



# Covenant Chimes



July 2021

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

## Notes from Session

## *From Our Pastor*

### June 2, 2021

Elders excused from the meeting were Chris Henry and Charlotte Ealick. All other Ruling Elders attended, as did Teaching Elders, Katelyn Gordon Cooke and Andy Cooke. Also attending were Treasurer Aubrey Moore and Music Director Lyn Patterson. All procedural items were voted on and Andy called the meeting to order.

Andy shared a devotional he is currently reading, *The Way to Love: Last Meditations of Antony DeMello*. He commented that he found the book powerful in the way that has made him examine his false beliefs about being happy. He asked the question “What do you think doesn’t need to be changed for you to be happy?” He acknowledged it was a strange question. A few members shared their thoughts about being happy. Andy thanked the group and opened in prayer.

### Clerks report:

Building usage: Church Women United on June 19 in Fellowship Hall

Membership: 2 transfers and 40 removed from church role

Judy Grieve and Steve Bell gave reports about the July 18 Northeast Georgia Presbytery Meeting via Zoom.

This past month, I had the opportunity to spend time with our youth on the Georgia coast for a week of environmental education, theological reflection, and service work. We called it a *mission trip*, but it did not look like a traditional mission trip. The Bridge mission program is run by St. Simons Presbyterian Church, and they are great hosts to youth groups near and far every summer.

It was different than a traditional mission trip because it had a strong educational component. We spent time with various biologists, educators, and advocacy groups learning about the coastal environment. Then, we would regroup and talk about our stewardship of it as followers of Christ.

There has been a lot of discussion lately about the effectiveness of the traditional mission trip model. We often hope that we are helping others, but unskilled labor can actually have the opposite effect. Some mission trips can even feel like they are compromising the dignity of those whom we are trying to help. If we are talking about participating in the realization of God’s Kingdom here on earth, then helping our young people to be molded for a lifetime of discipleship might be more effective. In other words, the mission trip does not end when we come home. If you are a fan of the traditional model, then know that we did pick up trash and do trail clearing—but the trip would have been important for us even without the service component.

The week after we returned, it was a joy to see many of the adults in our congregation participate in another non-traditional mission trip (see Elaine Lea’s article on page 5). I am hopeful that we have all learned some new ways to engage in mission this summer that will yield a more effective discipleship for years to come.

As we look to the fall, I hope that you will consider ways that you can join us in a new or non-traditional way and participate in God’s mission. We are continuing to reopen in safe and responsible ways, and we need you to join us for what’s in store. I’ll look forward to seeing you around soon!

Blessings,  
Pastor Andy

(See “Session Notes,” pages 2-3)



Elaine Beachum  
 Mary Beachum  
 Sandra Bowman  
 Debbie Buchholz  
 Ginger Cornes  
 Chris Endruhn  
 Jodi Huff  
 Charles Jay  
 Bos Lamkin  
 Joan Lancaster  
 Karell Moses  
 Marisa Moses  
 Samuel Ndingwan  
 Jimmy Pittman  
 Ann Roat  
 Julie Usry  
 Craig Smith  
 Liz Weckel



Jerry & Jacquie Allison (52 yrs.)  
 Chuck & Gail Baldwin (46 yrs.)  
 Andrea & Nick Butt (50 yrs.)  
 Chris & Vickie Terry (21 yrs.)

## CHURCH STAFF

**Ministers:** All Covenant Members  
**Co-Pastors:**  
 The Rev. Katelyn Gordon Cooke and  
 The Rev. Andy Cooke  
**Director of Music and Organist:**  
 Lyn M. Patterson  
**Parish Associate:**  
 The Rev. Karla Conditt Daniels  
**Nursery Caregiver:** Sherry Nash and  
 Caley Rentz  
**Church Secretary:** Judy Strogonoff  
**Finance Secretary:** Jenn Harrison

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 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri

## Session Notes

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### Treasurer's report:

- Treasurer Aubrey Moore informed Session church revenues remain slightly above expenditures with a net surplus of approximately \$2932.00.
- Aubrey also reported that Preschool finances are also doing well. Currently, the preschool is showing a net surplus of approximately \$5857.00. Some refunds will be made to families who had registered for Summer Fun, which has been cancelled, and some monies will be applied to Fall tuition. Some surplus is expected to remain at preschool year-end.

