



Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on YouTube for
Sunday, February 15, 2026 at 11am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

The Covenanter

Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1065 Gaines School Rd.
Athens, Ga 30605 706-5482756

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

The Voices of Gullah
Sunday, February 15 at 2pm
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Spirituals and Shout Songs!
FREE CONCERT and OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC!



Join us Wednesday, February 18 for
Covenant Connect Family dinner at
5:30pm and
Ash Wednesday Worship at 6:00pm.

You will find the 2026 Lenten Devotional,
*Discipleship in a Divided Age: a Lenten Journey
through Mathew's Gospel by Terri McDowell Ott
on the desk as you enter through the double
glass doors and on the table.*

LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FEBRUARY 15th!

Feast & Fellowship (*formerly Heart of Covenant*)

Join us Saturday, February 21, 6p,m - 9pm for a three course dinner for
ages 14 and up, with an opportunity to get to know each other better and
table hopping fun! Suggested donation \$15 each. Look for the sign up
sheet on the bulletin board near the mailboxes or Sign Up Genius at this
link: [Sign Up Now!](#) Questions? Contact Caly DePalma

calyd44@gmail.com or Rebecca Silver silverot33@gmail.com

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

IN OUR PRAYERS: Shari Cobb's father, Sheldon Koppersmith, having high risk back surgery on Feb. 20. He is 90 years old; Pam & Bruce Butts children's grandmother with kidney failure; Lydia Lee a family friend of the Buchanans in ICU at Piedmont; Paula Zimdars having knee replacement surgery February 16; DeLynda Tweedell's father in hospice; Wanda Minton's brother, James recovering from neck surgery Jan 28; Ellie McMinn's brother, Mike Marshall recovering from a stroke; Gloria Pylant's brother, Richard Ellis undergoing radiation for stage 1 lung cancer; Cindy Barber's mother, Faye Boatenreiter resting comfortably at Heidi's home in Cumming; Austin Cooper, friend of Brian and Valerie Stone, with a cancer diagnosis; Kirk Blumenshine, Ansley Tweedell's uncle in law, at home and having rehab; Heide Wiegel recovering from hip surgery after a fall; Michael Shaffer a neighbor with health issues; Raquel Bartra with serious illness; Bob Placek in skilled nursing at PVA and Joyce at home; our country.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Isaiah 58; 1-9a, (9b-12) Psalm 112: 1-9
I Corinthians 2: 1-12 (13-16) Matthew 5: 13-20

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

LET'S GATHER TOGETHER FOR OUR
ANNUAL GATHERING
First Presbyterian, Monticello GA
SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2026

Financial Summary for Week #32

Anticipated Pledges— \$274,657.23

Pledges Received— \$ 283,679.13

Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!

Bowden Church Vocations Fund: \$1,100

Lunch Bunch

First Tuesdays at 11:30am at DePalma's
Eastside

*Join us for great food and conversation.
All are welcome!*



"I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore!"

And you won't feel like you're in Athens anymore when you enter the venue at 1055 Barber Street at 11:00 am on February 24. The room is one you have to see to believe. Covenant's theme is "There's no place like home" which is the idea behind Family Promise, designed to keep homeless families together and help them find a home. Please help support this important work by supporting its major fund raiser, La Table. You may register at familypromiseathens.org/events or by signing up in the church office. Be sure to indicate your food preference and enter Covenant as your host.

Drum roll, please...here are the Family Promise All-Stars from 2025:

Gloria Pylant

Shari Cobb

Bert Ballard-Myer

Dell & Donnie Whitehead

Nan Cantrell

Marilyn Martin

These folks, along with Covenant's volunteer coordinators, volunteered time, meals, services and other resources for our Family Promise families transitioning from homelessness to independent living in 2025. Covenant's partnership with Family Promise is one of our oldest outreach missions. Volunteers are the backbone of our success impacting the housing crisis in Athens. For more information, contact any of the Covenant FP volunteer coordinators: the Stones, the Parishes, the Hales, or the Bowers.



Guns to Gardens

A Safe Disposal Opportunity for Unwanted Guns

Saturday, March 28, 2026, 12PM-3PM

Location: 1250 S. Lumpkin St, Athens GA

Donors will receive a thank you gift in the form of a \$100-\$300 gift card per gun.

