



*The Thirteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost  
August 22, 2021*



*Order of Worship*

✦ Stand as able

*Gathering As God's Beloved People*

GATHERING MUSIC

*Rise Up, Ye Saints of God  
O That I Had a Thousand Voices  
Be Thou My Vision*

Douglas Wagner  
Walter L. Pelz  
David Cherwien

PRELUDE

*Simple Gifts*

Shaker Hymn Tune

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Worship Architect by Constance Cherry

One: **What is worship?**

All: Worship is an encounter with the Living God.

One: **Who invites us to worship?**

All: God invites us to worship.

One: **Why do we worship?**

All: We worship to glorify God. Worship is a response to God's invitation. Worship celebrates who God is. Worship is transformative.

One: **Worship is the expression of a relationship in which God reveals God's self and God's love in Christ, and by the presence of the Holy Spirit, to which we respond with faith, gratitude, and obedience.**

✦ HYMN 610

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

AZMON

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, I just don't get anything out of worship. What is in it for me? I try to listen. I show up, well sometimes. I confess I have other things I need to get done. I check the clock. I check a box. Redirect my thoughts, O God. Help me to be present in prayer, scripture, and song. I want to praise you! I want to know you more! Here I am to worship!**

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Church, We are forgiven!  
**We are free to try again.**

✦ GLORIA PATRI

Hymn 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you!**

## *Proclaiming the Word*

WONDERING WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 84

SERMON

*Bearing Fruit: Passionate Worship*

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

## *Responding to the Word*

✦HYMN 611

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYFRYDOL

✦AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

PC(USA) Book of Order

**We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retrained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

✦RESPONSE Hymn 36

AR HYDY NOS

***For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.***

## *Being the Church in the World*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

✦HYMN 661

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*

SPARROW

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata from Suite Gothique pour Grand Orgue*

L. Boëllmann

## Worship Notes

### Friendship Register

There are Friendship registers in each pew. We ask that you sign in each week that you attend. If you are a visitor or interested in church membership signing in helps us with a way to contact you. The registers are also our way to know who to call in the case of a Covid-19 exposure. Thanks!

### Nursery for Children

We have a nursery available for children newborn—1st grade. It is located on the lower level. Ask an usher to direct you. Children are also welcome to wiggle and giggle in the pew.

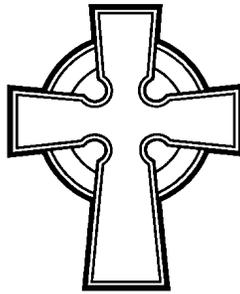
### Worship Bags for Children

The bags are labeled with children's name tags clipped to their bag and they are invited to use the same bag every time they come to worship. For our visitors and newcomers we have bags labeled "Child of God" The bags are hanging on a rack on the right side of the narthex.

### Serving Today:

**Tech Team:** Dan Walden & Brad Phillips; **Usher Chair:** Bob Tabb

Music printed in our bulletins and streamed on-line are covered by licenses authorizing their use.  
Licenses are from: CCLI #11379886 and One License # A-728738.



### Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

The scale of the disaster facing Haiti after the Aug. 14 earthquake is becoming clearer. The quake and its aftershocks have left almost 1,300 people dead, thousands more injured and an unknown number of people are still missing. At least 13,000 homes were destroyed and roads, bridges and communication systems have been severely damaged. This catastrophe comes on top of Haiti's ongoing struggles with endemic hunger and poverty, COVID-19 and continuing civil unrest, and as Tropical Storm Grace bears down on the region.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through our established local partners and in collaboration with ACT Alliance and its members. The PC(USA), through PDA and together with regional World Mission colleagues, will remain active throughout the entire recovery process, accompanying our partners in the area as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for rebuilding and resilience.

If you'd like to donate make your check to "FPC" and put PDA in the memo space. Our enews had a link to the PDA website if you'd like to give directly to them on-line. If you give on-line through FPC choose the "Disaster" fund.

**The needs for the response will be great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP" — Give. Act. Pray.**

# Activities in the Life of the Church

## This Week at FPC

### Sunday, August 22 Pentecost 13

10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service/Congregational Meeting  
12:15 Session Meeting  
7:00 Jammies & Jesus on Zoom

### Monday, August 23

10:00 Pastoral Care Meeting in the parlor  
12:00 Green Team Meeting

### Tuesday, August 24

12:00 Lectio Divina-Parlor  
5:45 Sanctuary Choir  
7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### Wednesday, August 25

