



May 2024



## The Awe of Pentecost

May is a month of transitions. Spring is turning to summer, school is drawing to a close, graduations are taking place, and the days of procrastinating on yard work because it's not quite necessary are over! Plans for the summer shift from being plans to being a reality and the longer days make for wonderful evenings to go for a walk, or have a cook-out, or sit and enjoy the beauty of creation for a bit longer.

May is also the time we shift in the church seasons from the season of Easter, to Pentecost. For six weeks, we have celebrated the Resurrection and considered what it means to live as Easter people. Fifty days after Easter, Pentecost (meaning fifty days) arrives with the rush of a violent wind and tongues as of fire (Acts 2). On Pentecost Sunday, Christians around the world celebrate the formation of the church when the Holy Spirit called people into community as Christ's body. Though it may not be as well-known as other "high, holy days" such as Christmas or Easter, Pentecost is a tremendous day in church history.

Theologian Willie James Jennings asserts: "Only the gracious work of God in creation matches this moment of prevenient grace." He's not alone in this conviction; some theologians describe Pentecost as the Church's birthday. Others describe it as a "big bang" that brought the Church into being, for just as God's Spirit came rushing into the world over the waters of creation, in Acts 2, God's Spirit rushes into the world to gather and transform God's people.

Far too often, we think of Pentecost as simply a day when we wear red to worship. But, it is an opportunity to immerse ourselves in awe as we consider the power of the Spirit in our church and in our lives. If we are willing to be amazed, Pentecost is one of the most awe-inspiring days in our Christian calendar. If we are willing to be transformed, it is an opportunity to be renewed in energy and faithfulness toward the work of God's kingdom on earth.

For May 19th, I invite everyone to wear red to celebrate this holy day, but let's also come with open and willing hearts that we may see and experience anew the awesome power of the Spirit. For the entire month of May and into the summer, let us all lift prayers in thanksgiving for the gift of the Spirit and seek to see and celebrate the many ways the Spirit is blowing in our midst.

*Pastor Leigh*

## Celebrating our Mission Ministries - May 5th

Join us Sunday May 5th as we worship and give thanks and celebrate all the ways we reach out in Christ's name to share his love in this community and beyond.



**Help feed hungry children** - our congregation would

like to share God's love with children in the Advocates Flowering Branch children's shelter on a weekly basis. We are increasing how much food our Friendship Table prepares by 10 so that we can share dinner with the children in the shelter. We need volunteers to commit to transport the meal to the shelter (which is behind Liberty Square) when it is ready to be served around 6:00 PM. You can be a preparer for Friendship Table or a new volunteer, but we need 1 volunteer on Tuesday each week to commit to be responsible for either transporting the meal or seeing that it is done. We need volunteers for the first, second, third and fourth Tuesday of the month and someone who is willing to be the 5th Tuesday volunteer as well. To volunteer, please contact the church office or speak with any member of our mission committee.



**Graduate Recognition Sunday - May 19th**  
Join us on May 19th as we celebrate our 2024 graduates during worship. Immediately following worship, we will have a pizza lunch and cake in the Fellowship Hall.

**Special offering for our music ministry!** Our special offering is to support our music ministry and specifically to purchase new robes for all our choirs. Our goal is \$12,000. When giving, please indicate on the memo of your check: *Choir Robe offering*. Let us all give thanks for the ways music touches our hearts and support these ministries.

**Live 2540 invitation to women's night to learn about their new clinic in Liberia** - The Better Together Initiative of Live 2540 invites all women to learn about the new hospital, new needs, and how women can change things, on Thursday May 9, at 7:00 PM at the Lottie Moon Chapel of First Baptist Church. Childcare is provided. Please RSVP <https://www.live2540.org/better-together> with this link or contact Pastor Leigh or Haley Minesinger to RSVP or with any questions.

## Faith Development Upcoming Dates

**Sunday, May 5, 12, 19**, 10 AM--Sunday School for adults, youth, and children

**Monday, May 6**, 7 PM--Faith Development Meeting

**Saturday, May 18**, 5-7:30 PM--Parents Night Out

**Sunday, May 19**, 10 AM--final day of Sunday School for children until Sept. 8

**The Exploring Grief group** will not meet in May. Look for details on a new small group Bible/book study opportunity on the subject of loss and grief to begin in September.

### Looking ahead....

In June we will resume Coffee Shop Theology at Noble & Main on Wednesdays at 11 AM, as well as the Thursday evening Bible study at 7 PM. Make plans to join us!

