

SMALL BOOKS BIG GOSPEL

JULY 19, 2026
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
COVINGTON, GA

✠ You are invited to stand in body OR in spirit



Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Prelude and Fugue in A Minor

J.S. Bach

Faith of Our Fathers

Dennis R. Johnson

My Heart Ever Faithful

J.S. Bach

Invitation to Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

I Love to Tell the Story

Michael J. Glasgow

Welcome & Announcements

✠ Call to Worship

Beloved,

let us build ourselves up in our most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.

We come to worship, grounded in God's truth and kept in God's love.

As we wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us show mercy to others.

With grateful hearts,

we worship the God who is sovereign and extends us grace.

Let us worship the Lord! Amen.

✠ Hymn of Praise 321

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

✠ Call to Confession

Chuck Williams

✠ Community Confession

Merciful God,

You have called us to uphold the teachings of Jesus and to remain in

Your love. Yet we confess that we have often been distracted by the

ways of the world, slow to pray, and hesitant to show mercy. We have not always stood firm in Your truth or reflected Your compassion to those in need.

Forgive us, Lord. Build us up in our most holy faith, renew us by Your Spirit, and keep us steadfast in the love of Christ. By Your mercy, make us faithful witnesses to Your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ **Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness**

Church, we are forgiven!

We are free to try again.

✠ **Hymn 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

We invite our children to come forward and to play shakers during this song!

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

✠ **Passing of the Peace**

At this time, you are invited to greet your neighbor! Share the peace of the Lord with a hello, high-five, handshake, hug, or however else you feel called!

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you!



Proclaiming the Word

Wondering with God's Children

Anthem

Praise You
Mark Fiddie, solo

by Wayne & Elizabeth Goodine

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding

New Testament Reading

Jude 1:3-4, 17-23

Pew Bible page 244

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Message

Small Book, Big Gospel: Jude

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



Responding to the Word

✠Hymn of Response 756

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Chuck Williams

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Commissioning

Mission Mania Leaders & Volunteers

Offering Our Gifts: An Invitation to Generosity

You are invited to "Text to Give" your offering! Text FPCCOV to: 73256 and
follow the link to give online or scan the QR Code to visit the giving page!
Select **"2026 Pledge"** if you made a pledge during stewardship season.
Select "Non-Pledge" for a general offering.*



Offertory

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Alice Walker, organ

ROYAL OAK

✠ **Response 606**

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication & Gratitude



Being the Church in the World

✠ **Sending Hymn 634**

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

***To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.***

***Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father
through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory:
great things he has done!***

***Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
(Refrain)***

✠ **Charge & Benediction**

✠ **Postlude**

O Teacher, Master of the Skill

Thomas Tallis



Worship Practices

Small Books, Big Gospel - A four-part series from Jonah P. Overton on some of the Bible's briefest books. The shortest books in the Bible don't pull any punches. These letters and visions may be brief, but they're fierce - wrestling with justice, power, community, and the gospel's radical call. Some are warm and intimate. Others are weird, wild or downright engaging. But all of them have something urgent to say. These books challenge us. They remind us that the Bible isn't afraid to take risks and make us uncomfortable. And if we let them, these books might just change how we understand the gospel itself - calling us to deeper belonging, sharper discernment, and a holy, liberating resistance to the powers of the world.

First time visiting? We're so glad you're here! - Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor Card in the pew pocket in front of you. After worship, let us know it's your first time—we have a gift for you with info about our church and a free treat from The Little Rabbit Bake Shop!

Want to learn more about our church family, baptism, communion, or Bible study? Just mark it on the card, we'd love to connect with you!

Offering Cards - The offering is an act of worship! We encourage you to place something in the offering plate as it comes to you. Throughout the pews you will find a selection of "offering cards" which we invite you to use to share how you intend to be a good steward this week. *Visit* with us as a newcomer by sharing about yourself or your family. *Pray* with us by offering a prayer which will be shared with the pastor. *Serve* with us by telling us how you will use your time and talent this week. Or *Give* with us by placing either a card to represent your online gift or physical cash or check offering. These offering cards are an invitation to generosity!

Accessibility - A limited supply of large print worship guides are available in the narthex. If you'd like to learn about connecting your Bluetooth hearing aids to our Sanctuary sound system, we invite you to talk to our Tech Team.

