

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, March 1 - Lent 1

9:00 Handbell Choir
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Tuesday, March 3

Presbyterian Women's Circles
See below
4:00 Exercise Class

Wednesday, March 4

6:45 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 5

10:30 Ambassador Choir

Saturday—at bedtime

Set clocks ahead one hour!

Sunday, March 8 - Lent 2

9:00 Handbell Choir
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
4:00 Installation Service for
Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

Sunday School Offerings

Sunday School for Children Pre-K through 5th grade; taught by Dan and Perri Walden. Meets in the Orange 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! Beginning, March 1st, we will explore various spiritual disciplines together. 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 1: Prayer; **March 8:** Gratitude; **March 15:** Simplicity;
March 22: Storytelling; **March 29:** Stewardship; **April 5:** Sabbath

Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings for March

Elizabeth Ann Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 3rd at 10 a.m. in the Martin Fellowship Hall to discuss lesson seven: "Words of Love: Do Not Steal" Breakfast will be served. All women are invited to attend.

Martha Circle will meet on March 3rd, at 10:00 in the home of Beth Vining; Co-Hostess: Susanne Perkerson; Study Leaders are Jenny Fogarty & Day Kennon

Ruth Circle will meet March 3rd, at 7:00 pm in the church parlor.

Meals for the Lane Family

As part of our first year support for Neeley and her family, the congregation is invited to participate in providing the Lane's a weekly dinner through the month of May. To sign up or for further details go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/lanemeals>

Contact Susan Boteler: sboteler@mindspring.com with any questions.



Hunger Walk is coming on **Sunday, March 15**. Make plans to join FPC in Atlanta to walk in support of our local food pantry. Join our team as walker or runner or donate to our team. Transportation is available in the church van.

Register or donate here: <https://tinyurl.com/w9cgazd>

Contact Kimmy Briggs at: kimmy@fpccov.org



Stillman College Choir to Sing at FPC

March 17th at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

All are invited—bring a friend!

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.



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

Worship Liturgist
Trista Hooten Wilson

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Neeley Rentz Lane
Kimmy Briggs

Senior Pastor
Director of
Family Ministries
Church Administrator
Music Director

Peni Kehoe
Krista Firkus

Alice Walker
Jenny Giles and Danielle Schubert
Darlene Alley

CAGO, AAGO
Organist/Ambassador Choir
Nursery
Director of the
Early Learning Center



First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020



Wilderness

Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *I Trust in Him with All My Soul* J. S. Bach

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦CALL TO WORSHIP Sanctified Art

One: God hovered over the void and breathed life into dust.

All: God created in the wilderness.

One: The Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years

All: God was in the wilderness.

One: Jesus said "no" to the tempter time and time again.

All: Jesus claimed his identity in the wilderness.

One: We grow in the wilderness. We learn in the wilderness.

All: For God is with us – before, through, and after the wilderness.

One: Let us worship the Living God!

✦HYMN 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION Sanctified Art

God of creation,

The psalms remind us that even before a word is on our tongue, you know it completely. You know the prayers we bring before you today – confessions of greed and doubt, fear and anxiety, conflict and regret. Free us from these sins. Give us strength to say "no" to that which separates us from you, and "yes" to the things that let love grow. Guide us out of our self-created wilderness spaces and into your light. Hear our prayers...

✦KYRIE

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

Gabriel Fauré

✦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 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 p. 2 OT

ANTHEM *When Jesus Walked The Wilderness* Lloyd Larson
When Jesus walked the wilderness he fasted and he prayed. Alone, he battled Pride and Greed as false promises were made. The Temptor's promises were scored; no bread transformed from stone. "One does not live by bread alone, does not live by bread alone." Then challenged was the Son of God: "O there is naught to fear! Go, cast yourself from pinnacles; God's angels hover near." The Temptor's promises were scorned, the challenge laid to rest; "Do not put the Lord God to the test, do not put God to the test." When Jesus walked the wilderness for forty days and nights, rebuked were snares in shadows there, authority and might. The Temptor's promises were scorned for God was placed above all Satan's wiles: "One God to serve, one God to serve and love." When Jesus walked the wilderness rejecting Pride and Greed, he lifted up the bitter cup that the will of God decreed.

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.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 4:1-11 p. 3 NT

SERMON Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane
Wilderness Wanderings: 40 days

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SILENT REFLECTION

✦ HYMN 166 ST. FLAVIAN
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

✦ 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,

**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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *Don't Wanna* Aaliyah
Oxford Gospel Choir

✦ RESPONSE

Hymn 698 (Choir sing once; congregation invited to join 2nd time)
**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Creator God,
We bring you our full selves to the waters and table you
provide. We offer our full selves body, mind, and soul
as we trust in your activity in the world. Use these gifts
to reach us and all of your children along the wilder-
ness road. Remind us of your abundance, power, and
grace through our humble offerings this day. Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 738 *O Master Let me Walk with Thee* MARYTON

✦ 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.**

✦ POSTLUDE David Cherwien
Toccata - God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

✦ Please stand if able.

Wilderness Lenten devotionals are also available by clicking
the link sent in the weekly enews.

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.
- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Documents and 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

- ✦ 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
- ✦ 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-cancer treatment (friend of the Carmichaels and Boltions)
- ✦ 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)
- ✦ Terry Elder-myasthenia gravis (daughter of Jean Elder)
- ✦ 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

We extend our sympathy and prayers for the family of **Alice Gadilhe**, who died on Thursday at Abbey Hospice. Alice was a former member of First Presbyterian.

Hospital Visitor:
Jean Wolverton



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