

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 March "First Press" February 15, 2016. 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!

February Birthdays

- 2 Allie Hay
- 5 Stephanie Scarborough
Betty Lunsford
- 6 Andrew Hinz
- 8 Peni Haug
- 9 Ed Perkerson
- 10 Alice Walker
- 13 Jim Stillerman
- 14 Melissa Daniell
- 17 Courtney Henderson
- 18 Nakimrey Burttis



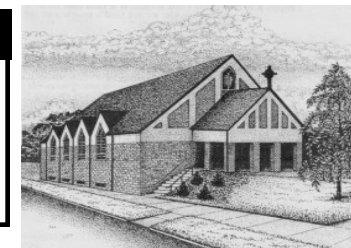
- 19 Jeff Lewis
- 21 Pily Waetzig
- 24 Danielle Schubert
- 25 Conner Jessup
Jackson Moss
Ursula Kaminski
- 26 Cam Wade
- 27 Carol Stillerman
Gracie Bates
- 28 Buncie Lanners
Gloria Rhine

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

February 2016

FIRST PRESS



LENT

Lent comes early this year. February 10 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. There are 5 Sundays in Lent, before Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Lent is a season of preparation as we move toward Holy Week and Easter.

During this season we take a realistic look at the world we live in, with all its pain and sorrow and death. We immerse ourselves in prayer for the world and search our own lives to confront our fear, our sin, our hardness of heart and our inability to believe the promises of God. We listen for God's Word and look for signs of God's grace and power.

Billy

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashes remind us of what we have made of our lives by our sin. They also are a sign of our mortality: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust". On Ash Wednesday we come forward to receive a mark of ashes on our foreheads. But it is made in the sign of the cross which reminds us that sin and death do not have the last word. God brings new life out of the ashes through Christ.



This year our joint Ash Wednesday (February 10) service at First United Methodist Church will be at 7:00 pm. We are invited to a pancake supper in their fellowship hall at 6:00 pm. Reservations are needed by Monday, February 8. Please call the church office at FPC before 4:00, 770-786-7321.



THE LORD'S SUPPER

Sunday, February 14, is the First Sunday in Lent. We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. Prepare your heart.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all your cards, notes, e-mails, verbal expressions and gifts during this month marking our 30th anniversary here. It's hard for me to believe it's been that long. I'm grateful to have been a part of your lives and the lives of some of you for three or four generations. That has been a great privilege.

This small part of the Body of Christ has had a faithful and fruitful witness in this community and beyond. I thank God for our ministry together, and for your support and challenge, your example and love for me and my family. We have grown in faith because of you.

Love,
Billy

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SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Presbytery Meeting

The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta will be meeting on Saturday, February 27, at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church. Our representatives will be: Adriane Ivey, Perri Walden, and Billy Wade.

Session Retreat

The Session will have its annual retreat on Saturday, March 5, at the Botelers' home on Jackson Lake.



Session Retreat

Monthly Financial Reports

Pledge Arrears for 2015 \$(-22,237)

2015 December Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/Expenses	YTD Income/Expenses
Pledged Income	33,942.	32,181	385,074
Non-Pledge Income	2,500	6,619	51,747
Other Income	333	535	7,945
Total income	36,984	39,730	444,766
Expenses	37,418	46,761	448,332
Net Totals 12/31/2015	(-434)	(-7,031)	(-3,565)

January 2016 Session Highlights

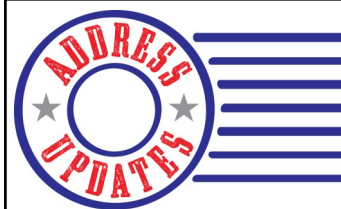
- A letter of resignation from Ed Crudup as corporation president was received with great appreciation for his years of service,
 - Session approved the appointment of Bill Loeble as the new corporation president,
 - Adriane Ivey and Perri Walden appointed as delegates for February Presbytery meeting on February 27, at St Luke's Presbyterian, Dunwoody,
 - ♦ Allocations approved from Capital Funds for handicapped access and choir loft projects.
- Michael Thompson, Clerk of Session



Session Meeting

February Session Meeting

The session will meet on Sunday, February 14, 2016 in the Martin Fellowship hall immediately after the morning worship service. We are receiving new members.



