

THE CALL

First Presbyterian Church | Gainesville, Georgia | February 2022

February 6

The Sacrament of Holy
Communion at both services

Isaiah 6:1-8

Luke 5:1-11

February 13

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Luke 6:17-26

February 20

Amos 5:18-24

Luke 6:27-38

February 27

Exodus 34:29-35

Luke 9:28-36

8:45 Morning Light

Swetenburg Hall

Morning Light Worship Team

11:00 Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

LECTIONARY

February 6-Isaiah 6:1-8; Ps.138;

1Cor. 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

February 13-Jer. 17:5-10;

Psalms 1; 15:12-20; Luke 6:27-38

February 20-Gen. 45:3-11, 15; Ps. 37:1-11,
39-40; 1 Cr. 15:35-38; 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

February 27-Exodus 34:29-35; Ps. 99;

2 Cor. 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Kindred in Christ,

The past month has featured a lot of attention given to immediate things, large events in the life of our church that require a lot of effort! Just in the last few weeks we've resumed WOW on Wednesday nights, canceled Sunday services due to weather (but offered a pre-recorded Sunday service so that we could still all worship together), hosted our 22nd annual World Mission Conference, ordained a new class of elders and deacons, and held our annual congregation meeting in hybrid fashion so that in-person and virtual attendees could participate together. Whew! I'm dizzy and out of breath just thinking about all that's gone on. Just as we're catching our breath, though, we find more joyful and faithful opportunities right around the corner! We are already looking ahead to the month of February and all that is to come:

- We will be celebrating Holy Communion on Sunday, February 6th at both services. We will serve communion by intinction, inviting all to come forward to receive the bread and cup. However, we will also have pre-packaged elements available for any who would rather remain in their seats. For all worshipping in-person, masks are still highly recommended by the Session, especially as local case and hospitalization numbers go upward due to the spread of Omicron (you can stay up-to-date on local numbers through the following link: <https://www.nghs.com/covid-19/latest-covid-19-data/>). For all who are worshipping virtually, I encourage you to obtain something bread-like and something juice-like so that you can receive communion at home.
- We will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 6th as well. This is a week earlier than the actual Super Bowl, so keep that in mind! We will have soup pots available after each service if you'd like to contribute, and our youth will be overseeing the collection. The Souper Bowl of Caring is an annual event that raises money for hunger-fighting programs in our local community and across the nation.
- We will have our first Fine Arts Series concert of the year on February 11th! We are excited to welcome award-winning organist and church musician Jillian Gardner on the organ. Jillian will present an evening of organ music ranging from Bach to transcriptions of Debussy.

Of course, February also brings Black History Month, Valentine's Day, and President's Day – and then Ash Wednesday (March 2) and the season of Lent are right around the corner!

May the Spirit of Christ lead you through these winter days, may you have the courage and the faith to follow into a brighter springtime, and may God bless you with patience and understanding as you enter the future that has been prepared for you.

Grace and Peace,
Lee



KIDS NIGHT OUT AT FIRST PRES!

Feb. 11, 6-10 PM in the Lodge
 \$10 Per Child or \$20 Family
 Pizza, games, snacks & a movie included
 Reservations Required by Feb.9
 email Ali at athompson@fpcga.org
 Children Birth - 5th Grade Welcome

2022 Marriage Retreat-March 11th-13th

Marriage Retreat at the Creekside cottages of Smithgall Woods. Guest Counselor Starla Abernathy, LMFT will lead us in the sessions on Saturday. Join us for the weekend or the sessions only.

\$100 for the weekend or \$25 for Sessions

It promises to be a delightful weekend!

Reserve your spot by emailing Shon, speppers@fpcga.org or calling 678.936.5357.

Save the Date
 Annual Men's Retreat
 April 22nd-24th somewhere in the mountains of NC.



Atlanta Gladiators Hockey Match

Friday February 25th

Tickets are \$10

The church bus will depart the church at 6pm for those who wish to carpool.

Contact the church office 770.532.0136 or Shon Peppers 678.936.5357 or speppers@fpcga.org to reserve your seat.

