



July 2023



Just As I Am July

Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.

James 4:8

Summer is definitely here! The temperatures are warmer, the schools are out, and the usual routines of Fall, Spring, and Winter have been set aside. In July, our Sunday morning worship moves to the Fellowship Hall. This offers different opportunities for how we use space, music, and even our worship order.

But more than that, it is another opportunity for us to welcome everyone to worship. Come just as you are because God welcomes you no matter where you are from, where you are going, and where on your journey with Christ. Regardless of your age or stage or what is on your mind or heart, come just as you are.

Draw near to God and God will draw near to you. In July, we will be continuing our summer series of stories of the heart and reflecting on some of the Scriptural truths that are reflected in beloved children's stories. I hope you that you will join us for this special month of worship. Come just as you are and God will draw near to us all.

Pastor Leigh

*Draw near to God and
He will draw near to you*

James 4:8

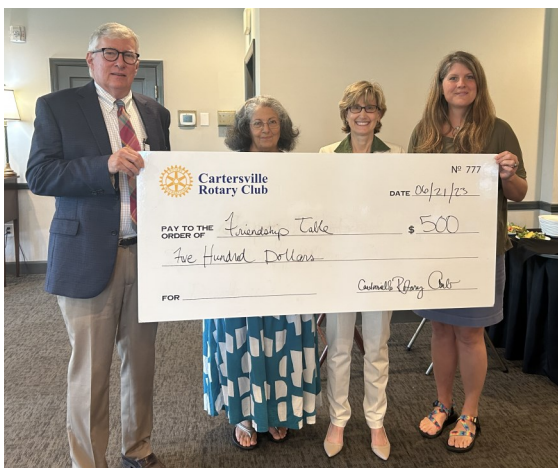


Summer WORSHIP SCHEDULE

In July, we will worship in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM. Sunday School classes will not meet in July. All classes will resume August 13th.

VBS Setup Help Needed **Sunday, July 9 – 11 a.m.** **(after worship)**

Join us after worship on Sunday after worship to help setup for VBS. Subs, chips, and drinks will be provided. Any help, all ages, all abilities are needed to transform our spaces into Hero Hotline Headquarters!



Rotary Grant given to Friendship Table

We celebrate and give thanks for the Rotary grant that was given to our Friendship Table ministries. We also give thanks for the ongoing donations of food from our congregation. We continue to need donations, particularly individual fruit cups and instant sweet ice tea mix.

Join us on August 6 following worship as we celebrate the gifts and talents of Cody Carver. Cody has faithfully served FPC for two years as assistant to



Andrea Roche. Since he joined us for VBS 2021, Cody has assisted with and taught children's Sunday School, led Children's Church, helped organize and lead VBS, taken leadership roles at Montreat Youth Conference, and taught and mentored youth in a variety of creative ways. Throughout this time, Cody has acted with a generous spirit and heart for following Jesus.

Cody will be leaving FPC to enroll at Princeton Theological Seminary, where he will have our congregation's prayerful support as an Inquirer, as he explores the paths where God is leading him. We are collecting a love offering which will be dedicated on August 6. You may place your donation in the offering plate through August 6, designating "Cody Carver" in the memo section of your check. You may also donate on the church's website.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CARTERSVILLE **BLOOD DRIVE**

WEDNESDAY, July 12, 2023 - 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

2nd Floor Education Building Gathering Space

To schedule an appointment, go to
www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code:
firstprescartersville

From the Session:

The following are the highlights from the 6/20/2023 Session Meeting:

1. Cherokee Presbytery will be shifting to a work and home model Effective 10/1/2023 but will continue to pay rent to FPC through 12/31/2023.
2. Mary Gilreath and Suzanne Collins attended the 6/3/2023 Cherokee Presbytery meeting at the Cherokee Retreat Center.
3. A return to the normal worship schedule (Sunday School at 10:00 AM for all ages and worship in the sanctuary at 11:00 AM) Effective 8/13/2023 was approved.
4. Ali Parker was approved for baptism in the Etowah River on 7/2/2023 at a time and location to be determined.
5. Jim Stanley (Director of Music) and Fred Drifmeyer (Organist/Accompanist) were approved by the Session to be offered part-time permanent positions subject to coordination of details by the Personnel Committee.
6. Andrea Roche was approved to begin a search for an 'Assistant to the Children & Youth Director' to replace Cody Carver.
7. Scott Panter reported that the Hands of Christ transition from FPC to the Cartersville School System is progressing.
8. Jean Gilliland and Andrea Roche reported that the recent youth trip to Montreat was wonderful with 14 youth and 2 adults, Jean Gilliland, Chris Jones, and Leigh Jones attending.
9. Betty Dundee reported that the 6/3/2023 Yard Work Day was a success, that a \$500 Friendship Table donation from the Rotary Club was received, and that a Red Cross Blood Drive is set for 7/12/2023.
10. Mark Bridges reported that the FPC budget is in pretty good shape. We have a budget surplus as of 5/31/2023.
11. Pastor Leigh reported that FPC has received 23 new members over the past 12 months. The incoming class of new officers will be examined during an officer's retreat on 11/4/2023.



