

# First Press



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
COVINGTON, GA

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# PALM SUNDAY

WITH A CHILDREN'S  
PALM PARADE

April 2nd 11:00am

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

## TENEBRAE

A SERVICE OF DARKNESS

April 6th 7:00pm

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# GOOD FRIDAY

April 7th 12:00pm

in the Sanctuary of  
First Presbyterian Church Covington  
Lunch in the Fellowship Hall to follow

# EASTER SUNDAY

April 11th

SUNRISE SERVICE	TRADITIONAL
6:30AM FRONT	11:00AM
LAWN	SANCTUARY

Join us throughout Lent as we continue on our seeking journey with outdoor prayer stations! **There are nine prayer stations around the church**, each with their own reflection and responses to guide you on this Lent, from *now through April 8*.

# A Look Back

See all the fun we have at FPC by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



Facebook.com /fpcov



Instagram @fpcovington



*Clockwise:*

*Above:* We had a great turnout at our kickoff Men's Prayer Breakfast!

*Upper right:* We collected \$370 and lots of cans for the Souper Bowl of Caring! This will be donated to Newton County Community Food Pantry. Go team!

*Lower right and below:* We hosted the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and it went great! Thank you to everyone who helped make that possible, including all of our volunteers, our staff, and our Presbytery Planning Team! Thank you for all you do!





**seeking:**  
honest questions  
for deeper faith

**This Lenten season,** we will read many stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking: a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. In these interactions, an unveiling often occurs—assumptions are disrupted, a new perspective is revealed, mystery grows.

And so, [Sanctified Art has] crafted a Lenten series founded on questions. Many of our weekly questions feel restorative (“Can these bones live?”). Some feel like a charge or challenge (“Who will you listen to?”). Some questions are hopeful and curious (“How do we begin again?”). Our questions won't necessarily lead to answers, but they can help us find clarity and a new perspective. Ultimately, we pray they lead to a new beginning, a restoration, a wider grace.

This Lent, may you engage in the spiritual practice of seeking by asking questions, and by staying curious, open, and nimble. We hope you will soften your assumptions and expand your perspectives. We pray that these questions will create a safe space to explore—to be drawn more deeply into the fullness of life, into the heart of God.

*Artfully yours,*

*The Sanctified Art Creative Team*

A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Remind



**Connect with us on  
Remind!**

We have “classes” set up for our Children, Youth, and Young Adult Ministries.

**Text the class code below to 810-10** and follow the prompts to get text reminders for your ministry areas!

Stay tuned, we may add more classes for different recurring activities!

Children's Ministry class code: **@h82haa**

Youth Ministry class code: **@7g3fg6**

Belief & Beer class code: **@k74g9k**

We have a new page on our website!

**[fpccov.org/zoom-links](https://fpccov.org/zoom-links)**

We will keep all of our recurring Zoom class links here so you don't have to worry about searching through your email for it every time!

You will find links for Jammies & Jesus, Presbyterian Women Elizabeth Ann Circle, and A Novel Bunch Book Club, PLUS “Were You There?” our Lenten Book Study.

***Have you been thinking about officially joining the church family of FPC?***

**On Sunday, March 12 immediately following worship we will meet in the Gathering Room to receive new members!**


This will be a time of celebration as you say YES to becoming an official member of FPC! Our church elders are excited to get to know you and greet you!

If you plan to join please let Neeley know!



**in the Gathering Room on  
March 12. 12:00pm- 12:30pm**

Saturday, March 25th at 8:00am  
Town House Café  
RSVP to Neeley by March 23rd



## Men's Prayer Breakfast



## EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 25th  
3:00pm  
FPC Playground

# SOUL FEAST



Feed your body and soul with FPC in the Fellowship Hall at 5:15pm. RSVP by Monday, March 6th at 12:00pm to [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org) or 770-786-7321

**MARCH 8**  
**ON THE MENU:**  
**BRISKET**

Signup with Erin to bring your favorite side!  
[erin@fpccov.org](mailto:erin@fpccov.org)

Our Soul Feast Class for March and April:  
**Lament and Hope in the Psalms**

Join us in the Gathering Room following Soul Feast on **March 8th at 6:00pm** to learn about and discuss the Psalms.

