First Press

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
COVINGTON, GA

A Look Back : Gathering and Graduating

Far right: Neeley graduated from Leadership Newton County, a program based on the idea that well-informed citizens make the best leaders!

Right: For Leadership Newton "bring your boss to class" day, Clerk of Session John McCarthy and Head of Personnel Billy Fortson joined Neeley for lunch.

Left: We had a great time at campfire church! The Worship team and the Faith and Fellowship team would like to thank Jennifer Fogarty, Bill Clary, Stan and Dana Hall, Bob and Darcel Tabb, Jim and Pam Stillerman, Dan and Peri Walden, Robert Lane, and Judy Hooten. for all their hard work at campfire church.

Below: The Singing Ambassadors Choir started back in May! This choir is a collaboration between FPC and First United Methodist Church, directed by Alice Walker and Becky Ramsey.

Above: We had a blast this month as we gathered around the table to feed our bodies and souls at Soul Feast! We were so glad to share our Wednesday nights with everyone in person again.

Left: FPC had a table at this year's YMCA Cheerios Challenge! Thanks to everyone who came out to help and way to go for everyone who ran.

Right: On May 15th we honored our high school graduates during worship! Once again, congratulations to Laurel Ardis, Gavin Bates (not pictured), Noah Hicks, and Raleigh Loftin!

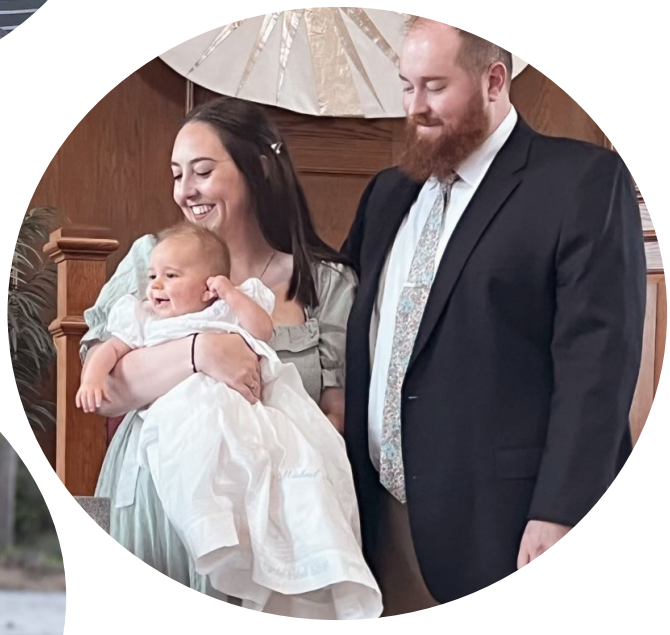
New Member Highlights

As we come to the midpoint of the year we want to highlight new members of FPC.

Take a glance at some of the new friendly faces you may have seen around!

Left: Kraig and Nicole Howell and their daughter became members of FPC at the March Session Meeting. Pictured here arriving at campfire church.

Below: Kayla Dobbs joined at the April Session Meeting. Pictured here with her husband and longtime church member, Luke at their son's baptism in February.



Above: Mary Catherine and Adrian Whisnant became members of FPC at the April Session Meeting along with their four children. Pictured here is the family of six for a portrait.

Right: As pictured, Cotton Young was Confirmed in Worship on May 8th. We are proud to have him with us as he has made this commitment!

Messages from FPC

You are cordially invited to worship on Sunday, June 12 at 12:00pm, for the grand occasion of the Installation of the Reverend Erin Morgan as Associate Pastor of Covington First Presbyterian Church. We will hold a reception following worship in the narthex.

Get to Know Pastor Erin

How do you describe yourself?

I'm a child of God, a daughter, mother, sister, aunt, and friend. I'm a people person who rarely meets a stranger. I can be goofy at times and serious at other times. I'm a big Clemson fan!

