

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



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, COVINGTON OCTOBER 2018

FIRST PRESS



From Our Interim Pastor

Greetings FPC Family!

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord, Jesus Christ! Blessings to you all! I hope and pray that this note and newsletter finds you well.

Well, as I write this, I realize that by the time you receive it I will have been here two full weeks already! Wow, where did they go, though? I have met many wonderful people so far—both here in the office during the weekdays and many more of you on Sunday mornings and other times. All in all, it has been two of the most special and blessed weeks of my life!

As your interim pastor, I have enjoyed meeting you, getting to know you, and becoming part of your personal and congregational faith journeys. I am attempting to learn as many names as I can. And, I am deeply grateful to all those I've had the privilege of sharing a meal and conversation with. Thank you all for your kindness and generosity, and I look forward to getting to know everyone better.

The in-between time since Billy's retirement and my arrival may have seemed long and possibly awkward, but it is behind us! And, most importantly, it has not diminished what God has been doing. As I preached about on my first Sunday in the pulpit, God is indeed busy around here! Here are some of my observations of what God is up to ...

The family of faith here at FPC is very warm and welcoming, and your sense of caring is genuine and wonderful. The mood of people around the church is positive and upbeat! There's peppiness in our footsteps and energy in the hallways and pews. Smiles can be seen on our faces. Laughter can be heard in our gatherings. My friends, the Holy Spirit is moving among us and reinvigorating FPC for a bright and exciting future!

The church staff is a good, strong, and healthy team. We work well together, we work hard, and we have fun in all that we do. We have meshed very well together, and God has blessed us all with energy and enthusiasm!

Finally, your Session and ministry teams are hard at work planning for various events and activities in the coming months. We are poised to be great servant leaders and accomplish many wonderful things in God's name during the last part of 2018 and beyond!

And, there is more! There is always more that God is doing in our life and ministry together. This is an exciting time for FPC, and I pray you will find ways to be part of all that God is doing in and through our congregation.

To those of you who have been able to be an active part of this family of faith since my arrival, I thank you. But, to those of you who have not had the opportunity, please accept my invitation to join us. Whether you have been away for a few weeks, months, or years—it doesn't matter—we welcome you home to FPC with open arms and hearts full of love!

Until the next time, I remain just another silly preacher, giddy as a school boy that God called me to FPC!

Grace & Peace, Steven



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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Interim Pastor
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www.fpccov.org

See our website at: www.fpccov.org

The deadline for the November "First Press" is October 15, 2018. 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!

October Birthdays

- 1 Shari Hillman
- 2 Rick Meichsner
- 3 Bob Tabb
- 5 Paisley Jessup
- 6 Ruth McDaniel
- Addison Skinner
- 7 Eric Henderson
- 9 Chuck Brasher
- 10 Sam Hay, III
- Jeanie Liem
- Leonard Kaminski
- Emily Giles
- 13 Emmy Roth



- 14 Cy Wolverton
- 16 Patricia Hinton
- Carol Dunbar
- Charles Ardis
- 17 Dale Evans
- 20 Jeanne Cannon
- Zachary Kimmel
- 21 Jackie Barboe
- 24 Cathy Dobbs
- Warren Liem
- Caryn Thompson
- Scarlett McCurry
- 26 Sherri Bolton

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!

SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Session Highlights for September

- The September 9th stated session meeting included 11 members present with 6 members absent. FPC Youth Director Dan Walden, FPC member Gene Wallace and The Rev. Kevin Hicks (moderator) were also in attendance.
- Session approved contract for The Rev. Steven Barnes as FPC's Interim Pastor effective 9/17/18
- Session approved Gary Boteler, Billy Fortson, John McCarthy and Bob Tabb as co-signers for the Line of Credit loan with BB&T.
- A Certificate of Appreciation from Action Ministries for FPC's support of their "Summer Nutrition Program" was reviewed.

next column.....

· During the Staff report it was mentioned that Carol Dunbar, Susan Boteler, Ruth McDaniel and Danielle Shubert have stepped in to fill the role at the front office during the medical leave for Secretary Peni Kehoe. Dan Walden was commended for his work in keeping the church moving forward during the absence of a full-time pastor.

· Christian Education reported that ELC has had many challenges with the loss of their director and a teacher, but have been able to overcome them in stride. ELC enrollment is at about 75% with expenses currently outstripping revenue. There was some discussion about the need to grow Sunday school attendance. Dan Walden was commended on his work with the youth (Middle/High School) of the church.

· Congregation Life and Care reported a very busy two months and have now exhausted their allocated budget for the year. Session will need to locate monies within the overall budget to fill the remaining needs for 2018. Wolf Waetzig was commended for his volunteer work in building new shelving for the secondary pantry for the Fellowship Hall.

· Facilities and Equipment reported that to meet fire code all non-equipment items will need to be removed from the power and HVAC storerooms at the church. City of Covington painted new parking stripes on Brown Street by the Fellowship Hall.

· Strategic Planning gave a report on their Implementation strategy.

· Worship committee motion for supply pastors Anna Grace Claunch on Sept 16, Stuart Leyden on Oct 21, and Jill Lum on Nov 4, was passed. Motion to change communion from September 16 to September 23 was passed.

