



August 2020



My Grateful Heart

Dear Church Family,

My service to First Presbyterian Church is coming to an end. My last Sunday service will be August 9th. I will continue to assist with the transition in any way possible. The arrival of Pastor Leigh is the culmination of the work I came to do.

We have been through much together. The bonds we have formed will last well beyond my almost 3 years with you. The support and love you have given to me beginning the first day, have been extraordinary. I could never tally the number of notes, e-mails, and comments you have shared with me expressing your love and care. The year 2020 will be forever lodged in our memories as we sought how to navigate the Covid19 virus and to continue to be a church worshiping and serving in our community. As I said, we have been through much together.

I have been blessed to work with many wonderful congregations during my nearly forty-seven years in ministry, but Cartersville is special. The opportunity to work with you and this great staff, have made coming to work each day a joy. To be here for Becky's 50th anniversary of service to the church will go down in my book as a high point. You will never know what having someone like her on staff means to a pastor. She quickly became a trusted advisor, helping me navigate all things Cartersville. Angie achieved a similar milestone marking 20 years with the church in 2020. Never has she said, "That's not my job." and has helped me in countless ways. Pam's ability to help craft a worship experience every Sunday blessed me in so many ways. Many a Sunday, after the choir anthem, I would know that I had worshiped because the music had lifted me to heaven. Andrea has shown me how to start a youth and children's ministry during a pandemic! She has brought such energy and creativity to our staff in a short period and I am so grateful. They have all been patient in answering my questions and anticipating what I need, and keeping me on task. Leigh will be blessed to work with them.

My deep thanks to the Session for making my time here possible. First Presbyterian, Cartersville has wonderful leaders who serve Christ and his church with love and unselfish devotion. The church is graced with men and women who love God and each other and serve so faithfully. Whatever success I may have had here is due to those who have faithfully prayed for the church and me and worked hard alongside me every day.

Thank you for everything. You have enriched my life by being who you are. I thank my God for the opportunity to have served at First Presbyterian Church.

With love and gratitude,
Mike

From Pastor Leigh

Our steps are made firm by the Lord . . . for the Lord holds us by the hand. (Psalm 37:23-24)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: Words are not sufficient to express my excitement about the future God has in store for us and the excitement of our family about soon becoming a part of your church family. As we take the final steps toward moving, we do so with eagerness, joy, and gratitude. I am very excited to get to know you all and to learn more about you. Even as times are a bit hectic at this moment, I eagerly anticipate the future God has in store for all of us. Life in general has been unpredictable these days. When you add to that selling a house, buying a house, withdrawing from school, registering for school, saying goodbye to friends and looking forward to meeting new friends, it adds up to a bit of chaos for our family. Throughout it all I have been borrowing John Newton's famous phrase (with a slight modification) and saying over and over to myself: God has brought us thus far; God will bring us home. While Newton's original powerful words, which say "Grace has brought us thus far and grace will bring us home," are certainly true, I have been thinking about how God leads us. God leads us through the joyful times, through the dark valleys, through the uncertain times and through all the times in between. The Psalmist reminds us: Our steps are made firm by the Lord . . . for the Lord holds us by the hand. God is holding us by the hand and leading us into the amazing future that God has planned for us all. I give thanks to God for leading my family and me to FPC and I give thanks to God for each of you and your commitment to serve Christ. I look forward to joyfully serving our Risen Lord together.

May the peace of Christ be with you,
Pastor Leigh





The Life of the Apostles A Zoom Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

Each Wednesday Pastor Mike invites you to explore the life of the apostles, using both the biblical as well as extra-biblical materials to tell their story.

Plan now to join us. Using either your computer's browser at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88489678211>

Or the Zoom app

Meeting ID: 884 8967 8211

No Password Required



Music Live from FPC!

Join our organist, Pam Radford live on our Facebook page Wednesdays at 2:00pm for **Music Live from FPC**. Each week we'll listen and discuss different hymns of the church. Watch your inbox for a Constant Contact email that includes the weekly music.

Montreat@Home - MSC Edition

Endlessly
Enough



Just like High School Montreat, our Middle School Conference, which usually takes place at Maryville College, was canceled this summer. So, a couple of youth from Heritage Presbyterian Church in Acworth, joined our Middle School youth for our MSC here at First Presbyterian Church. We met from July 15 -July 17 (Wed-Fri) from 1 -4 p.m. in the Upper Room, with plenty of space to social distance.

The theme was “Endlessly Enough.” Throughout the few days, we learned that God is enough, we are enough, and so is our neighbor, whom we are called to help. It was based on the scripture from 1 John 4:7 which reads, “Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

We also enjoyed our time in fellowship with each other, learning energizers, playing games and trivia, and taking a trip to Coconuts to get some ice cream!

Thank you for the prayers and support of our youth!



