



September 2024

We must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. Ephesians 4:15b-16

Did you know that the word disciple means learner? It shares the same root with the word, "discipline," which at heart means abiding by and seeking to live into wisdom and knowledge. We are disciples so we are seeking to be learners and this means we exercise discipline, the art of seeking to learn and grow in Christ and building up each other as his body, in love.

The fall is a good time to consider what it means to grow up into Christ. For some of us, we may feel like that at our age, we are finished with the growing up part of life! But, the reality is that we are always learning and growing and as disciples, we are learning and growing into Christ as we are building up one another in love. Fall is also a good time to reflect on how we can continue to grow and what disciplines we can work on to build each other up in love.

Considering our mutual calling in Christ Jesus to build each other up in love, some years ago, our Session adopted a Covenant of Care and Respect and every year since our leaders and staff have re-affirmed our commitment to the ideals of that Covenant. This is not something we achieve, but rather ideals that commit to always work toward. Our covenant draws upon Scripture and the love and grace we know and experience in Christ, our Savior.

In this Fall season, I invite us all, disciples of every age and stage to consider the covenant. What one speaks most profoundly to you? What one can you work on some more? What one makes you most uncomfortable? Pray about it and ask God to help us all identify ways we can grow into these ideals as we seek to grow into Christ and build each other up in love.

A Covenant of Care and Respect For First Presbyterian Church Cartersville

- We promise to value each other as gifts from God and will seek to live and work in respectful relationships. John 13:34, Romans 12:10
- We promise to make our thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ, to express criticism and negative feelings first to the person, not to others, and seek reconciliation as far as possible. Romans 12:28, 2 Corinthians 10:5
- We promise to maintain relationships of confidentiality in personal and professional matters. Proverbs 12:23
- We accept disagreement and conflict as normal and healthy. In this respect we will seek to deal constructively with disagreements or conflicts by practicing Matthew 18:15-17, Matthew 5:23-24
- We promise to make every effort to communicate clearly, completely, timely and directly. Ephesians 4:14-16
- We promise to walk hand in hand even though we may not always see eye to eye. Colossians 3:14-15
- We promise to believe the best of each other and give each other the benefit of the doubt. Philippians 4:8-10
- We promise to pray for one another and seek God's will through daily prayer. Colossians 4:2
- We promise that when we fail to live up to all these promises, we will seek God's forgiveness and the forgiveness of those we have let down and we will by the grace of God continue to be guided by this Covenant of Care and Respect. 1 John 1:9, Colossians 3:13
- We promise to listen for God's voice and to surrender ourselves to God's will, opening our sails to the power of the Spirit as God leads us and to prayerfully, together, discern God's path for this congregation, making choices that draw us toward God's will. Isaiah 30:21, 2 Cor. 12:9

Peace, *Pastor Leigh*

Congregational Meeting for the Purpose of Electing Officers

The Session has called a congregational meeting immediately following worship on **Sunday, September 8, 2024** for the purpose of electing officers. After prayer and reflection, the nominating committee submits the following names as the slate of officers:

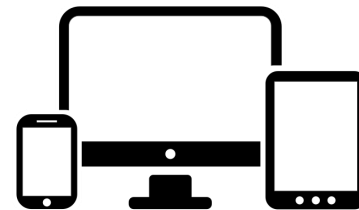
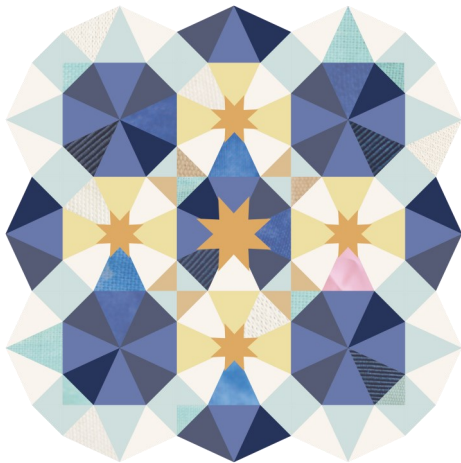
Elders: Rebecca Carr, Jean Gilliland, Nancy Kelly, Brac Panter, Eliza Johnson (1 Year)

Deacons: Mary Gilreath, Dale Luengen, Kim Rentz, Elizabeth Watanabe, Katherine Bowen (1 year)

Trustee: Peter Olson

Calling all quilters!

