

## Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

### This Week at FPC

<b>Sunday, May 6</b> 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Session Meeting 5:00 Youth Connection	<b>Thursday, May 10</b> 10:30 Ambassador Choir
<b>Tuesday, May 8</b> 4:00 Exercise Class	<b>Saturday, May 12</b> Presbyterian Women's Mini Retreat
<b>Wednesday, May 9</b> 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	<b>Sunday, May 13</b> 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service

### Presbyterian Women's Retreat: May 12 Living Covenantally and Sustainably

All women of First Presbyterian Church are invited to a mini-retreat, Saturday, May 12, from 10 a.m. – 12 noon in the Martin Fellowship Hall. We will have a meditation on Psalms, some light exercises to get us going led by Darcel Tabb, followed by Theodosia Wade speaking on a county-wide initiative on making Newton County sustainable. Lunch will be served. The cost is free but if you do not attend a Circle and would like to attend please contact Jan Giles at [FamilyGilesGa@gmail.com](mailto:FamilyGilesGa@gmail.com) so that we can have enough food for everyone.



**First Quarter Statements of Giving** are available in the narthex for those who pledge or give regularly. They are in alphabetical order on the usher's table. Taking yours home saves us postage! So, please be a good steward. Thanks for your generosity to the church.



**Vacation Bible School: June 11-15** Adult and youth volunteers of all ages are needed to make this year's VBS safe and successful. Contact Dan Walden at the church office if you are able to help in any way.

**Good Shepherd Flea Market, Saturday, May 12, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** 4140 Clark Street. There will be a huge variety of items including glassware, art, plants, furniture, books jewelry, household items, toys, electronics, etc. The money raise will go right back into our community as our outreach commitment.



**Office Volunteers Needed** We are requesting volunteers who will work in the office answering phones, greeting guests and other tasks according to ability. We particularly need coverage during Peni Kehoe's upcoming vacation, May 30-June 8. Training will be provided. Contact Peni in the church office. Thanks! 770-786-7321 or [penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto:wbwade75@gmail.com)

Dan Walden: [djwalden@mac.com](mailto:djwalden@mac.com)

Church Office/Peni Kehoe: [penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com)

Website: [www.fpccov.org](http://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](http://www.fpccov.org)) and clicking on "Media."



The Food Pantry is now open on **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 9:00 - 1:00. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome.

Suggested donations:

**May** - boxed or canned meals with meat

**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

**Usher Chair - May**  
John McCarthy

**Transportation 5/13:**  
Danny Vining

**Sound Engineer:**  
Ken Walker

## MEMBERS OF SESSION

**Class of 2018**  
Gary Boteler  
Billy Fortson  
Stephanie Scarborough  
Tom Stillerman  
Koen Ardis  
Sophia Hawley

**Class of 2019**  
Carter Gibson  
John McCarthy  
Teresa McCurry  
Cheryl Meichsner  
Miriam Wheeler

**Class of 2020**  
Doug Bolton  
Stan Hall  
Cindy Moon  
Bob Tabb  
Michael Thompson

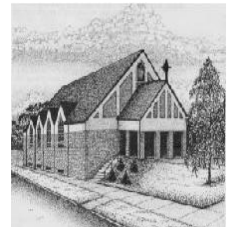
## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr.	<i>Pastor</i>	Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO
Dan Walden	<i>Director of Youth and Children's Ministry</i>	Shaun and Aubrey Evans	<i>Organist/Ambassador Choir Nursery</i>
Peni Kehoe	<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Kara Sugg	<i>Director of the Early Learning Center</i>
Alexis Ward	<i>Music Director</i>		
Mindy Forehand	<i>Interim Music Director</i>		



## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018



### Order of Worship

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE	<i>Prelude in Classic Style</i>	Gordon Young
	<i>Processional in E Flat</i>	David Johnson
	<i>Brother James' Air</i>	M. Searle Wright

INTROIT	<i>Jesus Is Risen, Alleluia!</i>
	Sanctuary Choir

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 98

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises...

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.**

Let the floods clap their hands;

let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord.

**For he is coming to judge the earth.**

**He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.**

✦ HYMN 645 MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, you have told us what is most important--to love you and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Still, we confess there are times when we know what is right to do and we neglect to do it. At other times we pretend we haven't heard your word to us and we go ahead with words and actions that do nothing to honor you or care for others. Forgive us. Give us wisdom and strength to turn our lives and priorities around so our lives will give you glory.**

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear and believe the good news: God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. God reaches out to us again and again, that we might turn away from what is destructive and turn toward what is life-giving. God reaches out to us with forgiveness, assuring us that we are beloved children of God, and equipping us to serve God and our neighbor in the world.

