

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

O God, we know that Jesus sent out his disciples without purse, luggage, or sandals. All too often, we find ourselves clinging to possessions we don't need, looking for safety by avoiding risk, and lugging around burdens of toxic guilt. Forgive us for our reluctance to travel by grace and redeem us into the company of the forgiven.

***Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

Hymn 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you.

11:00 a.m. Back-to-School Blessing

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 454, Stanza 1

**Blessed Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you;
let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear you;
by your teachings true and holy,
drawn from earth to love you solely.**

First Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14, page 1066

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

11:00 a.m. Anthem Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

arr. John Rutter

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.
All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody,
God the one in three adoring in glad hymns eternally.
To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with thy wonted lovingkindness hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls away.
Here vouchsafe to all thy servants what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain from thee forever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory evermore with thee to reign.
Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son,
praise and honor to the Spirit, ever three, and ever one,
consubstantial, coeternal, while unending ages run. Amen.

Worshippers may greet each other by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and responding, "And also with you."

After the Back-to-School Blessing at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to Children's Church held in the Children's Ministry Suite.

The anthem is an arrangement of an ancient Latin hymn often used at church dedications. The first stanza refers to the people of God and the third to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune WESTMINSTER ABBEY is aptly named for the edifice where its composer, Henry Purcell, served as organist and is buried.

Second Lesson Luke 10:1-12, 17-20, page 947
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon If FPC Disappeared, Would Anybody Miss It?
Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 419** How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord REPTON

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Blessed Jesus, at Your Word
Johann Sebastian Bach

***Doxology** Hymn 592

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Hymn 419, a reflection on Christian vocation, was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

Next to the Nicene Creed, The Apostles' Creed is the most universally accepted doctrinal statement in Christendom. Although not written by apostles, it reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. Arising from an early baptismal creed, it underwent development, attaining its present form in the eighth century.

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

* Hymn 415	Come, Labor On	ORA LABORA
* Benediction		
* Congregational Response		AR HYD Y NOS
	Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.	
* Postlude	Improvisation on ORA LABORA	John Coble

Texts and music for hymns and
sung responses reprinted under
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A special word of welcome to our guests: thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the fellowship pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

Nurseries for infants and toddlers, available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

To pick up your child from Children's Church after the 11:00 a.m. service, please go to the Children's Ministry Suite located down the stairs in the Atrium, through the glass door to the right.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists

8:45 a.m. Jim Dove

11:00 a.m. Ron Cox

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Bill Woolbright

11:00 a.m. Pam Prokasy

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Randy Dudley (head),
Mary Peace, James Seagraves

11:00 a.m. Phyllis Crowell (head),
Allen Crowell, Jerris Hayes, Ed Law,
Rosemary Stancil, Bo Thurston

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Faye Marshall, Terry Nestor,
John Simpson

11:00 a.m. David Beck, Lillian Beck,
Susan Landrum, Tom Landrum

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Chuck Hunt

BRUNCH HOSTS

Fellowship & Evangelism Commission and
volunteers

FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

TO AID IN WORSHIP

If you need to leave the sanctuary during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium.

Available in the narthex or from an usher:

- **Personal hearing receivers** usable anywhere in the sanctuary
- **Large-print** hymnals, Bibles, bulletins, and hymnsheets
- **Sermons** from the previous six weeks

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office, 706-543-4338, by the Prayer Request link on our church website (firstpresathens.org) or on the prayer cards in the fellowship pads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP@FIRST: FALL KICKOFF BRUNCH, Today, 9:45 a.m.

Join us after the 8:45 a.m. service today for brunch in Fellowship Hall as we look forward to the beginning of our fall activities. Sunday School information will be available.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS

August 19, 9:45 a.m.

Please see the next page for more information.

HONDURAS SHAREHOLDERS' DINNER, August 19, 6:00 p.m.

Our 25 missionaries look forward to sharing their experience with their supporters and any interested in participating or supporting the next trip. RSVP for the dinner by signing the fellowship pad today or emailing or calling the church by Monday, August 13.

BOOKS FOR KEEPS ANNUAL BOOK SALE, August 17-19 & 25-26

Thank you for donating two carloads of books to our spring book drive! Now it's time for the BFK sale, held this year in the space between Aldi and Mannaweenta on the corner of Gaines School Rd. and Cedar Shoals Rd. For details please visit booksforkeeps.org/bfk-book-sale.