DOWNTOWN SUMMER CONCERTS

**Saturday, July 15th
from 7-9 pm**

The Congregational Life Committee invites you to join us for an evening of music. Bring your chair, snacks and/or dinner from a local restaurant. We'll gather on the lawn and have some fun.

Contact Kathy Farnon (kfarnon15@gmail.com) with any questions.

Ladies Night Out

At Mellow Mushroom

July 20th - 6:30 – 8:00pm

All ages are welcome to participate!



FPC Book Club July 27 at 10:30am Cornerstone Room

The book selection this month is The Maid, by Nita Prose. Come join us. Everyone is welcome.



Montreat Worship and Music Conference - June 25 - 30

Thank you for your prayers and support of our Worship and Music Group!





VBS Register Today

Volunteers Needed

VBS is coming to FPC this Summer!

July 10-14, 9 a.m. until noon

Register your Pre-K-5th Grader [click here>>](#) 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! Nursery care is available for our volunteers. If you want to volunteer for VBS, contact

andrea@cartersvillepres.org.

VBS Donations Needed

VBS Amazon Wishlist Link: [CLICK HERE](#)



VBS Setup Help Needed – Sunday, July 9 – 11 a.m. (after worship)

Join us after worship on Sunday to help setup for VBS. Subs, chips, and drinks will be provided.

Any help, all ages, all abilities are needed to transform our spaces into Hero Hotline Headquarters!

Sunday School Teachers Needed

Have you been thinking about and praying about teaching Sunday School this year at FPC? We could really use your help. Teachers are needed for all ages. If you can teach once or twice a month, or teach for a whole month at a time (rotating months with another leader), or if you want to be a substitute SS teacher, let Andrea know. We will find a perfect place for you! If you feel called to teach our children or youth this year, please contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org.

Backpack Blessing – Sunday, August 6

Bring your back-packs to be blessed as we offer prayers for the new school year. And invite a friend to join you!!



Youth Baking Contest



July Birthdays

2	Mark Bridges	18	Jared Whatley
2	Isla Knight	20	Terry Purdy
3	Tom Bowen	20	Andy Bowen
3	William Klingbeil	20	David Benton
5	Brian Purtymun	22	David Wilkins
5	Jake Sullins	28	Mike Ball
6	Pam Hughes	29	Katie Pruitt
7	Brod Lumpkin	30	Janet Martin
7	Lilla Clark	30	Wyley Steed
8	Carolyn Noble	30	Trey Gaines
9	Ben Jones	31	Rhonda Ireland
10	John Cummings		
12	Katie Godfrey		
13	Frank Johnson		
13	Pam Radford		
13	Mary Gilreath		
14	Gary Boulter		
15	Susan Barrett		
18	Jeannette Wilkins		



In July Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Pastor Leigh Jones, Sharon Ellis (Preschool), Stephanie Collins (Preschool)

Officers: Peter Olson (Session), Jennifer Nebergall (Diaconate)

Ministries: Worship Ministry

Families: July 1-7: Mike and Cynthia Ball, Elise Bares (Anderson, Johnathan, Edward), Grace Barker (Wesley, Barbara), Steve and Mary Barnes, Brad and Susan Barrett

July 8-14: James and Anne Marie Benton (Jimmy, David), Bobby and Amy Bergman (Evan, Gillian), Pat Bivens, Peyton Boulter, Gary and Kay Boulter

July 15-21: Andy and Kim Bowen (Brooke), Brandon and Elizabeth Bowen (Tom, Katherine), Dick and Jenny Brannan, Ben Bridges (Ross), Mark and Sandy Bridges

July 22-31: Phil and Donna Bridges, Bill and Becky Broome (Rebecca, Will), Jerry Brownlow (Skylar, Call), Autumn Bruno, Adam and Jamie Brush (Drake, Jacob)

First Presbyterian Church

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Contact

Leigh Jones, pastor

pastorleighjones@gmail.com

Andrea Roche, children & youth director

andrea@cartersvillepres.org

Jim Stanley, interim choir director

music@cartersvillepres.org

Fred Drifmeyer, interim organist/pianist

Becky Ferguson, ministry assistant

becky@cartersvillepres.org

Angie Hood, church administrator

angie@cartersvillepres.org

Lindsay Scoggins, preschool director

lindsay@cartersvillepres.org

July Calendar

July 2

10:00am - Summer Worship/Fellowship Hall

July 3

Church office closes at 1:00pm/Holiday

July 4

Church office closed/Holiday

July 6

10:30am - Ladies Bible Study

July 9

11:00am - VBS Setup

July 10

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

July 10 - 14

9:00am till noon - Vacation Bible School Week

July 11

7:00pm - Faith Development Committee Meeting

July 12

2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive

July 13

7:00pm - 12 Women of the Bible Study

July 15

7:00pm - Downtown Summer Concert

July 17

8:00am - Intergenerational Morning Hike Pine Mtn

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

July 18

7:00pm - Session Meeting

July 20

6:30pm - Ladies Night Out/Mellow Mushroom

July 21

5:00pm - Pool Parties/Daugherty & Dundee pools

July 27

10:30am - FPC Book Club

Weekly Prayer Group

July 5, 12, 19, 26

11:30am - Wednesday Prayer Group/Prayer Room

5:45pm - Coffee House Bible Study at Noble & Main



10:00 AM

July 2nd - August 6th - Fellowship Hall