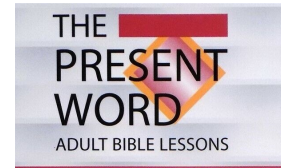


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

The BUILDERS CLASS. Meeting at 9:45am beginning September 10 Led by Pastor Dana, this class meets in the Library. What are you building? Pastor Dana facilitates this 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 of theological issues.

The "UPPER ROOM" Class beginning at 9:45am

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 beginning at 9:45am

Location: "Journey" Classroom Room 216 and Via Zoom
The "Journey" adult church school class resumes this Sunday, August 20. We will begin a new study book, "Necessary Risks", by Teri Ott.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS for K-5.

This multi-age class, taught by Katy Arora and our volunteer Shepherds, meets each week (August-May), 9:45-10:45, on the main level of the church across from The Journey Class. Each week, this class begins with a lovely music time with Betsy Burmeister and then, using "Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible Curriculum," the children enter into sacred space together, read from their story Bible, pause for a time of wondering, engage their curiosity and imagination with God's story through art and drama, wrestle with their place in God's story through activities and discussion, and bless one another with God's grace. Please join us for this time of Growing in God's Love!



If you would like to provide a meal for Clayton & Grace Adams and family please click on this link:

<https://takethemameal.com/JRCM9655>



**VFW 2872-
Athens •
Sept 9th @ 8 pm**

RETRO LIP SYNC BATTLE EVENT!

Join us at the VFW for The Battle of the Decades '70s vs '80s Lip Sync Challenge, filled with competitive performances by stellar local community favorites. Mark your calendars, grab your friends, put on your best tie-dye shirt and bell-bottoms or torn sweater and leg warmers and dance and sing the night away. [TICKETS & VOTING](#)

**Sunday Schedule
for
September 03**

9:30am Nursery

**Church School for
All Ages at 9:45am**

**WORSHIP
11:00am**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 03

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Chris Wilson, Katy Terry, Catharine Tyson, Bill Barstow

LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Stephanie Cahill, Hank & DeLynda Tweedell,
Paige Cummings

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 Stoneburner



**Nursery
Ministry**

September 03, 2023

James & Robyn Malone

September 10, 2023

Clayton & Grace Adams

**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 .

September 3 *Jennifer Frey*

September 10

September 17

September 24

Library Corner

Unconditional Joy. How to get it, Have it, and Keep it, by *Dr. Glenn W. Nowell.*

In this book you will discover a seven-step prescription for solving your most chronic, seemingly hopeless problems, the essence of biblical spirituality and the Christ Life, and unconditional joy that surpasses mere happiness.

I Thessalonians 5: 16 “Be joyful always”. In a world constantly bombarding us with a message that the dysfunctional life is the norm, you can have the confidence of following seven clear, biblical steps to emotional health, spiritual well-being, and unconditional joy.

This book if can be found on Row H, Shelf 4.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

We would like to invite you to join us for Bible Study and Fellowship each month on the second Thursday morning at 9:30am in the Conference Room/Library at Covenant or via Zoom. Our Horizon's PW Bible Study this year will be "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts". The Bible Study books have arrived and may be purchased now! Please see Karen W in the church office for a book. They are \$11.00 each. **Our first meeting will be September 14th** and a Zoom invitation will be sent out the Wednesday before. We look forward to seeing you soon. *Jennifer Frey & Betsy Burmeister*

The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is in desperate need of canned tomato sauce and canned tuna. At this time they are not getting eggs so no need for egg cartons. You can leave them on the table as you go into the gathering room. Thank you!



Volunteers needed for Athens Free Clinic at Covenant in October and November.

1—2 volunteers are needed from 1:30pm—3:30pm and
1—2 volunteers from 3:30pm—5:30pm
for each Monday Clinic date.

Sign Up Here:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/
go/409084AA5AA22A20-athens#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-athens#/)

**Join your Covenant friends every
First Tuesday of the month
serving and enjoying dinner with the
students of the Presbyterian Student Center**

Dates: Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Feb. 6, April 2, May 7

Time: 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

Volunteers Needed: 4

Location: Meet at the Presbyterian student Center
at 1250 S Lumpkin St, Athens, GA 30605

How to volunteer: Please signup on the sheet in the hallway at church
or email Bert Ballard-Myer at mysammiel@yahoo.com.

The Session has reviewed our service to our children and nursery care and found the need to hire a childcare provider to support our Sunday services, special services as needed, and Wednesday night events. We are thrilled at this growth because it means we are seeing more children in our Church and this is part of our Mission/Vision to grow our younger families as Members of the church.

The Christian Education Committee will be posting a job description for the Childcare position and will be starting interviews as soon as they find interested candidates. Be assured we are following our childcare policies and all background checks will be completed. We also keep to our policy where there will always be two unrelated adults with our children, so even with a professional caregiver, we will still require at least one Volunteer to keep our nursery running smoothly. When the Christian Education Committee has a recommendation for hire, it will go through the Session for a final vote of approval. If you have any questions at all, please reach out to one of our Session Members, or specifically, Abby Horvath or Donny Whitehead. Thank you for your support in this endeavor, *Your Session*

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023!

submitted by *Pam Knox*, Treasurer

The 2022-2023 fiscal year ended on June 30, 2023. Here is a summary of income and expenses for the year. Income was received from the following sources: Pledges \$415,326.60 (anticipated \$385,440.00), non-pledged income \$25,072.19 (budgeted \$13,997.00), other income including rent \$3,013.00 (budgeted \$3,000) for a total of \$443,411.79 compared to an original budgeted amount from all sources of \$402,437.00. The non-pledged income includes a number of late pledges that were made after the budget was finalized. This means the income surpassed the budget by \$40,974.79.

