

Please click here to view Covenants Worship Service on You Tube for  
**Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>  
 Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER  
 March 10, 2024

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



 An illustration of four people in a band: a man with a saxophone, a woman with a violin, a man with a double bass, and a man with a trumpet. They are all smiling and playing their instruments.
 

**Retiree's Covered Dish Luncheon**  
**Tuesday, March 12 at 12:30pm**

Join us in the fellowship hall for a great time of food and fellowship and a touch of the Irish as we listen to the delightful *Green Flag Band*. Bring your favorite dish to share and a friend. Beverages will be provided.

**in a world of disaster,  
 hunger, and oppression**

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

**Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry,  
 Empowering the Oppressed  
 Through the**

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING!**

Received during the season of Lent, each gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

For more about **One Great Hour of Sharing** or to give please click on the link below or mark your check OGHs in the memo portion. Thank you for your generous giving.

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/>

**Presbyterian Women's Bible Study**  
**Thursday, March 14 at 9:30am**

Tamara Stam will be leading our lesson via Zoom. She would like to encourage everyone to consider reading the book mentioned at our last meeting, *Cutting for Stone*, by Abraham Vorghese, an Ethiopian-born Indian-American medical doctor. Our lesson is about the Ethiopian Eunuch, whom Philip encounters in Acts. Please read lesson #7 in advance of our meeting, to prepare for our discussion. Judy and Ellen will be providing refreshments for the meeting next month. Thank you to Tamara, Judy, and Ellen for sharing their time and talents with us!

*A Zoom invitation will be sent out on Wed. March 13 for those who cannot attend in person.*

**MORNING MAHJONG GROUP!**

 An illustration of several Mahjong tiles. One tile shows the Chinese character '中' (Chung), another shows '梅' (Mei), and another shows '夏' (Ha). There are also tiles with symbols like a sun and a flower.
 

Like to play Mahjong or want to learn? Come join us on **Tuesday, March 19 from 10am to noon** in the fellowship hall. No experience necessary and we will meet regularly if there is enough interest. Contact Caly Depalma at [calyd44atgmail.com](mailto:calyd44atgmail.com) for more information.

*Don't forget to SPRING FORWARD Sunday, March 10!*

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Dennis Calbos recovering well from back surgery 3/5; Randy Parish and family in the passing of his sister, Molly, Feb 14; Joe and June Meyer's nephew's wife Gaye - recovering from surgery for lung cancer; Bert Ballard-Myer's sister, Jan recovering at home; Larry Hatfield with hip pain, now receiving physical therapy; Brian Striggow's wife, Becky at home; Juergen Wiegel at home; and our nation.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* **DAILY BIBLE READINGS:** \*  
\* March 12—17 \*  
\* Lenten Devotional \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

*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, March 14 at 2pm*

*Knitter*  
*Knotters*

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.

**The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is in desperate need of BROWN PAPER BAGS.**  
**Please NO egg cartons at this time. Please consider asking for paper bags with your groceries and a few more for the food bank.**  
**Thank you!**

**LIBRARY CORNER**

**Dorothy Day: A Biography** by William D. Miller  
“Dorothy Day first went to jail in 1917, two days after her twentieth birthday, for demonstrating for women’s suffrage outside the White House. Her last arrest took place in 1973, when she was 75, after which she served twelve days in a Kern County jail for protesting alongside Caesar Chavez and the United Farmworkers.” Miller’s biography explores a fascinating life that spanned from 1897 to 1980. This book can be found at Bay F, Shelf 5. —  
Church Librarian, Valerie Stone

**Annual Child Protection Training**



Sunday, April 28  
12:30-2:30 p.m.  
Facilitator: Lori Karr from The Cottage  
Boxed lunch will be provided  
Please RSVP to abaer@covpresathens.org by April 19 (max. 25 spots available)

## **Pastor Nominating Committee Update #4**

2/25/24

This update from the PNC is presented in a Q&A format to better address questions the congregation may have about the pastor search process from the time the PNC was formed until now.

### **Q. Who are the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)?**

A. Karen Foutz, Kathryn Fowler, Wyatt Herndon, Rose Kisaalita, Bill Rigsby, Linda Rogers, and Brian Stone. Karen and Linda are co-chairs.

