

**First Presbyterian Church**  
1169 Clark Street, SW  
Covington, GA 30014

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See our website at: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org)

The deadline for the February "First Press" is January 15, 2016. Please submit your articles and information to the church office by email: [penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com) or by dropping off your copy to the church office, neatly printed or typed or on a flash drive. Thanks!

## January Birthdays

- 1 Hilda Patrick  
Laura Hillman
- 2 Rick Gunter
- 3 Barbara Martin
- 5 Janet Burtt  
Buster Skinner
- 6 Julia Brubaker
- 8 Betty Goins
- 9 Brenda Howell  
Brad LeSassier
- 10 Betty Robinson
- 11 Paige Boston

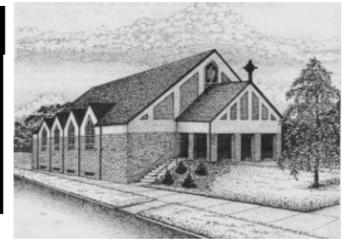


- 11 Anne Cranford  
Lynda Patrick  
Alex Jones
- 12 Gene Wallace
- 15 Susan Crowell
- 17 Michael Duttweiler
- 18 Becky Wade
- 23 Agnes Campbell  
Dylan Jessup
- 24 Nina Giles
- 25 Liz Stillerman
- 31 Ansley Skinner

If your birthday has not appeared on our monthly list, please notify us of the **full date** and we will add it to our data base so that when your next birthday rolls around, we will be able to help you celebrate!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, COVINGTON JANUARY 2017

# FIRST PRESS



As January arrives most of us have moved on from Christmas, having taken down the tree and put away the decorations. We've moved on into a new year, rung out the old, rung in the new. Yet, those who pay attention to the Church calendar are aware that much of the Church celebrates 12 days of Christmas, ending on January 6, Epiphany.

It's a strange word, "epiphany". It means "to show", "to reveal", "to bring to light". We speak of "having an epiphany", when something dawns upon us and we "see" in a new way. Sometimes it might seem instantaneous, but most often, I think, it happens over some time, gradual, like the coming of the dawn itself.

When the Church speaks of Epiphany, it points to the story of the Wise Men or Magi. The idea of "coming to light" reminds us of the star over Bethlehem and the revelation of the Christ, the Light of the World. Matthew's gospel tells us that some wise men came from the East. It must have taken them some time to arrive finally in Bethlehem, having gone by way of Jerusalem, searching for a king there in the palace. Celebrating their arrival 12 days later then, is hardly a stretch.

Thus, the season of Christmas ends and the season of Epiphany begins. During the season of Epiphany we celebrate the dawning of the Light for people who've walked in darkness. We keep our eyes and ears open for the ways Christ is revealed to us, and we help spread the good news to all corners of the world.

*Billy Wade*

## Fellowship Hall Renovation

Our Capital Campaign facility improvements continue this month in the Fellowship Hall where the stage is being removed and new flooring will be installed. **All meetings or events scheduled for this space will be relocated until further notice.** Contact the church office with your questions about facility use and availability.

**Oxford Youth Singers**  
**Sunday, January 22nd**  
**@ 11:00 a.m.**



We welcome the worship leadership this Sunday of the Oxford Youth Singers from the Newton County Arts Association. The **Oxford Youth Singers** is an advanced choir for students in 8th through 12th grades from 50 different schools and 8 surrounding counties. Several of the singers in this group are members of FPC.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr.  
Pastor  
[wbwade75@gmail.com](mailto:wbwade75@gmail.com)

Dan Walden  
Director of Youth and  
Children's Ministry  
[djwalden@mac.com](mailto:djwalden@mac.com)

Peni Kehoe  
Secretary-Treasurer  
[penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com)

Alan Bunn  
Choir Director  
[abunn@jackson.k12.ga.us](mailto:abunn@jackson.k12.ga.us)

Alice Walker  
Organist  
[awalker.organist@gmail.com](mailto:awalker.organist@gmail.com)

Aubrey Evans  
Shaun Evans  
Nursery

Kara Sugg  
Director  
Early Learning Center  
[fpelcdirector@gmail.com](mailto:fpelcdirector@gmail.com)



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**(770)786-7321**  
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# SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

The **Session** will meet on Sunday, **January 15**, in the fellowship hall, immediately after the morning worship service. Note the change in date.



## Weekly E-newsletter:

If you are not receiving the FPC weekly E-News, send your e-mail address to: info@fpccov.org or call the church office.

