



February 2020

By the end of February we will have entered the Lenten season. Originating in the 4th century of the church, the season of Lent spans 40 weekdays before Easter. Originally, Lent was the time of preparation for those who were to be baptized, a time of concentrated study and prayer before their baptism at the Easter Vigil. But since these new members were to be received into a living community of faith, the entire community was called to preparation.

Most Christian churches that observe Lent at all focus on it as a time of prayer, especially penance, repenting for failures and sin as a way to focus on the need for God's grace. It is really a preparation to celebrate God's marvelous redemption at Easter, and the resurrected life that we live, and hope for, as Christians. For some Lent consist of giving up something that tasted good or was fun, but it is so much more. Our self-sacrifices serve no purpose unless, by laying aside this or that desire, we are able to focus on our deepest longing: unity with Christ.

During Lent, we focus our heart's attention on Christ's work to save us and make life healed and whole. Emil Brunner said,

God goes to the end. He reaches the goal. To be sure, this end is exactly the opposite of what we fix as our goal. We wish to climb up to heaven; God, however, descends – down to where? To death on the cross. This is why Jesus Christ had to descend into hell. He had to go the way to its very end. Our rightful end is hell, that is, banishment from God – godforsakenness. Only there has God completely come to us, there where he has taken upon himself everything, even the cursed end of our way.

Take advantage of our worship opportunities to focus on Christ's gift and sacrifice on our behalf.

Ash Wednesday Service
February 26 at 6:30 pm

Maundy Thursday
Tenebrae Service
April 9 at 7:00 pm



Taize and Evensong Services
Each Wednesday Night at 6:15 pm

Good Friday
April 10 at Noon
Joint Service with Sam
Jones UMC at FPC

Grace and peace,
Mike

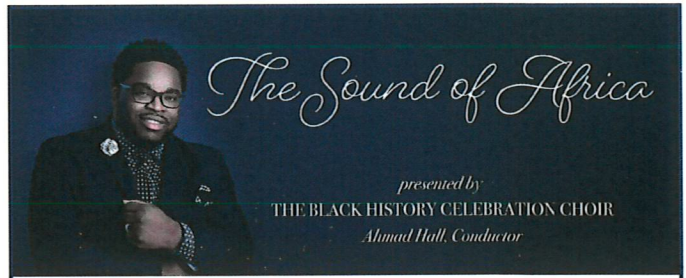


Wednesday Night Activities

Dinner 5:30pm - Programs 6:15pm
Suggested donation for dinner adults \$10, seniors \$7, children 10 & under \$5, children under 3 eat free, and the family maximum is \$28. The meal includes an entrée, vegetable side dish, bread, dessert and drink.

February Programs

- February 5-** Advocates for Bartow's Children
- February 12** - TBA
- February 19** - Barbara Hoffman, Executive Director of Recovery Bartow
- February 26** - Ash Wednesday Service



FEBRUARY 6, 2020 7:00PM
 First Presbyterian Church, Cartersville

Concert presents musical contributions of the black culture to the history of music including the performance of Ahmad Hall and local talent.

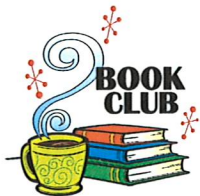
An event of the African American History Initiative, committee of the
 ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



With support from
 Singers are invited to join the choir, please contact Mina Harper at
 jdonharp@aol.com; 770-386-0548; 256-505-7544

\$10 donation at evhsonline.org

Older Adult Ministry 2020



The Book Club Group meets February 13th at 10:30am in the Cornerstone Room. The book this month is "Cold Sassy Tree" by Olive Anne Burns.

Valentine's Luncheon, Friday, February 14th at 12:30pm

Come celebrate Valentine's Day! We will have lunch and entertainment in our Fellowship Hall. To RSVP call the church office at 770-382-3511. A \$5 donation will be accepted.



