

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18

This is the time of year when many people are thinking about the importance of learning. Children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews are back in school. Colleges are underway. But, thinking about the importance of learning is not just for our children, college students, or their families. Learning is a lifelong calling. This is all the more true when we are talking about learning as disciples. First Peter reminds us that once we have tasted that the Lord is good, we should crave spiritual milk so that through it, we can grow in our salvation. Our Scriptures overflow with reminders about the importance of learning and growing as disciples.

In this past year, life has presented many challenges. Perhaps we have had to put aside learning and growing as disciples in the midst of the difficulties. But, navigating challenges is all the more difficult when we are not spiritually strong. Being spiritually strong means growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord. This Fall season is a good opportunity for us all to think about learning and growing as disciples. How are we spiritually growing? There are many ways we can grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. Worship is one of the most important ways for us to be renewed in Christ and focus our hearts and lives on his will for our lives so that we may grow in him. In September, Sunday school for all ages begins, a Fall zoom Bible study will be offered, and a once a month in person Bible study begins. In addition, there are opportunities to grow as disciples through daily prayer, acts of service, leadership, and caring. Or, invite a friend to join with you in an opportunity to learn and grow in Christ. Sometimes having a friend to enter into a joint commitment to grow for a season can make a difference. If you would like to pray about or talk about any of these opportunities, contact one of our Elders, Deacons, or me. Let us all grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior in this Fall Season!

Pastor Leigh

The Loveletter

September 2021

A New Look for Fall!

This past Spring, unfortunately, in the midst of a rain storm, water rushed into the church offices. But, after months of planning, prayer, and hard work by our Properties committee, repairs have been completed, new carpet laid, and a beautiful paint job has been finished. As we kick off this Fall Season, we give thanks to God for the work of our Properties Committee and all the people who helped to support the repairs. We begin this Fall season with a new

roof on the Educational Building, paint in Christian Education classrooms, and new carpet and paint in the offices.

Everyone is invited to drop-in sometimes to say hello and celebrate and give thanks for the hard work and dedication of so many people, as together, we were able to accomplish so much!









The Session is excited to share that we have welcomed two new members to our church family. Jim Ireland is joining by letter of transfer and Sunny Brown joined by reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant. Another Inquirers Class for any visitors who would like learn more about FPC will be offered soon!

Spotlight on the Deacons' Fund

Ever wonder what the Deacons' Fund is used for? Our primary ongoing commitment is \$500 per month to one of FPC's mission partners, the Community Resource Center, which acts as a clearinghouse referral service and screener and dispensary for individual needs, such as utilities about to be shut off, fuel cards, emergency meds and other needs, etc. It is supported by a consortium of churches and other private individuals in the community (no government funds). Additionally, the Deacons' Fund may be used as a discretionary fund for specific congregant needs. While the offering from Christmas Eve services goes to the Deacons' Fund, you can always designate any offering or contribute directly to it (online or by check and note in the memo/note line). Given the pandemic, our resources have been stretched thin. Please prayerfully consider helping your neighbors in these stressful times.

The Properties Committee along with the Personnel Committee are happy to announce the **job posting for a full time Facilities Manager.** <u>CLICK HERE</u> to view the job posting.



FPC's Book Club September 23 10:30am

in the Cornerstone Room The selected book for September is *Growing Up in Cartersville* by Van Henshaw.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, Sept. 15th



2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Education Building

To schedule an appointment, and to do your RAPIDPASS - go to <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u> and enter sponsor code: firstprescartersville All presenting donors will receive a t-shirt and free haircut coupon from Sports Clips.



From the Session:

The following are the minutes from the 7/28/21 called Session meeting:

1. The membership transfer of Chris and Amelia Jones from Ormond Beach Presbyterian Church was approved.

2. The trustees were authorized to renew a First Bank of Dalton Line of Credit.

3. Cody Carver was hired as a Youth helper and Emily Miller was hired as a Nursery worker.

4. The Session received a report from the Worship Committee Task Force charged with exploring the need for a second worship service and approved the recommendation of the Task Force which begins with a search for a musician or musicians to coordinate and lead an Upper Room informal service at 9:00 AM.

The following are the minutes from the 8/17/2021 Session meeting:

1. Sunny Brown was received as a new member by reaffirmation of faith.

2. David Dundee was appointed to attend the 8/28/2021 Cherokee Presbytery Zoom meeting.

3. The Session voted to continue the existing Covid-19 protocols (masks are voluntary but be attentive to CDC guidelines).

4. The Session voted to return to a 9:00 AM Upper Room Service and a 11:00 AM sanctuary service beginning 9/12/2021.

5. The Session voted to begin a search for a full-time Facilities Manager at an already budgeted annual salary of \$50,000.

6. Hands of Christ students will be served dinner in the Fellowship Hall about 5:00 PM rather then in their classrooms.

7. Beth Weathersby reported that an anonymous donor recently paid for some new Preschool computers.

8. Kathy Farnon reported that a reception for Pastor Leigh and family will be held on 8/29/2021.

9. Nannette Enloe reported that two adult Sunday School classes are currently meeting at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.

10. Katie Godfrey reported that Friendship Table will start back up 10/17/2021 if a director or directors can be found.

11. Kyle Russell recommended that we begin the process of seeking bids to replace the Fellowship Hall and Motel Wing roofs.

12. Paul Green requested that 2021 budget requests be turned in by 9/15/2021.

13. The 2021 Stewardship Theme will be 'See What Love Can Do....and Dare'.



Current enrollment: includes 2 day, 3 day, and 5 day students

Nursery and Toddlers 11 2 year olds 16 3 year olds 29 Pre-K 24 Kindergarten 11 Total: 91

We have had a wonderful few weeks at preschool! We were so excited to open our doors and welcome our families back to school. We had Open House on August 16th and our first day of school was the following day.

