

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on YouTube for
Sunday, July 26, 2026 at 11am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
 Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER July 26, 2026

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



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE for SUNDAYS

Journey Sunday School Class begins at 8:45am

The Upper Room Sunday School Class begins at 8:45am

WORSHIP at 10:00am



“Summer Saints” Concludes on July 26 - The 2026 Summer Saints series concludes at 10 AM on **Sunday, July 26**, with the focus on Georgia-born author Flannery O’Connor! Following worship and the Cookies & Punch reception, there will be an opportunity to explore her life and work further - with a presentation and discussion in the Journey Classroom at 11:30 AM led by Dr. Sarah Gordon, long-time English professor at Georgia College & State University and acclaimed O’Connor scholar!

If you would like to join us, in preparation please read O’Connor’s most famous short story, “A Good Man is Hard to Find”. It may also be found online at

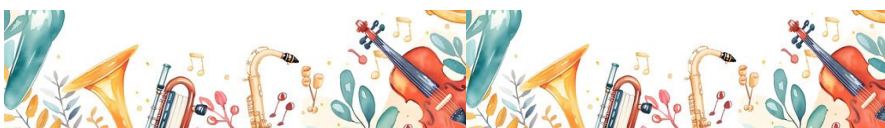
www.frontporchacademy.org/oconnorgoodman.pdf

Covenant CoffeeHouse & Talent Show!

The verdict is in - Covenant definitely has phenomenal talent! Twenty-three people demonstrated their incredible music, reading, and storytelling skills; multiple people provided scrumptious desserts; and countless others helped with setup and cleanup on Wednesday night. Let’s also not forget the audience who appreciated every single minute. No power outage or heavy rainstorm this year, but Dolly Parton and Yankee Doodle showed up and one group did try to eat Mary’s lamb! Curious? Ask an attendee what happened! A huge “thank you” to all involved with this event.



**Sunday, August 16 beginning
at 9:15am!**



IN OUR PRAYERS: Bruce Menke and family in the passing of Karen, Saturday, July 11th; Erin Stoneburner with complications from a broken ankle; Wanda Minton's brother, James Venable having back surgery July 27th; Carol Calbos recovering from knee replacement surgery July 8th; Kathryn Fowler recovering from foot surgery; Missy Green's son, Jason, recovering from a serious dog attack in Cleveland, Ohio; Marcia Verbrugge at home with heart monitor; Lisa Buchanan's friend's husband, Terry Shannon, suffering from stage 4 cancer; friends of Paige Cummings, Steve & Beverly Poitrat, 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; 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; our country and our world.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Genesis 29: 15-28, Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b, Psalm 128,
I Kings 3: 5-12, Psalm 119: 129-136, Romans 8: 26-39,
Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Financial Summary for Week #3

Anticipated Pledges— \$ 28,345.30

Pledges Received— \$ 22,592.90

Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!



Congratulations to
Donny & Dell Whitehead on their
57th Wedding Anniversary
this weekend.



To give to covenant online
scan the QR code or click on
this link: [https://
www.covpresathens.org/
online-giving](https://www.covpresathens.org/online-giving)

The celebration of life for Karen Menke will be
on Saturday, August 8th at 2pm at Covenant.
A reception will follow in the fellowship hall.

The Presbyterian Foundation (Vanco Online) has issued a
new QR code. See above.

*A special thank you to everyone for their
support during Karen's illness. Your pray-
ers, cards, and kind thoughts mean so
much. And especially to Pastor Tom for
the home visits that meant the world to
Karen and me. Bruce Menke*

OLOMOUC -- Please mark your calendar for dates
focusing on fellowship with our sister church in
Olomouc, Czech Republic. On Sunday, September 13
our worship service will focus on the partnership
between our churches. After the service, please stay
to enjoy a few Czech treats. On Wednesday,
September 16 at 5:30 PM during the Covenant Con-
nection dinner, we'll have a trip planning meeting for
those interested in learning about the 2027 group
trip. (Please RSVP to [valeriefreystone
at gmail.com](mailto:valeriefreystone@gmail.com) for the Wednesday meeting so we can
notify the kitchen crew.) The group trip to Olomouc
is planned for July 15 – 27, 2027. Our sister church will
provide lodging and travel help, so the trip is limited
to ten travelers.

Dear Covenant Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, cards and
words of encouragement with which you sup-
ported our family during the illness and passing
of my brother, Richard. You are all so dear.
Gloria Pylant, Alice & Patrick McMaster

Sunday Schedule

8:45am Upper Room Class

8:45am Journey Class

10:00am Worship

SUNDAY, July 26, 2026

LITURGIST: Jim Anderson

GREETERS/USHERS: Carol & Dennis Calbos, Alan Edwards, Judy Capie

SUNDAY, August 2, 2026

LITURGIST: Lisa Buchanan

GREETERS/USHERS: Luanne & Bill Rigsby, Susan & Randy Parish

Congregational Care Coordinator for August: Barbara Burnett

NURSERY MINISTRY 2026

Sunday, July 26

Luanne Rigsby, Paula Williams

SUNDAY, August 2

Ellen Stoneburner, Brian Herndon

If you would like to volunteer for the Nursery or just like more information contact Ellen Stoneburner at ellenstoneburner@gmail.com

KNITTERS & KNOTTERS—

Will resume Thursday, August 6

Join us in the library every Thursday at 2pm.

