

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

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

Tuesday, March 28
 4:00 Exercise Class

Wednesday, March 29
 6:45 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 30
 10:30 Ambassador Choir

Sunday, April 2
 9:00 Handbell Choir
 9:30 Children's Choir
 10:00 Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 5:00 Youth Connection



Sandy's Dog Park

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 pull 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

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

April Usher Chair:
 Carter Gibson

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.
 Dan Walden

Pastor
Director of Youth and Children's Ministry

Peni Kehoe
 Alan Bunn

Secretary-Treasurer
Music Director

Alice Walker

CAGO, AAGO

Organist/Ambassador Choir

Shaun and Aubrey Evans

Nursery

Kara Sugg

Director of the

Early Learning Center



Fourth Sunday
 in Lent

March 26, 2017



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

Meditation at the Cross
For the Beauty of the Earth
 Introduction and Allegro

Albin C. Whitworth
 Conrad Kocher
 William Walond

INTROIT

We Lift Our Voices
 Sanctuary Choir

OFFERING

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Psalm 118:24

✠PROCESSIONAL HYMN 401

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

CALL TO CONFESSION

God proves love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord you have searched us and known us.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern all my thoughts.

You search us out on the paths we walk, and when we are lying down; you are acquainted with all our ways.

From before a word is on my tongue, O Lord you already know it.

Where can we hide from your Spirit?

Where can we flee from your presence?

Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts. Try us and know our thoughts. and see if there are any wicked ways in us.

And lead us in the way everlasting.

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 166, stanza 1

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

ST. FLAVIAN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 654

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Taizé

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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

DEDICATION OF THE CHOIR LOFT

In Memory of Margaret Adams Wallace

“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

Gracious God, we raise our voices in gratitude for the gifts of music and song through which all creation has offered you praise and thanksgiving, confession and lament, prayers and petitions.

By your grace, may the words and melodies that ring forth from this holy place shape our faith for years to come, in ways that forever give glory to you.

Stir our hearts by your Holy Spirit; attune our voices and our listening ears to “the music of the spheres”; let us move to your divine rhythm. Let “the mountains and the fields... break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field clap their hands”.

Eternal God, from our beginnings you have planted a song in our hearts: since Miriam led the people in a song of joy and praise on the far shore of the Red Sea for your gracious and mighty works; since her namesake, Mary, sang her *Magnificat* when the Savior child leaped in her womb; since your children sang songs of lament by the waters of Babylon; since Paul and Silas rocked the walls of their jailhouse with songs of faith and freedom; since Jesus and his disciples sang before they went out into the dark night of his arrest, before the light of his glorious resurrection.

“We remember as we pour out our souls, how we went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.”

We remember how David was a musician before he was a king. We rejoice in the psalms at the heart of your Word, inviting us to “come into God’s presence with singing”, to “make a joyful noise”; calling us to “shout to God with loud songs of joy”, to “sing a new song”.

O Lord, how can we keep from singing? We were created to sing. There is no faith without song, no hope, no joy.

So bless this new place generously given in faith and gratitude, this place from which children, youth and adults now lift their voices, joining a great cloud of witnesses, together with the voices of saints and creatures singing around the heavenly throne, “lost in wonder, love and praise”.

Bless the choir directors and musicians, and all the congregation gathered around, that we may be “filled with the Spirit... making melody to the Lord with all our heart, always and for everything giving thanks to God in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”.

How Can I Keep from Singing? arr. Kirby Shaw
Sanctuary Choir, Perri Walden, solo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:1-42

SERMON

Living Waters

William B. Wade, Jr.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN 462

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

p. 35 in front of hymnal

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

p. 35 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY

Earth and All Stars

Michael Burkhardt

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

BEACH SPRING

Hymn 716, stanza 1

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, fill our hearts with your grace, that our lips shall sing forth your praise. Fill our lives with your love, that we may lead others to the joy of your salvation; for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 546

SICILIAN MARINERS

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CHORAL RESPONSE

We Lift Our Voices

OFFERING

Sanctuary Choir

✦ POSTLUDE

Fanfare in C Major

Henry Purcell

✦ 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

† Ursula Kaminski-under hospice care

† Sam Hay, Jr.-rehab at Pres. Village, Austell

† Tootles Tingler-back surgery

† Betty Strohecker-rehab (mother of Diane Loeble)

† Bill Strohecker-hospice care (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 rehab

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

† Jim Ramsey - Riverside after fall

† Warren Liem-home

† Joel Kitchens-home

† Anderson Krieger-Chemo at Scottish Rite

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

† 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)

† 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

We extend our sympathy and prayers for Anne Savage in the death of her husband, **Leon Savage**, who died March 23. We also remember their daughter, Tammy and her husband, Ed Davis and family, as well as the Hooten, Loftin and Wilson families. A Service in Witness to the Resurrection will be held today at 2 p.m. at Caldwell & Cowan on the access road. Memorials may be made to the church in lieu of flowers.

Hospital Visitor: Jean Wolverton