



April 2025



### ***ALL Glory, Laud and Honor?***

This is the title of a familiar Palm Sunday hymn. As we are singing our way through Lent and Easter, we are quickly making our way to lifting our voices and joining generations of the faithful marking Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with songs on Palm Sunday. But, like all the generations before us, there are moments when we sing God's praises and then moments when we turn away from God and God's good intentions for our lives.

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, the most sacred time in the church year and the time we remember how quickly we go from singing praises to crying out "Crucify Him." Holy Week is a week of contradictions. How can we sing All Glory, Laud and Honor, but then turn away from Christ, failing to truly honor him as our King?

We often turn away in subtle ways, arranging our priorities away from Christ, shifting discipleship to the bottom of our to-do-list or allowing fear to dictate our choices and actions. Holy Week is a time to slow down and to carefully consider what our choices and actions say about our faith and to consider all that Christ does for us in spite of our brokenness.

I invite us all to slow down for Holy Week. Take each day and be deliberate about prayer, Scripture, acts of service, and giving. What does it mean to offer God ALL glory, laud, and honor? How can we do so with our lives? How do we falter in our attempts to do so? Let us also consider our gratitude for God's amazing grace. Do we live lives of gratitude? Do we extend that grace to others, not because they deserve it, but because Christ died for all of us so that we might know that grace?

These are questions for Holy Week and it is not really Holy Week unless we stop to consider such questions. We cannot go straight from Palm Sunday to Easter, for if we try to do so, Easter is but a pale reflection of its true meaning. I invite us all to slow down and wrestle with the questions of Holy Week and join us for worship on Maundy Thursday (6:00 PM) and/or Good Friday (Noon, Trinity UMC). Then, together, we can truly rejoice in the Resurrection.

*Pastor Leigh*



*lift up your voice*  
SINGING THROUGH LENT AND EASTER

- \* **PALM SUNDAY** - APRIL 13 @ 11 am
- \* **MAUNDY THURSDAY** - APRIL 17 @ 6 pm
- \* **GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 18 @ Noon**  
joint service at Trinity UMC
- \* **EASTER SUNDAY** - APRIL 20 @ 11 am

**Wandering in the Desert**



This Lenten season, you are invited to join our community in reflecting on the deserts in our lives and in our communities. Join us at noon for lunch and a time of prayer and reflection.

- **April 3rd** - Hosted by FPC. Mental Health. (Panel from the Mental Health Court of Bartow County)

**PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER FUND.....**

FPC's members gifts to the Presbyterian Disaster Fund enabled our partners here in the US to extend God's warm embrace to those who are in anguish and chaos. These funds totaled \$2,375 and helped a number of disasters in the US and around the world including the floods in Western North Carolina and the fires in California. These two are still in chaos as they try to re-build their lives. Let us continue to provide comfort to God's people, let us continue to rely on the firm reality of God's presence in and through us and the touch of the Holy Spirit that binds us together. Thank you for your compassion and generosity, which brings hope and comfort to so many.

**A new Sunday School small group is beginning for Young(er) adults, ages 20s-40s!**

Led by Courtney Keen, the group is currently discussing *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: How to Stay Emotionally Healthy and Spiritually Alive in the Chaos of the Modern World*, by John Mark Connor. The group meets at Nagel's Bagels once a month (on various Sundays) during the Sunday School hour (10-10:45a.m.). Nursery care is available at the church. Please contact Courtney Keen if you're interested.

**Friendship Table Ministry - Gratitude and Invitation**

We celebrate and give thanks for the incredible ministry this congregation does through our Friendship Table and we rejoice the ways the Cartersville Community is a part of that ministry. We are thankful that we received two community grants to support our Friendship Table ministry - one from the Cartersville Service League and one from the Cartersville Rotary Club. Together, we are all working to feed the hungry and share Christ's love with those in need. But, we need you help, too. We need a few volunteers for the second Tuesday to help clean up (6:45-7:15) and we are always in need of food (See the bulletin for specifics) or financial donations. Ground beef prices have increased drastically so in particular, we would be grateful for financial donations to help us purchase ground beef. The Grants are an enormous help, but it takes us all working together to make a difference for those in need in this community.

