

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on You Tube for **Sunday, July 27, 2025 at 10am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER

July 27, 2025

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

"SUMMER SAINTS" SERMON SERIES 2025

Join us each Sunday this summer at Covenant Presbyterian Church (June 22 to July 27), as we focus on a "saint" of the past, from whom we have something to learn as disciples of Jesus today. None are officially canonized, and some may even take us by surprise, but all have something to say if we're willing to listen!

Sundays at 10 AM
June 22 to July 27, 2025

- June 22 - Harry Emerson Fosdick
- June 29 - Harper Lee
- July 6 - Walt Whitman
- July 13 - Maya Angelou
- July 20 - William Henry Sheppard
- July 27 - Johnny Cash

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, GA 30605


Called Congregational Meeting
Sunday, July 27 at 10am sharp
For the purpose of electing the 2025 nominating committee of Warren Combs (chair) and Phil Hale and Pam Knox.

 Sunday,
August 17, 2025
9:30am

Have you ever wondered why Rally Day is called ... **RALLY DAY**? Well according to the dictionary Rally means "coming together for a shared purpose." Rally Day at Covenant has long meant coming together for the beginning of a new year...new Sunday School classes, new opportunities for fellowship and mission, and the restart of many other programs of the church.

So join us on Sunday, August 17 beginning at 9:30am. in the fellowship hall.

The Athens Area Emergency Food Bank always needs brown paper grocery bags. You can leave them on the table as you go into the gathering room.



IN OUR PRAYERS: Marilyn Martin and family in the passing of her husband, Charles Martin, Sat., July 12; Pam & Bruce Butts' grandchildren and their mother; Raquel Bartra with serious illness; Rebecca Silver recovering from knee surgery June 26; Alice Rose's friend, Kim Martinez with a neck injury and possible neck surgery; DeLynda Tweedell's step-mom, Clarice Davis, with severe hip and knee pain; Delynda Tweedell's best friends mother Ann Mathis in hospital with UTI & C. Difficile; Clarice Davis' sister, Shiela Land recovering from surgery for a brain bleed at Grady Hospital; June and Joe Meyers as June recovers from surgery and with chemo treatments to continue beginning August 12; John Wilkins' brother in law, Jim Negro in Wellsley, Mass., recovering from lung cancer surgery; Bob Placek in skilled nursing at PVA and Joyce at home; Carol & Charlie Huber at The Oaks; peace in the Middle East; our Country.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

**Hosea 1: 2-20, Psalm 85, Genesis 18: 20-32,
Psalm 138, Colossians 2: 6-15,
Colossians 2: 16-19, Luke 11: 1-13**

Financial Summary for Week #03

Anticipated Pledges— \$ 25,749.12

Pledges Received— \$ 24,907.58

Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!

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 the Pastor.

Highlights of the July 22, 2025 Stated Session Meeting

A stated Session meeting was held on July 22, 2025. Tom Buchanan opened the meeting with prayer.

Kathryn Fowler, co-chair of Finance Ministry Team, reviewed the June 2025 End of Fiscal Year Financial Summary reporting that we ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$47,901.67.

Tom Buchanan updated progress made on our visioning process. Work is progressing with the updating of the 2019 Session Manual. Visioning exercises have been completed for the Finance, Mission & Outreach, and Worship teams, with Building and Grounds scheduled for next week and Personnel for August 12. Christian Education, Congregational Care, and Fellowship still need to be scheduled. Completion of the updated Session Manual, visioning exercises, and draft documents are on track to be sent to the Session a week ahead of the August 26th Session meeting.

Elders Karl Barnett, Bob Brewster, Caly DePalma, Ansley Tweedell Land, and Pam Thompson will serve communion on August 3rd. An elder will stand with Tom after worship on Sundays to greet visitors.

Northeast Georgia Presbytery will have a lay leader educational event and fellowship on August 16th. There will be five workshops with one of them led by Rev. Tom Buchanan on Christian Nationalism.

Tom has been asked to serve as moderator of the Northeast Georgia Presbytery for the year 2027. He will be in training during 2026 for that position. Session congratulated Tom on this honor.

Caly DePalma, co-chair of B&G, reported that the new flooring in the Fellowship Hall will have to be re-installed due to bumps and dips which were the result of the floor not being leveled properly prior to the installation of the tiles. Lewis Flooring will do the replacement at their expense hopefully during the first week of August.

Karl Barnett updated that the family we helped with a donation to the UGA Immigration Law Support Fund has ongoing financial needs and asked Session to consider whether we can offer additional financial help. At the August Session meeting, there will be further discussion concerning the homeless people who congregate around the church building, how to address safety concerns, and how to best help our homeless neighbors.

Following the business meeting, the Session enjoyed their annual fellowship at Cali 'N Titos.

Submitted by Luanne Rigsby, Clerk of Session



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:45am Journey Class

9:30am Nursery

10:00am Worship

11:00am Upper Room Class

SUNDAY, JULY 27

USHERS/GREETERS: Alan Edwards, Caly DePalma , Jim Newland, Paige Cummings

LITURGIST: Kirche Rogers

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

USHERS/GREETERS: Luanne & Bill Rigsby, Hank & DeLynda Tweedell

LITURGIST: Claire Bruner

OPEN & CLOSE THE BUILDING


Chris Wilson	1st Sunday	Judy Capie	2nd Sunday
Pam Knox	3rd Sunday	Tim Foutz	4th Sunday
Brian Striggow	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



We're looking for caring, dependable volunteers to serve in our church nursery.