· There was discussion under Old Business about the need to get the Stewardship Campaign under way.

· There was discussion under New Business concerning reducing the number of elders elected each year to session.

John McCarthy, Clerk of Session

Monthly Financial Report

Pledge arrears for 2018 (-6,590)

2018 August Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/Expenses	YTD Income/Expenses
Pledged Income	30,776	26,039	234,882
Non-Pledge Income	3,166	7,086	39,349
Other Income	416	140	3,470
Total income	34,359	33,266	277,701
Expenses	36,809	37,518	294,354
Net Totals 8/31/2018	(-2,450)	(-4,253)	(-16,653)

Serving Us in October

Usher Chair:
Stephanie Scarborough

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

Hospital Visitors:

9/30-10/6: Beth & Danny Vining;
10/7: Cy Wolverton
10/14: Day Kennon
10/21: Alice Walker
10/28: Jean Wolverton

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

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 30 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 5:00 Youth Connection	1	2 10:00-Eliz Ann 10:30-Martha 7:00 Ruth 4:00 Exercise	3	4 10:30 Ambassador Choir	5	6
7 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Welcome Lunch	8 	9	10 4:00 Exercise 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	11 10:30 Ambassador Choir	12	13
14 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service Session Meeting 3:00 Organ Concert 5:00 Youth Connection	15	16 4:00 Exercise	17 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	18 10:30 Ambassador Choir	19	20 9:00 at FUMC
21 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	22	23 1:00 4:00 Exercise	24 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	25 10:30 Ambassador Choir 6:30 ELC Board Meeting	26 Trunk or Treat 6:00-8:00 pm ELC	27
28 Stewardship Commitment Sunday 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Lunch Youth Connection- Rake & Run	29	30 4:00 Exercise	31 Halloween 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	November 1 10:30 Ambassador Choir	November 2	November 3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Montreat Retreat</div>

MUSIC NEWS

Organ Concert Sunday, October 14, 3:00 pm in our sanctuary



We hope everyone at FPC, Covington, will make a special effort to attend this concert. Mr. Williams is truly a remarkable Organist, and his program of patriotic organ music, Gospel hymns, and organ classics such as the renowned "Toccata in D Minor" by J. S. Bach will thrill the hearts of those who come. Becky and Alice will play two grand pianos, accompanied by Mr. Williams on the organ, in the "Rondo" Movement of the "Concerto in E-Flat for Two Pianos and Orchestra" by W. A. Mozart. We think this very popular short classical piece from eighteenth century Austria will be a highlight of the concert. Becky and Alice will also play an Organ Duet, one of their favorites, Christopher Pardini's stirring arrangement of "Amazing Grace." Mr. Williams will play other highly appealing organ pieces, including festive variations on "The Star-Spangled Banner" and on "America." Equally popular will be a jazzy setting of "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" and a poignant rendition of "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." We think each piece will be thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. This will be a great way to spend a portion of a Sunday afternoon. With degrees from The Juilliard School, Westminster Choir College, and Nyack College, Mr. Williams is also a witty and entertaining speaker. His brief remarks prior to each piece will bring the musical selections to life, making a thoroughly enjoyable one-hour concert.

In his job as Organist at the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York, Mr. Williams plays over 200 services a year, before royalty, The President of the United States, cabinet members, Generals, members of Congress, and many other international government and military figures. He has performed at the Crystal Cathedral, Carnegie Hall, Ocean Grove Auditorium, and as soloist with major orchestras throughout the United States. He recently appeared on Fox News West Point Holiday Specials which reached over 2,000,000 television viewers.

A Reception will follow the Concert.



Ambassador Choir Rehearsals
Thursdays - in Choir Room at 10:30 am



Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals
Wednesdays - in Choir Room at 6:45 pm

NEWS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Santa Claus Express

Presbyterian Women each year join together throughout the Southeast to celebrate the holidays with residents at Presbyterian Homes through the SANTA CLAUS EXPRESS.



A brochure is in the Narthex at the Christmas box with the list of items requested for the residents. First Presbyterian Church has generously answered this call in past years. This is a special time for the residents to be remembered. Many do not have families. No resident is ever asked to leave when funds run out. Prayerfully consider joining the SANTA CLAUS EXPRESS by donating items.
Thanks, Jeanie Liem



Session Meeting

The Session will meet on Sunday, **October 14**, for their regular monthly meeting. The meetings are held in the Martin Fellowship Hall immediately following the morning worship service.



Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for all of the birthday cards and notes. They are wonderful and I will read them again and again. I will remember your kindness always.

Jerry McGaffney

Baby Love

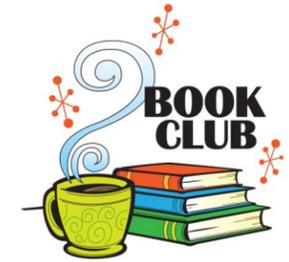


A delivery of 716 diapers was made the last week of August. Thank you for your support of this local project of the Witness Committee. Your donations of diapers and cash made this possible. The Salvation Army, Food

Pantry and the Homeless Shelter were the recipients of the diapers.

