



# Covenant Chimes



September 2022

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

## Notes from Session

### August 2, 2022

Eight Ruling Elders and Teaching elders, Katelyn Gordon Cooke and Andy Cooke were present. Four elders were excused. Also attending were Treasurer Aubrey Moore and Music Director Lyn Patterson. Moderator Andy called the meeting to order. After all the motions necessary to begin the meeting, he opened the meeting.

The Nicene Creed and Apostles Creed were used for the devotion.

The Consent Calendar consisting of minutes from Stated Session meeting June 7, 2022, and call for a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2022 following worship for the purpose of receiving a report from the Nominating Committee and electing officers, was approved.

### The Clerk reported:

- Four facility uses:
  - Parlor: Mary Beachum  
November 15, 2022 for Mariposa Book Club, 1:00-5:00 p.m.
  - Fellowship Hall: Deb Pittman  
July 16, 2022, Jimmy's birthday party
  - Fellowship Hall: Andy Cooke  
August 8, 2022, 12:30pm  
Progressive Religious Coalition

## From Our Pastor

“The grace of God means something like:

Here is your life.

You might never have been,

but you are because the party wouldn't have been complete without you.

Here is the world.

Beautiful and terrible things will happen.

Don't be afraid. I am with you.”

-Frederick Buechner

Presbyterian pastor and writer Frederick Buechner died last month. He was 96, and the report is that he died peacefully at home.

At first appearances, Buechner was a rather ordinary looking man. He easily could've been cast as the kindly grandfather in the next *Hallmark* Christmas movie. But his writings showed that he was more than ordinary. He was observant and perceptive and honest and faithful in ways that made his readers feel like they could be too.



The church is full of ordinary looking people – people who could easily pass for generic grandparents, teenagers, or middle-aged adults – all just trying to figure out their place in the world. The promise that Buechner brought to life in his writings, the promise that we affirm each time we come together as the church is that God is with us. Always.

I'm grateful for the start of this new program year at the church for many reasons, but one of them is that we get to share more life together during the program year, which means we get to notice together the ways that God shows up as we show up. That's my prayer for each of us this fall – that we show up and that we notice the ways that God shows up too. This newsletter is filled with opportunities for you to show up, and I hope you will.

Peace,  
Katelyn

(See "Session Notes," page 2)

# New Office Hours



The church office hours are shifting as we head into the fall. From now on, the office

will be opening earlier every day and closing at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. If you need to speak to a staff member when the office is closed, then you can still call the church office and reach a staff member by selecting their extension on the automated menu. The new office hours are as follows.

Monday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Friday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

## 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

**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, Wed, Fri.  
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Tues, Thurs.

# Session Notes

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- Membership: death of Fran Mixon on July 11, 2022.
- Commissioners to August 20, 2022, Presbytery meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Athens: Judy Grieve, Aubrey Moore, Mary McCarter.
- Communion servers for August 7, 2022, are Vernon Barnes, Fidelis Ndingwan, Chris Terry and Maria Rivera.

Katelyn shared that there would be a Called Session meeting on Sunday August 21, 2022 at 9:45 am in the parlor to receive new members.

## The Treasurer Report

Aubrey stated that the church budget continues to show a surplus for the year. July financial statements were not yet available for the preschool, but projections suggest that the preschool budget will also show a surplus. The preschool fiscal year ends on July 31, and the end of year financial reports will be available soon.

Aubrey noted that the Pastor's Fund, which is used to provide assistance for church members and others at the pastors' discretion, is almost empty and asked Session to consider moving \$1500 from Memorials to the Pastor's Fund. **Vernon made the motion to move the money. It was seconded approved.**

## Task Forces

- **Open the Gates Task Force:** Chris Terry presented Stage 7 guidelines which included changes regarding COVID practices in the preschool with the recommendation to accept Stage 7. **The motion did not require a second and passed unanimously.**
- **Capital Campaign Task Force:** Chris Henry gave a summary of the task force's recent meetings

and an overview of its next steps. The task force is exploring different possibilities for addressing the church's debt, and these possibilities will have some connection to Covenant's stewardship campaign this fall.

