



March 2022



Have you ever thought about the movement of water? From the way it laps on the shore, to gentle waves, to the powerful waves of the ocean, the flow of water can be beautiful, soothing, and powerful. I recall a certain kayaking trip down the Etowah river this Fall with the youth when I got to know the waters of that river very well! I got to know some rocks along the river also. Along the Etowah, there's a beautiful cold spring that you can stop and see as you kayak down the river. The water bubbles up from the spring, fills the small area where it originates until it is full to the brim, and then overflows into other pools all around.

Have you ever thought of or experienced grace in the same way? The scriptures for Lent this year are filled with parables and promises of God's abundant and expansive grace. There is nothing we have done to earn God's grace or deserve it and yet, like water flowing out from the spring, it spills over. It has a ripple effect that makes it more expansive the more it is offered. It has the power to shape us, transform us and guide us. With this in mind our Lenten theme for 2022 is "Full to the Brim: An Expansive Lent."

We are invited to experience a radically different Lent this year, where we recognize what keeps us from being our authentic selves and embrace God's grace which spills over in and through our hearts and lives. We will confront what keeps us from truly knowing Christ and the grace He offers, touching on topics such as our views on societal scarcity contrasted with God's abundance that is full to the brim. This Lent, we are all invited to experience the love of God that lavishes us, spills over us and flows around and through us.

There are many ways to immerse ourselves in God's expansive grace this Lent. It begins with Ash Wednesday, on March 2nd at 6:30. With ashes, we acknowledge and mourn our sin and our mortality, and we begin the journey of opening our minds and hearts to Christ. Each Sunday of Lent, worship will invite us to let go of an aspect of our lives that hinders our path to God and to embrace more fully the love and grace we know in Christ. There is a Full to the Brim daily devotion book that you may pick up in the front office and there will be daily readings on Facebook. Our children and youth will be reflecting on God's overflowing grace in Sunday school. There will be a Wednesday Night Zoom Study starting March 9 and continuing through April 13. For this study, will meet online at 7:30 p.m. and discuss "The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught," by the Rev. Adam Hamilton.

During this Lenten Season may each of us be reminded to live fully into the grace and hope we know in Christ as we express both our grief and gratitude. May we also learn to trust fully that we belong to God, just as we are. As we grow in that understanding may we offer the grace that we have received to others so that others can experience the love, grace and mercy of our God. Finally, may we discover what it means to live into the expansive life that God envisions and intends for us all.

Peace,

Pastor Leigh



Beginning March 3rd - April 7th

Join us Thursdays in Lent 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.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host Church</u>
March 3	Sam Jones United Methodist
March 10	Church of the Ascension
March 17	Trinity United Methodist
March 24	Faith United Methodist
March 31	Heritage Baptist
April 7	First Presbyterian

Lenten Wreath

We are all familiar with the rich worship visuals of Advent. Chrismons, wreaths, live greenery, and poinsettias fill our Sanctuary each week. For most of us, the Advent Wreath lighting is a huge part of that visual experience.

In searching for ways to incorporate visuals for Lent, we came across the Lenten Wreath. This wreath will be made of dried vines and thorns and will contain 5 purple candles with the Christ Candle in the middle. On the first Sunday in Lent all the candles will be lighted and one will then be 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.



Annual Meeting of the Congregation March 20, 2022 - Noon

Join us for a covered dish luncheon and a time to reflect on and give thanks for our ministry and to pray about all that God is calling us to do and be for 2022. If you would like to know about our ministry or how you can be involved, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more. It is also a joyful time of fellowship and great food!

Lenten Devotional Books

As we enter the season of Lent, First Presbyterian Church is offering a personal daily devotional book for each family to use during this holy season. The books will tie in with the larger church worship lessons, which will focus on parables in Scripture and God's abundant and expansive grace. The books will be available for you to pick up at the Ash Wednesday service and worship services on the first Sunday of Lent. Be sure to look for these free books to enhance your study and worship as we prepare to experience God's grace and love filling us to the brim!

