

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



Time Sensitive Church News
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See our website at: www.fpccov.org

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

March Birthdays

- 1 Roger Gossage
- 2 Judy Davis
- 4 Anne Savage
- Michael Thompson
- 6 Harry Hinton
- 7 Beth Vining
- 10 Rob Jones
- 11 Doug Bolton
- 13 Jack Weesner
- 14 Jessica Vincent
- 15 Jean Wolverton
- 16 Terri Digby
- Shawn Loftin
- Andy Harvill
- 17 Jim Halstead

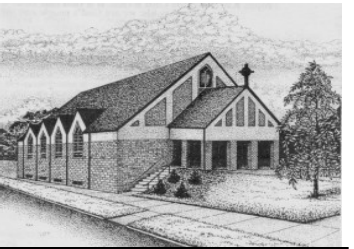


- 17 Jonathan Miller
- 18 Taylor Bouchillon
- Miriam Wheeler
- 19 Roger Wallace
- 21 C.J. Hunt
- 23 Rainey Loftin
- 24 Sam Hay, IV
- Jessica Jessup
- 25 Sarah Davis
- 26 Sam Hay, Jr.
- 28 Debi Selin
- 30 Jasmine Ardis
- Amelia Evans
- Lynn Miller
- Louise White

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 MARCH 2016

FIRST PRESS



Community Worship

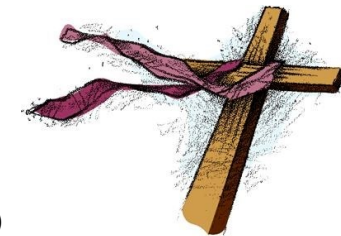


For many years we have joined with other churches in Covington for Holy Week worship services. The services will be at noon **Monday through Friday, March 21-25**, with lunch following at 12:30 pm each day. The host church this year is Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal.

Preachers for the week will be:

- ♦ Monday - Cody McNutt, First Baptist
- ♦ Tuesday - George Lanier, Grace United Methodist
- ♦ Wednesday - Doug Gilreath, First United Methodist
- ♦ Thursday - Billy Wade, FPC (with our Ambassador Choir, led by Alice Walker)
- ♦ Friday - Edwin Beckham, Good Shepherd

We hope you will make this a priority, if you can, during this season of preparation.



Maundy Thursday

On Thursday night during Holy Week, **March 24**, we will celebrate Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. We will partake of communion around tables in the Martin Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm. (Notice the time change.) It is a brief service of Scripture, prayer, music and communion.



Easter Day Worship

Celebrate the Resurrection at worship on **Sunday, March 27!** There will be no Sunday School that day. Bring Flowers for the cross on the front lawn.

Palm Sunday Children's Choir

Sunday, March 20th

On Palm Sunday our Children's Choir will be processing into worship waving palms and singing a special song to mark the occasion of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. All children in grades K - 5 are welcome to join us in song. **Rehearsals are held each Sunday morning at 9:30 am** in the choir room with Mr. Alan Bunn.



Last Things

We are looking forward to a study of "Last Things" during the Church School hour (9:45-10:45) beginning **Sunday, April 10 through Sunday, May 15**. These classes will be lead by lawyers, doctors, counselors, preachers and you, as we look at how we care for those who are sick and dying, as well as the plans we need to make in order to avoid decisions having to be made quickly in the midst of crisis and stress.

First Presbyterian Church Staff

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SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

The Session will meet at the Boteler's house on Jackson Lake Saturday, March 5, beginning at 9:00 am. The Session has a retreat every year to reflect, set goals and consider long-range planning. Keep us in your prayers.



Session Retreat

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

No Pledge Arrears for January 2016

2016 January Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/ Expenses	YTD Income /Expenses
Pledged Income	30,420	36,140	36,140
Non-Pledge Income	3,083	3,353	Same
Other Income	625	40	Same
Total income	34,128	39,540	Same
Expenses	35,498	35,426	Same
Net Totals 1/31/2015	(-1,369)	4,114	Same



Session Meeting

February 2016 Session Highlights

- Joel and Faye Kitchens received as new members by transfer.
- Teresa McCurry received for baptism on February 21.
- Presbytery grant received for \$5000 to install chair lift for handicapped access on outdoor stairs.
- Session retreat scheduled for March 5.
- New materials approved for Adult Sunday School and Women's Study.
- Vacation Bible School scheduled for June 6-10. Adult volunteers needed.
- High School Youth to raise scholarship money for Montreat Youth Conference June 12-18.

