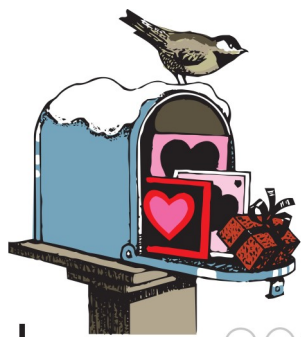


First Presbyterian Church
1169 Clark Street, SW
Covington, GA 30014

Time Sensitive Church News
Please Do Not Delay

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Covington, GA
30014
Permit No. 32



February 2019

See our website at: www.fpccov.org

The deadline for the March "First Press" is February 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!

February Birthdays

2 Allie Hay
5 Stephanie Scarborough
Betty Lunsford
8 Peni Kehoe
9 Ed Perkerson
10 Alice Walker
13 Jim Stillerman
14 Melissa Daniel
17 Courtney Henderson



Happy Birthday

18 Nakimrey Burttis
21 Pily Waetzig
24 Danielle Schubert
25 Jackson Moss
Conner Jessup
27 Gracie Bates
28 Buncie Lanners
Noah Hicks



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 2019

FIRST PRESS



Greetings FPC Family!

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord, Jesus Christ! I hope and pray this February 2019 newsletter finds you happy and well! The First Presbyterian Church family of faith is very blessed by each and every one of you ... I truly mean that!!

And, I pray that everyone is able to find comfort and warmth during the cold winter days and nights. Whether you enjoy or curse the cold and wintry weather, every season reminds us that our God is a God of all seasons! And, typically we find this wintry season to often be one of the most introspective times of year.

So let us take a few moments to be introspective, and to ponder on things about God, our faith, and our church community. What do we need to grow and strengthen our faith? What opportunities does our congregation here at FPC provide for us to do so (or should provide)? And, where is God working in and through all of it?

Well, let's think about a car. What makes a car roll down the road? Four wheels & tires! Each wheel represents one of four crucial elements of church that will impact your life and strengthen your faith.

First, there is *worship*. Worship is the opportunity to practice what we believe in preparation for our lives, renewing us for a new week, and reminding us of God's abundant grace. If you don't regularly attend worship, please join us!

Second, there is *nurture*. As human beings, we must be nurtured both physically and spiritually, and we have opportunities for spiritual nurture in Sunday School, various small group ministries that include Bible studies, youth group, and more. If you aren't already being nurtured in a spiritual way, please find a place to plug in ... or, if FPC doesn't currently offer something that sparks your interest, then please let me know!

Third, there is *fellowship*. We must afford ourselves opportunities to be festive, to celebrate one another and God, and to be invigorated by the wonder and love that comes from building relationships and friendships in God's name. Please fellowship with your family of faith for lunch on February 3rd, and then look for other opportunities and occasions in the coming weeks and months!

Fourth, there is *service*. God's Word clearly tells us that to follow Christ means to serve the world. God's love is a verb, requiring action on our part. We must love God and love our neighbor by doing and sharing and serving. Please look for ways to serve God and this community with your sisters and brothers in faith!

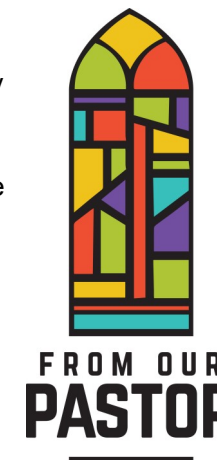
You don't have to travel long distances to make a difference in this world! Finally, there is God. God is the engine and everything under the hood that makes the car work. No matter what the circumstances may be, God is with us and God is faithful ... always!

Just like a car needs all four wheels to move, so we, too, need all four elements of church in our lives. No, none of us are any less Christian than another if we don't include all four areas faithfully. But, I believe that each of us can maximize our faith potential by being involved in all four areas! This is true for all ages and all groups in our church—we can't be limited by only including certain faith elements.

Think about it...our faith life at FPC is like being in a car. It's easy to get inside. God already has a destination in mind for each of us and for this family of faith. We just have to put the key in the ignition and hold on tight. Hop in—it's time to get going!

Until the next time I remain ... just another silly preacher (and Texas boy who has lived through way too many horribly hot summers) wondering if I'm gonna have to endure yet another winter season of little to no snow!