## Ministry Team Reports

- Worship:
  - o New way to serve communion begins Sunday August 7. The congregation will come forward to receive the elements.
- Sustainability:
  - o SMT brought a motion that checks written by the financial secretary now require only one designated signature. **The motion passed** with a suggestion also to authorize additional check signers.
- Mission:
  - o Vernon reminded Session of *Take Up the Cause*, September 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at GAP ministry.
  - o Mission encourages inviting a friend to church
- Education:
  - o Preparing for the start of new program year Sunday, August 21, 2022
- Congregational Life:
  - o Food Truck Friday in September and Congregational Picnic in October.
- Building and Grounds:
  - o Workday was a great success with 20 people participating

## Deacons

Katelyn reported that the Diaconate met June 6, the prayer action team has been involved with Summer Sundays after worship, and the

(See "Session Notes," page 3)

## Session Notes

(continued from page 2)

deacons are working on restarting home communion in the coming months.

### Old Business

John McCrosky recognition

Katelyn reported that she invited John to preach at Covenant, but that his schedule did not allow him to make that kind of commitment at the moment. Instead, the high school youth invited John, Catherine, and Sam McCrosky to their house for dinner while they were in Montreat last month, and they presented John with a green stole and cards from the congregation. Andy also shared that John has expressed an interest in having his ordination service at Covenant when the time comes.

### New Business

- Stewardship Task Force:  
Andy reminded the session that it is typical to appoint the Stewardship Task Force at the August meeting. The Capital Campaign Task Force has discussed the possibility of assuming the responsibilities of the Stewardship Task Force this year since there is a fair amount of overlap between the work of both groups. After some discussion, Hubert van Tuyl made the **motion to ask the Capital Campaign Task Force to take responsibility for the annual stewardship campaign. It was seconded, and it passed.**

### Co-Pastor's Report:

Katelyn shared her appreciation for the many people who were involved with Lemonade on the Lawn and Summer Sundays over the past ten weeks including several officers. Looking ahead to the start of the new program year, she reminded the elders about the upcoming Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy training sessions, the leadership class Andy will be teaching on August 14, and the preschool wish list items will be posted by the sanctuary.

She also shared some personal challenges with her extended family that are taking more of her attention and time lately.

### Open Forum

Several elders shared personal joys and concerns during Open Forum, and the session celebrated Lyn Patterson's upcoming vacation and time away.

Katelyn closed the meeting with prayer at 8:40 p.m.

The next stated session meeting is September 6, 2022, at 7pm in the Parlor.

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, as indeed you are doing.* 1Thessalonians 5:11

Judy Grieve,  
Clerk of Session

## Note of Thanks



Dear Covenant Family and Friends,

Thank you so much for the many cards, calls, and gifts celebrating my 20<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary here at Covenant Presbyterian Church. It doesn't seem like it was that long ago that I was hired to serve as Secretary for the church. I very much enjoy working with everyone, helping those who walk in, and talking to people who call the office. The Covenant family is a supportive church, and I am grateful to be a small part of such a loving community.

Many know that I have been attending school for a degree in Social Work. To finish my degree, I will be interning at a local agency two days a week for 24 weeks. During that time, I will be in the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Tuesday and Thursday of each week will be spent at the Child Enrichment Center. Your continued support means so much to me and exemplifies the loving and caring nature of the Covenant Family.

Thank you,  
Judy Strogonoff



# Education

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### Preschool

Children in kindergarten and younger  
Room 2

Each week, teachers share a brief Bible story and a prayer with the preschoolers for the first 10 minutes of the faith formation time (11:15-11:25 a.m.). During the months of August and September, the Bible stories will focus on the theme of **welcome**. Jesus welcomed all kinds of people, and we do the same thing at church!

### Elementary School

1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Room 103

On Sunday, August 28, we presented Bibles to the younger elementary students, so this month, we're learning all about Bible Basics! How is the Bible organized? Who wrote it? What can we learn about God and ourselves from Scripture? We're excited to learn more about how the Bible helps us understand who God is, who we are, and how God wants us to live together.

### Children in Worship

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me," and we believe that Jesus' invitation to children included worship. At the same time, we know it can be hard for little ones to sit through a worship service, so we want to help.