### Task Force

#### Membership Task Force

- Recommendation from the task force to remove seven from the church roll: Jeb Boone, Wes Boone, Andrew Buchholz, Doran Langley, Misty Morris, Lauren Pittard, and Michelle Siewe. Following discussion, Chris Terry made a motion to remove Michelle Siewe's name from the list. It was seconded and the motion passed. The motion to remove six from the roll passed.
- The Task force requested dismissal. This motion passed with gratitude and thanks from the Session.

#### Open the Gates Task Force

- Recommendation to move to **Stage 4** which includes no limits on the number of people in the sanctuary.
- People who are vaccinated do not need to wear a mask in the building.
- It is recommended that people who are not vaccinated wear a mask over their mouth and nose, except for those under the age of

five years.

- People should refrain from greeting anyone in any way that requires physical touch.
- Hand sanitizer and masks will be available at the main entrances of the building
- No limits on the sizes of indoor gatherings (meeting safety codes).
- Everyone must wear a mask during worship services in the sanctuary. Masks may be removed by speakers at the pulpit or lectern, or by members of the choir when singing in the balcony.
- Offering will be collected in boxes near the exits rather than using offering plates.
- Pew pads may be passed.
- Members of the congregation may sing while wearing masks.
- The choir may sing if all choir members have been fully vaccinated.
- Elements (bread and juice) may be distributed during communion if intinction is not used and a plate is not passed. It is recommended that worshippers sit on every other pew, that elders move across the unoccupied pews to serve, and that elders serve both bread and juice out of small cups, which will be individually removed from the juice tray by the worshippers. Those receiving the elements will only touch the small cup. Those serving the elements will only touch the juice tray.
- Masks may be removed in small gatherings if everyone is fully vaccinated.
- Brock Daniels asked that the words except for sanctuary worship be added to the sentence "Those who are vaccinated do not need to wear a mask in the

(See "Session Notes," page 3)

# Session Notes

(continued from page 2)

building except for sanctuary worship.”

- The motion to move to Stage 4, with Brock’s friendly amendment, passed.

## Memorials Task Force

- The Memorials Task Force requested dismissal. This motion passed with thanks and gratitude from the Session.
- Following discussion about updating and maintaining the Memorials Book, Vernon stated he would take these concerns to the Mission Ministry Team to work out details and locate volunteers.

## **Ministry Reports**

Building and Grounds: Chuck Baldwin and Mary McCarter

- Chuck Baldwin reported there had been a successful workday on May 15.

Congregational Life: Joe Huff and Chris Terry

- Joe Huff reported the next Food Truck Friday will be June 4, 2021.

Education: Steve Bell and Judy Grieve

- Steve stated the team gave thanks to all who helped the Education Ministry continue to teach and share Christ’s teachings this past year.

Mission: Charlotte Ealick and Vernon Barnes

- Vernon Barnes informed Session that the 2021 Covenant Mission would be virtual with Ernie and Allison Sizemore and local with a group working at GAP beginning June 20 through June 25. The virtual mission in

Honduras will be by Zoom sharing the construction of chain link fence surrounding the childcare area being built by local workers and funded by the Mission Luncheon Sunday, June 20 following second service. The motion to approve Mission Luncheon on June 20 passed. He said the local mission will continue to meet in the evenings at Covenant for dinner and Zoom with the Sizemores to see the progress with the chain link fence and share devotions together.

Sustainability: Chris Henry and Hubert van Tuyll

- The Sustainability Ministry Team recommends that Katelyn Gordon Cooke be named as the Interim Preschool Director. The motion passed. Katelyn stated that she looked forward to being able to give stability and direction to the Preschool as they get ready for the fall.

Worship: Brock Daniels and Sarah Colborn

- Brock asked members to share their thoughts about symbols (specifically flags) in the sanctuary with members of the Worship Ministry Team.

## **Deacons:**

Katelyn reported the Diaconate would meet June 7<sup>th</sup>. All action teams continue to meet the needs of the church family with grace and willingness.

## **New Business**

- Andy informed Session that it is time to put together the Stewardship Task Force. He asked anyone who is interested to let him know by the August Session meeting.

- Treasurer Aubrey commented that it would be nice for members of other ministry teams participate on the task force.

