

# COVENANT CHIMES

Covenant Presbyterian Church • Augusta, Georgia • March 2025



On Sunday, March 9, daylight savings time begins. Please remember to move your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday evening.

## 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:**

Alexandria Dillahunt, Sherry Nash, and Sara van Plew

**Church Administrator:**

Rachel Gregory

**Finance Secretary:** Jenn Harrison

**Preschool Director:** Jill Reeves Garren

## Covenant Presbyterian Church

3131 Walton Way  
Augusta, GA 30909  
(706) 733-0513

[info@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:info@covenantaugusta.org)

[www.covenantaugusta.org](http://www.covenantaugusta.org)

[www.facebook.com/covenantaugusta](http://www.facebook.com/covenantaugusta)

Instagram: @covenantpresbyaugusta

Office Hours:

9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

## From Our Pastor

For most of the history of the Christian church, there has been an idea that God is revealed to us through the Creation. Psalm 19 states “The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.” In his letter to the Romans, Paul writes that “Ever since the creation of the world, [God’s] eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made.” There are even places in Scripture where the sky is compared to a scroll, as though Creation itself were a book that could be read to gain knowledge. As such, Christians over the centuries have spoken of the *two books* of God: the Bible and Creation.

In the recent history of the church, there has been a move away from *the book of Creation*. As we have moved inside of climate-controlled buildings over the last century and focused exclusively on our own knowledge rather than on God’s Creation, I wonder if we are losing a valuable resource to our own faith development. As many of you know, I am currently working on a Doctor of Ministry degree at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. As I conclude my program, I am working on my final *integrative project*, which explores the ways that human experiences of God’s Creation affect faith development.

Last year, I interviewed several faith leaders around the country who are leading communities that worship outside. I have followed those interviews with academic research to understand the history and theology of the book of Creation. Now, I am hoping to get you to join me in some qualitative research. More specifically, I am looking for twelve of you who are willing to be human subject research participants.

This spring, I will be leading three outdoor worship services. Everyone is invited to attend, but I am looking for twelve people who will commit to attending at least two of these services and then participate in a group interview a few weeks later. Participants must be able to walk up to ½ mile and be willing to be uncomfortable. We will worship even if the weather is hot, cold, or a little rainy. We will only cancel if it is dangerous (lightning, high winds, etc.). Services will be held on Sunday, March 16 at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 27 at 2:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 10 at 10:00 a.m. Locations will vary, but will be in Augusta-area parks or on the church property itself. Children are also welcome to join us.

(See “From Our Pastor” page 2)

# From Our Pastor

*(continued from page 1)*

Are you interested in participating? If so, then please email me at [acooke@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:acooke@covenantaugusta.org) and let me know. I'll send you some more details along with the requisite forms. Thank you for supporting me in this project. It is my prayer that we will find these services to be opportunities for us to grow in faith together.

Grace and peace,

Andy

## Clerk's Corner

**Membership:** Adam and Katie Toomey joined the church by affirmation of faith on January 19, 2025.

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation:** William Davis, as President of the Corporation, and Aubrey Moore, as Treasurer, were elected by the congregation in the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 26, 2025. Our thanks to these faithful servants of the congregation. Budget for 2025 was presented to the congregation and terms of call for our Co-Pastors were approved.

**Commissioners for Presbytery Meeting:** Commissioners for February 22, 2025, Northeast Georgia Presbytery meeting at Reid Memorial were Aubrey Moore, Elaine Lea and Susan Monk.

**Treasurer's Report:** Aubrey reported that as of the end of January the church had a significant surplus. Thank you to our dedicated congregation for your financial support.

**Elder Ministry Team Assignments for 2025:** Thank you to the following elders and deacons for their devoted service leading our church: Elders - Charlotte Ealick, Judy Grieve, and Maria Rivera; Deacons - Joyce Bowers, Kathy Ordelt and Sabina Widner.