Scan the link below for more info:



Hosted by The Table UGA & RAWtools South



Please note that your contribution statements for 2025 are now in your mailbox or have been mailed.

If you have any questions, please see Karen or Judy.

Due to the changes in the structure of the company, there have been delays in fulfilling the directory contract and photo print orders. As soon as there is an update on expected delivery date, it will be shared with the congregation. Please contact DeLynda Tweedell with any questions at dtweedell@hotmail.com

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study
 Thursday, February 19 at 9:30am
 Deb Millwood and Pam Butts will facilitate the lesson. Please read lesson 6. Betsy Burmeister and Arnelle Combs will provide refreshments.

Bowden Church Vocations Fund-
A special offering for Covenant Presbyterian Church-
February 2026

We continue to be grateful to God for all the gifts of the Spirit seen in Covenant's ministry of the past 60 + years. Named in honor of Jim & Jere Bowden's 35-year ministry here at Covenant, the BOWDEN CHURCH VOCATIONS FUND was established in 1996 by our Session to support our members who have been called to full-time employment in some form of Christian ministry. A special offering for the Bowden Fund will be received this month. Make checks out to Covenant and mark them BCVF or Bowden Fund. PLEASE RESPOND GENEROUSLY, as we support our members in this journey of faith together! See the display on the wall next to the office for all those that Covenant has sponsored.

Many thanks!



“THE GOD-BOTHERERS” 9:30AM February 15, 2026 We will continue our study of “troubling texts” of the Bible.

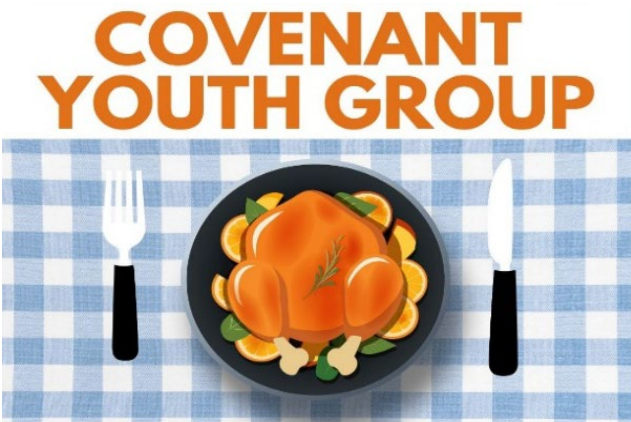
The "UPPER ROOM" 9:30am February 15, 2026 James Malone hosts and different class members facilitate the discussion of the weekly chapter in The Present Word. If you would like to participate via Zoom please contact James at gillbillvolume1@yahoo.com

The “JOURNEY” February 15, 2026 We continue our study/discussion of *The Road to Wisdom: on Truth, Science, Faith, and Trust*.

Juniors (K-3rd) Class February 15, 2026 at 9:30am

Middlers (4th—7th) February 15, 2026 at 9:30am

Covenant Youth Connection—February 15, 2026 dinner and program



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.

Candlelight Vigil

for those affected by mass detention and deportation

Sunday, February 22, 6pm – 7:30pm at
the Courthouse
115 E. Hancock Ave.
Bring your own candle
(if possible) for more info contact
706-589-5568

Sponsored by the Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition & Interfaith Clergy Partnership of Greater Athens.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

LITURGIST: Claire Bruner

GREETERS/USHERS: Luanne & Bill Rigsby, Stephanie Cahill, Robyn Malone

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

LITURGIST: Kirche Rogers

GREETERS/USHERS: Bob Brewster & Sarah Lamb, Susan & Randy Parish

Congregational Care Coordinator for February: Dell Whitehead

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 am Nursery

9:30 am Church School
for all ages

11:00am Worship—

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



COVENANT CONNECTION

February 18, 2026

5:30pm Covenant Connection family meal

6:00pm Ash Wednesday Worship

NURSERY MINISTRY

February 15, 2026

Lily McKay, Brian Herndon, Don Bower

February 22, 2026 Lily McKay, Joan &

Hannah Baird, Stephanie Cahill

KNITTERS & KNOTTERS—

Thursday, February 18, 2026

Join us in the library every Thursday at 2pm.

We Knit & Knot and have lots of laughs.

No experience necessary.



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!



