



Covenant Chimes



June 2020

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

Notes from Session

May 5 via Zoom

At the May 5th Zoom Session meeting only one session member was unable to attend. Music Director Lyn Patterson, Treasurer Aubrey Moore, Reverend Katelyn Gordon Cooke and Reverend Andy Cooke were also present.

Andy opened the meeting with a discussion of the movie *Groundhog Day*, in which we were encouraged to share things that we appreciate in the midst of living the same day repeatedly in this time of pandemic.

Treasurer Aubrey informed Session that congregational giving remains strong. Although the preschool received the \$15,000 from Covenant, there will still be a shortfall in the overall preschool budget partially due to the cancellation of Summer Fun.

The Sustainability Ministry Team submitted updated Personnel Policies which the Session approved with a few changes. The Sustainability Team also submitted an updated job description for the Music Director/Organist which was approved.

Katelyn informed Session that the Deacons continue to be very busy ministering to the congregation through the three teams: Prayer team with bi-weekly prayer time, Visitation team with calls and cards and the Meals team which is still developing the best system possible for meeting food needs of the congregation.

(See "Session Notes," page 2)

From our Pastor

People often talk about "plan B" as if it were a bad thing. Plan A is the best thing to do, but if things don't work out, then we'll settle for plan B. It is the backup plan that is rarely called upon. Until recently, it never occurred to me how privileged we all are to live in a world where plan B is usually the end of the conversation. Over the past three months, we have all gone far past plan B for most things in our lives. We are at plan G or H, and longing for the days when plans never went past B.

Like many of you, I had vacation plans this summer. I was taking the boys camping for a week in Utah, and we were going to see all five of the national parks there. Plan B happened when both of my flights were cancelled, and we added a day on either end of the trip. Plan C happened when both of my flights were again cancelled, and I asked for a refund so that I could book another airline. Plan D happened when it became clear that a trip to Utah would not be safe at this time, and we booked campsites at Great Smokey Mountains National Park in one of the more remote campgrounds. Plan E happened when those reservations were cancelled by the

National Park Service. At the moment, the plan is for the boys and me to camp during the first week in June on private land near Bryson City, NC far away from any other campers. If the tent doesn't leak and we catch one trout, then we will call it a success. I hope that plan F does not materialize, for that would be camping in the backyard. If it rains too hard in the backyard and we come inside, then I guess that would be plan G.

We have gone down this same line at Covenant. Remember in mid-March when we were going to limit in-person gatherings for a couple of weeks while the virus mysteriously disappeared? I think that we are probably on plan G or H now, which you can see in the pages of this newsletter. Plans seem to change so frequently now that the newsletter is almost dated when it hits your mailbox. The session has created a task force to help us safely reopen our property. That task force presented a report to the session on June 2, which is why we delayed the *Chimes* by a week. We wanted to make sure that you receive the latest information, which you can find on pages 3 and 4.

(See "From Our Pastor," page 2)

Session Notes

(continued from page 1)

Session decided to extend the COVID-19 provisions to June 12. Brock Daniels made a motion to form a task force to work out the provisions for reopening the facility. Following the affirmative vote, Gail Kouame, Judy Grieve, Chris Terry, Debbie van Tuyll, Katelyn Cooke and Andy Cooke volunteered to serve on the task force.

The Session reviewed the Church-Preschool Relationship document written by Andy, Katelyn and Preschool Director Lauren Stull. The document was approved and will be shared with all concerned parties.

Session will hold a meeting on July 7, 2020 to stay current with any needs of the congregation.

Katelyn stated that both she and Andy are most grateful for messages they are receiving each week

thanking them for their time and efforts preparing online worship services, as well as staying in touch with members via Zoom. They have begun to work on summer Sunday mornings and look forward to sharing this time with the congregation in addition to the regular worship services.

The next Session meeting will be June 2, 2020 via zoom.

Please know that your Session is continually working to keep our Covenant family and facilities well cared for. Let me know if there is something you think we have missed.

