

Please click here to view Covenant's Worship Service on YouTube for
Sunday, August 9, 2026 at 11am: <https://www.youtube.com/cpcathens>
Link to the bulletin: <https://www.covpresathens.org/bulletin/>

THE COVENANTER August 9, 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



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

RALLY DAY BRUNCH 9:15 AM

Join us for brunch consisting of donuts, muffins, croissants, fruit and coffee, tea & juice courtesy of the Fellowship Ministry Team.

MINISTRY FAIR 9:30 AM

You will have the opportunity to explore the many ways to get involved. Representatives from each ministry team will be available at individual tables throughout the room to answer questions, share information about their ministries, and discuss volunteer opportunities. Take time to visit the tables that interest you most and discover how your gifts and interests can make a difference in the life of our church. Our ministry teams include: *Building & Grounds, Christian Education, Congregational Care, Congregational Fellowship, Finance, Mission & Outreach, Personnel, & Worship*

CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP 11:00 AM

with commissioning of our Christian Education Teachers, Covenant Connection Leaders, and Youth Group Leaders

You can find the Covenant Programs & Events Brochure on the table in the in front of the offices or at this link: [Covenant's Programs & Events 2026-2027](#)

IN OUR PRAYERS: Bruce Menke and family in the passing of Karen, Saturday, July 11th; Erin Stoneburner with complications from a broken ankle; 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 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; Paige Cummings brother, Stephen Mercer with complications after bladder cancer surgery; Margaret Lee, a friend of Tom Buchanan, for ongoing medical issues; 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 37: 1-4,12-28, Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22
I Kings 19: 9-18, Psalm 85: 8-13
Romans 10: 5-15, Matthew 14: 22-33

Financial Summary for Week #5

Anticipated Pledges— \$ 47,242.12

Pledges Received— \$ 40,155.521

Thank you Covenant for your faithful giving!

Benefiting The Ark's Summer of Stability Fund



KARMA KAT

CANNON ROGERS

FLORENCE CARDIGAN

MUSIC
RAFFLES, BEER,
& MORE

FREE ENTRY

Sat. August 22
 Creature Comforts
 Doors @ 5
 Music @ 5:30

visit athensark.org/summerbash



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

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

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 Connection dinner, we'll have a trip planning meeting for those interested in learning about the 2027 group trip. (Please RSVP to 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.

For more info visit athensark.org

Sunday Schedule

8:45am Upper Room Class

8:45am Journey Class

10:00am Worship

SUNDAY, August 9, 2026

LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

GREETERS/USHERS: Paige Cummings, Caly DePalma, Stephanie Cahill

SUNDAY, August 16, 2026—Rally Day

LITURGIST: Ada Brock Rea

GREETERS/USHERS: Sarah Lamb & Bob Brewster, Hank & DeLynda Tweedell

Congregational Care Coordinator for August: Barbara Burnett

NURSERY MINISTRY 2026

SUNDAY, August 9

Adam & Rebecca Rea

Sunday, August 16—Rally Day

Ansley Land, DeLynda Tweedell

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

KNITTERS & KNOTTERS—

August 13, 2026

Join us in the library every Thursday at 2pm.

We Knit & Knot and have lots of laughs.

No experience necessary.

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 Bower & Alex Clark

Third Monday Week – Phil Hale & Phil Koehler

Fourth Monday Week – Susan & Randy Parish

Fifth Monday Week – Ellen Stoneburner



**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

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study books are now available in the copy room. *First meeting is Thursday, Sept. 17 at 9:30am.* Regular print is \$16.00 each and Large print is \$20.00 each. Please make your check out to Covenant with *PW Book* in the memo portion of the check.

PW AUGUST WORKSHOPS, AUGUST 29, 2026

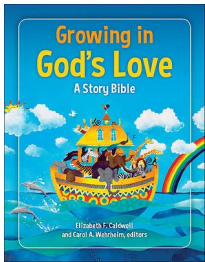
First Presbyterian Church Milledgeville, 210 South Wayne street, Milledgeville, GA Introduction to PW Bible Study *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*, by Rhonda Maywood Lee. You can find registration forms on the bulletin board. **Please register by Aug 21!**



THE UPPER ROOM 8:45am, August 9, 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” August 9, 2026, 8:45am Join us this Sunday at 8:45 for coffee, concerns and celebrations, and discussion.

KINDERGARTENERS – FIFTH GRADERS BEGINNING [AUGUST 23RD](#).