Building and Grounds – Dalton Cooper, Chair and William

Congregational Life – Jim Buckalew, Chair and Susan Monk

Education – Amelia Hall, Chair and Debbie van Tuyll

Mission - Elaine Lea and Amy House

Sustainability – Aubrey Moore, Chair and Anne Ealick Henry

Worship - Lindsay Southwell, Chair and Becky DeLecuona

### **Motions:**

- SMT recommends to session support of the Augusta Area Clergy Cohort ministry financially with a \$300.00 contribution. Motion passed.
- SMT recommends to session approval of Katelyn's request for leave to serve the larger church as the leader of the April 4-6 Women's Retreat at Madison Presbyterian Church. Motion passed.

*"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step" Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Susan Monk  
Clerk of Session

# Creation Care Corner

Creation Care Corner:

Plant Trees to Help Augusta Recover

If you are like me, Hurricane Helene brought you a new appreciation for trees. I didn't know how much I valued the trees I had until they were gone! Now that most of the tree debris is gone and it's almost spring, it's time to start thinking about planting trees.

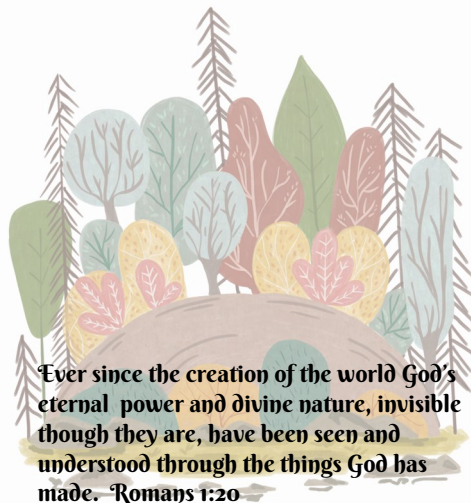
Planting trees is one of the best things you can do for the environment. When we lost trees, we also lost wildlife habitats, shade, and the trees' capacity to pull carbon from the atmosphere. Trees absorb carbon through photosynthesis, so planting trees is a powerful way to mitigate the effects of climate change. Trees also stabilize soil and keep it nutrient rich. Trees provide shade which helps to bring down temperatures, especially in more suburban and urban areas. Trees also help reduce air pollution and improve air quality.

What types of trees should you consider? It's usually best to consider species native to the area, like beech, oak, maple, redbud, dogwood, and magnolia. Broad leaf trees tend to capture more carbon than other kinds. Planting a variety of trees helps support a diversity of wildlife species. Consult with your garden center or a local landscaper or arborist for advice about which trees would work best in your yard and where to plant them.

Amy House, Creation Care Task Force

## Volunteer Opportunity

If you are interested in doing environmental work in our region, then the Creation Care Task Force has an opportunity for you. The Citizens Advisory Board advises The Department of Energy's Environmental Management office at the Savannah River Site. EM's job is to oversee the disposal of the nuclear waste at SRS. The board meets every other month and all expenses are paid. For details, please contact Hubert van Tuyl at: [Hvtairacobra@gmail.com](mailto:Hvtairacobra@gmail.com)



# Congregational

## Nominating

### Committee Report

#### Elder Class of 2027



**Becky DeLecuona** is a born-and-bred Presbyterian. She lived in Michigan, New York City, and Denver before moving to Augusta with her late husband Juan when he accepted a position at the Medical College of Georgia. She is a retired social worker who has worked in a variety of organizations, especially ones focusing on mental health. She also has an M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary in New York. Although never ordained as a member of the clergy, she has been able to serve both Covenant and the wider church by preaching and teaching both adults and children. In her thirty years at Covenant, she has been involved with ministry teams in Worship, Education, and Mission. She has served as a Deacon and has coordinated the GAP dinners. She is known to many of our young adults as "Señora Becky" from her years of teaching Spanish in the preschool. Currently, she is making a joyful noise every Sunday in the choir loft. She is the mother of Lillie and Russell, who both grew up here with the love and support of church members.

