

* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ surpasses all our understanding.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Here I Am, Lord* Schutte
Liane and Tory Bouchillon

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

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 21:8-21

SERMON William B. Wade, Jr.
Bedtime Stories: Hagar and Ishmael

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* HYMN 172 RESIGNATION
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with

Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *Adagio* J. S. Bach

* DOXOLOGY Hymn 592
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

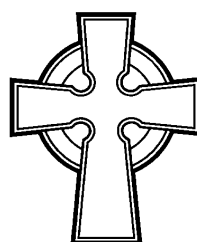
God whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN 540 RANDOLF
God Be with You Till We Meet Again

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE *Jubal's Trumpet* Franklin D. Ashdown



WORSHIP NOTES

- * Dan Walden, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, is assisting with worship today.
- * 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

- † Evelyn Underwood—hip surgery, Rockdale Medical Center (mother of Pam Stillerman)
- † Clarence Price—home
- † Johnny Burns, Emily Warren & Colleen Sheehan—auto accident (brother and nieces of Cathy Dobbs)
- † Jeannie Liem—dialysis
- † Troy Turner—non-Hodgkins lymphoma (Jean Oldham's son)
- † Sandy Neisser—multiple leg surgeries over several weeks
- † Patrick Carmichael—home
- † Anita Huff—lung cancer, (step-daughter of Jean Oldham)
- † Alton Gaston—cancer, (brother of Carolyn Jordan)
- † Courtney LeCroix Hoover—waiting for double lung transplant, Florida
- † Shirley Smith, needs kidney transplant (Clarence Price's sister)

Covington Square

- † Rita Harrell
- † Joy Knight

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

- † Sarah Chesnut - Covington Manor
- † Mary Cline - Azalea Gardens, Conyers
- † Margie Rutherford - Rockdale

- Health Care Center
- † Russ Cole—Azalea Gardens
- † Gretchen Buendia - Parkwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Snellville
- † Helen and George Stamps—Benton House
- † Mary Crudup—Benton House

Military:

- † Savannah Cannon
- † Mike Laib
- † John Rossi
- † Renee Boston
- † Charles Bailey

We extend our sympathy to Pat Patrick and his family in the death of his mother, Jerry Patrick. There will be a graveside service at the Covington City Cemetery on Monday, July 25, at 10:00 a.m. and a memorial service at Columbia Presbyterian Church, Decatur, on Tuesday, July 26, at 11:00 a.m. with a reception afterward at Eastlake Country Club.

Hospital Visitor:
Ruth McDaniel

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, July 24

9:30 Children's Choir
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Tuesday, July 26

4:00 Exercise Class

Thursday, July 28

9:00 Ambassador Choir meets to carpool to Conyers

Sunday, July 31

9:30 Children's Choir
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Activities in the Life of the Church

Exercise Class takes place on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All adults are welcome.

Prayer Requests may be made by filling out the yellow cards in the pew racks and placing them in the offering plate or in the box on the table in the narthex.

Sanctuary Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, August 3, from 6:45 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. They'll be preparing for Rally Day, August 14, and start work on other music for future dates. All are invited to join the Sanctuary Choir. You may speak to Alan Bunn after church for more information.

Handbell Choir rehearsals announced: The first rehearsal for the 2011-12 season will begin on Sunday, August 7, at 9:00 in the FPC sanctuary. Speak to Alan Bunn for more information.

Taking Your Generosity to the Next Level

The Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission is sponsoring a seminar on "Taking Your Generosity to the Next Level." The focus will be on questions such as: "How do we create a culture of generosity in our church?" "How can our church focus on mission instead of simply trying to make the budget?" "Why do so few people tithe?" The seminar will be from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, August 13, at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta.

The details about the speakers and workshops, as well as how to register, through Joy Fisher at the Presbytery Office, can be uploaded by at the Presbytery website: atlpcusa.org and looking for the events list. Copies of the brochure are available through the church office or the Presbytery office from the Presbytery congregational consultants and through Tom Tewel: ttewell@hliipr.org. or Sara Hayden: sara.a.hayden@gmail.com.

