

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



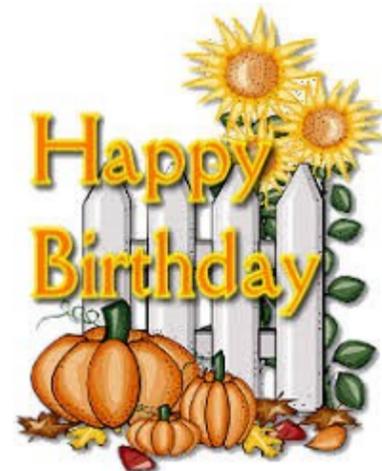
Time Sensitive Church News
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See our website at: www.fpccov.org

The deadline for the December "First Press" is November 15, 2019. 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!

- 2 Jonathan Howell
- Ricky Loftin
- Jean Blair
- 3 Frank Luton
- 4 Luke Dobbs
- 6 Krissy Jones
- Ada Hicks
- 9 Michael Wilson
- Darcel Tabb
- 10 Don Adams
- Patrick Carmichael
- 11 Stephanie Fortson



- 12 Linda Chadwick
- 14 Billy Wade
- 17 Susanne Perkerson
- 20 Logan Arwood
- 23 Fran Prince
- 25 Kathleen Stamps
- Jan Giles
- 26 Ken Walker
- 29 Pattie Borders
- Jonny Atkins
- Peggy Stallings

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 NOVEMBER 2019

FIRST PRESS



Greetings FPC Family!

It is with great joy that I write my first newsletter article, adding to the list of firsts I've experienced over the last month. First day in the office, first Sunday School, first worship service, first preschool chapel, first sermon, first Session meeting, first youth gathering. And with each first comes a new excitement for what is still to come.

And with each new first I am once again reminded how grateful I am for this new call. I am grateful for the warm welcome I received, beginning with the welcome luncheon in September. My husband, Will, and I were overwhelmed with your generosity and expression of hospitality as we met so many people for the first time, not to mention the delicious meal. I am grateful for the countless people who have stopped by the office to meet me or simply to say hi. I am grateful for your grace as I continue to learn names and get to know each of you. I am grateful for parents and youth who have engaged in Sunday School and youth activities with energy and anticipation. And I am grateful for the intentionality of the Session and staff in welcoming me and getting me started in this role.



I am truly grateful for the gift of being in this place for this new season. And I am excited to see what else God has in store for us.

As we enter this Thanksgiving season, it is only appropriate that I not only express my gratitude to this church, but also that we return our thanks to God. We have so much to be thankful for, not just in this season, but always.

The psalmist reminds us, "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever...Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind" (Psalm 107:1, 8). God has blessed each of us and it is indeed part of our Christian responsibility to continually return thanks to God. May this season of Thanksgiving be just one opportunity for us to do so.

Thank you again for letting me be part of the story of this community of faith. I look forward to continuing on this journey together!

Blessings,
Kimmy

Communion
Sunday



We will celebrate Communion
Sunday, November 3rd.
Prepare your hearts.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

October Session Highlights

PNC representatives reported that they are making steady progress with the interview process and are hopeful to have a final candidate in first quarter 2020.

The 2019 Nominating Team reported that they are close to the final list of elder candidates and are planning to have Congregational meeting in November for the nominations.

Worship Committee reported that there will be Baptism of Virginia Martin on Oct. 20th and the next communion will be on Nov. 3rd.

Christian Education committee reported that the Youth Sunday School meeting at Bread and Butter had a great turnout and that ELC enrollment is now up to 57 students and growing. Next column

Worship committee reported all is ready to host the Oxford Students, Faculty and Alumni on Oct. 20th.

Motion from Facilities Committee to allow Sustainable Newton organization to use FPC meeting facilities was approved.

Motion from Facilities Committee to allow the Walden family use of the Fellowship Hall was approved.

