



August 2023



Keep vigilant watch over your heart; that's where life starts.

Proverbs 4:23 The Message

Did you know that August 7th-13th is National Simplify Your Life Week? This week originated as an addition to the concept of Spring Cleaning. The thinking is that once you finally finish Spring Cleaning (which I may be wrapping up by August), the next thing to focus on is simplifying. There are many different ways to simplify and it is not always about removing physical clutter out of your life.

We can simplify our schedules, our practices, our priorities. It is also an invitation to evaluate what is really important and then focus on that, rather than ten thousand things all at once. As Fall approaches, the church may begin looking at programming or schedules, small groups or activities. Evaluating all these opportunities is an essential part of ministry, especially these days when ministry can look very different with each passing season. But, first, we need to simplify and look again at the heart of the matter - our calling for ministry.

Beth Daniel, of the Ministry Collaborative puts it this way:

In this time of year, we may be tempted to zoom in on the nuts and bolts of planning and programming, trying to somehow manage everything that comes with it. However as we think about what does and doesn't deserve our attention in this season, it seems to me that we must include an honest look at our own faith, and call, and gifts. Take time to reflect on your faith, your call, and your unique God-given gifts. Don't rush past the simple questions but engage and explore them and remember and (re)discover the What and Why of your vocation.

As we seek to get to the heart of the matter, we can ask questions like: What do I believe? Why do I serve? What are my unique gifts? What are my passions? How will I lean into my faith, call, and gifts this year?

In this time of year the world tells us that we need to be planning, scheduling, or adding, but first we need to get to the heart of our common calling. That is where life starts.

Pastor Leigh



POT LUCK LUNCH
Sunday, August 20
after 11:00 worship

Stay after worship and have lunch with your FPC family. Fried chicken will be provided along with ice cream and toppings for dessert. Please bring a side dish (vegetable, fruit, salad, etc).

Ladies Night Out

At City Cellar

110 S. Museum Drive

August 17th

6:30 – 8:00pm

All ages are welcome to participate!



FPC Book Club
August 24 at 10:30am
Cornerstone Room

The book selection this month is The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Pataki. Come join us. Everyone is welcome.



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.

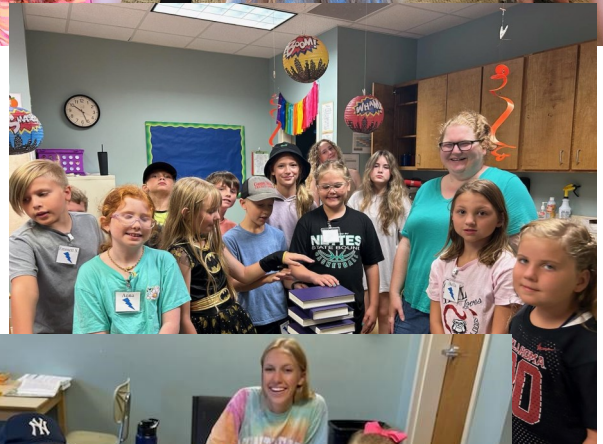
Cody will be leaving FPC to enroll at Princeton Theological Seminary, where he will have our congregation's prayerful support as an Inquirer, as he explores the paths where God is leading him. We are collecting a love offering which will be dedicated on August 6. You may place your donation in the offering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



Preschool
Open
House

Sunday
August 20th
1:00 - 3:00 pm

First Day of School - August 21st



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023—We had a wonderful time with Hero Hotline at VBS last month.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who made our VBS week an amazing adventure. We could not have done it without all of those fun, hardworking youth and adults who created an exciting week for the children who came to VBS.

The kids got to explore Bible stories, play games, create crafts, experiment with science, eat tasty snacks, and sing and dance all week long!! We had a fabulous week and look forward to sharing God's love with others in our community.

