

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The almighty and merciful God grant us pardon and remission for all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **So let it be! Amen.**

* GLORIA PATRI

Hymn 579

* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

According to John's gospel, after his resurrection Jesus appeared to the disciples who were huddled in fear behind closed doors. He said to them: "Peace be with you." For generations, disciples of Jesus have offered Christ's peace to one another in worship. The peace of our Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Jesus, Hold My Hand* Albert E. Brumley
Dan and Perri Walden

As I travel through this pilgrim land there is a Friend who goes with me. Leads me safely through the sinking sand, it is the Christ of Calvary. This would be my prayer, dear Lord, each day to help me do the best I can, for I need Thy light to guide me day and night, Blessed Jesus, hold my hand.

Jesus, hold my hand, I need Thee every hour through this pilgrim land, protect me by Thy power hear my feeble plea, O Lord, look down on me when I kneel in prayer I hope to meet you there, Blessed Jesus, hold my hand.

Let me travel in the light divine that I may see the blessed way; keep me that I may be wholly Thine and sing redemption's song some day. I will be a soldier brave and true and ever firmly take a stand. As I onward go and daily meet the foe, Blessed Jesus, hold my hand.

When I wander through the valley dim toward the setting of the sun, Lead me safely to a land of rest if I a crown of life have won. I have put my faith in Thee, dear Lord, that I may reach the golden strand. There's no other friend on whom I can depend, Blessed Jesus, hold my hand.

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

All the children are invited to come forward for the Word for children. Afterward, children kindergarten and younger may go to children's activities downstairs.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Consecrate us, O God, by the truth; your word is truth. Guide our minds by your Spirit, that we may understand your word, learn your will, and follow more closely in the steps of Christ our Lord; in whose name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 17:22
Luke 18:18-27

SERMON

The Rev. Al Myers

The Gift of Laughter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* HYMN 376 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL
(stanzas 1 and 2)

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*
p. 14 in front of hymnal

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 16 in front of hymnal

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 280, stanza 4
**The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *There Is No Name So Sweet* GOLDEN CHAIN

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 244, stanza 1
**Let us with a glad some mind
praise the Lord who is so kind:
For God's mercies shall endure.
Ever faithful, ever sure.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Grace, help us to enjoy you as you enjoy all your creation. Surprise us again and again with the difference between the way things are and the way things ought to be. Put us in our place with the gracious assurance that we are fools for Christ's sake; for we pray in his holy name. Amen.

*BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE
WORD INTO THE WORLD*

* HYMN 376 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL
(stanzas 3 and 4)

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE *How Firm a Foundation* Arr. Alice Jordan

WORSHIP NOTES

*We welcome the Rev. Al Myers as our preacher today.
*Dan Walden, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries is assisting with worship.
*Please stand, if you are able.
*Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare to worship God. Remember to turn off **cell phones** during the service.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

† Roger Wallace - leg injury, home
† Buddy Hughes - Hodgkins disease, friend of Judy Davis
† Wayne Scarborough - home
† Ive Ridley, brother of Jackie Barboe - very ill
† Charlotte Demarest, Ginger DeBrosse's mother - home
† Judy Davis - home from mission trip to Nicaragua
† Jessie Smith, The Rev. Carl Smith's wife - home
† Shelby Kinnaird, infant daughter of Tiffany and Tripp Kinnaird - home
† Joe Hughes, brother of Leon Hughes - lung cancer
† Grace Ann Norton, Steve Norton's mother - chemo therapy
† John Braden - heart transplant needed
Assisted Living:
† Rita Harrell and
† Joy Knight -Covington Square

Nursing Homes:
† Sarah Chesnut and Sarah Hooten - Covington Manor
† Mary Cline -Azalea Gardens, Conyers
† Margie Rutherford -Rockdale Health Care Center
† Hal Cline
† Allene Burton,
† Russ Cole and
† Lou Wolf - Riverside
† Gretchen Buendia - Parkwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Snellville

Military:
† David and Savannah Rickert
† Mike Laib
† James Post (friend of Schubert family)

The hospital team member who will be visiting people this week is Jon Williams.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, July 26
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Tuesday, July 28
4:00 Exercise Class

Thursday, July 30
10:30 Ambassador Choir

Sunday, August 2
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
4:30 Swimming Party at Clark's Grove
6:00 Picnic

† † † † †
Sunday, August 9
The Lord's Supper Rally Day
Bring a friend

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

AN EXERCISE CLASS meets on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Martin Fellowship Hall.

