

April 2023

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

Clerk's Corner

March, 2023

Clerk's Report

- Facility Usage: None
- Membership: Baptisms of Micah Banks and Kaleb Banks
- Commissioners' Report from Northeast Presbytery Meeting February 25, 2023: Aubrey reported that the Presbytery approved Covenant's loan from the Presbyterian Investment Loan Program. Chris Henry reported that he appreciated the homily given by Paine College President Dr. Cheryl Jones as well as the music from the Paine College choir.
- Communion Servers: April 2, 2023, will be Mary McCarter and Maria Rivera. April 6, 2023, will be Susan Monk and Jim Buckalew.
- The 2022 Annual Statistical Report was approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Aubrey Moore reported that February 2023 church budget figures show a surplus of \$30,188. He reported that February 2023 preschool budget figures show a surplus of \$13,742, and that preschool salaries remain under

From Our Pastor

Some of you know that I recently took an online course at Columbia Theological Seminary titled "The Preacher and the Poet." Over the course of six weeks, we read poetry (obviously), listened to sermons (also obviously), wrote some poetry of our own, and explored what the two artforms have in common and what preachers can learn from poets.

Poets have a high tolerance for that which is mysterious and a low tolerance for dishonesty. The same cannot always be said for preachers who often succumb to the temptation of explanation and sometimes sugarcoat the truth in the process.

Poetry seems well-suited for this time in the church year as we move toward the end of Lent, through the heavy days of Holy Week, and into the light and wonder of Eastertide. There is much about Jesus' death and resurrection that defy explanation, but the truth is that those events have changed everything for us in ways we understand and ways we don't.

The below excerpt from Wendell Berry's poem "Manifesto: The Mad Farmer's Liberation Front" seems to capture the mystery, defiance, and gift of resurrection.

Listen to carrion – put your ear close, and hear the faint chattering of the songs that are to come. Expect the end of the world. Laugh. Laughter is immeasurable. Be joyful though you have considered all the facts. So long as women do not go cheap for power, please women more than men. Ask yourself: Will this satisfy a woman satisfied to bear a child? Will this disturb the sleep of a woman near to giving birth? Go with your love to the fields. Lie easy in the shade. Rest your head in her lap. Swear allegiance to what is nighest your thoughts.

(See "Clerk's Corner" page 2)

(See "From Our Pastor" page 2)

Sanctuary HVAC Project

On April 10 (the day after Easter), we will begin a three-week HVAC replacement project for the sanctuary, parlor, and narthex. On April 16, 23, and 30, we will worship in the fellowship hall. The ministry teams and staff are working hard to manage this brief inconvenience, and we would be grateful for your patience (and attendance) during this time. The services will continue to be livestreamed and all other elements of worship will be preserved. It is our hope to return to the sanctuary on May 7. Please reach out to the appropriate ministry team chair or staff member if you have any questions or concerns.

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 Caregivers:

Alex Krumme, Sherry Nash, and

Sarah van Plew

Church Secretary: Judy Strogonoff Finance Secretary: Jenn Harrison

Covenant Presbyterian Church 3131 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30909 (706) 733-0513 info@covenantaugusta.org www.covenantaugusta.org www.facebook.com/ covenantaugusta

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Mon-Thurs 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Friday

Clerk's Corner

(continued from page 1)

budget. He reported that \$25,000 from the Home Improvement Plan fund will be paid to PILP to reduce the outstanding principal balance on our existing renovation loan.

Motions

- Building & Grounds
 recommended to Session an
 allocation of \$13,000.00 from
 the HVAC replacement fund for
 the replacement of the HVAC
 unit in the church office.
 Following discussion, the
 motion passed.
- Katelyn made the motion to approve Vickie Terry as an authorized trainer for the Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy. It was seconded and passed.
- Dalton made the motion to approve up to \$30,000 for roofing, landscaping, and other expenses related to our HVAC replacement from the HVAC replacement fund. It was seconded and the motion passed.
- Chris Henry made the motion to approve the baptism of Ennelle Grace "Nelly" Austin on May 21, 2023. Nelly's parents, Laura and Milledge Austin, will also join the church that day. The motion was seconded and passed.