We Knit & Knot and have lots of laughs.

No experience necessary.

Winnie arrived safely in Kenya and is living in Nairobi, Kenya with her husband Prince. She sends greetings:

Dear Covenant family,
We are grateful for your generous farewell gift. It has made settling in back home that much easier, and we are beyond blessed to have your love and support.

Best, The Mburu-Betts

OPEN AND 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 & Alex Clark

Third Monday Week – Phil Hale & Phil Koehler

Fourth Monday Week – Susan & Randy Parish

Fifth Monday Week – Ellen Stoneburner



COVENANT CONNECTION

**Will resume Wednesday,
August 19, 2026 at 5:30pm**

5:30pm Covenant Connection family meal

6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal

6:15pm Bible Study with Pastor Tom

7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Green Dream Team News and Events

Remember to bring your ink cartridges and batteries to our table behind the desk in the front hall for recycling at CHaRM.
Please use the compost bins for food scraps after meals in the fellowship hall.

Thanks for all you do to be good stewards of our beautiful planet!



THE UPPER ROOM 8:45am, July 19, 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.

The "JOURNEY" July 19, 2026, 8:45am Join us this Sunday at 8:45 for coffee, concerns and celebrations, and a discussion about this week's "mystery of the Bible". In addition to exploring its religious/cultural significance, we will attempt to track **The Ark of the Covenant** from its origins and contents to its current whereabouts. We will seek information from the Bible AND other sources in our study. (Rumors that Indiana Jones will be present have been neither confirmed nor denied.)

FAMILY PROMISE NEEDS!

The framework for Family Promise has changed through the years. We no longer house the families in our church but provide dinner meals. They do have other needs that we can help with though. These include a variety of items that families need. During the month of July Covenant will be collecting some of these, including the items listed below. If you are able, please drop them off outside the church office and we will deliver them to Family Promise Headquarters.

Needed family supplies: Women's Deodorant, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Sponges, Trash Bags (kitchen size)

If these are items, you might be able to help with we will be collecting them at church throughout July. Look for the box outside the church office. We will collect them and deliver them to Family Promise.

Thanks for making a difference! Susan & Randy Parish

AUGUST Birthdays!

4 Kay Millar	16 Susan Shealy	23 Jeremy Mote
6 Paige Campbell	Carolyn Steuer	25 Bob Placek
Hank Tweedell	19 Karen Foutz	26 Tina Shelnutt
7 Claire Bruner	22 Rich Reaves	28 Claude Burnett
11 Linda Jay	Vera Simpson	Chuck Rosenberger
15 Katie Bemisderfer	Jim Thompson	31 Carol Huber
Annemarie Braswell	23 Gloria Pylant	Pam Thompson



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

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.

Covenant Cook "First Tuesday" Dinners (VOLUNTEERS MOST NEEDED)

Athens Area Homeless Shelter, (NEW ADDRESS) 205 Bray Street Unit #411

DROP OFF TIMES: 4:00pm – 6:00pm Sign up to volunteer here:

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

Sign up to volunteer here: *The TABLE signups will begin again in the fall*

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

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!

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 mgaupard@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 boardman@project-safe.org, if you want to add your name to our email volunteer list.

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!



Covenant by the Week!

July 26, 2026

SUNDAY

8:45am Sunday School Journey Class
8:45am Sunday School Upper Room Class
10:00am Worship
After Worship Punch & Cookies Reception
11:30am Dr. Sarah Gordon presentation in the Journey Classroom

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

8:30am—5:00pm PS—Youth Rooms
11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

TUESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

8:30am—5:00pm PS—Youth Rooms
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting in FH

WEDNESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

8:30am—5:00pm PS—Youth Rooms
11:30am New Horizons Band
2:00pm—4:00pm Critical Thinkers—OLLI
7:00pm Campus Kitchen Event in FH
7:00pm 12 Step Group—downstairs

THURSDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am-4pm

8:30AM—5:00PM PS—Youth Rooms
9:30 am Campus Kitchen
9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

8:30am Fellowship Hall Cleaned
8:30am—5:00pm PS—Youth Rooms

SATURDAY

10:30am 12 Step Group

August 02, 2026

SUNDAY -

8:45am Sunday School Journey Class
8:45am Sunday School Upper Room Class
10:00am Worship
After Worship Punch & Cookies Reception

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
6:00pm Campus Kitchen
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom

TUESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

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

WEDNESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

11:30am New Horizons Band
6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal
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
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

8:30am Fellowship Hall Cleaned

SATURDAY

10:30am 12 Step Group
2pm Memorial Service for Karen Menke
Reception following in the FH