## Monthly Financial Report

Pledge arrears for 2016 (-1,753.)

2016 November Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/Expenses	YTD Income/Expenses
Pledged Income	30,420	34,554	332,869
Non-Pledge Income	3,083	3,010	46,867
Other Income	625	40	4,280
Total income	34,128	37,604	384,015
Expenses	35,498	31,027	380,377
<b>Net Totals</b> 11/30/2016	(-1,369)	6,577	3,638

## December 2016 Session Highlights

- ♦ Approved: Newly elected elders for 2017 were examined and received. Ordination for new elders scheduled for January 8.
- ♦ Michael Thompson and Billy Wade reported on Presbytery of Greater Atlanta meeting held on November 15.
- ♦ Approved: Presbyterian Women will lead worship on March 12, with speaker Dr. Leanne Van Dyk, President of Columbia Theological Seminary.
- ♦ Renovations are beginning on the fellowship hall.
- ♦ Approved: Annual budget for 2017 accepted, with an increase in salaries for staff.
- ♦ The Red Cross Blood Drive in December resulted in donations of 31 pints of blood.
- ♦ Approved: There will be a Congregational meeting on January 8, to approve pastor's terms of call and share 2017 budget

Next Session meeting will be January 15, after worship.

Michael Thompson, Clerk of Session



**If you move or change phone numbers, email address, etc. please let us know!**

## SERVING US IN JANUARY 2017

**January Usher Chair:**  
Scarlett McCurry

**Sound Engineer:** Ken Walker

### Hospital Visitors:

1/1 Jean Wolverton  
1/8 Stephanie Fortson  
1/15 Bob & Darcel Tabb  
1/22 Cy Wolverton  
1/29 Day Kennon

If unable to serve, please get a sub for your duties

## MEMBERS OF SESSION

**Class of 2017**  
Baxter Bouchillon  
Adriane Ivey  
Michael Thompson  
Danny Vining  
Jean Wolverton  
Jake McCarthy  
Koen Ardis

**Class of 2018**  
Gary Boteler  
Billy Fortson  
Scarlett McCurry  
Stephanie Scarborough  
Tom Stillerman

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	2	3 Pres. Women's Circle Meetings 10:00 Elizabeth 10:30 Martha 4:00 Exercise	4 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	5 10:30 Ambassador Choir	6  EPIPHANY	7
8 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Installation of Elders 5:00 Youth Connection	9	10 10:30 Bible Study 4:00 Exercise 7:00 Ruth Circle	11 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	12 10:30 Ambassador Choir	13	14
15 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Session Meeting 3:00 MLK Celebration	16 Office Closed  Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17 2:00 PWCT 4:00 Exercise	18 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	19 10:30 Ambassador Choir	20	21
22 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service Oxford Youth Singers 5:00 Youth Connection	23	24 4:00 Exercise	25 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	26	27	28 8:00 Men's Breakfast & Study 
29 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 6:00 Parents & Youth Meeting	30	31 4:00 Exercise	February 1 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	February 2	February 3	February 4

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## RECIPES FROM THE NOVEMBER BRUNCH

Cheryl Meichsner's casserole was very successful at the Thanksgiving brunch. Many people asked for the recipe.

### Blueberry French Toast Casserole

- 12 slices dry white bread, cut into 1/2-inch cubes (about 8 cups)
- 1 8-ounce packages cream cheese, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
- 12 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup maple syrup



#### \*Topping:

- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
- 1 tablespoon butter

1. Place half of the bread cubes over the bottom of lightly greased 9x13 inch baking dish. Sprinkle cream cheese and then blueberries over bread cubes. Arrange remaining bread cubes over blueberries.
2. In a large mixing bowl beat eggs with a rotary beater; beat in milk, vanilla and the 1/3 cup syrup. Carefully pour egg mixture over the bread mixture. Cover dish with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight.
3. Remove the bread cube mixture from the refrigerator about 30 minutes before baking. Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees. Remove plastic wrap and cover dish with foil. Bake for 25 min.
4. Uncover and continue baking for about 25 minutes more until center is firm and surface is lightly browned and puffed. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.
5. In a medium saucepan, mix the sugar, cornstarch, and water. Bring to a boil. Stirring constantly, cook 3 to 4 minutes. Mix in the remaining 1 cup blueberries. Reduce heat, and simmer 10 minutes, until the blueberries burst. Stir in the butter, and pour topping over the baked French toast.