Michael Thompson, Clerk of Session

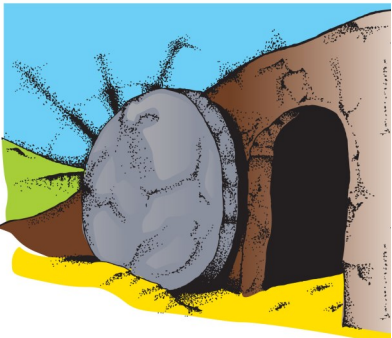


Please let us know your
◇ new address
◇ phone number or
◇ e-mail address

whenever you have a change. Thanks!



MARCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1 Circle Meetings 10:00 #1 @ FPC 10:30 #2 @ Vining 7:00 #3 @ Fortson 4:00 Exercise	2 Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am March 13.	3 10:30 Ambassador Choir	4 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	5 9:00 Session Retreat	6 9:00 Session Retreat	7 9:00 Session Retreat
8 Lent 4 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Witness Team Meeting 5:00 Youth Connection	9 7 Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am March 13.	10 8 International Women's Day 4:00 Exercise	11 9 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	12 10 10:30 Ambassador Choir	13 11 March 13 Children's Sunday	14 12 Children's Sunday
15 13 Lent 5 Daylight Saving Time Begins 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship - Children's Sunday Hunger Walk	16 14	17 15 4:00 Exercise	18 16 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	19 17 St. Patrick's Day 10:30 Ambassador Choir	20 18 8:00 Men's Study & Breakfast	21 19 8:00 Men's Study & Breakfast
22 20 Palm Sunday 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth Connection	23 21 Mon-Fri; 12:00 noon - Holy Week Services at Good Shepherd Church	24 22 4:00 Exercise	25 23 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	26 24 Holy Thursday 10:30 Ambassador Choir	27 25 Good Friday	28 26 Holy Saturday 1:00 Easter Egg Hunt 5:00-7:00 Chili Cook-Off
29 27 Easter 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 11:00 Worship Service	30 28 4:00 Exercise	31 29 4:00 Exercise	32 30 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	33 30 10:30 Ambassador Choir	34 31 Easter	35 32 Easter

SERVING US IN MARCH 2016

March Usher Chair: Baxter Bouchillon	Hospital Visitors: 3/6: S. Fortson 3/13: L. Hay 3/20: B & D Tabb 3/27: J. Blair
Sound Engineer: Ken Walker	
If unable to serve, please get a sub for your duties	

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2016 Charles Ardis Joyce Ashworth Betty Bailey Patrick Carmichael Perri Walden Jake McCarthy	Class of 2017 Baxter Bouchillon Adriane Ivey Michael Thompson Danny Vining Jean Wolverton	Class of 2018 Gary Boteler Billy Fortson Scarlett McCurry Stephanie Scarborough Tom Stillerman
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WITNESS NEWS

Mission to Thornwell



Witness Team is planning a trip to Thornwell Home for Children on April 1-3. The projects we do there will be determined once we know who is interested in going. If you would like to participate in this important mission, please contact Perri Walden at perriwalden@charter.net.

Nicaragua Mission Needs

Travel size soaps, shampoos, lotion, and toothpaste (no hair conditioner, please)
Tooth brushes, small combs and brushes, hair bows, ribbons, etc.
Bandanas
Hefty One Zip slider bags 2.5 gallon
Reusable grocery bags (any decent logo is fine)

For teachers

4 inch Quick Letter Pads (Walmart)
reward stickers or ribbons
ball point pens, markers, pencils and erasers
scissors
tape

For babies and expectant mothers

cloth diapers
receiving blankets
small size baby wipes, shampoo, and soap
baby toys

Items may be placed in the container marked "Nicaragua" which will be placed in the narthex.



You can also contribute to the mission by purchasing one or more water filters, \$30.00 each, Spanish Bibles or New Testaments \$5.00-\$7.00 each, children's Bibles \$3.00 each, filled food bags \$12.00 each, filled vacation Bible school bags \$10.00 each, filled baby bags \$15.00 each, or extra luggage \$40.00, or by simply contributing to the mission in general. We always find needs that we were not expecting. Checks can be made to the church with Nicaragua in the memo.

Support Groups for Mental Illness

Every Third Monday of the Month
7 - 8:30 pm

If you have a loved one with a mental illness, our Family Support Group is for you. Be a friend, bring a friend. For questions and information, call Caryn Thompson at 770-648-6432. Come in the door near the garden on Clark Street (right of the offices).