## **Co-Pastors report**

Katelyn informed Session that the transition to summer schedule is underway. Sunday morning gatherings will be led by four of the Ministry Teams: Mission Ministry will lead off sharing the Matthew 25 Initiative, Worship will have a reverse hymn sing, the Diaconate Prayer team with prayers, and then sharing faith stories will be John McCrosky who will preach as well as participate in the Sunday morning gathering June 27<sup>th</sup>. Katelyn informed Session that she, Andy, and Charlie will be vacationing the last week in June. Andy shared his schedule for June is a week at school, week with the Youth mission trip, and then on vacation with the family.

Following Open Forum, Chuck Baldwin made the motion to dismiss the meeting. It was seconded and passed.

Next Session meeting will be August 3, at 7:00 p.m.

May this quote from Martin Luther King Jr highlight our Matthew 25 Initiative: *One day we must come to see that the whole Jericho road must be transformed so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life’s highway.* From Time to Break Silence.

Clerk

Judy Grieve



# Education

# Worship

## SUMMER SUNDAYS

**July 4 – No program**

**July 11 – Music Ministry**

Gather in the music room at 10:00 a.m. with members of the EnsemBells quartet who will share a program about handbells and offer a demonstration of how to play the bells. Thanks to Music Ministries for coordinating this program!

**July 18 – Prayer**

Teresa of Avila said, “Prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God.” Join the Diaconate Prayer Action Team for a time of prayer and being friends with God.

**July 25 – Speaking of Faith**

Covenant youth will share their experiences with the three summer trips: BRIDGE Missions Trip and Montreat Middle School Conference. Join us in room 12 at 10:00 a.m. to hear about what the youth have learned about God and how they’ve grown in their faith this summer!

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Please keep our middle school youth in your prayers as they participate in Montreat Middle School Conference this month! The middle school conference is July 13-17 at Maryville College in Tennessee, and the theme is “Just As I am.”

Montreat Middle School Conference participants: Audrey Baldwin, Rollin Cartee, Miller Cooke, Naomi Gillies, Charlie Terry

Join us for Summer Sundays on July 25 to hear about the youths’ summer trips!

## SAVE-THE-DATE

Kick-Off!

Sunday, August 15

Join us for the start of a new church school year! We’ll have Sunday School classes for all ages, and we’ll commission Christian Education leaders in worship. We can’t wait to see you there!

## LADIES FOR LUNCH

Ladies for Lunch will meet Tuesday, July 13, at 11:30 a.m. Women and friends of Covenant will gather at Frog and Hen, 466 Flowing Wells Road, Augusta. Contact Phoebe Crimmins at 706-738-7820 or by email at [phoebbeach30@hotmail.com](mailto:phoebbeach30@hotmail.com) to make your reservation for this gathering so that we may have space for you.



## UPCOMING BAPTISMS



Next month we will celebrate with the Cooke family and the Cooper family on the baptisms of Charlie Cooke, Sunday,

August 1; and Charlotte Cooper on Sunday, August 29. We hope you will join us in worship!

## CARILLON

Have you heard? No, it’s not your imagination! Covenant’s Carillon, the largest outdoor carillon in Augusta with 31 bells, is ringing again! This is thanks to the persistence and expertise of **Terry Bowers, John Ealick, and Charles Jay** with some assistance by **Chuck Baldwin**. They spent many hours troubleshooting the electrical problems and resolving them. The computerized ringing programs still need some revision and attention, but the Carillon is finally able to play again. THANK YOU to these gentlemen who never gave up!

Lyn M. Patterson

## SUMMER CHOIR INVITATION

If you’d like to sing with the Covenant Choir during the summer months and are fully vaccinated, please join us in the Balcony at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. We prepare an easy anthem in our 30-minute rehearsal and sing it during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Covenant’s current Covid guidelines require Choir members to wear singers’ masks when singing; we have extras available for your use.

Questions? See Lyn Patterson or email her at [lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org).

# Mission

## VIRTUAL MISSION TRIP

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU!!!**

**THANK YOU** to the members of our congregation who supported the summer mission lunch. These funds helped to complete the \$3000 fence project in Honduras. This 8-foot fence surrounds a new community health clinic that will service 7 different neighborhoods including the Oaks of Righteousness property owned and managed by Mission on the Move. The fence will also serve as security to protect the children living with foster families on the property.

