

## Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

### This Week at FPC

#### Sunday, December 4 Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 Handbell Choir  
9:30 Children's Choir  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
5:00 Youth Connection

#### Tuesday, December 6

Circle Meetings:  
10:00 "Elizabeth" fellowship hall  
10:30 "Martha" Pily Waetzig's home  
6:30 "Ruth" Stephanie Scarborough's home  
No Exercise Class this week

#### Wednesday, December 7

6:45 Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, December 8

10:30 Ambassador Choir

#### Sunday, December 11 Third Sunday of Advent

10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
5:30 Christmas Joy Dinner and Music  
**Angel Tree Gifts Due**

#### Advent Leaflet

We have published a leaflet that tells the meaning of the **Advent Wreath** and of the **Chrismons** on the tree in the sanctuary. They are available on the round table in the narthex. We have printed enough for one per family.

**Remember the loaves and three fishes?** Well, it didn't work so well with bacon and egg casseroles. Someone should have fried more bacon! Anyway, a festive time was had by all at the **Thanksgiving Brunch**. Many thanks to the cooks: Ann Bouchillon, Diane Loeble, Carol McGiboney, Alice Walker, Jean Blair, Dana Hall, Mary Bollinger, Beth Vining, Miriam Wheeler, Bernice Bailey, and Betty Bailey...and Jean Wolverton fried the bacon. The lovely table decorations were done by Judy Hooten, Ann Savage, and friends. A special thanks to Rick Gunter, Day Kennon, Beth and Danny Vining, Bernice Bailey, and Cy Wolverton. That kitchen was cleaned in record time. Recipes were requested, but they wouldn't fit in the newsletter. Look for them in January!

**Still wondering what to give someone on your Christmas list?** Why not honor him or her with a contribution to one of the many causes supported by our church: Boy Scouts, Baby Love, Food Pantry, Nicaragua missions, Thornwell, Faith Works, Hudson/Chandler bike fund, or the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.. It's easy: choose the cause, write your check to the church with the name of the cause that you are supporting in the memo line; then, let Perri Walden, Judy Davis or any member of the Witness team know that you have made the contribution, and a member of the witness team will give you a card to present to the recipient.

**Offering statements** for July-September are available in the narthex. If you find an error or omission on your statement, please notify Peni in the church office as soon as possible.

**2017 Pledge Campaign Update:** To date we have received 65 pledge cards for a total of \$362,570. Last year our total was 82 pledges for a total of \$365,042. Every pledge counts! So, if you have not turned in a pledge, please do so soon. The Finance Team must formulate a budget before the December session meeting and your financial commitment is needed for that process. There are extra cards and envelopes in the narthex for those who need them. Thanks to all those who've submitted their card.

**Women's Bible Study Books** for the January Study Group will soon be available in the church office. Call before you come to confirm they have arrived. On Sundays you may check with Alice Walker **after worship**.

### 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](mailto:wbwade75@gmail.com)

Dan Walden: [djwalden@mac.com](mailto:djwalden@mac.com)

Church Office/Peni Kehoe: [penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com)

Website: [www.fpccov.org](http://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](http://www.fpccov.org)) and clicking on "Media."



#### Food Pantry Needs

The Food Pantry is now open on **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 9:00 - 12:00. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome.

#### December suggested donations are:

peanut butter, jelly, boxed stuffing mix, canned collard greens and canned yams

**Baby Love** is our program to collect diapers and wipes, or donations toward them, to give to local organizations which distribute them to parents in need. Place diapers in the cradle in the narthex. Donations should be designated to "Baby Love".



### THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

**December Usher Chair:**  
Stephanie Scarborough

**Sound Engineer:**  
Ken Walker

### MEMBERS OF SESSION

#### Class of 2016

Charles Ardis  
Joyce Ashworth  
Betty Bailey  
Patrick Carmichael  
Perri Walden  
Jake McCarthy

#### Class of 2017

Baxter Bouchillon  
Adriane Ivey  
Michael Thompson  
Danny Vining  
Jean Wolverton

#### Class of 2018

Gary Boteler  
Billy Fortson  
Scarlett McCurry  
Stephanie Scarborough  
Tom Stillerman

### 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> | Shaun and Aubrey Evans | <i>Nursery</i>               |
| Peni Kehoe           | <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>                       | Kara Sugg              | <i>Director of the</i>       |
| Alan Bunn            | <i>Music Director</i>                            |                        | <i>Early Learning Center</i> |

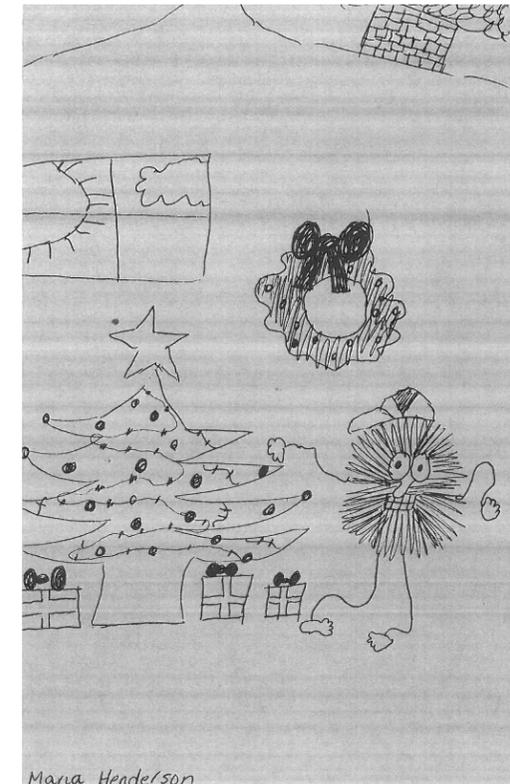


## Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

### Order of Worship

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD



Marva Henderson

**PRELUDE** *Prepare the Way, O Zion* Rachel Spry Lammi  
*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* Jason D. Payne  
*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Michael Burkhardt