I want to thank Kyle Russell and his painting crew for painting the preschool walls, Dennis Collier for making sure our playground had new mulch, Melissa Porter for continuing to serve our preschool even though her children have moved on to big kid school, and to every church member who contributes to and supports our preschool. We had a very generous donor help us get much needed new computers! The preschool looks amazing! I feel very blessed by you and supported! I am grateful to be a part of the church's ministries!

As you know Beth Weathersby and I have shared the job as preschool director. This year I will be doing the job full time. We are fortunate to have Beth as our Pre-School Board director. I want to thank Beth for all of her hard work and dedication to the preschool!

Coming up we will be honoring Grandparents in September with a special treat being sent home for the children to give to their grandparents. We will have fire station visits and the pre-k classes will study nature when they visit Pettit Preserve.

Yours in Christ,



First Presbyterian Pre-School

<u>Mark Your Calendar</u> Monday, Sept. 2 Labor Day ~ No School







Children & Youth Sunday School Kick-off Sunday will be Sunday, September 12th at 10 a.m.

Teachers Needed

We still need a few teachers for our Sunday School Teacher Rotation Model. If you can only teach 1 or 2 Sundays a month, that is great. We will find a perfect place for you! If you feel called to teach our children or youth this year, please contact <u>andrea@cartersvillepres.org.</u>

<u>Meet</u> <u>Cody Carver</u> <u>Our Children &</u> <u>Youth Assistant!</u>

Cody is from Pickens County, GA, but he



currently lives in Fairmount, GA. He is attending Grand Canyon University online, working towards his bachelor's degree in Christian Studies. After he gets his degree, he plans on attending seminary and following the path where God is calling him. Right now, Cody is considering Christian education, but he is still praying and searching.

Cody loves comic books and basketball. He also enjoys watching Sumo Wrestling. He is happy to be a part of this congregation, and he hopes that he can help wherever he is needed. Cody also is praying that this job helps him see which path God is leading him in the future.

Confirmation

If your child is in middle school and has not gone through Confirmation, please reach out to Andrea (<u>andrea@cartersvillepres.org</u>), and we will get your youth all signed up. Confirmation will be Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. beginning September 19.





We will begin our Sunday afternoon Youth Group on Sunday, September 12 from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.

A full calendar of youth events through December will be sent out via our Constant Contact and Texting system soon. Be on the lookout for that.

If you are not receiving our Youth emails or texts, please contact <u>andrea@cartersvillepres.org</u> to be added to the lists.

September Birthdays

1	Heather Pullen	13	Grey Olson
1	Bailey Campbell	13	Judd Bailey
1	Henley Hughes	14	Lisa Morrison
2	Jane Dysart	18	Lee Davis
2	Zach McAlexander	19	Mike Stodgell
3	Jeanine Tarver	23	Martha Choate
3	Hayden James	24	John Panter
5	Sam Sullins	26	Sheilah Simons
6	Becky Carr	29	Karen Anderson
6	Aaron Williamson	29	Caroline Morrison
7	Sonya Noble	30	Cynthia Ball
7	Amy Bergman		
10	Candler Ginn		
11	Kent Hughes		
12	Will Noble		
12	Amelia Jones		

- 12 Olivia Whatley
- 13 Tracey Baker
- 13 Ben Bridges



In September We Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Becky Ferguson, Laurie Adams (ASP), Monse Cabanas (ASP), Kelly Forrester (Preschool), Jennifer Graves (Preschool)

Officers: Katie Godfrey (Session), Sheilah Simons (Diaconate)

Ministries: Congregational Care Team

Families: September 1-7: Randy and Heather Pullen (Maddie), Terry and Carla Purdy, Mike and Pam Radford, Betty-Byrd Randolph, Mike Rawls

September 8-14: Perry and Kim Rentz (Anna, Laura), Rick and Patty Richardson, Jean Robinson, Paxton Robinson, Karen Rodgers

September 15-21: Denice Rouse (Matthew, James), Paxton Russell, Kyle and Karen Russell, Margaretta Shaw, Chis and Renee Shields (Grace, Mya, Christopher), Rick Shireman and Sarah Craighead

September 22-30: Betty Sime, Jerry Simmons, Matt and Sheilah Simons, Robert and Cindy Sims, Joyce Smith

First Presbyterian Church

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<u>Contact</u>

Leigh Jones, pastor pastorleighjones@gmail.com Pam Radford, director of music pam@cartersvillepres.org Andrea Roche, children & youth director andrea@cartersvillepres.org Becky Ferguson, secretary becky@cartersvillepres.org Angie Hood, receptionist angie@cartersvillepres.org Lindsay Scoggins, preschool director lindsay@cartersvillepres.org Jean Dudley, after school program director jean@cartersvillepres.org

September Calendar

September 2 10:30am - Ladies Bible Study Group September 6 - Labor Day Holiday Church Office closed Preschool and Hands of Christ ASP Holiday 6:00pm - Mission Committee Meeting September 7 6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting September 8 7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal Resumes September 12 - Kick Off Sunday 9:00am - Worship Service/Gathering Space 9:30am - Mostly Music 10:00am - Sunday School Kick-Off 11:00am - Worship Service/Sanctuary 4:00pm - Youth Fellowship September 13 5:00pm - Voices of Bronze Handbells 5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting 6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting September 14 7:30pm - Faith Development Meeting September 15 2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive till 7:00pm

September 21

7:00pm - Session Meeting September 23 10:30am - Book Club Meeting September 27 7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting

