



April 2022

In this Lenten season we have celebrated 3 baptisms. I give thanks for the Sacrament that seals us in God's promises, promises that sustain us through the journey of Lent. I think it is especially appropriate that we had three Baptisms in this Lenten season because our theme has been *Full to the Brim*, an Expansive Lent.

Throughout this season, we have spent time reflecting on Scriptures that speak of God's abundant and expansive grace. We have done nothing to deserve or earn this grace and yet, like water, it spills over. The waters of Baptism speak profoundly to this grace and it is through those waters that we know and experience that grace. For all the difficult moments that we face in life, the grace and lavish love we know in Christ touches us and rushes and flows through our hearts and lives.

As we look toward the conclusion of our Lenten season and Holy Week, we are invited to immerse ourselves in that grace and love even as we walk through the difficult days of Holy Week. How has that grace touched you in these past weeks? Has the Wellness Wheel been a way for you to draw closer to God and the beautiful, full to the brim, life that God invites us all to lead? Has the class on the Lord's Prayer deepened your prayer life? Or have there been moments in worship when you sat in awe of our God?

As we approach Holy Week, let us reflect on this past Season and how we have grown closer to God and then look toward how we can continue that journey through Holy Week. Palm Sunday is a time when we lift our voices and celebrate our King, but also recall that those same voices which proclaimed "Hosanna in the Highest" would soon be crying, "Crucify Him." On Maundy Thursday we will recall Christ's journey to the cross through the Stations of the Cross. On Good Friday, we will acknowledge the darkness and the brokenness and sin that ended our Savior's life.

On Easter Sunday, we will celebrate that Friday is never the end of the story. Resurrection, new life, a life that is full to the brim is the most important part of the story. The story continues in our hearts and lives today through the love and hope we know in Christ. If love is our beginning, how can we continue to live our lives led by love's promises? If we have recognized or experienced aspects of an abundant life in Christ in this season, how can we continue that kind of life? Be a part of our Holy Week and Easter worship so that we all can continue to discover the expansive life that God intends for us.

Peace,
Pastor Leigh



Holy Week

at First Presbyterian Church

April 10th - Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Gathering Space 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary 4:00 p.m. - Community Easter Egg Hunt at FPC

April 14th - Maundy Thursday

6:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

April 15th - Good Friday

12:00 p.m. - FPC hosts service with Sam Jones United Methodist

April 17th - Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Gathering Space 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary (No Sunday School)

Lenten Lunch

Join us Thursday, April 7th along with other churches in our community at noon for lunch and worship together. There is no charge for lunch; donations will be accepted. Please call the church office by noon on Tuesday to make your reservation.

Date Host Church

April 7 First Presbyterian

Musical Moments

Palm Sunday

We will celebrate Triumphal Entry with Choir and Organ and our special guest musician will

be Violinist, Lisa Morrison.



Maundy Thursday

The Stations of the Cross

To encounter the Stations of the Cross is to walk with Jesus from Pilate's House to Calvary and then to watch as His body is placed in the tomb. Tradition holds that during Holy Week in the ancient church, pilgrims made their way to Jerusalem to walk the path He walked during the last days and events of His suffering. Scripture reading and prayer accompanied this walk, underscoring significant places and events along the way.

Because it is difficult to capture the emotions of Holy Week, we will have different expressions of each of the scriptures utilizing our different senses--

Hearing----organ, choir, oboe, flute, reading, and praying

Seeing---Martha Choate will paint her interpretation of the events of Holy Week during the service

Tasting/Touching---Communion

Good Friday

Because words are sometimes too difficult on Good Friday, the music for that service will be instrumental. In addition to the organ, Oboist, Lisa Sayre will play.

Easter Sunday

We will celebrate the Resurrection with Organ and Choir!!

From the Session:

The following are the highlights from the 3/15/2022 abbreviated Session Meeting:

- 1. The baptism of Russell Robert Pressley on 3/20/2022 at the 11:00 AM Service was approved.
- 2. The baptisms of Brian Purtymun and Paula Purtymun on 3/27/2022 at a 3:00 PM called Session Meeting were approved.
- 3. A John Panter Fundraiser request for the benefit of the people of Ukraine in conjunction with a PC-USA Mission project was approved.
- 4. A Worship Committee request to return to passing the offering plates and friendship pads beginning 4/3/2022 was approved.
- 5. A Worship Committee request to service communion on 4/17/2022 (Easter Sunday) was approved.
- 6. The annual meeting of the FPC congregation will be held on 3/20/2022 at 12:00 Noon.