What are three character traits that describe you?

Determined, compassionate, loyal.

What is at the core of your call to ministry?

My love of God and sharing that love with others. Relationship building, pastoral care, teaching, and mission.

Who are some of your favorite books/authors?

Books - Where the Crawdads Sing, House Rules
Authors - Henri Nouwen, Jill Duffield, Jodi Picoult

What aspect of ministry brings you the most joy?

Baptisms and pastoral care. Baptisms are holy ground…being able to pour the baptismal water and say, "You are a beloved child of God, claimed and chosen" is a tremendous, holy gift from God. Being able to sit with people in their joys and sorrows is such a tremendous honor.

Finish the sentence:
On Sunday morning you can usually find me…

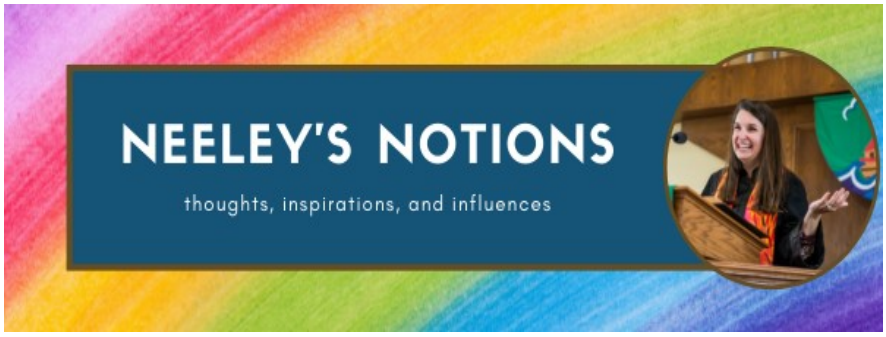
Running around like a chicken with its head cut off. Making sure I have chapstick and tissues at the ready. Putting the final touches on a sermon.

What are you happiest doing when you are not working?

Spending time with my family in our backyard, singing and dancing.

My childhood minister says that if he had to pick one word that described the Bible he would say "Surprise!"

Life is full of surprises and our faith journey is no different. Throughout the biblical story, God is showing up in places, faces and situations with an element of surprise that invites us to enter the story with curiosity, openness, and wonder.



Thanks be to God for people who meet us on our journey, touch our hearts, and give us strength to change our ways. Who in your life has changed you for the better? Who has helped open your eyes to God's love and been influential in your faith formation? I invite you to spend a moment reflecting on how you have changed this past year. How have you grown? What have you learned or unlearned? How is God removing the scales from your eyes and revealing God's self to you?

Neeley's Notions is an email offering that gives Neeley the chance to start a conversation about the inspirations and influences she thinks about while writing her weekly sermon.

Exciting Sundays Ahead

On September 25th, we will commemorate the rich history of the Presbyterian Church with origins deeply rooted in the Church of Scotland. Our worship service will open with a processional of bagpipes and field drum, combined with our beautiful pipe organ, to the magnificent tune "Highland Cathedral". As part of the service, we will present and bless the tartans.

Over the course of the next six weeks, you have the opportunity to purchase a tartan in your family name (ancient or modern). A member of your family will get to participate in the processional, carrying your family tartan, and will then be a part of the presentation and blessing, as well as the recessional at the conclusion of the service. Tartans can also be purchased for any branch of the military, as well as the United States Tartan. The St. Andrews Cross flag is also part of the service.

Please contact Alicia Taylor at alicia@fpccov.org or 770-656-6848 for pricing, questions, and to order a tartan. She'll need the tartan family name, the name of the individual ordering the tartan, phone number, and email address, as well as whether you will be paying by cash or check.

An Extra Connection to FPC Covington!