Take Home Boxes for families with young children (up to 5th grade)

Stop by the Drive-Thru of the church in between worship services on Sundays to pick up a “To-Go Faith Formation” box for your family. Each box will contain worship bulletins for children for that month, coloring pages, suggestions for bible apps for children to read, prayer suggestions for meal times, suggestions on how we can serve and help others, etc. The boxes will change monthly.

Family Faith at Home



Pick up in the Drive-Thru on Sundays from 10-10:45 a.m.
Email andrea@cartersvillepres.org

If you would like a box for August dropped off at your home, please contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org, and she can plan a no-contact delivery for your family.

We're Going Back To School



Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Our Pre-School is doing its absolute best to open this fall. While waiting for the City Schools to make some decisions, we pushed back our starting date once they did. We did not want to open the same week as the school system; thus, we moved our first day to Tuesday, September 1.

We have been studying the CDC guidelines and the State guidelines for pre-schools. We will have these mailed to parents soon and post these in the pre-school area.

Just a few highlights of these guidelines are as follows:

1. Children will be screened each morning and then escorted to their classrooms. Temperatures will be taken.
2. Parents will not be allowed in the building except for Open House and emergencies.
3. Teachers and students will not wear masks during the school day. Adults may wear masks/shields during drop off and pick up.
4. Students will not leave their classrooms except for bathroom breaks and outside play.
5. Chapel and Music will be held in the classrooms to limit movement. Our science teacher will move to each class.
6. Cloth toys will not be allowed. This means no dress-up clothes.
7. We will wipe down all toys, tables, and countertops each day.

We appreciate all prayers as we try to accommodate while keeping safety top priority for these darling children.

Yours in Christ,

Lindsay Scoggins and Beth Weathersby ~ Co-Directors

First Presbyterian
Church
Pre-School
183 West Main Street

770-382-0755



Mark Your Calendar

Open House ~ Aug. 31

First Day ~ Sept. 1

Labor Day ~ September 7



August Birthdays

1	Debra Tatum	18	Veletta Gebert
1	Luke Hoskins	18	Katie Hoskins
2	Daisy Haley	18	Hannah Salter
3	Lois Hill	22	Nancy Kelly
3	Betty Dundee	23	Rhonda Wachsmuth
7	Denice Rouse	25	Peggy White
9	Zim Choate	25	Emily Hammer
10	Charles Gilreath	25	Sydney James
10	George Crim	26	Rowan Mukete
10	John Waters	27	Blake Dudley
10	Karon Mauney	27	Sommer Allen
10	Will Broome	27	Tripp Forbes
12	Sofia Motuba	31	Woody James
13	Rich Gaffoglio	31	Hunter James
14	Ellie Johnson		
14	Gracie Meckley		
15	Earl Williamson		
16	Ed Atwell		
16	Matt Bailey		
17	Randy Wrinkle		
17	Jerry Brownlow		



In August We Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Beth Weathersby, Rhonda Gilliam (ASP), Jennifer Graves (ASP), Dede Hatfield, (Preschool), Paige Lathem-Widener (Preschool)

Officers: Tinsley Cline (Session), Suzanne Collins (Diaconate)

Ministries: Administrative Ministry Team

Families: August 1-7: Sean and Rhonda Ireland (Allyson, Emily), Evelyn Itoe (Bemo, Paul), Loveline Itoe, Jean Ivie, Don Jackson

August 8-14: Justin and Emma James (Hayleigh, Hunter, Hayden), Wood and Jodi James (Sydney), Allyson Jenkins (Dalton), Andy Johnson, Brandon and Emma Johnson (Drew, Anne Tatum)

August 15-21: Frank and Faye Johnson, Megan Johnson (Ellie and Eliza), Nancy Kaufman, Kathe Keck, Andy and Rachel Keith,

August 22-31: Debbie King, Ashley Knight (Isla, River), Terry and Valarie Lavender (Alex, Olivia), Laura Layne (Molly), Don and Sandy Longhurst (Tzelda, Vaughan)

First Presbyterian Church

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120

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Contact

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mikea@pobox.com

Pam Radford, director of music

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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

Andrea Roche, interim children & youth director

andrea@cartersvillepres.org

August Calendar

August 2

6:00pm Zoom Congregational Meeting

August 9

9:00am Worship in Sanctuary

11:00am Worship in Sanctuary

12:30pm Goodbye (drive-by) for Pastor Mike and Monnie

August 16

Guest preacher - Rev. Joel Alvis, Mission Coordinator & Stated Clerk

August 17

5:30pm Stewardship & Finance Meeting

August 18

6:15pm Worship Committee Meeting

6:30pm Mission Committee Meeting

7:00pm Session Meeting

August 20

6:30pm Ladies Night Out @ Moore's Market

August 24

7:00pm Diaconate Meeting

August 31

Preschool Open House

The Session will determine month by month the activities allowed in the church.