On April 9th let us greet each other with *CHRIST IS RISEN* so that we can respond *HE IS RISEN INDEED!*

Hallelujah. We are children of the Risen LORD

Judy Grieve, Clerk of Session

From Our Pastor

(continued from page 1)

As soon as the generals and politicos can predict the motions of your mind, lose it.
Leave it as a sign to mark the false trail, the way you didn't go.
Be like the fox who makes more tracks than necessary, some in the wrong direction.
Practice resurrection.

Berry isn't writing about Jesus' resurrection specifically, but we can listen with ears of faith and perhaps also hear the Spirit's rustling. I especially love the last line — "Practice resurrection" — and give thanks that Covenant is place where, by the grace of God, we get to practice resurrection together.

Grace and peace and resurrection hope,

Katelyn



Worship

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 2, 10:00 a.m. Covenant sanctuary



Maundy Thursday Communion Service:

Thursday, April 6, at 7:00 p.m. Covenant Sanctuary

Good Friday Community Service:

Friday, April 7 at 12 noon Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 9:



Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. in the Memorial Garden

Easter Service at 10:00 a.m. Covenant

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Our Flower Calendar is a meaningful way to show love and to glorify God. If you would like to donate flowers, check with Judy Strogonoff in



the Church Office to make sure your meaningful date is available. Forms to order flowers and to include a special message for the bulletin are located in the Church Office. You are welcome to use your own florist or Judy can place the order with the florist that Covenant uses. The cost of each arrangement is usually \$100.

Easter Lilies

Everyone in the Covenant congregation who wishes to remember or honor family and/ or friends through the gift of Easter Lilies is invited to make a donation to the Flower Fund. Donations will be used to purchase lilies to place in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. To cover the cost of the plants, we are asking for a minimum contribution of \$12.00 for each dedication. Orders should be in the church office no later than Tuesday, April 4. Those who make donations are invited to take a lily home after the 10:00 worship service.

You may donate online or send checks to the church office made payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church and note for the Easter Lilies Fund. (To access the form online go to https://tinyurl.com/ easterlilies2023cpc.)

I would like to contribute to the

EASTER CROSS

On Easter Sunday, April 9, you are invited to come by and place flowers from your yard on the cross as we continue the tradition of the flowered cross. The large wooden cross will be in the narthex. The flowering of the cross is a beautiful way to witness to the new life that comes through Christ's Resurrection.



<u>memorial garden</u>

On the Walton Way side of our building, we have a beautiful memorial garden where we have small memorial services and interments. Our Easter Sunrise service is also held here every year, which is appropriate as we remember the empty tomb and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Many of those whom we have loved in this community are interred in this garden. We have ground plots and a columbarium. If you would like to learn more about reserving a space for yourself or a loved one in our memorial garden, then please reach out to Andy Cooke.

FUNERAL FILES

This past month, we spent time on Wednesday nights talking about living and dying well in our Dust to Dust series. On the last evening, we talked about funerals and memorials services and ways to make your preferences for your own service known. Following up on that discussion, we wanted to make the congregation aware that we have files in the financial secretary's office that contain information that members have given us regarding their funeral or memorial services. If vou wish to have a file with that information, then please be in touch with Judy Strogonoff or one of the pastors.

Easter Lilies Fund as follows:
In memory of
In honor of
Amount of Contribution
\$
Name
Phone

Education

CHILDREN

Preschool Sunday School

Sundays // 11:15-11:25 a.m. Room 2

As part of their time in worship nursery, our youngest members read a Bible story and say a prayer together each week. In April, we'll read the stories of Jesus' resurrection, the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and we'll hear Psalm 23 with its comforting reminders about the ways God cares for us.

Elementary Sunday School

Sundays // 11:15 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Room 103

We have a lot of fun things planned for elementary school kiddos during the month of April!

On Sunday, April 2, we'll wrap up our Lenten series about loving God, neighbor, and enemy. We won't have Sunday School on Sunday, April 9 since many of our younger friends are out of town for spring break, but we will celebrate Easter together with some special activities on Sunday, April 16.

On April 23, we'll start a new series about prayer that will take us to the end of the church school year. We'll learn about what it means to pray from the heart, pray persistently and humbly, pray with and for others, and pray with our whole selves.

Note: On the second and fourth Sundays of the month, older preschoolers and elementary school students have 15 minutes of music time with Ms. Sarah and Ms. Lyn at the start of the Sunday School time. We're excited about making a joyful noise together!