**INTROIT** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL  
Michael Thompson, solo & Koen Ardis, handbells

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Michael, Trista, Cotton and Palmer Wilson

The season of Advent continues. We join with a hopeful throng in the lighting of the Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

**We are people of hope. Hope lives and abounds in us.**

Today we light the candle of peace.

**This light must brave the darkness.**

In an age when people seldom find peace within themselves, and when all the earth stands under threat of war, we light a fire called peace.

**Peace that is not merely the absence of conflict but peace that is the fullness of blessing for all, that is the peace for which**



**we dare to hope.**

Christ comes to bring peace to those who have been separated from God and one another.

**In the name of that Child born so long ago, we light the candle of peace.**

May this candle of peace give light to the world.  
I now light the candle of peace.

Let us pray: Almighty God, prepare our hearts, that the dear Christ may enter in and be born in us. Grant us his peace which passes our understanding; for we pray in your name. Amen.

✠HYMN 108 DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
*Of the Father's Love Begotten*  
Choir: stanza 1  
**All: stanza 6**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace, we confess that we often are deaf to the good tidings around us. We are weighed down by the pace and the demands of the season. Help us to reflect on your great love in the gift of Jesus to this weary world, and to us; for we pray in Jesus' holy name.**

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ST. LOUIS

Hymn 121, stanza 4

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE TRURO

Hymn 93, stanza 3

**Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord,  
abide. Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in  
me reveal.**

### ✠THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM Kenneth Dake

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Ambassador and Sanctuary Choirs

*Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!*

*Let every hill and valley a level way appear.*

*Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.*

*Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.*

*He brings God's rule, O Zion, He comes from heaven above.*

*His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.*

*Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.*

*Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.*

## 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

Isaiah 11:1-3

Matthew 1:18-24

SERMON *A Righteous Man* William B. Wade, Jr.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✠HYMN 97, stanza 1 ABERYSTWYTH

**Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of  
promise are. Traveler, what a wondrous sight: see  
that glory-beaming star. Watchman, does its  
beauteous ray news of joy or hope foretell?  
Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.**

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*  
*p. 35 in front of hymnal*

## CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

## THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *Adagio, BWV 564* 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

**Lord, mold our minds, hearts and spirits to embody the love  
which became flesh and comes among us again and again.  
Help us all our lives to proclaim tidings of great joy to all  
people; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

## ✠CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## ✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 97, stanza 2 ABERYSTWYTH

**Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends.  
Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course  
portends. Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that**

**gave them birth? Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts  
o'er all the earth.**

✠POSTLUDE *Toccatina in F, BWV 540* J. S. Bach

✠Please stand if you are able.

## Worship Notes

✠Dan Walden, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, is assisting with leading worship 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.

✠Recordings of Sunday sermons can be accessed on the church website: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org).

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

†Carol Dunbar-a fall, surgery 12/6

†Alton Cochran-Pruitt Healthcare for rehab

†Jack Wheeler-recovering from cataract surgery

†Donald Vining-Recovery from spine surgery (brother, Danny Vining)

†Joyce V. Williams-Recovery from mastectomy (sister, Danny Vining)

†Rick Gunter-recovering from cataract surgery

†Pray for rain for Newton County

†Jamie Huckaby Fairchild-cancer (Darrel Huckaby's daughter)

†Kalin Patin-6 month old boy, born prematurely experiencing problems

†Chuck Hodges-treatment for lymphoma (friend of Patti Lanford)

†Ursula Kaminski-cancer treatment

†Louise Strickland-home

†Rebecca Kirby-cancer (family of Scarlet McCurry)

†Danny Vining-prostate cancer/new treatment

†Colleen Paige - cancer (cousin of Perri Walden)

†Ron Swatty-heart problems, brother -in-law of Charles Ardis)

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

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

†Mitchell Jessup -cancer (father of Nick Jessup)

†Sharon Walton-chemotherapy (friend of Patti Lanford)

†Sophia Hawley-Cystic Fibrosis

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

†Roger Gossage-awaiting transplant

†Jan Coulon-home

†Jim Stalvey, Jr.-melanoma

**Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:**

†Russ Cole-Rockdale Healthcare

†Jeanne Cannon-Darien, GA

†J. L. Johnson -Dogwood Forest  
Alpharetta, GA

**Riverside**

†Joy Knight -hospice care

†Martha Borders

†Rita Harrell

**Merryvale**

†Guy McGiboney

†Bill Taylor

†Betty Robinson

†Louise White

†Betty Goins

†Hughie Hudson

**Celebration**

Miriam and Jack Wheeler celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary on November 30.

**Hospital Visitor:**  
Cy Wolverton