10:00 Coffee and Conversation

### Thursday, August 26

10:00 Devotional at Merrvale

### Saturday, August 28

8:45 Meals on Wheels

### Sunday, August 29, Pentecost 14

10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
7:00 Jammies and Jesus

### Children's Sunday School

10:00am

Sunday School Room Downstairs  
Teachers: Rotation Model  
Interested in teaching?  
email [info@fpccov.org](mailto:info@fpccov.org)

### Youth Sunday School

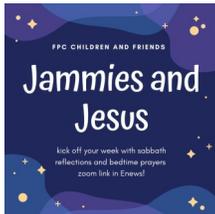
10:00am

Youth Room Downstairs  
Teachers: Pam and Jim Stillerman

### Adult Sunday School

10:00am

Fellowship Hall  
Teachers: Bob Tabb,  
Charles Ardis and Brad Phillips



### Jammies and Jesus!

### Sunday Evenings at 7:00—7:15pm on Zoom

Jammies and Jesus is BACK!! Sunday evenings on Zoom. Invite a friend!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191056781>

### Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesdays @ Noon in the Parlor!

Join us on Tuesday at noon to spend time studying  
the upcoming Sunday's scripture text!

### Congregational Meeting—Today

The Congregational meeting will be held at the end of the worship service for the purpose of electing Elders to the next class for Session and for electing members to the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

### Presbyterian Women's Study Books



The Study Books for the PW Circles are now available for those who requested one (we have 1 or 2 extra). You will have to make arrangements to pick it up at the church office. They are \$11 and must be paid for at the time of pick-up. Make your checks out to First Presbyterian Church and put PW Book in the memo space.

PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

### Security Update at FPC

In efforts to improve the security of our building we have re-keyed the exterior doors. We have implemented a new policy for checking out keys for our facility. Please contact [info@fpccov.org](mailto:info@fpccov.org) if you need to check out a key or Key Request Forms are available from the church office. Please make arrangements with Peni Kehoe to obtain your key.

A reminder: We have a new Building Usage Form to be completed for all events at FPC! Thank you for your understanding.

**We thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church of Covington!**

You are invited to "Text to Give"  
 your offering: Text to: 73256  
 Enter FPCCOV as your message, click to send  
 Or use this link: <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyterianChurchCov/give/FPCCOVtext>

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

- ✦ Prayers for Haiti & Afghanistan
- ✦ Jack & Miriam Wheeler-Covid-19
- ✦ Anne Cranford-treatment for breast cancer
- ✦ Jane Parker-recovering from cataract surgery
- ✦ Lynn Lanier-amyloidosis (friend of Chris Martin)
- ✦ Danny Vining-knee replacement
- ✦ Dan Walden-Cardiac Amyloidosis
- ✦ Tommy Bassett-terminal liver cancer (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
- ✦ Doug Bolton-burn injury treatment
- ✦ Steve Jones-cancer (friend of Alice Walker)
- ✦ Susan Fiedler-cancer (friend of Darcel Tabb)
- ✦ Hulda McDonald-health issues (friend of Judy Davis)
- ✦ Blair Weaver-health issues
- ✦ Sarita Pope-breast cancer (mother-in-law of Elizabeth Martin Pope)
- ✦ Beverly Beasley-caring for husband who has leukemia (friend of Jean Elder)
- ✦ Karen Moss-breast cancer
- ✦ Carter Mackenzie-neck injury (son of Julie & Jeff Mackenzie)
- ✦ Karen Lein Kaasa-home health care (sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie)
- ✦ Tom Bass-cancer treatment & dialysis (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
- ✦ Wilford Reed-health issues (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
- ✦ Bob Darby-kidney problems (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
- ✦ Joyce Williams-Alzheimer's, breast cancer treatment (sister of Danny Vining)
- ✦ Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
- ✦ Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)

- Independent and Assisted Living**
- ✦ Travis Moss-Pruitt Healthcare
  - ✦ Penny Blakeney-home
  - ✦ Julia Brubaker-Benton House
  - ✦ Jean Elder-currently in Florida with her daughter (address available from church Office or on REALM)
  - ✦ Dot Fincher-Merryvale
  - ✦ Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
  - ✦ Betty Robinson-Merryvale
  - ✦ Louise White-Merryvale
  - ✦ Jerry McGaffney-Merryvale

- Military Service**
- ✦ Koen Ardis-Navy
  - ✦ Lee Scarborough-Army
  - ✦ Billy Scarborough-Marines



**Celebration!**

Congratulations to Carolyn and Curtis Watson on their 55th wedding anniversary!



**Prayer Requests**

All prayer requests should be sent to: [admin@fpccov.org](mailto:admin@fpccov.org) or by clicking the "Email Peni" button at the bottom of the Enews prayer list. Please specify if you want the request in the bulletin or for pastors only, or only the confidential prayer circle.