YOUTH

Sunday Mornings 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

High School – Room 203 Middle School – Room 204

Forgiveness and grace are two important words in the Christian vocabulary, but what do they really

mean? This month, middle and high school small groups will spend time on Sunday mornings exploring questions like, "Is anything unforgiveable?" and "Does grace mean I can do anything I want?" The questions may sound simple, but the answers are complex!

Beyond Sundays

Bingo Night Youth Fundraiser!

Wednesday, April 12 // 6:00-7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Join us for a fun evening of dinner, talent acts, door prizes, and, of course, BINGO! Presbyterian Women will provide the



meal, and the youth will provide the fun. There's no cost to attend or to play BINGO, but your donations are welcome. All proceeds will go toward the summer youth trips and other youth ministry activities.

Please be sure to stop by the reservation table after worship on Sunday, March 26, April 2, or April 9 to let us know you're coming!

Fourth Sunday Fellowship

Sunday, April 23 3:00-4:30 p.m. High School Youth Room

"It's me. Hi. I'm the problem; it's me." "Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary." "I can buy myself flowers, write my name in the sand, talk to myself for hours, say things you don't understand." "Oh to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be."

You've probably figured out that all of these quotes are song lyrics. Some of them come from religious songs; others are from songs you hear on the radio. Music is an important of our lives and our faith, and for our Fourth Sunday Fellowship event this month, we're going to share some of

favorite songs with each other and talk about music we love. Brock Daniels will lead this time for us, and we hope you can join us!

ADULT

Adult SALT (Sharing and Learning Together) and Choir Class

Sundays, 11:15 a.m. in Room 12

Each week we will view a video segment and discuss the content of 24 Hours That Changed the World by Adam Hamilton. Hamilton notes that "The suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ represent the pinnacle of the gospel and the completion of God's saving work through Jesus". We will not be using the book in class, but if you'd like a copy to read at home, you can purchase it on Amazon. Please note that we will not have class on April 9 (Easter).

Young Adults

Sunday mornings 11:15 a.m. // Parlor

The Young Adult class includes time to share about life happenings, prayer requests, and a spiritual conversation starter. Parish Associate Karla Conditt Daniels facilitates this group.

Coffee and Conversation

You've already come to worship, so stay after the service for coffee and conversation in the gathering area outside the Fellowship Hall. Join

Covenant friends for some time to visit and see where the Spirit leads us in conversation. This time is meant to be informal, and all are welcome!



Graduation Sunday

On Sunday, May 21, we'll celebrate Covenant members who are graduating from high school, college, or graduate school this year! If you or someone in your family is graduating this year, please take a moment to let us know by visiting https://tinyurl.com/covgrad2023 or by calling the church office by May 15. Thank you!

Building & Grounds

WORKDAY

Our next workday is scheduled for April 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be opportunities to help inside and outside the church, no experience necessary. A cookout will follow after the work is done. For more information, please contact Mary McCarter or Dalton Cooper.

If you are unable to help Saturday morning, there is another opportunity Friday evening, April 21 to help spread mulch and sand on the playground. The work will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Member Note

THANK YOU!

I want to sincerely thank all of you who helped me during my most recent surgery. Thank you Beth, Steve & Lola, Paula & Tim, Sabina, Kathy & Rick, Mary & Martha, Katelyn & Andy, Mac & Angela, Beverly, Diane, Nancy, Maatsi, Jimmy, Judy, Lucyle, Phoebe & Jim, Anne, and all who prayed for me. I love my church family.

Gail Baker

Wednesday Night Fellowship

EARTH DAY EVENT

Wednesday, April 19 5:30 p.m. Meal; 6:15 p.m. Program



Please join us on Wednesday, April 19 for a very special Earth Day event. Come and learn about ways you

can commit to taking better care of our planet. There will be exhibits on eating a plant-based diet, electric vehicles, organic gardening, sustainable buildings, and a special guest from the Forestry Service discussing trees!

Even if you don't usually come on Wednesday night, this is an event you don't want to miss!



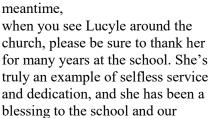
Covenant Preschool & Children's Day Out

April is our last full month of school at the preschool, and we're making the most of it! This month, we'll have spring break, Easter Egg hunts, class pictures, and parent teacher conferences for the PK 3, PK 4, and kindergarten classes.

We're also making plans for the end of the year, which includes a big announcement:

After twenty years of teaching at Covenant, Lucyle Ferris is retiring at the end of this school year, and we are planning to celebrate her in May. Current preschool families, former preschool families, and church members are invited to be part of

festivities, and we'll be sure to share more information with the specifics soon. In the



Peace, Katelyn Gordon Cooke

church!





Monday 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 2	Preschool Spring Break 3:30 PM Communion at Brandon Wilde 11 12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room	Preschool Spring Break	Preschool Spring Break 6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	Preschool Spring Break 12:00 PM Good Friday Community Service, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church	10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 10:30 AM Pick-up Basketball, Gym 11:45 AM Girl Scout Troop 20179, Room 204 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
Roof Removal and replacement Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 10 HVAC Installation Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	Preschool Spring Break 3:30 PM Communion at Brandon Wilde 11 12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room	Preschool Spring Break	Preschool Spring Break 6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	Preschool Spring Break 12:00 PM Good Friday Community Service, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church	10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 10:30 AM Pick-up Basketball, Gym 11:45 AM Girl Scout Troop 20179, Room 204 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
Roof Removal and replacement Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 10 HVAC Installation Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	Preschool Spring Break 3:30 PM Communion at Brandon Wilde 11 12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room	Preschool Spring Break	Preschool Spring Break 6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	12:00 PM Good Friday Community Service, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church	10:30 AM Pick-up Basketball, Gym 11:45 AM Girl Scout Troop 20179, Roo 204 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Roon 104
Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 10 HVAC Installation Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	3:30 PM Communion at Brandon Wilde 11 12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room	Preschool Spring Break	Preschool Spring Break 6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	12:00 PM Good Friday Community Service, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church	10:30 AM Pick-up Basketball, Gym 11:45 AM Girl Scout Troop 20179, Roo 204 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Roo 104
5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 10 HVAC Installation Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	3:30 PM Communion at Brandon Wilde 11 12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room		6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	Service, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church	11:45 AM Girl Scout Troop 20179, Roc 204 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
HVAC Installation Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	11 12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room	12	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	Church	1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room
HVAC Installation Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Room	12	2 13	14	
Preschool Spring Break 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	-			14	-
5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	-	0.20 ANA December of Character Countries	C-00 DB4 InDelletion Diversi		40-00 404 Horoco Cl. I. David 40
:00 AM Easter Sunrise Service, Memorial arden 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 7:00 PM Congregational Life Ministry 7:00 PM Congregation 8:00 PM Congregation	12 3:00 PM Piano Tuning, Fellowship Hall 4:00 PM Education Ministry Team, Room 104	9:30 AM Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00 PM Disciple Bible Study, Room 104 1:30 PM Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 6:00 PM Bingo Night Youth Fundraiser, Fellowship Hall	6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers		10:00 AM Heroes Club, Room 12 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104 2:00 PM B-day Party on Playground (Abigail Dreschor)
17	18	Fellowship Hall	20	21	
Covenant Chimes Deadline 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 7:00 PM CSRA League of women Voters, Room 12	9:45 AM PW CT Meeting, Room 104 11:00 AM PW WINGS Gathering, Room 12 7:00 PM Called Session Meeting, Zoom	9:30 AM Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 5:30 PM WNF Dinner 6:15 PM WNF Program: Earth Day Event 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall	1:15 PM Preschool Staff Meeting, Room 12 6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers		9:00 AM Building and Grounds Workd 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 11:45 AM Girl Scout Troop 20179, Roc 204 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Roo 104
24	25	26	5 27	28	3
					10:00 AM Meals on Wheels
5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM P.E.O Meeting, Parlor 6:30 PM Mission Ministry Team, Zoom	1:00 PM Disciple Bible Study, Room 104 1:30 PM Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room	Parent Teacher Conferences 6:00 PM JuBellation Ringers	5:00 PM Food Truck Friday	1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Ro 104
May 1	Notes		Sirving.	March 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	May 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	Covenant Chimes Deadline 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 7:00 PM CSRA League of women Voters, Room 12 24 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor	Covenant Chimes Deadline 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 7:00 PM CSRA League of women Voters, Room 12 24 7:00 PM Called Session Meeting, Zoom Parent Teacher Conferences 12:00 PM PM Pm Presum Bag Lunch, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM P.E.O Meeting, Parlor 6:30 PM Mission Ministry Team, Zoom May 1 Notes	Covenant Chimes Deadline 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 7:00 PM CSRA League of women Voters, Room 12 24 25 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 7:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 100 PM Called Session Meeting, Zoom 24 25 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 12:00 PM Called Session Meeting, Zoom 25 5:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 26 27 28 29 29 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	Fellowship Hall 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall 7:15 PM Preschool Staff Meeting, Room 12 P3:30 AM Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 11:00 AM PW WINGS Gathering, Room 12 PM WNF Dinner 6:15 PM WNF Program: Earth Day Event 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Companions in Christ, Parlor 6:30 PM Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM P.E.O Meeting, Parlor 6:30 PM Mission Ministry Team, Zoom 7:15 PM Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Disciple Bible Study, Room 104 1:30 PM Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall	Fellowship Hall 7:15 PM Covenant Choire Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall 1:100 AM PW WINGS Gathering, Room 1:2 7:00 PM Called Session Meeting, Zoom 1:2 7:00 PM Called Session Meeting, Zoom 7:15 PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall 8:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 8:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 8:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 8:00 PM JuBellation Ringers 9:00 PM JuBellation R