 **Commitment:** Once every four months

 **Times:** 9:30AM  11:00AM

 **Where:** Church Nursery Room

If you love little ones and want to support young families in our congregation, this is the perfect opportunity!

No experience necessary – just a willing heart.

For more information or to sign up contact Ellen Stoneburner at ellenstoneburner@gmail.com



July 27, 2025
Ellen Stoneburner, Sallie Hale

August 3, 2025
Phil & Sallie Hale

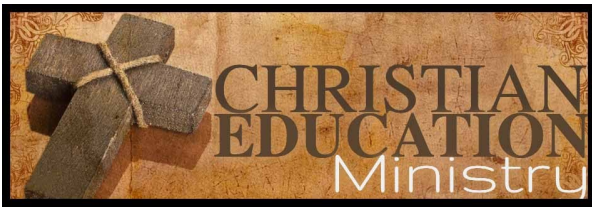
LIBRARY CORNER

***Why Religion? A Personal Story* by Elaine Pagels**

“Why is religion still around in the twenty-first century? Why do so many still believe?...These questions took on a new urgency for Elaine Pagels when dealing with unimaginable loss—the death of her young son, followed a year later by the shocking loss of her husband. In *Why Religion?*, she interweaves a personal story with the work that she loves, illuminating how, for better and for worse, religious traditions have shaped how we understand ourselves; how we relate to one another; and, most important, how to get through the most difficult challenges we face.” This book can be found at Bay F, Shelf 6. —Church Librarian *Valerie Stone*



FOR RENT: 4 bedroom/2 bath home on S. Milledge with new appliances and washer/dryer. \$2,000 a month (does not include utilities). Call Hank Tweedell at 706-207-6361 for more details.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

“THE GOD-BOTHERERS” Class (off for the summer; will resume on Rally Day)

The "UPPER ROOM" at 11:00am

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” at 8:45am—This Sunday at 8:45 we continue our study of the book, *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith* by Mariann Budde. Marilyn is back and will facilitate our discussion of **Chapter 5 (pp. 105-136), Stepping Up to the Plate**. Join us for lively conversation and hopefully a spiritual boost. *And the A/C is fixed!*

Juniors (K-3rd) Class will resume in the fall.

Middlers (4th—7th) will resume in the fall.

Covenant Youth Connection— (Youth Group will resume in the fall)

Groovy Nights 2025 | Retro Lip Sync Battle

Are you ready to boogie down and support a great cause? Groovy Nights returns to the VFW on Saturday, September 6th, 2025! This year’s funky event features the biggest Lip Sync Battle in Athens! We’ll also have a dance floor with all the greatest hits from the 70s, 80s, and 90s so grab a partner and show off your best moves. But the best part? All proceeds from the event will go directly to **Project Safe**, providing much-needed support to those affected by domestic violence. So, dust off your disco ball and join us for a night of fun and fundraising. Support our Covenant folks who are on Team #1 Dojang Dawgs - *Joan Prittie and Bert & Marie Ballard-Myer*. Spread the word and invite your friends - the more, the merrier! Together, we can make a difference and dance the night away. We’ll see you Saturday, September 6th at the **VFW**! For more information and to vote click on this link:

<https://www.project-safe.org/ways-to-donate/groovy-nights/>



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|----------------------|--------------------|
| 4 Kay Millar | 23 Gloria Pylant |
| 6 Paige Campbell | Jeremy Mote |
| Hank Tweedell | 24 Barbara Burnett |
| 7 Claire Bruner | 25 Bob Placek |
| 15 Katie Bemisderfer | 28 Claude Burnett |
| Annemarie Braswell | 31 Carol Huber |
| 16 Susan Shealy | Pam Thompson |
| Carolyn Steuer | |
| 19 Karen Foutz | |
| 22 Rich Reaves | |
| Vera Simpson | |
| Jim Thompson | |



Covenant by the Week!

July 27, 2025

SUNDAY

8:45am Journey Sunday School
9:30am Nursery
10:00am Worship— Summer Saints Sermon Series
11:00am Upper Room Sunday School
2:30pm 12 Step Group
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

9:30am Soccer Camp
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom
7:00pm Bells of NEGA

TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

4:00pm Socrates Cafe
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

9:30am—11:30am Soccer Camp
11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

9:30am Campus Kitchen
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1pm Covenant Food Distribution
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
7:00pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

SATURDAY

10:00AM—11:30AM BACKPACK UGA IN KITCHEN
10:30am 12 Step Group

August 3, 2025

SUNDAY

8:45am Journey Sunday School
9:30am Nursery
10:00am Worship— Guest Preacher, Bruce Lancaster
11:00am Upper Room Sunday School
2:30pm 12 Step Group
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom
7:00pm Bells of NEGA

TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

9:30am—11:30am Soccer Camp
11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs
7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

9:30am Campus Kitchen
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1pm Covenant Food Distribution
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

1:30pm—4:30pm OLLI—Mimi
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

SATURDAY

10:00AM—11:30AM BACKPACK UGA IN KITCHEN
10:30am 12 Step Group