**Backpack Blessing – Sunday, August 6 – 10 a.m.**

Bring your back-packs to be blessed as we offer prayers for the new school year, and invite a friend to join you!! After Worship, we will celebrate Cody's ministry and wish him well as he heads off to Princeton Seminary.



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.

Sunday School for Children & Youth begins September 10th at 10 a.m.**Children, Youth, & Family Tubing Trip
Sunday, August 6 (after church)**

All youth & families with elementary aged children (ages 5 and up, 30lbs+) are invited to go tubing down the Euharlee Creek and Etowah River! Our plan is to eat lunch together after worship at Sunday, Aug. 6th, head to Euharlee Creek Outfitters by 12:30 and enjoy our tubing trip down the river. A parent/guardian must accompany any elementary aged children. The cost is \$10/person, and it is a 45-60 minute tubing adventure. Friends are welcome to join us as well!

RSVPs are REQUIRED no later than August 2nd. Email or text Andrea to RSVP.

Other adults & youth are invited to join us, and if you would like to go, contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org.

August Birthdays

1	Debra Tatum	17	Randy Wrinkle
1	Abby Allen	17	Jerry Brownlow
1	Luke Hoskins	18	Veletta Gebert
2	Matt Farnon	18	Katie Hoskins
3	Lois Hill	22	Nancy Kelly
3	Betty Dundee	23	Rhonda Wachsmuth
9	Zim Choate	25	Peggy White
10	George Crim	26	Rowan Mukete
10	John Waters	27	Blake Dudley
10	Karon Mauney	31	Hunter James
10	Will Broome		
12	Sofia Motuba		
12	Sam Wilson		
13	Rich Gaffoglio		
14	Ellie Johnson		
14	Gracie Meckley		
15	Earl Williamson		
15	Faith Burke		
16	Matt Bailey		



In August Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Andrea Roche, Kelly Forrester (Preschool), Jennifer Graves (Preschool)

Officers: Scott Panter (Session), Brian Purtyman (Diaconate)

Ministries: Administrative Ministry

Families: August 1-7: Faith Burke, Wilma Cameron, George and Martha Campbell (Bailey, Cailyn), Rebecca Carr, Cody Carver

August 8-14: Brian and Heather Choate, Zim and Martha Choate, Scott and Tina Clark, Jason Clark (Walker, Lilla), Joseph Clark

August 15-21: Thomas Clark, Jimmy and Tinsley Cline (Jackson, Mason, Julian), Jerry and Sue Coalson, Dennis and Nan Collier, Emily Collier

August 22-31: Molly Collins, Suzanne Collins, Sally Conlin, George and Debby Crim, Ann Cummings

First Presbyterian Church

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120

Contact

Leigh Jones, pastor

pastorleighjones@gmail.com

Andrea Roche, children & youth director

andrea@cartersvillepres.org

Jim Stanley, choir director

music@cartersvillepres.org

Fred Drifmeyer, organist/pianist

Becky Ferguson, ministry assistant

becky@cartersvillepres.org

Angie Hood, church administrator

angie@cartersvillepres.org

Lindsay Scoggins, preschool director

lindsay@cartersvillepres.org

August Calendar

August 2

6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal resumes

August 6

10:00am - Blessing of the Backpacks & Worship in Fellowship Hall

12:00pm - Family Tubing Trip

August 8

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

7:00pm - Faith Development Meeting

August 10

7:00pm - 12 Women of the Bible Study

August 13

11:00am - Return to Worship in Sanctuary

August 14

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

August 15

7:00pm - Session Meeting

August 17

6:30pm - Ladies Night Out/City Cellar

August 20

12:00pm - Pot Luck Lunch/Fellowship Hall

1:00pm - Preschool Open House

August 21

8:00am - Preschool First Day

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

August 24

10:30am - FPC Book Club

August 28

7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting

Weekly Prayer Group

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

11:30am - Wednesday Prayer Group/Prayer Room

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

Sunday, August 13th

Resume 11:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary

