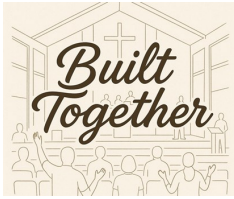


Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on YouTube for **Sunday, Nov 09, 2025 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANT

November 09, 2025

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



Built Together: A Vision of Welcome & Belonging

A Sermon Series - Sunday Worship, October 5 to November 23

In the heart of this Fall, you are invited into a journey of discovery and renewal as we explore our new vision for ministry. Rooted in *Ephesians 2:19-22*, this eight-week sermon series will trace how God is building us into a household of welcome and belonging - in which worship is our heartbeat, education forms disciples, care and support build beloved community, and justice and service make Christ's love visible. Along the way, we'll also consider the "crossbeams" of communication, volunteers, facilities, and resources that hold the structure together. Join us each Sunday, October 5-November 23, as we seek to be built together into a dwelling place for God, for the blessing of our neighbors and the healing of the world!

RETIREES COVERED DISH LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 at 12:30pm

Join us as we welcome William Kisaalita, professor at UGA and Covenant Member. He will address water, energy and food challenges and solutions in sub-Saharan Africa. Bring your favorite dish to share and a friend. Beverages will be provided.

RETIREES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, Dec 9 at 12:30pm at PVA

We will enjoy a lunch buffet set up special for us at Presbyterian Village on Tuesday, Dec 9 at 12:30pm. Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board. Meet at the church at 11:30am to carpool. We will gather in the atrium 12:00 - 12:15 with lunch at 12:30pm. Cost is \$12 per person. Please sign up today and pay Sara Cooney by Sunday November 30.

Covenant's Annual Progressive Christmas Dinner *Friday, December 5 6pm-10pm*

The Fellowship Ministry Team is making plans for our annual Progressive Christmas Dinner. At this event we visit with small groups in individual's homes. This is a cover dish dinner, but the church will provide Ham and Rolls for the main course. We need you, if possible, to offer to host one course of this enjoyable meal. Remember to count yourselves.

We will need hosts for the following courses:

6:00 - 7:00 The Appetizers Course, we need 5-8 homes, hosting 6 to 10+ guests

7:15 - 8:30 The Main Course, we need 6-8 homes for hosting 8 to 10+ guests

8:45 - 10:00 The Dessert Course, we need 4 to 6 hosts to set-up, organize, and clean-up.

Everyone meets at one place for the Dessert Course. Last year we all met in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and desserts. If you are willing to host one of the courses for this enjoyable meal, please contact Rebecca Silver, 706-207-0118, or Caly DePalma, calyd44@gmail.com as soon as possible



Purchase a beautiful live poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special! They will be used in the worship center through the Christmas season.

Sign up sheet is on the table in the gathering room. Please make your checks payable to Covenant and put Poinsettia in the memo portion of the check. Please put check in the drop box or bring to the church office - \$10.00 each. Please no cash.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Brian Stone having heart ablation on Monday, November 10; Nancy Pendrak and family in the passing of her husband, Johnny Oct. 19 (former covenant members); Kirk Blumenshine, Ansley Tweedell's uncle in law, in rehab for fractured vertebrae in neck and a spinal infection; Ann Anderson at PVA; Heide Wiegel recovering from hip surgery after a fall; Asher Hill recovering well from kidney transplant; Amy Baer's father, Kenny Tillman undergoing cancer treatment; Alice Rose with ongoing health issues; Alice Rose's friend, Kim Martinez; Michael Shaffer a neighbor with health issues; Raquel Bartra with serious illness; DeLynda Tweedell's step-mom, Clarice Davis at home; John Wilkins' brother in law, Jim Negro in Wellsley, Mass; Bob Placek in skilled nursing at PVA and Joyce at home; peace in the middle east; our country.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

**Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2: 1-4, Psalm 119: 137-144,
Isaiah 1: 10-18, Psalm 32: 1-7,
Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12, Luke 19: 1-10**

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.

Financial Summary for Week #17

Anticipated Pledges— \$ 145,911.65

Pledges Received— \$ 152,790.05

Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!

Athens Area Emergency Food Bank is still in need of brown paper bags. Please put them on the table as you enter the gathering room. (please no egg cartons) Thank you!



HOW TO GIVE. There is an 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!



