

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

<p>Sunday, February 18 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service</p> <p>Tuesday, February 20 4:00 Exercise Class</p> <p>Wednesday, February 21 6:45 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>Thursday, February 22 10:30 Ambassador Choir</p> <p>Sunday, February 25 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:45 Technology and Us 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service Hunger Walk (see below)</p>
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Recycling note: There is a blue Recycling Bin in the hallway outside the kitchen and fellowship hall. People have been putting trash in it which is a "no-no". Please DO recycle; please put your trash in one of the cans in the fellowship hall or kitchen. Thanks!

Technology and Us: Make plans to join us for a 3-week Sunday School series addressing the challenges that current and emerging technologies pose to our families and ourselves.

♦ **February 25**-Dan Walden, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries

Join us for the annual **Hunger Walk** next Sunday, **February 25th**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship and have a quick lunch together as we change into our walking shoes then head to Atlanta for this 5K (~3 mile) fun walk to raise awareness for the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Everyone is invited! If you plan on joining us, contact Dan Walden at the church office so that we can arrange for lunches and transportation.

Registration for the Early Learning Center Preschool has begun: If you have a child ready for early learning, ages 12 months - 4 year old preschool or know of a family who does, we are now registering members of the FPC congregation as well as families currently registered in the Early Learning Center. Call Kara Sugg, 770-786-7321, at the church for more information about registration for the coming school year 2018-2019.

On-line Giving Information: If you are currently paying your pledge at "Realm" on-line, please note that this year, if you are pledging, you should use the *fund* "2018 Pledge Year" so that it will be credited to the current year. Under the fund menu just type in 2018 and it should pop right up! Those who do not pledge should use the fund called "non-pledge".

Nicaragua Mission Trip: Judy Davis will once again be traveling to Nicaragua to deliver water filters and to test the water where wells are available. Because of the airlines increasing luggage fees, we will purchase some of our supplies there. A generous person has already supplied the bags and contents for the baby bags which Judy will be preparing. We can still use small travel size soaps and shampoos. If you would like to contribute to the purchase and delivery of water filters, Spanish Bibles, and food bags, you can do so by a check written to the church and noted "Nicaragua fund".

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 Kehoe: 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."



Food Pantry Needs

The Food Pantry is now open on **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 9:00 - 1:00. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome.

February suggested donations are:
canned meats: beef, chicken, stew, spam, ham (no tuna)

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

February Usher Chair:
Koen Ardis

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2018
Gary Boteler
Billy Fortson
Scarlett McCurry
Stephanie Scarborough
Tom Stillerman
Koen Ardis
Sophia Hawley

Class of 2019
Carter Gibson
John McCarthy
Teresa McCurry
Cheryl Meichsner
Miriam Wheeler

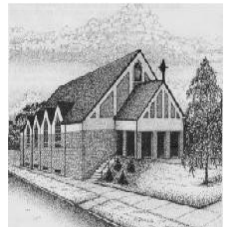
Class of 2020
Doug Bolton
Stan Hall
Cindy Moon
Bob Tabb
Michael Thompson

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>Organist/Ambassador Choir Nursery</i>
Peni Kehoe	<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Kara Sugg	<i>Director of the Early Learning Center</i>
Alexis Ward	<i>Music Director</i>		



First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2018



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

arr. Gordon Myers
Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley
Vern Sumner, baritone Alexis Ward, piano
*Jesus walked this lonesome valley,
He had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him,
He had to walk it by himself.*
*We must walk this lonesome valley,
We have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us,
We have to walk it by ourselves.*
*We must clasp our hands together,
We have to clasp them in the air.
Oh, nobody else can clasp them for us,
We have to clasp them by ourselves.*
*We must lift our hearts to heaven,
We have to lift them up ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can lift them for us,
The prayer of brotherhood is there.*

INTROIT

God Is Here! (Hymn 409 stanzas 1 and 2)
Sanctuary Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

John 3:16-17
For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son; that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.
For God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

HYMN 624

TOULON
I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

CALL TO CONFESSION

from Psalm 51
Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love, according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant to us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.
(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

ST. FLAVIAN

Hymn 166, stanza 1

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

AZMON

Hymn 610, stanza 2

The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease, sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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

Romans 7:14-25

SERMON

The "S" Word

William B. Wade, Jr.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 475, stanzas 1-2

NETTLETON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed p. 35 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

arr. Alexis Ward

Sanctuary Choir with members from the Greensboro Chamber Choir, Loucy Hay, piano

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

Gracious God, help our lives to express the faith we profess, so that others also may hear and know your abundant love; for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

SEALING OF THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

We do not live by bread alone. Jesus said: "I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION

(Eat the bread when you are served. We will drink the cup together after all are served.)

Ave Verum

Gabriel Faure

Alexis Ward, Vern Sumner, baritone, and Loucy Hay, piano

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p. 35 in front of hymnal

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

NETTLETON

Hymn 475, stanza 3

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

POSTLUDE

Morning Song

H. Pachulski

Please stand if you are able.

Greensboro Chamber Choir

A few friends from the Greensboro Chamber Choir are visiting this morning from Greensboro, Georgia including our baritone soloist, Vern Sumner. GCC is an all volunteer sacred community chorus that specializes in large works for choir and orchestra. The choir has been featured on "Say Yes to the Dress - Atlanta", has commissioned and collaborated with several living composers and conductors, and recently had their Carnegie Hall debut in November 2017. They currently sing under the direction of Alexis Ward and will be premiering a brand new cantata composed by Alexis on Thursday, March 22nd.

Worship Notes

The Rev. Dr. Doug Hicks, Dean of Oxford College and Dan Walden, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, are assisting in 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.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Alice Walker-pneumonia, home
Thomas Stewart-partial leg amputation
Patti Lanford-broken ankle (in Africa)
Stephanie Fortson-recovering from knee surgery, home
Sophia Hawley-home
Adriane Ivey-home, chemo therapy
Bettie Miller-hospital, then rehab
Bill Shirk-home, recovering from heart surgery (Danny Vining's brother-in-law)
Jim Elder-Riverside
Lewis Bunn-hip surgery (father of Alan Bunn)
Marilyn Hall-cancer surgery 2/13 (TOPS group)
Ted Horton-cancer surgery (nephew of Maxine Blankenship)
Tom Holmes-cancer (friend of Dan Walden)
Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
Clynton Byer-heart surgery (friend of the Ardis family)

Ron Swatty-heart problems, brother-in-law of Charles Ardis
Mitchell Jessup -cancer (father of Nick Jessup)
Roger Gossage-dialysis, Piedmont, Atl.
Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:
Russ Cole-Manor House, Social Circle
Jeanne Cannon-St. Simon's Island, GA
Veteran's Hospital, Milledgeville, GA
George Stamps
Georgia War Veterans Home, Rm 319
2249 Vinson Highway
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Merryvale

Guy McGiboney
Betty Robinson
Louise White
Alice Gadilhe
Hughie Hudson
Patricia McGuire

Home

Jan Coulon
Debi (Dee) Selin

Peace Corps Volunteer

Patti Lanford stationed in Zambia

Hospital Visitor:
Cy or Jean Wolverton