Facilities Committee reported that the Chamber of Commerce is planning to move to a larger facility and suggested that FPC consider actively pursuing purchasing the building as a location for growth of our church and its ministries

Finance committee reported that September was another positive month. Revenue was down, however expenses were significantly lower as well.

Motion from the Personnel committee to adopt an FSA (Flexible Spending Account) plan for the benefit of our full-time church employees was adopted.

Strategic Planning Committee stressed the importance of the various ministry teams in completing their budgets for 2020 and submitting to finance before November 17th.

Witness Committee reported that they still need volunteers in support of the Family Promise week on Oct 27th and the Change the World day on Oct. 26th.

Motion to elect Cy Wolverton and Jay Lanners as FPC's commissioners to the November Presbytery meeting was approved.

Submitted by John McCarthy, Clerk of Session

The regular monthly meeting of the Session will take place on Sunday, November 17th, directly following the 11:00 worship service.



Monthly Financial Report

Pledge arrears for 2019 (\$-26,180)

2019 September Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/ Expenses	YTD Income /Expenses
Pledged Income	31,768	27,482	259,738
Non-Pledge Income	3,583	8,217	37,163
Other Income	416	40	3,390
Total income	36,601	35,739	300,290
Expenses	38,594	30,007	306,246
Net Totals	(-1,992)	5,733	(-5,956)

Serving Us in November

November Usher Chair:
Pam Stillerman

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

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

Hospital Visitors:
11/3 Jean Wolverton
11/10 Betty Bailey
11/17 Darcel & Bob Tabb
11/24 Beth & Danny Vining

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2019
Carter Gibson
Jay Lanners
John McCarthy
Cheryl Meichsner
Miriam Wheeler
Allie Hay

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

Class of 2021
Warren Liem
Pam Stillerman
Donna Weesner
Cy Wolverton

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service with the Lord's Supper	4	5 PW Circles Meet: 10:00 Eliz. Ann and Martha 7:00pm Ruth 4:00 Exercise	6 12:00 Ambassador Choir Lunch & warm up at FPC 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	7	8 	9
10 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 12:00 Youth & Parent Lunch Meeting	11	12 Presbytery Meeting 4:00 Exercise	13 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	14 10:30 Ambassador Choir	15 Newsletter Deadline!	16 8:00 Men's Breakfast & Study
17 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service Congregational Meeting 12:00 Session Meeting	18 	19 1:00 A Novel Bunch 4:00 Exercise	20 11:00 Ambassador Choir warm-up at FPC 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	21	22	23
24 Christ the King 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:45 Thanksgiving Breakfast 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	25	26 4:00 Exercise	27 9:30 Newsletter Mailing group 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	28 Office Closed 	29 Office Closed 2:00-7:00- Red Cross Blood Drive 	30

THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP



“The most beautiful way to start and end the day is with a grateful heart”

2019 has been an exciting and challenging year here at First Presbyterian. We have welcomed new ministers and members and we have started new programs like Family Promise! Congregational Life and Care would like to invite you to our **“Thankful Breakfast”** on Sunday, **November 24th at 09:45 am** in the Fellowship Hall.

Join us for a special breakfast and time of fellowship and thanks for 2019.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Dear FPC Family,

October was a full and exciting month for us at FPELC! We studied the Creative Curriculum “Boxes” study. Children used their imaginations to build with boxes, crafted with boxes, and compared shapes and sizes of boxes. We also had a field trip to the Pumpkin Patch, had a wonderful Halloween costume parade, and celebrated with class parties. We also memorized our verse of the month, “When I am afraid, I put my trust in You” from Psalm 56:3.

You may be seeing some adorable “Oh, How I Love Jesus!” FPELC shirts around town! This year’s long sleeve shirt is light blue with a bright, multi-color print on the back. I have a few more left in both adult and toddler sizes, so let me know if you want one. (\$20 each; \$2 extra for XXL and XXXL)



In November, we will be learning about Wheels and, of course, Thanksgiving. We invite families to come in for our annual Thankful for Families potluck lunches before taking a break for the week of Thanksgiving. We are hosting the Scholastic Book Fair November 4-8. The store will be open before and after school: 8:30-9:30 and 12:30-1:30, except for Tuesday when we’re closed for Election Day. Scholastic Books will make excellent Christmas presents for friends and family!