FEET AND HAND WASHING for **MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
April 6th in the Narthex  
6:15-6:45pm and 8:15-8:30pm  
An offering from the FPC Pastors



## FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

Bring fresh flowers to fill the Easter cross starting Saturday, April 8th in the front yard of the church

## Blossoms & Beans

The Ambassador Gardening Club



Meeting on Thursday, March 9th from 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the FPC Fellowship Hall

Contact Jeff MacKenzie with questions 404.897.3815  
Leave a message and he'll call back!

Remember that this a critical month for garden planning, starting seedlings, mulching and preparing the soil with compost and fertilizer. Come share your plans and learn some tips from other members!

## EASTER PAINT PARTY

at WILD Art  
THURSDAY, MARCH 23  
AT 6:00PM

RSVP to the FPC Office by March 13  
\$20 per person limited space



### Singing Ambassador Choir Schedule

Thursday, March 2 at 2:00pm - Rehearsal at FPC

Thursday, March 9 at 2:00pm - Rehearsal at FPC

Thursday, March 16

Singing Ambassadors will sing a St. Patrick's Day program at Benton House on Thursday, March 16 at **2:30pm.**

Thursday, March 23 - NO Rehearsal

Thursday, March 30

Singing Ambassadors will sing at Merryvale on Thursday, March 30, at **2:00pm.**



**BLESSING OF A SKINNED KNEE**

BLESSED PARENTING CLASS

Twice a month, 4:30-5:30pm  
in the FPC Gathering Room  
Wednesday, March 8th & 29th  
Childcare provided.

Based on the book  
by Wendy Mogel, Ph.D.  
RSVP to order the book for  
\$10 through Erin or Neeley  
by March 1st

**WERE YOU THERE?**

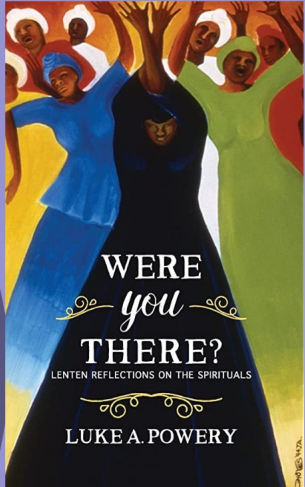
Join Neeley and Erin Mondays in March at 6:00pm on Zoom to study

*Were You There?: Lenten Reflections on the Spirituals* by Luke A. Powery.

Contact the office if you would like to order your book through the church.

For the class link visit [fpccov.org/zoom-links](http://fpccov.org/zoom-links)

**LEN TEN BOOK STUDY**



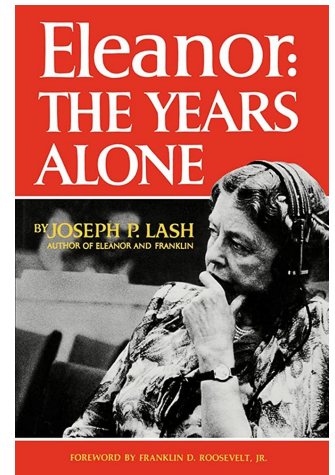
### A Novel Bunch Book Club

A Novel Bunch book club will meet on March 28 at 1:00pm on Zoom to discuss

*Eleanor:*

*The Years Alone* by Joseph P. Lash.

Visit [fpccov.org/zoom-links](http://fpccov.org/zoom-links) to join!



### Presbyterian Women

PW Circles meet on the first Tuesday of the month! All are welcome to join!

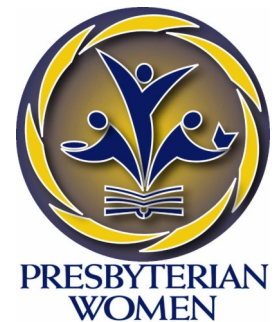
Upcoming meeting dates are: March 7th April 4th May 9th

March's lesson from "Celebrating Sabbath" is Lesson Seven: Sabbath and Selfcare.

**Elizabeth Ann Circle** will meet on March 7 at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom to discuss lesson seven "Sabbath and Selfcare"

Check the website or e-news for the Zoom link.

