

THE CALL

First Presbyterian Church | Gainesville, Georgia | November 7, 2021

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Throughout the past several weeks we've had the opportunity to participate in some exciting things. It's been wonderful to celebrate World Communion Sunday, Children and Youth Sabbath, All Saints Day, and Trunk-or-Treat! We've also joined together to pledge our time, talents, and resources to God and the work of Jesus Christ at FPC. We've reflected upon the importance of giving and prayed that God would bless us with opportunities to give gratefully and joyfully. I believe wholeheartedly in the work that we have done and continue to do, and I look forward to all that we'll do in the future. At this point we're still working on a 2022 budget and planning for the coming year, so I will simply thank you for responding so enthusiastically. I also encourage anyone who hasn't yet seized the opportunity to respond with their commitment card to do so. There's still time!

If you've found that you've been blessed with an abundance of resources this year, please consider making a gift to the church that is over and above your original pledge. We still have a couple of months of 2021 to go! I encourage you to find ways to maintain your giving on a consistent basis and give thanks to God for the opportunity to share your time, talents, and resources in the current year. There are more exciting things to come at FPC, and we're looking to end 2021 on a high note. In the next several weeks we'll be sending off our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, putting up the Angel Tree, ringing Salvation Army bells, and serving our community in so many ways during this "season of giving." We will also be journeying through Advent together, looking forward to the birth of Christ, and worshiping God out of gratitude for that greatest gift. I encourage you to live – and give – into the joy that God has prepared for us here at FPC!

That joy continues this Sunday as we celebrate our roots of faith in worship. During worship we will remember and celebrate the Presbyterian Church's roots in Scotland. However, we're also inviting you to reflect on your own personal roots of faith. Maybe your faith is connected to a country or place in a special way. Maybe you are indebted to someone special who planted the seeds of faith within you: like your father, mother, grandparents, a teacher, or even a friend. You are encouraged this week to spend some time thinking about your own faith journey and its beginnings. This Sunday we encourage everyone to **wear something** or **bring something** special that symbolizes your own roots of faith. Everyone's faith story is unique, and I think it will be incredibly meaningful to see how all of our roots are woven together in this church family!

As you seek opportunities to give and serve, as you celebrate faith's beginnings, and as you continue to live each day surrounded and upheld by God's grace, I pray that you will hear God's call to follow Jesus each and every day.

Grace and Peace,
Lee

ANNOUNCING JOANN WATSON AS NEW FPC ACCOUNTANT & CONTROLLER

We are pleased to announce the hiring of JoAnn Watson as our new FPC Accountant and Controller! JoAnn comes to us from right down the hall in the Child Development Center, where she has served as CDC Accountant for the past few years. JoAnn's accuracy and attention to detail, as well as her knowledge of accounting practices in different areas of the church will be assets to our congregation for years to come. Please take some time to welcome JoAnn by sending her a note or by stopping by the church office! We're excited to have her as a part of our FPC office staff!

NOVEMBER 7

Roots of Faith Sunday

Rev. Lee Koontz

Psalm 23, Mark 12:38-44

A Cup Running Over

8:45 Morning Light

Swetenburg Hall

Morning Light Worship Team

11:00 Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

The Sacrament of Holy
Communion at both services

NOVEMBER 14

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Lee Koontz

8:45 Morning Light

Swetenburg Hall

Morning Light Worship Team

11:00 Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

LECTIONARY

November 7

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127:1-5
Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

November 14

1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18), 19-25;
Mark 13:1-8

WELCOME TO

New Members



NICK AND LEE BAKER
Joined October 24

thank you

We want to thank our First Presbyterian Church family for all of the support that you have provided during Tom's, now year-long, healing journey. Throughout the past year, you have

blessed us with timely visits, encouraging phone calls, so many thoughtful cards and prayers. We have felt peace, comfort and strength from your continued prayers and so much love from all of your gestures of kindness and encouragement. We can't thank you enough.

Please keep the prayers coming. We are hopeful that the skin graft that Tom had done on Oct. 27 will be the final step toward complete healing.

With much love and gratitude,
Tom and Anne Carraway

A MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held for Sandee McGlaun Sunday, November 7, at 2 pm. The family requests that we wear masks.

SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF...

... Ruth Staley, October 22

... Carolyn Harvill, October 23

WOW

WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAY

5:45pm Supper 6:30pm Program

NOVEMBER 10—Pot roast supper

Link to sign up—<https://forms.gle/6BG4dz5kpi5z2Vij6>

Celebrating Our Veterans will be presented by the Rev. Dr. William Carr. Dr. Benji Stegner will lead us from the piano in the singing of the service songs of all the military branches. Our **Veterans and their families are invited to enjoy dinner as our guests**; however, **reservations** are necessary and must be received in **the church office**



(770-532-0136) by noon on Friday, November 5. For more information see insert article.