***From the Session:***

**At its stated monthly meeting in March, the Session:**

- Session approved a baptism for Zim & Martha Choate’s great grandchild on May 18, 2025 at the 11 am service.
- Moved communion from April 6 to April 20.
- Agreed to host a Presbytery meeting on February 7, 2026.
- Move April Session meeting to April 22.
- Leigh will be establishing a joke bank for use in future sermons.

**April Faith Development**

- **Sundays, 10 a.m.**  
April 6, 13, 27--Sunday School for all ages  
(There is no children’s Sunday School on April 20, Easter Sunday)
- **Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.**  
April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30--*Romans for Everyone* Bible Study at Church of the Ascension
- **Thursday, April 3, 10 a.m.--PW Bible Study**  
*Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and Creation*—Cornerstone Room
- **Sunday, April 13, 4-5 p.m.**  
Community Easter Egg Hunt—FPC Parking Lot
- **Sunday, April 13, 5-6:30 p.m.**  
Community Youth Group—Nagel's Bagels
- **Saturday, April 26, 5-7:30 p.m.**  
Parents Night Out—FPC Education Building

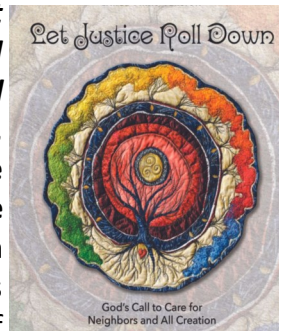


**Sunday, April 6** starting at 9 AM,  
coffee ready at 8:30 AM

Please join us for the Men’s Breakfast on the first Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church of Cartersville. This breakfast is a PERFECT opportunity to get to know other men of your Church family.

**RSVP to [dwc1945@gmail.com](mailto:dwc1945@gmail.com)**

The monthly Bible Study, *Let Justice Roll Down: God’s Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation* will meet Thursday, April 3rd at 10:00am\* in the Cornerstone Room (\*note the time change, due to Lenten Lunch). Lesson Eight focuses on Intergenerational Justice. If you’d like background scripture read 2 Kings:22-25. All are welcome!



**Ladies Night - Wednesday, April 16th at 6:00pm**  
We will be dining at El Charro Mexican Restaurant on Wednesday this month due to Maundy Thursday Service on April 17th. Please let Courtney Keen know if you can attend 678-431-2145. All ladies are welcome!



The FPC Book Club meets next on **April 24, 2025 at 10:30am in the Cornerstone Room.** Our book club selection is Bo Caldwell's City of Tranquil Light, with 320 pages. This is a novel about two missionaries who meet in China at the end of the last dynasty (early 1900s). Come join us; everyone is welcome!



**Thursday, April 24th - Noon-1 pm**  
Mark Cheatam, Chief of Police Acworth, will present "What You Need to Know About AI" - Bring your lunch - drinks and dessert will be provided. This is open to all so invite a friend.

# First Presbyterian Preschool



Jennifer Graves ~ Director · 770 – 382 – 0755 ·  
Jennifer@cartersvillepres.org



**Pictured above:** Ms. Elise's 2-year old class and their visit from our local leprechaun, Louis Tonsmeire.

It's hard to believe it is already April! We have 5 weeks of school left after Spring Break! This month, our students will take spring pictures, classes will enjoy a reptile show, we'll have our annual egg hunts and celebrate Easter, and we will prepare to honor our amazing staff in May, during Teacher Appreciation Week! We currently have 114 students registered for next school year! We only have availability in our Kindergarten. If you know anyone interested in attending our preschool, please have them call or email me.  
~Blessings, Jennifer