The cost for the seminar on August 13, from 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M at Trinity Presbyterian in Atlanta, including lunch, is only \$15.00 per person...you can't beat the price!

Oxford College International Host Family Program

Many of you participated in our host family program for our international students last year and made it so successful. We are now looking for volunteers once again for the coming academic year. To be a host family we ask that you: make the initial contact with the student(s) assigned to you, host the student(s) in your home or out to eat for a meal, and host the student(s) to an event in the community (concert, art exhibit, church, other civic event, etc.). From there, the relationship and how it continues is up to you and the student. There will be an introduction and brief orientation as well as a dessert reception for those who sign up to participate on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at 7pm at Lovern Hall. Lovern Hall is part of Allen Memorial United Methodist Church, which sits on the Oxford campus. Please sign up by Monday, August 8th with The Reverend Lyn Pace at ppace@emory.edu or 770.784.8392.

Reserve Your Space for the Montreat Retreat

We are now taking reservations for the **Montreat Retreat** which will be held November 4-6. Use the pink forms found in the narthex. Fill out the form and attach your deposit check to it, then turn it in to the church office as soon as possible. The next installment will be due by August 20, and the final payment will be due the week before the retreat.

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.

or e-mail
wbwade@bellsouth.net
djwalden@mac.com
penihaug@bellsouth.net

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

Community Food Pantry Needs for August:

Toilet tissue and bar soap. You may bring your donations to the church and put them in the Food Pantry collection tubs or drop them at the Food Pantry Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the **Care and Counseling Center of Rockdale and Newton**, a resource to help with counseling needs. Call 404-636-1457 ext. 436, for an appointment, or ask the church staff for more information.

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Caring for Our Youngest Members in the Nursery:

Jessup Family
Ardis Family
Next week:
Moss Family
Shawn Loftin

Hosts:

Lynn & Jonathan Miller

Ushers:

Guy & Carol McGiboney
Cy & Jean Wolverton

Sound System:

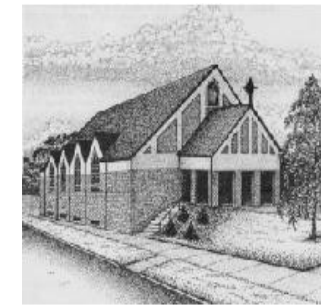
Ken Walker

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2011	Class of 2012	Class of 2013
Jean Blair	Bernice Bailey	Patrick Carmichael
Carol Dunbar	Rebecca Bates	Judy Davis
Rick Gunter	Day Kennon	Denny Dobbs
Jay Lanners	Mac Cranford	Aubrey Evans
Donna Weesner	Judy Hooten	Dave Gregory

CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr. Louly Fowler Hay	<i>Pastor</i>	Alice Walker Pauleen Green & Maria Serrato Krissy Jones	CAGO, AAGO <i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i> <i>Nursery</i> <i>Director of the</i> <i>Early Learning Center</i>
Dan Walden Peni Haug Alan Bunn	<i>Parish Associate</i> <i>Director of Youth</i> <i>and Children's Ministry</i> <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i> <i>Music Director</i>		



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covington, Georgia

July 24, 2011
Seventeenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *If You But Trust in God* George Neumark
I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ J. S. Bach

- * CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 118
O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!
God's steadfast love endures for ever!
Out of distress I called on the Lord;
the Lord answered me and set me free.
With the Lord on my side I do not fear.
What can others do to me?
O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures for ever!

- * HYMN 483 MIT FREUDEN ZART
Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we give thanks for your abiding care of us. Forgive us for our anxiety about our lives, our constant fretting, our desperate plans. Help us to listen to your voice of calm; guide us in the right paths; and help us trust your love; for we pray in Jesus' name. *(silence for personal reflection)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS from Psalm 130
If you, O Lord should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, that you may be revered.

Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love; with God is great power to redeem.

- * CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NETTLETON
Hymn 356, stanza 3
O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee: prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.