



Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on YouTube for **Sunday, May 24, 2026 at 11am:** <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>

Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

## **The Covenanter - May 24, 2026**

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1065 Gaines School, Athens, GA 30605  
[www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org)



### **Pentecost Picnic**

**Sunday, May 24 following worship**

This year on Pentecost Sunday we are having an indoor/outdoor picnic after the worship service, and **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Fellowship Ministry Team will provide sandwiches, pasta salad, fruit and drinks. For those who are interested (not required) you can bring a Red Dessert to share. Think strawberries, raspberries, cherries, red icing, and etc. To make it even more fun we plan to have prizes for various categories! Food will be served in the Fellowship Hall and seating will be available, but we encourage families to bring chairs and sit outside as well.

**Athens Pride & Queer Collective** hosts its annual PrideFest and Parade on **June 6, 2026, in Downtown Athens, GA**, from 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM. This free community event features a parade (stepping off at 5 PM), live music, vendors, a Kids Zone, and food trucks to celebrate LGBTQ+ pride in a fun, inclusive, and safe environment.

#### A message from Bert Ballard-Myer:

Covenant will once again have a booth, and members and friends will march in the parade. Because my day will be consumed with being downtown, beginning at 8am, I am looking for volunteers to coordinate the Covenant contingent. I will make sure everything needed will be staged in the Fellowship Hall. Table, tent, chairs, banner, etc. will all be in one place for easy pickup. I will let folks know what Covenant's booth number will be, and the time we are delegated for setup, once that has been determined. I would appreciate it if a few folks would take the lead to coordinate the effort to get thing to and from the festival, and fill time slots for tabling at the Covenant booth from 3-9pm. Contact Bert Ballard-Myer if you would like to volunteer or have questions, [mysammie1@yahoo.com](mailto:mysammie1@yahoo.com).

Member NE GEORGIA PRESBYTERY

Synod of the South ATLANTIC, GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Karen & Bruce Menke, as Karen is in hospice care; Beecher Mathes beginning radiation for endometrial cancer May 18; Lisa Buchanan's friend's husband, Terry Shannon, suffering from stage 4 cancer; friends of Paige Cummings, Steve & Beverly Poitras, as Steve has serious health issues & diagnosed with chronic CML Leukemia; John Wilkin's sister, Sarah Goodrich diagnosed with cancer; Bruce & Cathi Lancaster's daughter, Emily Gaither, undergoing chemo for breast cancer; Bill Barstow recovering from surgery; Lisa Buchanan recovering at home; Gloria Pylant's brother, Richard Ellis recovering from surgery & waiting for test results; Paige Cummings brother, Stephen Mercer with complications after bladder cancer surgery; Margaret Lee, a friend of Tom Buchanan, for ongoing medical issues; David Knox recovering at home from a broken ankle; Pam & Bruce Butts grandchildren's mother, Ginger Butts, approved for a kidney transplant; Ellie McMinn's brother, Mike Marshall recovering from a stroke; Bob Placek in skilled nursing at PVA; Joyce Placek healing from a broken wrist; our country and our world.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Acts 2: 1-21, Numbers 11: 24-30,  
Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b, I Corinthians 12: 3b-13,  
John 20: 19-23. John 7: 37-39

### Financial Summary for Week 46

Anticipated Pledges— \$394,819.77  
ACTUAL- \$416,778.59

*Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!  
Caring Hands - \$840.00*

Thank you to everyone that have turned in your pledge cards. If you have not turned in your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible.  
Thank you!



To give to covenant online scan the QR code or click on this link:  
<https://www.covpresathens.org/online-giving>

Athens Area Emergency Food Bank needs brown paper bags!  
Leave them on the table as you go into the gathering room.  
Thank you! *(Please no egg cartons)*



Sign up to provide a floral arrangement for Worship June 7 thru August 30. You can give flowers in honor or memory of someone special. Let the office know. Signup sheet is on the bulletin boards next to the mailboxes. Thank you!