## April Dates to Remember

Etowah Valley Exotics  
Reptile Show

April 3

Spring Break –No School

Mon.–Fri., April 7–11

Spring Pictures

April 15 & 16

Easter Parties and Egg Hunts

Thursday, April 17

Good Friday

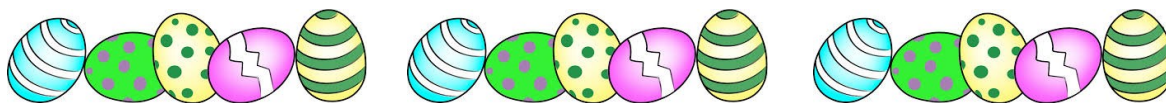
Friday, April 18 (No School)



**Pictured Below:** Ms. Amy's PreK class enjoys Dr. Seuss Week in March!



**APRIL BIBLE VERSE:**  
**He is not here: He has risen!**  
**Luke 24:6-7**



## Community Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, April 13 at 4 p.m.

**Donations Needed &  
Volunteers Needed 3-5 p.m.**

FPC will be hosting a Community Easter Egg Hunt on **Sunday, April 13 at 4 p.m.**  
Invite your friends & neighbors!

**Donations Needed:** Large bags of individually wrapped candy (peanut-free) or small toys that can fit into plastic Easter Eggs. Please drop off any donations to the church office during office hours, place in the Large Baskets outside of the Sanctuary, or have items directly mailed to the church. Please mail to Andrea Roche 183 W Main St. Cartersville, GA, 30120. If you can volunteer, please let contact [Andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:Andrea@cartersvillepres.org).



**Saturday, April 26 from 5 - 7:30 p.m.**

FPC volunteers will be offering a night of fun for children while giving parents an opportunity to go out or stay in for a quiet night!

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

**Pre-registration is REQUIRED – [PNO Registration Form](#)**

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

**Parents' Night Out – Volunteers Needed**  
**Saturday, April 26 – 4:30-7:30 p.m.**

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

Let [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org) know if you can help out.

## Nursery

**We are hiring a Sunday morning Nursery Care Worker.** If you know of someone who would be interested, must be 18 years or older, please have them send their resume to [andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:andrea@cartersvillepres.org).

### Blessing Bags

### Blessing Bag Collection & Packing

We are collecting items for Blessings Bags for our un-housed neighbors in Cartersville.

We will collect items now through Easter Sunday, and we will pack the bags together after worship on Sunday, April 27th. Place any items in the shopping cart outside of the Sanctuary, or you can send items from our [Amazon Wishlist](#) directly to the church.

**Items requested:** Non-perishable food items, garbage bags, socks, AA & AAA batteries, flash-lights, & travel sized toiletries.

Contact our Youth Deacon Katherine Bowen [kholderbowen1@icloud.com](mailto:kholderbowen1@icloud.com) or our Youth Elder Eliza Johnson [ej0870524@gmail.com](mailto:ej0870524@gmail.com) if you have questions.



**VBS Save the Date & Volunteers Needed**

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

**July 7-11, 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).



**APRIL & MAY**

**Children & Youth Dates**

- ◆ **April 13** – Community Easter Egg Hunt
- ◆ **April 20** – Easter Sunday, no Sunday School or Children’s Choir
- ◆ **April 26** – Parents Night Out - [PNO Registration Form](#)
- ◆ **April 27** – Mission Activity Day & Youth Sunday Practice
- ◆ **May 4** – Youth Sunday
- ◆ **May 11** – Mother’s Day & Children Singing
- ◆ **May 18** – Senior Recognition Sunday



**High School Montreat Chaperone Needed – June 8-14**

We need an adult (or two adults who can share the week), to go to Montreat with us this summer, June 22-28. Duties will include (but are not limited to), driving youth to and from Montreat, joining a small group for the conference, & helping with cooking/meal prep. Another big part of the week as an adult chaperone is being present with the youth, listening to them, helping them, and praying for them. If you are interested, please reach out to [Andrea@cartersvillepres.org](mailto:Andrea@cartersvillepres.org) to discuss it further.