Sunday, November 30

following worship. We will enjoy a light soup lunch and decorate the fellowship hall for Christmas inside and out. Please become apart of the team. Many hands make light work. Your help will be a gift to us all.

**COVENANT
"EEK" SQUAD**

Join the Covenant "Eek" Squad!

We have Covenant members who sometimes need a ride or assistance with last-minute needs. This volunteer group would essentially be willing to be a member of a group-communication-thread (kind of like a prayer chain) where we can broadcast needs by phone and members can respond in real-time if they are able to help. We imagine that most of the needs in the thread will be for our senior Covenant members who may occasionally need a ride to a doctor appointment, help moving a piece of furniture, etc. Please message Amy to join the Covenant Eek Squad!





SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 am Nursery

9:30 am Church School
for all ages

11:00am Worship

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

GREETERS/USHERS: Alan Edwards, Judy Capie, Jim Newland, Paige Cummings

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025

LITURGIST: Jim Anderson

GREETERS/USHERS: Jim & Sandy Whitney, Dennis & Carol Calbos


Congregational Care Coordinator for November: June Meyers





**JOIN OUR
NURSERY
VOLUNTEERS**



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

 **Commitment:** Once every four months

 **Times:** 9:30AM and 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

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



NOVEMBER 09, 2025

Lily McKay, Sallie Hale, Don Bower

NOVEMBER 16, 2025 Lily McKay,
Clayton & Grace Adams



COVENANT CONNECTION

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

5:30pm with a family style meal prepared by our own Chef Patrick (donation \$3 each)

6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

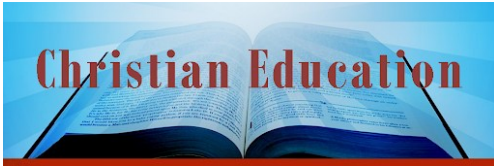
6:15pm Adult Bible Study facilitated by Pastor Tom

7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Hurricane Melissa made landfall as a Category 5 storm in Jamaica on Tuesday, October 28th. The impact will require years of rebuilding. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing grants to address urgent, immediate needs, and will remain for the Long-Term Recovery to address unmet needs. The magnitude of this storm will require the development of long-term projects and assistance, both for the physical and emotional long-lasting effects.

Follow this link to donate: <https://pcusa.org/donate/dr000194-disaster-relief-hurricane-and-typhoon-relief>



“THE GOD-BOTHERERS” Class will meet November 09 at 9:30 am. Facilitated by Pastor Tom.

The "UPPER ROOM" November 09 at 9:30am 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” November 09 at 9:30 am. This Sunday we will be discussing **Chapter 11, Authoritarian Reactionary Christianity in Trump’s United States, pages 131-143.**

Juniors (K-3rd) Class November 09 at 9:30am

Middlers (4th—7th) November 09 at 9:30am

Covenant Youth Connection—November 09 at 5 pm

Green Dream Team Update

Covenant Is Composting!

The Green Dream Team (GDT) is excited to launch a new composting initiative! You will now see compost buckets at Youth Group, Covenant Connection, and other church gatherings.

How It Works: It’s easy—just place your food scraps (including meat and dairy) and paper products (anything that once came from a living thing) into the buckets. GDT members will then take the buckets to local compost drop-off sites in Athens-Clarke County (ACC). The ACC Solid Waste Department collects these materials and turns them into nutrient-rich compost, which is used in landscaping and sold to businesses and individuals.

Did You Know? Athens is one of only two publicly owned commercial composting facilities in the entire state of Georgia—something can be proud of!

Why Compost? Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills , lowering our carbon footprint, Preventing methane emissions, a powerful greenhouse gas produced when organic waste decomposes in landfills Returning carbon to the soil, improving its health and helping combat climate change Creating nutrient-rich soil that helps prevent erosion, absorbs moisture, supports plant growth, and even helps clean contaminated soil

Want to Learn More? If you have questions or concerns about this new initiative, please contact the GDT. Thank you for supporting our Earth Care Congregation commitment and for helping us care for God’s beautiful creation.

Reminders:

Remember to bring ink cartridges and batteries for us to take to CHaRM for recycling and bring plastic grocery bags to be reused by the food pantry.