*Editor's Note: Becky was elected by the congregation on February 23 and will be ordained and installed on March 9.*

# Education Ministry

## Emmaus Class

Facilitators: Kathryn Crandall, Matt Crowe, Karla Conditt Daniels, and Katelyn Gordon Cooke

Sunday mornings  
11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Room 12

Starting on Sunday, March 9, and throughout the season of Lent, the Emmaus class will use Kate Bowler's study "The Hardest Part: Hurt We Carry, Hope We Find" as the basis for its conversations. Each week, we'll go deep together as we consider both the beauty and the pain of what it is to be human and how Jesus offers a model of how to honor it all.

## SALT Class

Facilitators: Kathy Ordelt, Judy Grieve, and Steve Bell

Sunday mornings  
11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Room 7

On March 9, we will wrap up our exploration of the Bible's validity, led by David Rhoads, using Rod Pinder's book *Nasty Rumors*.

On March 16, we will begin a meaningful 6-week Lenten journey as we watch a video series brought to us by Adam Hamilton entitled *Final Words from the Cross*. (You may remember our series last year that Adam did, *24 Hours that Changed the World*). Using the videos and class discussions, we'll find that these 7 statements have much to teach us about Jesus, our God, and ourselves.

All adults are welcome to join us!

## Men's Breakfast

The Men of the Church will have a Saturday morning breakfast on March 1 at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

## Coffee and Conversation

Sunday Mornings  
Gathering Area by the Fellowship Hall Kitchen

You've already come to worship, so stay after the service for coffee and conversation in the fellowship hall. Join other 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!



## Telling Sacred Stories, Telling Our Stories



Registration is open for the first Weekend Workshop and Worship event hosted by the Education Ministry Team! We are excited to welcome The Reverend Gail Henderson-Belsito as our keynoter and guest preacher in late March.

On Saturday, March 29, Gail will lead a workshop titled "Telling Sacred Stories, Telling Our Stories" during which she'll help us explore the rich stories of Scripture alongside our own personal stories of faith and life experience. The workshop will start at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. Childcare is available for children ages 11 and under, and a boxed lunch from Jason's Deli is included in the cost of registration (\$10). For more information and to register for the Saturday workshop, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/CovStories25>. The deadline to register is Friday, March 21.

On Sunday, March 30, Gail will be our guest preacher in worship, and she'll continue our practice of listening to and learning from the stories of Scripture in a sermon on one of the most well-known stories that Jesus told: the parable of the prodigal son. After worship, Gail will spend time with Covenant middle and high school youth during Sunday School.

We look forward to welcoming Gail to Covenant and to growing together in our faith!





## Children

### Preschool

Children ages 2 through kindergarten  
Sunday mornings  
11:15 - 11:35 a.m. // Room 2

During their time together, preschoolers hear a Bible story, sing a song or make a craft, and say a prayer together. The activities are geared to preschoolers' learning styles and attention spans, and we also have a lot of fun together! After their 20-minute lesson, children play together until the end of the Sunday School time.

### Elementary School

1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders  
Sunday mornings  
11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. // Room 103

This year, elementary students are learning about God's big story in the Bible. Each week, we dive into a story from Scripture to see what it can teach us about who God is and who we are called to be. Here are the stories we'll be learning about in March:

- March 2 – Listen to Him (Luke 9:28-36)
- March 9 – Who Is My Neighbor? (Luke 10:25-37)
- March 16 – Little to Big (Luke 13:18-21)
- March 23 – Party Time (Luke 14:15-24)
- March 30 – Lost and Found (Luke 15:1-10)

### Preschool and Elementary

#### Music

2nd and 4th Sunday mornings  
11:40 a.m.-12:00 p.m. // Room 3

On the second and fourth Sundays of the month, preschool and elementary school students enjoy 20 minutes of music time with Ms. Lyn, Ms. Sarah, and other special guests. Join us as we make a joyful noise together!