It is almost punch and cookies time. Sign up on the bulletin board next to the mailboxes to provide punch and cookies after 10:00am worship beginning June 7. **(please no red punch)**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! For the Food Distribution.**  
**The college volunteers will be gone for the summer.**  
**Now is a great time to volunteer. Most needed time is the 12:30pm - 1:30pm shift. Thank you Covenant!**



**THE GOD-BOTHERERS 9:30am May 24 2026-** the class is currently studying the place of the apocryphal Gospel of Thomas in early Christianity and reading Elaine Pagels' book *Beyond Belief*.

**THE UPPER ROOM 9:30 am, May 24, 2026** James Malone hosts, with different members facilitating the discussion of the weekly chapter in *The Present Word*. To participate via Zoom, please contact James at [giillbillvolume1@yahoo.com](mailto:giillbillvolume1@yahoo.com).

**The "JOURNEY" May 24, 2026 This Sunday** We will discuss the movie, "The Testament of Ann Lee". Ann Lee was the revered founder of the "Shakers".

**Juniors (K-3rd) Class May 24, 2026 at 9:30am**

**Midders (4th—7th) May 24, 2026 at 9:30am**



Covenant has talent and we want to see that on display again at this years Coffee House! Sign-up sheet will be posted in June. If you already know you'd like to share your skills and unique abilities with your Covenant family, contact Linda Rogers 706 247 6225, or [lrogers@uga.edu](mailto:lrogers@uga.edu).

**GIVE TO THE CARING HANDS FUND | PRESBYTERIAN HOMES OF GEORGIA**

**Provide financial security to residents.**

For Presbyterian Homes of Georgia residents who may have a special need, the *Caring Hands Fund* provides financial support for medical care, transportation, food, and other needs as they arise. Most of all, your gift will provide peace of mind and financial security by helping to ensure no resident will ever be asked to leave a PHGA community because they have outlived their resources through no fault of their own.

Check or money order: Please make your check or money order payable to Presbyterian Homes of Georgia, and mail to: Presbyterian Homes of Georgia, P.O. Box 926, Quitman, GA 31643 or make out check to Covenant with Caring Hands in the memo portion of the check.

## Sunday Schedule

9:30am Sunday School for all ages

11:00am Worship

### Nursery Ministry

**May 24, 2026** Lily McKay,  
Brian Herndon, Marie Ballard-Myer

**May 31, 2026** Lila McKay  
Pam Knox, Rebecca Silver

### Knitters & Knotters

**Thursday, May 28 at 2:00pm**

Join us in the library every Thursday. We knit and knot and have lots of laughs. No experience necessary

**SUNDAY, May 24, 2026**

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Robyn Malone, Stephanie Cahill,  
Alan Edwards, Judy Capie

**LITURGIST:** Lisa Buchanan

**SUNDAY, May 31, 2026**

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Luanne & Bill Rigsby,  
Bob Brewster & Sarah Lamb

**LITURGIST:** Sandy Whitney

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE for May:** Linda Koehler

### OPEN AND CLOSE THE BUILDING

**Chris Wilson 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday      Judy Capie 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

**Pam Knox 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday      Tim Foutz 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**Brian Striggow 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

#### Grounds Stewards

**First Monday Week – Katy Terry & Chris Wilson**

**Second Monday Week – Don & Alex Clark**

**Third Monday Week - Phil Hale & Phil Koehler**

**Fourth Monday Week – Susan & Randy Parish**

**Fifth Monday Week – Ellen Stoneburner**

**Celebrate the Earth today and everyday!      Theme: Our Power, Our Planet.**

Earth Day is a reminder for all of us to use our energies to help protect and preserve the earth. Our Covenant Green Dream Team has several earth care activities planned for this spring with more in the works for the coming months. See [Earthday.org](http://Earthday.org) for more info on this global event.

*Online readers:*

**May 23rd: Green Dream Team/ Covenant Road Clean Up 9:00am**

It's spring and time for us to help beautify our section of Barnett Shoals Road.

All are welcome to join us! Please bring a water bottle, work gloves, and sunglasses.