News from our sister church in Olomouc, Czech Republic: Repairs to the church roof are still ongoing, and we sometimes encounter problems that are really difficult to solve. We ask for your prayers of intercession. The school year in the Czech Republic begins in September, which is why we hold a festive service outside the church, in the rose garden (rosarium), on the first Sunday in September. This year the weather was beautiful, and many of us, young and old, gathered to rejoice in our community in this beautiful setting. We also celebrated Thanksgiving Sunday and are grateful that several families with children have joined our community. For those of you who know Misa and Dan, their second daughter, Lea, was born in the summer! We look forward to meeting some of you at the Partnership conference in Pittsburgh. Honza Dostal, Jirka Stas, and Jana Vrajovj will most likely be attending.

The Church Partnership Network (CPN) is the organization that matched us with our sister church. It supports five American/Czech partnerships--with more on the way. These partnerships create annual spring and autumn online conferences as well as in-person conferences every three years. Valerie Stone plans to represent Covenant at the upcoming in-person conference at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary May 3-6, 2026. We're looking for more people to get involved with the CPN, the Pittsburgh conference, and the church in Olomouc. Please contact Valerie if you're interested. (valeriefreystone at gmail)

New Needs for Jubilee Partners:

Medium or larger car seats/convertible 3 in 1 are ideal

2 large crock pots

Kitchen strainer

Slotted spoons

Can openers

Large mixing bowls

Kid friendly dishes-plastic

Queen sheet sets cotton preferred

Queen quilted mattress cover

Dresser

Coffee table or end tables

Small arm chair or rocking chair

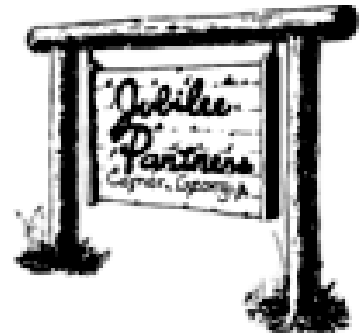
Medium pot with lid

Boys size 8 coat, pants, shirts and sweaters

Girls size 6 coat

Colored pencils

Watercolor paper



Jubilee Partners is a Christian service community in rural Georgia, founded in 1979.

Their primary work is to offer hospitality to refugees who have experienced violence or persecution. Jubilee offers refugees a place for recovery and healing as well as practical supports such as language classes, legal resources and medical care. The community, in turn, is profoundly enriched as they walk alongside these families.

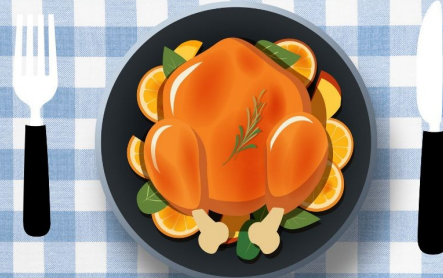
Please contact DeLynda Tweedell if you have any of the listed items to donate at dtweedell@hotmail.com

Presbyterian Women

Covenant PW will meet on Thursday, Nov 20, 9:30am in the Covenant Library. Paula will lead our Bible Study Lesson (#3). Caly and Jennifer will provide refreshments. We will also assemble the Exam Care Packages for the students at The Table and Lydia's Place that morning. Hope to see you there! There will be a Zoom link for those unable to attend the meeting in person.

Thanks to all who participated in the Halloween Treat Buckets Project for the children experiencing homelessness in Athens. It was wonderful way to show that we care! Please contact Jennifer at jenofrey@gmail.com for any questions.

MEAL PROVIDERS NEEDED: COVENANT YOUTH GROUP



SUNDAY EVENINGS • 5-6:30 PM

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO BRING A MEAL TO THE COVENANT YOUTH GROUP, SCAN THE CODE AND SIGN UP!



DINNER NEEDED (FOR APPROX. 15) SERVED AT 5:30 P.M., CLEAN-UP NEEDS TO BE DONE BY 6:30 P.M.