## Youth Ministry

### Small Groups

Sunday mornings // 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. // Room 204

This winter and spring, we're learning about the stories of individual people of faith who were committed to God's love and justice for all people – even if it occasionally meant going against the status quo. We're using materials from a curriculum titled *We Are Made of Stories and Stardust*, and we'll hear a different person's story each week. Here's our line up for March:

- Sunday, March 2 – Mr. Rogers: Just the Way You Are
- Sunday, March 9 – Harriet Tubman: Leading Like Moses
- Sunday, March 16 – Rachel Held Evans: Wrestling with God
- Sunday, March 23 – Confirmation / Faith Panel
- Sunday, March 30 – Special Session with Gail Henderson-Belsito

### Second Sunday Saturday Service

Church Workday // Saturday, March 8 // 9:00 a.m.

Covenant youth will join other church members for a church workday! Read more about what we'll be doing during this workday on page 9.

### Fourth Sunday Fellowship

Movie Afternoon // Sunday, March 23 // 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Join your youth group friends for a low-key movie afternoon in the youth room. We'll watch *The Wild Robot* and enjoy snacks together. Feel free to bring blankets and pillows!

### Confirmation

Sunday, March 23 // 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. // Room 203

On the fourth Sunday of each month, the Confirmands meet to learn about a different spiritual discipline (or "things Christians do"). In March, Katelyn will lead our conversation about serving others, why it's an important part of our faith, and some of Covenant's mission ministries.

### Save the Date - Children's Easter Celebration



Sunday, April 20 // 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Preschool and elementary families are invited to save the date for a special Easter Celebration on Easter morning!

# Worship

“Human beings understand the world around us through story. We take lessons from stories – especially stories we hear over and over and over again.” This quote from author, musician, and activist David LaMotte reminds us of the importance of stories in our personal and collective lives and in our faith. During the season of Lent, we hear again defining stories of our faith – stories that help us to more fully understand who God is in Jesus Christ and who we are as beloved and broken human beings. We hope you’ll plan to join us for worship on Sunday mornings as well as several special Lenten services in the weeks leading up to Easter.

## **Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 // 7:00 p.m.

Covenant Sanctuary

“Stories of Half-Hearted Faith”

Isaiah 58:1-12

Karla Conditt Daniels, preaching

## **Lent 1 // Sunday, March 9, 2025**

“Stories of Temptation”

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13

Andy Cooke, preaching

## **Lent 2 // Sunday, March 16, 2025**

“Stories of Promise”

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Katelyn Gordon Cooke, preaching

## **Lent 3 // Sunday, March 23, 2025**

“Stories of Abundance”

1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Isaiah 55:1-9

Andy Cooke, preaching

## **Lent 4 // Sunday, March 30, 2025**

“Stories of Being Prodigal”

Luke 15:11-32

Gail Henderson-Belsito, preaching

## **Lent 5 // Sunday, April 6, 2025**

“Stories of the Five Senses”

Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8

Karla Conditt Daniels, preaching

## **Lent 6 // Palm Sunday // Sunday, April 13, 2025**

“Stories of Hope”

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29; Luke 19:28-40

Andy Cooke, preaching

## **Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, April 17, 2025 // 7:00 p.m.

Covenant sanctuary

“Stories around the Table”

1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Andy Cooke, preaching

## **Easter // Sunday, April 20, 2025**

Sunrise Service // 7:00 a.m.

Memorial Garden

Worship // 10:00 a.m.

“Stories without Endings”

Luke 24:1-12

Katelyn Gordon Cooke, preaching

# March Spotlight

Each month we’ll share a few fun facts about current officers and/or Covenant Staff.



Getting to know

**Amelia Hall, Elder**

A few fun facts about Amelia:

- My favorite Bible verse - John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
- Favorite place I've traveled: Iona, Scotland.
- Interesting fact: I love watching operas; my favorite is *Tales of Hoffmann*.



Getting to know

**Wendy Spinks, Pre K Floater**

A few fun facts about Wendy:

- My favorite Bible verse - 1 Corinthians 16:14, "Do everything in love."
- Favorite place I've traveled: Hawaii, breathtakingly beautiful and nice warm weather.
- Interesting fact: I grew up dancing, from the time I was three through high school.