Judy Grieve, Clerk

From the Pastor

(continued from page 1)

I'm grateful to the staff, session, task force, and all the ministry teams for wrestling their way through the alphabet to get to our current plan. Guidance from governmental agencies, public health officials, and denominational authorities take a great deal of time and energy to digest. We all take very seriously our roles as leaders and we are working to make the best decisions for our congregation and our community. Undoubtedly, there will be as many opinions about our plan as there are people who read it. As we lead this congregation, please be gentle with us knowing that we have prayerfully, thoughtfully, and intentionally formulated this plan.

On behalf of all the leaders in our congregation, thank you for trusting us and for honoring our calling to serve God and each other at Covenant Presbyterian Church. I'll look forward to seeing you in the sanctuary again one day.

In Christ,
Pastor Andy

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 Associates:

The Rev. Karla Conditt Daniels,

The Rev. Dr. Gloria Jennings Marshall

Nursery Caregiver: Mary Simms

Church Secretary: Judy Strogonoff

Finance Secretary: Linda-Jean "LJ"

Jay

Preschool Director: Lauren Stull

Covenant Presbyterian Church

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info@covenantaugusta.org

www.covenantaugusta.org

www.facebook.com/covenantaugusta

Office Hours:

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

Building and Grounds

ADOPT A GREEN SPACE

Because we are not able to have a group work day during this time, we have asked members of the congregation to adopt a green space at the church and to maintain that area once, on their own schedule, between May and June. We are grateful to Chuck Baldwin, Mary Beachum, Martha Bertrand, Charlotte Ealick, Joslyn Fields, Judy & Dave Grieve, Lindsay Kircher, Aubrey Moore, Lisa Snoddy, Cindy Wallerich, Polly Williams for signing up to maintain the 11 areas identified for landscaping maintenance by the Building & Grounds Ministry Team.

ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR EMAILS?

If you are not receiving our emails, then please visit

www.covenantaugusta.org and sign up. This is the best way to find out what is happening in our congregation each week. If you are having trouble signing up, then you may contact Judy Strogonoff at jstrogonoff@covenantaugusta.org.

Our emails are also posted to our Facebook page.



Open the Gates Task Force

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Stage 1 Recommendations

The Open the Gates Task Force was created by the Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church on May 5, 2020 to make recommendations about how to reopen the property to in-person gatherings in a safe and responsible way. These recommendations represent stage 1 of the plan to return to the property. We believe that we are called by God to be stewards of our property and our community, and that our stewardship is an act of worship. Through these recommendations, we aim to show the love of God within our community while maintaining our core values of hospitality, compassion, and inclusiveness.

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

Beginning June 14, worship will be held in the sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. only (not at 8:30 a.m.) and live streamed to the congregation through Vimeo. A recording of this live stream will be emailed to the congregation later in the day. A picture of the congregation will be taken at every service for the purposes of contact tracing.

1. **June 14:** begin live-streaming

- Only Pastors and support volunteers (liturgist and AV Team member(s)) will be present.
- On June 14, there will be NO congregation members present.

2. **June 21, 28, July 5, & 12:** congregation begins attending (limited seating)

- Only 50 present each Sunday: 10 support volunteers (liturgist, AV Team member(s), and ushers) and 40 members
- Priority will be given to first-time stage 1 attendees, who make reservations on Mondays via phone or email to Judy Strogonoff. Only 40 reservations will be made. Beyond 40 people, first-time stage 1 attendees will roll over to the next Sunday.
- People who have already attended a stage 1 service should make reservations on

Tuesdays. These reservations do not roll over to the next week.

- Everyone must wear a mask (we will provide a mask for those who don't have one). Masks may only be removed by speakers at the pulpit or lectern.
- Bulletins will be placed in pews (on Fridays) so that people know where to sit.
- Ushers will seat and then dismiss by row. Usher teams may be reduced as they are only responsible for seating, general safety and security, and putting the offering into the safe.
- Offering will be collected in boxes near the exits.
- No choir or congregational singing.
- No other in-person gatherings (including Sunday School), no coffee bar, no name tags, no nursery, no children's church, and no time with children. Children's worship bags will be removed from sanctuary.
- Greeters will be in the Aumond Road parking lot to welcome people from afar and remind them about masks. Signage will also remind people about masks and social distancing.