ROOTED IN FAITH FOR 150 YEARS Since 1875, Thornwell has been rooted in faith! It is through our faith that God calls us to care for the most vulnerable and know that He will provide. Thornwell began as dream of a young Presbyterian minister, Dr. William Plumer Jacobs, and the faithful gift of fifty cents from a 10-year-old boy named Willie Anderson. That seed of hope grew into a ministry that has served thousands of children and families with love, healing, and support. Now, 150 years later, Thornwell continues to serve children and families through a Christ-centered continuum of care, supporting children, teens, young adults, and parents through programs across Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Each November, churches like yours join in Thornwell Emphasis Month to celebrate this legacy and continue the work Dr. Jacobs began, helping families grow strong and stay rooted in faith. Whether through a prayer, a post on social media, or coins dropped into a beloved Tom the Turkey bank, your gifts make a lasting difference. Let's continue the legacy, rooted in faith and growing in love. Ways to give: Fill up the Turkey with your coins (on the table in the gathering room or in the narthex), Make check payable to Covenant with Thornwell in the memo portion, or <https://thornwell.org/give/>

Christmas Concert Sunday, December 7 at 2pm at Covenant.

New Horizons Band will perform "Sounds of the Season".

Celebrate the magic of Christmas through music! A special offering will be taken for Project Safe.

A Reception will follow. Free & Open to the Public.



Please look through these volunteer opportunities at Covenant in November and sign up if you can help!

1. DONATIONS NEEDED: Thanksgiving Gift Card Drive for families in need of food from Gaines Elementary School and Cedar Shoals High School Between now and the third week of November, we are collecting \$25 Walmart Gift Cards for distribution to families most in need of food during the Thanksgiving break. Please drop your donations of \$25 Walmart Gift Cards off to Karen or Amy in the church office by Thursday, November 20. If you prefer to help by check, please label the envelope for "Gaines/Cedar Thanksgiving Gift Cards" and the church will purchase gift cards on your behalf.



2. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Covenant Cooks "First Tuesday" Dinners (Alternating between Athens Area Homeless Shelter for children and families and The Table)

Sign up to volunteer here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-44868340-serving#/>

3. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Athens Free Clinic @ Covenant Volunteers are needed to welcome the medical team into the church building and to sit at the front desk to greet clients as they arrive for their appointments. Sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-athens#/>

4. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Covenant Food Pantry (Every Thursday) Sign-up to volunteer here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/>

5. BAKERS NEEDED: Covenant Birthday Brigade The Covenant Birthday Brigade makes birthday cakes for children with a birthday while living at the Athens Area Homeless Shelter. Please email Amy at abaer@covpresathens.org if you are interested in joining the Covenant Birthday Brigade!

6. COMPOSTING HELP NEEDED: Delivery of compost materials

We need help delivering our composting materials to collection sites. Please sign up at this link if you can help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-59916058-covenant#/>

7. MEAL PROVIDERS NEEDED: Covenant Youth Group

Please sign up below if you are able to bring dinner to the Covenant Youth Group on a Sunday evening (approx. 15 people). Sign up at this link if you can help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-54091633-covenant>

Covenant by the Week!

November 9, 2025

SUNDAY -

9:30am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am WORSHIP
2:30pm 12 Step Group
5:00pm—7:00pm Covenant Youth Connection
dinner & program
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
2pm New Horizons Strings Rehearsal
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
6:00pm Scouts
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom
7:00pm Bells of NEGA

TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

12:30pm Retirees Covered Dish Luncheon
12 noon—3pm Bigger Vision
4:00pm Socrates Café
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
6:30pm Finance Ministry Team Meeting
7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
5:30pm Covenant Connection-Family Dinner
6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:15pm Adult Bible Study/Pastor Tom
7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

9:30am Campus Kitchen
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
3:00pm Athen's Women Singing Group
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting
7:00pm Covenant Book Club Meeting in Library

FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

SATURDAY

10:30am 12 Step Group

November 16, 2025

SUNDAY -

9:30am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am WORSHIP
12:15pm Green Dream Team Meeting
2:30pm 12 Step Group
5:00pm—7:00pm Covenant Youth Connection
dinner & program
6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
1pm — 4pm & 4pm—7pm Athens Free Clinic
2pm New Horizons Strings Rehearsal
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
6:00pm Scouts
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom
7:00pm Bells of NEGA

TUESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

12 noon—3pm Bigger Vision
6:00pm Girl Scouts (downstairs)
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
2pm—4pm OLLI in Fellowship Hall
5:30pm Covenant Connection-Family Dinner
6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:15pm Adult Bible Study/Pastor Tom
7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

9:30am PW Bible Study
9:30am Campus Kitchen
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution
2:00pm Knitters & Knotters
3:00pm Athen's Women Singing Group
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting
7:00pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting

FRIDAY Office Open 10am—4pm

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

SATURDAY

10:30am 12 Step Group