

\* 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 *Wings of a Dove* Ferguson  
Rebecca Bates, Adriane Ivey, Marshall McCart

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 22:1-19

SERMON William B. Wade, Jr.  
*Bedtime Stories: Abraham and Isaac*

*RESPONDING TO THE WORD*

\* HYMN 275 SANDON  
*God of Our Life*

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*from A Declaration of Faith*  
**We believe in one true and living God.  
We acknowledge one God alone, whose demands on us are absolute, whose help for us is sufficient.  
That One is the Lord, whom we worship, serve and love.**

**God is greater than our understanding.  
We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works. God's reality far exceeds all our words can say. The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best. The Lord's care for us is not always what we want. God comes to us on God's own terms and is able to do far more than we ask or think.**

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY Traditional Irish Melody  
*Be Thou My Vision*

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

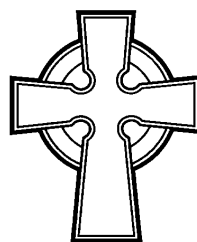
\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION  
**Increase our faith, O God. Give us ears to hear your call, and courage to go where you lead us. Let us put nothing else before you, but in all things may we trust your Word and live by your grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD*

\* HYMN 539 ELLERS  
*Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise*

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune in D Major* Ed Dunbar



The Witness Team is planning a mission trip for the week of **October 2-8, 2011**. The possible sites are Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, or Nashville. If you are interested in serving God and fellowman in this way, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can begin to confirm our reservations. Contact: Patti Lanford 770-490-3660 [p.lanford@gmail.com](mailto:p.lanford@gmail.com) or Judy Davis 770-464-4025 [mitday@aol.com](mailto:mitday@aol.com)



**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**

- †Jean Rogers, Piedmont (Theodosia Wade's mother)
- †Evelyn Underwood—hip surgery, Rockdale Medical (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)
- †Courteney LeCroix Hoover—waiting for double lung transplant, Florida
- †Shirley Smith, needs kidney transplant (Clarence Price's sister)

- †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
- †Kate King—Benton House

**Military:**  
†Savannah Cannon  
†Mike Laib  
†John Rossi  
†Renee Boston  
† Charles Bailey

*We extend our sympathy and prayers for Carolyn Jordan and her family in the death of her brother, Alton Gaston.*

**Hospital Visitor:**  
*Betty Robinson*

**Covington Square**  
†Rita Harrell  
†Joy Knight  
**Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:**  
†Sarah Chesnut - Covington Manor

**THIS WEEK AT FPC**

**Sunday, July 31**  
9:30 Children's Choir  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service

**Tuesday, August 2**  
4:00 Exercise Class

**Wednesday, August 3**  
6:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, August 4**  
First Day for Newton Schools  
10:30 Ambassador Choir

**Sunday, August 7**  
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 starting 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](http://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 Tewell: [ttewell@hlipr.org](mailto:ttewell@hlipr.org). or Sara Hayden: [sara.a.hayden@gmail.com](mailto: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!

### Lost Something?

If you have lost items such as children's clothing, electronics, a watch, etc., call or drop by the church office. Items not claimed by August 15, will be given away.



### Reserve Your Space for the Montreat Retreat

We are taking reservations for the **Montreat Retreat** which will be held November 4-6. **We need a preliminary count to revise our reservation up or down by September 1.** Use the pink forms found in the narthex to make your reservation. 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](mailto:wbwade@bellsouth.net)  
[djwalden@mac.com](mailto:djwalden@mac.com)  
[penihaug@bellsouth.net](mailto:penihaug@bellsouth.net)

Website: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org)  
 Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street,  
 Covington, Georgia 30014

**Mr. Wade** will be out of the office this week for continuing education.

### 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:

Moss Family  
 Shawn Loftin  
**Next week:**  
 Bates Family  
 Luton Family

### Hosts:

Chris & Barbara Martin

### Ushers:

Guy & Carol McGiboney  
 Cy & Jean Wolverton

### Sound System:

Ken Walker

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2011

Jean Blair  
 Carol Dunbar  
 Rick Gunter  
 Jay Lanners  
 Donna Weesner

### Class of 2012

Bernice Bailey  
 Rebecca Bates  
 Day Kennon  
 Mac Cranford  
 Judy Hooten

### Class of 2013

Patrick Carmichael  
 Judy Davis  
 Denny Dobbs  
 Aubrey Evans  
 Dave Gregory

## CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr. *Pastor*  
 Louly Fowler Hay

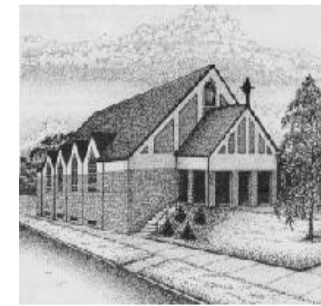
*Parish Associate*  
 Dan Walden *Director of Youth and Children's Ministry*

Peni Haug *Secretary-Treasurer*  
 Alan Bunn *Music Director*

Alice Walker CAGO, AAGO  
*Organist/Ambassador Choir*

Pauleen Green & Maria Serrato  
*Nursery*

Krissy Jones *Director of the Early Learning Center*



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covington, Georgia

July 31, 2011  
 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Order of Worship

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *In Thee, Lord, Have I Put My Trust* J. S. Bach  
*Go Forth in Faith* Franklin Ritter

\* CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 78

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;  
 incline your ears to the words of my mouth!  
 I will open my mouth in a parable;  
 I will utter dark sayings from of old,  
 things that we have heard and known,  
 that our ancestors told us.

**We will not hide them from our children,  
 but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds  
 of the Lord, and the Lord's might,  
 and the wonders which God has wrought.**

\* HYMN 263 ST. DENIO  
*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Creator of all, you promise to care for us fully,  
 yet we continue to be anxious about our lives and to  
 trust in our own ways. Forgive our lack of faith. Help  
 us to follow where you lead us, trusting more fully  
 your love of us; for we pray in the name of Jesus.**  
*(silence for personal prayer and reflection)*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HALL

Hymn 392, stanza 4  
**Take Thou our selves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;  
 through our surrendered souls Thy plans fulfill.  
 We yield ourselves to Thee—time, talents, all;  
 we hear, and henceforth heed, Thy sovereign call.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AZMON  
 Hymn 466, stanza 1  
**O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear  
 Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and  
 King, the triumphs of God's grace!**