The Saint Andrews Society of Washington, D.C. held the first Kirkin' during the early years of World War II. Former pastor of FPC Covington, Dr. Peter Marshall, an eloquent Scot, and then Chaplain of the U.S. Senate, led the service in 1943, choosing "Kirkin' o' the Tartan" for the title of his sermon. His sermons were so popular that a request was made for their publication, with the proceeds designated for war relief programs. As the war continued, the D.C. Saint Andrews Society continued to hold prayer services for the British subjects. These became known as Kirkin's.

Mission Opportunities

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, June 30th 11:00am - 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Volunteer

Attention all possible volunteers, First Presbyterian is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive and we are looking for volunteers to assist with donor check-in (minimum computer skills needed) and volunteers to assist donors after they have completed their donation. Volunteers will also help with giving out cookies and juice/ drinks to the donors. Contact Curtis Watson at 404-550-1212 or wats1818@bellsouth.net to volunteer.

Donate

Get ready to roll up your sleeve, lay back and take it easy for about 30 minutes and then get cookies for your effort. Can you believe it cookies for taking it easy. Yes indeed, First Presbyterian is hosting a American Red Cross Blood Drive and everyone is welcome. This is a critical time for the need of blood donations. Please go to the American Red Cross website and look up our event and sign up for a spot that best works for you. However, "walk in's" are welcome and anyone who comes to the event will be given the chance to donate. Anyone that gives a donation or tries to give a donation will be welcome at the cookie and juice table (really good cookies). Please put June 30th on your calendar and come visit with some of your church members working the event.

Newton Trails and FPC!

We are called to be stewards of creation! We have "Adopted-A-Spot" on Newton Trails! FPC and YMCA will clean up a section of the trail between Conyers Street and the Covington Bypass. We start at 10:00am and the scheduled dates for the remainder of the year are as follows:

June 7th September 6th December 6th

For more information contact John McCarthy.

Covington Rotary is partnering with Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) and Piedmont Newton Hospital to reclaim donated Home Medical Equipment (HME's) that can be restored for use by those in need. Items will be collected and transported to FODAC as needed for restoration. Restored items will be distributed to individuals (at no cost) with poor or no insurance by staff at Piedmont Newton in coordination with Covington Rotary Club.

Call Doug Bolton (678-858-2080) to collect items.

HME Items needed:

- Power wheel chairs
- Potty chairs
- Canes
- Rollators
- Manual wheel chairs
- Shower chairs
- Pediatric equipment
- Patient lifts; electric and semi-electric
- Scooters
- Hospital beds; electric and semi-electric
- Walkers

A reminder to everyone, First Presbyterian is responsible for delivery and distribution of the Meals on Wheels for the Covington High Rise on the last Saturday of each month. The next delivery will be on June 25th. It only takes about an hour (9:30 to 10:30 AM) of your Saturday morning. There will not be a delivery in July. Anyone who would like to help in this important and *gratifying* program should contact Curtis Watson at wats1818@bellsouth.net at or 404-550-1212.

Gathering in Fellowship

LIVING WATERS FOR THE WORLD

Where: First Presbyterian Church Covington
When: June 1-3, 9 am-12 pm

Women On-The-Go Monthly Book Study

2nd Wednesday of the Month
5:45pm - 7:15pm @ the Church
Brene Brown's *Daring Greatly!*
June 13 chap 8 and 9
Childcare Provided

Presbyterian Women's Circle

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to build an inclusive, caring Community of Women in the Presbyterian Church.

1. The PW Circle represents the Church from which the trio of women emerge.
2. The uplifted arms of the central figure reach out for justice and peace.
3. The right figure holds a book to guide her reading, praying and meditating.
4. The left figure reaches out to care for others as she shares, nurtures and heals.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team would also like to announce their new officers, who were voted in on May 3rd:

Co-Moderators:

Dana Hall

Julie Mackenzie

Secretary:

Rachel Mason

Treasurer:

Pat Harper

WE WANT TO SEE YOU!

Show us how you worship, inside or outside of FPC

Send us photos and tell us about how you worship at home, in the community, or wherever you find yourself thanking God for the moment, and you might be featured in a newsletter or on social media!