WOW Wednesdays

5:45 PM SUPPER

\$8 Adult • \$5 Kid • \$20 Family

6:20 PM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

6:30 PM ADULT PROGRAM

February 2

MENU: Ritzy Chicken, green beans, rice casserole and rolls

PROGRAM: Taking care of your heart

Dr. Elia Abboud, cardiologist

February 9

MENU: Baked ham, mac and cheese, green bean casserole, cranberry salad, and biscuits with jelly

PROGRAM: Mental Health First Aid

Sue Davis Westmoreland

February 16

MENU: Spaghetti, steamed broccoli, tossed salad, and garlic bread

PROGRAM: Caring through Compassion

Rev. Dallas Thompson

February 23

MENU: Cube steak, rice and gravy, pinto beans, frozen fruit salad, and rolls

PROGRAM: Mardi Gras Celebration!

Fun & Fellowship! .

Sign up online or call the church office!



Welcome new member Claire Boetz, pictured with her husband, Rob Boetz! Claire joined FPC on Sunday, January 9th.

Created in Christ to do *good works*

Ephesians 2:10

Northeast Georgia Health System Foundation



The Northeast Georgia Health System (NGHS) Foundation is a not-for-profit 501c(3) organization. Tax-deductible donations to the NGHS Foundation help support all four of Northeast Georgia Medical Center's community hospitals and the entire Health System. The Foundation was founded in 1986 and is led by a volunteer Board of Trustees and has contributed millions of dollars of support to health system improvements, community benefit programs, and partner organizations. Gifts to the NGHS Foundation enhance and improve the health of the community in numerous ways through their current campaign 'We are Growing for the Greater Good!' Funds help to enhance current or future locations, bring support to innovative programs like heart and vascular or neurosciences, and ensure that the community has the emergency services it needs – inside and outside of the hospital. The focus of the Growing for the Greater Good projects is on the people: the patients, visitors, employees, physicians, and the entire community. Visit www.nghs.com/foundation/ for more information and ways to give.

Northeast Georgia Medical Center, Gainesville



Northeast Georgia Health System continues to recruit volunteers to serve in designated service areas within the medical center. There are many opportunities to serve and include those positions with patient contact and no patient contact. College students, adult volunteers, retired persons, and even teens can find a place to match their interests and feel needed and fulfilled. Those who are interested in volunteering can fill out the interest form at <https://www.nghs.com/interested-in-volunteering/> or call the Volunteer Services office at 770-219-1830.

Note: Volunteers are carefully screened. The screening process includes a volunteer application, interview, criminal background check, and medical requirements. Volunteers typically work a four-hour shift once a week, although some serve twice a week and others every other week.

Hospice of Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC)

Hospice of NGMC provides palliative home care for persons with life limiting illness. The professional staff of Hospice of NGMC provides care that focuses on patient comfort and quality of life at the end of life. Patients and families are empowered to achieve as much control over their lives as possible. Hospice care provides nursing service, management of a patient's pain and other symptoms, assistance for the patient and family regarding the emotional and psychosocial aspects of dying, medical supplies and equipment, personal care assistance, spiritual care, and so many other services. The team that provides these services includes doctors, nurses, social worker, bereavement counselor, chaplain, the patient, the family or caregiver, community members specially trained as volunteers, and other healthcare workers as needed.

Volunteer opportunities: Volunteers provide companionship to the patients at their home or nursing home. Volunteers can also help in the hospice office preparing medicine boxes, writing cards, preparing newsletters for mailing, making stuffed bears for patients, and many other activities geared towards the talents and skills of the volunteer. For more information, see the website at www.nghs.com/hospice/.

Dates to Remember

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Thursday, February 3rd-1:00 pm. PW Coordinating Team Zoom Meeting

Monday, February 7th – Morning Bible Study Group Social Time: 9-45-10:10 am. Bible Study: 10:15-11:15 am. We meet in Swetenburg Hall. Discussion on Lesson #6 in our Horizon Bible study book will be led by Rev. Dr. Margaret Turney-Ayer.

Tuesday, February 8th – 7 p.m. –Evening Bible Study Group. We meet in Room 303. We will also be studying Lesson #6 in the Horizon Bible study book.

