

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



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COVINGTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 2020

FIRST PRESS



Dear Church Family,

Peace be with you!

We read in the gospel of Matthew a question: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Jesus said to them "You shall love your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."



It is in this very spirit, the session of First Presbyterian Church and Church staff faithfully discerned our worship experiences moving forward. We will be moving to a live stream service opportunity starting May 10th.

We will maintain CDC guidelines of social distancing and having no more than 10 people in the worship space. These 10 people consist of worship leadership and technological support. We will "go live" on Facebook on Sundays at 11am through the month of May. If you need assistance with navigating technology in order to actively participate please let the church know so we can walk alongside you.

We recognize the grief, technological limitations, and the overall longing for us to be back together again in our church building worshipping in the sanctuary. We will continue to be in prayerful dialogue for when we feel we can safely gather again in person.

The church office remains closed at this time. Rest assured the church staff and elders are pressing onward in our call to be church in this new day.

We invite you to join us in prayer for our church family, community, and world.

We are indeed a church scattered but by the presence of the Holy Spirit we gather day in and day out through connectional ministry in a phone call, zoom check in, a letter in the mail, and by showing up in creative new ways! May we all embody God's love as we love one another, care for one another, and be church together!

Grateful to serve,

Neeley

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane
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Covington
First Presbyterian
Church
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www.fpccov.org

See our website at: www.fpccov.org

The deadline for the June "First Press" is May 15, 2020. Please submit your articles and information to the church office by email: admin@fpccov.org or by dropping off your copy to the church office, neatly printed or typed or on a flash drive. Thanks!

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Eleanor Scarborough
Sophia Hawley
- 2 Bill Blair
- 3 John McCarthy
- 4 Jason Jones
Erin Stillerman
- 5 Jefferson Moss
- 6 Dot Fincher
Gary Boteler
Gray Jones
- 7 Patti Lanford
- 10 David Gregory
Betty Bailey
- 11 Loucy Hay
Jim Patrick



May
BIRTHDAYS

- 12 Denny Dobbs
Susan Boteler
- 14 Lelia Raines
- 15 Jerry Bouchillon
- 17 Debbie Gossage
- 18 Don Hillman
Kendall Hawley
- 19 Jack Wheeler
- 20 Carter Gibson
- 22 Randy Layton
- 23 Quinton Prince
- 26 Jim Gregory
- 29 Doug Arnold
- 30 Sally Evans
Matthew Daniell

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!

April Session Highlights

- ◆ Session approved motion to adopt the NFDA guidelines supporting a graveside or a memorial service for our congregation members during the Covid 19 pandemic and shelter in place issued by the state.
 - ◆ Session approved motion from Finance committee to apply for the Payroll Protection Loan (PPP) from the government stimulus program.
 - ◆ Session approved motion to change our COVID 19 Protocol Level from Red back to Yellow thereby allowing Live-Stream services for the congregation from May 10th - 31st.
- Submitted by
John McCarthy, Clerk of Session

Monthly Financial Report

Thanks to a prepaid pledge in March we are ahead in pledges this month. Expenses were \$14,5215 over budget.

2020 March Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/ Expenses	YTD Income /Expenses
Pledged Income	30,580	32,525	96,929
Non-Pledge Income	3,666	4,167	10,195
Other Income	4,333	40	32,120
Total income	38,580	36,732	139,244
Expenses	39,145	51,253	129,205
Net Totals 3/31/2020	(-565)	(-14,521)	10,039

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.



The Congregational Life and Care Team offers the gift of sharing in storytelling as a church family!

We are a people of faith connected by stories! Be sure to check out church social media and website for our series: "Stories of Faith: How I have Experienced God's Love."

Dear FPC Family,

I pray that you and your families are well! We are continuing to check on our ELC families, and offering them services the best we can from afar.

Registration for the fall is open. Our 2-year-old class is almost full, but we have several openings available for the other ages. If you know anyone looking for a fantastic program where their child will both learn and be loved, please send them my way! Our registration forms and tuition information are available at www.fpelc.org. They can also email me at fpelcdirector@gmail.com.



Please continue to pray for this ministry and the families we serve. We appreciate all of your support!
God bless,
Darlene Alley, FPELC Director

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2020
Allie Hay
Doug Bolton
Stan Hall
Cindy Moon
Bob Tabb

Class of 2021
Jay Lanners
Warren Liem
Pam Stillerman
Donna Weesner
Cy Wolverton

Class of 2022
Aubrey Evans
John McCarthy
Stephanie Scarborough
Trista Hooten Wilson

Presbyterian Women's Circles



While we are all in this stay-at-home time, the PW circles are staying in touch with each other and sending cards and making phone calls to their care lists.

New Address



Tom Crews has moved. His new address is:
4195 Dorchester Drive
Covinton, GA 30014

If your address, email or phone number has changed please email us the new information to: admin@fpccov.org or call the church office!



We want to celebrate all those who are graduating! Please send the following information by May 31, so that we can celebrate our graduates: graduate name, where graduating from, future plans, and a picture of the graduate. Send information to Peni at: admin@fpccov.org or call 770-786-7321.



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

Thornwell Updates

by Susan Boteler

Jackson Lake Ski Camp - We are optimistic that visits will still occur this summer; we'll just have to see. Sara Jo's Cottage (girls) is scheduled for June 15-18 and Ferguson Cottage (boys) for July 27-30. We need volunteers for 3 lunches and 3 dinners each session, starting with dinner the day they arrive and ending with lunch the day of departure. Please contact Susan Boteler if you want to sign up. Home 770-698-0750, Cell 404-234-4113, sboteler@mindspring.com.

Car Donation Program - Thornwell received their first donation in February! Although the car was unrepairable, it was sold for cash (\$1545.00) and the money will be used for future cars. I had a conversation recently with Jill Gibson, VP for Mission Advancement. There continues to be an increased need on campus for transitional living (students that have graduated from high school). There is currently only one transitional cottage and they are looking at opening a second cottage. There are so many opportunities to impact the quality of life of one of these young people. If you are thinking of trading in a car, consider donating it to Thornwell and taking a tax deduction. Please contact Susan Boteler for more information.

Nominee for Session—Congregational Meeting on May 17th, 10:15 am

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89436230688>



Susan Boteler was born in Chicago and at the age of 2 moved to New Jersey; her father was then transferred to Atlanta when Susan was 12 and she's been in GA ever since. As a youth she could be seen riding a unicycle around her neighborhood and playing with her 4 sisters. She attended Emory University's School of Nursing and worked as an RN at Emory Hospital for 36 years. Married to Gary for 38 years, their current fur kids are a feral cat family consisting of mom, dad and two kittens...who knew that Charles, Diana, William and Harry snooze the hours away at the Boteler's! After retiring in 2013 and taking some time off, she went back to nursing and now works part-time assisting seniors with home needs. A life changing event occurred several years ago when she signed up for a weekend mission trip to Thornwell Homes, and this summer will be the fifth year of hosting visits for the kids to Jackson Lake. Susan is also very active in the Family Promise Program. Although Susan was raised Catholic and attended a Methodist church after college, she's now very much at home with her Presbyterian family.