## **The Stories We Tell**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>23</p> <p>1000am Worship Service* 11:00am Called Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary 11:15am Confirmation Class, Rm 204 11:15am Sunday School* 11:40am Children's Music, Room 3 12:15pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting, Parlor*</p>	<p>24</p> <p>300pm Companions in Christ, Parlor 600pm Financial Peace University Class Zoom</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:00pm Men's Lunch, Fellowship Hall 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 10:00pm Disciples Bible Study, Rm 104 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 5:30pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Diner* 6:15pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Program* 7:15pm Covenant Choir, Balcony</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Jubellation Ringers 7:00pm Creation Care Task Force, Zoom</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00am East Georgia Assoc. of Marriage &amp; Family Therapists, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:00am Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall 9:30am P.E.O. Meeting, Parlor 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Rm 104</p>
<p>2</p> <p>1000am Communion Worship Service* 11:15am Sunday School*</p>	<p>3</p> <p>300pm Companions in Christ, Parlor 6:00pm Financial Peace University Class Zoom 6:00pm Playground Task Force, Rm 7*</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11:30am Ladies for Lunch 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Stated Session Meeting, Room 7</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal, Following the Service 9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Jubellation Ringers</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00am Green Team 9:00am Church Workday 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Rm 104</p>
<p>9</p> <p>1000am Worship Service* 11:00am Equal Exchange Coffee Sale* 11:15am Sunday School* 11:40am Children's Music, Room 3 12:15pm Diaconate Meeting, Parlor</p>	<p>10</p> <p>300pm Companions in Christ, Parlor 6:00pm Financial Peace University Class Zoom 6:30pm Building and Grounds Ministry Team Meeting, Gathering Area</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12:00pm Men's Lunch, Fellowship Hall 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 4:30pm Education Ministry Team, Room 7</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Preschool Fundraiser, Covenant Kitchen 9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00pm Disciples Bible Study, Rm 104 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 5:30pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Diner* 6:15pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Program* 7:15pm Covenant Choir, Balcony</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Preschool Fundraiser, Covenant Kitchen 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Jubellation Ringers</p>	<p>14</p> <p>3:00pm ADK Set-up, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am ADK Meeting and Luncheon, Fellowship Hall 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Rm 104</p>
<p>16</p> <p>1000am Worship Service* 11:15am Sunday School* 2:00pm Outdoor Worship Service, TBA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>COVENANT CHIMES DEADLINE 3:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor 6:00pm Financial Peace University Class Zoom 7:00pm Congregational Life Ministry Team, Rm 7</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:15am PW Coordinating Team, Room 104 10:30am PW Wings Meeting, Room 7 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Sustainability Ministry Team, Room 7</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 5:30pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Diner* 6:15pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Program* 7:15pm Covenant Choir, Balcony</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 1:00pm Preschool Staff Meeting, Room 7 6:00pm Mission Ministry Team, Room 7 6:30pm Jubellation Ringers 6:45pm Matthew 25 Task Force, Rm 7</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Parents Day Out Preschool Fundraiser 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Rm 104</p>
<p>23</p> <p>PW Birthday Offering 1000am Worship Service* 11:15am Confirmation Class, Rm 204 11:15am Sunday School* 11:40am Children's Music, Room 3 12:15pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting, Parlor*</p>	<p>24</p> <p>300pm Companions in Christ, Parlor</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00am PTO Meeting, Fellowship Hall 12:00pm Men's Lunch, Fellowship Hall 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 1:00pm Disciples Bible Study, Rm 104 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room 5:30pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Diner* 6:15pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Program* 7:15pm Covenant Choir, Balcony</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Jubellation Ringers</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Education Ministry Team Event 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Rm 104</p>
<p>30</p> <p>1000am Worship Service* 11:15am Sunday School*</p>	<p>31</p> <p>300pm Companions in Christ, Parlor</p>	<p>1</p> <p>11:30am Ladies for Lunch 1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 3:30pm Brandon Wilde Communion 6:30pm Stated Session Meeting, Room 7</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary 5:30pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Diner* 6:15pm Wednesday Night Fellowship, Program* 7:15pm Covenant Choir, Balcony</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1:00pm Preschool Soccer Shots, Gym 6:30pm Jubellation Ringers</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Rm 104</p>