Our Advent theme this year uses quilts as the artistic element. We will prepare to welcome our Savior and consider Words for the Beginning as we focus our hearts and lives on Christ and celebrate his coming into the world. If you are a quilter and can take a few moments to share your favorite parts about the art of quilting, please contact Pastor Leigh.



Worship Streaming - shift to Youtube

Our shift from streaming on Facebook to streaming on Youtube is underway. Thank you for your patience as we work out the kinks with the new technology. We are continuing to work through the shift and may still have some issues, but are hard at work to ensure that everyone who wishes may be a part of our worship. A special thank you to our technology and worship volunteers who give hours of time, talents, and knowledge to make worship available to so many.

Reminder! Anyone interested in the mission/spiritual retreat trip to North Georgia Mission Lodge on Friday, October 11 - Sunday, October 13, contact Jean Gilliland for information. You may choose to spend Friday and/or Saturday nights, or you may attend Saturday only. Rev. Megan Johnson of Clairmont Presbyterian Church will be leading the spiritual formation component of the retreat. The cost for spending the night (one or both) is \$100, which includes accommodations, the Friday night meal and Saturday sack lunch. **The deadline to sign up for the October Mission/Spiritual Formation Retreat is September 15.**

Faith Development Upcoming Dates

Sunday, September 8 Sunday School Kick-off for Children and Youth, 10 AM

Sunday, September 15, 22, 29 Sunday School for Children, Youth, and Adults

Sunday School Classrooms:

- Children PreK-2nd Grade Room 161
- Children 3rd-5th Grades Room 159
- Youth--Upstairs in Youth Room
- Adults--Cornerstone Room and Room 114
- Nursery care is available from 9 AM - 12:15 PM

Wednesday, September 4, 11, 18, 25 Coffee Cup Theology 11 AM - 12 PM

Noble & Main Coffee Shop (in back room)

Thursday, September 5, 10:30 AM Cornerstone Room

Study: *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*, by Patricia K. Tull

Monday, September 9, 7 PM Faith Development Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 7 PM Cornerstone Room

Study: *Romans for Everyone, Part 1 (Chapters 1-8)*, by N.T. Wright This book is divided into 4 study sessions. Please read Romans 1:1 - 3:8, and pages 1-34 in the book in preparation for our first session. The book is available at Amazon and at Thrift Books (www.thriftbooks.com).

Sunday, September 15, 12:15 (following Worship) Cornerstone Room

Exploring Grief Group will begin a 4-session Bible study entitled *Lament from the Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living* series.

The Exploring Grief Group will meet on the third Sunday of each month following worship. Please bring a sack lunch.



Observe the One minute of Silence with Us following the Tolling of the Bell.

Every year as part of the official commemoration ceremony held at the World Trade Center for victims' families, we observe six moments of silence marking the key events of 9/11. In 2023, First Presbyterian Church rang its bell at each of the key milestones. We plan to do it again in 2024.

The Milestones;

- **8:46 a.m.:** Hijackers deliberately crashed American Airlines Flight 11 into floors 93 through 99 of the North Tower. **Tolling of the bell at 7 rings.**
- **9:03 a.m.:** Hijackers deliberately crashed United Airlines Flight 175 into floors 77 through 85 of the South Tower. **Tolling of the bell at 7 rings.**
- **9:37 a.m.:** Hijackers deliberately crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon, near Washington, D.C. **Tolling of the bell at 7 rings.**
- **9:59 a.m.:** The South Tower collapsed. **Tolling of the bell to include First Responders at 4 segments of 5 rings Each segment.**
- **10:03 a.m.:** After learning of the other attacks, passengers on United Airlines Flight 93 launched a counterattack on hijackers aboard their plane to try to seize control of the aircraft. In response, the hijackers crashed the plane into an empty field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. **Tolling of the bell at 7 rings.**

10:28 a.m.: The North Tower collapsed, leaving the 16-acre World Trade Center site in ruins and collateral damage affecting all adjacent properties and streets. The rescue effort commenced immediately. **Tolling of the bell to include First Responders at 4 segments of 5 rings Each segment.**

Bell Tolling

At each milestone following the Tolling of the Bell, one minute of silent reflection will be observed.