Please let us know your

- ◇ new address
- ◇ phone number or
- ◇ e-mail address

whenever you have a change. **Thanks!**

SERVING US IN FEBRUARY 2016

Nursery Volunteers

2/7: Doug & Brigham Arnold Family
2/14: Jason & Krissy Jones Family

February Usher Chair:

Joyce Ashworth

Sound Engineer: Ken Walker

Hospital Visitors:

2/7: Day Kennon
2/14: Alice Walker
2/21: Patti Lanford
2/28: Jean Wolverton

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

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2015

Gary Boteler
Billy Fortson
Jan Giles
Jim Stillerman
Bob Tabb
Fletcher Stamps
Jack Weesner

Class of 2016

Charles Ardis
Joyce Ashworth
Betty Bailey
Patrick Carmichael
Perri Walden

Class of 2017

Baxter Bouchillon
Adriane Ivey
Michael Thompson
Danny Vining
Jean Wolverton




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 31	1 Groundhog Day	2 Circle Meetings 10:00 #1 @ FPC 10:30 #2 @ Ken-non 7:00 #3 @ E Scar-borough 4:00 Exercise	3 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	4 10:30 Ambassador Choir	5	6 St. Valentine's Day
7 Transfiguration of the Lord Souper Bowl of Caring Scout Sunday 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Witness Team	8	9 4:00 Exercise	10 Ash Wednesday 4:00 Adventure Club 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service at 1st Methodist Church	11 10:30 Ambassador Choir	12 Schools - Winter Break	13 Pack 4511 Annual Valentine's Day Dinner 5:00-8:00 pm at FPC Reservations needed
14 Lent 1 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Communion 12:00 Session Meeting	15 Presidents Day No School	16 4:00 Exercise	17 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	18 10:30 Ambassador Choir	19	20 8:00 Men's Study & Breakfast
21 Lent 2 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth Connection	22	23 4:00 Exercise	24 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	25 10:30 Ambassador Choir	26	27 Presbytery Meeting at St. Luke's
28 Lent 3 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 5:00 Youth Connection	29 Leap Year 4:00 Exercise	March 1	March 2 4:00 Adventure Club 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	March 3 10:30 Ambassador Choir	March 4	March 5 Session Retreat

See our website at: www.fpccov.org

WITNESS NEWS

The Witness Team of First Presbyterian Church Covington appreciates all of your contributions of time, money, and prayers for our ongoing outreach projects.

Local Projects	National Projects	International Projects
Cub Scouts charter partner High-Rise events Food Pantry Homeless Shelter events Baby Love diapers/wipes Meals on Wheels Angel Trees (Salvation Army/DFACS gifts) Hudson-Chandler Bike Fund Toiletry Kits for Change the World Day Easter & Christmas flowers for charitable causes	Thornwell Home for Children-mission trips for landscaping, painting, small construction projects, Thanksgiving Collection ("Coin Turkeys") Denominational Offerings (i.e. Christmas Joy, One Great Hour of Sharing) <i>Planning a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance trip to aid areas hit by floods in 2015</i>	Nicaragua-water filters/trade school assistance/ assistance with young mothers and their infants 

If you are interested in participating in the Witness Team, please join us! Our team meetings are scheduled for the first Sunday of each month immediately following worship or contact Perri Walden at perriwalden@charter.net.

Scout News

On January 9, 2016 the Yellow River District BSA held their annual awards banquet and several church members received awards. Mac Cranford received the Jerry Goeble Award for dedication to Scouting measured in decades. Scarlett McCurry received the Spark Plug Award for adding the spark to scouting in the district. Sergio Rodriguez received the WEBELOS leader of the year award. Sergio was chosen over 35 other WEBELOS leaders. Rick Gunter received the Dr. Russell Laib scouting spirit award. This award is named for the late Russ Laib, a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church and District Scout Leader. Congratulations to these leaders for their well-earned awards.

On Saturday, **February 13th**, the Pack will host their 8th annual **Valentine's Dinner**. Make reservations now. See the pink insert for full details.



Community Food Pantry

You may bring food donations to the church or drop them off at the Community Food Pantry from 9:00-12:00 Wednesday and Friday, except for holidays. Call (770) 784-0037 for directions. Any non-perishable food items are welcome. For **February** it is suggested that donations be: **canned meats, chicken, beef, beef stew, spam, ham** (no tuna).



NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION



The Santa Claus Express

Once again, members of First Presbyterian Church of Covington have hopped onto the Santa Claus Express. This activity, spearheaded by the vigilant members of our Presbyterian Women Circles, has once more successfully coordinated with members of our congregation to bring joy and happiness to others at Christmas. Secretary of the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (PWCT) Beth Vining, journeyed to Athens, GA to deliver three large boxes of items collected and tastefully put together by members of our Coordinating Team for the Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. She later received this letter of acknowledgement and thanks from The Rev. W. Larry Owens, Director of Annual Giving for Presbyterian Homes of GA.

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for remembering the residents of Presbyterian Homes with your wonderful gifts this Christmas!

Fifty-nine groups jumped on board The Santa Claus Express this year and made sure that more than 250 of our most vulnerable residents had a present under the tree with their name on it.

The joy you helped to create on Christmas Eve was a beautiful sight to behold!

Thank you for all the extra effort you gave to put a smile on so many faces. We are grateful.

--Rev. Larry Owens

It certainly is a great feeling to be a member of First Presbyterian Church of Covington and also a member of Presbyterian Women here.

Janet Carmichael
Moderator

Circle Meetings for February 2016

Presbyterian Women's Circles meet on the first Tuesday of the month. This month the circles are meeting on **February 2**, at the following locations:

Circle I meets at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

Circle II meets at 10:30. Day Kennon will be the hostess and Lesson 6, Justice and Righteousness, will be led by Carol Dunbar.

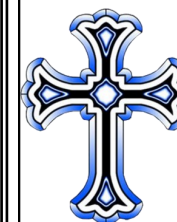
Circle III meets at 7:00 pm at the home of Eleanor Scarborough.

Women who are not currently members of a circle are welcome to attend any one of these. Please let the hostess know you will be attending. If you are new and need a phone number, you may call the church office, 770-786-7321.



Men's Bible Study, Breakfast

Men's Bible Study will gather in the Martin Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning, February 20, at 8:00 am. We will be studying The Doctrine of Atonement, the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, a particularly appropriate study as we head into Lent. Bring your breakfast and a friend.



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful dish garden. We appreciate all the prayers and phone calls during our father's last illness and at his death. We are blessed.

Bob and Darcel Tabb
Dexter and Noel Knight

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the diapers you donated to the Garden of Gethsemane Shelter in December and your continued support! May God continue to bless you always in your giving.

The Executive Board and Staff

FAMILY CONNECTION

Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 7th - Special Offering



tacklehunger.org

More than 20 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single church youth group in South Carolina: "Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."

This Sunday, our youth will be collecting donations in soup pots as you leave morning worship. Every dollar donated will go to our local Community Food Pantry. Please consider giving generously.

Children's Sunday

Sunday, March 13th @ 11:00am



We'll celebrate Children's Sunday on Sunday, March 13th, during our regular worship service. The liturgy for the service will be geared toward the child in all of us. Some of our liturgists will be children, and special music will be presented by the Children's Choir.

Hunger Walk/Run

Sunday, March 13th



Over 150,000 walkers and runners will set off from Turner Field on a 5K course around downtown Atlanta. In doing so they will raise money to alleviate food poverty in Atlanta. Our Youth Connection will be participating in this walk again this year, but it is open to all members of First Presbyterian Church. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship on the 13th and have a quick lunch together as we change into our walking shoes.

Dear FPC Family,

What's cooking at FPELC? The students. Our students will spend the month of February learning all about cooking. They are going to read stories, go on field trips and do some cooking of their own. I can't wait to see what our little chefs create. We are looking forward to our field trips to Grumpy's Low Country Fish Camp and Bread and Butter Bakery. Our verse for the month is from Psalm 34:8: "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

In January, our students learned all about space, and that God created the heavens and the earth. They learned about the planets and created some amazing "spacey" artwork. Their Bible verse was from Psalm 119:1: "The heavens declare the glory of God."

We'll also continue preparing for our annual fundraiser, An Art Affair, taking place on March 18, 2016 at The Center. Our teachers, students, parents, and Art Affair Committee have been planning away. If you stop by the last week of January, you'll see Amy from Let's Paint Pottery working on painting pottery with the classes. From what I hear, these are always the hottest items at the event. I'm excited to see what they come up with this year.

