



February 2024



# The Loveletter

*Sharing the Love and Joy of Christ*

*Jesus said to Simon Peter the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.” John 21:17*

This conversation is one of the last Jesus had with Simon Peter and it shows that even after all that Simon Peter had gone through, he was still loved beyond measure and called to live as a disciple. In Peter we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter’s journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out - just like us.

For the Lenten season, we are invited to grow in our faith through studying Peter’s journey and how it is so much like our own. Faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving, even after missteps or mistakes.

Ultimately, in Peter’s story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people - in fact, time and again, that’s precisely who God claims and calls. This Lent, using Sanctified Art’s Lenten series, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter’s story and we will use phrases from the beloved hymn, Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing to do so.

We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God’s grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.

Peace,  
*Pastor Leigh*





## ♥ Wandering Heart

During worship this Lent we will be using Sanctified Art's Lenten series, *Wandering Heart*. Devotionals will be available for pick up on the first Sunday of Lent and devotions and reflections will be shared on Facebook.

## ♥ Join our Study on Peter's Life

It is often the practice to give something up to remind us of Christ's sacrifice or to add something in our daily faith practices in order to give thanks to God for all that Christ does for us. Or perhaps to do both. Everyone is invited to add a reading and small group practice for this Lent by joining our group that is carrying the focus of worship over to a study. On Sunday mornings, meeting in the cornerstone room, a group will be studying Adam Hamilton's *Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*. **This will begin on Sunday, February 18th and run through Lent** and all are invited to be a part.

This series has a DVD portion and you don't have to buy a book; however, if you are interested, some links are provided below. Amazon also has audio and kindle versions.

<[https://www.amazon.com/Simon-Peter-Flawed-Faithful-Disciple/dp/1501845985/ref=sr\\_1\\_10?crid=XX9DPI5NOW9P&keywords=adam+hamilton&qid=1706572609&s=books&srefix=adam+hamilton%2Cstripbooks%2C106&sr=1-10](https://www.amazon.com/Simon-Peter-Flawed-Faithful-Disciple/dp/1501845985/ref=sr_1_10?crid=XX9DPI5NOW9P&keywords=adam+hamilton&qid=1706572609&s=books&srefix=adam+hamilton%2Cstripbooks%2C106&sr=1-10)>

<<https://www.cokesbury.com/Simon-Peter>>

<<https://www.christianbook.com/simon-peter-flawed-but-faithful-disciple/adam-hamilton/9781501845987/pd/845987?event=ESRCG>>

<[https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/simon-peter-flawed-but-faithful-disciple\\_adam-hamilton/37648450/#edition=20074820&idq=32934384](https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/simon-peter-flawed-but-faithful-disciple_adam-hamilton/37648450/#edition=20074820&idq=32934384)>

### MISSION POSSIBLE!

Prayers for our mission team who will be going to be the hands and feet of Christ in Blue Ridge on February 23rd and 24th. If you would like to hear more about this trip and/or financially support it, please contact Denise Kennedy or Pastor Leigh. In addition, our Mission Possible team is praying about and planning additional mission opportunities for the coming months and year. If you would like to be a part or offer a suggestion or have questions contact Denise Kennedy, Betty Dundee, or Pastor Leigh.



### Ash Wednesday Service

**February 14 at 6:30 PM**

We begin the Lenten season with the imposition of ashes. The sign of ashes on our foreheads marks our acknowledgement of our sin and brokenness and our deep desire to repent.



*Thank you to  
our retiring  
Clerk of Session  
Phil Bridges!*



**Sunday, February 4th, at 9:00am** in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker will be Kyle Tucker. All men of the church are invited to come.



### LUNCH

**Sunday, February 11 - after 11:00 worship**

Come have soup and fellowship on the day of the big game. If you have a favorite soup we would love to have you share. Bread and dessert will be provided. Contact Kathy Farnon with questions ([kfarnon15@gmail.com](mailto:kfarnon15@gmail.com))

### Montreat Worship and Music Conference 2024 - June 23-29

Make plans to attend an informational meeting **on Sunday, February 4th** following worship in the choir room.

### Exploring Grief

The Exploring Grief Group meets February 18 in the Cornerstone Room immediately after worship. Bring your own lunch and come for a time of reflection and prayer. You do not have to have attended previously to come to the group. All are welcome.



**FPC Book Club  
February 29th at  
10:30am  
Cornerstone Room**

The book selection this month is Joe Siple's novel, The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray. Come join us. Everyone is welcome.



# February 2024

**It's registration time at First Presbyterian Church Preschool!**



## 2024-2025 Open Registration

FPC Church Member Registration began in January, so feel free to register your children and grandchildren at any time! Open registration for the public begins on Monday, February 5. Please take a registration packet to share with family and friends outside of FPC who might be interested in enrolling. Brochures and Registration packets are available in the church office.

