

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE BALM IN GILEAD

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The proof of God's amazing love is this:  
While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone, a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AMAZING GRACE

Hymn 649, stanza 1

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

ANTHEM Psalm 139

Sanctuary Choir

Allen Pote

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 Galatians 3:23-29

SERMON A Matter of the Heart William B. Wade Jr.

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

✦ HYMN 339 LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.**

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY Karrin Ford

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

✦ 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

**Merciful God, we give you thanks for your grace to us. We have not earned your goodness, but we seek to reflect your light in our lives. Rouse us from self-absorption to see your people in need, to cross the barriers that divide us, to heal the wounds that alienate us, to discover the face of Christ in those from whom we have separated our lives; for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

✦ HYMN 338 MATERNA

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

✦ CHARGE AND BLESSING

✦ CHORAL RESPONSE LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

✦ POSTLUDE Recessional John Carter

✦ Please stand, if you are able.

*Worship Notes*

\*Dan Walden, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, is assisting with worship today.

\*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*

†Diane Loebke-knee replacement surgery, home  
†David Sewell-knee replacement, home  
†Jeanie Liem-kidney transplant, home  
†Jim Stalvey, Jr.-melanoma  
†Linda Pemberton-home, (mother of Tiffany McWaters, ELC Director)  
†Catherine Horton-Madison (sister of Maxine Blankenship)  
†Penny Hill-cancer (Executive Presbyter for the Greater Atlanta Presbytery)  
†Warren Liem-home  
†Don Bollinger-home  
†Tootles Tingler-home  
†Ann Bouchillon-home  
†Joe Schell-dialysis (father of Krissy Jones)  
†Bill Waterson-cancer (neighbor of Bernice & Betty Bailey)  
†Lisa Baker-cancer treatment  
†Lucy Johnson-cancer (friend of the Liems)  
†Steve Hayner--cancer treatment, (President of Columbia Seminary)  
†Richard Carmichael-cancer treatment (brother of Patrick Carmichael)  
†Louis Katchko-serious condition with cancer (friend of Warren and Jeanie Liem)  
†Anderson Krieger-maintenance chemotherapy (6th grade student at Providence Christian School.)

**Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:**

†Mary Cline-relocated  
†Russ Cole -The Magnolias, Conyers  
†Gretchen Buendia-Parkwood Rehabilitation Center, Snellville

**Riverside**

†Joy Knight  
†Martha Borders  
†Rita Harrell

**Benton House**

†George Stamps  
†Doris Mote

**Merryvale**

†Bill Taylor  
†Elizabeth Gadilhe  
†Betty Robinson

**Celebrations:**

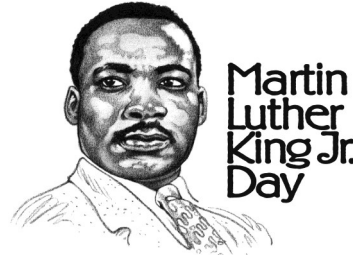
**Maddox Steven Johnson**, son of Benjamin and Crystal Johnson, was born on January 6, 2015. Grandparents are Brett and Yvonne Johnson and the great-grandfather is **J. L. Johnson**. **Billy Fortson** was given the R. O. Arnold award by the Covington-Newton Chamber of Commerce for his service in the community.

**Hospital Visitor:**  
Louly Hay

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### King Day Celebration

Today at 3:00 p.m., the community will gather for the annual King Day Celebration. It will be held at the new Newton High School auditorium on Crowell Road.



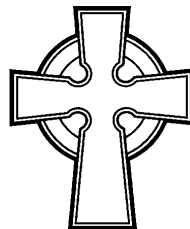
### Parenting Workshops

Parenting is one of the most important roles that many of us will take on in life. While it can be both exciting and terrifying at the same time, there is much that we can do to improve the outcome of our efforts. Join us for a series of workshops led by the Rev. Melanie Stanley-Soulen, LPC, staff counselor with the Care & Counseling Centers of Georgia.

- Sunday, January 25, at 5:00-7:00 pm. Dinner and childcare provided

Please let us know that you are coming and how many (and what ages) children you will be bringing so that we can plan our meals and childcare accordingly. E-mail [info@fpccov.org](mailto:info@fpccov.org) or call Dan Walden at 770-786-7321

The Oxford Singers will be singing at worship next Sunday, January 25.



### This Week at FPC

#### Sunday, January 18

9:00 Handbell Choir  
9:30 Children's Choir  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
3:00 MLK Day service

#### Monday, January 10

Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday  
The church office will be closed

#### Tuesday, January 20

4:00 Exercise class  
5:00 Session Meeting

#### Wednesday, January 21

4:00 Adventure Club  
6:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, January 22

10:30 Ambassador Choir

#### Sunday, January 25

9:00 Handbell Choir  
9:30 Children's Choir  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship with the Oxford Singers  
5:00 Parenting Workshop

## 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 one of the pastors as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

### E-mail addresses:

Pastor, Billy Wade: [wbwade@bellsouth.net](mailto:wbwade@bellsouth.net)

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

Church Office: [penihaug@att.net](mailto:penihaug@att.net)

Website: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org)

Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street, SW  
Covington, Georgia 30014-2314



## Food Pantry Needs

Bring donations to the church or drop them off at the Community Food Pantry from 9:00-12:00 Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday. Call (770) 784-0037 for directions.

### Special requests for January

soups, chili, chicken & dumplings,  
spaghetti sauce

## THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

**Nursery Volunteers today**  
Baxter and Lisa Bouchillon and Family

**Next Week:**  
Shawn & Aubrey Evans Family

**Ushers**  
Ardis Family

**Sound Engineer:**  
Ken Walker

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 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  
Adrian Ivey  
Michael Thompson  
Danny Vining  
Jean Wolverton

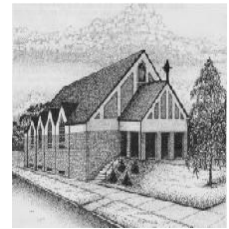
## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr. <i>Pastor</i>	Alice Walker <i>CAGO, AAGO</i>	
Louly Fowler Hay <i>Parish Associate</i>	<i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>	
Dan Walden <i>Director of Youth and Children's Ministry</i>	<i>Nursery</i>	
Peni Haug <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	<i>Director of the Early Learning Center</i>	
Alan Bunn <i>Music Director</i>		



## Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2015



### Order of Worship

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### PRELUDE

*Come, Christian Folk* J. S. Bach  
*The Lord's My Shepherd* Robert J. Powell  
*Trumpet Tune on BREWER* David Ashley White

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### INTROIT

*Come, O Holy Spirit, Come* WA WA EMIMIMO  
*Sanctuary Choir*

### ✠CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 133

Behold how good and pleasant it is when sisters and brothers dwell in unity!

**It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!**

It is like the dew of Mt. Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life for evermore.

### ✠HYMN 307

CWM RHONDDA

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Dear God, we have failed to hear you speak to us. We have not noticed your being with us; nor seen how much your people need our love and care. We have walked right past people who are hurting, thinking only of ourselves and our own problems. We have been more ready to fight than to love; more ready to keep what we have than to share; more ready to believe the worst than to imagine the best. We have not seen the face of Christ in our neighbors. Forgive us, and help us to be more nearly the people you want us to be, for we pray in Jesus' name.**