Use - One License #A-728728 authorizes the use of music printed in our worship guide and streamed online. *Messages and data rates may apply when using Text to Give. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.



Serving Today

Usher Chair | Chuck Williams

Tech Team | Dan Walden, Kraig Howell

Acolytes | Rose Ralston, Emmaline Whisnant

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	<i>Senior Pastor & Head of Staff</i>
Mark Fiddie	<i>Dir. of Music & Worship Arts</i>
Denise Gabriel	<i>Dir. of First Presbyterian Community Preschool</i>
Peni Kehoe	<i>Finance Administrator</i>
Catherine Laseter	<i>Dir. of Communications & Operations</i>
Riley Taylor	<i>Dir. of Children & Youth</i>
Alice Walker	<i>Organist CAGO, AAGO</i>
Chuck Williams	<i>Parish Associate</i>

Nursery Staff

Hattie Bellinger
Akeelah Fletcher
Jahniyah Greene
Laina Lalane
Sarah Puckett
Shelby Sharpe
Jordyn Williams
Sylvia Woods

Emergency Response Team

In the event of an emergency including tornado, fire, intruder, and medical emergencies, the Emergency Response Team will lead the church's response and may be identified by wearing yellow visibility vests. If these people are not present for an emergency secondary responders will wear ERT vests. Please follow any directions given by the following people in the event of an emergency:

Primary Point Person—Neeley Rentz Lane

Facility/Security Response—Kenny Compton, Stan Hall, John McCarthy

Medical Response—Nichole Howell, Pam Stillerman

Officers

Reaching Out

Sara Chini	<i>Witness (2026)</i>
Yvonne Hill-Davenport	<i>Witness (2028)</i>
Stephanie Scarborough	<i>Witness (2027)</i>
Bob Tabb	<i>Thriving Congregations (2028)</i>

Engaging

Krista Firkus	<i>Faith Formation (2027)</i>
Hardy Fortson Sideris	<i>Worship (2027)</i>
Chuck Williams	<i>Faith Formation (2028)</i>
Angie Woodham	<i>Worship (2028)</i>

Belonging

Gary Boteler	<i>Finance (2027)</i>
Pam Stillerman	<i>Welcome (2026)</i>
Bethany Wells	<i>Welcome (2028)</i>

Connecting (Deacons)

Cathy Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Denny Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Beverly Kratz	<i>Faith & Fellowship (2028)</i>
Darcel Tabb	<i>Faith & Fellowship (2027)</i>

More

Jodi Atkins	<i>Preschool (2026)</i>
Kenny Compton	<i>Facilities (2026)</i>
Jo Anna Fish	<i>Personnel (2027)</i>
John McCarthy	<i>Clerk of Session</i>



1169 Clark Street SW, Covington, GA 30014
fpccov.org 770-786-7321

Come Welcome Riley!

SUNDAY, JULY 26

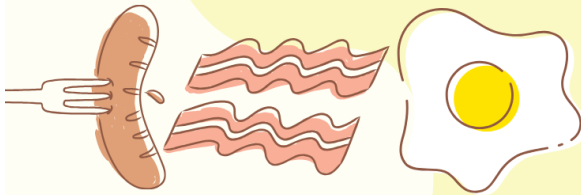
Join us after worship in the fellowship hall for punch & cookies as we welcome our new

*Director of Children & Youth
Riley Taylor!*

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH

8:00AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



RSVP to Chuck
by emailing
chuck@fpccov.org
or by filling out a
"Serve" card for
the offering plate!



CPR AND FIRST AID CERTIFICATION CLASS

Thursday, July 30th at 10:00am
in the Fellowship Hall
Childcare provided!

RSVP to Neeley!
neeley@fpccov.org



FPC KIDS *Sunday, July 26*
CABIN DAY *5:00pm*
at the Weesner's Cabin
RSVP with Neeley to get the address

Sunday, July 19

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Undie Sunday for Foster Care

9:45am Summer Sunday School

10:30am Summer Choir

11:00am Worship

Monday, July 20–Friday, July 24

Mission Mania

Monday, July 20

4:30pm Faith Formation Team Meeting

5:30pm FPCP Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 21

5:30pm Kids Pool Party

Wednesday, July 22

3:30pm Staff Meeting

Thursday, July 23

4:00pm Finance Team Meeting

Saturday, July 25

9:00am Meals on Wheels delivery

Sunday, July 26

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45am Summer Sunday School

10:30pm Summer Choir

11:00am Worship

12:00pm Welcome Riley!

