



**LIFELONG LEARNER
OPPORTUNITIES
FALL & WINTER**



**SERVE WITH
COVENANT THIS
SEASON**



**ADVENT AND
CHRISTMAS NEWS**



**COMING IN JANUARY
TOO!**

**THERE IS ALWAYS
LIGHT**

**ADVENT 2023
COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SEEK | SERVE | CELEBRATE

COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THERE IS ALWAYS LIGHT

Our theme for Advent 2023 is “There is Always Light.” As we navigate the challenges and uncertainties of the world around us, let us remember that the light of Christ shines, showing us our path and guiding us through even the darkest of times. It is a light that brings comfort, strength, and a renewed sense of purpose. The Gospel of John encourages us: “A light shines in the darkness. And the darkness did not overcome it.”

In this newsletter, you will find information and announcements. We invite you to join us as we gather in worship and prayer, celebration and song, as well as service and mission for the season. We encourage you to actively participate in the various Advent activities and events that will be taking place in our church community. From sandwich making to carol singing, there are numerous opportunities for us to come together, support one another, and share the light of Christ with those around us.

Our theme is not only inspired by John’s Gospel but by the words of poet laureate Amanda Gorman: “For there is always light. If only we’re brave enough to see it. If only we’re brave enough to be it.” This Advent season, let us open our hearts to the light of Christ.

In Christ,

Rev. Jamie Butcher



Stewardship Season Announcement

We are delighted to announce that Dedication Sunday will take place on Sunday, November 12 at 11:00 a.m. We eagerly anticipate witnessing the abundant fruits that our congregation will yield during this season. While we emphasize the communal aspect of our fundraising efforts on Dedication Sunday, which ultimately culminate in the establishment of our budget in February, we wholeheartedly welcome your dedication of time, talents, and financial contributions at any point throughout the year.

Would you like to make a meaningful contribution to the ministry here at Covenant Presbyterian? Your support, whether through your valuable time, unique talents, or generous financial gifts, will play a vital role in furthering our mission and serving our community.

Contact bookkeeper@covpresatl.org

www.covpresatl.org/giving

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Attn: Bookkeeper

2461 Peachtree Road NE

Atlanta, GA 30305

Advent & Christmas

Caroling for the Community December 10 at 4:00 p.m.

The afternoon of Sunday, December 10 join Covenant Choir and other members to spread Christmas cheer. Plan to join us for hot chocolate, cookies and caroling.

Covenant Christmas Party December 16

You are invited to join us for the Covenant Christmas Party on Saturday, December 16. Robert Taylor and Scott Kubie are generously hosting again this year. See sign-up genius for more details on what to bring for the potluck feast!

Lessons & Carols December 17 at 11:00 a.m.

Plan to join us for this special worship service of lessons and carols. We'll usher in the Christmas season with festive songs and meaningful scripture. "There is always light." Come and enjoy.



Memorial Drive Ministries Collection December 12th - January 6th

This wonderful ministry has a variety of worshipping communities in 8 languages, and space for agencies who seek to meet the special needs of refugees like the Center for Victims of Torture and Amani Women's Center, and housing sporting activities and educational programs.

We will be collecting very basic and necessary supplies such as facial tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, paper napkins and baby wipes. Place donations in the marked alcove in Fellowship Hall to be delivered in early January.

Exciting Christmas Eve Worship Services Announcement!

Mark your calendars because we have not one, but two worship services lined up for this Christmas Eve!

First up, we have the Christmas Story Service at 11:00 a.m. This gathering offers a more relaxed and informal atmosphere, where Jamie will share the nativity story. Congregants will have the opportunity to actively participate in various ways. While there won't be a choir, we will have carols to sing and candles to light.

Next, we have Covenant's Candlelight and Communion service, which will commence at 5:00 p.m. on December 24. This service has special readings, a thought-provoking homily, and soul-stirring choral anthems. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated, and candles will be lit to remember that Christ entered our lives. Special music will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Make sure to mark your calendars and join us on Christmas Eve. It's an opportunity to come together as a community, celebrate the birth of Christ and remember "There is Always Light!"



Seek & Serve

November, December & January

Dedication Sunday, November 12

with Stewardship Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

Join us for donuts and coffee to kick-off our Stewardship season: Rooted in Love. We are incredibly grateful for the time, talents and tithes that support the ministry of God here at Covenant Presbyterian. Don't miss it!

HVAC Updates, November 19

Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

We'll share a report on the HVAC. Also, learn more about our building and grounds with ways to be involved on our campus.

Hanging of the Greens, November 26

after worship in the Sanctuary

Join us to help decorate the church for the Advent season.

Sandwich Making, December 3

Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Serve this Advent season by participating in sandwich making. The bagged lunches will go to the Bashor Night Shelter at Central in downtown Atlanta.

Cookies & Cards, December 10

Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

We are making cookies and cards to spread Christmas cheer this season!

No Sunday School on December 17 (Lessons & Carols)

December 24 or December 31

Even on the days we don't have Sunday school, we will still have our coffee fellowship gathering at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!

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January Happenings

MLK, Jr. Day Service Project, January 14

Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Join us to pack hygiene kits and engage in advocacy work in memory of the civil rights leader and his legacy.

Presbyterian Missions Through the Years

January 21, 28, February 4 and 11

Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

with Dr. Will Simson and Rev. Jamie Butcher

Plan to learn more about the ways Presbyterian missionaries engaged communities following times of distress. Jamie will speak specifically about her MA work on The Allen School in Asheville, NC, a school for freed men and women opened in 1876 following the Civil War.

Israel and Palestine: What Can We Know?

Fellowship Hall, 12:15 p.m., Date TBD

Join us for this Lunch and Learn with Dr. Ryan Bonfiglio. Ryan is an Associate Professor at Candler School of Theology and Executive Director of The Candler Foundry. He is a regular traveler to these areas as the Pilgrimage Coordinator for The Ministry Collaborative.

FABULOUS FOX TOUR

Leaving after church and lunch, Date TBD

Come with the Congregational Life Committee for a backstage tour of Atlanta's treasure, the Fox Theater! More details soon.