We also have a new Connections Support Group in Conyers for people living with mental illness themselves. Please call for more information. Sponsored by NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) for Rockdale and Newton counties.

Talent Festival

The Holy Spirit gives particular gifts to all of us for the glory of God and the good of God's world. You might have the gift of writing poetry, or novels or self-help books. You might have the gift of painting, or drawing, needlework, gardening, woodworking, building models, whittling. You might be a dancer, or a singer, or play an instrument. You might be a collector of interesting things. The list goes on and on.

On **Pentecost Sunday, May 15**, the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples, we will have lunch together in the fellowship hall after worship. You are asked to display your gifts there as we eat together.

More information will be coming as we approach the date.



Community Food Pantry

You may bring food donations to the church or drop them off at the Community Food Pantry from 9:00-12:00 Wednesday and Friday, except for holidays. Call (770) 784-0037 for directions. Any non-perishable food items are welcome. **March** it is suggested that donations be: canned vegetables.



NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

The Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (PWCT)

The PWCT holds its next meeting on **March 15, 2016** at 10:00 am. in the FPC Conference room. Members will receive an agenda for this meeting within the next few days.



An Open Invitation

And now, here's an open invitation to women of our church to seriously consider becoming a part of Presbyterian Women (PW) at First Presbyterian Church, Covington.

Presbyterian Women is made up of a number of groups. We call them Circles. The Circles meet on the first Tuesday of each month for Bible Study and fellowship.

PW has a Purpose. Here are the areas of commitment:

To nurture our faith through [prayer](#) and Bible study
To support the [mission](#) of the church worldwide
To work for [justice and peace](#)
To build an inclusive, caring [community](#) of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Please accept this invitation. Thank you.

Janet Carmichael
Moderator

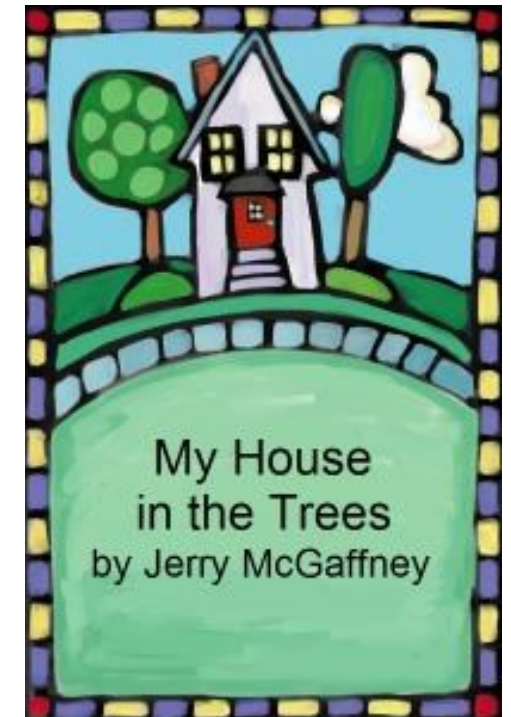
Circle Meetings for March 2016

Presbyterian Women's Circles meet on the first Tuesday of the month. This month the circles are meeting on **March 1**, at the following locations:

Circle I meets at 10:00 in the fellowship hall.

Circle II meets at 10:30. at the home of Beth Vining at 10:30 am. Lesson 7, Streams of Mercy, will be led by Janet Carmichael.

Circle III meets at 7:00 pm at the home of Stephanie Fortson.



Jerry is a member of FPC

My house is full of sun and moonlight—
God drapes my windows with trees.
And each and every season brings
New beauty and new color to the leaves.

In Spring, the green is gentle—
A pale and fragile look,
In Summer, the green is lush and dark
As it hovers over the brook.

In the Fall, the leaves start dropping,
And I think the leaves are sad
To lose their "coat" and don the look
Of Winter's naked clad.

In the Winter, the pines show their glory—
They stay "forever green"
And decorate the days of Christmas
With a holy, beautiful screen.

My house forever is a change of color,
And Nature makes it known,
I am happy in my "House in the Trees",
They make for a beautiful home.

Men's Bible Study, Breakfast



Men's Bible Study will gather in the Martin Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning, March 19, at 8:00 am. Bring your breakfast and a friend.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Children's Sunday Worship

Sunday, March 13th @ 11:00 am



We'll celebrate **Children's Sunday** on **Sunday, March 13th**, during our regular worship service. The liturgy for the worship service will be geared toward *the child in all of us*. Some of our liturgists will be children, and special music will be presented by the **Children's Choir**.

