

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, March 15 - Lent 3
 9:00 Handbell Choir
 10:00 Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 Youth Lunch at Your Pie

Tuesday, March 17
 4:00 Exercise Class

Wednesday, March 18
 6:45 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 19
 10:30 Ambassador Choir

Sunday, March 22 - Lent 4
 9:00 Handbell Choir
 10:00 Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service

Sunday School Offerings

Sunday School for Children Pre-K through 5th grade; taught by Dan and Perri Walden. Meets in the Blue classroom in the ELC.

Youth Sunday School, for grades 6 through 12, meets at Bread and Butter with Pam and Jim Stillerman and Kimmy Briggs (breakfast provided)

Adult Sunday School will be taught by Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane! Spiritual disciplines allow us to intentionally dive deeper into our relationship with God. You are invited to gather around the table as we discover these practices as guiding tools in our faith formation this Lent. Sunday school meets in Room #1 at 10am. Invite a friend!

March 15: Simplicity; **March 22:** Storytelling;
March 29: Stewardship; **April 5:** Sabbath

Pastoral Care Round Table March 23, 2020 at Noon

Calling all hospital visitors and members discerning gifts of pastoral care: We would like to gather around table to brainstorm the pastoral care ministry of our congregation. Neeley will be facilitating our visioning as we seek to provide care for the pastoral needs of our church. Bring a lunch and join us! Location: FPC Conference Room.

Young Adult Social Wednesday, March 25, at 6:30pm



Join us at Your Pie (on the square) at 6:30pm for Trivia Night. Invite a friend! Childcare is available upon request. Please RSVP for childcare by Sunday, March 22.

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 coffee together and discuss what it means to become a member.

By email: neeley@fpccov.org; By phone: 770-786-7321, ext. 2

Novel Bunch Book Club March 24, at 1pm, at the home of Larry and Day Kennon to discuss "Songs of America: Patriotism, Protest and the Music that Made a Nation" by Jon Meacham and Tim McGraw. All are welcome.

**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 a pastor as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

Staff E-mail Addresses:

The Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane: neeley@fpccov.org
 The Rev. Kimmy Briggs: kimmy@fpccov.org
 Church Office/Peni Kehoe: admin@fpccov.org

E-news announcements go to: kimmy@fpccov.org

Website: www.fpccov.org
 Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street, SW
 Covington, Georgia 30014

You may read or listen to recent sermons by visiting our website (www.fpccov.org) and clicking on "Media."

**Montreat Retreat
 November 6-8, 2020
 For babies—Centenarians!**

**Save the Date! More information to follow.
 Would you like to help plan? Call or email
 Neeley—see above for email address.**



 **Food Pantry Needs**

The Food Pantry is open on **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 9:00 - 12:00. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome. Suggested donations **March:** canned vegetables

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Liturgist: Terri Digby	Sound Engineer: Ken Walker
March Usher Chair: Trista Hooten Wilson	

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2020 Doug Bolton Stan Hall Cindy Moon Bob Tabb Michael Thompson Allie Hay	Class of 2021 Jay Lanners Warren Liem Pam Stillerman Donna Weesner Cy Wolverton	Class of 2022 Del Boyer Aubrey Evans John McCarthy Stephanie Scarborough Trista Hooten Wilson
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Neeley Rentz Lane Kimmy Briggs	<i>Senior Pastor</i> <i>Director of Family Ministries</i>	Alice Walker Jenny Giles and Danielle Schubert	CAGO, AAGO <i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>
Peni Kehoe Krista Firkus	<i>Church Administrator</i> <i>Music Director</i>	Darlene Alley	<i>Nursery</i> <i>Director of the Early Learning Center</i>



Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ* J.S. Bach

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦CALL TO WORSHIP Sanctified Art

One: Jesus met the blind man at the city gate.

All: Jesus met the crowds at the edge of the sea.

One: Jesus met the leper in his pain.

All: And Jesus met the Samaritan woman in her isolation.

One: So with confidence we declare—

All: Jesus meets us here.

One: For we too are the blind and the broken, the hurting and the bleeding.

All: Jesus meets our scars, our fears, our prayers, and our dreams.

One: So you are welcome here.

All: All are welcome here.

One: Let us worship Holy God.

✦HYMN 435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* IN BABILONE

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION Sanctified Art

Gracious God, when it comes to our faith, we have a lot to learn about entering unfamiliar and unknown places. Forgive us for the times when we remain silent about our faith. Forgive us for the times when we choose comfort over bravery. And forgive us for the times we miss seeing the people you place in front of us. Teach us to be brave even in wilderness places. With hope and gratitude we confess; with hope and gratitude we pray, hear our prayer.

✦KYRIE Gabriel Fauré

Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison.

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
 The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 17:1-7 (p.64 OT)

ANTHEM *Lonely Voices* arr. John F. Wilson (1967)

Lonely voices crying in the city. Lonely voices sounding like a child. Lonely voices come from busy people; to disturb to stop a little while. Lonely voices fill my dreams: Lonely voices on my memory.

