

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



Time Sensitive Church News
Please Do Not Delay

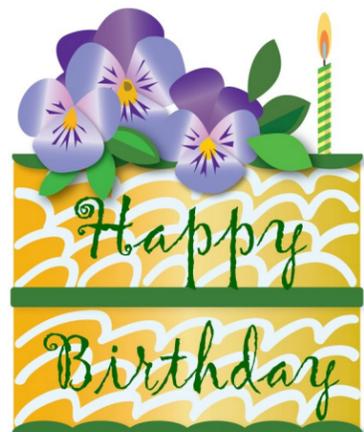
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See our website at: www.fpccov.org

The deadline for the June "First Press" May 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!

May Birthdays



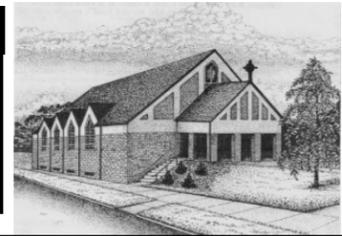
- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Sophia Hawley | 12 Denny Dobbs | 19 Charlotte Epps |
| 2 Bill Blair | Jennifer Mask | Isabelle Hinz |
| 3 John McCarthy | 14 Seth McCurry | Jack Wheeler |
| 5 Jefferson Moss | 15 Joel Kitchens | 20 Carter Gibson |
| Alton Cochran | Jerry Bouchillon | Philip Johnson |
| 6 Gary Boteler | 17 Baxter Bouchillon | Antonio Burtts |
| Gray Jones | Debbie Gossage | 23 Quinton Prince |
| Dot Fincher | 18 Tommy McCurry | 26 Jim Gregory |
| 7 Patti Lanford | Kerry Jones | Blake Hughes |
| 10 David Gregory | Kendall Hawley | 27 Cameron Compton |
| Betty Bailey | Don Hillman | Heaven Stephenson |
| 11 Jim Patrick | Hughie Hudson | 29 Doug Arnold |
| Loucy Hay | Tiffany McCurry | 30 Sally Evans |
| | | Faye Kitchens |

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

MAY 2016

FIRST PRESS



PENTECOST

On Pentecost the Church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit like the rush of a mighty wind. There appeared to those gathered tongues as of fire, resting on each of them, and they began to speak in other languages, so that foreigners heard preaching in their own native tongues.

The Pentecost experience fired up the disciples of Jesus and blew them into all corners of the earth, preaching the good news of Christ. The Holy Spirit filled the disciples with passion and empowered them with gifts for their witness and mission.

"Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me," we sing. May God's Spirit fall afresh on us, that we may dream dreams and see visions of the new things that God is doing in the church and in the world; and may we join the work and ministry to which God calls us.

Billy

PENTECOST COMMUNION AND FESTIVAL

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Pentecost Sunday, May 15. Prepare your heart.

After worship we will eat lunch in the fellowship hall and celebrate the many gifts with which God has blessed this congregation.



The Holy Spirit Descends on Pentecost

SEE PAGE 5 FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE TALENT FESTIVAL AND LUNCH

Mother's Day Offering for the Caring Hands Fund



PRESBYTERIAN HOMES
OF GEORGIA

The Caring Hands Fund benefits the most vulnerable residents of Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. Monies are used largely to bridge the \$4 million gap between Medicare reimbursement and the actual cost of the high quality care that is provided for their health care services. Almost 85% of the charitable expenditures are used to cover this cost. Caring Hands donations also allow in-home services to help residents in independent apartment homes maintain their independence. "Since 1949, no resident has been asked to leave Presbyterian Homes of Georgia because they have outlived their finances."

On Sunday, May 8 - Mother's Day, you will be asked to make an offering to the **Caring Hands Fund**. Your generous support will remind the residents of Presbyterian Homes of Georgia that they are neither alone nor forgotten. You may make your check out to "First Presbyterian" and put "Mother's Day Offering" in the memo space and all our offering will be forwarded to Presbyterian Homes in the name of FPC.

"Lift up your hearts and hands! And know that God will bless you for it."

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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First Presbyterian
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Covington, GA 30014

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SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

The **Session** will have its regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday night, May 10, at 5:00 pm** in the fellowship hall. Note the date and time change due to Mother's Day falling on our regular meeting time. Bring your supper.



The **Presbytery of Greater Atlanta** will meet on Tuesday evening, May 17, at 4:00 pm at the Korean Central Presbyterian Church. Our representatives are **Jean Wolverton, Michael Thompson and Billy Wade.**

April 2016 Session Highlights

- Jean Wolverton, Michael Thompson and Billy Wade will be delegates for the next meeting of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, May 17 at Korean Central Presbyterian Church.
- A spaghetti supper was planned as a fundraiser for the Montreat Youth Conference, about 40 people expected.
- About 50 people attended the first of the Last Things seminars scheduled during the Sunday School hour.
- Ushers are being trained to use the new chair lift on the stairs by Hendricks Street for handicapped access.
- Volunteers needed for Red Cross Blood Drive scheduled May 31, 12:00-6:00 pm.
- Next Session meeting moved to Tuesday, May 10, at 5:00 pm.