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 Novel Bunch book club will meet at 1:00 pm on October 23, at the home of Cindy Moon, 2051 H D Atha Rd, Monroe, GA 30655-5683.

The book for discussion is Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover. For information contact Judy Davis or Barbara Martin.



Presbyterian Women Circles Meet

October 2, 2018

Elizabeth Ann circle will meet at 10 am in the fellowship hall.

Martha circle will meet at 10:30 am at the home of Carol Dunbar. Cheryl Meichsner will lead the lesson.

Ruth circle will meet at 7:00 pm at the home of Stephanie Fortson.

Community Food Pantry



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

Food suggestions for **October**:

oatmeal, grits, boxed cereals

YOUTH AND FAMILY CONNECTION

NAMI 5K Walk/Run

Saturday, October 6th



NAMI Walks is a nationwide fundraising and mental health awareness program that is being held in more than 80 communities around the country. Youth Connection will meet at the church at 8:30am on Saturday, 10/6 then head to Atlanta for this 5K fun walk/run. We'll go to the Varsity for lunch afterward, then head back to the church. Bring \$5-\$10 for lunch if you are able.

Pickup time is 2:00pm at the church.

Change the World Day

Saturday, October 20th @ FUMC

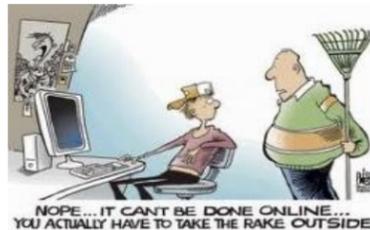
Change The World is a day about educating and serving our community. On this day we come together as one faith, one community with one common goal of being the hands and feet of Jesus. Meet at FPC fellowship hall at 9:00am and we will head over to the First United Methodist Church to help bag produce for local food pantries. There will be lots of people and food and fun things to do for the whole family!



Pickup time for Youth Connection is 12:00pm at FPC.

RAKE and RUN

Sunday, October 28th



Youth Connection will meet after worship and head out together into the community to do yard cleanup work for some of our homebound members and friends. *Pickup time is 5:00pm at the church.*

College Address Update

Stephen J. McCarthy
1501 Mercer University Dr.
MU Box 710164
Macon, GA 31207

Sam Hay IV
Auburn University
650 DeKalb St.
Unit 1412
Auburn, AL 36830

Jim Gregory
Campus Box 1848
111 N. Clark St.
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Jack Weesner
319 12th St.
Tifton, Ga. 31794

WELCOME TO OUR INTERIM PASTOR



Steven, Nicole and Dency Barnes

Welcome Lunch

We are hosting a Welcome Lunch for our new Interim Pastor, The Rev. Steven Barnes, on Sunday, October 7, after the morning worship service. Please join us for this event!

Reservations are needed as this is a catered event and we must turn in our guest count by Monday, October 1. You may fill out one of the forms in the Sunday bulletin, call the church office, 77-786-7321, ext. 1 or email: penihaug@gmail.com. Please include your name and how many you are making reservations for.

WORLD Communion Sunday

The first Sunday of October, which we celebrate with sisters and brothers around this nation, and the entire world, is **World Communion Sunday**. This day was originally known as "World Wide Communion Sunday." It originated in 1936 in a predecessor denomination to our current-day Presbyterian Church (USA). From the beginning, it was planned so that other denominations within the United States, as well as other churches overseas, could make use of it. And, after a few years, by 1940 or so, the idea had indeed spread beyond the Presbyterians to numerous others. The intent of this day is, and always has been, to celebrate the call of all Christians—of whatever background and of whatever theological tradition—to recollect, remember, and celebrate that we are in fact one in Christ, and that the table we receive from, and communion at, is God's table—not our own. *World Communion Sunday* is our chance, here in this church, to affirm with all our joy, through the sacrament of communion, that we are part of the universal church of Jesus Christ ... e-v-e-r-y-w-h-e-r-e!

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Dear FPC Family,

The fall season is an exciting time to be at FPELC! We wrapped up September with a well-attended "Someone Special Day" and a booth at the Fuzz Run. Discount card sales are starting to come in, and we hope they continue to do so for a while. (If you haven't gotten yours yet, please let one of us know!) We welcomed a new Spanish teacher to our staff this month, Rebecca Fondren. We are excited to learn many new words with her.



As we enter October, we will have Fall Break the week of October 8 through 12. The children usually come back with great stories of their adventures, and we will be looking forward to hearing their tales!

We have two opportunities for you to be a part of the preschool ministry this month. First, we will be hosting a community **Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 26, from 6 to 8 pm**. We would love to have you host a "trunk" or help with one of our games. The Girl Scouts will be having a booth, and we challenge other groups to come up with something as well! What could you do?

The second opportunity will be to come cheer for the children in their Halloween parade on **Wednesday, October 31, at 11 am**. They will be wearing the costumes and marching along the sidewalks that circle the church. They love for people to come see them, and you won't want to miss these adorable monsters!

God bless,

Darlene Alley, Director, First Presbyterian Early Learning Center