**THANK YOU** to the 15-member work mission team that worked at GAP Ministries each day to get the building ready for inside use this fall. Covenant members on the team were Chuck Baldwin, Mary Beachum, Lola Bell, Martha Bertrand, Joyce Bowers, Terry Bowers, John Ealick, Joslyn Fields, Judy Grieve, Elaine Lea, Jimmy Lea and Cindy Wallerich.

**THANK YOU** to the cooks who provided supper for the work mission team each evening. They were Jimmy and Elaine Lea, Angela and Mac Hobby, Charlotte and John Ealick, Sabina Widner and Aubrey Moore, Amy House and Naomi Giles, and Judy and Dave Grieve. The meals were all delicious and a welcome gift after working each day.

We **THANK GOD** for ALL the blessings we received on this mission trip. Please continue to pray for our mission partners, Ernie and Allison Sizemore in Honduras, and for GAP Ministries.

Elaine Lea

## GAP ITEM OF THE MONTH

The items of the month for July is canned fruit. This item will be a welcome addition to our Food Pantry shelves.

GAP Ministries is continuing to serve the hungry through its food pantry, and our supplies are running low. We appreciate all that Golden Harvest does to keep us stocked, but their inventory is down, too. When you are at the store, remember that we especially need bar soap, canned meat, and canned vegetables. If you are sewing face masks, please donate some for our homeless clients. A donation box is outside the church on the landing beside the office door.

Mary Beachum

## GOODIES FOR GAP UPDATE

Goodies are collected and bagged on the **third Wednesday** of the month for delivery to GAP on the following Thursday morning. In addition, volunteers will work together to assemble bags at the church at 3:00 every third Wednesday. The next Goodies for GAP collection and bagging is July 21.

If you would like to be added to our list of bakers, please let Martha Bertrand know ([mbertrand651@gmail.com](mailto:mbertrand651@gmail.com)). Bakers contribute as their schedules allow and not everyone bakes every time.



# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Summer Sundays: Speaking of Faith <b>10:15 AM</b> Summer Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service (Stage 4) and Live Stream on Vimeo* <b>12:30 PM</b> Worship Ministry Team	<b>28</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Companions in Christ, Parlor <b>7:00 PM</b> WADING Bible Study, Fellowship Hall	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Meals on Wheels <b>1:30 PM</b> Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day</b> <b>10:15 AM</b> Summer Choir Rehearsal <b>10:30 AM</b> Prayer Action Team, Prayer Circle, Parlor <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service (Stage 4) and Live Stream on Vimeo*	<b>5</b> Church Office Closed for July 4th Holiday	<b>6</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Communion at Brandon Wilde	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Meals on Wheels <b>1:30 PM</b> Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>11</b> <b>10:15 AM</b> Summer Choir Rehearsal <b>10:45 AM</b> Summer Sundays: Music <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service (Stage 4) and Live Stream on Vimeo*	<b>12</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Building & Grounds Ministry Team, Room 104 <b>7:00 PM</b> WADING Bible Study, Fellowship Hall	<b>13</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Youth leave for Montreat Middle School Conference <b>11:30 AM</b> Ladies for Lunch, Frog and Hen <b>1:45 PM</b> Church Women United, Room 104	<b>14</b> Montreat Middle School Conference <b>1:00 PM</b> Disciple Bible Study, Room 104	<b>15</b> Montreat Middle School Conference	<b>16</b> Montreat Middle School Conference	<b>17</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Meals on Wheels <b>1:30 PM</b> Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104 <b>4:30 PM</b> Youth Return
<b>18</b> Summer Sundays: Prayer <b>10:15 AM</b> Summer Choir Rehearsal <b>10:30 AM</b> Prayer Action Team, Prayer Circle, Parlor <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service (Stage 4) and Live Stream on Vimeo*	<b>19</b> COVENANT CHIMES DEADLINE <b>7:00 PM</b> WADING Bible Study, Fellowship Hall	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>3:00 PM</b> Goodies for GAP Collection, Fellowship Hall	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Meals on Wheels <b>1:30 PM</b> Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>25</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Summer Sundays: Speaking of Faith, Room 12 <b>10:15 AM</b> Summer Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service (Stage 4) and Live Stream on Vimeo*	<b>26</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> WADING Bible Study, Fellowship Hall	<b>27</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Mission Ministry Team, Zoom	<b>28</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Disciple Bible Study, Room 104 <b>1:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting, Work Room	<b>29</b> <b>4:00 PM</b> Open the Gates Task Force, Zoom	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Meals on Wheels <b>1:30 PM</b> Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104

