

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE
LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings
for January 2016

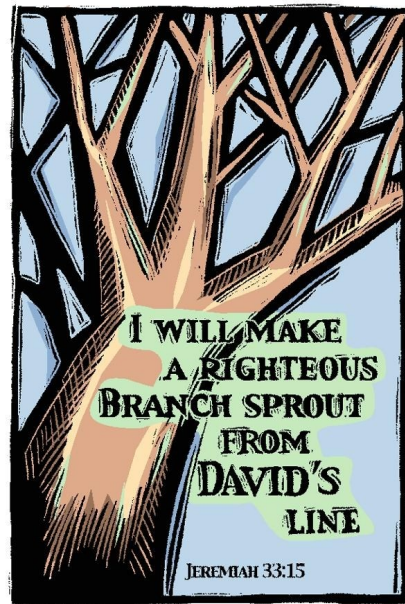
Presbyterian Women's Circles meet on the first Tuesday of the month. This month the circles are meeting on **January 5**, at the following locations:

Circle I meets at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

Circle II meets at 10:30 at the home of Pily Waetzig. Day Kennon will lead us in Lesson 5: Stormy Waters - Faith

Circle III meets at 7:00 pm at the home of Jean Wolverton.

Women who are not currently members of a circle are welcome to attend any one of these.



Pledge Update: To date we have received 82 pledges for a total of \$365,042. The session has been formulating the budget for 2016. If you have not made a commitment for 2016, please prayerfully consider doing so. Just drop your commitment card in the offering plate or mail it to the church. There are extra cards in the narthex if you need one. Or call the church office and Peni will be glad to mail one to you or take your pledge over the phone (770-786-7321) or by email: penihaug@gmail.com

This Week at FPC

Sunday, January 3
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Tuesday, January 5
Circles meet as listed above
4:00 Exercise

Wednesday, January 6
6:45 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, January 7
10:30 Ambassador Choir

Sunday, January 10, 2016
9:00 Handbell Choir
9:30 Children's Choir
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COVINGTON

If you would like information about membership or the programs, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to the pastor as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

E-mail:

Pastor, Billy Wade: wbwade75@gmail.com

Dan Walden: djwalden@mac.com

Church Office/Peni Haug: penihaug@gmail.com

Website: www.fpccov.org

Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street, SW
Covington, Georgia 30014

You may listen to recent sermons by visiting our website (www.fpccov.org) and clicking on "Media."



The Food Pantry is now open on **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 9:00 - 12:00. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome. For **January** suggested donations are: **soups, chili, chicken & dumplings, spaghetti sauces.**

Baby Love: The Witness Team has an on-going project to collect **disposable baby diapers and wipes** to distribute to local agencies to help families in need. You may place your donations in the **cradle** here at the church and the donations will be delivered. Monetary donations are also accepted. Your donation by check, or cash in an envelope with your name will be credited to your offering statement.

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Nursery Volunteers today:
Henderson Family

Next Week:
Jessup Family

January Usher Chair:
Jean Wolverton

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2015
Gary Boteler
Billy Fortson
Jan Giles
Jim Stillerman
Bob Tabb
Fletcher Stamps
Jack Weesner

Class of 2016
Charles Ardis
Joyce Ashworth
Betty Bailey
Patrick Carmichael
Perri Walden

Class of 2017
Baxter Bouchillon
Adriane Ivey
Michael Thompson
Danny Vining
Jean Wolverton

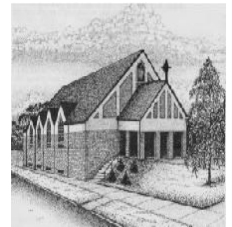
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr.	<i>Pastor</i>	Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO
Dan Walden	<i>Director of Youth and Children's Ministry</i>	Maria Serrato, Aubrey Evans	<i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>
Peni Haug	<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Kara Sugg	<i>Interim Director of the Early Learning Center</i>
Alan Bunn	<i>Music Director</i>		



Second Sunday
after Christmas

January 3, 2016



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE	<i>Fanfare and Processional</i>	Dale G. Rider
	<i>Sing We Now of Christmas</i>	Diane Bish
	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	David Cherwien
	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	David Lasky

✦CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 16 and Psalm 31
Protect me, O God, for in You I take refuge.
You are my Lord. I have no good apart from You.
The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup.
I bless the Lord who gives me counsel.
My heart is glad, my soul rejoices, my body rests secure.
For You let not your faithful see sheol.
But we leap and sing in the circle of Your love.
You relieve my pain, You disarm my tormentors.
In Your Presence there is fullness of joy.
In Your right hand there are pleasures forevermore.
Yes, forevermore!

✦HYMN 136 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* GO TELL IT

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER NOT CONFESSION (poem)
Adapted from Rev. R. McQuilkin

It's sundown, Lord. The shadows of my life stretch back into the dimness of time.
So I fear those times I should stain Your honor, grieve Your loving heart.
I have left too many things undone and done too many things remiss in Your Presence, this day.
Let me finish well. Let me get home before dark.
The darkness of my spirit grown mean and small, fruit shriveled on the vine, bitter to the taste of my neighbors.
No, Lord. Let the fruit grow lush and sweet, a joy to all who taste.