WELCOME WILL NORMAN, August 26

The Rev. Will Norman joined the Presbyterian Student Center at UGA as Campus Minister on August 1. He and his family will join us at both services on August 26, with a reception following the 11:00 a.m. service. We look forward to welcoming the Normans to Athens and FPC!

IHNA TRAINING

August 26, 12:30 p.m.

If you would like to become a volunteer with Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens, please attend a training session. No registration is needed; please contact Patty Whiten at pattywhiten@windstream.net if you have any questions. The next IHNA training is: **Sunday, August 26, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.**, Ashford Methodist Church, 1 N. Main St., Watkinsville.

NEW HOSPITAL VISITATION POLICY

Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center has informed us that they will no longer be able to provide our pastors and lay callers a list of FPC members who are in the hospital. They will need to say who they are there to visit.

If you are in the hospital, please call the church office so we can provide pastoral care.

Where Are You in God's Story? Ways to Serve Forms

God calls each of us to participate in the great drama of salvation history. Where are you in God's story? Where will you use the gifts, talents, and interests God has given you this year? The "Ways to Serve" form is an invaluable tool for our church and is revised annually to reflect current ministries. Return baskets and extra 2018-19 forms are in the Narthex and Atrium. Forms are also on our website home page.

Every member is important. **Please fill yours out today!**

Download the Church Life App Today

Have you ever needed the phone number or address of a fellow church member and not had your directory handy? Would you like ready access to the church calendar? This information and more is available on your smartphone via the free Church Life App.

Jennifer Sunderlin, FPC's Receptionist/Administrative Assistant, will be in the Atrium after both worship services this morning to help you download the Church Life App. You will need to know your iTunes or Google Play password that you use when downloading any app. We hope you will take advantage of this valuable church resource.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS AUGUST 19

Sunday School Classes are available for all ages and meet 9:45-10:40 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Children's Ministry Suite • Infants - 5th Grade

Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop

Nursery Volunteer & Staff Coordinator: Jennifer Abbott

Infants • Nursery Baby Room

Room Lead: Rita Raines

Toddlers - Preschoolers • Nursery Playroom

Room Lead: Mary Smith

Our toddler and preschooler curriculum is Group Publishing's Play-n-Worship. It is filled with music, activities, and storyboards that encourage little ones to interact with Bible stories.

Pre-Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Our elementary aged children will experience Godly Play during Sunday School. Godly Play helps children to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language, and to grow their spiritual experience through wonder and play.

The children will begin all together each Sunday morning in the Children's Ministry Suite with Holy Moly (short animated Bible Story videos). Immediately following Holy Moly, the children will head to their Godly Play Rooms.

Pre-Kindergarten - Kindergarten • Room 126 in Children's Ministry Suite

1st, 2nd, 3rd Grade • Children's Ministry Suite

4th Grade - 5th Grade • Godly Play Room #1,

Tinsley Stern Building (across from library)

Godly Play Guides: Jennifer Abbott, Natalie Bishop,

Jody Corry, Greta Covington, Susan Ferguson,

Madie Fischetti, Denise Horton, Matt Jones, Mary

Elizabeth McConnell, Carmen Meadows, Heather

Roberts, Dan Trier

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Christian Issues • Room 308

Study of the book, Paul: His Life and Teaching by Jack Kuhatschek.

Coordinator: Sandy Boyles

Inquirers • Moses Waddel Room

Thoughtful introspection and lively group discussion covering contemporary issues and daily Christian living, with guest speakers or DVD studies.

- August 19 - DVD, The Old Testament, by Amy-Jill Levine
- August 26 - UGA graduate student Jason Mizell will speak on Parkview/Bridging Communities

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss

Living on a Prayer • Room 303

Devotionals based on scripture, led by different class members. Sandwich project on first Sundays.

Coordinator: Karen Burg

New Voices • Room 310

Study of the book, The Flute Beneath the Gold by Charles Poole.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins, Christine Register

W. D. Hooper • Room 309

Study of Romans with other books of the New Testament to follow.

Led by: Richard Stone

Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

Study of the Joseph saga, Genesis 37-50.

Teacher: John Kipp

Women's Bible Class • Room 301

Study of Hebrews.

Teacher: Wanda Wilcox

SUNDAYS in The PIT

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness

The youth are fortunate to have their own special space, lovingly called "The PIT," located on the basement level. The PIT features small group break-out rooms, a kitchen, pool tables, and comfortable couches to just hang out.

SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and fun including donuts and devotion. Beginning in September, a different member of the congregation will lead a 3-4 week series on topics ranging from the Old Testament to Disney movies!