This month we are also starting to plan our Christmas parade float. This is such a fun way to reach out to our community and to spend more time getting to know the families we serve.

Thank you for the prayers and support that you give the ELC!

God bless,

Darlene Alley
FPELC Director

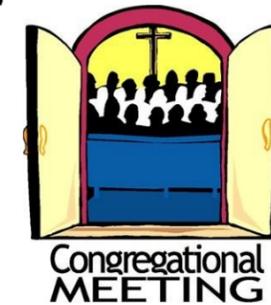
NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION



November 3, at 2:00 am set clocks back 1 hour

Elder Election for Session

Sunday, November 17th
at the end of the
worship service



Congregational
MEETING

If the way be clear, the election of elders for the Session Class of 2022 will be held on November 17th, at the conclusion of the worship Service. All members are asked to stay and vote for the proposed slate of candidates.

Men's Bible Study and Breakfast



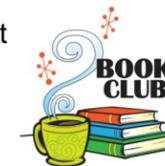
The men will meet on **Saturday, November 16, at 8:00 am** in the fellowship hall.

Bring your breakfast and a friend. Our study continues with the book *The Day the*

Revolution Began, Chapter 8.

A Novel Bunch Book Club

A Novel Bunch book club will meet at the home of Judy Davis, 103 Gabriel Way in Social Circle at **1 PM on November 19th**. We will discuss “The Art of Racing in the Rain” by Garth Stein. All are welcome.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

All Circles will meet on Tuesday, November 5th

Elizabeth Ann and Martha Circles will meet together in the fellowship hall at 10:00 am. Elizabeth Martin Pope will lead the discussion of Lesson #3, “Words of Love: Keep Sabbath.” All Presbyterian Women are invited to attend. A light breakfast will be served. Elizabeth is the daughter of Chris & Barbara Martin. **Ruth Circle** will meet at 7:00 pm at the home of Jean Wolverton.

If you are not currently a Circle member you are invited to join. Contact Moderator Jean Wolverton to sign up, 678-372-0901.

Sustainable Newton

Join Sustainable Newton for a presentation and conversation about climate change in conjunction with The Climate Reality Project’s *24 Hours of Reality: Truth in Action*. One Tree Planted will plant a tree for every person who attends a presentation. Learn more at: www.sustainablenewton.org.

The presentation will be held at the **Newton County library on Floyd street on Thursday, November 21, from 6:00-7:00 pm.**

Staff Email Addresses:

Pastor Steven — steven@fpccov.org

Pastor Kimmy — kimmy@fpccov.org

Church office/Peni — admin@fpccov.org.

Please change your contact list, if you haven’t already done so. Thanks!

WITNESS NEWS



Special Offering

November is set aside as a time of thanksgiving for the ministry of Thornwell Home for Children. It is also a time to take up offerings to help support their work of providing homes for children who need a stable environment

in which to grow and learn.

We have set aside November 17th and 24th to take up donations. FPC has long been a supporter of Thornwell and the wonderful, loving care that is given to the children who reside there.



Red Cross Blood Drive

FPC will host a blood drive on Friday, November 29th from 2:00 to 7:00 pm

Volunteers will be needed from 1:00 to 7:30pm. Contact Doug Bolton at dougbolton@yahoo.com or by cell at (678)858-2080 to volunteer or get more information.



Baby Love

Baby Love is a ministry to provide diapers and wipes to families in need. Bring your donations to the church and place them in the cradle in the narthex. If you'd rather give a cash donation, mark your

check or envelope with "baby love." Thanks to all who have supported this local mission project of the Witness Team.

Community Food Pantry

Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome. Bernice Bailey is the Director, (770-786-3048).

Suggested for November:
cookies, bread & rolls



Building communities, strengthening lives.