NOVEMBER 17—Baked Ziti pasta supper

Link—<https://forms.gle/esxdIG534qtvJA116>

Pictures with St. Nick in Swetenburg Hall. Christmas carols and popular songs will be sung with Benji at the piano.



Support our "Homegrown" Missionaries

In preparation for the World Mission Conference coming up January 28-30, 2022, the WMC Committee is offering a limited supply of notecards, mousepads, and Christmas ornaments (they also make nice window decorations) to raise supplemental funds for those in



the mission field who grew up in our church family. All three items

feature the stained-glass windows in our sanctuary. The package of notecards features ten different windows, with a description of each. The ornament is packaged in a giftbox.

Suggested Donation:

Notecards \$10 • Mousepad \$5 • Ornament \$20

These will be on display at the Information Desk outside the sanctuary. To order contact Lori McBride at lolamcb@gmail.com. You will be notified when your items are placed in the church office, and you may leave your donation in a marked envelope in the office when you pick them up. Church office hours are Monday–Friday, 8:30–4:30.

RUTH'S FINAL PRAYER

O God, you are my God. I see you, my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you. Psalm 63:1

Our Heavenly Father, we love and praise your holy name. May your presence fill our lives. We praise you for your word. We thank you that we live in a free country. We can openly worship you and share in Christian fellowship. Open our hearts and minds so that we may know Christ's presence in unexpected people and surprising places. Lord, we need the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In Christ's name. Amen. Ruth Staley

Ruth's October 28 memorial service may now be viewed at fpcga.org > Sermons.



CALLING ALL VETERANS, MEN AND WOMEN, OF ALL BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY

You and your family are invited as our guests for our
 Celebration of Our Veterans
 at Weekly On Wednesday, November 10, 5:45-7pm
 in Swetenburg Hall

Please make your reservations by calling the church office
 at 770-532-0136 by Friday, November 5 at noon.

Pot Roast with Potatoes and Carrots and a Side Vegetable,
 Cookies and Ice Cream, and Drink

The program will feature the Rev. Dr. Bill Carr,
 who served as an Army Chaplain, speaking about ministry
 while deployed to Germany, Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

The US Department of VETERANS AFFAIRS through their
 Office of Intergovernmental Affairs offers this description of
 Veterans Day in the USA:

Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day
 is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in
 the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as
 a result of wounds sustained in battle. While those who died are also
 remembered, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor ALL
 those who served honorably in the military—in wartime or peacetime. In
 fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank LIVING veterans for their
 service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security
 are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served—
 not only those who died—have sacrificed and done their duty.

Kids' Night Out
**FRIENDS-
 GIVING**

Dinner, Game, Snack
 & a Movie, 6-10pm
Friday, November 12

\$10 per child \$20 family rate

RSVP athompson@fpcga.org / 678-936-1053



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN—There is still time to make a financial donation to our November mission project - the PW Thank Offering. PWs worldwide donate to this fund raiser that supports medical and creative mission work throughout the world. Make your check out to: Presbyterian Women and in the memo section write "Thank Offering." Drop it off at the church office or mail it to the office at: 800 S. Enota Drive, NE, Gainesville, 30501.

Looking ahead to December:

Thursday, December 2nd – 1 p.m. PW Coordinating Team zoom meeting.

Monday, December 6th – Morning Bible Study. 9:45-10:10 Social Time. 10:15-11:15 Bible Study. We meet in Swetenburg Hall. Our Horizon Bible study Lesson #4 will be led by Linda Snowden.

Tuesday, December 7th – Evening Bible Study. Location to be announced at a later date.

December PW Mission Project – Santa Clause Express Each year Presbyterian Women in GA celebrate the holidays with residents of the health services centers at Presbyterian Home, Quitman; Presbyterian Village, Austell; and residents at Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments. Our financial donations help Santa's elves purchase and wrap gifts for Santa to deliver to these residents at Christmas. Also, throughout the year, gifts are given to residents to honor birthdays, to welcome new residents and much more. Let the Christmas spirit open up your heart to be generous in your financial donation. Make your check out to: Presbyterian Women, and in the memo section write "Santa Clause Express." You may bring your donation to our December Bible Study meetings or drop it off at the church office.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
800 SOUTH ENOTA DRIVE, NE
GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA 30501

www.fpcga.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT
GAINESVILLE, GA

USPS 555-440

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—CHURCH CALENDAR—

—Week 1—

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER ~ *Roots of Faith*
 8:45am Morning Light Worship, SH
 9:15am Chancel Ringers
 9:45am Confirmation Class, Youth Area
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Traditional Worship
 2:00pm Sandee McGlaun Memorial Service
 6:00pm Youth Group
 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8
 10:00am Prayer Group, Prayer Room
 12:00pm Gentle Yoga, Gym
 12:00pm Ladies Bible Study, Lake House
 1:00pm Stephen Ministry Leaders, CR
3:00pm Evangelism Meeting, CR*
 6:00pm PEO (Jody Sanders)
 6:30pm Lakeshore Square Dance Class
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9
5:00pm Adult Ministry, CR*
 5:30pm Ladies AA, Lakehouse
6:30pm Congregational Care, M303*
6:30pm Fellowship Ministry, Cabin 4*
6:30pm Outreach Ministry, CR*
7:15pm The Diaconate, M303*
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
 5:15pm Andrew Ministry, Cabin 1
 5:45pm WOW Supper
 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11
 9:30am Yoga, Gym
 11:00am Lanier Womens Group (Sharon Burke)
5:00pm Youth Ministry Team, Youth Room*
 5:30pm *Be the Bridge Study*, Lakehouse
6:00pm Children's Ministry Team, Cabin 3*
 7:00pm Bernice Cox Book Club, CR
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12
 6:00pm Kids' Night Out

—Week 2—

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14
 8:45am Morning Light Worship, SH
 9:15am Chancel Ringers
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Traditional Worship
 4:00pm Fine Arts Series Concert, Noah Johnson, Cello
 5:00pm Confirmation Class/Session Meeting
 6:00pm Youth Group
 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15
 10:00am Prayer Group, Prayer Room
 11:00am Church Staff Meeting
 12:00pm Gentle Yoga, Gym
 6:30pm Lakeshore Square Dance Class
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16
11:00am WMC 2022 Cmte, CR*
1:30pm Endow Grants Cmte, CR*
 2:15pm Chapel (CDC), Sanctuary
4:30pm Finance Cmte, CR*
 5:30pm Ladies AA, Lakehouse
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17
 5:15pm Andrew Ministry, Cabin 1
 5:45pm WOW Supper
 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18
 9:30am Yoga, Gym
6:00pm Faith Development, CR*
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19
 10:45am CDC Family Thanksgiving Lunch
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20
 9:00am Church Wide Work Day, Eagle Ranch
 6:30pm Lakeshore Squares, Gym

***Committee Meeting**
 CR-Conference Room; SH-Swetenburg Hall

IN-PERSON plus ONLINE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 24— 8:45am 51 + 42 = 93
 11am 101 + 67 = 168
October 31— 8:45am 56 + 40 = 96
 11am 118 + 75 = 193

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30

CONTACT US

Church Office..... 770-532-0136
 Child Development Center 770-532-8188
 FAX..... 770-287-1397
 Holiday, Weekend Emergency 770-718-8584

CHURCH STAFF

	Extension
Lee Koontz, Senior Pastor.....	23
Shon Peppers, Associate Pastor	12
Margaret Turney-Ayer	13
Interim Director of Faith Development	
Benji Stegner, Music Director/Organist ...	36
Debbie Holcombe, Administrator	11
Libby Christiansen, Admin. Asst.	23
Brooke Lowe, CDC Director.....	40
Ronny Childs.....	35
Audio/Visual Coordinator	
Ali Thompson.....	29
Director of Children's Ministry	
Dallas Thompson (dthompson@fpcga.org)	
Young Adults Ministry Coordinator	
Sue Ann Rogers, Publisher.....	20
Hope Testament, Director of Bells	

Sunday 8:45am worship and 11am worship streamed live.

Web address: fpcga.churchonline.org

View recent past services at fpcga.org/welcome/sermons.

Created in Christ to do *good works*

Ephesians 2:10

EAGLE RANCH WORK PROJECT

5500 Union Church Road, Flowery Branch 30542

Saturday, November 20

8:30-9:00am—Tour of Eagle Ranch

9:00am-12:00pm—Work Project

Please use the following link to sign up: <https://eagleranch.org/get-involved/volunteer>. Or you may contact Tina de Waart at tinadewaart@bellsouth.net to sign up.



The GAINESVILLE/HALL COUNTY COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY—FPC's next 2-week rotation serving at the Food Pantry is November 15–26.