**Martha Circle** will meet on March 7 at 10:30am.



# Mission Opportunities

## PW will continue its affiliation with Fairview Elementary School.



Currently a mentoring/ tutoring program is available to help and encourage students with their homework. If interested in tutoring please contact: Julie Mackenzie - [jffjul@gmail.com](mailto:jffjul@gmail.com)



**Lead by Pastors Erin and Neeley**

**Open to the community**

WEEKLY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

**Mondays, from April 17 - May 22 at 6:00pm-7:30pm in the Parlor**

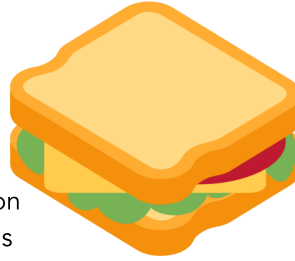
Cost for class: \$20 (includes personal workbook)

Register by April 3 by contacting Neeley [neeley@fpccov.org](mailto:neeley@fpccov.org)

## Sandwich Ministry!

### NEW TIME: 10:00AM

On **Tuesday, March 21st at 10:00am** in the Fellowship Hall, we will be making sandwiches for our neighbors in Christ experiencing homelessness in collaboration with Street Outreach! Please contact Curtis Watson with any questions.



## American Red Cross

### Summer Blood Drive

### Save the Date!

**Thursday, June 29th 12:00pm-5:00pm**

We need both volunteers and donors. Donors sign-up online at American Red Cross. Contact Curtis Watson for any questions.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

At FPC we will take up an offering for One Great Hour of Sharing on Easter Sunday. Envelopes for this special offering will be provided. If you give online, choose the fund "One Great Hour."



Visit [pcusa.org/oghsmap](http://pcusa.org/oghsmap) for more information on One Great Hour of Sharing and their projects around the world.

The next date for Meals on Wheels distribution is **March 25, 2023.**

Please consider adding Meals on Wheels distribution to your 2023 calendar "to do" list. Pencil us in on the last Saturday of the month. All help will be

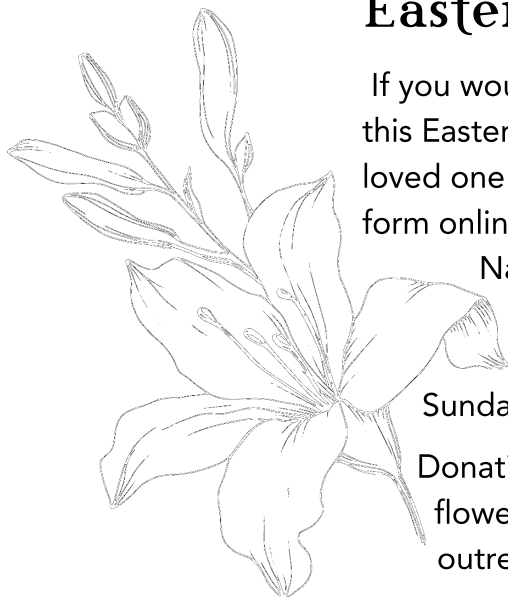
sincerely appreciated. **Contact Curtis Watson at 404-550-1212 or [wats1818@bellsouth.net](mailto:wats1818@bellsouth.net)** if you wish to participate in this great community service ministry.



## Easter Lilies

If you would like to make a donation this Easter to honor or memorialize a loved one you can find the donation form online at [fpccov.org/lent](http://fpccov.org/lent) or in the Narthex. The due date to have your loved one's name in the Easter worship guide is **Sunday, April 2nd.**

Donations over the cost of the flowers will support witness and outreach projects.



# Session members are asked to CLEAN UP the Mail Room.

(located across the hall from the Parlor,  
between the Gathering Room and the current Choir Room)

If you have items in the mail room that you want to save, please mark them with your name and committee.  
Please check even if you believe there is nothing there you need.  
You'd be surprised how much gets forgotten!  
A group CLEAN OUT day will be scheduled at a later time.



You are invited to  
**"Text to Give"**  
your offering.  
Text FPCCOV  
followed by the  
amount to 73256  
Or scan the QR  
code to give online.