From the Session:

At its stated monthly meeting Aug. 20, the Session of First Presbyterian Church:

- Called a congregational meeting for Sept. 8 following worship for the purpose of hearing a report from the Officer Nominating Committee and electing officers.
- Approved use of a first-floor classroom in the main building on Tuesday afternoons by a women's AA group.
- Appointed Ellen Olson as church treasurer upon a recommendation by the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

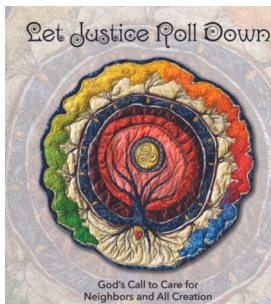


ICE CREAM SUNDAE SUNDAY

September 8th after worship
Come and make you own sundae.
Celebrate the beginning of a new Sunday School year for our kids.



The men's breakfast group will start back on September 1st at 9:00 am. We are happy to announce that our guest speaker for this breakfast will be coach Conor Foster, head coach of the Cartersville High School Purple Hurricanes. Coach Foster will give us an overview of the Purple Hurricane football program and maybe some insight into the Hurricane 2024 season. Coach Foster grew up in the First Presbyterian Church and let's all welcome him back home.



The 2024-25 PW/Horizons Bible Study, *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation* will begin on Thursday, September 5 at 10:30 AM in the Cornerstone Room. This

study, with emphasis on creation care, social justice and environmental justice, will meet the first Thursday of each month September-May. There will be a time of scripture, study of the lesson, and guest speakers who will add local interest. "We are called to care for creation because the earth and its members belong to God as well as a healthy creation sustains human well-being" according to the study author, Patricia K. Tull. Study books can be purchased in the church office for \$10. **Please join us on September 5 at 10:30.**



FPC Book Club September 26 at 10:30am Cornerstone Room

Our next book club selection is Will Harlan's Untamed: The Wildest Woman in America and the Fight for Cumberland Island, which is a 320-page non-fiction book about the struggle for preservation of the natural habitat of one of Georgia's barrier islands. Come join us, everyone is welcome!

Friendship Table Food Drive

Current FT pantry needs are: Green beans, cookies, instant sweetened ice tea, and lemonade mix. The shopping cart is outside the Sanctuary for donations. Thank you as a congregation for always being supportive of this ministry.



Ladies Night Out Thursday, September 19 at 6:00pm at Mellow Mushroom

We will gather between 6 and 6:30pm, so come when your can! Childcare is available at the church from 6 –8pm. Contact Courtney Keen at 678-431-2145 with any questions. We look forward to seeing everyone!





Current enrollment: Total 93

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Nursery and Toddlers 12 | 2 year olds 31 |
| 3 year olds 30 | Pre-K 21 |

We have enjoyed an exciting first few weeks at pre-school! We've loved welcoming our new and returning families back to school. Our Open House and First Day of School were both great successes.

Thank you to the Properties Committee and others who made sure our preschool looked wonderful! Thank you for helping with the air conditioning, making sure the playground looked great and was ready for the kiddos, cleaning up our discarded materials, making repairs, etc . Thank you to every church member who contributes to, prays for, and supports our preschool. We are so very honored to be blessed and supported by you! Our entire staff is beyond grateful to be a part of the church's ministries!

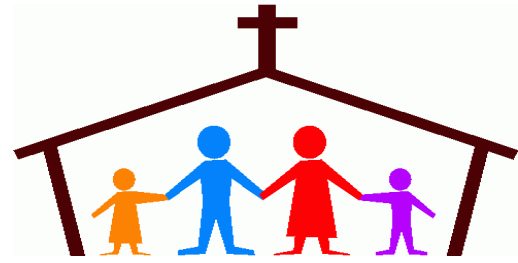
Coming up we will be honoring grandparents in September with a special time that they are available to visit the Book Fair with their grandchild. We will also have our have our Fall Break from September 30th through October 4th. We're looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Yours in Christ,

Jennifer



First Presbyterian Pre-School



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, Sept. 2 - Labor Day (No School)

Sept. 16-20, Scholastic Book Fair/Grandparent's Week

Wednesday, Sept. 4 - Room Parent Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 10 - Substitute Teacher Training

Sept. 30 - Oct. 4, Fall Break (No School)



Sunday, September 8: Kick Off Sunday

Children's Choir at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School for All ages at 10 a.m.