\*Childcare available

## Presbyterian Women (PW)

### PW Birthday Offering

On March 23, you have an opportunity to donate to the PW Birthday Offering. Your gift to the Birthday Offering helps fund real solutions in the areas of health, education, economic development and the needs of women and children. The grants support domestic and international ministries. Begun in 1922, the first grant was awarded to Montreat to build the Montreat Gate. The Birthday Offering has funded 12 projects in Georgia, including making it possible for GAP Ministries to install an elevator in the building. This year's Birthday Offering grant will help build a housing facility at Leland Presbyterian Church, Leland, Mississippi. The Windward Volunteer Housing will offer safe and comfortable accommodations for members of the community who need a temporary place to stay and volunteer groups who come for disaster recovery. A second grant was awarded to Red Cloud Renewable, a Native-led grassroots nonprofit organization on the Pine Ridge Reservation, Pine Ridge, South Dakota. The grant will construct three dome homes and the construction apprentices will gain experience in this building technique that can rapidly and affordably increase housing availability for Lakota families in need. It is through your generous giving that these projects come to fruition.

### WINGS - Presbyterian Women (PW)

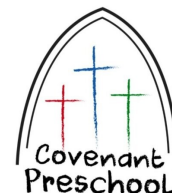
All women are invited to the monthly meetings of WINGS. Our next meeting will be on March 18, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 7. We will be doing lesson 3 from *The Green Bible*. Please join us as we have fellowship together and consider our role in the care of the earth.

## Preschool

It's an exciting time in the preschool year as we start to think ahead to the next school year and to our Summer Fun program. As of February 19, registration for the 2025-2026 school year is open to the public, and we've had a great response so far, with some classes already full! You can learn more about next year's class offerings by visiting the preschool website, and if you have any friends looking for a quality early childhood education experience for their little ones, please send them our way!

We're also glad to be able to offer Summer Fun again this year. This year, the program will run in the month of June, Mondays-Thursdays. Summer Fun classes are offered to ages 1 year through completed first grade. We're looking forward to lots of fun together in June, and Summer Fun registration will open to the public on Monday, March 10.

Jill Reeves Garren  
Preschool Director



### WORSHIP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY- SANCTUARY FLOWER COORDINATION



Worship Ministry is seeking a few volunteers to help with coordinating our sanctuary flowers.

*Opportunities include:* Changing out the silk flower arrangements when fresh flowers are not provided; picking up and arranging lilies for Easter Sunday; organization, preparation and management of poinsettias for Hanging of the Greens. Other highlighted Sundays include World Communion Sunday, fall cornucopias as well as placing a rosebud in honor of a new baby.

*Green thumb not required nor is attendance at a Worship Ministry Team meeting!!*

Individual(s) interested should contact William Davis at  
WDAVIS2@augusta.edu or  
706-631-4121.



## Building & Grounds

### Workday

Our next workday is scheduled for Saturday, March 8 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. All are welcome, regardless of age or ability, and lunch will be provided.

For more information, please contact Dalton Cooper.

### Access Control and Exterior Door Locks Update

Hey everyone! We've run into a couple of hiccups with the access control door system and the automatic doors, but I'm on it and working to get everything back on track!

As a result, I've decided to push back the exterior door rekeying that was originally planned for mid-March. It's now planned for mid-April, so we can be sure the system is running smoothly for the long haul before making any changes.

I'll keep you posted as things progress! Thanks for your patience!

Rachel Gregory  
Church Administrator

## Congregational Life

### Men's Brownbag Lunch

Join us on March 11 and March 25 in the fellowship hall at noon.

You are invited to bring your own "brown bag" lunch, or pick up something on the way to the church, join us if you can!

### Ladies for Lunch

Ladies for Lunch will meet Tuesday, March 4 at 11:30 a.m. Women and friends of Covenant will gather at P. F. Chang's, 3450 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta. Contact Phoebe Crimmins at 706-738-7820 or by email at [pbjcrim.949@gmail.com](mailto:pbjcrim.949@gmail.com) to make your reservation for this gathering so that we may have space for you.