Hunger Walk

Sunday, March 13th

Nearly 1.8 million Georgians (19.2%) are living in poverty and struggle to put food on the table. The Atlanta Hunger Walk/Run helps raise much needed funds and awareness for local nonprofit hunger relief organizations including our own Community Food Pantry. By participating, you'll enjoy a fun, family-friendly, festival atmosphere including live music, children's play zone and much more. Register today! Forms are available in the narthex or church office.

We'll have lunch in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship, then caravan down I-20 to Turner Field where the walk kicks off at 2:00 pm. Bring or wear comfortable walking clothes and shoes to worship.

Fun for the WHOLE family!!



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 26th | 1:00 to 4:00 pm



Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship!! We will have traditional outside games for all ages and Easter egg hunt at 2:00 pm. Call the church office to make a reservation by March 23rd.

- **Bring:** Basket with 10 plastic eggs filled with wrapped candy (per child) and finger food or dessert to share.
- **Where:** Home of Doug and Debra Arnold
80 River Shoals Court, Covington, 30016 (off of Flat Shoals Rd.)



Cub Pack's 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off

The scouts will host their 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off on **March 26th**, 5 pm - 7 pm. Registration Fee is \$10. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. We will have a panel of 3 judges. Ingredients need to be placed on an index card. Come join the fun with good people and the best chili around! Registration forms will be in the Narthex. Speak with Scarlett McCurry if you have questions.



NEW MEMBERS



Joel and Faye Kitchens

Joel and Faye are returning to Covington Presbyterian Church, by transfer of letter from the Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection in Conyers, Georgia (formerly Lithonia Presbyterian Church). They were members and were married in the Chapel by Billy Wade with a Christmas wedding on December 13, 1997. Faye is originally from Snead, Alabama, and Joel grew up and went to school in Lithonia. Faye is the owner and sole operator of her business, "Dolls and Stuff" for 16 years, located in Social Circle and Joel has been in Management with the City of Griffin for 16 years. Both are looking forward to retirement. They have one daughter (Debra) and 3 grandchildren (Kathleen 22, Keith 19 and Jackson 16). Joel and Faye live on Highway 11 in Mansfield where they enjoy their cattle, 2 donkeys, and the country atmos-

phere. "We are glad to be retuning and look forward to renewing old friendships and making many new friends."

Teresa McCurry

Teresa was born and raised here in Covington. Her family is from Ohio. She is married to Josh McCurry ("a wonderful husband") and ("3 amazing children"): Josh Jr, Jenna and Cassidy. Her passions are music, Harry Potter, love, and most importantly "God and my family". She is the sister-in-law to members Scarlett & Tommy McCurry and Tiffany McCurry. She has been attending our church since December, 2015 and has joined the choir. She has been looking for a "forever church", and she says First Presbyterian Church of Covington "feels like home".



EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Dear FPC Family,

Our students spent the month of February learning all about cooking. They've read stories, taken fieldtrips, and even did some cooking of their own. I've had the privilege of being the test taster for many of their recipes including banana bread, pizza, and chocolate chip cookies. Our chefs have certainly been busy having fun and learning through cooking. We want to give a special Thank You to Mr. and Mrs. Grumpy at **Grumpy's Low Country Fish Camp** as well as **Bread & Butter Bakery** and **Scoops** for amazing field trips. At Grumpy's, the children tried hushpuppies and French fries, at Scoops they were taste testers for ice cream, and at Bread & Butter Bakery they enjoyed enormous fresh chocolate chip cookies. We'd love for you to join our closed Facebook Group "FPELC" and enjoy the many pictures we've uploaded throughout the month. They're sure to cook up a smile.

During March, we will be talking about Easter, and the sacrifice that Jesus made for us on the cross. We will be doing crafts and an Easter Egg Hunt. Our verse for the month is "He is not here, but is risen." From Luke 24:6. What a blessing to know that we serve a risen Lord!



We are also gearing up for final preparations for our **Annual Art Affair** which will be held on **March 18, 2016**. Event tickets prices are \$15 for one ticket/\$25 for two. The committee is finalizing our list of donations from local and metro vendors. We're hoping to secure items from attractions 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. If you're interested in making a contribution toward this event, obtaining an individual ticket or family pass to any of these places would be tremendously appreciated. We'll also be looking for people to help work the beverage and food areas during the event. If you're able to contribute in any way please let me or any of the teachers know. We would LOVE to have our FPC family at the event.

As always, your generosity and prayers for our school are greatly appreciated. We are so thankful for such a generous church family.

Blessings, Kara