Lonely faces looking for the sunrise. Just to find another busy day. Lonely faces all around the city; men afraid, but too ashamed to pray. Lonely faces do I see; lonely faces on my memory.

Lonely eyes, I see them in the subway. Burdened by the worries of the day. Men at leisure, but they're so unhappy; tired of foolish roles they try to play. Lonely people do I see, lonely people on my memory.

Abundant life He truly came to give man; but so few His gift of grace receive. Lonely people live in every city, men who face a dark and lonely grave. Lonely people do I see, lonely people on my memory.

THE WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

Following the moment with the children, children are invited to wiggle and giggle with guardians or they are invited to participate in child care provided. Childcare is located in the purple room downstairs. A parent church member will guide the children. Please pick up your children in purple room following worship.

GOSPEL READING John 4:5-42 (p.94 NT)

SERMON Rev. Kimmy Briggs
Wilderness Wanderings: Into the Unknown

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SILENT REFLECTION

✦HYMN 769 *For Everyone Born* FOR EVERYONE BORN

✦AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *Sanctified Art*

One: We believe in a wilderness God—

All: Who breathed life into dust, turned seeds into flowers, and flooded the sky with stars.

One: We believe in a wilderness God—

All: Who went hungry in the desert, walked barefoot on the water, and taught from the mountainside.

One: We believe in a wilderness God—

All: Whose love could be described as nothing short of wild.

One: So with confidence and hope, we long to follow our wilderness God who walks with people on their darkest nights,

All: Who sings hope into places of grief, isolation, doubt, and suffering,

and who exists in the form of untamed joy, wildfire love, and impossible hope. Step by step, may it be so. Amen.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use what we have gathered in sharing your love with the world you so love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SEALING OF THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God ... as we confidently and boldly pray together, saying:

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.

Words of Institution

Communion

We will be invited by rows to come to the table, beginning with the back row. Please return to your pew by the side aisles.

Prayer after Communion

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦HYMN 65 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONNDA

✦CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦RESPONSE GREEN TYLER

Hymn 543

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice; God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround me.

✦OFFERING Ushers will be holding the offering plates as you exit the narthex doors this morning.

✦POSTLUDE *The Solid Rock* Michael Burkhardt

Worship Notes

✦**Children's Worship** bulletins are on the narthex table and worship bags are hanging on a coat rack on the right in the narthex.

✦**Hand Sanitizer** is available in the pews and other places around the building: near restrooms, fellowship hall and just outside the narthex.

✦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.

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

✦Warren Liem-broken hip; rehab
✦Greeley Ellis-Piedmont Newton
✦Chris Martin-recovering from cataract surgery
✦Tricia Hinton-recovery & rehab from fractured hip
✦Natalie Phillips-treatment for thyroid cancer
✦Carter Mackenzie-neck injury (son of Julie & Jeff Mackenzie)
✦Olaava Mackenzie-stranded in Thailand due to the Corona virus situation (daughter of Jeff & Julie Mackenzie)
✦Richard Juliano-surgery (friend of Jeff Mackenzie)
✦Becky Stokesbary-recovery from gall Bladder (Kimmy's mom)
✦Miles Bryant-family concerns (son of John and Nancy Bryant, friend of the Liems)
✦Roger Tingler-hip surgery
✦Tom Bass-cancer treatment & dialysis (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
✦Martha Daddario-kidney surgery (friend of Jeff & Julie Mackenzie)
✦Brenda Howell-breast cancer treatment
✦Anderson Krieger-return of leukemia
✦Denny Dobbs-knee surgery
✦Noah Hicks-recovering from knee surgery

✦Wilford Reed-daughter was in car accident; his brother has age-related issues (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
✦Denise Vining-recovering from kidney transplant (she is Danny & Beth Vining's niece)
✦Julia Jones-recovering from cancer surgery (friend of the Carmichaels and the Boltons)
✦Karen Lein Kaasa-cardiac bypass (sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie)
✦Bob Darby-kidney problems (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
✦Bill Miller-vascular dementia (brother of Beth Vining)
✦Joyce Williams-Alzheimer's (sister of Danny Vining)
✦Peter Milner-cancer (nephew of Day & Larry Kennon)
✦Larri Harris-melanoma treatment (friend of Susan Boteler)
✦Angela Gregory-cancer treatment, in Scotland (sister of Dave Gregory)

✦Robby Ashworth-treatment for brain tumor
✦Matt Cooper-CPD officer at home but still recovering
✦Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
✦Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)
✦Robin McKeown-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)
✦Sophia Hawley-cystic fibrosis

Independent and Assisted Living

✦Penny Blakeney-home
✦Julia Brubaker-Benton House
✦Maxine Blankenship-The Oaks
✦Jean Elder-The Oaks
✦Patti Borders-Merryvale
✦Dot Fincher-Merryvale
✦Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
✦Betty Robinson-Merryvale
✦Louise White-Merryvale
✦Roger Wallace-Merryvale
✦Jerry McGaffney-Merryvale

Hospital Visitor:
Betty Bailey

Please update your prayer requests this week! Names will be left on for one month unless updated.
Email: admin@fpccov.org or call the church office, 770-786-7321