Zoom Bible Study

Join FPC for a virtual Bible Study on Wednesday nights during Lent. The study began on March 9 and continues through April 13, we meet online at 7:30 p.m. for a study of "The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught," by the Rev. Adam Hamilton. Email sire-land0613@gmail.com if you plan to attend so we are sure to get the Zoom link to you!

Lenten Wreath

In searching for ways to incorporate visuals for Lent, we came across the Lenten Wreath. This wreath is made of dried vines and thorns and contains 5 purple candles with the Christ Candle in the middle. On the first Sunday in Lent all the candles were lighted and one was extinguished. On the following Sundays, only the remaining candles are lighted with one being extinguished each Sunday until Good Friday when only the Christ Candle is burning. At that service, it too is extinguished, leaving us in darkness.

On Easter Sunday, the Christ Candle is lighted again and fresh flowers will be added to the wreath of thorns, reminding all of us of the new life we all have in Christ.



Family Fun Night

Wednesday, April 20th

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Good Food/Good Fun! Join us for dinner and a rollicking game of Name That Tune. Test your knowledge of songs from all genres of music.

An evening of fun for all ages.

Ladies Night Out

April 21st - 6:30-8:00pm

Mellow Mushroom Pizza Come enjoy good food and fellowship. All ladies are welcome!





FPC Book Club April 28th - 10:30am Fellowship Hall

The selected book for April is Jim DeFede's

The Day the World Came to Town.

Everyone is welcome.

Happenings at FPC

Annual Congregational Meeting and Annual Report

On Sunday, March 20th, we celebrated the ministry of this congregation for the past year and all that God is calling us to do this year! We gathered for an incredible meal and a time of fellowship. Thank you to everyone who helped and provided food and all who attended. If you would like a copy of the written annual report, you may pick one up in the office.





Thanks to everyone for a great time at Family Fun Night!



Dare to Serve Project at Johnson Cove



Helping the people of Ukraine

Thank you to everyone who has reached out with love and prayer and made a donation to support John Panter's fundraiser for the people of Ukraine. Rev. Robert Gamble, of This



Child Here, met with John to thank him personally and to share more about how This Child Here is helping the people of Ukraine, especially, vulnerable children. As of today, over \$7,000 has been raised to support their ministry. For more information about This Child Here: thischildhere.org or speak with John or Pastor Leigh. To support their work through John's fundraiser, you may give to FPC and note that it is for Ukraine.



<u>Donations Needed:</u> Large bags of individually wrapped candy or small toys that can fit into plastic Easter Eggs. The youth will safely fill the plastic eggs we already have with the donated items. Please drop off any donations to the church office during office hours or the Large Baskets outside of the Sanctuary and Gathering Space on Sundays. Contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org for any questions.

College/Young Adult Care Packages

If you have a college student, young adult, or a child in the military please send their address to andrea@cartersvillepres.org.

The youth are going to put together Care Packages in April. If you would like to donate to the packages, please check out our <u>Amazon Wish List</u> or send in donations or gift cards.



Youth Group Calendar

April 3 - Spring Break - No Youth Group

April 10 - Easter Egg Hunt - Youth at church by 3 p.m.

April 14 – Maundy Thursday Worship (6:30 p.m.)

April 15 – Good Friday Worship (noon)

April 17 – Easter Sunday, No Sunday School

April 20 - FAB Lunch

April 24 – Youth Sunday Practice + Dinner (4-6:30 p.m.)

Bible Presentation

On Sunday, March 20, three of our 3rd graders received bibles given to them by First Presbyterian Church. Anna Godfrey, Marion Panter, and Harris Presley came forward during worship, and their new bibles were blessed. Anna, Marion, & Harris were encouraged to read the bible, as they grow in their faith and knowledge of God throughout their lives.

Thank you for every person who supports and loves the children and youth of this congregation. Thank you for your investment in the spiritual development of all of our children and youth at FPC.







VBS Save the Date & Volunteers Needed
June 27 - July 1
9:00 - Noon

VBS is coming to FPC this Summer! June 27-July 1, 9 a.m. until noon. VBS is open to all children in our community, and it is a time for kids to hear God's Message, deepen their faith, enjoy songs, create crafts, and have a wonderful week.

Volunteers with all abilities are needed: teachers, snack coordinators, set builders, guides for our children, game leaders, decorators, etc. There is a place for everyone at VBS! To volunteer for VBS contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org

May 1 – Youth Sunday (9 & 11 a.m. Worship Services, No Youth Group)

May 4 - FAB Lunch

May 8 - Mother's Day - No Youth Group

May 11 - FAB Lunch

May 15 – Graduation Sunday – Food Truck Lunch

May 22 - Last Day of Sunday School



Hands of Christ After School Program



Hands of Christ will celebrate our dedicated and hard-working staff during the week of May 2nd-6th. Our amazing staff of teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, and kitchen staff help us to fulfill our mission to the students and their families. They are the hands and feet of Christ!