## Monthly Financial Report

2023 January	Monthly Income/ Expenses	YTD Income/ Expenses
Pledged Income	21,361	21,361
Non-Pledge Income	7,561	7,651
Other Income	*30,899	30,899
Total Income	59,821	59,821
Expenses	40,924	40,924
Net Totals	18,897	18,897

\*includes a release from the  
R. Wallace Endowment Gift

## Mission Statement

Covington First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community existing to glorify God by welcoming all of God's children. We celebrate through serving, teaching, praying, eating, crying, singing, and dancing with the Holy Spirit. As works in progress, we seek to respond to God's presence in our church, lives, and community.

## First Presbyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	Senior Pastor	Nursery Staff
Erin Morgan	Associate Pastor	Hattie Bellinger
Alicia Taylor	Director of Music & Worship Arts	Laina Lalane
Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO	Kyla White
	Organist/Ambassador Choir	
Catherine Laseter	Director of Communications & Operations	
Peni Kehoe	Finance Administrator	

## Sunday School

**Sunday School classes are at  
9:45am on Sunday mornings.**

Children's Class (PreK-4th)  
Youth Class (5th and up)  
Foundations Adult Class  
The Wired WORD Class

Interested in teaching?  
Email Erin  
erin@fpccov.org

## Officers

### Reaching Out

Curtis Watson *Witness (2024)*

### Engaging

Charles Ardis *Christian Ed (2025)*  
Pat Harper *Worship (2024)*  
Nichole Howell *Worship (2025)*  
Mary Catherine Whisnant  
*Christian Ed (2024)*

### Belonging

Doug Bolton *Welcome (2025)*  
Louly Hay Kapp *Marketing (2023)*  
Bob Tabb *Finance (2023)*

### Connecting (Deacons)

Tom Crews *Pastoral Care (2025)*  
Dana Hall *Faith & Fellowship (2025)*  
Eleanor Scarborough  
*Pastoral Care (2023)*

Darcel Tabb  
*Faith & Fellowship (2024)*

### More

Billy Fortson *Personnel (2024)*  
Stan Hall *Facilities (2023)*  
John McCarthy *Clerk of Session*  
Ed Perkerson  
*Strategic Planning (2023)*

## Phone Extensions

Office Phone: 770.786.7321  
Neeley Rentz Lane: 1013  
Erin Morgan: 1012  
Catherine Laseter: 1010  
Alicia Taylor: 1017  
Peni Kehoe: 1011

**First Presbyterian Church**

1169 Clark Street, SW  
Covington, GA 30014



**Time Sensitive Church News**

**Please Do Not Delay**

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA**

fpccov.org | 770-786-7321

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March 2023</b>			<b>1</b> Pres 101	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Youth Lunch Fundraiser	<b>6</b> Lenten Book Study	<b>7</b> PW Circles	<b>8</b> Soul Feast	<b>9</b> Blossoms & Beans	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Church Day Retreat
<b>12</b> New Member Celebration	<b>13</b> Lenten Book Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Amb. Choir BentonHouse	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Lenten Book Study	<b>21</b> Sandwich Ministry	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Easter Paint Party	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Egg Hunt Men's Prayer Breakfast
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Lenten Book Study	<b>28</b> A Novel Bunch	<b>29</b> Blessed Parenting	<b>30</b> Amb. Choir Merryvale	<b>31</b>	



**March Birthdays!**

Did we miss your birthday?

Call the office or email [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org) and we'll make sure all your info is up to date in our system!

Judy Davis 02  
Janet Carmichael 02  
Anne Savage 04  
Michael Thompson 04

Harry Hinton 06  
Beth Vining 07  
Doug Bolton 11  
Jack Weesner 13  
Jean Wolverton 15  
Shawn Loftin 16

Terri Digby 16  
Tom Stillerman 17  
Miriam Wheeler 18  
Kraig Howell 20  
CJ Hunt 21  
William Whisnant 21

Rainey Loftin 23  
Sam Hay, IV 24  
Sarah Davis 25  
Debi Selin 28

Louise White 30  
Amelia Evans 30  
Jasmine Ardis 30