The Art Affair committee is also continuing to gather donations from local and metro vendors. We're hoping to secure items from attractions such as Zoo Atlanta (Family Pass \$119), The World of Coca Cola (Adult Tickets \$16, Youth Tickets \$12), The Aquarium (Adult Ticket \$31.95, Youth Ticket \$25.95), and the like. Without donations, we cannot make this annual fundraiser a success. If you're interested in making a contribution toward this event, obtaining an individual ticket or family pass to any of these places would be tremendously appreciated. We are also asking for help from our local area attractions and businesses. If you are able to help us connect with any of those, we would be grateful. We'll be looking for people to help work the beverage and food areas during the event. If you're able to contribute in any way, please let me or any of the teachers know. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

As always, thank you for your contributions and prayers for our school. We are so thankful for such a generous church family.



Thanks and God Bless! ~Kara

First Presbyterian Church

Charitable Stock Donation

Consider transferring stock to FPC and realize additional tax savings at the same time. If you own stock in a publicly traded company (such as Home Depot, General Mills, Ford, etc.) you may be able to transfer that stock to FPC as payment towards your pledge and realize additional tax savings. If you take itemized deductions (as opposed to the standard deduction) when you prepare your tax return, you receive a tax deduction for contributions to FPC. The deduction lowers your taxable income and therefore lowers your tax liability.

Here is how it works. Let's assume you're in the 20% tax bracket, meaning that for every additional dollar of income you earn you pay 20 cents in tax and for every dollar of tax deductions you save 20 cents in tax. So if you write a check to FPC for \$1,000, it will reduce your income taxes by \$200 (20% of \$1,000). Suppose you own Home Depot stock which you bought for \$200 and now it's worth \$1,000. You have an unrealized gain of \$800. If you sell the stock you will pay \$160 of tax on the gain (800 x 20% = \$160). However, instead of selling the stock, you can give the stock to FPC. If you do that, you receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of the stock (\$1,000) and never pay tax on the unrealized gain of \$800.

In the example above, if you write a check to FPC for \$1,000 you receive a tax deduction for that amount and save \$200 in taxes. If you donate the stock worth \$1,000 to FPC you also receive a tax deduction for \$1,000 and save \$200 in taxes, but by donating the stock, you never have to pay tax on the unrealized gain of \$800. So you avoided another \$160 in tax. By donating stock worth \$1,000 instead of writing a check for \$1,000, you effectively saved \$360 in tax (\$200 + \$160).

The three basic requirements for utilizing a stock donation are: (1) the value of the stock must be more than your cost of the stock, (2) you must have owned the stock for at least one year, and (3) the stock cannot be held in an IRA or other retirement account.

If you would like to donate stock to FPC, please call Peni Haug, the church secretary. If you have questions about the tax aspects of a stock donation, please call Gary Boteler at 404-680-8570.

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 239

Matt 5:20-30

J	U	D	G	E	R	E	B	M	E	M	E	R	E	T
M	R	Y	S	H	A	G	A	I	N	S	T	B	L	R
K	E	I	U	T	T	S	E	S	U	A	C	O	T	A
N	T	G	B	U	L	A	R	E	O	Y	N	D	T	E
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M	R	N	C	A	H	H	W	Y	A	T	E	E	N	E
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M	I	R	W	L	C	N	O	B	E	A	M	E	Y	E
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E	D	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	D	N	A	H	R	P

Beatitudes 3

AGAINST	ALTAR
ANYONE	ANGRY
BETTER	BODY
BROTHER	COURT
CAUSES	ENTER
COMMIT	FRONT
DANGER	HAND
GOUGE	HEARD
HEAVEN	HEART
KINGDOM	JUDGE
MATTERS	LEAVE
OFFICER	OFFER
PRISON	PENNY
QUICKLY	PEOPLE
REMEMBER	RACA
SUBJECT	RIGHT
TAKING	SETTLE
TEACHERS	TRUTH
THROWN	WHOLE

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

MORE PUZZLES AT: <http://biblewordgames.com> COPYRIGHT 2015 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

The solution to this puzzle will be posted outside of the secretary's office