Email your pictures to catherine@fpccov.org

FPC YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY PRESENTS

BELIEF AND — BEER —

DRINKS AND DISCUSSION
JUNE 30TH | JULY 14TH
5:30PM @ SOCIAL GOAT TAVERN
CHILDCARE PROVIDED

Outside the Sanctuary

FPC Choirs to Sing at Salem Camp Meeting

July 15 - 22, 2022

The 2022 Salem Camp Meeting will be July 15 - 22, 2022. Camp Meetings have been held every year at this location since 1828, except for a couple of years during the Civil War. Thousand of lives have been changed by the dynamic preaching, the heartfelt singing, and the fellowship of Christians from across the country. Worship services are at 11:00 AM and 7:30 PM.

Monday, July 18	11:00am Service	Ambassador Choir
Monday, July 18	7:30pm Service	FPC Chancel Choir
Thursday, July 21	11:00am Service	Quartet of FPC Singers
Thursday, July 21	11:00am Service	Dan and Perri Walden

Becky Ramsey and Alice Walker will play duo pianos for the services. Tom Roberts will be the Platform Director. Preachers will be Bishop Larry Goodpastor and The Rev. Will Dyer.

A delicious complimentary meal at the Salem Hotel will be provided for all persons from First Presbyterian Church who attend services at the Campground.

To make meal reservations, email keri@salemcampmeeting.org or call the Campground at 770-786-6841. Be sure to tell Hotel Manager Keri Marrett that you are the guest of Alice and Ken Walker. Reservations should be made three days prior to the meal.

Salem Campground is located at 3940 Salem Road, Covington, GA 30016.

The Presbyterian Association of Musicians' 2022 Worship & Music Conference at Montreat

Church members who reserved their place with us back in March and some of our FPC staff will be enjoying daily worship, evening concerts, and the beauty of God's nature on Black Mountain June 19th to 25th!

PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE
ATHENS

On July 10th, Neeley will be preaching at Presbyterian Village Athens, a retirement community in Oconee County.

Helping Now and Later

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
COVINGTON, GEORGIA

ENDOWMENT FUND

First Presbyterian Church Covington was blessed enough to receive an endowment from the estate of Margaret Stephenson in 2018. Over the past four years we have set up an Endowment Fund account, committee, and policy which will guide us through the growth and use of the endowment.

The endowment was split into three programs: the Facilities Endowment Fund, the Ministries Endowment Fund, and the Mission and Benevolence Endowment Fund. These will pay for different special projects that will help the Church prosper for years to come.

Now that the Endowment Fund has been established, it can receive small contributions in addition to large. This means that the door has been opened for anyone to contribute. Over time it is the generosity of smaller donations that really build not only the Endowment Fund, but the sense of fellowship that we love at First Presbyterian Church Covington.

You are invited to **"Text to Give"** your offering. Text FPCCOV followed by the amount to 73256

Or scan the QR code to give online.

CPR CERTIFICATION CLASS

Wednesday, June 15th
9:00am at FPC
$35/person
Instructed by a First Responder

RSVP to Catherine,
catherine@fpccov.org
by June 10th

Give-A-Bell Program

For the continued growth of our Carillon Bell Choir, we need more handbells! We are incredibly blessed as a church to have the original gift of three octaves of handbells, and now we need to add a fourth. Our Give-A-Bell fundraising effort provides an opportunity for all in our congregation to "gift" a handbell to the music ministry, allowing us to add five additional ringers! You may give a bell in honor or in memory of a loved one. The price of each individual bell in the fourth octave is listed below:

G3 - $1,030 A3 - $990 B3 - $850 D7 - $260 E7 - $260 F#7 - $260
G#3 - $1,030 A#3 - $990 C#7 - $260 D#7 - $260 F7 - $260 G7 - $260

Additional needs:
tables ($300), table foam ($75), foam covers ($30),
table coverings ($150), acrylic risers ($60), and music folders ($12).