Michael Thompson, Clerk of Session



Please let us know your

- new address
- phone number or
- e-mail address

whenever you have a change. **Thanks!**

Monthly Financial Report

Pledge Arrears for 2016 (\$-1,605)

2016 March Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/Expenses	YTD Income/Expenses
Pledged Income	30,420	28,684	89,655
Non-Pledge Income	3,083	3,757	9,260
Other Income	625	1,705	1,785
Total income	34,128	34,146	100,700
Expenses	35,498	31,551	104,277
Net Totals 3/31/2016	(-1,369)	2,595	(-3,576)

SERVING US IN MAY 2016

May Usher Chair:
Billy Fortson

Sound Engineer: Ken Walker

If unable to serve, please get a sub for your duties

Hospital Visitors:
5/1: Alice Walker
5/8: Patti Lanford
5/15: Jean Wolverton
5/22: Stephanie Fortson
5/29: Louly Hay

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 May Day 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth Connection	2	3 Circle Meetings 10:00 1 @ Fellowship Hall 10:30 2 @ Kaminski 7:00 3 @ Wolverton 4:00 Exercise	4 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	5 10:30 Ambassador Choir 	6	7
8 HAPPY Mother's DAY 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	9	10 4:00 Exercise 5:00 Session	11 4:00 Adventure Club End-of-year Party 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	12 8:15 Ambassador Choir goes to Songfest	13 	14
15 Pentecost 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Communion 12:00 Lunch & Talent Festival 5:00 Youth Connection	16	17 4:00 Presbytery Meeting-Korean Central PC 4:00 Exercise 6:30 ELC Graduation	18 Last Day for ELC 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	19 10:30 Ambassador Choir	20	21 8:00 Men's Breakfast & Study
22 TRINITY Sunday 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Youth pack baby bags for Nicaragua 3:00 Concert	23	24 Last Day for Newton Schools 4:00 Exercise	25 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	26 10:30 Ambassador Choir	27	28
29 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	30 memorial DAY Office Closed	31 1:00-6:00 Blood Drive at FPC 	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4
Website: fpccov.org						

Save the Date!

The Witness Team is planning a mission trip to South Carolina next fall to help those impacted by the storm and flood damage sustained this winter. If you would be willing to help, please plan to let us know! We hope to go in October. You may speak with Patti Lanford if you would like to go. Her email is: p.lanford@gmail.com



Mission Opportunity

Men's Bible Study with Breakfast

Because the last Saturday of May is Memorial Day weekend, the Men's Bible Study will gather in the Martin Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning, May 21, at 8:00 a.m. Bring your breakfast and a friend.



Montreat & Camp Calvin Update

Summer camps provide great fun and inspiration to many people. Sending the youth to Calvin Center or Montreat could be a benefit for all because a young camper often returns with enthusiasm for her faith and church. Getting more teenagers excited within our church would be an asset for us.

Our recent spaghetti dinner profited \$200 as a beginning of a **camp fund**. Thank you to all who attended. Many brought cookies, Dan Walden made all the sauce, Stephanie Fortson and Carol McGiboney came early to help set up. The MAJOR HURRAH goes to Jean Blair, Carol Dunbar, and Stephanie Scarborough for much hard, hot work in the kitchen. That cleanup is not an easy job. An occasional Wednesday night gathering should continue.*



Fellowship Meals

*Any person who likes to cook and would like the challenge of preparing a **Wednesday Mid-Week Feast**, please let Betty Bailey or Jean Wolverton know.

Hosting and Meals for Thornwell Children



Lake Fun

There is still a need for hosts for a few meals for the Thornwell children who will be visiting the Botelers' lake house for some summer fun! We will be feeding approximately 15-17 people at each meal. If you would like to volunteer for a lunch or dinner, please e-mail or call Susan Boteler at sboteler@mindspring.com or 770-698-0750. She will be happy to answer any questions.

Dates available:

Lunch: June 15 and August 3; Dinner: June 15 and August 1

Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings for May 2016

Presbyterian Women's Circles meet on the first Tuesday of the month. This month the circles are meeting on **May 3**, at the following locations:



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

Circle II meets at 10:30 the home of Ursula Kaminski. Rachael Mason will lead us in our final lesson of the season: River of Life - Hope.

Circle III meets at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jean Wolverton.

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

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.

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

Worship Bucks



Many of our members use online bill-pay services or pay their entire pledged

commitment once each month for convenience. These approaches help the church leadership and staff to manage the finances of the church throughout the year. However, there is still a great deal of value in the act of placing an offering into the plate during worship as our response to God's gift of grace.