\* or use one can of blueberry pie filling

## Recipe of the Month: EGG SAUSAGE CASSEROLE

- 6 slices white bread, trimmed and cubed
- 6 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 c. sharp Cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 lb. precooked small sausage links
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 2 c. white milk
- Salt & pepper to taste.



Butter casserole or Pyrex dish heavily. Line with bread cubes. Mix all other ingredients; pour over cubes, cover tightly and let stand overnight in refrigerator. Bake 350 degrees for 30-45 minutes. Serves 6-8

Submitted by Carol McGiboney

## Community Food Pantry

You may bring food donations to the church or drop them off at the Community Food Pantry from 9:00-11:30 Wednesday and Friday, except for holidays. Call (770) 784-0037 for directions. Any non-perishable food items are welcome.

For **January** it is suggested that donations be: soups, chili, chicken dumplings, spaghetti sauce



## NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION



### Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team

The PWCT holds its next meeting on January 17, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the FPC Conference room.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### An Open Invitation from Our Circles:

Here's an invitation to women of our church to consider becoming a part of Presbyterian Women (PW) at First Presbyterian Church, Covington. The next meetings will be February 3, 2017.

There are three Circles that meet on the first Tuesday of each month:

The **Elizabeth Circle** meets at 10:00 a.m. at FPC in the fellowship hall.

The **Martha Circle** meets at 10:30 a.m. in a home to be announced in the newsletter.

The **Ruth Circle** meets 7:00 p.m. at a place to be announced.

### Camp Calvin Presbyterian Women Retreat



At Camp Calvin on February 17-18, 2017, attendees will have a choice of staying overnight Friday through Saturday or just going for the day on Saturday. You'll have a spiritually and socially uplifting experience at a peaceful location, a choice of interesting workshops, fellowship and delicious food. Now, add fun and delectable meals to all this, and one cannot desire more!

Janet Carmichael, Moderator  
770-728-9207

### Men's Bible Study and Breakfast

The Men's Bible Study this month will be on Saturday morning, **January 28, at 8:00 a.m.** in the fellowship hall. The group will be reviewing questions that have grown out of their studies. Bring your breakfast and a friend!



### Women's Winter Bible Study

A three-week Bible Study for all women in the church, their relatives, and friends will be offered during January 2017. The book for study is "The Lord's Prayer for Today" by William J. Carl, III, PCUSA minister.

Dates of the studies will be:

Tuesday, January 10

Tuesday, January 17

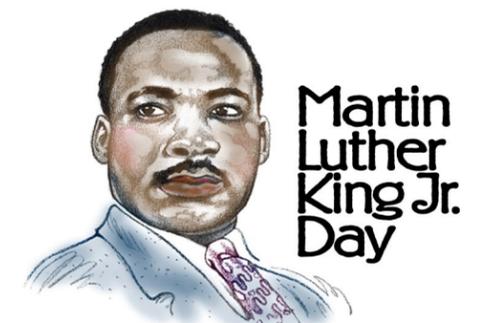
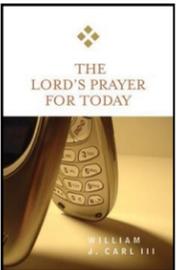
Tuesday, January 24

Time will be 10:30 -11:30 a.m.

**January 10**, at the home of Alice Walker (8214 Wood Street, Covington, GA 30013, 770-787-6915), **January 17**, at the home of Day Kennon (4102 Conyers Street, 30014, 770-786-0443), **January 24**, in the fellowship hall, hosted by Barbara Martin (770-788-0844).

Study Books are complimentary for all who wish to participate. The books are in the church office and in the narthex of the church. Please sign the sign-up sheet to let us know how many people to expect. Come and enjoy this short-term Winter Bible study in a relaxing format and get to meet some more Presbyterian Women! For more details call Alice Walker, Day Kennon, or Barbara Martin.

Alice Walker, Leader District Five,  
Presbytery Presbyterian Women



### Annual Celebration

The Annual Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day will be held on **Sunday, January 15, 2017** at 3:00 p.m. Billy Wade will be participating as one of the leaders and Doug Hicks will give the message. The ceremony takes place at the Newton County High School Auditorium.