February PW Mission Project – Gainesville Community Food Pantry: Established in 1973, this non-profit organization is run by volunteers from several local churches. The purpose of the Food Pantry is to assist local families and individuals who find themselves unable to provide a sustainable amount of food for themselves. The pantry serves an average of 2,400 or more families/individuals a year. Your financial donation will help buy food as well as non-food items that are essential to people in need. Make your check out to: Presbyterian Women and in the remarks line put "Gainesville Community Food Pantry." Bring your donation to our February Bible Study Groups or drop it off at the church office. You may also mail it to the church office attention: Church Accountant.



THE SESSION

Reverend Lee Koontz, Moderator
Jim Robison, Clerk of Session

CLASS OF 2022

Chris Cousens	Stacy Morley
Lynne Plummer	Kevin Price
Cathy Vining	Greg Wren

CLASS OF 2023

Dawn Fulenwider	Andrea Jones
Jim Robison	Karen Schaap
Jack Spencer	Joe Thompson

CLASS OF 2024

Tina de Waart	Bill Youngblood
Lynn Hulsey	Jack Griffeth
Lori McBride	Bill St. George



THE DIACONATE

CLASS OF 2022

Steve Bunn	Barbara Case
Jane Davenport	Cathy Finch
Susannah McBride	Barry Sanders
Jason Shoaf	Scott Stowers

CLASS OF 2023

Haydee Anderson	Wilson Golden
Rachel Greenwalt	Kimberly Hulsey
Bonnie Rary	Justin Reynolds
Dan Schaap	Ches Tredway

CLASS OF 2024

Marcia Price	Louise Robison
Betty Shuster	Jill Robinson
Ebot Agborsangaya	

WELCOME

new officers

The Session, Class of 2024

Jack Griffeth grew up in Jackson County and joined the church in 1995 after a move to Gainesville from Seattle then Charlotte. He has served as Elder, World Mission Conference co-chairman with his wife Barbara, Youth Sunday School teacher and volunteer, Family Promise volunteer and host, leader and volunteer for youth trips and missions, Medical Director of annual Dominican Republic Medical/Dental mission trips, Board member of Solid Rock International and founding and enthusiastic (shameless harmonica player!) for Morning Light Band. But wait...there's more!!...Jack is an avid bike rider, outdoor enthusiast, grandpa of 9, elk hunter, skier, kiteboarder, fisherman, husband, son of 94 year old mother, brother and Dad.

Lori McBride has been a member of FPC for 41 years. She has served on the Diaconate, taught Sunday School, and has been an active participant in the Chancel Choir and the Chancel Ringers. She currently serves on the Missions Committee as the youth representative. Lori teaches 7th Grade Science at North Hall Middle. She is married to Walt, and they have two daughters, Susannah (24) and Gracie (21).

Tina de Waart has been a member of FPC for five years during which she served as a deacon in the Community Outreach Committee. She is also actively involved in our Local Missions Emphasis Committee and is a faithful office volunteer. She is being ordained as an Elder and will serve on the finance committee. Tina is retired and lives in Dawsonville with her dog Sparky and her two cats, Coco and Diamond.

Bill Youngblood was born and raised in Concord, NC and was a member of 1st Presbyterian Church of Concord. Has been a member of FPC for ten years and been active as a small group member. Bill was formerly a deacon, elder, small group leader and Sunday school teacher at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Roswell. Bill is being ordained as an elder and will be serving on the Building and Grounds committee. He is married to Terry and has two grown children- one living in Marietta and the other in Fairhope, AL -as well as his grandson in Fairhope. He is retired from working for a large industrial manufacturer in Alpharetta and owning and operating a home care business in Gainesville.

Originally from Norfolk, Virginia, **Lynn Hulsey** has been a member of FPC for 49 years. She is a retired RN who worked in the ER for 25 years. During her time at FPC, she has been a member of the Evening Circle, Presbyterian Women, the Flower Guild, the Endowment Committee (Case worker), the Diaconate, and the Evangelism Committee. She is now being installed as an elder, and will be serving on the Evangelism Committee. She and her husband Mike have two children: Amy & Sam, & three grandchildren.

Bill St George was born and raised in Charlotte and is a life-long Presbyterian. He has served as an Elder in 3 former churches and will be on the Finance and Faith Development Ministries here. He and wife, Peggy, have been members since they moved to Gainesville 3.5 years ago. They have 3 grown children, all in the Atlanta area, and 2 grandchildren.