5:00pm Kids' Cabin Day

Monday, July 27

12:00pm Pastoral Care Team Meeting

5:30pm 200th Anniversary Planning Team

Tuesday, July 28

12:00pm Lectio Divina

Wednesday, July 29

10:00am Coffee Club

Thursday, July 30

10:00am CPR & First Aid Certification Class

Sunday, August 2

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45am Heavenly Prep Workshop

9:45am LAST Summer Sunday School

10:30am LAST Summer Choir

11:00am Worship

12:00pm Popsicles on the Lawn

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

Requests will be moved to "ongoing" after three weeks unless the office is notified.

- ✦ Lauren Egeland, loved one of Lily Wells - cancer treatment
- ✦ Ashley Hamby, friend of Miriam Wheeler
- ✦ Carol Joe, mother of Audra Ralston - recovering from hip surgery
- ✦ Peter McIntosh, friend of Chuck & Bob - medical procedure
- ✦ Bob Woodham, Poppop of Braden Woodham - moving to GA with family
- ✦ Pat Woodham, grandma of Braden Woodham - stage 4 cancer
- ✦ Angie, friend of John Leavitt

Ongoing prayer requests

Requests will be removed after six weeks unless the office is notified.

- ✦ Ed Perkerson - early Parkinson's
- ✦ Robert Burnside, family of Paisley Lane
- ✦ Joe Denny, friend of Mary Hatfield - cancer
- ✦ Quintiss Johnson, loved one of Lily Wells

- ✦ Ron Layton, brother of Randy Layton - a-fib issues
- ✦ Addison & Eryn Storelli, infant & great-niece of Denny & Cathy Dobbs - complications with birth
- ✦ Graham Wade, son of Theodosia & Billy Wade - recovering from herniated disc back surgery
- ✦ Anne Cranford - cancer
- ✦ Ella Coleman, student of Abby Hutchinson - recovering from heart surgery
- ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining
- ✦ Tootles Tingle - knee problems
- ✦ Mark Wells, loved one of Lily Wells
- ✦ Patrick Carmichael
- ✦ Danny Vining - prostate cancer treatment
- ✦ Ricky, friend of John Leavitt - recovering from colon surgery
- ✦ Brandon Vining, son of Danny & Beth Vining - prostate cancer treatment

Condolences

- ✦ Our prayers are with those mourning the loss of former member Grant Moss following his passing on June 30, 2026.

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Reid Buckelew - Benton House
- ✦ Tom Crews - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Sarah Davis - Merryvale Assisted Living
- ✦ Lee Ellen Digby - Pruitt Health
- ✦ Jean Elder - Florida with her daughter
- ✦ Dot Fincher - Madison, GA
- ✦ Louly Hay - Presbyterian Village Athens
- ✦ Carol McGiboney - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Jon Paschal - Annandale Village
- ✦ Lynda Patrick - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Louise White - Prema at Ashton Hills

Military Service

- ✦ Koen Ardis - Navy
- ✦ Benjamin Iannucci, III - Air Force

Prayer requests and updates

may be given the pastor, put in the offering plate, or emailed to catherine@fpccov.org

Summer Sunday School at 9:45am!

Adults: Feasting on the Word curriculum in the Gathering Room!

Youth: Meet in the narthex then to Bread & Butter for coffee & conversation!

Children: Regular Sunday School through the summer!

Summer Choir at 10:30am: Help us prepare to lead the hymns in worship!

August 2nd | 9:45am

RSVP to Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane
to neeley@fpccov.org

Heavenly
Prep:

A Workshop for
End of Life Planning

All are invited to join us for this workshop to receive practical tools and worksheets for End of Life Planning.



MISSION MANIA

Donations needed for CASA activity bags:

- Board games
- Playing cards
- Little arts & crafts
- Coloring books

Bring items to the narthex
by July 20