**Parents & Youth Dinner**  
**Sunday, January 29th @ 6:00pm**

**YOUTH CONNECTION:** Parents and youth (6th through 12th grades) are invited to come together for dinner followed by some discussion about our plans and our mission together. *Bring your calendar !!*

**\*\* Early Learning Center News \*\***

Dear FPC Family,

We are excited to begin a new year! This year began with a teacher work day where we worked on how to practically implement a new program in our preschool. It is called Read Right from the Start. This program teaches students at a preschool age the skills necessary to read and comprehend on a greater level by third grade. We will be teaching higher level vocabulary through sophisticated children's storybooks, we will be actively using the vocabulary in every aspect of our day in centers and outside play, and we will be helping the students learn to find information in text tools like Table of Contents, Glossaries, and informational texts. The students will be writing each and every day to help them learn concepts of print such as learning to write left-to-right and top-to-bottom. This starts out as scribbles and then turns into something legible. They will learn that there are different types of writing such as writing messages, labeling their picture, or making lists. I'm very excited to start this program this semester. Our teachers have done training on the program since September through course work online. If you would like to read about it, you can go to [www.readrightfromthestart.org](http://www.readrightfromthestart.org).

In January, along with our new program, the students will be learning about Dinosaurs. The students will learn about various dinosaurs and how they lived. The Bible verse for the month is from *Genesis 1:21*, "So God created every living creature. And God saw that it was good." I'm sure that we will have lots of "roaring" fun in preschool this month!

Our Christmas program at the beginning of December helped set the mood for our month of learning about the reason for the season. The children were such a delight singing their songs, and I hope that their parents enjoyed the program as much as I did. We continued throughout December learning about the birth of baby Jesus.

We had Pajama Day, Movie Day, and of course, Christmas celebrations in our classrooms. The students were excited to give their parents the gifts they had prepared for them. I love the look in their faces as they present their gifts to their parents. It is such a blessing to get to work with these children each day!

January kicks off Art Affair as well. We are in full swing for our event on March 24 at 6:30 p.m. We will have the next meeting on January 9 at 6:30 p.m. We are working diligently on getting donations from local and metro vendors. We are thinking big, dreaming big, and praying that it becomes a reality. We are checking with metro vendors such as Zoo Atlanta (Family Pass \$119), The World of Coca Cola (Adult Tickets \$16, Youth Tickets \$12), The Aquarium (Adult Ticket \$31.95, Youth Ticket \$25.95), and the like. This is such a crucial fundraiser for our school; in large part the success of our school depends upon the success of this event. Please let me know if you are interested or able to help us obtain any individual or family tickets to these attractions or any others. We are also accepting donations of old and new wooden items such as stools, benches, shelves, book cases, boxes, etc. to refinish with the children. We are also in desperate need of supplies such as various size canvasses, acrylic paint, paint brushes, and monetary donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

I pray that your new year was happy, and as always, I thank you for your generous support of the ELC.

Blessings,

Kara



**AMBASSADOR CHOIR CALENDAR**

Rehearsals will be at 10:30 a.m. on the following Thursdays: 1/5, 1/12, 1/19. There will be no rehearsals for the rest of January due to Alice's surgery on 1/23. Rehearsals will resume in February every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. to prepare to sing for Sunday worship 3/5 and 4/2.



Alice Walker, Director, Ambassador Choir, 770-787-6915



**Baby Love**

"Baby Love" is a local project of the Witness Team started in the fall of 2014. Baby Love supplies diapers for distribution to families in need through the Salvation Army, Food Pantry and the homeless shelter. Donations of baby diapers can be placed in the cradle located in the narthex. Monetary gifts may be placed in an offering envelope with your name and your offering statement will reflect your donation. Your support is greatly appreciated.



**Dear Friends,**

The staff of FPC gives thanks for those very generous people who contributed to the staff love gifts and other special gifts and goodies. Your support of our ministries touches our hearts!

*Billy, Dan, Alan, Alice, Peni, Aubrey and Shaun*



**DID YOU KNOW**

January 5, 1956, the Session Moderator was Rev. E.P. Nichols. His wife and daughter, Linda, united by letter from First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, LA.

January 18, 1953 the Session received a report from the Church Treasurer that he had received a \$3000 check from the estate of Mrs. Trox Bankston as a building fund for the church. (Trox Bankston was a former owner/publisher of the Covington News. He was not a Presbyterian but a Baptist, but his wife must have been a member of Covington Presbyterian Church as her name appears several times in the Session Minutes.)

January 30, 1954 The Session appointed a committee to meet with a committee from the Deacons to discuss a building fund. The Rev. Marshall Dendy was Session Moderator.