Summer Camp is Coming Soon!

June 6-10 Cave Expedition with field trip to Ruby Falls

June 13-17 Out of this World Expedition with field trip to Tellus

June 20-24 H2Oooohhh! with Waterslide and fun day



First Presbyterian Preschool



Lindsay Scoggins ~ Director · 770 – 382 – 0755 · Lindsay@cartersvillepres.org



Our special visitor, Louis the Leprechaum, came to visit the preschool on St. Patrick's Day!

Pictured above: Mrs. Louisa's Pre-K class.

We currently have 93 students registered for next school year! We have availability in our 2 year old / 2 day class and our 3 year old classes. If you know anyone interested in attending our preschool, please have them call or email me. ~Blessings, Lindsay

April Dates to Remember

- *Egg Drop *April 1 @ 9:00*
- *Spring Break
 No School April 4-8
- *Spring Pictures

 <u>April 12 and 13</u>
- *Easter Egg Hunts/Parties

 <u>April 14</u>
- *Good Friday No School April 15
- *Teacher Appreciation Week April 25 - 29

During science class, Mrs.
Rosemary's class digs up soil and learns about what lives in the soil.
Mrs. Paige, our science teacher, does a fantastic job bringing in God's creation and His love to her lessons each week!



"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'"

Matthew 19:1

April Birthdays

1	Martha Campbell	16	Mya Shields
2	Nan Collier	17	David Dundee
2	Evan Bergman	18	Billy Noble
3	Joan Green	18	Loveline Itoe
3	Kerry Stough	19	Jean Gilliland
4	Brayden Mullinax	20	Mike Tobin
5	LaRue Whitehead	20	Jacob Brush
5	Patty Richardson	20	Johnathan Shrader
5	Jake Noble	21	Margaretta Shaw
6	Betty Gilbert	21	Randy Ellis
8	Jimmy Cline	21	Sam Bailey
8	Perry Rentz	23	Jessica Gardner
9	Denise Kennedy	28	Sharon Ellis
9	David Tilley	28	Harrison Paul
9	Ella Bridges	28	Alice Hembree
12	Will Pruitt		
13	Norman Daugherty		
13	Corey Tobin		



In April We Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Andrea Roche, Priscilla Milton (ASP), Pam Nealey (ASP), Jennifer Belisle (Preschool), Sharon Ellis (Preschool)

Officers: Suzanne Collins (Session), Molly Collins (Diaconate)

Ministries: Congregational Care Team

Mason Cline

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Families: April 1-7: Cheryl Harris, Clark and Mary Hart, Janet Hart, Clay and Catheryn Hembree (Alice, Graham), John and Lynn Herman (Ian)

April 8-14: Lois Hill, Katie Hoskins (Luke), Kate Howard, Hannah Howell, Harvey and Sandy Howell

April 15-21: Brad and Pam Hughes, Kent Hughes, Jerry and Susan Ingram, Jim and Lynne Ireland, Sean and Rhonda Ireland (Allyson, Emily)

April 22-30: Evelyn Itoe (Bemo), Loveline Itoe, Jean Ivie, Justin and Emma James (Hayleigh, Hunter, Hayden), Andy Johnson

First Presbyterian Church

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120 770-382-3511 www.cartersvillepres.org

Contact

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

April Calendar

April 4 - 8 Spring Break - No Preschool & HOC Afterschool April 4

6:00pm - Mission Committee Meeting

April 5

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

April 6

7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study "The Lord's Prayer"

April 7

10:30am - Ladies Bible Study

12:00pm - Lenten Lunch @ FPC

April 10 - Palm Sunday

9:00am - Modern Worship Service/Gathering Space

11:00am - Traditional Worship Service/Sanctuary

4:00pm - Easter Egg Hunt @ FPC

April 11

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

April 12

7:00pm - Faith Development Committee Meeting

April 13

7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study "The Lord's Prayer"

April 14

6:30pm - Maundy Thursday Service

April 15

12:00pm - Good Friday Service @ FPC

April 17 - Easter Sunday

9:00am - Easter Worship Service/Gathering Space

11:00am - Easter Worship Service/Sanctuary

April 18 - Church office closed

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

April 19

7:00pm - Session Meeting

April 20

5:30pm - Family Fun Night

April 21

6:30pm - Ladies Night Out @ Mellow

Mushroom Pizza

April 25

7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting

April 28

10:30am - Book Club Meeting