PAGE 6 April 2023 COVENANT CHIMES COVENANT CHIMES April 2023 PAGE 7

A Letter from Cheryl Barnes, serving in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe

The Rev. Cheryl Barnes, who is a member of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, is one of the missionaries that we support through our giving at Covenant. The following is her February newsletter to her supporters.

DIVINE POSSIBILITIES

Spring 2023

If I had to give one word that describes my call to mission, it would be "possibility."

This one word describes not what is. but what can be. This is a perspective that I have fully yielded my heart and mind to. To walk with God in the path of mission partnership requires that I remain much more than optimistic, I must continue to genuinely imagine how things can be. This is how our dreams mirror the mind of God, whose very being represents limitless possibilities. This is how we deepen our experience with God and how we understand that life is not just to be lived, but to be discovered.

I am in awe at how consistently God has answered my prayers and supplied some urgent needs. We all have some measure of faith, yet when our dreams become reality we know in the seat of our souls that God is real.

My partnership with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), seeks to educate, support and uplift the organization, the church and its schools. From the beginning, we had to imagine what this process would require and how it would evolve. Questions were raised regarding the necessary resources needed to meet goals and the ways in which these resources could be sustained.

I shared in a recent newsletter, "Beautiful Things," the need of young students at Chimwala Primary School, to have an enclosed shelter to call a classroom. Students being educated in classrooms in the Western world is often taken for granted. Seeing such a need in Malawi, touched me to my core and I lifted a silent prayer. God touched the heart of one individual, who unselfishly, from the goodness of her heart, fully met the need for these students. One person, submitting to the voice of God, is bringing hope and light to hundreds of young learners. Divine possibilities.

Through God's provision, this past December, the CCAP transplanted over 3,000 tree seedlings to the Masula village and Chimwala primary school. The seeds and materials for the tree nursery were donated to the General Assembly by Anne Hallum and her organization, Alliance for International Reforestation, Inc. The seeds were planted in tubes, hand watered during the dry season, and lovingly cared for by our gardener, Mr. Dowd Green. As I witnessed the emergence of seedlings on the grounds of the CCAP General Assembly office, I once again felt connected with the mysteries of divine possibilities. The transplanted trees will provide income for the village, help prevent soil erosion, provide shade for the school children and address some of the challenges of climate change.

Because God's blessings are not obstructed by man's limitations, our needs receive God's full attention. For instance, the CCAP office space was in need of a security fence. The office was regularly vandalized and I, along with the female staff, was vulnerable to uninvited and unwelcome persons coming onto the

grounds and into the building. A generous congregation seized the opportunity to position themselves as God's hands and provided the funds necessary to assist in the construction of a security fence. Once again, I encountered God and came face-to-face with divine possibilities. Individuals do make a difference yet, one cannot discount God's hand in supplying this need.

These are a few examples of individuals who have accepted the call to actively live into the Matthew 25 initiative. The text of Matthew 25 is about much more than feeding the poor and clothing the naked, it is an expression of providing for and supporting the needs of disenfranchised communities who cannot imagine hope for themselves. The Gospel of Matthew 25 has to be put into a context that reflects the cultural needs of the dispossessed. These needs often go unrecognized and unaddressed. Communities thrive when infrastructure and physical structures are built and developed. This is one of the primary ways that communities flourish. In my assignment as education facilitator, I must contemplate what is necessary to uplift the quality of life of children, and consequently, also improve the quality of education for these children.

