October 25, 2026

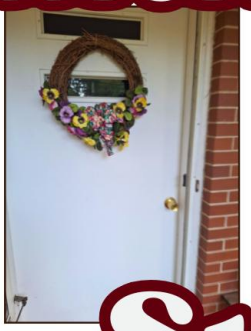
Stewardship Season

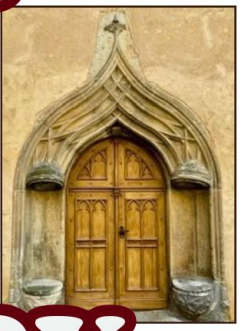
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Commitment Sunday










First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA







✞ *You are invited to stand in body OR in spirit*

❖

Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Gavotte (from the Sixth Suite for Cello) — J.S. Bach
O God, Our Help in Ages Past — William Croft
Spirit of the Living God — Daniel Iverson
Alice Walker, organ

Invitation to Worship

Invitational Music

You've Got a Friend by Carol King
Ansley Stewart

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Lead on, O King Eternal — Henry Smart
Alice Walker, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Moment for Stewardship — Jo Anna Fish

✞Call to Worship

We gather as God's people,
called by grace, renewed by faith, and united in Christ.
We come to glorify God and enjoy God forever!
Long ago, Moses called the people to bring their gifts, their talents,
and their willing hearts to build a place for God to dwell.
Today, God calls us to bring our gifts, our talents,
and our willing hearts to build up the Church!
On this Reformation Sunday,
we remember that the Church is always being reformed by the Holy Spirit,
called to new possibilities and faithful service.
We are the Church, called to serve, to give, to love, and to grow!

So come, people of God!
Bring your willing hearts, your generous spirits, and your joyful praise!
With gratitude for all God has done and hope for all God will do, let us worship the Lord!

✞Hymn of Praise 693 *Though I May Speak* GIFT OF LOVE

✞Call to Confession Chuck Williams

✞Community Confession

Gracious and Loving God,
You have called us to be workers in your kingdom, to use the gifts you have given us to build up your Church and serve your world. You have blessed us with resources, talents, time, and opportunities to join in the work of your kingdom.
Yet, we confess that too often we fall short of our commitments. We say we will serve, but our schedules become crowded. We promise to give, but we become distracted by the demands of life. We hoard our resources, forgetting that all we have comes from you. We become so focused on building our own lives that we neglect the work you have called us to do together.
Forgive us, O God, when our words of commitment are not followed by faithful action. Forgive us when we allow fear, busyness, and self-interest to keep us from participating in the work of your Church.
Reform us once again, O God. Renew our sense of purpose, strengthen our commitment, and remind us that each of us has a part in the building of your kingdom. May we be faithful workers, generous stewards, and joyful participants in the work you are doing among us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our foundation and cornerstone, we pray. 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 Riley Taylor

Anthem *The Goodness of God* by Carl Phillip Emanuel Bach
Krista Firkus, solo

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 35:30-36:7* Pew Bible page 82

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Message *Workers for the Build* Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

❖

Responding to the Word

✙Response 301 *Let Us Build a House* TWO OAKS

Verses 1, 2, 4, 5

Affirmation of Faith *excerpt from the Confession of 1967 PCUSA* Chuck Williams

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever."

Prayers of the People

For our prayers for the people today, we invite you to write prayers for our church, our community, and our world on the building blocks provided. You can lift up names, ministries, joys and concerns.

Prayer Music *Thank You for Being a Friend* by Andrew Gold

Ansley Stewart

The Commitment of Our Treasures

You should have received a pledge card and a Time & Talent survey in your worship guide today. We invite you to walk these, your offering, and/or your prayer brick to the front of the Sanctuary and place it on the Lord 's Table! If you've already submitted your pledge, we pray that bringing your brick forward or writing your prayer for 2027 in the space provided on the back of the pledge card for the Lord's Table will give you the chance to take part in this symbolic commitment of our time, talents and treasures.

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 last year's stewardship season. Select "Non-Pledge" for a general offering.*

Offertory *Grateful* Red Clay Strays

Anley Stewart

✞Hymn of Response 711 *Lord of All Good* TOULON

Prayer of Dedication & Gratitude

❖

Being the Church in the World

✞Sending Hymn 700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

✞Charge & Benediction

✞Postlude *O Worship the King* HANOVER

Alice Walker, organ

❖

Worship Practices

Commitment Jamboree – As you head down to Fellowship Hall after worship today, you'll receive two tickets per person!