Trip to the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, April 17th
 We will meet at the church at 9:30am, have lunch in Atlanta and tour the museum. To reserve your spot on the bus call the church office.
 Lunch is dutch treat and the museum ticket is \$14.50

Barnsley Gardens - Planning is underway! Lunch and tour date to be announced.

From the Session

The Session met on January 21, 2020 for its regular Stated Meeting. The following are the highlights from that meeting:

1. Scott Panter reported that 193 students are enrolled in the Hands of Christ program.
2. Beth Weathersby reported that 93 students are enrolled in the Preschool program. Early registration open to FPC members and the Preschool staff will be held during the first two weeks of February 2020.
3. Katie Godfrey and the Congregational Care Committee are seeking ideas for new ways to care for our congregation.
4. Nancy Kelly reminded the Session of the concert in the sanctuary scheduled for 1/25/2020.
5. Brad Hughes reported that Souper Bowl Sunday on 2/2/2020 will be hosted by Heritage Baptist Church.
6. Dennis Collier reported that the Properties Committee is forming teams to inspect all FPC rooms.
7. Paul Green reported that FPC completed 2019 with a small Surplus and the FPC 2020 Budget should be finalized by 2/18/2020.
8. Tinsley Cline reported that resumes are being collected for the Interim Director of Youth & Children's Ministries.
9. Katie Godfrey reported that the final Listening Session will take place on 1/26/2020 after church.
10. The Session approved a 2020 Officer Nominating Schedule.
11. Three FPC Commissioners to the 2/13/2020 Presbytery Meeting at Heritage Presbyterian in Acworth were approved.
12. Louise Panter is in charge of our next FPC Confirmation Class that will include a mission project with Red Door Pantry, a hike on Pine Mountain, lunch together at Steak and Shake, and a presentation on FPC membership.



**MAINE
STREET**
COASTAL CUISINE

Ladies Night Out

**Thursday, February 20
at 6:30pm**

Come enjoy food, fun and fellowship! All women of the congregation are welcome, please feel free to invite your friends too! To RSVP for nursery care contact the church office 770-382-3511.



mardi gras **BENEFIT**
Join us for a festive night and support a great cause

Mardi Gras Benefit supporting the Red Door Food Pantry – Our Friendship Table program is now partnering with the Church of the Ascension's Red Door Food Pantry, to purchase food from the Atlanta Food Bank. This partnership allows us to purchase Friendship Table food items for 16 cents per pound. The primary fund raiser for the Red Door Food Pantry is **Mardi Gras Benefit on Friday, February 7th at 7:00pm** at the Clarence Brown Conference Center. Let's show our support by purchasing tickets at www.cartersvillemardigras.com. Get a group together and enjoy a fun filled evening of great food & beverages, entertainment and a silent auction. For more information contact Sheilah Simons at simonssheilah@gmail.com or Bill Devine at bill.devine4446@att.net – 678-448-6888.



December Christmas Program



Grace and the Kindergarten students perform with Little People's Hand Bells.



Many thanks to Grace for a special morning of music.

February 2020

First Presbyterian Preschool Registration Begins



2020-2021 Registration Begins February

Registration Dates for FPC members and staff will open the first week in February. We will then open registration to the general public starting February 19.

ATTENTION



We will follow Cartersville City Schools schedule for snow days.

However, sometimes, in the event of early closings, the Pre-School may close even earlier to avoid any poor road conditions.

Upcoming Preschool Dates

- Registration Monday, February 3** Registration for 2020-2021 opens to church and staff
- Valentines Parties Friday, February 14** Valentines Celebrations for 3 Day and 5 Day Classes
- Winter Break February 17-18** Preschool closed
- Registration Wednesday, February 19** Registration for 2020-2021 opens to public

Hands of Christ After School Program



ANGELS AMONG US

FPC is so blessed to have such a loving and generous congregation. This year 187 gifts were distributed at the Hands of Christ Christmas Celebration. All of YOU are the real angels on earth for opening your hearts and sharing your love with these children. Thanks to you the children who are a part of this ministry know the true spirit and joy of Christmas. Most importantly, they have experienced God's gift to the world, and will carry His love with them always.