- Ushers will prop open exterior doors near the Aumond Road lot and interior doors to the sanctuary so that people do not need to touch handles. Exterior doors should be closed at the start of worship and reopened at the end of worship.
- Worshippers should park in the Aumond Road lot and enter the building through doors that are already propped open
- Worshippers are asked to not congregate before or after worship, and to maintain 6 feet of distance from others. Please do not greet anyone in any way that requires physical touch.
- From June 21 through July 12, the sanctuary will be open for silent prayer from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. No reservations are necessary, but a mask must be worn at all times. The organist may provide music for reflection during a portion of this time and will be responsible for locking up. The organist will record attendance for the purposes of contact tracing.

(See "Open the Gates," page 4)

Open the Gates

(continued from page 3)

CHURCH OFFICE

The church office will reopen on June 15, 2020. The Church Secretary and Finance Secretary will resume their normal office hours. Other staff members will work from home or from a different part of the building when possible. Walk-in visitors will not be permitted. All visitors should make an appointment before coming to the office. EVERYONE who enters the office is required to wear a mask. Employees have the option to remove masks when they are at their own desks and no one else is in the room. All visitors to the office will be recorded by the Church Secretary for the purposes of contact tracing.

OTHER GATHERINGS

While groups are still encouraged to meet via Zoom, gatherings of 10 or less people are permitted in the building beginning June 15. All gatherings must be scheduled with the church office. Masks are required. Every group is responsible for cleaning and disinfecting the space after using it.

- Gatherings of 10 or less people may be held in the Fellowship Hall.
- Gatherings of 6 or less people may be held in other rooms.
- Groups are welcome to gather outside at any time.
- Attendance for all gatherings should be maintained by the group leader for 30 days following the event for the purposes of contact tracing.



GENERAL

- Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and masks will always be available at the main entrances to the building.
- Everyone who enters the building should maintain social distance of six feet.
- Everyone who enters the building should wear a mask when in the presence of others.
- Anyone who feels sick in any way should not come to the property and should seek medical guidance.
- Ring doorbell cameras on two main entrances will record entry to building to assist with contact tracing.

COMMUNICATION

This plan will be published in the June edition of the *Chimes*, posted at the main entrances to the building, uploaded to the website, and linked in the Friday emails. A phone tree message will alert people to look for the details of the plan in the *Chimes*.

Approved by the Session on 6/2/2020. Subsequent stages of this plan will be determined at a later date. In the event of new CDC recommendations or local health developments, these provisions may change, and such changes will be communicated to the congregation.

Mission

GAP MINISTRIES

Goodies for GAP

Special thanks go out to all who contributed to Goodies for GAP this past month: Christopher and Sandra Bowman, Ian and Ava Moore, Nancy Carr, Kathy Ordelt, Cindy Wallerich, Marian Moseley, Mary Beachum and Martha Bertrand. Everyone at Covenant is great about finding ways to care for others even when staying at home. If you want to help, contact Martha Bertrand (mbertrand651@gmail.com). She can arrange for pickup on Wednesday afternoon.



Sandra and Christopher Bowman with goodies for GAP

GAP Item of the Month

The item of the month for June is deodorant. These items will be a welcome addition to our Food Pantry shelves.

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

Mary Beachum

Education

THANK YOU FAITH FORMATION LEADERS!

The Education Ministry Team continues the tradition of honoring the year's Sunday School teachers and other volunteers in our education ministries with donations in their honor. Fifty dollars was donated to the Bible Project, a resource that provided several impressive and fun videos for our study this year (visit at www.bibleproject.com). The following books were also purchased for the library in honor of our faith formation leaders:

- o *This Is the Mystery of Easter* by Amelia Richardson Dress (children's book)
- o *Prayer: Forty Days of Practice* by Justin McRoberts and Scott Erickson
- o *Vintage Saints and Sinners: 25 Christians Who Transformed My Faith* by Karen Wright Marsh (one of our 2019-2020 WNF program resources)
- o *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God* by Lauren Winner (one of the small groups used this book as their spring 2020 resource)

Thanks to our volunteers, including many guest speakers, series leaders and helpers!