There are children's bulletins available every Sunday in the back of the sanctuary. These bulletins frequently correspond with the sermon Scripture reading, and they include word puzzles, games, and coloring activities.

We also have worship bags available for little ones in the back of the sanctuary. Each tote bag has crayons (or markers), a clipboard with coloring pages, and other activities

and materials to keep your child's hands busy and to help them engage in worship.



## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Sunday Small Groups

Sunday mornings //  
11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Rooms 203 and 204

Middle and high school small groups are off to a great start! All youth are invited to join us on Sunday mornings for time to check in with each other, ask questions about our faith, study Scripture, and hang out. As we start the year together, we're also spending some time reconnecting with each other and making some plans for the fall. We'd love to have your input!

This month, the middle school youth are talking about heaven and hell and the high school youth are talking about faith and science.

### Beyond Sunday Mornings

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month: Service*

*Our faith is about more than what we believe or what we say; it's also about what we do. On the second weekends of the month, our time together will focus on service to others.*

This month's Second Service activity is the Take Up the Cause event on Saturday, September 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Greene Street Mission Center. We'll join with other people of faith from the Augusta community to learn more about poverty, how it impacts our neighbors, and how we can respond as people of faith.

Katelyn will be in touch with youth families with more details about the day, so keep an eye on your email inbox!

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month: Fellowship*

*Part of what it means to be church is to enjoy being together. On the*

*fourth Sundays of the month, we'll hang out and have fun together. Some of these events happen at the church, and others happen around town!*

Sunday, September 25

More Information will be provided later.

### Presbyterian Youth Retreat

Several of Covenant's middle and high school youth are participating in a Presbyterian Youth Retreat this month with other Presbyterian youth from Northeast Georgia Presbytery. They'll spend the weekend of September 16-18 in Copper Hill, Tennessee, where they'll worship, sing, play, pray, and go whitewater rafting together!

Please keep these young people and their adult advisors in your prayers while they are away together!

## COLLEGE CONNECTION

Hey Covenant college students (and their parents)!

Your church family loves you and wants to keep in touch with you this year. As you begin the fall semester, please take a few minutes to fill out this form (<https://tinyurl.com/2223CovCollege>) and share your contact info with us. Thanks so much, and know that we're praying for you as you start a new semester!

## ADULT MINISTRY

**Adult SALT** (Sharing and Learning Together) **and Choir Class (11:15 AM in Room 12)**

All adults are invited to participate in our Sunday School class each week at 11:15 AM in room 12. Our topic is an interesting and engaging book by Brian McLaren titled, *We Make the Road by Walking*. The book leads us in exploring what a difference an honest, living, growing faith can make in us and in our world today. Since the chapters are short, we will be reading and

*(See "Education," page 5)*

## Education

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discussing them together in class. For questions, please contact Steve Bell, Judy Grieve, or Kathy Ordelt.

### Coffee + Conversation

You've already come to worship, so stay after the service for coffee and conversation in the Fellowship Hall. Join Katelyn or Andy 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!

### WADING

This is a time for Bible study and fellowship for women. For all women, but after dinner for those women who find that their schedules don't permit them to join in the daytime study or fellowship groups.

Thursday evenings at 7:15 p.m. (to approximately 8:15) in the parlor.

As the school year begins, we will be studying Spiritual Gifts. For more information, please contact Mary McCarter, (812) 229-1368.



### ADULT FALL SOCIAL POTLUCK

SALT class, Bible studies and friends  
Hosted by The Education Ministry

**September 25, 2022**

Brandon Wilde Clubhouse  
5-7pm

Fellowship, Food, Faith and Fun

RSVP: Lucyle Ferris- [LuGF@aol.com](mailto:LuGF@aol.com) 706-738-1948

Food to bring:

If your LAST name begins with A-G	Sides or Salads
If your LAST name begins with H-N	Mains
If your LAST name begins with O-Y	Desserts

Please bring your own SERVING utensils.