**Interested in Joining the Church?**

If you're interested in joining the FPC church family, you are welcome to reach out to Neeley. You can enjoy a coffee together and discuss what it means to become a member.

To set a date:  
by email: [neeley@fpccov.org](mailto:neeley@fpccov.org);

**Do you have a mobile phone or a tablet?** If so, you can download the bulletin on your device to follow the service and save paper. If you pick up a paper bulletin please remember to recycle it here or at home! The environment will thank you! (Please do not put your device on silent!)



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

Neeley Rentz Lane Courtney Pittman Krista Firkus Alice Walker <i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>	<i>Senior Pastor</i> <i>Seminary Intern</i> <i>Music Director</i> CAGO, AAGO	Peni Kehoe Danielle Schubert Beverley Beasley Pauleen Green <i>Church Administrator</i> <i>Nursery</i> <i>Nursery</i> <i>Nursery</i>
--	---	---

**MEMBERS OF SESSION**

<b>Class of 2021</b> Jay Lanners Warren Liem Cindy Moon Pam Stillerman Cy Wolverton	<b>Class of 2022</b> Aubrey Evans John McCarthy Stephanie Scarborough Trista Hooten Wilson	<b>Class of 2023</b> Stan Hall Louly Hay Kapp Ed Perkerson Bob Tabb
--	--	---

**Please Recycle**



## Nominees for the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee



**Jodi Walden Atkins** has attended FPC Covington since the age of 2 and was baptized and confirmed into the church when she was 12 years old. She actively participated in the Youth & Children's programs and served as a Youth Elder during her senior year of high school. She served on the Pastor Nominating Committee in 2019 that called Reverend Neeley Rentz Lane to the FPC and is excited about serving on the APNC. "I am especially excited to create a unique bond with the other committee members and help find our church's missing puzzle piece." Jodi works full-time as the Marketing Director for The Arts Association in Newton County. Jodi resides in Oxford with her husband Jonny and daughter Lorene.

cited to create a unique bond with the other committee members and help find our church's missing puzzle piece." Jodi works full-time as the Marketing Director for The Arts Association in Newton County. Jodi resides in Oxford with her husband Jonny and daughter Lorene.

**Dana Hall** was raised in Decatur. She grew up attending Oakhurst Presbyterian Church. Later attended St. Andrews Presbyterian in Tucker. After graduation from Georgia State University, she worked for the Federal Government in Nashville and Atlanta. She has been married to Stan for 34 years. They both retired from the Federal Government in 2008. They joined Covington FPC in 2015. She currently serves FPC Covington on the Stewardship Committee and Vice Moderator of Presbyterian Women. She is excited to be a part of the decision making process to fill the gap in our church.



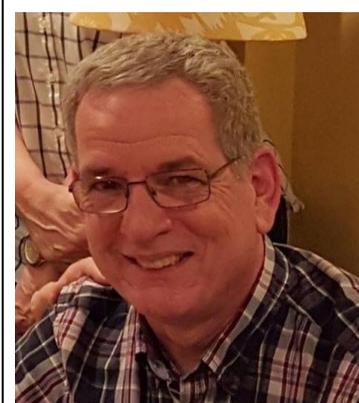
**Judy Hooten** is a life long member of Covington First Presbyterian Church where she has served on session several times, numerous committees, and the interim search committee that recommended Steven Barnes. She's married to Dennis, has two daughters and grandchildren who lovingly refer to her as "Honey". She is excited to serve on this search committee to find a wonderful complement to Neeley and a pastor to lovingly serve our youth.

**Steven Candler Kapp:** I was born and raised in the Atlanta area. My time in the Covington community began at Oxford College in 1985. I returned to Covington in 1999 and have lived here since. I am the President of Sunbelt Builders, a local commercial construction company, and have worked there for 23 years. My wife Louly and I very much enjoy our community of family & friends in Covington. We are graced with

our 82lb. yellow lab, Mr. Utley, and many wonderful nieces and nephews. I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the APNC to build on the current momentum of the church with a much-needed associate.

Education: Marmion Military Academy, Aurora, Illinois; Oxford College of Emory University '87; Emory College B.A. '89; Louly Fowler Hay School of English Corrections (current)

Hobbies: Saltwater fishing offshore of Apalachicola, FL; Scuba diving; Tennis; Hiking; Bird hunting



**Randy Layton** is originally from Tennille, GA and is the youngest of five children. For the last 32 years he has called Covington home and is employed with the Georgia Department of Labor as an Appeals Review Officer. He was raised in the Methodist church and has found the transition to the Presbyterian Church to be very smooth. Randy has attended First Presbyterian for 20 years and became a member two years ago. He enjoys

gardening, baking, walking the trails around Covington, and traveling, both domestic and international. He enjoys spending time with family and friends, cheering on the Bulldogs, and is getting into volunteer work as retirement draws closer. I am looking forward to the challenge of finding a talented team player who can help the church grow and reach its full potential in the community.