Blue ticket: BBQ food truck **White ticket: Popsicle truck**

Face painting and caricatures will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

We're excited to celebrate generosity, fellowship, and the joy of being together with our church family. We can't wait to celebrate with you today

Stewardship – This year's stewardship theme, Beyond the Bricks, reminds us that the church is so much more than the building where we gather on Sunday mornings. The church is also what happens when we walk out its doors and carry God's love into our community. Our theme invites us to consider: What are the building blocks of our faith? How have our homes, families, church, and community shaped us? And how do those building blocks teach us to be good stewards of all that God has given us—our time, talents, resources, relationships.

By considering how you plan to offer your time, talent, and treasures in 2027 and sharing your intentions, we are able to build our church budget and calendar in a way that reflects our whole church!

Worship Art - This year, as we celebrate stewardship at FPC, we are thinking Beyond the Bricks and celebrating the homes, people, and gifts that help build us into a community of faith. Our worship guide art is composed of photographs of doors that are meaningful to our church family. This serves as a reminder that while each of our doors may look different, together they represent the many people, homes, stories, and gifts that make up our church family.

Every door tells a story. Every person brings a gift. Together, we are building something remarkable as the church of Jesus Christ.

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 - 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 | Yvonne Hill-Davenport
Tech Team | Kenny Compton, Laramy Wells
Acolytes | Thornton Holder, Kali Smith, Nova Puckett

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
COVINGTON, GA
1169 Clark Street SW, Covington, GA 30014
fpccov.org 770-786-7321

First Prebyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	*Senior Pastor & Head of Staff*	
Mark Fiddie	*Dir. of Music & Worship Arts*	***Nursery Staff***
Denise Gabriel	*Dir. of First Presbyterian Community Preschool*	Hattie Bellinger
		Jahniyah Greene
Peni Kehoe	*Finance Administrator*	Kyler King
Catherine Laseter	*Dir. of Communications & Operations*	Kennedy Lynn
		Sarah Puckett
Riley Taylor	*Dir. of Children & Youth*	Shelby Sharpe
Alice Walker	*Organist CAGO, AAGO*	Sylvia Woods
Chuck Williams	*Parish Associate*	

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 *Nursery—Riley Taylor*
Medical Response—Nichole Howell, Pam Stillerman
Facility/Security Response—Kenny Compton, Stan Hall, John McCarthy, Starr Puckett, Chuck Williams

Officers

Reaching Out	
Sara Chini	*Witness (2026)*
Yvonne Hill-Davenport	*Witness (2028)*
Stephanie Scarborough	*Witness (2027)*
Bob Tabb	*Thriving Congregations (2028)*
Engaging	
Krista Firkus	*Faith Formation (2027)*
Hardy Fortson Sideris	*Worship (2027)*
Chuck Williams	*Faith Formation (2028)*
Angie Woodham	*Worship (2028)*
Belonging	
Gary Boteler	*Finance (2027)*
Pam Stillerman	*Welcome (2026)*
Bethany Wells	*Welcome (2028)*
Connecting (Deacons)	
Cathy Dobbs	*Pastoral Care (2027)*
Denny Dobbs	*Pastoral Care (2027)*
Beverly Kratz	*Faith & Fellowship (2028)*
Darcel Tabb	*Faith & Fellowship (2027)*
More	
Jodi Atkins	*Preschool (2026)*
Kenny Compton	*Facilities (2026)*
Jo Anna Fish	*Personnel (2027)*
John McCarthy	*Clerk of Session*

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

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

- John Leavitt - hospital
- Betty, loved one of Debi Selin - stroke
- Claudette Jones, loved one of Debi Selin
- Leigh, friend of Denise Gabriel - lung cancer
- Pat Harper - recovering from surgery
- Caroline Harper, daughter of Pat Harper
- Margie Shepherd, friend of Miriam Wheeler - ICU
- Bob Woodham, grandfather of Braden Woodham - recovering from fall

Ongoing prayer requests

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

- Judi Barton, mother of Perri Walden - stroke & rehab
- Debby Barr, friend of Jo Anna Fish - brain cancer
- Wesley Ralston, father of Josh Ralston - recovering from heart attack
- Danny Vining - recovering from heart catheterization
- Betty Smith, friend of Stephanie Scarborough & former member - hospice
- Cathy Elvin, loved one of Susan & David Flory - stage IV cancer
- Miriam Wheeler
- Robert Burnside, family of Paisley Lane - stemcell transplant
- Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining
- Dan Lindsey - lung cancer treatment
- Michelle Whitaker, daughter-in-law of Judy & David Pettis - lung issues
- Anne Cranford
- Philip Abston, father of Mary Catherine Whisnant - blood cancer treatment
- Jim Carpenter, son-in-law of Beverly & Dan Kratz - leukemia diagnosis
- Kim Julius, friend of Meghan Usry - stage IV cancer
- Ed Perkerson - early Parkinson's

Condolences

- Our prayers are with the loved ones of Sarah Davis, including her daughter Anne Cranford, as they mourn Sarah's passing on October 17th. A service was held on October 22nd.
- Our prayers are with Ruth Frankena and her loved ones as they mourn the passing of her sister, Barbara Blouw.
- Our prayer are with Tina Boston, Paige Gibbins, and their loved ones as they mourn the passing of Brian Stolloff.
- Our prayers are with the loved ones of Lee Ellen Digby, including her daughter, Terri Digby, as they mourn Lee Ellen's passing on October, 5th. A service was held on October 10th.