The Education Ministry will provide drinks and paper products

## Congregational Life

### LADIES FOR LUNCH

Ladies for Lunch will meet Tuesday, September 13, at 11:30 a.m. Women and friends of Covenant will gather at Olivianas, 399 Highland Ave. Surrey Center. Contact Phoebe Crimmins at 706-738-7820 or by email at [phoebebeach30@hotmail.com](mailto:phoebebeach30@hotmail.com) to make your reservation for this gathering so that we may have space for you.

### MEN'S BROWN BAG LUNCH

The men's brown-bag lunch has returned for the fall. Bring your own lunch and join us at noon on September 13 and 27 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will meet every other Tuesday thereafter. We are continuing to look at Richard Rohr's

book, *From Wild Man to Wise Man*, but we also make time to talk about football as needed. We hope to see you there!

### YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

Our quarterly young adult gathering (roughly ages 22-40) will be on Thursday, September 22 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Arsenal Tap Room (1419 Monte Sano Ave.). We don't have a program—this is just a time of fellowship. Come early or late if you need to. We hope you can join us!

FAMILY \* FOOD \* FRIENDS!



**FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY**

Food Truck Friday  
Friday, September 16  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Trucks will be announced closer to the date of the event.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

*Please note the date change from last month's newsletter!*

Save the Date for the start of Wednesday Night Fellowship Program

**Wednesday, October 5**  
6:15-7:00 p.m.

Program details coming soon!



# SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> 9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Equal Exchange Coffee Sale, Narthex 11:15am Sunday School* 3:00pm Youth Kick-off at the Cooke's	<b>29</b> 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Preschool Labor Day Holiday (No School)	<b>3</b> 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>4</b> 10:00am Communion Worship Service*	<b>5</b> <b>Labor Day</b> Preschool and Church Office Closed 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	<b>6</b> 3:30pm Communion at Brandon Wilde 7:00pm Stated Session Meeting, Parlor	<b>7</b> 9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 7:15pm Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Balcony	<b>8</b> 6:30pm Capital Campaign Task Force, Parlor	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00am Meals on Wheels 10:00am Take Up the Cause Poverty Awareness Event, GAP Ministries 10:00am Youth Second Sunday Service, Take Up the Cause Event 11:45am Girl Scout Troup 20179, Room 204 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>11</b> 10:00am Worship Service* 11:15am Sunday School*	<b>12</b> 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor 5:30pm Congregational Life Ministry Team 6:30pm Building & Grounds Ministry Team, Fellowship Hall 7:00pm Diaconate Meeting, Parlor	<b>13</b> 11:30am Ladies For Lunch, Olivianas, 399 Highland Ave., Surrey Center 12:00pm Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Fellowship Hall 4:00pm Education Ministry Team, Room 104	<b>14</b> 9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00pm Disciple Bible Study, Room 104 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 7:15pm Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Balcony	<b>15</b> 6:00pm JuBELLation Ringers 7:15pm WADING Bible Study, Parlor	<b>16</b> 3:00pm Youth Retreat Departure 5:00pm Food Truck Friday, Playground Parking Lot	<b>17</b> Presbyterian Youth Retreat, Cooper Hill, TN 9:30am Covenant Choir Day of Singing, Balcony and Parlor 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>18</b> Presbyterian Youth Retreat, Cooper Hill, TN 10:00am Worship Service* 11:15am Sunday School*	<b>19</b> COVENANT CHIMES DEADLINE 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	<b>20</b> 9:00am Preschool Photos 9:30am PW Coordinating Team Meeting, Room 104 11:00am PW Wings Meeting, Room 12 6:30pm Sustainability Ministry Team, Parlor	<b>21</b> 9:00am Preschool Photos 9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 7:15pm Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Balcony	<b>22</b> 1:15pm Preschool Staff Meeting, Room 12 6:00pm JuBELLation Ringers 6:00pm Young Adult Gathering, Arsenal Tap Room, 1419 Monte Sano Ave., Augusta 6:30pm Capital Campaign Task Force, Parlor 7:15pm WADING Bible Study, Parlor	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00am Meals on Wheels 11:00am Memorial Service for Grace Heck 11:45am Girl Scout Troup 20179, Room 204 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
<b>25</b> Youth Fourth Sunday Fellowship 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Equal Exchange Coffee Sale, Narthex 11:15am Sunday School* 12:15pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting, Parlor 5:00pm Adult Sunday School Social, Brandon Wilde Clubhouse	<b>26</b> 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	<b>27</b> 12:00pm Men's Brown Bag Lunch, Fellowship Hall 6:00pm Mission Ministry Team, Zoom	<b>28</b> 9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00pm Disciple Bible Study, Room 104 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 7:15pm Covenant Choir Rehearsal, Balcony	<b>29</b> 4:00pm Open the Gates Task Force, Zoom 6:00pm JuBELLation Ringers 7:15pm WADING Bible Study, Parlor	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104