We will serve clients from noon to 1:30pm on:

Week 1: **Tuesday & Thursday, November 16 & 18**

Week 2: **Tuesday, November 23** (closed Thanksgiving)

We need 3 volunteers on each of the above days to enter client data into computer, greet clients, and load grocery carts.

On Tuesday, November 16, from 9am to 12pm, 5-8 volunteers are needed to pack grocery bags.

One or two volunteers are needed to shop for groceries for Thanksgiving meals. (The groceries need to be delivered to the church by Monday, November 15.)

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tina de Waart at tinadewaart@bellsouth.net or 770-601-6118.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA

(HSNEGA) is a non-profit organization that serves to create a community recognized for responsible pet ownership and humane treatment of animals. Serving Hall County and many other counties across Georgia, it provides vital services to animal and people alike. HSNEGA takes in animals from owners and other rescue organizations and takes care of them until they can find their FURever home.

If you would like to make a donation to this organization, please click on the "Wish List" below. https://humanesocietyofnortheastgeorgia.org/wp-content/uploads/Wish-list_1.27.2020.pdf

Donations may also be made through Amazon at the following link: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/37NLL2WVA3402?ref_=wl_share

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES ARE

NOW AVAILABLE. Our sincere thanks for your generous response to date! Another set of empty OCC shoeboxes are available in Swetenburg, the Church Office, and at the



Information Desk. Please take them home to fill and return by Shoebox Dedication Sunday, November 21st. Let's help Samaritan's Purse bring the joy and Good News that accompany these shoebox gifts to less fortunate children and their families worldwide. Your financial

support for this project will also be greatly appreciated—please make your check out to FPC with Shoeboxes in the memo line.

FAMILY PROMISE CHRISTMAS STORE

It's that time of year again. Family Promise will have their annual Christmas store on **December 7-8**. This store will allow struggling children and families to purchase gifts at reduced prices for their loved ones for the Christmas season. There will be a box by the church office to collect new toys. The toys need to be delivered to the church before Thanksgiving. An easier way to give is through familypromisehall.org/christmas-donate to select toys from Amazon or Target and have them shipped directly to Family Promise located at 3606 McEver Road Oakwood GA 30566. You can also make a monetary donation in support of the Christmas Store. Thank you in advance for your support for this worthwhile project and vital ministry for Gainesville/Hall County.

EVELYN'S PLACE is a non-profit, 501(c)3 rescue organization that saves dogs and cats from high kill shelters in Georgia. If you would like to help support this mission, they would be most appreciative of gift cards for dog food, cat litter, cat food, and blankets. Donations may be sent to 805 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Gainesville, GA 30501. For more information about Evelyn's Place, please go to their website: epr.rescueme.org.

Local Mission Emphasis (LME) Committee

We are looking for new members. The LME Committee was created in 2020 when we realized that the annual Expo, which local agencies attended at our church to explain their mission and seek volunteers, could not be held during the pandemic. To keep the mission of these local agencies in the heart of our congregation, the committee started advertising the needs of these agencies in FPC's The Call and its weekly emails. The needs of these agencies have only increased because of the pandemic and they are still in great need of donations, whether through volunteer hours or supplies or moneys.

The Committee also started organizing a quarterly work project at a local mission agency where members of our church can learn about the organization's mission, as well as apply their talents through the work project.

DONATIONS RECEIVED
In Memory of...

Ruth Staley

by Wiley & Judy Black
by Anonymous
by James & Mary Kirk
by Bill & Andrea Jones
by Anonymous
by Glenda Pierce
by Ed & Sharon Rugg

Phyllis Jehu

by Anonymous

Ann Moore

by Anonymous

Elaine Miller

by Anonymous

Peggy Coleman

by Anonymous

Bob Weakley

by Anonymous

Making Christmas Special



FPC is partnering with the Salvation Army to provide Christmas gifts for 36 children in our community. This is a huge, but fun undertaking and there are various ways that you can help.

- a. Pick an Angel tag off the tree in Swetenburg Hall, purchase the gifts for the child listed on the tag, and return unwrapped gifts to the tree.
- b. A copy of a tag can be emailed to you. You purchase the gifts and a committee member can pick them up or you can return them to the church.
- c. Make a financial donation to FPC, designated "Angel Tree", and gifts will be purchased with your donation.

If you have questions or want to choose option B, contact Bonnie Rary, sandb.rary@gmail.com, 770-770-0371.

All gifts need to be returned unwrapped to Swetenburg Hall by **Wednesday, December 1st**.

There is a huge need for support this Christmas season – let's work together to make it special for these children!