Independent and Assisted Living

- Reid Buckelew - Merryvale Assisted Living
- Tom Crews - Prema at Ashton Hills
- 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
- Bob Woodham - 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



Sunday School

Sunday School classes are held at 9:45am.
Children's Class (PreK-4th)
Youth Class (5th+)
Foundations Adult Class
The Wired WORD

First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA
American Red Cross Blood Drive
Tuesday, November 10th 12:00PM-5:00PM
Fellowship Hall

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).
You may also use the Red Cross Donor App and enter sponsor code: firstprescov.

Journaling Workshop: Writing for Resilience

Saturday, November 14
10:00am-12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Led by Neeley Rentz Lane
Open to High School Youth & Adults
Free to all
Please bring a journal with blank/unlined pages

Signup with Neeley by November 10.
Childcare provided.

Presbyterian Women

Elizabeth Ann Circle: *Meets Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5*
1st Tues. at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall & on Zoom!

Martha Circle: *Meets Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5*
1st Tues. at 10:30am in the homes of circle members!

Rahab Circle: *Meets Nov. 4, Dec. 2, Jan. 6*
1st Wed. at 6:30pm in the Parlor. Childcare included!

Share what "home" means to you for our 2026 Advent Devotional!

This year we are creating our own Advent devotional around the theme of "Home for the Holidays" and we'd love for you to contribute to it! Check the e-news or the narthex for more informtaion!



	Sunday, October 25
	Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
	Commitment Sunday!
9:45am	Sunday School
9:45am	Officer Training
11:00am	Worship - Beyond the Bricks Stewardship
12:00pm	Commitment Jamboree!
5:00pm	Trunk or Treat
	Monday, October 26
	Donate candy for Trick or Treat on Legion
	Submit names for All Saints' Sunday
4:00pm	PW Leadership Planning Meeting
Tuesday, October 27	
12:00pm	Lectio Divina - Pastor's Bible Study
	Wednesday, October 28
10:00am	Coffee Club
10:00am	FPCP Chapel
3:30pm	Staff Meeting
5:30pm	Handbell Choir
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
	Friday, October 30
10:00am	Sensory Friendly Trick or Treat on Legion
12:00pm	FPCP Costume Parade
	Saturday, October 31
2:00pm	Trick or Treat on Legion Field
	Sunday, November 1
	Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
	All Saints' Sunday
9:45am	Sunday School
11:00am	Worship - All Saints' Sunday
4:00pm	Blessing of the Animals

SOUL FEAST

DO YOU MAKE THE BEST CHILI? ENTER OUR

CHILI COOK-OFF

BY SENDING YOUR NAME AND TYPE OF CHILI TO DARCEL TABB

NOV. 11

5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall

RSVP by Nov. 9th by emailing catherine@fpccov.org or by putting a "Serve" card with your name in the offering plate

Adults: $8
Kids: $5
Family max: $30

Everyone is invited to join our LOGOS kids for Western night and wear your best cowboy/cowgirl attire!

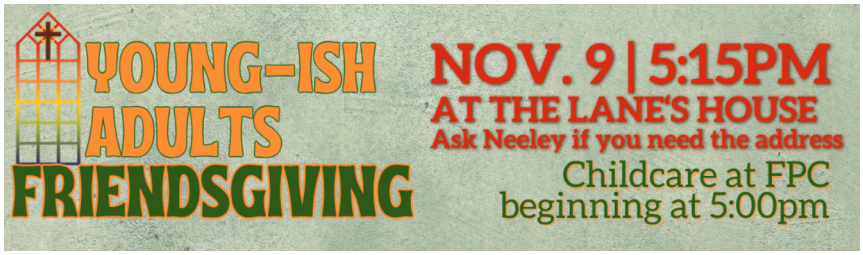
BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

SUNDAY, NOV. 1ST AT 4:00PM ON THE PLAYGROUND

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 1st

Submit names of loved ones who have passed within the last year by emailing catherine@fpccov.org
OR by writing their names & "All Saints" on a "Pray" card for the offering plate.
Submission deadline to be included in the bulletin is October 26th



We will have a table at Trick or Treat on Legion Field! Contact Sara Chini to voluteer. We will be there for the 2:00pm-4:00pm event on Halloween (Saturday, Oct. 31) AND for the sensory-friendly event on Friday, Oct. 30 from 10:00am-12:30pm!