Zoom Bible Study

Join FPC for a virtual Bible Study on Wednesday nights during Lent. Starting March 9 and continuing through April 13, we'll 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. We studied Hamilton's book about Advent in December. This study is intended to deepen our understanding of the Lord's Prayer and help us to pray it with new energy. Our Wednesday sessions are filled with fellowship and lively conversation that deepens our connection to each other and to the roots of our faith. Email sireland0613@gmail.com if you plan to attend so we are sure to get the Zoom link to you!

From the Session:

The following are the highlights from the 2/15/2022 Session Meeting:

1. Beth Gaines and Jean Gilliland were appointed Commissioners to the 2/26/2022 Zoom Cherokee Presbytery Stated Meeting.
2. Rick Shireman reported that the Friendship Table start-up is being planned for April 2022.
3. Peter Olson presented the 2022 Balanced Budget Summary which was approved unanimously.
4. Kathy Farnon recommended that our Annual Meeting be held on 3/20/2022 following the 11:00 AM service which was approved.
5. Scott Panter representing the Memorials Committee recommended an outlay of about \$1,000 for sanctuary Bible and Hymnals which was approved.
6. Beth Weathersby reported that preschool enrollment is going well with 50 students already enrolled for the Fall.
7. Beth Gaines reported that the 9:00 AM worship service is a work in progress and requested feedback.
8. Andrea Roche reported that a Lock-In and a trip to Buc-ee's are being planned by the youth.
9. Katie Godfrey reported that a Kid's Craft Day is being planned for 3/6/2022.
10. Dennis Collier reported that we can expect a 22-Month lead time before our two 20-Ton HVAC units can be replaced.
11. Pastor Leigh reminded the Session to meet in the Session Room at 10:45 AM on Sundays for prayer.



FPC's Book Club

March 24

10:30am

in the Fellowship Hall.

The selected book for March is a work of historical fiction, Stephen Kiernan's *Universe of Two*. All are welcome.



Dare to Serve Project March 27th



March 9, 2022

2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

2nd Floor Education
Building

For more information,
to schedule an
appointment, go to

www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code:

firstprescartersville

Sunday, March 27th at 4:00 PM, we will meet with our brothers and sisters who are in transitional housing at Good Neighbor Shelter for a time of fun and fellowship. We will be offering crafts, activities, and games for the children and snacks, conversation, and fellowship for all ages. All ages are invited to be a part of this opportunity. We will meet in the church parking lot at 3:45 p.m. and carpool. If you would like to volunteer to help with crafts, activities or games or provide snacks, or for more information contact Katie Godfrey or Elizabeth Baxley Bowen.



Easter Egg Hunt - Sunday, April 10 at 4 p.m.

FPC will be hosting a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 10.
Invite your friends & neighbors.

Donations Needed: 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 [Amazon Wish List](#) or send in donations or gift cards.



VBS at FPC is June 27-July 1

Save the Date & tell your friends & Neighbors!



Youth Group March Calendar

March 2 – Ash Wednesday Worship – 6:30 p.m.

March 6 – Mission Opportunity – More information coming

March 9 – FAB Lunch

March 13 – Youth Group + Dinner (4-6:30 p.m.)

March 20 – Youth Group + Dinner (4-6:30 p.m.)

March 23 - FAB Lunch

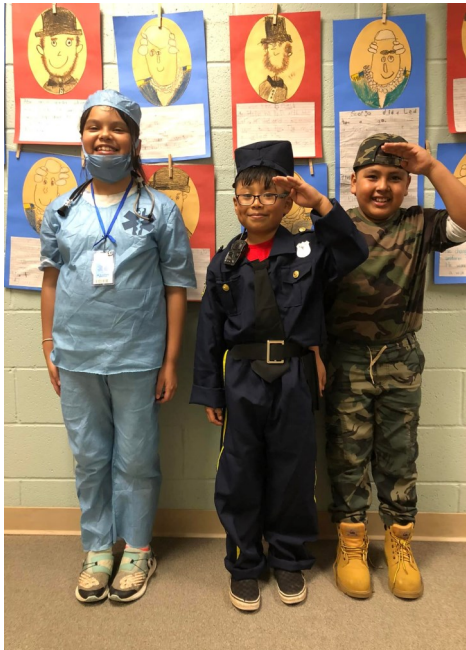
March 27 – Youth Group + Dinner (4-6:30 p.m.)