**God forgives us, encourages us, and frees us to love others.  
Thanks be to God!**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE LAUDA ANIMA

Hymn 619, stanza 1

**Praise, my soul, the God of Heaven; glad of heart your carols raise; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should sing God's praise? Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!**

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

ANTHEM *Serve the Lord with Gladness* Rollo Dilworth  
Sanctuary Choir

*Serve the Lord. Serve the Lord with gladness.  
Serve Him with gladness.  
Come before His presence with singing, glorious singing.  
Praise the Lord, O praise ye the Lord.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Know that the Lord is God: it is He that hath made us.  
We are the sheep of His pasture.  
Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and praise:  
Give thanks and bless His name.  
Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen!*

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN Dan Walden

*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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS Acts 10:44-48  
John 15:9-17

SERMON *I Call You Friends* The Rev. Dr. Doug Hicks

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

✦ HYMN 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one true God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal...

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 35 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *Andante con Moto* Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy  
Loucy Hay, piano Alice Walker, Organ

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE I'M GONNA LIVE

Hymn 700, stanza 1

***I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!***

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, we give you thanks for your abundant goodness. Filled with the love of Christ, we go forth to love others in your name. Amen.**

**BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

✦ HYMN 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* FESTAL SONG

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CHORAL RESPONSE CWM RHONDDA  
God of Grace and God of Glory (stanza 4)  
Sanctuary Choir

✦ POSTLUDE *Now Thank We All Our God* J. S. Bach

✦ Please stand if you are able.

*Worship Notes*

✦ **The Rev. Dr. Doug Hicks**, Dean of Oxford College, is our preacher today.  
✦ **Dan Walden**, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, is assisting with worship and the Word for Children.  
✦ **Loucy Hay** will be playing the piano this morning.  
✦ 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](http://www.fpccov.org).

*In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

†Tim Blankenship-ICU Clearview (brother of Trent, son of Maxine Blankenship)  
†Harry Hicks-heart surgery 5/1 (father of Doug Hicks)  
†Sam Ramsey-heart problems  
†Spencer Boyd-lung cancer  
3037 Pine Needle Rd  
Augusta, GA 30909-3047  
†Angela Gregory-cancer (sister of Dave Gregory)  
Peni Kehoe-home, sinus surgery  
†Lewis Bunn-lung cancer (father of Alan Bunn)  
†Hannah Elledge-Lyme Disease (granddaughter of Bill & Judy Davis)  
†Roger Wallace-Rockdale Healthcare  
†Sharon Popinski is donated her kidney to her cousin Dewight Wilson on April 13, in Atlanta. (niece & nephew of Joyce Ashworth)  
†Lauran Ashworth-a mastectomy in April in Alexandria, VA (Joyce Ashworth's daughter-in-law)  
†Joel Kitchens - surgery  
†Kathryn Wallace-broken leg  
†Phyllis Pruner-home, bronchitis, pleurisy  
†Larry Kennon-home  
†Roger Gossage-home  
†Sharon Wallace-back surgery (sister of Debbie Gossage)  
†Thomas Stewart-partial leg amputation  
†Sophia Hawley-cystic fibrosis  
†Adriane Ivey-home, chemo therapy  
†Tom Holmes-cancer (friend of Dan Walden)  
†Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)  
†Clynton Byer-heart surgery (friend of the Ardis family)  
†Jeanette Davis-hospice (mother of Maria Davis)  
†Ethan Lassiter (8)-brain tumor (grandson of E. G. and Maryanne Lassiter)  
†Matthew Howell-home, recovering from motorcycle accident,  
†David Cooper-chemotherapy (father of Rebecca Bates)  
†Anderson Krieger-chemotherapy at home  
†Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)  
†Robin McKeown-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)

†Ron Swatty-heart problems, brother-in-law of Charles Ardis)  
†Mitchell Jessup-cancer (father of Nick Jessup)  
**Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:**  
†Julia Brubaker-Benton House  
†Russ Cole-Manor House, Social Circle  
†Jeanne Cannon-St. Simon's Island, GA

**Merryvale**  
†Guy McGiboney  
†Betty Robinson  
†Louise White  
†Alice Gadilhe  
†Hughie Hudson  
†Patricia McGuire

**Home**  
†Jan Coulon  
†Debi (Dee) Selin

**Peace Corps Volunteer**  
†Patti Lanford stationed in Zambia  
Temporarily at sister's home during recovery for broken foot:  
Patti Lanford  
c/o Nancy Sauls  
483 Fischer Trail  
Ellijay, GA 30540

We extend our sympathy and prayers for the family of **Bobbie Banks**, who died last week. She was the mother of **Bobbie Wren Banks** and the aunt of **Day Kennon**.

We also pray for **Jason, Krissy, Hewett & Gray Jones** in the death of Jason's father, **Chuck Jones**, who died suddenly on Tuesday.

**Hospital Visitor:**  
Sallie Paschal

**Please update** your prayer requests this week!  
Names will be left on for one month unless updated.  
Email: [penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com)  
or call the church office,  
770-786-7321