



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
GRIFFIN

NEWS

May 2016

Pastor Drew's Views

Thanks!

As I write, we are getting ready for Volunteer Appreciation Sunday on May 1st. We decided it would be great to make an insert that listed all the many ways you can serve at FPC. It turns out we might need more than one insert! So far, we have almost 100 different ways to serve on the list, including several I didn't even know about myself, and we're not finished yet.

I want to thank everyone who has lifted a finger in faith to pitch in for the ministry of FPC in Griffin and "even to the ends of the earth". Whether you have taken your turn in the nursery, helped Seth with the youth, changed the church sign out front, participated in a mission with Rushton's Hope OR even to Haiti, I want to thank you for whatever part you played in helping us build God's Kingdom in Griffin and beyond. There is no doubt, God is up to something very cool.

As we continue celebrating 175 years of ministry at FPC, it is exciting to see our church get what being the body of Christ is all about. It is about happily doing what needs to be done together to serve God and to share His love. Guess what? You are an important thread in that tapestry. Let's keep weaving together in the Lord.

Joining you in the journey,

Pastor Drew

Philippians 1:3-6

Rivers of the World (R.O.W.) in worship!

Join us May 15th for worship. Ben Mathes, founder of Rivers of the World, will preach and tell us about this ministry "even to the ends of the earth" that we support. The mission of R.O.W. is "to go into remote areas of the world to anchor sustainable communities of faith". A love offering will be taken to support this vital ministry.

Happy Mother's Day

175th Anniversary Celebration

175th Anniversary Memento



Last Fall, three of the four stained glass windows in the Narthex were removed to be repaired. These windows were in the downtown church built in 1888 and were moved to the present church building in 1978. After they were returned, Lou Baldwin was given some pieces of glass saved from the repairs. She and Bill felt something could be done with them, perhaps commemorating the 175th Anniversary. The Anniversary Committee met in January and immediately thought about creating pendants. Bruce Cook of Cooked Glass Creations, a resident of Sun City, was contacted and he agreed to take a piece of glass to see if he could fuse it into a pendant. Success!! We have 30 green pendants to offer as a very special memento of our church and 175 years of serving Griffin and the world!!

The unique pendants are \$50 each. The size is about 1-1/8" lengthwise by 7/8" across. Note that some may be a bit larger and some a bit smaller. Some of the pendants have very small bubbles that have been trapped in the glass during the fusing process. This is a normal occurrence and they are referred to as seeds. They do not affect the quality or strength of the glass. A few pendants have a whitish film called devitrification, which is common in glass that was made more than 20 years ago. Mr. Cook used a chemical spray on the surface of the glass before fusing the pieces to eliminate the devitrification, but a few of the pendants still have small areas of the film markings. A chain is not included.

The sales will help defray some Anniversary expenses, including, purchasing archival boxes/materials to properly store our historical documents and the cost of the Celebration Luncheon on November 27.

Contact Debbie Hammond at ahammond@att.net or at 770-228-6055 to order one or more pendants. Please understand there are only 30 available.

Music

MUSIC MINISTRY CHANCEL CHOIR & HANDBELL CHOIR

First, let me say a special "thank you" to the choir and to each of the men who portrayed Jesus and his Disciples in the Maundy Thursday service March 21st. The presentation of "The Living Last Supper" was so very special. It brought to life what the Disciples witnessed when they met with Jesus to celebrate the Passover meal together that one last time. For those who didn't get the opportunity to attend the Maundy Thursday service, we plan to do it again next year. It was such a blessing to all!

Secondly, it's never too late to join the choir. There is always room for more. Please consider this a personal invitation to anyone interested in joining the Chancel Choir. Practice is on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 except when we have the suppers, then we will practice at 7:30 so that choir members can participate in the activities after supper.

The Handbell choir meets on Monday afternoons at 5:30. We really need more members to join us. Even if you can't join us every Monday, we often need substitute ringers from time to time. If you can count, you can ring!

Yours in Christ,
Sylvia

Worship

New Summer Sunday worship schedule!

Beginning June 5th, FPC will begin our brand new **summer only** schedule (ending July 31st):

- 9 a.m. Fellowship on the porch begins with coffee and goodies (weather permitting)
- 9 – 9:30 a.m. Prayer at the Cross
- 9:30 – 10 a.m. Family friendly activity (outside by the porch)
- 10 a.m. Fellowship ends
- 10:10 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

Check out our new logo!
Did you notice it on the front page?



Communion will be served on
Sunday, May 1st
and
Pentecost Sunday, May 15th.

T-shirts coming soon!

Mission & Outreach

Jesus said “Go!” so we go, “Feed!” so we feed, “Make disciples” so we make disciples in His Name. The church is a hospital for sinners and a launching pad for missional service in our community and “to the ends of the earth”.