Children's Ministry

Sunday School Teachers: Gail Baker, Jean Dirksen, Ralph Gillies, Gabriella Williams, and Polly Williams

Children's Church Leaders: Gail Baker, Dalton Cooper, Katie Cooper, Elizabeth Fleming, Owen Gillies, Amy House, Lindsay Kircher, Maatsi Ndingwan, Deb Pittman, Lisa Snoddy, Sabina Widner, and Gabriella Williams

Youth Ministry: Youth Sunday School Teachers and Leaders: Dalton Cooper, Katie Cooper, Carrie Neill

Adult Ministry: Sunday School Teachers and Leaders: Chuck Baldwin, Mary Beachum, Brock Daniels, Judy Grieve, Kathy Ordelt, Ruben Rosa-Rivera

Small Group Leaders: Judy Grieve, Marian Moseley, Anne Huff, Mary Beachum

YOUTH

Weekly Zoom gatherings

Thursdays, June 4 and 11 // 3 p.m.

Middle and high school youth hang out with your Covenant friends on Thursday afternoons! We'll check-in, play games, share prayer requests, and work on plans for the summer. Check the weekly email for the Zoom link, and feel free to contact Katelyn if you have any questions.

Youth Summer Trips Update

Unfortunately, all three of our youth summer trips have been cancelled because of COVID-19. Our mission trip was planned for mid-June with the BRIDGE, which is a mission ministry of St. Simons Presbyterian Church. They have cancelled all of their June weeks of programming, so we are in the process of planning an at-home mission week for our middle and high school.

Montreat Middle School Conference takes place at Maryville College in Tennessee in mid-July, and the college has decided not to host guests younger than college-age this summer, which means the middle school conference is not going to happen in its usual ways. Montreat leadership is looking into ways to offer the conference virtually, and the Education Ministry Team is considering ways we can adapt for our youth. Montreat Conference Center has decided to move the high school conference weeks online as well.

For many of our youth, these are just some of many cancelled events this summer. There's been a lot of disappointment for our young people during these months. Please keep them in your prayers and encourage them when you have the chance!

SUMMER SUNDAYS

During the summer months, you're invited to join us for Summer Sundays at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. All ages are welcome to participate in the rotation of weekly topics each month. Members from different ministries serve as our leaders each week, which means Summer Sundays are a great way to get to know your church family and to learn more about our ministries.

Here's our schedule for June, and more information will be available in the weekly emails!

June 7 (via Zoom) – Prayer

June 14 – Music

June 21 – Mission

June 28 – Speaking of Faith panel

JUNE 24 EVENT

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, June 24 at 7 p.m.! The Education Ministry Team will host an intergenerational gathering either via Zoom or at the church (depending on the Session's decision in early June). However we gather, it'll be a good time! Stay tuned for more details!





Covenant Celebrates 2020 Graduates

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Alexa Drewry, granddaughter of Sue and Jim Wade

Lakeside High School

Will attend Chapman University, Orange, CA

Anna Macia, granddaughter of Carol and Dave Lapp

Bellaire High School, Bellaire, TX; AP with Distinction and Girl Scout Gold Award

Will attend University of Texas-Austin; Engineering School

Beth Raider, daughter of Faith Raider and Daniel Raider

Evans High School; AP Scholar

Will attend Georgia Southern University to study speech pathology and Spanish

Eliza Robinson, daughter of Keelyn Bowman and Karell Moses

North Augusta High School

Will attend USC-Aiken for nursing

Gabriella Williams, daughter of Polly and Danny Williams

Augusta Preparatory School; Poetry SLAM (3 years), Special Honors in English and History

Will attend Furman University

Jonathan Wade, grandson of Sue and Jim Wade

Hammond School, Columbia, SC

Will attend Furman University

Nan Woodward, granddaughter of Nancy Carr

Westminster Schools of Augusta; Westminster Honors Merit Scholar, Honor Council, National Honor Society, and Beta Club

Will attend University of Georgia (Honors Program)

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Knox Brockett Daniels, son of Brock and Karla Conditt Daniels

Georgia College & State University; B.A. Business Administration – Management, Logistics

Caley Rentz

Augusta University; B.A. Ecology

Will plan to work in the ecology field

Melody Elizabeth Weckel, daughter of Liz Weckel

Oglethorpe University; B.A. English Literature, minor in Creative Writing

Will continue to live and work in Atlanta in marketing



THANK YOU, CALEY RENTZ!