## Covenant Choir Seasonal Singers' Invitation for Holy Week & Easter

The first 40 minutes of each Wednesday evening rehearsal of the Covenant Choir will be devoted to preparing the music for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday evening, and the 10:00 a.m. Easter morning service.

If you are unable to sing with us on a regular basis, but would like to be a member of the Covenant Festival Choir for these special services, please consider attending our rehearsal from **7:15 – 7:55 p.m.** on Wednesdays. At 7:55 p.m. you will be free to depart (with no guilt!); our rehearsal will then continue as we work to prepare music for weekly worship services. Questions – contact Lyn Patterson, [lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org).

*Soli Deo Gloria!*



## Wednesday Night Fellowship



As in previous years, our WNF program series during Lent will echo the themes of worship on Sunday mornings.

Wednesday, March 12 – Stories of Temptation

Wednesday, March 19 – Stories of Promise

Wednesday, March 26 – Stories of Abundance

Wednesday, April 2 – Stories of Being Prodigal

Stay tuned to future church publications for more information about each week's program.



**NEW CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER CONCERNS**

**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**, and all who serve in the U.S. Military

**All the victims of Hurricane Helene**

**Family of Ogden Tabb (Oggie)** (family of Susan & Philip Monk) - who passed away on February 16 (0218)

**Sam and Maddie McCarter** - on the birth of their son, Waylon Edwards, born on February 19 (0219)

**Ella Davis** - health issues (0220)

**Eunice Cook** - recovery from a concussion (0220)

**Family of Mike Ewing** (Lucyle Ferris' brother-in-law) upon his death – Christiansburg, VA (0219)

**Family of Luke Russell** - on the death of his grandmother, Sonia Russell (0212)

**Karla Conditt Daniels** - healing after hip replacement surgery (0203)

**Family of John Crimmins** (brother-in-law of Phoebe Crimmins) - who passed away on February 2 (0203)

**Marie Harrell** (mother of Jamie Harrell) - recent surgery (0205)

**Family of Amelia Hall** - on the death of her grandfather, Russell Zakarison (0206)

**Joy Maple** (DCE of Reid Memorial) - upcoming open-heart surgery (0130)

**Drew and Jill Reeves Garren** - celebration and prayers for a healthy pregnancy (0127)

**Family of Mary Frances Herrin** (Ordelt's friend's sister) - who passed away on January 28 (0129)

**Ben Rogers** - broken arm (0123)

**Family of Tyler Snead** (Preschool Parent) - who died suddenly on January 14 (0115)

**Arlene White** - broken shoulder from a recent fall (0114)

**Family of Wilton White** (Albert White's brother) - who passed away on January 14 (0114)

**Family of Bob Yost** (Pat Ritter's brother) - who passed away on January 10 (0113)

**Gloria Melvin** (mother of Matthew Crowe) – brother's death on January 24 and continuing recovery (0206)

**Carolyn Broad** (sister of Vernon Barnes) - Vernon, B.C. - serious infection, hospitalization (1227)

**Family of Steve Toomey** (father of Adam Toomey) who passed away on December 13 (1216)

**Lola Bell** - recovery from hip replacement surgery (0106)

**Maxine McCraw** (sister-in-law of Joannie McCraw) - lung cancer (1212)

**Haley McKenna Williams** (friend of Mary McCarter) - brain cancer (1212)

**Stu Ritter** - continuing effects of Parkinson's disease (0129)

**Bill Simmermon** (friend of Andrea & Nick Butt) - Winter Park, FL - pancreatic cancer (0210)

**ENDURING CONCERNS**

**Dorris Andrews** (Elaine Lea's mother) Brandon Wilde

**Buster Boshears** - Brandon Wilde

**Beverly Carpenter** (stepmother of Paula Reardon) - At home

**Joe and Eunice Cook** – Brandon Wilde

**Bill Cornes** – At home

**Phyllis Daniels** – Brandon Wilde

**Wally Dill** – suffering from dementia, and his wife Marilyn (friends of Joane McCraw)

**Fred Gehle** - at home

**Polly Hendrix** (Aunt of Angela Hobby) Nashville, GA

**Betty Johnston** - Brandon Wilde

**Ellen Moore** (mother of Aubrey Moore) at home and receiving home health care.

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