Please contact Alicia Taylor at alicia@fpccov.org or 770-656-6848 with any questions.

May Session Highlights

- Session approved a proposal from the ELC Task Force to start-up a "Play Café" in the fall. This program would be open for 0 – 6 month old children. It would be open two days a week for 4 hours each day. This is phase 1 of their plan. The hope is that in the following year to expand it to 12 – 24 month children.
- Session members approved a newly created policy for the usage of the church credit card. Peni Kehoe, FPC treasurer, will audit the purchases/card usage weekly.
- Session approved a congregational meeting on August 7th, 2022 to elect an elder replacing Brad Phillips, as well as a slate of elders and deacons for the 2023 through 2025 term.

Monthly Financial Report

2022 April	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/Expenses	YTD Income/Expenses
Pledged Income	30,414	22,415	109,606
Non-Pledge Income	3,167	4,201	19,512
Other Income	4,249	3,215	3,288
Total Income	37,831	29,831	132,407
Expenses	34,028	39,436	149,865
Net Totals	3,803	-9,605	-17,458

Mission Statement

Covington First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community existing to glorify God by welcoming all of God's children. We celebrate through serving, teaching, praying, eating, crying, singing, and dancing with the Holy Spirit. As works in progress, we seek to respond to God's presence in our church, lives, and community.

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	*Senior Pastor*	
Erin Morgan	*Associate Pastor*	*Caring for Our Children in the Nursery*
Alicia Taylor	*Director of Music & Worship Arts*	Danielle Schubert
Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO *Organist/Ambassador Choir*	Beverley Beasley
Catherine Laseter	*Director of Communications & Operations*	Kennedy Lynn
Peni Kehoe	*Finance Administrator*	

Usher Chair

June 2022
Stephanie Scarborough
July 2022
Bob Tabb

Deacons

Day Kennon (2022)
Eleanor Scarborough (2023)
Darcel Tabb (2024)
Alice Walker (2022)

Session

Class of 2022
Aubrey Evans
John McCarthy
Stephanie Scarborough
Trista Hooten Wilson
Class of 2023
Stan Hall
Louly Hay Kapp
Ed Perkerson
Bob Tabb
Class of 2024
Billy Fortson
Pat Harper
Curtis Watson

Phone Extensions

Our office phone extensions have changed! New extensions are listed below.

Office Phone: 770.786.7321
Neeley Rentz Lane: 1013
Erin Morgan: 1012
Catherine Laseter: 1010
Alicia Taylor: 1017
Peni Kehoe: 1011

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

Time Sensitive Church News

Please Do Not Delay

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA

June Birthdays!

Huddy Roberts 2
Stan Hall 3
Debra Arnold 8
Natalie Phillips 8
Kevin Bates 13
Wolf Waetzig 15
Alan Bunn 16
Kately Lane 21
Cotton Young 22
Charlie Gwin 25
Day Kennon 26
Trista Hooten-Wilson 29

July Birthdays!

Larkin Arnold 1
Lane Dobbs 5
Travis Moss 7
Donna Weesner 7
Shaun Evans 8
Cheryl Meichsner 8
Julie Mackenzie 9
Perri Walden 9
Kora Howell 10
Stephen McCarthy 11
Judy Hooten 13
Raleigh Loftin 14
Nathanael Ardis 16
Lori Ardis 18
Theodosia Wade 18
Gavin Bates 19
Larry Kennon 21
Jon Paschal 22
Penny Blakeney 23
Steven Schubert 23
Steve Kapp 26
Rita Tingler 26
Louly Kapp 28
Jon Williams 28
Mary Lindsey Whisnant 28

WORSHIP WITH US
11:00AM SUNDAYS
OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

fpccov.org 770-786-7321

Facebook.com /fpccov

Instagram @fpccov