Grace & Peace,
Steven



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Steven M. Barnes
Interim Pastor
revbarnes@me.com

Dan Walden
Director of Youth and
Children's Ministry
djwalden@mac.com

Peni Kehoe
Secretary-Treasurer
penihaug@gmail.com

Mindy Forehand
Interim Choir Director
Mindymartin143@gmail.com

Alice Walker
Organist
awalker.atl.pres.5@gmail.com

Jenny Giles
Pauleen Green
Nursery

Darlene Alley
Director
Early Learning Center
fpelcdirector@gmail.com



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

(770)786-7321
Fax (770)786-6596

www.fpccov.org

SESSION & ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

January Session Highlights

- The January stated session meeting included all 14 members in attendance. FPC Youth Director Dan Walden and the Rev. Steven Barnes (moderator) and Guest Susan Boteler were also in attendance.
- The Rev. Steven Barnes reported that he is currently planning logistics and program content for a 2 day Session retreat on March 8th & 9th.
- Dan Walden reported that since returning from vacation he has worked primarily on updating FPC's website and is encouraging members to look it over to offer suggestions for changes or additions.
- Susan Boteler gave a presentation and discussed at length her involvement with the Family Promise program and its benefits of putting homeless families

lives back together. Session members concurred that the Witness team should continue to investigate the details of establishing FPC as a host church for the program.






- A motion from the Witness committee to award the \$1000 gift from the Rev. Billy and Theodosia Wade to be donated to the Community Food Pantry was approved.
- Christian Education reported that they youth will be sponsoring the meal on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday with donations from the event donated to the Community Food Pantry.
- The Finance Committee motion to approve the 2019 budget was approved.
- The Finance Committee motion to establish a \$10,000 grant to support FPELC shortfalls through the current school year was approved.
- The FPC Endowment Board Advisory committee's motion to approve the Church Treasurer as a co-signer on the FPC of Covington's Endowment fund was approved.
- The motion to elect Officers of the Corporation (FPC) from current active session members (Doug Bolton, Chair; Bob Tabb, Treasurer; John McCarthy, Secretary) was approved.
- The motion to approve Cindy Moon and Cy Wolverton as delegates to the February 9th Presbytery meeting in Atlanta was approved.

Submitted by
John McCarthy
Clerk of Session

The Session will meet on Sunday, February 10, for its regular monthly meeting. The meeting will be in the fellowship hall immediately after the morning worship service.



FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 
3 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service with Communion 12:00 Annual Meeting and Souper Bowl Offering and Lunch	4 6:00 ELC Board Meeting	5 Women's Circles 10:00 Eliz. Ann 10:30 Martha 7:00 pm Ruth 4:00 Exercise	6 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	7 10:30 Ambassador Choir	8	9 8:00 Men's Breakfast & Study 9:00 Presbytery meeting
10 Scout Sunday 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Session Meeting	11	12 4:00 Exercise	13 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	14 School Break  10:30 Ambassador Choir	15 School Break	16 
17 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	18 School Break  Presidents Day	19 School Break 4:00 Exercise	20 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	21 10:30 Ambassador Choir	22	23
24 9:00 Handbell Choir 9:30 Children's Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	25	26 1:00 A Novel Bunch Book Club 4:00 Exercise	27 6:45 Sanctuary Choir	28 10:30 Ambassador Choir	March 1	March 2

**see our website at:
www.fpccov.org**

Monthly Financial Report

Pledge arrears for 2018 (-7,484)

2018 December Numbers rounded	Monthly Budget	Monthly Income/Expenses	YTD Income/Expenses
Pledged Income	30,766	31,432	361,827
Non-Pledge Income	3,166	5,717	55,105
Other Income	416	40	5,130
Total income	34,359	37,189	422,062
Expenses	36,809	38,363	436,176
Net Totals 12/31/201	(-2,450)	(1,174)	(14,114)

Serving Us in February

February Usher Chair:
Carter Gibson

Sound Engineer:
Ken Walker

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

Hospital Visitors:
2/3: B & D Vining
2/10: C Wolverton
2/17: Day Kennon
2/24: Alice Walker

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2019
Carter Gibson
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



Presbyterian Women's Circles

Presbyterian Women will continue to explore the communities of Christ through the study of "Cloud of Witnesses." Guests are welcome. If

you would like more information contact Jan Giles at: FamilyGilesGa@gmail.com.

Circles for **February**:

Elizabeth Ann Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 5th at 10 a.m. in the Martin Fellowship Hall.

Martha Circle will meet on February 5th, 10:30 am at the home of Susanne Perkerson in Social Circle. Janet Carmichael will be our study leader.

Ruth Circle will meet February 5th, 7:00 pm. Place to be announced.



The Lord's Supper

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, February 3. Prepare your heart.

Baby Love

In December the final distribution of diapers to the Shelter, Salvation Army and the Food Pantry for 2018 was done. The delivery consisted of 516 diapers and many packages of wipes. The total diapers donated in 2018 was 1944. That is a lot of diapers! Thank you for supporting this local project with your generous donations of diapers, wipes and cash. It has made many families happy.



Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals

Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. in the Choir Room. New members are always welcome.

Ambassador Choir Rehearsals

Ambassador Choir Dates in February
 February 7, 2019 - Regular Rehearsal (10:30 am)
 February 14, 2019 - Regular Rehearsal
 February 21, 2019 - Sing at Merryvale at 10:30 am.
 Meet in Choir Room at 9:30 am to warm up or meet us at Merryvale at 10:20 am. Complimentary Lunch at Stalvey's.
 February 28, 2019 - Regular Rehearsal

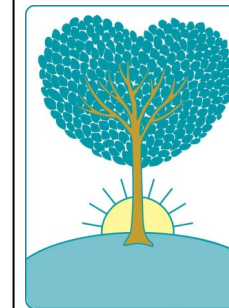
Thank You Church Family

This was a different Christmas for the Elders, but one that was filled with love, compassion and all that Christmas is. Thank you to the wonderful Church Family we so enjoy at First Presbyterian Church.

Jean Elder and Family

The Memorial Garden

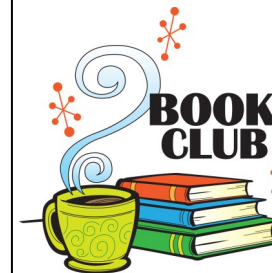
The Memorial Garden at the First Presbyterian Church is a wonderful addition to our church. It is a



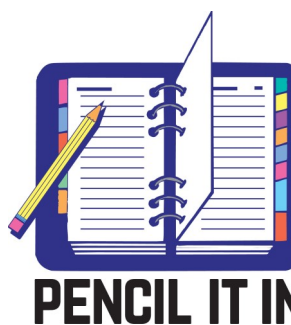
place for quiet contentment, beauty and comfort. The memorial stones have recently been polished and the lettering enhanced on each. The grounds are kept manicured and covered with mulch. All of this is due to the efforts of our own Gene Wallace. Thank you Gene for this gift of beauty you have given to the many who have loved ones there.

Men's Bible Study and Breakfast

The Men's Bible Study will begin again this month on **Saturday morning, February 9, at 8:00 am** in the fellowship hall. We will have a discussion about options for future study. Bring your breakfast and bring a friend.



A Novel Bunch book club will meet February 26th at 1:00 pm. The Location will be announced later. They will discuss "Origins" by Dan Brown.



SAVE THE DATE!! **Supper Club** will be held Saturday, March 23rd with delicious food and great fellowship for FPC members and guests. We'll have sign-up information for hosts and guests in our March newsletter.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 3rd

On Sunday, **February 3rd** following worship we will hold our 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting in the fellowship hall over lunch. Our primary order of business is the election of a **Pastor Nominating Committee** (PNC) who will be charged with the search for our next Pastor. Nominees are:

- Jodi Atkins
- Warren Liem
- Patrick Carmichael
- Stephanie Scarborough
- Cheryl Gibson
- Cy Wolverton
- Sam Hay



Souper Bowl of Caring Luncheon Sunday, February 3rd

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."



On Sunday, **February 3rd** - in conjunction with our Annual Congregational Meeting - our Youth Connection will host a Souper Bowl of Caring luncheon for the entire church. All proceeds will go to support our local Community Food Pantry. We need volunteers to:

- Bring a pot of soup (or chowder, bisque, stew, etc.) to share;
- Bring bread or crackers to serve with the soup;

Contact Dan Walden to find out how you can help out as we serve others in Christ's name.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Dear FPC Family,

2019 has started with exciting things happening in the ELC! Before welcoming our students back from Christmas break, we had a teacher work day, complete with training and a delicious lunch. The teachers were ready to jump back into the new semester! In January, we studied dinosaurs. If you walked down the school hallway, you would have seen dinosaur footprints down the walls, special areas set up in every classroom, and some adorable paintings of dinosaurs on the bulletin boards. This is definitely a favorite theme for many of our students, who can be heard roaring loudly on the playground!



We will continue our creative learning in February through the theme "Space." Children will be learning about the stars, planets, comets, astronauts, rockets, and more! We will even be turning a room into a mini-planetarium for a few days. I am always amazed at how quickly little children can learn things, like the names of the planets and facts about them. The school will be closed for Winter break from February 14 through 19.

We're also working on preparations for our annual Art Affair taking place on March 22 at 6 pm. Our teachers, students, parents, and Art Affair Committee have been planning away. We are excited to announce that Ty Rumble will be performing live at the event! The committee is now gathering donations from local and metro businesses for raffle baskets. We'll also be looking for people to help work the beverage and food areas and games 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 your for your contributions and prayers for our school. We are so thankful for such a generous church family.

God bless, Darlene Alley