For the past three years, Caley Rentz has been a part of Covenant's nursery caregiver staff, and she's been a blessing to the children and families of our congregation. Caley graduated from Augusta University this spring, and she's moved back to Athens to be with her family while she's looking for a job in the ecology field. We will miss seeing Caley at the church on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and we give thanks for her time with us at Covenant!



DISCIPLES CLASS

Disciples class will start a new Bible study *First Corinthians: One in Christ* from Kerygma on Wednesday, August 12 at 1 pm. The study was written by **Rev Dr. Robert A. Bryant**, the Kristen Herrington Professor of Bible and Chair of the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC.

Set amid the intensely modern and cosmopolitan world of Corinth, where philosophy and mystery abound, Paul's first letter to that church speaks clearly to us still today. This is a 14 session study, beginning Wednesday August 12 at 1 pm. The group will meet via Zoom if not at church.

Contact Judy Grieve (judygrieve@mac.com or 407-230-6853) if you are interested in joining the class. There will be a fee for the class to be determined when total enrollment is known.

The Disciples class just finished the study of Isaiah 1, 2 and 3 and are looking forward to delving into the New Testament.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Pentecost Pentecost Special Offering 8:30 AM Virtual Worship Service (email at 8:30 a.m.)	1	2 7:00 PM Stated Session Meeting, Zoom	3	4	5	6 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
7 Trinity Sunday 8:30 AM Virtual Worship Service (email at 8:30 a.m.) 10:00 AM Summer Sundays, Zoom	8 5:00 PM Congregational Life Ministry Team, Zoom 7:00 PM Diaconate Meeting, Zoom	9 6:00 PM Education Ministry Team, Zoom	10 1:00 PM Covenant Staff Meeting, Zoom	11	12	13 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
14 10:00 AM Summer Sundays, Zoom 11:00 AM Worship Service, Live Stream on Vimeo	15 COVENANT CHIMES DEADLINE 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	16 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only 6:30 PM Sustainability Ministry Team, Zoom	17 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	18 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	19 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	20 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
21 Father's Day 10:00 AM Summer Sundays, Zoom 11:00 AM Stage 1 Worship Service and Live Stream on Vimeo 12:30 PM Sanctuary Open for Silent Prayer	22 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	23 8:30 AM Master's Table Soup Kitchen, 704 Fenwick Street 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only 6:00 PM Mission Ministry Team, Zoom	24 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only 1:00 PM Covenant Staff Meeting, Zoom 7:00 PM Intergenerational Event, Education Ministry Team, Zoom	25 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	26 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	27 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
28 10:00 AM Summer Sundays, Zoom 11:00 AM Stage 1 Worship Service and Live Stream on Vimeo 12:00 PM Worship Ministry Team, Zoom 12:30 PM Sanctuary Open for Silent Prayer	29 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	30 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	1 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	2 9:00 AM Church Office Open by Appointment Only	3 Church Office Closed for July 4th Holiday	4 Independence Day 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels 1:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104

*** The events on the calendar are tentative. Please check Covenant's website for the latest information.***

The Relationship Between Covenant Preschool and Covenant Presbyterian Church

On May 5, 2020, the Session adopted a document to help define the relationship between the preschool and the church. While this document was intended for leaders and staff, we thought that it might be helpful for members of the congregation to see an abbreviated form of this statement in print. If you would like to see the full version, then please contact the church office.