# Presbyterian Women



## WINGS — WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE

(Covenant Presbyterian Women  
(PW)

Regular monthly meetings of WINGS will resume on September 20 in Room 12 at 11 am. Judy Grieve will facilitate our discussion of *Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*, the 2022-23 PW/ Horizons Bible Study. We extend a warm welcome to everyone, to the new fall PW season.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MISSION PLEDGE

Funds from the Presbyterian Women's Mission Pledge are used to meet costs involved with the PW leadership functions churchwide, the Presbytery, and the Synod. Every mission and ministry program of PW is supported in full or in part through gifts to the mission pledge. Anything you give above \$25.00 will stay with Covenant PW for local operating and mission contributions.

We will be collecting the PW Mission Pledge for this year through November. When you have determined your pledge amount, please make out your check to Covenant Presbyterian Church, indicating "PW Pledge" on the memo line and give it to Joyce Bowers, PW treasurer, or leave it in the church office for Jenn Harrison, finance secretary.

## YOU CAN TAKE UP THE CAUSE

You are invited to *Take Up the Cause* at an event that challenges us all to take action to eradicate systemic poverty in the Augusta area. The event will take place at GAP Ministries (enter at 1260 Ellis Street) on Saturday, September 10 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. It will start with an opening worship at 10:00 am with music by the CSRA Musicians and Directors Guild. Afterward, there will be seven stations for you to visit and participate in activities relating to areas of need in the CSRA: transportation, healthcare, lost relationships, childcare/education, low income, housing, and mental health. You will also have an opportunity to tour the newly renovated GAP Ministries building, to visit the various areas of ministry at GAP and to meet one of

Augusta's newest initiatives, Project Refresh. A bag lunch will be served.

*Take Up the Cause* is sponsored by Covenant Presbyterian Church and Christ Presbyterian Church, which are participating in the nationwide *Matthew 25 Initiative* of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and by GAP Ministries. Gifts donated by church volunteers will be raffled off at the end to all participants. You can find your own way, whether small or large, to make a dent in the pain of systemic poverty here at home. Bring yourself, or a group, all are welcome.

For more information, contact Covenant Presbyterian Church at 707-733-0513 or email [acooke@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:acooke@covenantaugusta.org).

Mary Beachum,  
Matthew 25 Task Force

# TAKE UP THE CAUSE

A Christian Response to Systemic Poverty

Sponsored by Christ Presbyterian Church, Covenant Presbyterian Church, and GAP Ministries.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022  
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Greene St. Mission Center • 1235 Greene St. • Augusta, Ga.

Opening Worship at 10:00 with

**CSRA Musicians & Directors Guild**

Beginning at 10:30, there will be educational opportunities and resources to respond to poverty in the CSRA.

"Walking Bag" lunches will be served beginning at 11:00.

For more information, contact Covenant Presbyterian at 706-733-0513.

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed.  
Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.  
Isaiah 1:17

## PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program is a trust-worthy way for anyone wishing to donate funds for the floods in the Kentucky area, the wildfires out west, the war in Ukraine, or any other national or world-wide disaster. You can give:

Using their website at <https://pda.pcusa.org/>

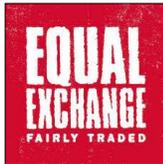
Phoning 800-872-3283

Mailing a check to Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

## EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE SALE

Mission Ministry will be hosting a sale of coffee and chocolate from Equal Exchange on Sunday, September 25. Look for the table in the narthex after the worship service.

Charlotte Ealick and Sabina Widner



The GAP item of the month for September is canned soup. 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.