**Jennifer Shook** (Elaine Lea's sister) – treatment for cancer

**Elizabeth Swink** – At home

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

**Sue and Jim Wade** - At home

**Danny Williams** – Barclay House



Have you ever had a problem trusting God – having faith that God's will is best? No doubt we all have at one time or another. Our problem is often viewing God's trustworthiness through the lens of our own inadequacies. When this happens, it's helpful to look backwards and see that God has always been there with us and for us. It also helps to pray for faith and trust in God's purpose and to "let go and let God".

*Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase. — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Your Diaconate Prayer Action Team  
Kadie Cheeks and LJ Jay

The prayer ministry is led by deacons Kadie Cheeks and Linda-Jean Jay. To add a prayer concern, please contact the church office at [rgregory@covenantaugusta.org](mailto:rgregory@covenantaugusta.org) The prayer team will pray for these and other confidential/unlisted prayer concerns on a weekly basis. To add a confidential/unlisted prayer concern, please contact a pastor or a deacon.

# March Worship Schedule

## PREACHER

3/2: Andy Cooke  
 3/5: Karla Conditt Daniels  
 3/9: Andy Cooke  
 3/16: Katelyn Gordon Cooke  
 3/23: Andy Cooke  
 3/30: Gail Henderson Belsito

## GREETERS

3/2: Lola Bell  
 3/9: Jimmy Carson  
 3/16: Kadie Cheeks & Kathryn Crandall  
 3/23: Naomi Gillies  
 3/30: Lindsay Kircher

## A/V TEAM

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

## COORDINATORS

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

## LITURGIST/READER

3/2: Jimmy Carson  
 3/9: Lindsay Kircher  
 3/16: Lori Rogers  
 3/23: Steve Bell  
 3/30: Naomi Gillies

## USHERS

3/2: Hugh Dobbins, Lucyle Ferris, Dave Lapp, Johnny Lowe, Edwin Scott, Beth Wilson  
 3/9: Steve Bell, Jimmy Carson, Dalton Cooper, John Ealick, Angela Hobby, Rubén Rosa  
 3/16: Jim Buckalew, William Davis, Chris Henry, Elyse Scholl, Nate Scholl, Beau Southwell, Charlie Terry  
 3/23: Hugh Dobbins, Lucyle Ferris, Dave Lapp, Johnny Lowe, Edwin Scott, Beth Wilson  
 3/30: Brian Bauereiss, Megan Buckalew, Judy Grieve, Philip Monk, Buddy Simpson, Bill Usry

# Mission

## GAP Ministries

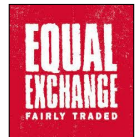
GAP needs our help to keep the food pantry stocked amongst rising food costs! On your next trip to the grocery store, look out for “Buy One Get One” deals and other sales on all non-perishable foods to make the most of your donations. Everything helps, but some specific needs are instant grits, instant oatmeal, canned chili, and canned soup. Let’s see if we can fill our donation boxes — they’re located at the main entrance of the church and underneath the mailboxes near the church office. If we all add a couple items to our carts, we can make a big difference in the community!

Claire Welborn Hancock

## Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate Sale

Mission Ministry will be hosting a sale of coffee and chocolate from Equal Exchange on March 9. Look for the table in the narthex after the worship service.

Charlotte Ealick and Sabina Widner



## Souper Bowl of Caring 2025

 \$ 382.00	 \$ 416.57
<b>THE REAL WINNER:</b>	
 \$ 798.57	

Thank you so much to everyone who gave to the Souper Bowl of Caring offering on Youth Sunday! We raised \$798.57 for GAP Ministries, which is a win for everyone!





## Covenant Chimes

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
3131 Walton Way at Aumond Road  
Augusta, GA 30909-3266

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

### Officer Ordination and Installation

February 9, 2025



Photo credit: Milledge Austin