### **Q. What has the Pastor Nominating Committee accomplished since its formation?**

A. After the PNC was approved by the Congregation in April, PNC members attended an orientation session in May led by the NEGA General Presbyter to learn about the processes and the work ahead of them. The PNC's first task was to select Co-Chairs and clarify committee procedures. Next, the Ministry Discernment Profile, or MDP, was carefully crafted. This document includes the Head of Staff/Pastor position requirements, a thorough description of Covenant and the Athens community, detailed answers to seven narrative questions, and more. The PNC utilized the Mission Study Task Force Report to aid in completing the MDP. In December, the PNC presented the completed MDP to Session and the Presbytery Committee on Ministry for review and unanimous approval. In January, the Head of Staff position was posted to the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) site, an internet-based matching and referral system. The PNC is now receiving and evaluating applications.

### **Q. How is the position being publicized to potential candidates?**

A. The Church Leadership Connection site mentioned above is the best source of candidates. Qualified candidates are "matched" with positions posted on the CLC site. Our Head of Staff position is also listed on Covenant's website on the Home page and on the Documents page under "Employment Opportunities". These listings include the link to the Church Leadership Connection site. In addition, advertisements in publications such as *Presbyterian Outlook* are being developed.

### **Q. If I know someone who is interested in the position, can I refer them to the PNC?**

A. Yes! Give them our email address: [PNC@covpresathens.org](mailto:PNC@covpresathens.org).

### **Q. How long will it take to find our new pastor?**

A. That is difficult to answer because it depends on many things, not all of which are within our control. The best answer is when God calls the right person.

### **Q. Will Dana stay until the new pastor is hired?**

A. Yes, that is his plan.

### **Q. Who should we contact if we have questions about the pastor search?**

A. Email the PNC at [PNC@covpresathens.org](mailto:PNC@covpresathens.org). Your questions may be included in future updates so all will be informed.

**PW Save-the-Date: March 16, 2024**

**Annual NE GA PW Meeting in Augusta**

Covenant PW Members, please save the date of Saturday, March 16, for the Annual NE GA PW Meeting to be held in Augusta, GA at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Augusta. It will be hosted by the PW in the Augusta cluster. Let's plan to send a group from our PW to gather with our PW sisters at this annual meeting for fellowship, food, learning, and worship! It is always a good experience! Please put this date on your calendars and let me know if you have any questions. You can sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes. Thank you, Jennifer ([jenofrey@gmail.com](mailto:jenofrey@gmail.com)).

**The BUILDERS CLASS beginning at 9:45am.** Location: Library. Pastor Dana leads a weekly discussion of faith-based topics using the PC(USA)'s "Follow Me" curriculum. Recent topics have included: welcoming all, honoring the sabbath, and hope. Each week includes concrete ways to put faith into practice.

**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 We are discussing "*What's So Funny About God—a theological look at humor*", by Steve Wilkens. Class facilitated by Phil Hale.

**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!



**Sunday, March 24 - PALM SUNDAY**

9:30am Church School for all ages  
11:00am Worship - processional with palms

**Wednesday, March 27- Covenant Connection**

5:30pm Family Dinner  
6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
6:15pm Adult Bible Study

**Thursday, March 28-MAUNDY THURSDAY- 7pm Worship**

**Friday, March 29 - GOOD FRIDAY**

7:00pm at Oconee Presbyterian Church

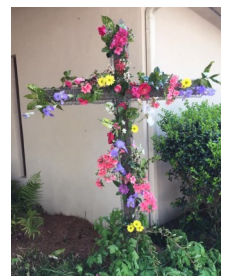
**Saturday, March 30 - 11:00am Easter Egg Hunt (rain or shine)**

**Sunday, March 31-RESURRECTION SUNDAY-7:30am Sunrise Worship Service-**  
please wear comfortable shoes, and bring flowers for the cross

8:00am-9:45am Easter Breakfast-please bring a covered dish to share.

Bagels, juice, coffee and tea will be provided.

