

(continued from the left)

the Holy Spirit is with them. Hope, peace, joy and love were born then and are indeed with us now. I cannot wait to journey with you as we dance together with the Holy Spirit, as the Body of Christ, gathered and known as FPC Covington. I am overwhelmed with joy for the opportunity and privilege to dance alongside you. I give thanks for the work of your PNC and the gifts they shared as they told the stories of FPC Covington.



I look forward to being with you in worship, study, prayer, mission, and fellowship. Our family looks forward to gathering around table with you as we remember and give thanks for all that God has done and is doing. Our family looks forward to saying YES to the baptismal vows past, present, and future of FPC Covington. It is with joy we say YES to being a part of your church family!



Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

Neeley

The Lane family will be moving to Covington during the Christmas holidays. Please introduce yourself if you see them around town!

Neeley will begin her role as Senior Pastor on Monday, February 17th.

NEELEY'S RESUME:

Education

- ▶▶ **Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte, NC: 2010-2016**
Masters of Divinity
- ▶▶ **Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC: 2002-2006**
Major: Religion/Christian Education, Minor: Psychology

Work Experience

- ▶▶ **Associate Minister of Youth Ministries**
First Presbyterian Church/Tuscaloosa, AL
September 2016-June 2019
- ▶▶ **Director of Youth Ministries**
First Presbyterian Church/Tuscaloosa, AL
September 2015-September 2016
- ▶▶ **Director of High School Youth Ministries**
Covenant Presbyterian Church/Charlotte, NC
September 2009-August 2015
- ▶▶ **Programs Assistant**
Seigle Avenue Partners/Charlotte, NC
April 2009-September 2009
- ▶▶ **Director of Christian Education**
First Presbyterian Church/Hartsville, SC
June 2006-April 2009

Volunteer Experience/Community Involvement

- Keynote Speaker, Foothills Presbytery Youth Retreat
- Workshop Leader, S.T.E.P.S. Charleston Atlantic Presbytery
- Keynote Speaker, Montreat Youth Conference
- Served on Presbytery Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- Served on Presbytery Youth Council (2019 – Co-Moderator)
- Keynote Speaker Youth Retreat, Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
- Small Group Leader, Montreat High School Conference
- Small Church Internship, The Grove – Charlotte, NC
- Faith and Sexuality Workshop for Youth, Selwyn Presbyterian – Charlotte, NC
- Youth Leader Training, First Presbyterian Church - Charlotte, NC
- Montreat Youth Conference, Small Group Leader
- Director of Annual Recreation Workshop
- Keynote/Worship Leader, Montreat Ski Weekend
- Keynote Speaker, Charlotte Presbytery Middle School Retreat
- Keynote Speaker, Western North Carolina Presbytery Middle School Retreat
- Montreat Middle School Conference Co-Director
- Keynote Speaker, Western North Carolina Presbytery Middle School Event
- Montreat Middle School Planning Team
- Co-Director, Montreat College Conference
- Keynote Speaker, Northeast Georgia Presbytery Youth Event
- Adult Advisor, Northeast Georgia Presbytery Fall Retreat
- Camp Counselor, Rutledge, Peachtree Presbyterian Church



Following a unanimous vote,
The Pastor Nominating Committee
joyfully introduces

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane
Senior Pastor

FROM NEELEY:

To the Congregation of
First Presbyterian Church - Covington,

This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
(Psalm 118:24)

Advent is a time of waiting, anticipation and wonder, a season in our liturgical lives of preparation. Advent is a reminder of a holy and humble arrival in our lives each year. We experience Advent with eager expectation of hearing a baby's newborn cry. We witness the presence of hope, peace, joy, and love as God reveals God's self, Emmanuel.



This Advent, it is with deep joy and immense gratitude that my family and I answer God's call to be together with you in ministry at FPC Covington. Robert, Kately (7), Paisley (4), MaryRantz (2), and I are excited to journey with you with great expectation, grand anticipation, and wonder

of hearing, witnessing, and living God's story with you. I feel God has been preparing my family and me for just such a time as this!

As a little girl growing up in the congregation of Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church in Dahlonaga, GA, I would often hear the word "surprise". The stories of the Old and New Testament are full of surprises! One of my favorite scripture stories of surprise we read during Advent occurs when Mary visits Elizabeth. I love the image that upon hearing Mary's voice, the baby in Elizabeth's belly leaps with joy! The recognition of the gift of

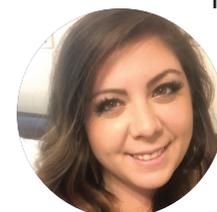


FROM YOUR PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE:



"Neeley has EVERYTHING our congregation said it wants and needs: energy, enthusiasm, joy, warmth and so much more! She is a gifted, prophetic preacher and a compassionate, down to earth caregiver. Her preaching style is "we" centered; she believes we are all the hands and feet of Christ. She is also hilarious, laughing with you and at herself in equal amounts. Overwhelmingly positive and optimistic, her glass is not half empty or half full; her cup is overflowing! Most important, she is totally reliant on God's provision and care."
- Sam Hay

"We believe that Neeley will preach and teach the faith of the church, strengthening us for witness and service. As our Senior Pastor, she will support the congregation in the disciplines of the faith, amid the struggles of daily life. Neeley, seeking always to discern the mind of Christ, will fully participate in the responsibilities of governance, building up Christ's body through devotion, debate, and decision."
- Patrick Carmichael



"The ways that God led us to Neeley and her family are mind-blowing. She fits just like a missing puzzle piece. Her enthusiasm for ministry, love for pastoral care and openness to new ideas make her a wonderful fit for our church family. She is incredibly authentic and thoughtful. I cannot wait for you to meet her!"
- Jodi Atkins

"God in His sovereignty, goodness, and perfect wisdom has made this journey incredibly gratifying. As we trusted in His timing and provision, God directed us on a pathway leading to Neeley. Neeley's deep love for God and family, as well as her passion for sharing the gospel, manifest in her ministry. I am looking forward to the Lord's plans for our church family and community."
- Cheryl Gibson



"Rev. Lane shows confidence, maturity, and faithfulness. Always willing to take advice or criticism and use it to better herself. She is constantly seeking new knowledge that allows her to grow as a person and in her vocation."
- Warren Liem

"I have been a member of the FPC family for most of my life and I know that Neeley will be a blessing to this family. She is a truly joyful person. Her enthusiasm is contagious."
- Stephanie Scarborough



"God's gentle hands have led our pastor nominating committee, under the capable direction of Sam Hay, to Rev. Neeley Rantz Lane. I look forward to Neeley and her family joining our outstanding church family. We can all "dance with the spirit" together."
- Cy Wolverton