

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

# THE COVENANTER

## December 03, 2023

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

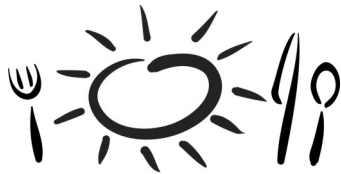


*Purchase a beautiful live Poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special! They are used in the Worship Center throughout the Christmas Season. The Sign up sheet is on the desk as you come in the double glass doors. Make your check payable to Covenant and put poinsettia in the memo portion of your check. \$10 each.*



### *Covenant's Christmas Choral Worship* *Sunday, December 17 at 11:00am*

Join us for a morning of carols and festive music. This is our tradition of Christmas Choral Worship and there will be offerings from our handbell choir and adult choir as well as solos and instrumental pieces. There will be a cookies and punch reception after service hosted by Fellowship.



**Meals on Wheels**  
*We deliver smiles<sup>SM</sup>*

### Meals on Wheels -

to be received in the month of December and at the Christmas Eve service to sponsor persons who receive a daily meal through the "Meals on Wheels" program. The annual cost (including food & expenses) to provide meals for one person is \$2,000.00. Last year's offering enabled Covenant to support 6 older Athenians for this year. The congregation is encouraged to give generously. You will find an envelope on the desk as you come in the double glass doors. Please mark in the memo portion of your check MOW. Consider making a special gift in honor or memory of a loved one.



### Covenant's Retirees Luncheon at The Presbyterian Village Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 12 noon

Covenant's retirees have been invited to have luncheon at The Presbyterian Village. Thirteen longtime members of Covenant are living at the village and this is a great time to visit with them and enjoy being together. Reservations are required so please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. For more information contact Pat Tinga. Deadline to make a change or reservation is Dec. 5th.

## Advent @ Covenant

- FRIDAY, DEC. 1, 6 PM - COVENANT PROGRESSIVE DINNER**
- SUNDAY, DEC. 3 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
12-3 PM - HOLIDAY BENEVOLENCE MARKET**
- SUNDAY, DEC. 10 AT 2PM NEW HORIZONS BAND CONCERT-  
SOUNDS OF THE HOLIDAYS**
- SUNDAY, DEC. 17, 11 AM - CHORAL WORSHIP SERVICE  
COOKIE RECEPTION HOSTED BY FELLOWSHIP**
- SUNDAY, DEC. 24, 11 AM - WORSHIP  
5:30 PM- CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE WITH CAROLS,  
COMMUNION, AND CANDLELIGHT**

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Brad Courtenay scheduled for spine surgery 12/5; Greg Huberty and family in the passing of his mother, Sandra S. Huberty, Friday, Nov. 17; Katy Arora's mother, Susan McGill recovering from gall bladder surgery Friday, Nov. 17; Bert's sister, Jan recovering at home with diverticulitis; Pastor Dana's mother, Joy, receiving hospice care at home; Amy Baer's mom with complications and decreased vision following eye surgery; Missy Green's son Jason with mental health issues, and nephew Philip recently deployed with the army to Egypt; Dell Whitehead recovering at home from knee replacement surgery on Thursday, November 2; Heide & Juergen Wiegel as Juergen deals with Alzheimer's; Bill Barstow's daughter, Linda recovery from surgery to relieve internal bleeding; Travis Adams (Clayton's father) at home; Brian Striggow's wife, Becky at home; and our nation.

Clayton Adams has helped his mom and dad, Travis and Kathy, create this Go Fund Me link to assist them in raising the funds for new accommodations as they prepare to bring him home in a wheelchair. The family thanks you all for the love and care you have already offered, and for the ongoing love and support you continue to give. Construction has begun at Travis and Kathy's house. The doors are being widened, a new outdoor ramp, and a new shower and toilet is being installed. The entire family wants to thank each and everyone of you for your donations and spreading the word. Please continue to share the page to friends and family. You can read more and donate at this link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-travis-and-kathy-adams...>

*Please submit prayer concerns and/or celebrations to the church office 706-548-2756 or [kwetherington@covpresathens.org](mailto: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, Dec 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

*knitter*  
*knotted*

**The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is in desperate need of**

**BROWN PAPER BAGS.**  
**And egg cartons**

**Please consider asking for paper bags with your groceries and a few more for the food bank.**

***Thank you!***

**Presbyterian Women Bible Study** will meet on Dec 14, at 9:45am at the home of Betsy Burmeister and Rich Reaves. We will discuss Lesson #4, led by Pam Butts and Deb Millwood. Refreshments will be provided by Jere Bowden and Barbara Burnett. Betsy will provide the beverages. Please bring your Study books and your Bibles to our meeting. For those who would like to carpool to the meeting, please meet at Covenant at 9:30am on Thursday, Dec 14, and we can ride together. See you there!



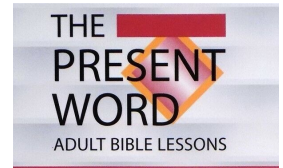


## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

**The BUILDERS CLASS. Meeting at 9:45am** 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](mailto:gillbillvolume1@yahoo.com).



### The "JOURNEY" Class beginning at 9:45am

Location: "Journey" Classroom Room 216 and Via Zoom  
The "Journey" adult church school class is now studying, "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!