11:00am Worship



**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9:30am Nursery

Church School for all ages

at 9:45am

K–5 Church School

Upper Room Class

The Builders Class

Journey Church School

**WORSHIP**

11:00am

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Aaron Carter-Enyi

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

LITURGIST: Stephanie Cahill

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Aaron Carter-Enyi

USHERS/GREETERS: Bill Barstow, Catharine Tyson, Judy Capie, Alan Edwards

LITURGIST: Warren Combs

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

5th Monday Week—Ellen Stoneburner & June Meyers



March 10, 2024

Sandy Whitney,  
DeLynda Tweedell

March 17, 2024

Tim Foutz, Stephanie Cahill

**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 .

**Wonderful Wednesdays—March 13**

Covenant Connection—join us for a delicious dinner prepared by our own

*Chef Patrick* at 5:30pm

(\$3.00 donation per meal)

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



SAVE THE DATE for

**DANCING WITH THE STARS**

**MARCH 23, 2024 at the Classic Center**

Dancing With the Athens Stars is Project Safe’s most glamorous fundraiser. Teams of two pair up-one local Athens “star” and one dance teacher-to learn a routine and raise money for Project Safe. The performances are always captivating, and the audience chooses the winner. One dollar equals one vote, and there’s no limit on how many times you can vote! All proceeds go to Project Safe and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence and their families. Voting is open. Take a look at the teams and get your vote in at [DWS VOTING](#).

*Covenant’s own Paul Brooks is on Team 7, just saying.*



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 #36

Anticipated Pledges — \$294,925.85

Actual Pledges — \$292,577.58

Non-Pledged - \$ 14,702.00

*Thank you for your faithful giving!*

*BCVF...\$3,050.00*

**March 10, 2024**

## **Covenant by the Week!**

**March 17, 2024**

### **SUNDAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!**

9:45am Church School for all Ages

11:00am Worship

12:30pm 12 Step Group

### **MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED**

7pm—9pm Bells of NEGA

7:00pm 12 Step Group

### **TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

12:30pm Retiree's Covered Dish Luncheon

7:00pm Athen's Stamp Club

7:00pm 12 Step Group

### **WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

11:30am New Horizons Band

**5:30 pm Covenant Connection dinner**

**6:15pm Adult Bible Study**

**6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal, 7:15pm Adult Choir**

7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

### **THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

9:30am Presbyterian Women's Bible Study in Library

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution

1pm Covenant Food Distribution

2:00 pm Knitters & Knotters

### **FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

8:00pm 12 Step Group

### **SATURDAY**

10:30am 12 Step Group

### **SUNDAY**

9:45am Church School for all Ages

11:00am Worship

12:30pm 12 Step Group

### **MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED**

2:00pm—4:00pm Athens Free Clinic

7pm—9pm Bells of NEGA

7:00pm 12 Step Group

### **TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

12 noon Mahjong Games—Fellowship Hall

7:00pm Athen's Stamp Club

7:00pm 12 Step Group

### **WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

11:30am New Horizons Band

**5:30 pm Covenant Connection dinner**

**6:15pm Adult Bible Study**

**6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal, 7:15pm Adult Choir**

7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

### **THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

7:00pm Worship Ministry Team in Library

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution

1pm Covenant Food Distribution

2:00 pm Knitters & Knotters

### **FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm**

10:00am—12noon Presbyterian Women in FH

8:00pm 12 Step Group

### **SATURDAY 8:30am—11:00am Legal Aide Clinic in FH**

10:30am 12 Step Group



# A LAMP UNTO MY FEET

## (Psalm 119:105): How do we read the Bible today?

A ZOOM conference organized as part of the partnership between the ECCB and the PC (USA) on April 21, 2024 at 2 P.M. EST at <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/93768208441>

Both the ČCE and the PC (USA) have their roots in the Reformation, which elevated the Bible above all human authority. Both churches have embraced the modern age with its scientific and critical approach to everything, including the Bible. This is the challenge that both denominations face together. Systematic theologian Dr. Martha Moore-Kelsh of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, and Old Testament scholar Dr. Petr Sláma of the Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University will open the topic with their presentations. This will be followed by breakout groups discussion and a summary plenary session. All this in 90 minutes. For further information and for registration (which will help us to prepare the discussion groups) contact Rev. Jan Lavický ([jan.lavicky@evangnet.cz](mailto:jan.lavicky@evangnet.cz)).

  
**Univerzita  
Karlova**

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