The CCAP continues to face challenges that require economic empowerment through income generation. The completion of the security fence will provide the opportunity for another divine possibility. The newly enclosed space can be used for the planting of

(See "Divine Possibilities" page 9)

Divine Possibilities

(continued from page 8)

an outdoor event venue suitable for ceremonies or social events. I believe that the prayers for the funding necessary to develop an events garden on the grounds of the General Assembly will be answered.

Partnership that seeks to empower communities and address systemic poverty demands unwavering faith that disrupts fear. I am passionate about advocating for those who are marginalized, and I am privileged to make this passion a vocation. As a result, I have experienced freedom, wholeness and holiness. As I travel this spiritual journey, walking in divine possibility, I am encountering God along the way.

I extend my sincere appreciation for every prayer and for every dollar of financial support.

Zikomo (Thank you)

Rev. Cheryl Barnes

<u>one great hour of</u> Sharing

Easter Sunday, April 9

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Please give generously. IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

Mission

GAP ITEM OF THE MONTH

The GAP item of the month for April is boxes of cereal. We always need food that goes into the "walking bags" that we give to the homeless and to the working poor who come by to get something for lunch. We provide two sandwiches, chips or crackers, water with flavoring, fruit and a sweet. Some of these items are seldom available from Golden Harvest at their special pricing, so we really appreciate donations of packs of crackers, small packs of cookies, flavor packets for water bottles, chips, and small containers of fruit.

LIST OF ITEMS BY MONTH

January: Hot chocolate

February: Canned pork and beans March: Canned chicken or ham

April: Boxes of cereal

May: Toothbrushes & toothpaste

June: Deodorant
July: Canned fruit
August: Toilet paper
September: Canned soup

October: Instant grits or oatmeal

(Individual packets)

November: Stuffing mix (type which

only needs water added)
December: Beef stew or chili

TRAVELING TO THE SUNSHINE STATE IN JUNE



Our last summer work mission trip from Covenant was in July 2019. Our Mission Ministry Team would like to resume the tradition of a work mission team from Covenant this summer. We will travel to Ft. Myers, Florida to help with recovery from Hurricane Ian that hit this area hard on September 30, 2022.

We plan to drive to Ft. Myers on Saturday, June 10. This is a 9-hour drive. We will travel back home on Saturday, June 17. We will sleep, shower, and eat our meals at the Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Ft. Myers. We will have devotions and share our experiences each evening. There is great value in the bonds we form during these trips. The projects we will work on will be assigned by the Third Wave Volunteers organization who have already gutted over 50 houses and helped 16 businesses reopen. In the words of our host at Buckingham Presbyterian, "the devastation here is unbelievable."

You are invited to join us in helping those who need us \underline{now} in Florida. Contact Elaine Lea – $\underline{leaje81@gmail.com}$ - 706-339-4484 if you have questions.

Presbyterian

Women

WINGS — PW



The April meeting of WINGS will be on April 18 in Women IN God's Service room 12 at 11:00 a.m. Judy Grieve

will lead us as we discuss Lesson Eight from Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight, the 2022-23 PW/Horizons Bible Study. Contact Gail Baker, Kathy Ordelt, or Cindy Wallerich if you have questions.

LADIES FOR LUNCH

Ladies for Lunch will meet Tuesday, April 11, at 11:30 a.m. Women and friends of Covenant will gather at Carabbas, 2832 Washington Road. Contact Phoebe Crimmins at 706-738-7820 or by email at phoebebeach30@hotmail.com to make your reservation for this gathering so that we may have space for you.

MEN'S BROWN BAG LUNCH

Congregational Life

Bring your own lunch and join us at noon on Tuesdays, April 11 and 25, in Room 12. We are continuing to look at Richard Rohr's book, From Wild Man to Wise Man. We hope to see you there!

FAMILY * FOOD * FRIENDS!



Food Truck Fridays are back! Mark your calendar for Friday, April 28 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. Bring a chair, invite your friends, and join us for a fun evening of food and fellowship!