Confirmation Class, open to 9th graders, also meets during this time. This class gives students an opportunity to deepen and confirm their faith in Jesus Christ, learn the basic theology of the Christian faith, and what it means to identify with the PC(USA). Please contact Kim Ness (kness@firstpresathens.org) to sign up.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

On Sunday evenings, we come together to explore our faith through activities focused on mission, discipleship, and lots of fun!

Youth Kickoff Potluck, Sunday, August 26, 6:30 p.m.

Join us in Fellowship Hall for a potluck dinner and kickoff meeting. All MS and HS youth **and** their parents are encouraged to attend!

New Sunday Evening Schedule:

4:30-5:30 Middle School youth group

5:30-6:15 Celebration Singers choir rehearsal

6:30-8:00 High School youth group

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 12

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
9:45 a.m. Fall Kickoff Brunch, Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 13

2:00 p.m. Soul Shop Planning Meeting, Staff Conference Room
5:15 p.m. Administration Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Tuesday, August 14

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
2:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Vault Work, Children's Ministry Suite
6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Group Supervision, Moses Waddel Room, Rooms 308, 309, 310

Wednesday, August 15

12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
4:15 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Saturday, August 18

1:00 p.m. Northeast Georgia Stated Presbytery Meeting, Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church,
260 Pleasant Hill Church Rd. SE, Winder
2:00 p.m. Funeral Service for Larry Thornton, Reception Following

Sunday, August 19

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

August 19 - Sunday School Begins
Honduras Shareholders' Dinner

August 17-19 & 25-26 - Books for Keeps Annual Book Sale

August 20 - Weekday School Begins

August 22 - Bookless Book Group

August 26 - Welcome Will Norman, new Campus Minister at UGA Presbyterian Student Center
Youth Kickoff Potluck

September 6 - Josephine Paine Bible Study Begins

September 16 & 17 - Soul Shop, Suicide Awareness Training

New Member Class

If you are interested in learning more about Presbyterianism and discipleship at FPC,
we invite you to attend our New Member class.

Sunday, September 16, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Informational class led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Moses Waddel Room
Child care is available (with reservation)

Sunday, September 23, 4:00 p.m.

New Member Tea at the home of Linda & Bill Childers, the Session will receive those wishing to join

Sunday, September 30, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service, new members introduced to the congregation

Please contact Lucy Bell in the church office at lbell@firstpresathens.org by September 12.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Bruce Lancaster, Moderator Richard Lane, Clerk of Session
Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

CLASS OF 2018

Joe Attaway
David Cole
Jason Doornbos
Sue Gray
Mark Harrison
Denise Horton
Christine Register
Arlene Shirley
Harry Shuford
Richard Stone

CLASS OF 2019

Robbie Bryan
Greta Terrell Covington
DeeAnn Cox
Mary Havick
Bob Glasscock
Joe Hermanowicz
Richard Lane
Mary Peace
Lawton Stephens
Dan Trier

CLASS OF 2020

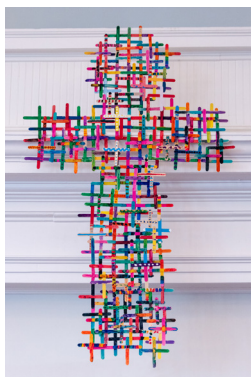
Jeff Bangle
Meghan Bawcum
Bob Burton
Julie Hayes
Sydney Jackson
Avery McLean
Jeanne Nadenicek
Carl Nichols
Tom Reigle
Judy Scanlon

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Interim Senior Pastor
Dr. Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor
Dr. John Kipp, Parish Associate
The Reverend Bob Googe, Parish Associate
Dr. John Coble, Director of Music and Organist
Mrs. Kim Ness, Director of Youth Ministries
Mrs. Natalie Bishop, Director of Children's Ministries
Mrs. Elaine Johnson, Director of Weekday School
Mr. Roger Burbage, Church Administrator
Mrs. Lucy Bell Johnson, Administrative Assistant for
Congregational Care & Membership
Ms. Nan Powell, Communications Specialist
Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Laura McHugh, Accountant
Mrs. Tiffany Greene, Weekday School Administrative Assistant
Ms. Jennifer Abbott, Nursery Volunteer & Staff Coordinator
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, Children's Music Assistant
Mr. Willie "Buc" Collins, Sexton
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, Parish Nurse

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.



Children's Ministry Cross

During Vacation Bible School 2018, each child painted a popsicle stick cross. These special crosses were then placed together to construct the new Children's Ministry cross which is displayed in the Sanctuary today. It will hang permanently in the Children's Ministry Suite.