### Looking further ahead...

In partnership with Mission, Faith Development is planning an overnight Fall Service/Spiritual Formation Retreat Weekend on October 11-13 (Fri-Sun) in Blue Ridge. Individuals, couples, and families with children elementary-age and older are welcome to spend one or both nights, and everyone is invited to join us for a day of service on Saturday. Details will be shared as they become available. Everyone interested in joining us for this fun and exciting opportunity should contact Jean Gilliland or Jenny Brannan.

## *From the Session:*

At its meeting on April 16, the FPC Session:

- Approved a Worship Committee recommendation to have Sunday worship at 11 a.m. in June and July. Worship in June will be in the sanctuary. Worship in July will be in the fellowship hall.
- Approved the sacrament of baptism for Christopher Bennett Klingbeil on a date to be determined.
- Heard reports from committees, including Faith Development, which noted the large attendance at the Easter Egg Hunt, with about 80% coming from the community. Properties Committee reported that flags will be in place outside the church for Memorial Day. Stewardship and Finance Committee reported that annual budget revenue is ahead for the year, and expenses are running on budget.

### Women's Bible Study

The Thursday Bible Study group will meet May 2nd at 10:30 AM in the Cornerstone Room. We will be discussing Lesson 9 in our *Sacred Encounters* book with the scripture being Acts 9:36-43. This will be the last meeting for this study. We will resume with a new study in September. If you would like to continue with feminine hygiene donations please bring them and we will contribute to the Mission Committee's project for high school girls.



**Sunday, May 5, at 9:00am** in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the church are invited.

### FPC Book Club

**May 23rd at 10:30am**  
**Cornerstone Room**



This month we will be discussing Steve Sjogren's Conspiracy of Kindness: A Unique Approach to Sharing the Love of Jesus.

Come join us. Everyone is welcome.



**Ladies Night Out**  
**May 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

This month we will meet at Neena's Pizza, 650 Henderson Drive, Cartersville, for good food and fellowship. All ladies are invited and bring a friend!

*Thank you* Thank you from the bottom of my heart, for the piano and organ lights! Fred Drifmeyer



### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of CARTERSVILLE BLOOD DRIVE

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

**2:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

**Fellowship Hall**

**All presenting donors will receive a t-shirt,**

**\$10 E-Gift Card to the**

**Merchant of your choice,**

**and an e-coupon for a free haircut from SportsClips.**

For more information, to schedule an appointment, & to do RAPIDPASS, go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: **firstprescartersville**



# First Presbyterian Preschool



Jennifer Graves ~ Director ~ 770-382-0755

Jennifer@cartersvillepres.org



All classrooms for next school year are full except for our 4-year-old PreK classrooms. Please let anyone know if they are interested in our 4-year-old class, to contact me. We just have a few more slots available.

We have had a wonderful time in April at preschool! We had our Spring and Graduation pictures taken, Pre-K students had an umbrella parade, our younger students visited Pettit Creek Farms and our 2-year olds took a walking fieldtrip to Agan's Bakery.

It's hard to believe but we are coming to the end of our preschool year. We'll celebrate our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week in May with breakfast each morning and goodies all week! We will be busy with a fieldtrip to Pettit Preserve with our Pre-K and Kindergarteners. We'll have Mr. Thomas from the Bartow County Library come to do some interactive activities and tell our students about the Summer Reading Program. Fun Day, graduation practices, finishing up school projects, and graduations/parties are all coming up as well! **It has been a wonderful year at First Presbyterian Church Preschool! Thank you all for your support!**

~Ms. Jennifer, Ms. April, and all of the staff at  
First Presbyterian Preschool

## May 2024

- \* National Day of Prayer,  
May 2 (Early School Dismissal  
10:45 - 11:15)
- \* Mr. Thomas from the library  
May 2  
9:00 and 9:30 A.M.
- \* Pre-K /Kindergarten  
Fieldtrip to Pettit Preserve  
Friday, May 3 9:00 A.M.
- \* Fun Day, Friday May 10
- \* 3-year-old Graduation  
Thursday, May 16th at  
9:00 A.M.
- \* Pre-K Graduation  
Friday, May 17th at 9:00
- \* Kindergarten Graduation  
Friday, May 17th at 10:00
- \* End of Year Parties  
May 15, 16 and 17
- \* Post Planning May 20

I'd like to thank our amazing staff at First Presbyterian Preschool for teaching our students about the Bible and the love of God in their classrooms! Thank you to Mrs. Cori, our Little Church teacher, for leading Praise and Worship. It is the sweetest thing to watch these children sing to the Lord in His house! So thankful for this beautiful sanctuary and the seeds that are planted in our children's hearts each Wednesday during Little Church!