Many of you are aware of the term "food desert" for areas that do not have a grocery store within walking distance or nearby on a transit line. There is now a designation called a "food swamp." This refers to a neighborhood where convenience stores are the main source of groceries, meaning that people are eating highly processed, unhealthy foods. Many parts of Augusta fit both categories. At the GAP food pantry, we try to have as many fresh fruits and vegetables as we can get, and also provide frozen unprocessed meat. If you have extra produce in your home garden, please contact Mary Beachum at [mmbeachum@gmail.com](mailto:mmbeachum@gmail.com). The GAP clients will thank you.

### 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

## Covenant Preschool & Children's Day Out



The first few weeks of the new school year have been full of new teachers, new routines, and new friends at the

preschool! Thanks to many of you, the new year has also included new supplies for the classrooms, and we are so appreciation to those of you who purchased items from the school's wishlist last month. You made our teachers' day!

The school year is off to a great start, and this month, we'll begin our enrichment activities of music class with Ms. Kristen, Spanish class with Ms. Suzanne, and weekly chapel services with Pastors Andy, Karla, and myself. Our chapel theme is "God Made the World," and we'll learn about all of the things that God created in the beginning. At the end of each day of creation, God would announce that "it is good," and that's what we're saying about the start of a new year at Covenant!

Thank you so much for the many ways you support the school and its staff and students. It's a joy to be in ministry together at Covenant!

Peace,  
Katelyn Gordon Cooke  
Co-Pastor and Preschool Director



## A Note from Your Treasurer

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Greetings. Today, I write to you about MONEY. Or more precisely, GIVING OPPORTUNITIES. But first, a little DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know our Church Operating Budget has 96 budget lines? Of those, nine are for revenue and 87 for expenses. And did you know the bulk of our revenues are received through your pledges, about 82%, while another 9% each is realized through Non-Pledge Gifts and transfers from our Building Fund Account? And, while the bulk of our expenses are payroll related, did you know that approximately 11% of our budgeted expenses are attributable to our annual mortgage loan expense? In fact, our annual mortgage loan expense exceeds the total budgeted expenses for our Congregational Life, Education, Mission, and Worship Ministries combined.

And did you know Covenant also has a number of giving opportunities—beyond Pledges and Non-Pledge gifts, that are not a part of our annual operating budget? Two of these include our Pastor's Fund and our Building Fund.

The Pastor's Fund is a discretionary account used by our pastors to assist members of our congregation and community who, from time to time, may need a little help. Believe it or not, it does happen. An unexpected auto repair, emergency travel, help with groceries and/or utilities, an unexpected medical expense. All of these are examples of where your gifts are needed and will be put to good use.

Historically, our Building Fund was used to meet our annual mortgage expense. However, in 2018, this expense was moved to our operating budget and in the intervening years, portions of the remaining Building Fund were used to supplement our budget. Herein lies your second giving opportunity. At the end of 2022, our Building Fund account will be near zero, yet the remaining outstanding mortgage balance will be approximately \$374,000. What that means for next year is that the total burden of our annual mortgage expense will rest upon our budget. That is, unless we have additional and sufficient gifts to our Building Fund to, at a minimum, help us meet our annual mortgage expense; and, at best, allow us to retire our debt.

So, whether it be large or small, I invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to our Pastor's Fund or Building fund. Your added generosity will be greatly appreciated.



## Nominating Committee

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In his book *Wishful Thinking*, Frederick Buechner wrote,

*Neither the hair shirt nor the soft berth will do. The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.*

The Congregational Nominating Committee will soon request your nominations for elders, deacons and nominating committee members. During this time of listening, we hope you have your eyes and heart tuned to listening for God's call.

Charlotte Ealick,  
Chair of Nominating Committee

## Worship

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### DAY OF SINGING

Covenant Choir's "Day of Singing" for members of the Covenant Choir/ Covenant Festival Choir is scheduled for **Saturday, September 17**, from 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. (approximately). Please note the change of date. This is an opportunity for fun, fellowship, and to spend in-depth rehearsal time with the Advent/Christmas music and anthems selected for September through early January 2023. Snacks, water, and a light lunch will be provided. Child care could also be arranged. If you plan to sing with us only for Advent/Christmas, that music will be presented between 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. that morning and then you'll be free to depart. If you have questions or need more information: Lyn Patterson, [lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org) or 803.474.6003.