**Save the Dates Summer 2025**

- High School Youth Montreat – June 8-14
- Worship & Music (Children, Youth, & Adults) – June 22-28
- VBS – July 7-11, 9 a.m. until noon
- Middle School Youth Montreat – July 16-20



## *April Birthdays*

1	Drake Johnson	20	Jacob Brush
2	Nan Collier	20	Johnathan Shrader
3	Joan Green	21	Sam Bailey
5	LaRue Whitehead	23	Jessica Gardner
5	Patty Richardson	25	Dolly Tucker
5	Jake Noble	28	Harrison Paul
8	Jimmy Cline	30	Tom Nebergall
8	Perry Rentz		
9	Denise Kennedy		
10	Jake Hall		
11	Paula Purtymun		
13	Norman Daugherty		
14	Grace Johnson		
16	Mason Cline		
16	Mya Shields		
17	David Dundee		
18	Billy Noble		
19	Jean Gilliland		



## *In April Pray for Our Church:*

**Staff:** Jennifer Graves, Louisa Thacker (Preschool), Angela Warlick (Preschool)

**Officers:** Tinsley Cline (Session), Jennifer Nebergall (Diaconate)

**Ministries:** Congregational Life Ministry

**Families: April 1-7:** Bob and Anita Meadows, Tom and Molly Mendenhall, Neal Miller, Becky Morris, Karl Mosley

**April 8-14:** Jennifer Nebergall, Tom Nebergall, Terry Nelson, Joe and Carolyn Noble, Billy and Sonya Noble (Will, Jake)

**April 15-21:** Ellyn Olson (Grey, Eden), Peter Olson, Scott and Susan Panter, Brac and Louise Panter (Marion, John), Bettye Parker

**April 22-30:** Lauren Paul (Conner, Harrison), Sara Payne, Tommy and Beth Porter, Jonathan and Lauren Pressley (Harris, Marshall, Russell), Terry and Carla Purdy

# First Presbyterian Church

183 West Main Street—Cartersville, GA 30120

770-382-3511 - [www.cartersvillepres.org](http://www.cartersvillepres.org)

## Contact

### **Leigh Jones, pastor**

[pastorleighjones@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleighjones@gmail.com)

### **Andrea Roche, children & youth director**

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

### **Jim Stanley, choir director**

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

### **Becky Ferguson, ministry assistant**

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

### **Angie Hood, church administrator**

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

### **Jennifer Graves, preschool director**

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

---

## *April Calendar*

### **April 1**

6:30pm - Properties Committee Meeting

### **April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**

11:30am - Small Group Study/Church of the Ascension

### **April 3**

10:00am - Women's Bible Study Group

Noon - Lenten Lunch @ FPC

### **April 6**

9:00am - Men's Monthly Breakfast

### **April 7 - 11**

Preschool Spring Break Week

### **April 7**

7:00pm - Faith Development Meeting

### **April 13**

Palm Sunday - Holy Week Begins

4:00pm - Community Egg Hunt at FPC

### **April 14**

6:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting

### **April 16**

6:00pm - Ladies Night Out @ El Charro's

### **April 17**

6:00pm - Maundy Thursday Service

### **April 18**

Good Friday

No Preschool

12:00pm - Good Friday Service at Trinity UMC

### **April 20**

Easter Sunday

### **April 21**

Church Office closed Monday after Easter

5:30pm - Stewardship & Finance Meeting

### **April 22**

7:00pm - Session Meeting

### **April 24**

10:30am - FPC Book Club

12:00pm - Lunch & Learn w/ Acworth Police Chief,

Mark Cheatham

### **April 26**

5:00pm - Parents Night Out

### **April 29**

7:00pm - Diaconate Meeting

*Lift up your voice, and sing!*