In January of 1961, only two years after Covenant Presbyterian Church was founded, a committee was formed to study the need for establishing a kindergarten. By September of that year, “Covenant Weekday Kindergarten” opened its doors for the first time less than a year after the building was completed at 3131 Walton Way. Since that time, Covenant Preschool has been an integral part of the life and mission of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Covenant Preschool operates under the guidance and direction of the Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church. The preschool is not, and never has been, a separate entity. Over the years, various committees, teams, or boards have held the responsibility for oversight of the preschool on behalf of the Session. Ultimately, the Session has always maintained the responsibility for the preschool on behalf of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Legally, Covenant Presbyterian Church is a domestic nonprofit corporation in the state of Georgia

(Covenant Presbyterian Church in Augusta, Incorporated) and a 501(c)(3) subordinate unit of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Covenant Preschool is not a registered corporation and has no tax status with the federal government. Covenant Preschool is also not a subsidiary of Covenant Presbyterian Church. Legally, Covenant Preschool IS Covenant Presbyterian Church. As such, Covenant Presbyterian Church pays insurance for all property used and liabilities incurred by virtue of having a preschool.

All staff members of Covenant Preschool are employees of Covenant Presbyterian Church. Covenant Presbyterian Church issues all paychecks, withholds taxes, and pays worker’s compensation insurance for all preschool staff. All employees of Covenant Presbyterian Church, including preschool staff, are accountable to the Session through the supervisor listed in their job description and/or letter of employment.

Recently, the Session reorganized itself to reduce the number of people and committees required to maintain its ministry structure. One result of that reorganization is that there is no longer a committee dedicated to the preschool. Instead, two ministry teams have oversight of different facets of the preschool. The Sustainability Ministry Team oversees preschool finance and personnel. The Education Ministry Team oversees preschool program and curriculum. These two ministry teams should make reports to the Session regarding the preschool whenever they become available.

Covenant Preschool has a rich history at Covenant Presbyterian Church and in the Augusta community. It is our hope that establishing clarity of roles and responsibilities will help this preschool to remain strong for years to come. We are grateful for the staff, students, and families of Covenant Preschool and we are eager to continue to develop our partnership in ministry as we look to the future.



Church Member Profile

LAUREN STULL

Lauren Handley Stull was born in Augusta at what used to be St. Joseph's Hospital. After living in Jacksonville, FL for several years, she returned to the Augusta area at the age of ten with her mother, Anne Handley, and sisters Leanne H. Massey and Leslie H. Byars. Her extended family includes the Latimers (Jack and Edith, Jon and Lynn, Drew, and Benjamin).

Lauren joined Covenant in 1979 along with her family. She was involved in youth activities at Covenant when John Stuhl was the youth minister and Maryanne (Darby) Harrison led children's and youth choirs. Lauren enjoyed youth activities with some of Covenant's current members' children such as Chris Griffin, Elizabeth Baker, Alex and Nelson Bell, Marlee Dorn, Jennifer Lapp, and Joe and David Huff, just to name a few. Some of Lauren's favorite memories are summers at Montreat.

Lauren graduated from the Academy of Richmond County and studied at Augusta State University. She worked in the Advertising Department of the *Augusta Chronicle* for 10 years before moving to Canada for several years. She moved back to Aiken, in 2002, and opened a tearoom, Teabelles. There she met and married her husband, Ray. Their daughter, Eliza, was born in Aiken in 2005. Eliza began Covenant Preschool in 2008. Lauren began working as a substitute there, which turned into a teaching position. Having been with the preschool for twelve years, she accepted the job of Preschool Director last year. Because Covenant helped lay the foundation for her life, she sees her job as a personal mission. She has a genuine love for young children and enjoys coming to work every day.

Lauren enjoys anything creative such as crafting, gardening, and cooking for her family. She also enjoys attending Eliza's musical theatre and dance performances with Ray and her mother. She enjoys downtime with old Perry Mason reruns, her dog Ellie, and a comfortable pillow.

~ Lauren Stull



LISA BARANOSKI

Lisa was born in New Jersey and lived most of her life in Shippensburg, PA. She was raised in the Catholic Church, but while she was in middle school, her parents divorced. During this difficult time, friends invited her to church and youth group activities. Lisa is grateful to her friends, their families and youth director for nurturing her faith. In ninth grade, she attended a youth retreat with a friend. During this retreat, she recognized that she needed Jesus and accepted Christ into her heart.