PRAYER GROUP

A prayer group now meets on Thursdays at 11:30-12:00. If you have prayer requests, please write them down and place them in the wooden prayer box on the narthex table. If you would like to be a part of the prayer group, please talk with Grace Ottley or Alice Walker.

Family Picnic

Join us Sunday, August 2, 2009 at Clark's Grove for the second fun filled family picnic of the summer. There is a ball field if you want to bring your own equipment and hit a few balls or start a friendly soft ball game. And of course there is swimming. The church is bringing fried chicken and beverages---you bring side dishes, desserts to share, and chairs for poolside and relaxing. Swimming begins at 4:30 at the pool and the picnic will begin at 6:00 PM at the pavilion. **Please note:** A parent must be present at the pool for your children to swim.

Directions are printed and available in the Narthex.

If you have questions please call:

Jean Blair 678-342-4377 (H) or 404-216- 3251 (C)
Carol Dunbar 770-787-2657 (H) or 404-630-2136 (C)



Sunday, August 9th @ 10:00 am

Join us during as we kick-off a new Sunday School year with breakfast and an entertaining, and enlightening program for the whole family. A nursery will be available.

Bring a Friend on Rally Day!!

There couldn't be a better day to bring a friend to church than on a day when we celebrate *who we worship* and *who we are* as a church family. Invite your next door neighbor, your co-worker, the family of your child's friend...whoever. Tell them breakfast is on us. :-)

CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Pictures will be taken: Thursday, August 6, 3:00-9:30, Friday, August 7, 2:00-8:30, Saturday, August 8, 10:00-5:00 in the church Fellowship Hall. Please allow about an hour for the entire process of photography and selecting your picture to be included in the directory. Come prepared with your personal calendar and sign up in the church Narthex any Sunday between June 14 and July 26. Please participate in this effort to support FPC.

**WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COVINGTON**

If you would like information about membership or the programs, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to one of the pastors as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

You can FAX us at 770-786-6596
or e-mail
wbwade@bellsouth.net djwalden@mac.com
penihaug@bellsouth.net

Website: www.fpccov.org
Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street,
Covington, Georgia 30014

FaithWorks Fan Drive

FaithWorks is collecting box fans to be given to families in need. Bring them to the church for delivery. Thanks for your generosity.

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Caring for Our Youngest Members in the Nursery:
Stillerman Family
Sam/Loucy Hay Family

Next week:
Arnold Family
Lewis Family

Hosts:
Lynn and Jonathan Miller

Ushers:
Jean & Cy Wolverton, chair
Grace Ottley
Karen Laib

Sound System
Ken Walker

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

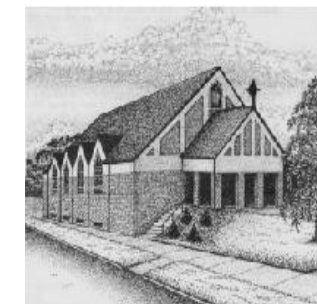
Class of 2009
Doug Bolton
Elizabeth Daniell
Terri Digby
Lane Dobbs
Barbara Johnson
Bill Loebler
Cy Wolverton

Class of 2010
Stephanie Fortson
Ruth McDaniel
Jonathan Miller
Pam Stillerman
Gene Wallace

Class of 2011
Jean Blair
Carol Dunbar
Rick Gunter
Jay Lanners
Donna Weesner

CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr. <i>Pastor</i>	Alan Bunn <i>Choir Director</i>
Louly F. Hay <i>Parish Associate</i>	Alice Walker CAGO, AAGO,
Dan Walden <i>Director of Youth and Children's Ministry</i>	<i>Organist & Ambassador Choir</i>
Peni Haug <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Aubrey Elliott & Maria Serrato <i>Nursery</i>
	Deana Graham <i>Director, ELC</i>



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covington, Georgia
Order of Worship
July 26, 2009
Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* Arr. David Lowe

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

* CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 113:2-3; 105:1-4

From the rising of the sun to its setting
may the Lord's name be praised:

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and evermore.**

Give thanks to the Lord, invoke him by name;
make known God's deeds among the people.

**Pay God honor with song and psalm,
and tell of his marvelous deeds.**

Exult in Yahweh's hallowed name;

Let those who seek the Lord be joyful in heart.

**Look to the Lord and be strong;
At all times seek God's presence.**

* HYMN 464 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* ODE TO JOY

CALL TO CONFESSION

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.**

**But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconsistent,
our obedience incomplete.**

**Day by day we fail to grow into your likeness;
yet you are slow to be angry with your children.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior,
do not hold our sins against us,
but in your tender love, forgive.**

In the name of Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.