You are invited to bring candy donations to the narthex by October 26



Beyond the Bricks

First Name(s) _____

Last Name_____

Address_____

City_____Zip _____

Email _____

Phone_____

For 2027, I/we will give:

_____ dollars

weekly monthly annually

(circle one)

This pledge may be revised at anytime by notifying our Finance Administrator

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Thanks to your gift of money, FPC can continue existing to glorify God by welcoming all of God's children through serving, teaching, praying, eating, crying, singing, and dancing with the Holy Spirit.

"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." ~ 1 John 3:18

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA

Be the church beyond the bricks,

loving one another and loving our neighbors through our words, our resources, and our actions.

In 2027, I pray that God will work through FPC so that together we can...

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA

Time & Talent SURVEY

FPC STEWARDSHIP 2027

Beyond the Bricks

Giving our ***Time & Talent*** is an expression of gratitude for all the gifts God has given us. As God's children we get to participate in God's work as a community and a church.

By Reaching Out, Engaging, Connecting, and Belonging we can reach our goal together!

Name _____

Birthdate _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Currently at FPC I am ___a member ___an active visitor ___looking to become a member

___ Check here if you typically need childcare so we can better plan for our nursery!

Listed below are the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church. Please check the areas where you feel called to serve then return this form to the office or offering plate. A digital version of this form is available at fpccov.org/stewardship and in the e-news. Where can you use your talents to help make us all faithful stewards of God's church? ***Check ANY and ALL that call to you!***

___Serve on the Witness Team

___Join the Sandwich Ministry

___Deliver Meals on Wheels

___Volunteer at the Community Food Pantry

___Join the Mission Mania Planning Team

___Volunteer at Blood Drives

___Clean up Newton Trails

___Deliver to community partners following donation drives

___Participate in Thriving Congregations Team's advocacy work for the unhoused

___Help with community events (Change the World Day, Trick or Treat at Legion, 5K water tables, etc.)

___Decorate our tree for Lights at Legion Field

___Serve on the Faith & Fellowship Team

___ Help at Soul Feast

___Join the Church Retreat Planning Team

___Help out with Campfire Church

___Help prep for Lemonade on the Lawn

___Join Wednesday Coffee Club

___Join Presbyterian Women

___Sing with the Singing Ambassadors

___Serve on the Pastoral Care Team

___Participate in SOS Adventures

___Attend Men's Fellowship Breakfast

___Follow up with those on the prayer list

___Help with funerals

___Assist with pastoral care visits

___Assist with at home communion

___Serve the church as an Elder or Deacon

___Serve on a Finance & Stewardship Team

___Finance ___Stewardship

___Endowment ___Audit

___Help count and make church deposits

___Volunteer in the office

___Answer phones ___Prepare mailings

___Help print and prepare worship guide

___Serve on the Worship Team

___Be an Usher

___Read in worship as a Liturgist

___Serve on the Tech Team

___Sing in the Chancel Choir

___Ring in the Handbell Choir

___Play an instrument or sing in worship

___Help decorate the church for Christmas

___Help with Special Worship Services (World Communion, Maundy Thursday, etc.)

___Set up for Communion

___Bake bread for Communion

___Help replenish offering cards in the pews

___Serve on the Facilities & Grounds Team

___Assist on scheduled workdays to clean up around the building

___Help with minor repairs at the church

___Assist with playground maintenance

___Assist with the Memorial Garden

___Water and care for indoor plants

___Pick up the recycling from the church

___Serve on the Emergency Response Team

___Serve on the Welcome Team

___Greet visitors on Sunday mornings

___Reach out to visitors

___Help with new member lunches

___Be a host family for new members

___Help put together welcome bags

___Serve on the Faith Formation Team

___Lectio Divina: Pastor's Bible Study

___Help plan Young-ish Adult activities

___Volunteer with the youth

___Volunteer with children

___Godly Play ___LOGOS ___Nursery

___Acolytes ___Children's Choir

___Provide meals for family ministry activities

___LOGOS ___Youth Group

___Assist with Vacation Bible School

___Organize worship bags for kids

Be a Sunday School Teacher:

___Children ___Youth ___Adults

___Serve on the Preschool Board

___Help prepare classroom materials

___Read to kids as a book buddy

___Help on family nights (open house, book fair, etc.)

___Help with seasonal events (Christmas parade float, trunk or treat, etc.)

We thank you for expressing your thoughtful interest in sharing your Time & Talents with us!

What did we miss?

Other ways I wish to volunteer at First Presbyterian Church

_____

Other ways I am involved in the community

_____