RSVP to Jennifer at [jenofrey@gmail.com](mailto:jenofrey@gmail.com) or sign up on the Covenant bulletin board.

Meet at Covenant to receive equipment and road assignment.

#### **Future Events:**

**Nature Walk from 9am-10am. Saturday, May 30**

Meet at Sandy Creek Nature Center.

Bring water, snacks, sunscreen and whatever else you may need for an enjoyable experience.

**Summer Movie Night-** Wednesday, June 17, 7pm. GDT to host viewing of "Ocean" movie with David Attenborough. All are welcome! Snacks will be provided. Movie is courtesy of Athens Rotary Club



Please look through the volunteer opportunities below and follow the link provided or contact the church 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 to volunteer:

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

Volunteers are especially needed to help with setting up the space ahead of the clinic's start and ensuring all visitors feel welcome and supported. No prior experience is necessary—just a friendly attitude and a willingness to lend a hand.

**2. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 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)**

**Volunteering with the Food Pantry** is a great way for Covenanters to help. Sessions are from 9:30-11am where we pack grocery bags, and from 12:30pm-1:30pm, where we distribute groceries. The afternoon session is particularly important as it takes about 15 volunteers to run smoothly. Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA5AA22A20-covenant#/>

**The college volunteers will be gone for the summer so now is a great time to volunteer. Most needed time is the 12:30pm – 1:30pm shift. Thank you 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 and Project Safe. Please email Marlah Gaspard at [mgaspard@helppathenshomeless.org](mailto:mgaspard@helppathenshomeless.org), if you are interested in joining the Covenant Birthday Brigade and want to provide a cake for the Shelter. Emma Boardman is our contact at Project Safe. She can be contacted at [eboardman@project-safe.org](mailto:eboardman@project-safe.org), if you want to add your name to our email volunteer list.

**Week of May 24, 2026**

**Sunday – PENTECOST**

**9:30am Sunday School**

11:00am Worship

12:15pm Pentecost Picnic

**Monday – Office Closed**

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal

7:00pm 12 Step Program (Journey Class Room)

**Tuesday – Office Closed for Memorial Day**

12noon – 3pm Bigger Vision

7:00pm 12 Step Program (fellowship Hall)

7pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting

**Wednesday – Office Open 10am – 4:00pm**

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal

7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting downstairs

**Thursday – Office Open 10am – 4pm**

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution

1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution

2pm Knitters & Knotters

2:30pm Athen's Women Singers

7:00pm 12 Step Program (Journey Class Room)

**Friday – Office Open 10am – 4pm**

1:00 pm – 4:00pm Oil Portraiture in

Oasis Theatre

7:00pm - 12 Step Meeting in *Fellowship Hall*

**Saturday**

9:00am – 10:00am Nature Walk at Sandy Creek

with Wyatt Herndon

10:30am OE Anonymous Meeting

**Week of May 31, 2026**

**Sunday –**

**9:30am Sunday School**

11:00am Worship

**Monday – Office Closed**

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal

7:00pm 12 Step Program (Journey Class Room)

**Tuesday – Office Open 10am – 4pm**

12noon – 3pm Bigger Vision

7:00pm 12 Step Program (fellowship hall)

**Wednesday – Office Open 10am – 4:00pm**

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal

7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting downstairs

**Thursday – Office Open 10am – 4pm**

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution

1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution

2pm Knitters & Knotters

2:30pm Athen's Women Singers

7:00pm 12 Step Program (Journey Class Room)

**Friday – Office Open 10am – 4pm**

1:00 pm – 4:00pm Oil Portraiture in

Oasis Theatre

7:00pm - 12 Step Meeting (Journey Class Room)

**Saturday**

10:30am OE Anonymous Meeting

**3pm – 11pm Athens PrideFest & Parade**

We are looking for a rectangle burgundy tablecloth that was on the table in the gathering room. And a burgundy cut glass votive is missing out of the narthex. If you know what happened to one of both items, please contact Arnelle Combs or Betsy Burmeister. Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Beginning **June 7, 2026** Worship will begin at **10:00am**