Mark your calendars for the evening of **November 9th**. Family Promise of NewRock is hosting a gala event in support of helping homeless families achieve self-sufficiency in Newton and Rockdale. There will be dinner, entertainment, and an auction to raise funds for the non-profit organization.

BUILDING ROADS OF PROMISE

Saturday, November 9, 2019
Georgia Technical College Conference Center
8100 Bob Williams Parkway, Covington
Doors open and 6:00; Dinner served at 6:30
Semi-formal attire

Tickets are on sale now at <https://fpnrgala2019.eventbrite.com>
Individual tickets \$55.00
Table of 8 \$360.00
Platinum Table \$500.00

For more information or to purchase tickets over the phone:
Call 470-721-4549

YOUTH AND PARENT MEETING



There will be a Youth and Parent Meeting on Sunday, November 10th, immediately following worship in the fellowship hall. Lunch will be served. It's for all youth and their parents.

Kimmy Briggs, Director of Family Ministries

CHOIR NEWS

November 2019 Schedule for Ambassador Choir



Ambassador Choir

WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2019—Sing at The Oaks at Ashton Hills in COVINGTON 12:00 noon - Complimentary Salad/Sandwich Lunch at FPC at in Sunday School room at end of hall. 12:30 PM - Warmup/Rehearsal in FPC Choir Room. 1:00 pm - Carpool to The Oaks at Ashton Hills in COVINGTON, 10050 Eagle Drive, Covington, GA 30014, telephone number 678-607-9810. Sing at 1:30 PM.

THURSDAY, November 7, 2019 - NO REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, November 14, 2019 —10:30 am - REGULAR REHEARSAL in FPC Choir Room.

WEDNESDAY, November 20, 2019 Sing at Benton House at 12:00 noon.

11:00 AM - Meet at FPC for warmup/rehearsal. 11:30 am - Carpool to Benton House, 7155 Dearing Street, Covington, GA 30014, telephone number 770-788-6660, at 11:30 am. Sing at 12:00 noon. Complimentary lunch at Benton House at 1:00 pm.

THURSDAY, November 21, 2019 - NO REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, November 28, 2019 - NO REHEARSAL (Thanksgiving)

Visitors are always welcome to come to rehearsals and performances. We have vacancies for new Ambassador Choir members. Happy Singing!



Choir Rehearsals

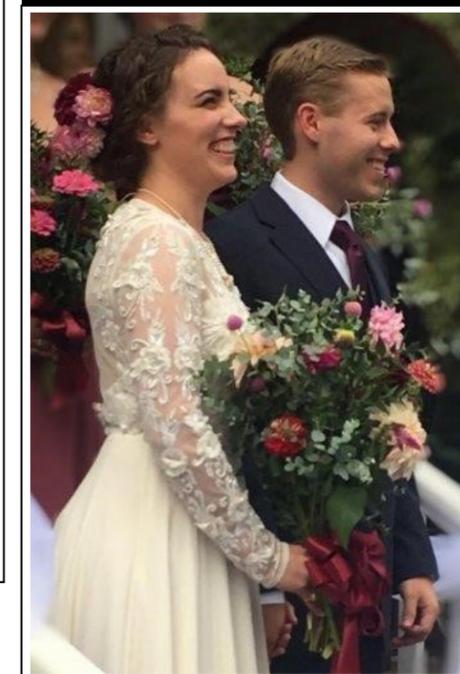
Sanctuary Choir rehearsals take place on **Wednesdays at 6:45pm** in the choir room.

Handbell Choir rehearsals take place on **Sundays at 9am** in the sanctuary.

We would love to have anyone interested join us! If you cannot make the weekly commitment, but are interested in singing or ringing, please let Krista Firkus know as the need for soloists and alternates often arises.

see our website at:
www.fpccov.org

CELEBRATION



Guy & Carol McGiboney share the news of the marriage of their granddaughter, Elizabeth Phillips to Matt Pharris, on October 12th at the McGiboney's cabin. Congratulations to the happy couple.