# July Worship Schedule

## USHERS

- 7/4: Judy Grieve, Chris Henry,  
Ruth Mayhall,  
Buddy Simpson, Bill Usry  
7/11: Steve Bell, Dalton Cooper,  
John Ealick, Angela Hobby  
7/18: Jim Buckalew,  
Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea,  
Johnny Lowe, Charlie Terry,  
Jim Wade  
7/25: Hugh Dobbins, Dave Lapp,  
Lucyle Ferris,  
Fidelis Ndingwan

## LITURGIST/READER AT 11:00 AM SERVICE

- 7/4: Lindsay Kircher  
7/11: Maatsi Ndingwan  
7/18: Mac Hobby  
7/25: Chuck Baldwin

## PREACHER

- 7/4: Andy Cooke  
7/11: Katelyn Gordon Cooke  
7/18: Andy Cooke  
7/25: Katelyn Gordon Cooke

## GREETERS

- 7/4: Sarah Colborn  
7/11: Jim Crimmins  
7/18: Fred and Jane Gehle  
7/25: Lindsay Kircher

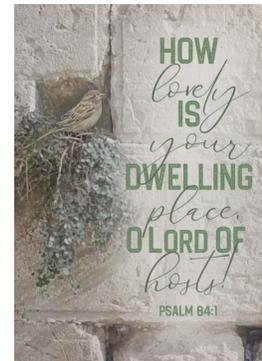
## A/V TEAM

### **July**

Steve Bell, Terry Bowers, John  
Ealick, Owen Gillies, Charles Jay,  
Emma Raider

## COORDINATORS

Lindsay Kircher, *Greeter  
Coordinator*  
John Ealick, *A/V Team Coordinator*  
Chris Henry, *Usher Coordinator*  
Kaye Petkas, *Liturgist/Reader  
Coordinator*



## Prayer Concerns



### New Prayer Concerns

**Donald Gilman** (Priscilla Gilman's brother) – Leg Amputation, Alexandria, VA  
**Jim Gilman** (Priscilla Gilman's brother) – Kidney Infection and Sepsis, Denver, CO (0706)

### Continued Prayer Concerns

All of Covenant's **Missionaries**  
All who serve in the **U.S. Military**  
**Tanya Dimorier** (Judy Stroganoff's step-sister) – At home, chemo treatments (0618)  
**Marvin Fields** – At home (0514)  
**LJ Jay** (0319)

**Jeremy and AJ Jay** (Charles and LJ Jay's nephew and his son) – Tallahassee FL (0504)  
**David Kent** (father of Sarah Colborn's daughter-in-law) – At home (0413)  
**Malcolm Kling** – At Brandon Wilde (No visitors at this time) (0618)  
**Lois Reynolds** – Recent surgery (0701)

**David Rhoades** – Recovering from Surgery (0518)  
**Debbie van Tuyl** – At home (0525)

### Enduring Concerns

**Dorris Andrews** (Elaine Lea's mother) – Brandon Wilde  
**Phyllis Daniels** – Brandon Wilde  
**Lois Davis** – Kentwood  
**Juanita Davis** (Andrea Butt's aunt) – Jacksonville, FL  
**Anne Degrazia** – Alpharetta, GA  
**Priscilla Gilman** – Brandon Wilde

**Betty Johnston** – Brandon Wilde  
**Larry Lutcher** – Brandon Wilde  
**Leah Mannel** – Brandon Wilde  
**Jocelyn Martin-Moses** (Karell Moses' mother) – At home  
**Carol Paulson** – At home  
**Lois Reynolds** – Morning Side  
**Elizabeth Swink** – At home  
**Jane Terry** (Chris Terry's mother) – Lake Wales, FL  
**Barbara Williams** – Brandon Wilde

**And for all those whose names we hold in our hearts.**

The prayer ministry is led by deacons Lindsay Kircher, Sabina Widner, and Dana Johnson. To add a prayer concern, please contact the church office at [jstroganoff@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:jstroganoff@covenantaugusta.org).

## BRIDGE Mission Trip, June 13-June 18



## Presbyterian Women Project Linus, June 26