Location of Sunday School Classes:

Children: Pre-K 4 - 2nd Grade in Room 161

3rd - 5th Grades in Room 159

Youth: Upstairs in Youth Room

Adults: Cornerstone Room & Room 114

Nursery Care is available from 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m



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 also have a rotation model of Sunday School teachers for youth, so you are usually only on the schedule once a month. If you feel called to teach our children or youth this year, please contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org or Jean Gilliland, Chair of the Faith Development Committee.



SAVE THE DATE:

FALL FESTIVAL & TRUNK-OR-TREAT OCTOBER 26

Put Saturday, Oct. 26 on your calendar for our Fall Festival. More information and a Sign-up Genius will be sent out in September asking for help with face painting, decorating a trunk & passing out candy, leading games, donating cakes, etc.

Youth Group

We will begin our Sunday afternoon Youth Group (Middle & High Schoolers) on Sunday, Sept. 8, 4-6:30 p.m. A full calendar of youth events through December will be sent out via our Constant Contact and Texting system soon. Be on the lookout for that.

If you are not receiving our Youth emails or texts, please contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org to be added to the lists.



Parents' Night Out

Saturday, September 21- 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.

Dinner (pizza) for kids and our volunteers will be offered, and there will be times of fellowship, fun, and games for the children.

Volunteers needed to help with children, prepping & serving dinner, clean-up.

Let andrea@cartersvillepres.org know if you can help out.

Pre-registration REQUIRED –

[PNO Registration Form](#)

Contact andrea@cartersvillepres.org

with any questions.

September Birthdays

| | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|----------------|
| 3 | Hayden James | 24 | John Panter |
| 5 | Sam Sullins | 26 | Sheilah Simons |
| 6 | Rebecca Carr | 27 | Linda Boynton |
| 6 | Sara Payne | 29 | Karen Anderson |
| 6 | William Russell | 30 | Cynthia Ball |
| 7 | Sonya Noble | | |
| 10 | Mary Barnes | | |
| 10 | Candler Ginn | | |
| 12 | Will Noble | | |
| 12 | Amelia Jones | | |
| 12 | Olivia Whatley | | |
| 13 | Grey Olson | | |
| 13 | Judd Bailey | | |
| 13 | Sam Godfrey | | |
| 18 | Lee Davis | | |
| 19 | Mike Stodgell | | |
| 22 | Jenny Brannan | | |
| 23 | Martha Choate | | |



In September Pray for Our Church:

Staff: Grace Johnson, Louisa Thacker (Preschool), Angela Warlick (Preschool)

Officers: Julian Cline (Session), Sandy Bridges (Diaconate)

Ministries: Administrative Ministry

Families: September 1-7: Tommy and Beth Porter, Jonathan and Lauren Pressley (Harris, Marshall, Russell), Terry and Carla Purdy, Brian Purtymun, Paula Purtymun

September 8-14: Perry and Kim Rentz (Anna, Laura), Rick and Patty Richardson, Jean Robinson, Paxton Robinson, Karen Rodgers

September 15-21: Georgie and Ashton Russell (Wren), Paxton and Cara Russell (William), Kyle and Karen Russell, Margaretta Shaw, Renee Shields (Grace, Mya, Christopher)

September 22-30: Rick Shireman and Sarah Craighead, Betty Sime, Matt and Sheilah Simons, Elise Sims, Erin Sims

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

September Calendar

September 1

9:00am - Men's Monthly Breakfast

September 2

Labor Day - Church Office & Preschool Closed

September 3

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

September 4, 11, 18, 25

11:00am - Coffee Cup Theology @ Noble & Main

September 4

2:00pm - Red Cross Blood Drive

September 5

10:30am - Women's Bible Study Group

September 8

10:00am - Sunday School Kick-off for Children & Youth

12:00pm - Congregational Meeting

12:15pm - Ice Cream Sundae Sunday

September 9

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

7:00pm - Faith Development Meeting

September 12

7:00pm - Thursday Bible Study/*Romans for Everyone*

September 15

12:15pm - Exploring Grief Group

September 16

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

September 17

11:30am - Staff Retreat & Annual Child Safety Training

7:00pm - Session Meeting

September 19

6:30pm - Ladies Night Out @ Mellow Mushroom

September 21

4:30pm - Parents Night Out

September 22

12:15pm - Lunch for SS Teachers

September 30 - October 4

Preschool Fall Break