It will be a Spirit sign of God at work, stronger, fuller, brighter at the end of this day.
Lord, let me get home before dark.
The outer me decays. I cling to shadows cast by mortality. I hold hostage to a spirit pressing to be free and open and fruitful.
Of Your grace, Father, let me get Home before dark.
It's sundown, Lord. Let me get Home before dark.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

GO TELL IT

Hymn 136, refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *There's a New Kid in Town* Kathy Mattea
Adriane Ivey-Hawley and Lori Ardis

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

*All the children are invited to come forward for the Word for Children.
Afterward, children kindergarten and younger may go to children's activities downstairs.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Luke 3 (selected)

SERMON *The Force Awakens* The Rev. Larry Kennon
(and Be with You)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This* WONDROUS LOVE

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Adapted from the late Stephen A. Hayner, past President of Columbia Theological Seminary

Few welcomed him at his coming; this Jesus.

He slipped into the world so quietly.

God sent a birth announcement

on the wings and songs of a million angels.

He sent another written in the stars to some Gentile astrologers.

While he lived among us, not many believed in him.

But for those who believed, He brought Light into their darkness;

Wholeness into their lives;

Eternity into their souls.

Jesus Christ who was Light, so threatened the darkness that humankind did what they had been doing to God for years--

They tried to box him up,

They sentimentalized him,

They tried to explain him away,

And finally they killed him.

But God raised him from the dead.

The Light would never again go out.

The Holy Spirit was sent to burn within those who believed in him.

Ablaze, the no people again became God's people.

He still brings Light.

As quietly as he slipped into the world,

He now slips into believing hearts--

As surely as he changed the world by his coming,

No person remains the same after meeting the living Christ.

This is the Good News.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 35 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *Tidings of Joy* J. S. Bach

✦ DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606) OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

You are the giver of all good things...and we are takers, day by day, daily bread, taking all we need as You supply, taking in gratitude and wonder and joy...So turn our taking into giving...since, Lord, we are in Your giving image, make us giving like You...giving in abundance and joy, giving as Jesus gave Himself up for us all...giving in His blessed name. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 157 *I Danced in the Morning* LORD OF THE DANCE

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GO TELL IT

Hymn 136, refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

✦ POSTLUDE *Sing the Glad Song* Franklin Ritter

✦ Please stand if you are able.



Worship Notes

✦ Our friend, the Rev. Larry Kennon, is our preacher and worship leader today.

✦ Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare to worship God. Remember to **turn on your cell phones** when you leave.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

† Jim Stillerman-surgery, home

† Dan Walden-appendectomy, home

† Dana Hall-broken wrist

† Wally Bold - pneumonia (great-uncle of Lori Ardis)

† Lecia Landolt-chemo for pancreatic cancer (friend of Patti Lanford)

† Vickie Sewell-breathing difficulties

† Gina Marasco-pregnancy complications (cousin of Danielle Schubert)

† Deborah Jones-surgery (Reed Blakeney's daughter)

† Kim Bailey-Bicycle accident (Bernice Bailey's daughter-in-law)

† Ann Hill-ovarian cancer (Theodosia Wade's cousin)

† Mickey Humphries-nursing care in Virginia (Tootles Tingle's sister)

† Mitchell Jessup -cancer (father of Nick Jessup)

† Phyllis Pruner-severe neck pain

† Sharon Walton-chemotherapy for kidney cancer (friend of Patti Lanford)

† Sophia Hawley-Cystic Fibrosis

† John Fish-cancer (Bryson Wade's uncle)

† Amanda Teixeira-heart surgery (Lynn Miller's daughter)

† Roger Gossage-awaiting transplant

† Catherine Horton-hospice care (sister of Maxine Blankenship)

† Edie Chandler Lowe-radiation

† Jan Coulon-home

† Jim Stalvey, Jr.-melanoma

† Penny Hill-cancer (Executive Presbyterian for the Greater Atlanta Presbytery)

† Lisa Baker-cancer treatment

† Anderson Krieger-continuing treatment for leukemia

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

† Russ Cole -The Magnolias, Conyers

† Jeanne Cannon-Darien, GA

Riverside

† Joy Knight -hospice care

† Martha Borders

† Rita Harrell

Benton House

† Doris Mote

† George Stamps (temporarily at Riverside)

Merryvale

† Guy McGiboney

† Bill Taylor

† Elizabeth Gadilhe

† Betty Robinson

† J. L. Johnson

We extend our sympathy and prayers for Darcel Tabb and family in the death of her father, **James Knight.**

We extend our sympathy and prayers for **Guy McGiboney** in the death of his cousin, **Tommy Lee McCurdy.**

Hospital Visitors:
Jean Wolverton

Please update your prayer requests this week! Email: penihaug@gmail.com