Actual expenses for the 2022-2023 fiscal year totaled \$374,853.36. The amount budgeted was \$423,549.99, leading to a net balance of \$48,696.63 in budgeted funds not spent. Note that this budgeted amount is different than the original budget listed in the paragraph above because Session voted to add additional money to the budget for hiring an accompanist and music director due to difficulty filling the positions. A detailed list of expenditures was provided to Session for the ministry team heads in the July Session packet. Karen can provide copies if needed. The biggest portion of the budget that was not spent was money for the Music Director and Piano Accompanist positions, which were filled for only part of the fiscal year.

The net amount of actual income minus actual expenses was \$68,558.43 (\$443,411.79-\$374,853.36). In 2023-2024, \$12,000 of this money will be used to fund the Capital Reserve line that was the only thing removed from the 2023-2024 budget to match the pledges for 2023-2024. The remainder of unspent funds will be placed in the general fund of the church to be used for future needs as designated by the Session.

Thanks to all of our Covenant family for faithfully fulfilling their pledges as well as supporting the church in so many other ways!

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 #9

Anticipated Pledges — \$73,731.46

Actual Pledges — \$68,170.46

Non-Pledged - \$550.00

Thank you for your faithful giving!

Covenant by the Week!

September 03, 2023

Sunday 9:45am Church School for all ages
11:00am Worship
 12:30pm 12 Step Group
 Campus Kitchen

Monday 11am New Horizons Band
 3pm—5pm Bells of NEGA Board Meeting
 6:30pm Scouts Pac Meeting
 7:00pm 12 Step Group
 7:00pm Bells of NEGA

Tuesday **Office Closed**
 7:00pm 12 Step Group

Wednesday Office Open 10am—4pm
 11:30am New Horizons Band
5:30pm Covenant Connection,
6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal, 7:15pm Adult Choir
 7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

Thursday Office Open 10am—4pm
 Campus Kitchen
 1pm - 3pm Cov Food Pantry
 2pm Knitters & Knotters
 7:00pm 12 Step Group

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

Saturday 10:30am 12 Step Group

Up Coming Events:

Sunday, Sept 24, First Grade Luncheon

September 10, 2023

Sunday 9:45am Church School for all ages
11:00am Worship
Visitor Luncheon following worship
 12:30pm 12 Step Group
 Campus Kitchen

Monday 11am New Horizons Band
 6:30pm Scouts Pac Meeting
 7:00pm 12 Step Group
 7:00pm Bells of NEGA

Tuesday Office Open 10am—4pm
 12:30pm Retiree's Covered Dish Luncheon
 7:00pm Stamp Club Meeting in FH
 7:00pm 12 Step Group

Wednesday Office Open 10am—4pm
 11:30am New Horizons Band
5:30pm Covenant Connection,
6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal, 7:15pm Adult Choir
 7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

Thursday Office Open 10am—4pm
 Campus Kitchen
 9:30am Presbyterian Women Bible Study
 1 pm - 3pm Cov Food Pantry
 2pm Knitters & Knotters
 7:00pm 12 Step Group

Friday Office Open 10am—4pm
 7:00pm Game Night in the Fellowship Hall
 8:00pm 12 Step Group

Saturday 10:30am 12 Step Group



September Collection for the students of Cedar Shoals High School *This month, we are collecting 3 food items for students in need at Cedar Shoals High School: Peanut butter crackers, granola bars and microwaveable noodle bowls.*

There are two ways to help! Thank you so much in advance of your generosity and support of our neighbors!

Purchase items from our Amazon Wishlist: Click the link below and when given a shipping option you will see "Karen Wetherington" Gift Registry Address and that is the correct address. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SVZ12J14YBNN?ref_=wl_share Your donations will be shipped to the church and we will deliver them to the school.

Purchase the following items and leave them on the collection table in the hallway across from the church mailboxes: Packages of peanut butter crackers, granola bars and microwaveable noodle bowls



Join Covenant at PrideFest 2023!

Covenant Presbyterian Church is an official Sponsor of Athens Pride + Queer Collective's Pridefest 2023 and our group is hosting a resource table at the event!

Date: Saturday, September 30

Time: 12-8 p.m.

Location: [Terrapin Beer Co.](#) • [265 Newton Bridge Rd • Athens, GA](#)

Volunteers needed: 2 people for 2-hour shifts at our resource

Covenant Food Pantry

Every Thursday

Please note: shifts have been slightly adjusted

SHIFT 1: Unloading and Bagging the Food 9:30am – 11:30am)

SHIFT 2: Food Distribution 12: 30pm – 3pm

You can click on the pic or sign up at this link:

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





September

BIRTHDAYS

1 Jennifer Frey
Dennis Calbos
3 Beecher Mathes
Megan Sperr
4 Adam Brooks
8 Shari Cobb
9 Nami Kisaalita
12 Joyce Placek
Steve Follin
16 Mary Barnett
22 Mark Bell
23 Paula Williams

25 Janet Smith
27 Asher Hill
28 Alice Herndon
Christina Noel Reaves



A Congregational Meeting, **Sunday, September 17 following worship**, has been called for the purpose of considering for election the following slate of Elders to serve on the Session in the Class of 2026:

Dennis Calbos, Bob Brewster, Brian Herndon, and Rebecca Silver.

Further nominations may be made from the floor of this meetings with prior permission from the nominee. We are grateful to the 2023

Nominating Committee, *Donny Whitehead, Jere Bowden, and Julie Bower* for their dedicated service in creating this years slate of elders.