**Pam Stillerman** resides at 1280 River Cove Rd, Social Circle. She has been married to Jim for 42 years. Her family includes her son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Erin with granddaughter, Emma, and daughter and son-in-law, Liz and Phil Anderson. She has been a member of FPC for 30 years. She currently serves on the session, teaches Youth Sunday School with Jim, serves on Health Team, Worship, and Personnel committees. She holds an RN, MS degree from

Georgia State University. She is the "Chief Exercise Officer" at Alcovy Fitness & Wellness, a local health club/gym. Her hobbies include reading and any kind of movement.

(Over for next APNC Nominee)

**Bob Tabb** and his wife, Darcel, have been an active members of First Presbyterian for over 10 years. They joined after one visit because They found the members to be warm and friendly and they continue to be blessed every day by their decision. Bob currently serves on the Session. He has served as a member of the Education and Stewardship and Finance Committees and currently is the Finance Team chair. He also serves on the Personnel Committee. Bob is an active member of the adult Sunday School class and co-teaches that class with Charles Ardis and Patrick Carmichael. Bob is a senior partner at The Tabb Insurance Agency in Conyers and serves as its CFO. He is completing his 43rd year at the business. Darcel and Bob have 6 adult children and are very proud of their 7 grandchildren.



## Nominees for the Session Class of 2024



**Denny Dobbs** has been a member of PFC since the early 1990's. Denny grew up in Newton County and he and Cathy joined the FPC family in the 1990's. Denny is an environmental engineer who has worked for large and small companies but has had his own business for the past 30 years. Denny has previously served on Session. The Dobbs raised 3 sons (Bryan, Luke and Lane) through FPC and were

active in youth programs and the original Wednesday Night Suppers. Favorite Bible verse is "Love one another".



**Pat Harper** has been a member of FPC since the early 1990's. Since then, she worked as a computer specialist in the admission office of Oxford College and the registrar's office at Emory College. She also worked as a wedding and family photographer before spending 10 years in North Alabama caring for her parents in their last years.

Returning to Covington in 2018, she enjoys the company of two of her four children and her grandchildren who live in Covington. She's happiest when surrounded by her family...and especially when cheering on the Clemson Tigers together. At FPC, she is a member of the Christian Education Committee, the Matthew 25 Task Force, the Adult Sunday School Class, the Elizabeth Ann Circle, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry. She also enjoys attending the Lectio Divina Bible Study and the Coffee and Conversation Fellowship. Her favorite bible verse is from the International Children' Bible version of Psalm 91:2 "I will say to the Lord, 'You are my place of safety and protection. You are my God, and I trust you.'"

**Brad Phillips** joined the church in February 2020 by affirmation of faith and baptism. He is on the Christian Education Committee and the technology team and has been active in Sunday School and weeknight Bible studies. Brad's grandparents were Presbyterian. He is the son of Steve and Gladys Phillips of Loganville and the younger brother of Britt Phillips. Brad began attending Covington FPC in 1994 while dating his now-wife Natalie Phillips, who is a lifelong member of the church. He is the son-in-law of Harry & Tricia Hinton. He and Natalie have been married 19 years, reside in Decatur and are the proud parents of 5 dogs and 5 cats. Brad graduated from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine in 2004 and is an Associate Veterinarian at Lavista Animal Hospital in Decatur. His hobbies include officiating football and lacrosse, walking his dogs, gardening and reading Christian literature recommended by Neeley and Courtney!



**Curtis Watson** is the proud husband of Carolyn Watson. Carolyn and he have been married for 55+ years. They have two children and five grandchildren. Curtis worked for Delta Air Lines for 35+ years. Curtis started with Delta in Atlanta, GA and during his career with Delta he worked and lived in Anchorage, AK, Jackson, WY and Houston, TX. Curtis returned to Atlanta in 2000 to finish out his career with Delta and retired in November 2001. Curtis and Carolyn have lived in western Newton County in the Livingston Willows subdivision since 2001. Curtis enjoys working in his yard and tending to his five small raised bed garden. Other hobbies include fishing, hunting and helping at the FPC Food Pantry. Curtis' religious background has been mostly Lutheran before visiting at First Presbyterian on late 2018. Curtis and Carolyn joined First Presbyterian on their 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary on August 18, 2019. Curtis has been active in several ministries since joining FPC including the FPC Food Pantry, Family Promise, Meals on Wheels and the Memorial Garden.