BOOK BUDDIES

Today a reader. Tomorrow a leader.

Adult volunteers are needed for our Spring Book Buddies at First Presbyterian Church's Hands of Christ After School Program in Cartersville. Call 770-382-4203 x139 for details!

A graphic with a dark green background and a white dotted border. It features a central globe with various educational icons: a house, a school bus, a book, a pencil, and numbers. The text "BOOK BUDDIES" is written in large, white, bold letters. Below it, the slogan "Today a reader. Tomorrow a leader." is written in a smaller white font. At the bottom, there is a call to action in white text.

Winter Break
February 17-18

February Birthdays

1	John Morrison	27	Ethan Gregory
2	Kyle Russell	28	Sandy Atwell
5	Dalton Jenkins	28	Beth Gaines
7	George Campbell	28	Erin Sims
8	Beth Weathersby	28	Conner Paul
11	Sally Conlin		
12	Gerry Thrasher		
13	Kay Boulter		
14	Dennis Collier		
14	Matt Bridges		
15	Weston Bradley		
15	Wyatt Bradley		
18	Jennifer Tasker		
19	Margaret Gaines		
21	Susan Ginn		
21	Marshall Pressley		
23	Kathe Keck		
23	Jessi Bailey		
24	Chris Shields		
24	Peter Morrison		



In February We Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Araceli Munoz, Tatyana Wilson (ASP), Deborah Agan (ASP), Carol Ries (Preschool), Sheila Rosser (Preschool)

Officers: Dennis Collier (Session), Sean Ireland (Diaconate)

Ministries: Administrative Ministry

Families: February 1-7: Jared Whatley (Olivia), Jeanne Whatley, Ross and Charlotte Whatley, Floy White, Peggy White

February 8-14: LaRue Whitehead, David and Jeannette Wilkins, Earl and Marie Williamson, Lewy Williamson (Aaron), Hannah and Taylor Wilson

February 15-21: Randy and Diane Burger Winkle, John and Peggy Zierer, John Adams, Bobbie Allen (Sommer, Trinity), Jim and Charlotte Allen

February 22-29: Mike and Monnie Anderson, Karen Anderson, Ed and Sandy Atwell, Matt and Jessi Bailey (Sam, Judd), Richard and Guill Bailey

First Presbyterian Church

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120

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Contact

Mike Anderson, pastor

mikea@pobox.com

Pam Radford, director of music

pam@cartersvillepres.org

Grace Barker, children's choir director

Becky Ferguson, secretary

becky@cartersvillepres.org

Angie Hood, receptionist

angie@cartersvillepres.org

Beth Weathersby, preschool co-director

beth@cartersvillepres.org

Lindsay Scoggins, preschool co-director

lindsay@cartersvillepres.org

Jean Dudley, after school program director

jean@cartersvillepres.org

Araceli Munoz, after school program

araceli@cartersvillepres.org

Story Vernon, children & youth intern

February Calendar

February 3

2020-21 Preschool Registration begins for church members and staff

7:00pm Presbyterian Women Evening Circle

February 4

6:30pm Properties Committee Meeting

February 6

7:00pm Etowah Valley Historical Society

The Sound of Africa

February 13

10:30am Book Club Group

February 14

12:30pm Older Adult Valentine's Luncheon

February 17

Winter Break No Preschool & HOC Afterschool Program - February 17 & 18

5:30pm Stewardship & Finance Committee

February 18

6:15pm Worship Committee Meeting

6:30pm Mission Committee Meeting

7:00pm Session Meeting

February 19

2020-21 Preschool Registration open to general public

February 20

6:30pm Ladies Night Out at Maine Street Coastal Cuisine

February 24

7:00pm Diaconate Meeting

February 26 Ash Wednesday

6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service

February 27

12:00pm Lenten Lunch

