

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

In December, we would like everyone to send thank you notes in appreciation of **Dan Walden** as our Director of Youth and Children's Ministries for all the work he does with children, youth, communications and much more. You may send cards directly to Dan or to the church office:

First Presbyterian Church
1169 Clark Street SW
Covington, GA 30014

Be sure to mark it "Attn: Dan Walden Thank You!" We have been recognizing each of our staff throughout the year. Their dedication and commitment to our congregation and the wider community are deeply appreciated.



Art for the Advent Season is by the artists of Adventure Club (2015)



Food Pantry Needs

Don't forget your donations for the Food Pantry! When you shop, pick up a few extras for your neighbors in need. Suggestions for December are cake and brownie mixes.

This Week at FPC

Sunday, November 22

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

Tuesday, November 24

4:00 Exercise
7:00 Thanksgiving Service at Good Shepherd

Wednesday, November 25

12:00 Thanksgiving Dinner food preparation at the Theme School

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksgiving!
11:00 - 2:00 Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Friday, November 27

Church Office Closed

**Sunday, November 29
Advent 1**

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

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."



Pledge Update: To date we have received 79 pledges for a total of \$350,246. Last year we had 92 pledges for a total of \$408,764. The session will begin the budget process for 2016 soon. 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. (770-786-7321)

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Nursery Volunteers today:
Caryn Thompson and CJ Hunt

November Usher Chair:
Charles Ardis

Next Week:
Shaun and Aubrey Evans

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	<i>CAGO, AAGO</i>
Dan Walden	<i>Director of Youth and Children's Ministry</i>	Maria Serrato, Aubrey Evans	<i>Nursery</i>
Peni Haug	<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Kara Sugg	<i>Interim Director of the Early Learning Center</i>
Alan Bunn	<i>Music Director</i>		

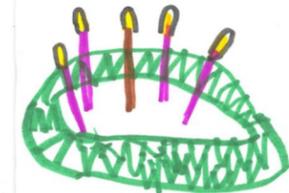


First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015



Alana



Hewett



Baile



Sarah G**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus H. Alexander Matthews
Alice Walker, organ
Concerto No. 2, Movement 1 Friedrich Seitz
Jake McCarthy, violin Alice Walker, piano

INTROIT *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL
Sanctuary Choir

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
Carter, Cheryl and Daylanie Gibson

Christians around the world begin this day to await the Advent of Christ. We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

We gather as a people of hope.
Christian people around the world stand today in breathless anticipation of a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years, yet that astounds us anew each year.

Our hope springs anew from an ancient vision.
As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope based not on wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we have received the Promise and the Great Gift, and therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment,

for we have heard that a special Child is to come, that God is to be among us, and that soon we will see a new creation on earth. We are a people of hope.

May this candle of hope give light to the world.

Listen to the words of the prophet Jeremiah chapter 31:31-34...

I now light the candle of prophecy and hope.

✦PROCESSIONAL HYMN 93 TRURO
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

✦PRAYER

✦THE PASSING OF THE PEACE Isaiah 9:6b-7

His name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *One Voice* The Wailin' Jennys
Rebecca Bates, Adriane Ivey, Perri Walden; Dan Walden, guitar

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 READING Matthew 1

SERMON *The Son of David* 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 beautiful ray news of joy or hope foretell? Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

✦AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY Guenter Raphael
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

✦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

We rejoice in the hope of these days, O God, as your realm unfolds its promises among us. Receive these offerings, we pray, as signs of our love, and keep us faithful in our receiving and in our giving, in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SEALING OF THE WORD

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

They will come from north and south and from east and west, to sit at table in the kingdom of heaven.

This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God...

COMMUNION

Eat the bread when you feel ready. This signifies God's presence to you individually. We will drink the cup together after all are served. This signifies God's presence to the Church.

Meditation on "Let Us Break Bread" Douglas Wagner
Handbell Choir; Alice Walker, organ

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

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦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.

✦CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦CHORAL RESPONSE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*
Sanctuary Choir

✦POSTLUDE *Savior of the Nations, Come* Paul Manz

✦Please stand if you are able.

Worship Notes

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

✦We welcome to our service this morning violinist Jake McCarthy, who will play for the Prelude. Jake is a member of the Session at First Presbyterian Church. He is the son of Terri Digby and John McCarthy.

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

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

†Tommy Lee McCurdy-hospice care (cousin of Guy McGiboney)

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

†James Knight-congestive heart failure and complications-Eastside Hospital (Darcel Tabb's father)

†Vickie Sewell-breathing difficulties

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

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

†Ursula Kaminski-home

†Lucille Brown-broken Leg/hip, surgery (mother of Sherri Bolton)

†George Stamps-Newton Medical

†Wilbur Fisher-meningitis, former Newton High coach

†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 Tingler'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 (7th grade student at Providence Christian School.)

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

†Russ Cole -The Magnolias, Conyers

†Jeanne Cannon-Darien, GA

Riverside

†Joy Knight -hospice care

†Martha Borders

†Rita Harrell

Benton House

†George Stamps

†Doris Mote

Merryvale

†Guy McGiboney

†Bill Taylor

†Elizabeth Gadilhe

†Betty Robinson

We extend our sympathy and prayers for **Penny Hale-Blakeney** in the death of her sister, **Nancy Driver**, who died Sunday; and for **Scarlett McCurry** in the death of **Spencer Owen**, family friend.

Hospital Visitor: Jean Wolverton