

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

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

Thursday, March 12

10:30 Ambassador Choir

Friday and Saturday, March 13/14

Session Retreat

Tuesday, March 10

4:00 Exercise Class

Wednesday, March 11

6:45 Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, March 15 - Lent 3

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

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! 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 8: Gratitude; **March 15:** Simplicity;

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

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!

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

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

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.



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

March Usher Chair
Trista Hooten Wilson

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

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

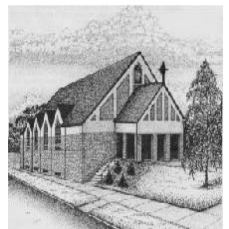
Alice Walker
Jenny Giles and Danielle Schubert
Darlene Alley

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



Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020



Wilderness

Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

Jesus, My Joy

J. S. Bach

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

Sanctified Art

One: All are welcome here—

All: The young and old, those who have visions and those who dream dreams.

One: All are welcome here—

All: The sinner and saint, those who seek forgiveness and those who long for peace.

One: All are welcome here—

All: The hurt and the doubting, those who know the wilderness and those who feel lost.

One: All are welcome here; for you are loved by God, and this is God's house.

All: Let us worship God. Amen.

✦HYMN 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sanctified Art

God, we give you our hearts. They are brimming with doubt and are saturated with fear, but we give them to you anyway, for you promise to love us as we are. You promise to walk with us to the ends of the earth, so in this moment, we promise to tell the truth. God, you ask us to be brave and bold, but we cower in fear. You ask us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we hold tight to privilege and the status quo. And you ask us to risk it all to follow you, but we are content with the injustices at hand. Forgive us for our sin and lift our eyes to you. Lift our eyes to the hills. Gratefully we pray, HEAR OUR PRAYERS...

✦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 Psalm 121, OT p. 571

ANTHEM *Wondrous Love* arr. Eric H. Thiman
What wondrous love is this, O my soul! That caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul. When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul. To God and to the Lamb I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

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 John 3:1-17, NT p. 93

SERMON Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane
Wilderness Wanderings: Living the Questions

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SILENT REFLECTION

✦ HYMN 286 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* TRENTHAM

✦ 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 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 Edward L. Good
Toccata - Prelude on HYFRYDOL

✦ 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

**Mysterious God, we give to you our humble offerings.
Use our gifts, our tithes, and our very selves to breathe
hope in the hearts of your people. Spirit of the Living
God, invisible like the wind, guide us to share in the
grace of God's presence with us, the church, the com-
munity, and the world. Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 311 TOKYO
Here O Lord, Your Servants Gather

✦ 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 GROSSER GOTT
Holy God, We Praise Your Name

✦ 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.
- ✦ **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; surgery
- ✦ 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
- ✦ 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

Celebrations

We celebrate with **Jodi and Jonny Atkins** as they welcome their baby girl, **Lo**, to their family through the gift of adoption! They can't wait to introduce her to this church family!

Congratulations to **Janet Carmichael** upon her election to represent our region of churches on the Presbytery Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women!

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