## **VBS Register Today & Volunteers Needed**

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

**July 8-12, 9 a.m. until noon**

Register your Pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> Grader here>> <https://forms.gle/9qmkEwP9NXiAUBr7A>

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.

VBS Amazon Wishlist >>

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3QGG6EF3DSAJY?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3QGG6EF3DSAJY?ref=wl_share)



If you want to volunteer for VBS, contact [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org).



## **Graduate Recognition Sunday – May 19**

Do you have a youth or young adult who is graduating this year? We want to celebrate with them on Sunday, May 19 in worship at 11 a.m. and a celebration afterwards. Please email [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org) to let her know of your graduate, along with a grad photo and short bio of your graduate's accomplishments and/or where they are headed next.

## **May Children & Youth Group Calendar**

- May 5** – Youth Group + Dinner (4-6:30)
- May 12** - Mother's Day
- May 19** – Graduate Recognition Sunday

## **Parents Night Out**

**Saturday, May 18 – 5:00–7:30 p.m.**

We are hosting another PNO for foster families and for our own church families. This is for children & youth of all ages.

>>[Click Here to Register](#)<<

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.

## **Montreat Donations Needed &**

### **Write them Notes**

Support our youth going to Montreat (June 9-15 & July 17-21) by financially helping us with meals.

We will graciously accept Ingles Gift Cards, checks (Montreat Meals in the memo line), or give online (<https://cartersvillepres.org/give/>; note: Montreat Meals).

Please give your donation to Andrea or place in the offering plate by June 2.

Pray for our youth and leaders going to Montreat.

If you would like to write notes to our youth going to Montreat, please email [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org) to get a list of the names.



## Youth Fun at Lake Arrowhead



## Spring Yard Work Day

Thank you to all who gave a  
helping hand for a fantastic  
yard work day!





## *May Birthdays*

1	Betty Sime	26	Fred Drifmeyer
2	Sean Ireland	28	Emily Collier
4	Kellie Clark	30	Matt Simons
6	Paxton Russell		
8	Becky Morris		
8	Mark Gebert		
8	Derek Tobin		
8	Adam Tobin		
9	Megan Johnson		
12	Jerry Coalson		
12	Brian Choate		
16	Brad Hughes		
16	Maggie Cummings		
19	Grace Shields		
22	Renee Shields		
23	Bob Meadows		
23	Laura Rentz		
25	Brandon Bowen		



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## *In May Pray for Our Church:*

**Staff:** Fred Drifmeyer, Sharon Ellis (Preschool), Jennifer Graves (Preschool)

**Officers:** Suzanne Collins (Session), Brian Purtymun (Diaconate)

**Ministries:** Faith Development Ministry

**Families: May 1-7:** Faith Burke, George and Martha Campbell (Bailey, Cailyn), Rebecca Carr, Cody Carver, Brian and Heather Choate

**May 8-14:** Zim and Martha Choate, Scott and Tina Clark (Kellie), Jimmy and Tinsley Cline (Jackson, Mason, Julian), Jerry and Sue Coalson, Dennis and Nan Collier

**May 15-21:** Emily Collier, Molly Collins, Suzanne Collins, Sally Conlin, George and Debby Crim

**May 22-31:** Ann Cummings, John and Lori Cummings (Jack, Maggie), Norman Daugherty, Bill and Marilyn Devine, David and Betty Dundee

# **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

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## ***May Calendar***

### **May 2**

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

10:45am - Preschool Early Dismissal Day

### **May 5**

9:00am - Men's Monthly Breakfast

### **May 6**

7:00pm - Faith Development Meeting

### **May 7**

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

### **May 8**

2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive

### **May 10**

9:00am - Preschool Fun Day

### **May 12 - Mother's Day**

### **May 13**

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

### **May 16**

9:00am - Preschool 3yr old Graduation

6:00pm - Ladies Night Out @ Neena's Pizza

### **May 17**

9:00am - Preschool 4yr old Graduation

10:00am - Preschool Kindergarten Graduation

### **May 18**

5:00pm - Parents Night Out

### **May 19 - Pentecost & Graduate Recognition Sunday**

12:00pm - Pizza lunch & Celebration

### **May 20**

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

### **May 21**

7:00pm - Session Meeting

### **May 23**

10:30am - FPC Book Club

### **May 27 - Memorial Day**

Church Office Closed