Here are some opportunities to serve together with agape love (sign ups in the Narthex or just call the church office):

Abundant Life Soup Kitchen

Join us to serve at the Abundant Life Soup Kitchen in Griffin on Tuesday, May 17th from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sign ups will be in the Narthex.

rideATAXIA

The Elling family will be participating in rideATAXIA Atlanta on May 15th. The ride is for the purpose of raising money to find a cure for Friedrich’s Ataxia: a debilitating, life shortening, degenerative, neuro-muscular disorder. If you would like to sponsor one of the Elling riders, please talk to Pastor Drew or Jennifer. http://fara.convio.net/site/TR/Events/General?team_id=3192&pg=team&fr_id=1231.

Haiti Mission Trip is here!

Pastor Drew, Pat Brown and Michael and Wendy Biddle will be leaving for Port au Prince, Haiti on June 4th to serve with Haiti Outreach Mission (H.O.M). Our team will join up with a group from First Presbyterian Church of Douglasville (ECO). The group will be doing school construction, providing medical assistance, playing with special needs kids and spreading the love of Jesus Christ with the people of Haiti. Pastor Drew will also preach and serve communion at one of the local churches. Please pray for the team!

See Seth’s article about SportsCamp on page 7!

Congregational Care

Pot Luck Supper

The last pot luck for this year will be held on May 11. We will introduce the upcoming summer months by having

A SALAD POT LUCK.

Let's see how creative everyone can be. Looking forward to seeing you at the Salad Pot Luck on May 11th at 6 pm.

Family Fun Night!

After our last community Potluck Supper of the year on Wednesday, May 11th at 6 p.m., we will have some family friendly fun and games outside!

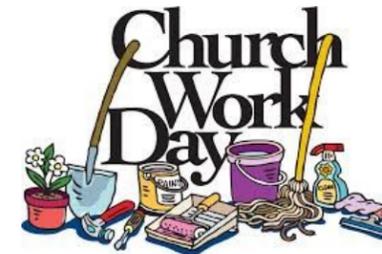
Call to Prayer

On Wednesday, April 13th, FPC had an amazing time of prayer after the potluck supper. We need your help! Please make sure to open your weekly prayer list email. You can also pick up a prayer list each week in the Narthex. Tuck the list in your Bible and be an FPC prayer warrior!

THANK YOU

Much thanks to everyone who helped set-up, serve and clean -up at this month's pot luck. Your help is VERY much appreciated.

Facilities



Workday at the Church!

Inside and outside workers are welcomed
Saturday, May 7th, at 9:00 am
Come when you can; leave when you must!
Thank you,
Lou Baldwin

Gutters, Gutters, Everywhere!

A huge shout out and thank you to the folks who contributed so generously to the replacement of our gutters and downspouts! Another job complete because of you! Clint Allen, of Exterior Dreams, said that most of our downspouts were so full of debris that no water was flowing at all and many rusted gutters are gone. Do take a moment to admire and be thankful for another blessing. I will do my best to see that we are good stewards of this new addition!

Thank you!

Lou Baldwin,
Chairman of Facilities Ministry Team

We serve in May

Communion Servers

May 1

Tim Brown, Capt.
Diane Gordon
Pat Brown
Joe Bailey
Bob Gordon
Chip Reahard
Doug Tingle
Trey Jones
Louise Thacker
Art Hammond

May 15

Eddie Huffman, Capt.
Wendi Kirby
Jim Skinner
Art Hammond
Bill Baldwin
Ivan Betz
Ina Jones

2s and 3s Nursery

May 1 - Ashley Moran & Russell Johnson
May 8 - Matt & Tiffany Doran
May 15 - Mike & Wendy Biddle
May 22 - Lisa Singley & Barbara McTigue
May 29 - Wayne & Patty Boylan

Ushers

Stewart Esary, Capt.
Jane Ratmeyer
Bill Johnson
Mary Johnson
Louis Thacker Alt.

Elder in Charge

Charlotte Thacker

Children's Message

May 1 - Sid Esary
May 8 - Wendi Kirby
May 15 - Drew Elling
May 22 - Ashley Moran
May 29 - Lou Baldwin

Important Dates

May Birthdays

2 - Sharon Stansberry
3 - Barbara McTigue
4 - Andy Musser
4 - Johnna Johnson
5 - Jane Gaston
8 - Hayden Norris
10 - Sylvia Hollums
10 - Xander Brown
12 - Isabella Grubbs
12 - Olivia Grubbs
13 - Ina Jones
14 - Ronnie Sivells
17 - Connie Kendrick
18 - Chip Reahard
23 - Leslie Villers
28 - Tiffany Doran
30 - Chris Fennell
31 - Marion Musser

May Anniversaries

5/3/1959 - Marion & Elsie Musser
5/3 - George & Karlene Hollender
5/2/1981 - Vince & Karen Kiley
5/15/1982 - Ralph & Ina Jones
5/16 - Kameron & Christine Hamby
5/17/2002 - Roy & Leslie Villers
5/21/2005 - Seth & Emily Brown
5/27/1951 - Mike & Helen Wiley

May Session Meetings

Prayer Meeting
May 8th at 9:00 am - Parlor
Everyone is invited to attend.