The designated downstairs Church School space is painted with murals inviting young people into the world of sacred story. Within these walls, songs and stories of faith shaping the lives of young disciples are shared in creative ways by a team of talented volunteers. The curriculum includes the “Growing in God’s Love, a story Bible. The children grouped as K -2nd graders and 3rd – 5th graders, are shepherded each month.

Teachers: Betsy Burmeister, Katy McGill

Shepherds: Kay Millar, Jere Bowden, & Shari Cobb Substitute: Kay Brooks

Oasis Theatre – the Story through drama Temple Courtyard – the Story through creative games

Loaves and Fishes – the snack time and fellowship

Pottery Workshop – the Story through crafts.

Green Dream Team News

August 23. **Next Green Dream Team Meeting - 12:15pm** in *Journey Class room*.

Come join us to see what other projects and events we have planned.

Sept/Oct (TBD) **Youth Art Activity & Dinner with Green Dream Team (GDT) 5:00pm**

GDT members will join them for the meal and lead our youth in painting bird feeders.

September 19. **Covenant Road Clean Up 9:00am at Covenant**

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

RSVP to Jennifer Frey at jenofrey@gmail.com or sign up on the Covenant bulletin board.

Future Events:

October 10 **Nature Walk** in Athens with GDT members.

October (TBD) **Field Trip ACC Water Reclamation Facility Time: (TBD)**

Join the GDT on a tour of one of the ACC Water Reclamation Facilities. Please RSVP to Heather Jarboe at jarboeh@gmail.com to join this tour.



Please look through these volunteer opportunities at Covenant in 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.

**Every First Tuesday of the month!
Make a difference—One Meal at a time.**

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 mgaspard@helpathenshomeless.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, 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!



A heartfelt thank you to the UGA Campus Kitchen students and Julianna O'Connell, Campus Kitchen Coordinator, for giving Covenant's Little Free Pantry a fresh new look with their beautiful painting and decorating! Covenant's Little Free Pantry is a community resource where anyone can leave nonperishable food items to share with others or take what they need. Together, we help ensure that everyone has access to food and experiences the care of our community.



A SPIRIT OF COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH *Comfort*

Covenant seeks to nurture a spirit of welcome where members and visitors are at ease. Here are some ways we hope you can be at home during worship services and programs:

There is breathing room for your faith.

- If you are uncomfortable with the words in a hymn or public profession, you are welcome to remain silent. We are glad that you are thoughtful about your beliefs.
- During discussions, you are welcome to respectfully ask questions and disagree.

You can be comfortable here.

- Formal clothing is not necessary even for Sunday morning worship.
- If you are not comfortable standing for hymns or readings during worship, please remain sitting.
- If you have difficulty sitting for long periods, you may stand in the back.
- If you listen better when your hands are occupied, you are welcome to do non-distracting/non-messy handiwork (knitting, cross-stitch, etc.).
- You are welcome to bring a cushion or lap blanket.
- If you have dietary concerns, you're welcome to bring your own food to gatherings.

We hope you find that Covenant is a reassuring place to worship, explore, grow, and enjoy fellowship.

Covenant by the Week!

August 09, 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
2:15pm Solar Meeting in Library (GDT)
7:00pm Handbells of NEGA rehearsal
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom

TUESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

4:30pm Socrates Café (OLLI)
6:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting
7:30pm Worship Ministry Team 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

9:30am preparing bags for food distribution
1:00pm Covenant Food Distribution
2pm Knitters and Knotters
6:30pm Finance Ministry Team Meeting via Zoom
7:00pm 12 Step Meeting

FRIDAY— OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

8:30am Fellowship Hall Cleaned

SATURDAY

10:30am 12 Step Group

August 16, 2026

SUNDAY - RALLY DAY

9:15am Rally Day Breakfast & Ministry Fair
11:00am Worship

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

11:30am New Horizons Band Rehearsal
7:00pm Handbells of NEGA rehearsal
7:00pm 12 Step Group in Journey Classroom

TUESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

6:00pm 12 Step Group Meeting

WEDNESDAY OFFICE OPEN 10am—4pm

11:30am New Horizons Band
5:30pm Covenant Connection Dinner
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

9:30am 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

Midstream - Let's Reconnect

Join us if you can for a Brown Bag Lunch after worship on August 30th. It will be a chance to catch up and talk about getting together regularly going forward. Our plan is to have a monthly event and we would love your input. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15pm. Drinks & cookies will be provided.

**LET'S
RECONNECT**