### Classes available:

Toddler Class: 2 Day, 3 Day, and 5 Day Classes  
 Two-Year-Old: 2 Day, 3 Day, and 5 Day Classes  
 Three-Year-Old: 3 Day and 5 Day Classes  
 Pre-K: 5 Day Classes  
 Kindergarten: 5 Day Classes

**Classes fill up quickly, so encourage family and friends to register early to hold their spot!**

## Preschool Dates

<b>Open Registration</b>	<b>Monday, February 5</b>	<i>Registration for 2024-2025 opens to the public</i>
<b>100<sup>th</sup> Day of School</b>	<b>Friday, February 9</b>	<i>Celebrations for 5-Day Students</i>
<b>Valentines Parties</b>	<b>Tuesday, February 13</b> <b>Wednesday, February 14</b>	<i>Valentines Celebrations for our 2 Day Class</i> <i>Valentines Celebrations for 3 Day and 5 Day Classes</i>
<b>Winter Break</b>	<b>February 19 - 23</b>	<i>Preschool closed</i>



## Parents' Night Out

### Saturday, Feb. 10 - 5 - 7:30 p.m.

We are hosting another PNO for foster families and for our own church families. This is for children & youth of all ages. Volunteers needed to help with children, prepping & serving dinner, clean-up. Let [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org) know if you can help out.

**Pre-registration REQUIRED – [PNO Registration Form 2/10](#)**

Contact [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org) with any questions.

### Youth Group Dinners

We need help providing dinners for our youth during Youth Group on Sunday nights. Anyone, any group, any family is invited to sign up to prepare, cook, and serve dinner for our youth group one Sunday evening. It doesn't have to be a fancy meal. Delicious meals we have had in the past: Breakfast for Dinner, Pasta Bar, Publix subs, southern cooking (with Zaxby's chicken), and a Taco Bar.

To sign up for a date or for more information contact [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org).

**Dates available: February 4 & 18,  
March 3 & 17, April 7 & 21, May 5**

### Youth Group Calendar

**Next Youth Group: Sunday, February 4  
4-6:30 p.m.**

1st & 3rd Sundays - Youth Group + Dinner  
(4-6:30 p.m.)

Other Sundays - Youth Bible Study (4-5 p.m.) or  
youth/children's event

Click the image for a full calendar, or see Andrea on Sundays for a copy.



### VBS Save the Date & Volunteers Needed

**VBS is coming to FPC this Summer!**

**July 8-12, 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!

If you want to volunteer for VBS, contact

[andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org).

## *February Birthdays*

2	Kyle Russell	28	Beth Gaines
5	Dalton Jenkins	28	Erin Sims
7	George Campbell	28	Conner Paul
7	Sharon Sullins		
7	Jackson Wilson		
8	Beth Weathersby		
11	Sally Conlin		
13	Kay Boulter		
14	Dennis Collier		
18	Jennifer Tasker		
19	Margaret Gaines		
20	Leigh Jones		
21	Susan Ginn		
21	Chris Jones		
21	Marshall Pressley		
23	Kathe Keck		
23	Jessi Bailey		
27	Ethan Gregory		



---

## *In February Pray for Our Church:*

**Staff:** Leigh Jones, Kerri Vessels (Preschool), Angela Warlick (Preschool)

**Officers:** Tinsley Cline (Session), Sonya Noble (Diaconate)

**Ministries:** Administrative Ministry

**Families: February 1-7:** Betty Sime, Matt and Sheilah Simons, Elise Sims, Erin Sims, Robert and Cindy Sims

**February 8-14:** Joyce Smith, Nona Smith, Wyley and Judy Steed, David Steinken and Nancy Kelly (Gracie), Mike and Barrie Stodgell

**February 15-21:** Janet Strange, Charlotte Sullins, Wes and Sharon Sullins, Jennifer Tasker, Dianne Tate

**February 22-29:** Debra Tatum, Bradford and Erin Templeton, Kathy Thomas, Randy and Jackie Thompson, Ken and Sandra Thornton

# **First Presbyterian Church**

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120

770-382-3511

## **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

***Jennifer Graves, preschool director***

jennifer@cartersvillepres.org

---

## ***February Calendar***

### **February 1**

10:30am - *Sacred Encounters* Women's Bible Study

### **February 4**

9:00am - Men's Monthly Breakfast

10:00am - 5 week study of the Old Testament (wk 4)

12:00pm - Montreat Worship & Music Informational Meeting

### **February 5**

Preschool Registration Open to Public

7:00pm - Faith Development Meeting

### **February 6**

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

### **February 10**

5:00pm - Parents Night Out

### **February 11**

10:00am - 5 week study of the Old Testament (wk 5)

12:00pm - Souper Bowl Lunch

12:00pm - Mission Trip Mandatory Meeting

### **February 12**

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

### **February 14**

6:30pm - Ash Wednesday Service

### **February 15**

6:30pm - Ladies Night Out

### **February 18**

12:00pm - Exploring Grief Group

### **February 19 - 23**

Preschool Winter Break Week

### **February 19**

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

### **February 20**

7:00pm - Session Meeting

### **February 22 - 24**

Blue Ridge Mission Trip

### **February 26**

7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting

### **February 29**

10:30am - FPC Book Club