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

1. 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#/>

2. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (February): Covenant Cook "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: Covenant Food Pantry (Every Thursday)

Sign-up to volunteer here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/>

4. 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 Marlah Gaspard at mgaspard@helppathenshomeless.org if you are interested in joining the Covenant Birthday Brigade!

If you are interested in volunteering with any of the following opportunities throughout the year, please reach out to your Mission & Outreach Elders (Bob Brewster & Deb Millwood):

Athens Pridefest in June: Covenant usually participates in the Pride Parade and hosts a table at the festival

Outreach to Cedar Shoals High School and Gaines Elementary: Watch for opportunities during the school year to donate basic need items for their Care Center (i.e.. deodorant, soap, etc.), grocery gift cards during the holidays or appreciation meals for the teachers and staff

Environmental Outreach: Watch for announcements from the Green Dream Team about how we can be better stewards of the earth

Bigger Vision Mobile Day Center (Every Tuesday, Noon-3 p.m.): Distributing lunch and basic need items to our neighbors on the East Side experiencing homelessness

Athens Access to Justice Legal Pop-Up Clinic: Covenant usually hosts this clinic once per year and it is usually announced at the end of the summer

For the month of January Covenant served 2,159 food insecure neighbors. Thank you Covenant volunteers and all those who contribute financially to this important ministry. *May We All Have Enough!*

THE PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK

2026 Lenten Devotional

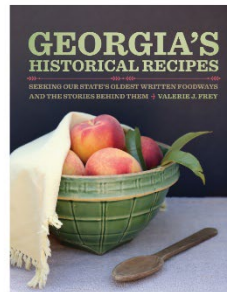
*Discipleship in a Divided Age:
A Lenten Journey through Matthew's Gospel*

LIVING FAITHFULLY AMID
DIVISION AND UNCERTAINTY

WRITTEN BY
TERI MCDOWELL OTT



Pick up your copy on
the desk or table as you
enter through the
double glass doors.



HOW TO READ A COOKBOOK

(Like a Historian)

Valerie J. Frey

When we pick up an old cookbook, there are clues to be found about what the kitchens of the past looked like and the lives of the people who cooked in them. Many cookbooks and recipes still exist from early years, yet most sit quietly in archives, waiting to be rediscovered. In this presentation, archivist and writer Valerie J. Frey, author of multiple food history books for the University of Georgia Press, will lead an exploration of recipes with a historian's eye. Come learn about yesteryear's cooks and taste the history of Georgia, the South, and the United States through historic foodways.

**Books will be available for
purchase and signing!**

**Sunday
February 22
2:00 PM**



Covenant by the Week!

February 15, 2026

SUNDAY -

9:30am Sunday School for all ages

11:00am Worship

2:00pm Voices of Gullah – free concert

2:30pm 12 Step Group

5pm Covenant Youth – dinner & program

6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

Fellowship Hall, Kitchen & Breezeway CLOSED for work on floors

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal in WC

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 Scouts

6:00pm Campus Kitchen

7:00pm Worship Team Meeting

7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

11:30am New Horizons Band

5:30pm Covenant Connection Family Meal

6:00pm ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am – 4pm

9:30am PW BIBLE STUDY

9:30 am Campus Kitchen

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution

1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution

2pm Knitters and Knotters

7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

SATURDAY

10:30am 12 Step Group

February 22, 2026

SUNDAY -

9:30am Sunday School for all ages

11:00am Worship

2:30pm 12 Step Group

6pm Covenant Youth – CandleLight Vigil at Courthouse

6:30pm Campus Kitchen

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal

4pm – 7pm Athens Free Clinic

7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom

7:00pm Bells of NEGA

TUESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

11am – 1pm La Table

12 noon—3pm Bigger Vision

4:00pm Socrates Cafe

6:00pm Campus Kitchen

7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

11:30am New Horizons Band

5:30pm Covenant Connection Family Meal

6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal

6:15pm Adult Bible Study with Pastor Tom

7:15pm Adult Choir

Rehearsal

7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am – 4pm

9:30 am Campus Kitchen

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution

1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution

2pm Knitters and Knotters

6:15pm Stated Session Meeting

7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

Set Up for Presbytery Meeting in Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY

10:00am Presbytery Meeting (doors open at 8:30am)