# August Worship Schedule

## USHERS

- 9/4: Hugh Dobbins, Dave Lapp,  
Lucyle Ferris,  
Fidelis Ndingwan  
9/11: Judy Grieve, Chris Henry,  
Ruth Mayhall, Philip Monk  
Buddy Simpson, Bill Usry  
9/18: Steve Bell, Dalton Cooper,  
John Ealick, Angela Hobby  
9/25: Jim Buckalew,  
Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea,  
Johnny Lowe, Charlie Terry

## LITURGIST/READER AT 10:00 AM SERVICE

- 9/4: LJ Jay  
9/11: Lindsay Kircher  
9/18: Chuck Baldwin  
9/25: Dana R. Johnson

## PREACHER

- 9/4: Andy Cooke  
9/11: Katelyn Gordon Cooke  
9/18: Andy Cooke  
9/25: Katelyn Gordon Cooke

## GREETERS

- 9/4: Fred and Jane Gehle  
9/11: Lindsay Kircher  
9/18: Buddy Simpson  
9/25: Sabina Widner

## A/V TEAM

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

## COORDINATORS

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

## Prayer Concerns



### NEW CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

**Bill Cornes** – Kentwood (0816)  
**Family of Grace Heck** who died  
August 23  
**Donna Johnson** (friend of Sarah  
Colborn) – Hospital (0824)  
**Sam McCarter** – Summerville, SC  
(0815)

### CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS

**All of Covenant's Missionaries**  
**All who serve in the U.S. Military**  
**Ruby and Rishard Banks** – For a  
healthy pregnancy (0628)  
**Wanda Butler** (friend of Angela  
and Bob Vernoy) – Lincolnton,  
GA (0304)

**Ella Davis** – Treatment for Chiari  
Malformation (0504)  
**Diane Griffin** – At home (0707)  
**Sharon Griffin** (Diane Griffin's  
sister-in-law) (0802)  
**Leonard Lewis** (friend of Angela &  
Bob Vernoy) – Washington, GA  
(0304)  
**Col. Mike McHenry** (friend of Lyn  
Patterson) – Hampton, VA (0721)  
**David Rhoades** – Health concern  
(0518)  
**Sue Walsh** (friend of Diane Griffin)  
– Charlotte, NC (0722)

### ENDURING CONCERNS

**Dorris Andrews** (Elaine Lea's  
mother) – Brandon Wilde  
**Joe and Eunice Cook** – Brandon  
Wilde  
**Phyllis Daniels** – Brandon Wilde  
**Lois Davis** – Kentwood  
**Anne Degrazia** – Alpharetta, GA  
**Dan Freeman** (Kaye Petkas'  
brother) – Winter Park, FL  
**Priscilla Gilman** – Brandon Wilde  
**Erroll Hatcher** – Adairsville, GA

**Betty Johnston** – Brandon Wilde  
**Larry Lutcher** – Brandon Wilde  
**Leah Mannel** – Brandon Wilde  
**Jocelyn Martin-Moses** (Karell  
Moses' mother) – At home  
**Andy McCraw** – At home  
**Anita Parker** (Joslyn Fields' cousin)  
– Beaufort, SC  
**Lois Reynolds** – Soldalis Senior  
Living, Martinez, GA  
**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 Lindsay Kircher, Deb Pittman, and Dana Johnson. To add a prayer concern, please contact the church office at [jestrogonoff@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:jestrogonoff@covenantaugusta.org).

# Covenant Chimes

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit  
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New Members that joined the church, Sunday, August 21.

(Left to right: Katelyn Gordon Cooke, Charmaine Angwafo, Amelia Hall, Melissa Tyler, and Jeremy Tyler.)



Covenant Preschool Teachers and Staff. Meet Your Teacher Event, Friday, August 12.



Angela Hobby and Lola Bell deliver lunch to the Burn Center, Friday, August 19.