The Advent Devotional, *Apocalyptic Advent Embracing Hope in the Second Coming of Christ*, by Presbyterian Outlook editor Teri McDowell Ott are available on the desk as you come in the double glass doors in regular and large print as well as online at this link: [Advent Devotional](#)

#### *Also available:*

Each year the Church Partnership Network linking churches in the United States and the Czech Republic creates an Advent devotional. The daily messages from December 3 until Christmas Day, offered in both English and Czech, include passages written by friends from Olomouc, Covenant folks, and people who have visited our church. The devotional includes Bible verses, prayers, and photos from the two countries. We hope you will enjoy *On the Way to Bethlehem* available at [www.czechpres.net](http://www.czechpres.net).

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30am Nursery

K–5 Church School at  
9:45am

Adult Church School  
9:45am

WORSHIP  
11:00am

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Bob Brewster, Sarah Lamb, Dennis & Carol Calbos

LITURGIST: Pam Knox

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Jim Newland, Jim & Sandy Whitney, Robyn Malone

LITURGIST: Warren Combs

### OPEN & CLOSE THE BUILDING

Chris Wilson 1st Sunday Judy Capie 2nd Sunday

Tim Foutz 3rd Sunday Pam Knox 4th Sunday

Dick Zimdars 5th Sunday



Nursery  
Ministry

December 03, 2023

Lily McKay, Brian Herndon,  
Ellen Stoneburner

December 12, 2023

Lily McKay, Marie Ballard-Myer, Wyatt Herndon

### 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 Stone-

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 newslet-  
ter and/or bulletin .

Dec 3 thru Dec 25 *Poinsettias given in honor  
and/or memory*

Dec 31  
1st Sunday after Christmas

### Wonderful Wednesdays

December 6 at 5:30pm

Covenant Connection—join us for a  
delicious dinner prepared by our own  
Chef Patrick (\$3.00 donation per meal) and  
wonderful buttery popcorn by Hank T.

6:15pm Adult Bible Study facilitated  
by Pastor Dana

6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal  
makeminesupine@hotmail.com

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

**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

THE  
**COVENANT  
FOOD  
PANTRY**  
NEEDS YOUR HELP



**EXTRA Volunteers needed for Dec 21 and 28 as the UGA Student Volunteers will be on vacation. Thank You!**

You can click on the pic or sign up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aa5aa22a20-covenant#/>

**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 sign up on the sheet in the hallway at church  
or email Bert Ballard-Myer at [mysammie1@yahoo.com](mailto:mysammie1@yahoo.com).

Or you can sign up at [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/  
/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/)

JOSEPH NAPOLI, CONDUCTOR  
**ATHENS MASTER CHORALE**  
SHARING GREAT MUSIC SINCE 1989

**A CHRISTMAS SAMPLER**

DECEMBER 17, 2023  
SUNDAY @ 4:00 PM  
THE CLASSIC CENTER ATRIUM  
FREE ADMISSION  
[ATHENSMASTERCHORALE.ORG](http://ATHENSMASTERCHORALE.ORG)

Check out these concerts that include Covenant members!

And here is a link to the Athens Chamber Singers Concert

<http://www.athenschambersingers.org/yuletidedinners.html>

**TAPESTRY: A HOLIDAY CONCERT**



**FEATURING:**

Meridian Women's Chorus  
Athens Recorder Ensemble  
Trinity Lutheran Handbell Choir  
Oconee High School Chorus

**DATE:**  
Saturday December 2, 2023

**TIME:**  
3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:**  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
800 West Lake Drive, Athens

**RECEPTION and HOLIDAY MARKET  
immediately after the concert**

Learn more at: [MERIDIANWOMENSCHORUS.org](http://MERIDIANWOMENSCHORUS.org)



**LIBRARY CORNER**

*Radical Welcome: Embracing God, The Other, and the Spirit of Transformation*  
by Stephanie Spellers

“In this fifteenth anniversary edition, Stephanie Spellers updates the classic text with new reflections on the challenge of moving beyond diversity and inclusion, facing the fear of change, and truly embracing the voices, gifts, and power of historically marginalized groups.” This book explores “the spiritual practice of radical welcome and how it continues to shape the church we’re becoming.” This book can be found at Bay E, 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](mailto: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](http://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 #22**

Anticipated Pledges — \$180,233.16

Actual Pledges — \$183,591.26

Non-Pledged - \$9,369.00

Thornwell—\$3,806.00

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

**December 03, 2023**

**Covenant by the Week!**

**December 10, 2023**

Sunday 9:345am Church School for all Ages  
**11:00am Worship**  
**Adult Choir Rehearsal following worship**  
**Holiday Benevolence Market noon—3pm**  
12:30pm 12 Step Group  
Campus Kitchen

Monday 11am New Horizons Band  
Free Clinic 2pm—4pm  
6:30pm Scouts Pac Meeting  
7:00pm 12 Step Group  
7:00pm Bells of NEGA

Tuesday Office Open 10am—4pm  
7:00pm Session Meeting  
7:00pm 12 Step Group

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

Thursday Office Open 10am—4pm  
1—3pm Covenant Food Distribution  
2pm Knitters & Knotters

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

Saturday 10:30am 12 Step Group

Sunday 9:345am Church School for all Ages  
**11:00am Worship**  
**Adult Choir Rehearsal following worship**  
12:30pm 12 Step Group  
2pm New Horizons Band Concert—  
*Sounds of the Holidays*  
Campus Kitchen

Monday Free Clinic 2pm—4pm  
6:30pm Scouts Pac Meeting  
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