

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, March 19

9:00 Handbell Choir
9:30 Children's Choir
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
3:00 Youth Connection to see "Hairspray"

Tuesday, March 21

2:00 PWCT Meeting
4:00 Exercise Class

Wednesday, March 22

6:45 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 23

10:30 Ambassador Choir

Friday, March 24

6:30 FPELC Art Affair

Sunday, March 26

9:00 Handbell Choir
9:30 Children's Choir
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service and Dedication of the Choir Loft
5:00 Youth Connection

Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet Tuesday, March 21, at 2:00 p.m.

Sandy's Dog Park - Save the Date!

After a long delay, the dog park is again underway. If you are a dog owner or a lover of dogs, please help create this park. It will be located at Chimney Park and will be a separate section where your dog can run free! There will be a **work day on Saturday, April 1**, at 9:00 a.m. It will be in memory of Sandy Elder, who was a member of FPC. If you have questions you may speak with Jean or Jim Elder or follow it on the Chimney Park website or Facebook page. Monetary donations will also be welcomed.

Back by popular demand! Yes indeed we have signed up 3 groups of cottages from **Thornwell Home** to come to Lake Jackson this summer for fun in the sun. All groups will come on Monday and leave on Thursday. And once again Cathy Massey and I absolutely cannot put this off without our village of cooks. Some of our most glowing feedback last year from the Thornwell kids, family teachers and Lake Jackson volunteers centered around the food! I hope some or all of you are up for the challenge and joy of feeding hungry kids and adults again in 2017. The number of people needing to be fed will number between 15-20. Want to participate but don't have time to cook a meal or financially can't afford to feed the masses....no worries! If you have time to pick up a meal for us from a restaurant in Covington and deliver it to the lake, we would love your help in that way (Susan will place the order and pay).

My email is sboteler@mindspring.com. Home 770-698-0750 and cell 404-234-4113. I'm happy to answer any questions. Thank you so much, Susan Boteler

Here are the dates and who's coming:

June 19-22 – Georgia Beattie cottage – middle school boys

July 17-20 – TPH cottage – high school boys – no peanuts due to allergy!

July 31 – August 3 – Ferguson cottage – elementary boys

The full meal schedule will be listed in the April "First Press".

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."



The Food Pantry is now open on **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 9:00 - 11:30. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome.

March suggested donations are:
canned vegetables

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

March Usher Chair:
Tom Stillerman

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr.

Pastor

Dan Walden

Director of Youth and Children's Ministry

Peni Kehoe

Secretary-Treasurer

Alan Bunn

Music Director

Alice Walker

CAGO, AAGO

Organist/Ambassador Choir

Shaun and Aubrey Evans

Nursery

Kara Sugg

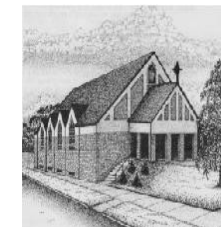
Director of the

Early Learning Center



Third Sunday
in Lent

March 19, 2017



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *All Glory Be to God on High* Johann Sebastian Bach
I Will Arise and Go to Jesus Folk Melody
What Wondrous Love Is This Paul Manz

INTROIT *Seek Ye First* LAFFERTY
Sanctuary Choir

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 107:1-3

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom God has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and the west, from the north and from the south.

✦ **HYMN 624** TOULON

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

CALL TO CONFESSION I Timothy 1:14-15

The grace of God overflows for us through Jesus Christ who came into this world to save sinners. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF 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.

For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight,

so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment...

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean...

Fill me with joy and gladness...

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DETROIT

Hymn 444, stanza 1

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS from Psalm 51

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

✦ 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

ANTHEM

Unto the Hills
Sanctuary Choir

Ellingboe

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 READINGS

Matthew 5:38-48

Romans 5:6-11

SERMON *Good News for the Ungodly* William B. Wade, Jr.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN 729

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Declaration of Faith*

We believe that in the death of Jesus on the cross God achieved and demonstrated once for all the costly forgiveness of our sins.

Jesus Christ is the Reconciler between God and the world.

He acted on behalf of sinners as one of us, fulfilling the obedience God demands of us, accepting God's condemnation of our sinfulness.

