

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE  
LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*This Week at FPC*

**Sunday, April 24**

**Youth Sunday**

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

**Monday, April 25**

11:00 Funeral for  
Elizabeth Gadilhe

**Tuesday, April 26**

4:00 Exercise

**Wednesday, April 27**

4:00 Adventure Club  
6:45 Sanctuary Choir

**Thursday, April 28**

10:30 Ambassador Choir  
12:00 Silver Saints & Ambass-  
ador Choir Lunch

**Sunday, May 1**

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

**Silver Saints and Ambassador Choir Lunch, Thursday, April 28  
12:00 noon in the Martin Fellowship Hall**

If you plan to attend and are new to this group, please make a reservation in the church office at 770-786-7321 or call Jean Elder at 770-787-7951. This will assure arrangements are adequate. This is a fun group, you will enjoy the "chit-chat and laughter" we have together. We hope you will join us.

**A Conversation About Climate Change**

Theodosia Wade, Senior Lecturer of Biology at Oxford College, will present a talk and conversation about climate change and the related subject of the causes of climate change. Mrs. Wade plans to use this Community Classroom session to address these controversial matters and invite attendees to do the same. The session will be held in the Community Room at Oxford City Hall on Tuesday, **April 26, 4:00-5:00 pm.**

*Prayer Concerns continued...*

We extend our sympathy and prayers for the family of **Elizabeth Gadilhe**, who died Wednesday. A service in witness to the resurrection will take place tomorrow at FPC at 11:00.

We also extend our prayers for **Jonathan and Lynn Miller** in the death of his mother, **Annie Miller**, last week.

**Hospital Visitor:** Day Kennon

... by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made  
known to God.

Philippians 4:6. NRSV



**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 Haug: [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."



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

April suggested donations are:  
canned fruit

**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**

**April Usher Chair:**  
Tom Stillerman

**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.  
Dan Walden

*Pastor*

*Director of Youth  
and Children's Ministry*

Peni Haug  
Alan Bunn

*Secretary-Treasurer  
Music Director*

Alice Walker

CAGO, AAGO

*Organist/Ambassador Choir*

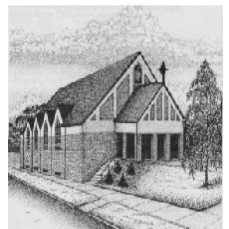
Maria Serrato, Aubrey Evans

Kara Sugg

*Nursery  
Director of the  
Early Learning Center*



**Fifth Sunday  
of Easter  
April 24, 2016**



*Order of Worship*

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**PRELUDE** *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks* Jeff Honore  
*Holy, Holy, Holy* Robert Buckley Farlee  
*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* Mark Sedio

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 148

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

**Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

**Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.**

✦ **HYMN 14** *For the Beauty of the Earth* DIX

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

The God revealed to us in the pages of scripture is a welcoming and inclusive God who directs us to love one another. We seek to remove all the barriers that keep us from that love. Together, let us confess all that separates us from others and from God.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Patient God, repeatedly—day by day, hour by hour, minute by minute—you call us to serve you, to love one another, even to love our enemies. But increasingly your voice is drowned out by the noise we have created to isolate ourselves from you and those around us—the noise of our TVs, our iPods, and our surround sound systems; the noise of our political pundits, our marketing gurus, and even our own voices. Forgive us. Quiet us, God, and teach us to listen for your voice, that we may know ourselves in you, and know what you would have us be and do to your glory.**

(pause for SILENT reflection)

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Only God's love can overcome the power of sin that causes us to turn our backs on God and one another. Today I declare to you good news...we are forgiven! Amen.