During high school, Lisa's geometry teacher saw her potential and encouraged her to attend college. After graduation, Lisa attended Shippensburg University where she received a B.S.Ed. degree in secondary Mathematics Education. At the end of her sophomore year, she met her future husband, Timothy. After Lisa graduated from college in the spring of 2002, they married and attended a Presbyterian church.

Timothy and Lisa both taught at a school for three years when they then decided to take a leap of faith and move to Nashville, TN. Lisa got a teaching job right away and Timothy, who was raised Catholic, was discerning his call to ministry. In the meantime, their daughter Sophia was born in 2007 and Timothy accepted his call to attend Memphis Theological Seminary to become a Presbyterian minister the following year.

Towards the end of Timothy's seminary experience, he felt the call to be an Army chaplain and Lisa agreed to take another leap of faith with her husband. In 2012, they became an active duty army family.

After three duty stations, they moved to Fort Gordon in 2019 where Timothy researched churches. Covenant appealed to them because of Andy and Katelyn, and the youth program.

Due to Timothy's Sunday chapel responsibilities, the family worships at Covenant's early service together. Sophia attends youth activities and plays in the bell choir. Lisa is a small group leader for Protestant Women of the Chapel at Fort Gordon. Additionally, she serves as a Discipleship Group leader for a women's Bible study group which has helped her grow in her faith and learn about God's character.

In her "spare time", Lisa homeschools Sophia and teaches fitness classes, which includes PiYo, Turbo Kick, and Zumba. She also cares for her 'second child,' their dog Snow.

~ Kathy Ordelt

EARTH DAY

On April 22nd, Covenant celebrated Earth Day 2020 in a new way - virtually. The Mission Ministry Team provided a long list of suggestions for celebrating at home and online. Several members shared some of their Earth Day 2020 activities:

What they did

- *Be a vegetarian for a day – no meat at any meal. Do not use plastic for a day (or more) – no plastic grocery bags, wraps, water bottles., Water awareness – don't run water while you brush your teeth, thank God for clean water every time you use it.*
- *I invested in reusable straws - I even have one that telescopes and fits nicely into my purse. It has a nice little cleaning brush too!*
- *When refreshing our cat's water, I dispose of the old on our azaleas outside the back door.*

What they promised to do in the coming year

- *Plant trees/shrubs/native perennials at my home.*
- *Volunteer to be part of our Covenant's Earth Day team to plant trees/shrubs/native perennials at the church.*
- *Reduce the amount of paper AND plastic products used at my home.*

- *Reduce the amount of paper AND plastic products used at church functions.*

What they learned

- *Remembering to bring your cloth grocery bags into the store is a challenge. Not a habit yet.*
- *It's hard to avoid plastic bags at the grocery stores right now with COVID-19 as they are discouraging use of reusable bags. Starbucks is also not allowing people to bring in their own cups from home. Sigh..*
- *Vegetarian dinner was very filling. Will try to do once a week now.*
- *Watching the documentary "The True Cost" made me cry. I will be more discerning when I buy clothing. We've got a lot to do to take care of our "neighbors."*
- *Made a meal of black eyed peas, mustard greens and cornbread. Mm mm good!*

Mission Ministry Team is looking forward to planning for Earth Day 2021!

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Psalm 24:1-2



PW BIRTHDAY OFFERING

The Presbyterian Women's (PW) Birthday Offering has been rescheduled for June 21, 2020. It



is one of two annual PW offerings, and this year, it will be used to help support four projects. Recipients will be GAP Ministries of Augusta; the Community Child Learning Center in Payson, Arizona; the Liberty Community Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and a home for disabled adults in Russia. Selected recipients were carefully chosen from their grant applications and offer their sincere appreciation for all contributions.

June Worship Schedule

Currently, worship services are now virtual services until further notice. Once our regular worship resumes leaders will follow the schedule below. Please check email for updates.