Stated Session Meeting
May 22nd after the worship service

Worship Ministry Team

will meet Monday, May 2nd,
at noon at the church.

Mission-Outreach Ministry Team

will meet Monday, May 9th,
at 11:00 am at the church.

Last Day of School for Spalding County is May 26!

Christian Education



Church-wide Memory Verse for April

There is no one holy like the Lord;
there is no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.

1 Samuel 2:2

Summer Sunday Mornings

We're really excited about our Sunday morning summer plans for June and July, and hope you'll be part of them. And the great thing is, anyone of any age can do this.

One way you can get involved is to take responsibility for planning and leading one of the thirty-minute Family Friendly Fun Operations from 9:30 to 10:00. This can be a game, a craft, a skit, or anything you can imagine that is kid friendly. And help is available if you need it.

We will begin sign-ups in May and hope that you will enthusiastically seek out the sign up sheet and not run away from your humble Christian Ed servants.

This will be a great time to build our church family and we'll have fun doing it.
We hope you will join us!

Are You a Sunday School Teacher?

What qualifies you to teach children's Sunday school?

1. You know and love Jesus.
2. You know a child or have been a child.
3. You made a baptismal covenant when one of these babies was baptized.
4. You are willing to work with a team of teachers so the responsibility isn't on just a handful of people.

Beginning in August, we hope to have six Sunday school teachers lined up to share in the responsibility so no one teaches more than twice a week. We also hope to have two committed substitute teachers because, you know, life.

Please prayerfully consider taking on this vital ministry. It is essential to the survival of the church. And you don't have to wait to be asked!

Membership Class

The next Membership Class will be
Sunday, May 22nd
in the Christian Education resource
office. Spread the word.

**Join us for coffee fellowship each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m.
Classes begin at 10 a.m.**

Communion Trays

When this church body worshiped in the downtown church, round, wooden, two-tiered trays were used to serve the juice during communion. There were three of them which were brought to the current building at the time of the move. As late as last spring, they were in the cabinet over the communion supplies cabinet in the main building kitchen but have disappeared. If anyone knows where they can be found, please notify the church office.

Young Adults

Have you ever thought this: Wouldn't be nice to be able to go to church, AND go to the Braves game this Sunday. Well.....you are in luck!! Because we have a new summer schedule this year, so you can do it!!! On June 12th, the Braves play the Cubs at 1:35pm. All young families/young adults(if you have a teenager you are still a young adult :)) are invited to the game. It is going to be an absolute blast!!! I hear they have a waffle house in the stadium, so if we get separated look for me there. Please let me know by May 26th if you are able to attend so that I can purchase our group discounted tickets. I hope you and your family can join us for this fun filled day. Go Braves!!

Seth Brown

Sports Camp

Sports Camp is coming up soon!!! Just a reminder the dates are July 11th- July 14th, from 6pm to 8pm at City Park. I know that this is a praying church, so I am sure you are praying like me for God to double even triple our outreach this summer. We are trusting and expecting God to move this summer, so we need to be ready. That means we will need more volunteers this summer!! Let me ease your mind, you do not need to be good at sports to help at Sports Camps. All you need is the willingness to show up and share Jesus with our community. There are a ton of opportunities to accomplish our Sports Camp mission.

Here is a list of some, but not all the ways you can serve at Sports Camp this summer.

- Registration-Help check athletes in and get them placed on their team for the week.
- Coach- Soccer, Basketball, Tennis, Cheerleading, Football
- General Manager- Help get kids from point A to point B
- Assistant Coach- Help with a certain sport, or help lead a group through all the sports
- Food Prep- Prepare take home dinners each night for our athletes
- Security- Help make sure athletes are safe, drinking water, and just help where needed
- Set-up/Take down- Help set up the stations, water, and signage. Then help take it down.

The harvest is out there!!! We just need the workers!! JOIN TEAM SPORTS CAMP 2016!!!

Special Notes



Do you hear wedding bells?

Brittney Musser and Jeremy Miller will be getting married on Saturday, May 14th!

With Thanks - Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

To our church family,

Joe & I want to thank everyone for the prayer for my surgery and recovery. Thanks also for all the things you have done, food, cards, and phone calls. It means so much to us. God has really been with me through this ordeal. I truly felt his presence in my life.

Friends in Christ,
Joe & Evelyn Ingram



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Be Involved

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
175th ANNIVERSARY
NOVEMBER 27, 2016**

Work has begun to start the celebration of our 175th anniversary this November. Please let Debbie Hammond know if you have any pictures, stories, special music, or any ideas about what needs to be remembered.

This is a special time in our church history to look back at our roots and look forward to our future.

Women of the Church

This will be our last meeting before our summer break – no meetings in June, July and August. We will meet

**Monday, May 9, 10:15 a.m.
in Fellowship Class Room.**

Please bring your Bible and Study Book.

Scripture to be taught is

Revelation 21-22.

Also, please bring special offering to finish up our planned gift to the Young Peoples project. Hope everyone will be able to attend as we finish up this year's study.