Continued on back...

WELCOME

new officers

The Diaconate, Class of 2024

Originally from Springfield, Virginia, **Jill Robison** has been a member of FPC for 25 years. During that time, Jill has served as Secretary of the Diaconate, on the Fellowship Committee, as a Youth Group Small Group Leader, and has volunteered in the Church Office. Jill is now being ordained as a deacon, and will serve on the Congregational Care Committee. Jill is employed at the Gainesville Milling Company. She is married to Wes Robinson, and together they have raised three children: Madeline (24), Hank (22) and Vivian (20).

Originally from Tupelo, Mississippi, **Betty Shuster** has been a member of FPC for 25 years. During that time she has been active in the Presbyterian Women, serving as a Circle Leader for 4 years, and helping with the Bereavement committee. She is now being ordained as a Deacon and will be serving on the Fellowship Committee. She is a retired Counselor, and has volunteered at My Sisters Place, the Edmonson Telford Center, and at Northeast Georgia Medical Center for 24 years. She is married to David, and they have 2 children, Steven and Susan, and 3 teenage grandchildren, Ryan, Matthew, and Elisa.

Ebot Agborsangaya is a junior at Gainesville High School. His hobbies include photography and all sports but he especially loves football. He is active in the youth group at First Presbyterian Church.

Louise Robison was born in Chapel Hill, NC, and grew up in Chattanooga, TN. She is a lifelong Presbyterian and has served in Christian Education in three churches. Louise joined FPC in 1999 and has served in the areas of Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry, World Mission Conference, Family Camp, Vacation Bible School, and has been a substitute Sunday school teacher. She is being installed as a deacon, having previously served FPC in that capacity, and will be a member of the Community Outreach Committee. Louise is married to Jim and is the mother of Ginny and Emily. She works at Northeast Georgia Medical Center, as Coordinator for Volunteer Services.

15 years ago, **Marcia** married Kevin Price, a lifelong member of First Presbyterian. Prior to her marriage and career change to homemaker and caregiver, she worked in Adult Education at 4 different United Methodist churches. The most recent position was as director of Ministry Development at First UMC, Gainesville.

Marcia brought her son, Trevor, into the new family. Kevin adopted him. Trevor and his wife, Katie, gave them their first grandchild this year! When Elijah was baptized this past July, he became the 5th generation of Prices to be part of FPC. Kevin's daughters, Rachel and Meghan are also members at First Presbyterian. Marcia will serve on the Community Outreach Committee. She also enjoys singing in the choir, ringing with the handbell choir, and supporting local and global missions.



We wish to thank our FPC family for the compassion and love that you have expressed for us through your prayers, cards, calls, visits and donations. The loss of our daughter, Sandee, has been devastating but we have felt God's peace and comfort because of your continued prayers, support, and expressions of love at this difficult time. We love all of you and we are so grateful to have you in our lives. Thank you.

Blessings,

Garry and Margaret McGlaun



DONATIONS RECEIVED

In Memory of...

In memory of Tom Reid

Doris & Daniel Robertson

Glenda Pierce

Marshall & Bobbylea Pennington

Anonymous

Ed & Sharon Rugg

Susan Butterfield & Diana

Robertson

In memory of Janet Cornelson

Glenda Pierce

Frank and Alice Alley would like to thank the congregation for their support and prayers during Frank's stroke. They are happy to report that Frank is doing very well and active again. They would love to hear from you!

Frank & Alice Alley

337 L' Atrium Circle

Miramar Beach, FL 32550

678-316-5319 or 678-316-5318

easternair91@gmail.com

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

www.fpcga.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FINE ARTS SERIES PRESENTS

Jillian Gardner in recital



Organ Recital | Friday, February 11th | 7:30pm

800 S. Enota Drive NE. | Free admission
(Donations accepted)

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
Benji Stegner, Music Director/Organist.....	36
Debbie Holcombe, Administrator.....	11
Libby Christiansen, Admin. Asst.....	23
JoAnn Watson, Accountant.....	14
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	
Hope Testament, Director of Bells	

Web address: www.fpcga.org/

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

THE CALL ARTICLES are due on the 15th of each month for the monthly newsletter. Please submit your article to Libby at lchristiansen@fpcga.org