USHERS

- 6/21: Jim Buckalew,
Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea,
Johnny Lowe, Jim Wade
6/28: Hugh Dobbins,
Lucyle Ferris, David Lapp,
Fidelis Ndingwan,
Edwin Scott

LITURGIST/READER AT 11:00 AM SERVICE

- 6/7: Gail Kouame
6/14: Beverly Dorn
6/21: Audrey Baldwin
6/28: Bill Paulson

PREACHER

- 6/7: Katelyn Gordon Cooke
6/14: Andy Cooke
6/21: Katelyn Gordon Cooke
6/28: Andy Cooke

FLOWERS

- 6/21: Dalton & Katie Cooper
6/28: Gail Baker



Prayer Concerns

New Prayer Concerns

- Leah Cleary** (Angel Cleary's sister) – At home (0525)
Isabel Lecuona – Augusta University Medical Center (0528)
Debbie van Tuyll – At home (0525)
Martha Reagan – The death of her brother (0604)
Hazel Reddin (Debbie van Tuyll's sister-in-law) – At home (0525)

Continued Prayer Concerns

- All of Covenant's **Missionaries**
All who serve in the **U.S. Military**
Martha and Pete Anderson (friends of Carol and Bill Paulson) – Dahlonga, GA
Terry Abenis (Debra Belair's brother-in-law) – At home, WA (0326)
Tim Baranoski – At home (0311)
Debi Bonecutter – At home (1011)
Sandra Bowman – At home (0513)
Makenna Bryan (infant friend of Rhoades' family) – in hospital (0210)
Eunice & Joe Cook – At home
Danny Davis (Angela Hobby's cousin) – Statesboro, GA
Juanita Davis (Andrea Butt's aunt) – Jacksonville, FL
Bailey Deal (Angela Hobby's cousin) – Portal, GA
Lindsey Edwards (Katie Endruhn's cousin) – Greenville, SC (0227)
Dan Freeman (Kaye Petkas' brother) – Winter Park, FL
Hannah Harger (young friend of Judy Grieve) – Orlando, FL
Tanner Haywood (Ann Haywood's grandson) – At home (0401)
James Gilman (Priscilla Gilman's brother) – Denver, CO (0226)
Priscilla Gilman – Washington Commons
Larry Lutchter – Brandon Wilde (1008)
Richard and Gloria Jennings Marshall – At home (0117)
Sam McCarter (Mary McCarter's son) – At home
Jocelyn Martin-Moses (Karell Moses' mother) – At home
Susanna O'Kula, MD & Brett Marinelli, MD – New York City, NY (0401)
Carol Paulson – At home
Wanda Pittman and family – At home
Ian Poe (Mary McCarter's nephew) – At home (1011)
The Rogers Family – At home
Mary Geraldine Rhoades (Judi & David Rhoades' mother; Dana Johnson & Leslie Rhoades' grandmother) – at home (0210)
Robert Schaefer (Debra Belair's father) – At home, WA (0326)

- Emily Smith** (relative of Janet and Buster Boshears) – Pawleys Island, SC (0205)
Elizabeth Swink – At home
Rick Wildes (Gail Roat's nephew) – At home Maryland (0408)
Catherine Williams (friend of Carol Lapp) – At home (426)
Sarah Worthington (extended family of Polly Williams) – At home (0414)

Enduring Concerns

- Dorris Andrews** (Elaine Lea's mother) – Brandon Wilde
Dr. Marion Conditt (Karla Conditt Daniels' father) – Rehab Facility, Waupaca, WI
Phyllis Daniels – Brandon Wilde
Lois Davis – Kentwood
Anne Degrazia – Alpharetta, GA
Dr. Alva Faulkner – Pavilion, Brandon Wilde
Betty Johnston – Brandon Wilde
Malcolm Kling – Brandon Wilde
Leah Mannel – Brandon Wilde
Lois Reynolds – Washington Commons
Sally Stalls (Joe Griffin's sister) – Williamston, NC
Jane Terry (Chris Terry's mother) – Lake Wales, FL
Barbara Williams – Brandon Wilde

The prayer ministry is led by deacons Becky DeLecuona, Sabina Widner, and Dana Johnson. To add a prayer concern, please contact the church office at jestrogonoff@covenantaugusta.org.

Covenant Chimes

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3131 WALTON WAY AT AUMOND ROAD

AUGUSTA, GA 30909-3266

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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Pentecost Sunday, May 31 Summer Sundays, Zoom