March 30 – FAB Lunch

Most of our youth communication comes from our Constant Contact Weekly Youth Emails & Flock-note Texting Service. If you are not on our Youth Group distribution lists, email andrea@cartersvillepres.org.

Hands of Christ

After School Program



What I want 2 be when I grow up...

On 2-22-22 our students dressed for their future careers. It was so nice to see we had community helpers among the chosen career paths. Thanks Sharon, Jose, and Greg for your desire to serve and protect!

SPRING

Break

April 4th - 8th

ASP resumes April 11th



Registration for the
2022-2023 school year
begins March 7th!

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!!

Hands of Christ will join the fun by celebrating *Read Across America* the week of Feb. 28- March 4. This week will highlight the life and works of Dr. Seuss. On Wednesday, students all across the nation will be reading for pleasure in their classrooms.



Dr. Seuss

March Birthdays

1	Bettye Parker	18	Randy Thompson
1	Jerry Simmons	18	Emma Johnson
1	Rhonda Gaffoglio	19	Sandy Howell
2	Ben Tilley	19	Julian Cline
3	Debby Crim	21	Kim Rentz
3	Madelaine Stough	21	Courtney Keen
4	Jean Dudley	22	Lauren Paul
5	Linda Mukete	24	Lori McAllister
6	Janet Hart	24	Catheryn Hembree
8	Judy Steed	24	Hannah Wilson
8	Kathy Thomas	25	Peggy Zierer
8	Carla Purdy	25	Barrie Stodgell
8	Justin James	26	Ian Herman
8	Meredith Gaines	27	Brac Panter
10	Lauren Warlick	28	Steve Barnes
13	Kyle Tucker	30	Hannah Howell
13	River Knight	31	Drew Johnson
14	Ariel Conlin		
16	Gracie Pruitt		



In March We Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Pam Radford, Carol McDaniel (ASP), Peyton Miller (ASP), Angela Warlick (Preschool), Ariel Belcher (Preschool)

Officers: Robert Sims (Session), Becky Carr (Diaconate)

Ministries: Administrative Ministry

Families: March 1-7: Bonnie Floyd, Walt Floyd and Sunny Brown, Rich and Rhonda Gaffoglio, Trey and Beth Gaines (Margaret, Meredith), Jessica Gardner (Patrick)

March 8-14: Mark and Veletta Gebert, Betty Gilbert, Jean Gilliland, Mary Gilreath, Candler and Susan Ginn

March 15-21: Craig and Katie Godfrey (Anna, Emily, Sam), Paul and Joan Green, Christine Greene, David and Sara Gregory (Megan, Ethan), Katelyn Grundy

March 22-31: Richard Gurley, Mike and Miranda Haley (Daisy, Sid), Linda Hall, Emily Hammer, Mina Harper

BINGO

Family Fun Night

March 9th

**5:30 - 7:00 pm in the
Fellowship Hall**

Bingo was such a hit in February we thought we'd do it again. Come join your friends on March 9th from 5:30 - 7:00pm for dinner and bingo. Prizes for the winners! There's no charge for all this fun! Nursery available.



**February
Family Fun Night**

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, 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

March Calendar

March 1

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

March 2

6:30pm - Ash Wednesday Service

March 3

10:30am - Ladies Bible Study

12:00pm - Lenten Lunch @ Sam Jones UMC

March 7

6:00pm - Mission Committee Meeting

6:15pm - Worship Committee Meeting

March 8

7:00pm - Faith Development Committee Meeting

March 9

2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive

5:30pm - Family Fun Night

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

March 10

12:00pm - Lenten Lunch @ Church of the Ascension

March 13

Daylight Savings Time Begins—Spring Forward

March 15

7:00pm - Session Meeting

March 16

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

March 17

12:00pm - Lenten Lunch @ Trinity at the Well UMC

March 20

12:00pm - Annual Meeting & Luncheon

March 21

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

March 23

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

March 24

10:30am - Book Club Meeting

12:00pm - Lenten Lunch @ Faith UMC

March 27

4:00pm - Dare to Serve Project @ Good Neighbor Shelter

March 28

7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting

March 30

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

March 31

12:00pm - Lenten Lunch @ Heritage Baptist