✦ **RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** ASH GROVE

Hymn 37, stanza 1

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God our Creator triumphantly raise;  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
By guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night:**

***Till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.***

#### ✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Dream On, Dream On* Hae Jong Kim, Sunkyung Lee  
Youth Choir

*Dream on, dream on, children of peace, till on earth God's kingdom  
come. Wolf and lamb will feed together; lions like oxen will eat straw.  
Dust shall be the serpent's food; no one shall destroy or hurt.  
Children of earth in all colors, live in peace and harmony.*

*Hope on, hope on, Easter people: beyond the cross, a dawning sun  
Christ, our peace, broke down all barriers: nation, culture, tribe and  
clan. Reconciling us to God, Christ made us one human race,  
Joined in peace and liberation, led by justice, hope and love.*

*Mount up, mount up, like an eagle, to the heights, beyond the clouds.  
Strife and sorrow shall not stop you; pain and tears shall lose their  
power. Even though the young may stumble, God the Lord renews their  
strength. They shall run and not grow weary; they shall walk and shall  
not faint.*

#### 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

**Prepare our hearts, O Lord, to accept your word.  
Silence in us any voice but your own; that, hearing,  
we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 11:6-9; 40:29-31

SERMON Jake McCarthy

SCRIPTURE LESSON Ephesians 2:14-15  
Colossians 1:20

SERMON Sophia Hawley

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN 370 *This Is My Father's World* TERRA BEATA

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  
from the Confession of Belhar (1986)

**We believe**

◆ that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the

church as the community of believers who have been  
reconciled with God and with one another;

- ◆ that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;
- ◆ that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted;

**We believe**

- ◆ that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peace-maker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

**We believe**

- ◆ that Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and glory forever and ever.

#### CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

#### THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* James Biery

#### ✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 716, stanza 1

***God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and  
endless store. Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross,  
grave's shattered door. Gifted by you, we turn to you, offer-  
ing up ourselves in praise; Thankful song shall rise forever,  
gracious Donor of our days.***

#### ✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious Lord, you have blessed us with gifts too many to  
count. Help us respond to your goodness. Enable us to live  
our lives as gifts to you, seeking your will and your help  
through all that life brings us. In Christ's name we pray,  
Amen.**

### BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 765 *Song of Hope* ARGENTINA

#### ✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ POSTLUDE *Earth and All Stars*

Keith Kolander

✦ Please stand if you are able.



#### Worship Notes

✦ **Dan Walden**, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, and the young people are assisting with the leading of worship.

✦ 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

† Luke Gregory - diagnosed with Type I diabetes

† Leon Savage - stroke, Riverside for rehabilitation

† Roger Tingler - home

† Kora Hester - surgery (daughter of Kevin & Brittany Hester)

† Nancy Kindle - auto accident (neighbor of Laurie & Alan Bunn)

† Jerry Smart (brother of Faye Kitchens)

† Debra Hales (daughter of Faye Kitchens)

† Henry Garrison - prostate cancer (brother of Sallie Paschal)

† Jill Osbourne - breast cancer (friend of Barbara Martin)

† Kevin and Amy Lanclos family, Amy and daughters Emily Anne (stable) and Hannah (life-threatening injuries) - car accident

† Colleen Paige - cancer (cousin of Perri Walden)

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

† Sandy Peterson - cancer (former member)

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

† Kim Bailey - on-going physical therapy after bicycle accident (Bernice Bailey's daughter-in-law)

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

† Mitchell Jessup - cancer (father of Nick Jessup)

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

† Sophia Hawley - Cystic Fibrosis

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

† Roger Gossage - awaiting transplant

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

† Jan Coulon - home

† Jim Stalvey, Jr. - melanoma

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

† Anderson Krieger - continuing treatment for leukemia

**Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:**  
† Russ Cole - Rockdale Healthcare for rehab

† Jeanne Cannon - Darien, GA

† J. L. Johnson - **new address**  
Dogwood Forest, Room 306  
253 North Main Street, Alpharetta, GA 30009

#### **Riverside**

† Joy Knight - hospice care

† Martha Borders

† Rita Harrell

† Jack Yoder - rehab

#### **Benton House**

† George Stamps

#### **Merryvale**

† Guy McGiboney

† Bill Taylor

† Betty Robinson

† Louise White

† Betty Goins

† Hughie Hudson

*continued next page*