The Session of FPC ("ruling elders") are encouraging **all of us** to begin placing at least a single dollar bill into the plate as our corporate act of worship, expressing "thanksgiving to God, the giver of life and all goods, the redeemer from sin and evil."

Dear Friends at FPC:

Thanks for your prayers and well wishes. You are a truly caring congregation.

May the Peace of Christ be with you all.

Gene Wallace



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. For **May** it is suggested that donations be: one meal boxed dinners with meat.



J. L. Johnson has moved to a new care home: Dogwood Forest Room 306 253 North Main Street Alpharetta, GA 30009

Adventure Club Party!!!

Wednesday, May 11th @ 4:00 pm

Make plans to join us for our end-of-the-year party. Bring a summertime snack to share, and BRING A FRIEND!!! All ages are welcome. This is a party for the whole church family.



Vacation Bible School

June 6th - 10th : 9:00 am - Noon



All children who are rising Kindergarten through 5th grades are welcomed. Middle and high school youth are needed as volunteers as well.

Save the dates today and tell a friend about it!

★★ Early Learning Center News ★★

Dear FPC Family,

April was an exciting and busy month as we studied all about "Plants and Animals." Our Bible verse for the month is from John 1:3, "Through Him all things were made." The students had a great time learning about various creatures as they grow from babies to adults. They also grew flowers in their classrooms and discussed the steps necessary to grow healthy plants. It was such an awesome way to wrap up our theme.

May begins our "My Grown Up" theme. Our Bible verse for the month is, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart." from Proverbs 3:5. Our children will be learning to honor the grown-ups in their lives. We will begin with "Pastries with Parents" on May 9. On May 2 at 10:15 our students will have the opportunity to go to the square and watch the Special Olympics parade. They are busy in their classes making banners and posters to encourage the students participating in the Special Olympics. Come join us! We'll also be preparing for Pre-K graduation. Our students have worked so hard and will be recognized on Tuesday, May 17, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'd love to have any church members who are interested in supporting these children and their families to attend the ceremony. The month of May also includes my favorite week of the year: Teacher Appreciation Week from May 2-6.

As we wrap up one school year, we are preparing for another. The school calendar for the coming year has been set, themes are being planned, and we're looking into our special events for the year. Teachers will return on Monday, August 1 for preplanning, and we'll hold Open House on Thursday, August 4. Students will return on Monday, August 8. School year 2016-2017 will be underway before we know it!

Please remember we are still registering students for the 2016-2017 school year. We will offer classes for children ages 12 months-4 years (Pre-K). We still have a few spots in our classes. Please tell your family and friends.

Thanks and God Bless! ~Kara



**COME ONE, COME ALL:
PENTECOST – BIRTHDAY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



Let us gather to celebrate Pentecost with a catered dinner after church on **Sunday, May 15**. The price of this meal will be \$6 per person or \$12 max for a family. Of course, we need reservations, so please call the church office or fill out a form in the church pew. We also wish to celebrate the talents of our members. What talents, you ask? Well, knitting, sewing, writing, painting, cooking, wood working, singing, dancing, crafts....this list is endless. If you are willing to share your talents please call Jean Wolverton at 678-342-3463 or Peni in the church office will take your call (770-786-7321).

We look forward to seeing you at this celebration!

AMBASSADOR CHOIR CALENDAR - SPRING 2016

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Ambassador Choir sings at annual **Songfest**. Please meet in FPC Choir Room at 8:15 am to carpool or meet us at Rockdale Baptist Church at 9:00 a.m. Songfest begins at 9:30 a.m. Complimentary lunch. Lunch reservations required. Please wear purple shirts.



Eight Hand Piano and Organ Concert

There will be a free concert open to the public in the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary on Sunday, May 22 at 3:00. Performers will be Jim Ingram, Sylvia Looney, Becky Ramsey, and Alice Walker. Music genres will include classical favorites, hymn arrangements, and Broadway show tunes.



Retreat Participants at the Memorial Garden

Presbyterian Women of FPC

The Members and Friends of FPC's Presbyterian Women met on Saturday, April 14, at Salem Camp Ground for a Retreat. The program included enjoyable ice-breakers, a beautiful worship service, time for quiet meditation, and a delicious lunch prepared by the Salem Hotel Chef. And then, there was that leisurely stroll within the Camp Ground to visit The Vaughn Memorial Garden. So relaxing!

After this, it was time for Dr. Cindy Elrod's very thought-provoking presentation on "Forgiveness"—the Theme of the Retreat—from which everyone benefited. We take this opportunity to thank all who attended, all who participated, and all who helped in making the PW Retreat the success it was.

Thank you, Janet Carmichael