In his lonely agony on the cross Jesus felt forsaken by God and thus experienced hell itself for us.

Yet the Son was never more in accord with the Father's will.

He was acting on behalf of God, manifesting the Father's love that takes on itself the loneliness, pain, and death that result from our waywardness.

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not holding our sins against us.

Each of us beholds on the cross the Savior who died in our place, so that we may no longer live for ourselves, but for him.

In him is our only hope of salvation.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p. 35 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY

Were You There

Timothy Albright

✦ DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDETH

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

In this moment draw us to yourself, Lord, and make us aware not so much of what we've given as of all we've received and so have yet to share. Send us forth in power and gladness and with great courage to live out in the world what we pray and profess, that, in sharing, we may do justice, make peace, grow in love, enjoy ourselves, other people, and your world now, and you forever. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 475

NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CHORAL RESPONSE

Seek Ye First
Sanctuary Choir

LAFFERTY

✦ POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major

J. S. Bach

✦ Please stand if you are able.



Worship Notes

✦ **Dan Walden**, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, is assisting with leading 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

† Sam Hay, Jr.-Piedmont in Atlanta, for a fall

† Betty Strohecker-hospital (mother of Diane Loeble)

† Bill Strohecker - critical condition (father of Diane Loeble)

† Tommy Venable-heart attack, Piedmont-Newton (nephew of Maxine Blankenship)

† Peggy Spears-Madison for rehab (mother of Jean Blair)

† Chuck Brasher-heart valve surgery, home

† Debi (Dee) Selin-Atlanta Medical Center

† Jane Williams-heart attack (friend of Judy Davis)

† Jim Ramsey - Riverside after fall

† Leon Savage-Riverside

† Warren Liem-home

† Joel Kitchens-home

† Anderson Krieger-Chemo at Scottish Rite

† Jeanette Davis-kidney failure (mother of Maria Davis)

† Mary Bollinger -home

† Bill Miller-home (brother of Beth Vining)

† Nat Allen Long-diabetes complications (stepson of Alice Walker)

† Jose Luis Trujillo Herera-heart surgery (brother, Pily Waetzig)

† Carol Baynes-cancer, friend of Phyllis Yoder

† Ursula Kaminski-cancer

† Fran Prince-chemotherapy

† Donald Vining-Recovery from spine surgery (brother, Danny Vining)

† Joyce V. Williams-cancer treatment (sister, Danny Vining)

† Jamie Huckaby Fairchild-cancer

† Chuck Hodges-treatment for lymphoma (friend of Patti Lanford)

† Louise Strickland-home

† Rebecca Kirby-cancer (family of Scarlet McCurry)

† Ron Swatty-heart problems, brother-in-law of Charles Ardis)

† Lecia Landolt-chemo for pancreatic cancer (friend of Patti Lanford)

† Mitchell Jessup -cancer (father of Nick Jessup)

† Sharon Walton-chemotherapy (friend of Patti Lanford)

† Sophia Hawley-Cystic Fibrosis

† John Fish-cancer (Bryson Wade's uncle)

† Roger Gossage-awaiting transplant

† Jan Coulon-home

† Jim Stalvey, Jr.-melanoma

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

† Russ Cole-Rockdale Healthcare

† Jeanne Cannon-Darien, GA

† J. L. Johnson -Dogwood Forest Alpharetta, GA

Riverside

† Martha Borders

† Rita Harrell

Merryvale

† Guy McGiboney

† Bill Taylor

† Betty Robinson

† Louise White

† Betty Goins

† Hughie Hudson

Celebrations:

Congratulations to **Rainey Loftin** who was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Rainey is a sophomore at Piedmont Academy. She is the daughter of Ricky and Shawn Loftin and granddaughter of Dennis and Judy Hooten.

Congratulations to **Pilar Trujillo Waetzig** who became a U.S. citizen on March 10!

Congratulations to **Jake McCarthy** who passed the Eagle Board of Review on Thursday. Jake is the son of John McCarthy and Terri Digby.

Sympathy and Prayers:

We extend our sympathy and prayers for the family of **Joy Knight**, who died on March 12.

Hospital Visitor: Alice Walker