Youth Fellowship at Stars and Strikes, March 26









April Worship Schedule

On the Sundays, April 16, 23, and 30, worship services will be in the Fellowship Hall

USHERS

April

4/2: Steve Bell, Dalton Cooper, John Ealick, Angela Hobby

4/6: Jim Buckalew,

Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea, Johnny Lowe, Charlie Terry

4/9: Hugh Dobbins, Dave Lapp, Lucyle Ferris, Samuel Ndingwan,

Ivanna Ndingwan,

Fidelis Ndingwan, Edwin Scott

4/16: Judy Grieve, Chris Henry, Ruth Mayhall, Philip Monk Buddy Simpson, Bill Usry

4/23: Steve Bell, Dalton Cooper, John Ealick, Angela Hobby

4/30: Jim Buckalew,

Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea, Johnny Lowe, Charlie Terry

<u>LITURGIST/READER</u> AT 10:00 AM SERVICE

April

4/2: Lori Rogers
4/9: Jim Crimmins
4/16: Ben Rogers
4/23: Maatsi Ndingwan
4/30: Blake Rogers

PREACHER

April

4/16:

4/2: Andy Cooke

4/6: Maundy Thursday Service:

Andy Cooke

4/9: Easter Sunrise Service

at 7a.m.
Andy Cooke

Easter Service at 10 a.m. Katelyn Gordon Cooke

Andy Cooke

4/23: Andy Cooke

4/30: Katelyn Gordon Cooke

GREETERS

April

4/2: Mary Beachum & Martha Bertrand4/9: Lola Bell

4/16: Kadie Cheeks & Kathryn Crandall

4/23: Jim Crimmins 4/30: Fred & Jane Gehle

A/V TEAM

Steve Bell, Terry Bowers, Miller Cooke, John Ealick, Charles Jay, Ralph Gillies

COORDINATORS

Lindsay Kircher, Greeter Coordinator Steve Bell, A/V Team Coordinator Chris Henry, Usher Coordinator Kaye Petkas, Liturgist/Reader

Coordinator

Cindy Wallerich, Flower Coordinator

Prayer Concerns



NEW CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

Kelly and Abram Duncan who were married on March 25 (0308)

Bill Cornes – Piedmont Hospital (0315)
Beverly Dorn upon the death of her sister-in-law, Audrey Dorn Hawn (0315)

Fred Gehle – Piedmont Hospital (0329)

Susan Monk upon the death of her brother, Bobby Little (0312)

Jim Turnbull (Becky DeLecuona's uncle) – Anchorage

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS

Continued prayer concerns will be removed after three months. Please contact the church office to have them renewed or moved to enduring concerns.

All of Covenant's Missionaries All who serve in the U.S. Military Ginger Cornes – Recovering from surgery (0303)

Courtney and Ella Davis (0306)

Dixie Dysart (friend of Polly Williams)

(0313)

Sharon Griffin (Diane Griffin's sister-in-law) – upcoming surgery (0313)

Chester Huffman (Polly and Danny Williams son-in-law) – Cancer (0313)

Gloria Miller (friend of Sarah Colborn) (0310)

Nick Petkas – Hip Replacement (0303) Jennifer Shook (Elaine Lea's sister) – Bandon, OR (0310)

Sue Walsh (friend of Diane Griffin) – Cancer treatment (0313)

ENDURING CONCERNS

Dorris Andrews (Elaine Lea's mother)

- Brandon Wilde

Joe and Eunice Cook – Brandon Wilde Phyllis Daniels – Brandon Wilde Dan Freeman (Kaye Petkas' brother) –

Winter Park, FL

Priscilla Gilman – Brandon Wilde **Erroll Hatcher** –Adairsville, GA

Betty Johnston – At home

Carol Lapp – Recovering at Home from hip replacement (0315)

Leah Mannel – Brandon Wilde Jocelyn Martin-Moses (Karell Moses' mother) – At home

Anita Parker (Joslyn Fields' cousin) – Beaufort, SC

Elizabeth Swink – At home

Jane Terry (Chris Terry's mother) – Lake Wales, FL

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

The prayer ministry is led by deacons Kathy Ordelt, Joyce Bowers, and Linda-Jean Jay. To add a prayer concern, please contact the church office at istrogonoff@covenantaugusta.org.



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 3131 WALTON WAY AT AUMOND ROAD AUGUSTA, GA 30909-3266

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Augusta, GA
Permit No. 81





Palm Sunday:

Sunday, April 2, 10:00 a.m. Covenant sanctuary

Maundy Thursday Communion Service:

Thursday, April 6, at 7:00 p.m. Covenant sanctuary

Good Friday Community Service:

Friday, April 7, at 12 noon, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 9:

- Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. in the Memorial Garden
- Easter Service at 10:00 a.m. Covenant sanctuary