



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019



Updated news and other resources available online at: <http://www.faithpresbyterianusa.org/>
If you are a Facebook user and have not yet "liked" the Faith Presbyterian Church Facebook page – click this Facebook button (you may need to press the CTRL key and click the button...)

MONDAY, March 11

Church Office: Peggy Reich and Elaine Whitley
1:00 Congregational Care Planning Team

TUESDAY, March 12

Church Office: Janice Cary
3:30 Set up for Lunch and Learn
4:00 Spiritual Development Planning Team

WEDNESDAY, March 13

Church Office:
Noon: Lenten Lunch and Learn
2:00 New Building Committee
3:30 Piano Lessons
5:30 Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, March 14

Church Office: Lynn Hayes
Food Bank: 10-12 Bud and Treva Wheatley
1-3 Carole Ulnick

FRIDAY, March 15

Church Office: Treva Wheatley
1:00-3:00 Crafty Friday

SATURDAY, March 16

9:00 Men's Breakfast (Pete's Place)
Merry Maids: Carl and Doris Riggs

SUNDAY, March 17

(M4M: Nomination Committee.)
9:30 Choir Rehearsal
10:30 Worship Service
11:45 Mission and Outreach Planning Team

MONDAY, March 18

Church Office: Peggy Reich and Elaine Whitley
1-4 Jewish Congregational Small Group Meeting

Ash Wednesday Attendance: 56
Worship Attendance March 10th: 113





Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

March Head Usher: Randy Griggs

Ushers March 17: Sherry Scruggs, Brenda Scruggs, Sally Crawford, Chuck Huckleberry

Worship Information at Faith Presbyterian Church

Lent 2019 “Cultivating & Letting Go”



This Wednesday March 13, 2019...

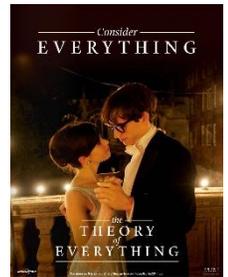
Noon: Lent Lunch and Learn

The Mystery of Everything (1) “The experience of wonder.”

Lunch menu: KFC Chicken Pot Pie

Please email your reservation to faithpcblueridge@gmail.com

Lunch & learns continue weekly till April 17.



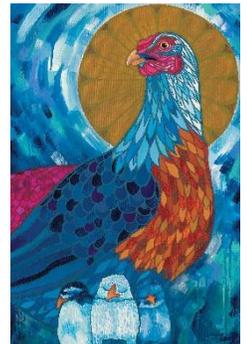
This Sunday March 17, 2019... The Second Sunday in Lent Cultivating & Letting Go 2. Trust over Self-reliance

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for this Sunday of the Year: Genesis

15:1–12, 17–18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17—4:1 Luke 13:31–35

Scripture Readings: Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18 and Luke 13:31–35

Sermon Title: “The Hen's Brood”



The Sunday after next.... March 24, 2019... The Third Sunday in Lent Cultivating & Letting Go 3. Patience over Fear

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for this Sunday of the Year: Isaiah 55:1–9 Psalm 63:1–8
1 Corinthians 10:1–13 Luke 13:1–9

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 55:1–9 and Luke 13:1–9

Sermon Title: “Fruit from the Fig Tree”

Service of Wholeness and Healing

Noon: Scotland trip lunch meeting

From Pastor Jim Simpson’s March 10 sermon: “Bread for Sharing”



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

“.... We commonly use the word, “Temptation” to describe the incident we read about in the Gospel of Luke this morning. We say that Jesus entered the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. All that happened between Jesus and the devil was less a tempting and more a testing, a profound testing. With each offer Jesus was tested to see if He would remain faithful to God’s plan and purpose for His life. On three occasions Jesus is offered an alternative course of action, Jesus persists in going God’s way.

The text of the Gospel of Luke as much as tells us this in v1 but we tend to gloss over this detail in our rush to get in on the action... v1 says, “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness.” Very often we hear, or choose to hear, that Jesus was led into the wilderness, but the text is quite specific Jesus was not only led INTO the wilderness and then abandoned, Jesus was led IN the wilderness. Yes the wilderness might well be an empty, lonely space but throughout these testing days Jesus was not alone, Jesus knew and was held within God’s care and love and it was out of that shared care and love that Jesus was able to persist in faithfulness.

The artist Rembrandt has a drawing of this event in which Jesus and the devil are pictured as ambling down a road together. In the drawing there is little to distinguish Jesus from the devil - the devil looks as we would say, “reasonable” and this is indeed how the devil goes about his work attempting to convince Jesus that the suggestions offered are reasonable and worthy of consideration and acceptance. Maybe that is how we have faced temptations and testing – the options as presented sound “reasonable”, something we might and should consider when all along they are the worst example of what was and is FAKE NEWS, ACTUAL FAKE NEWS, REAL FAKE NEWS!

Go on Jesus, be reasonable, you are hungry, you have been fasting, you have not been eating, you are weak, you are tired, you value nourishment, bread is most certainly part of God’s plan and provision, God has gone out of God’s way to feed people in this very wilderness so let these stones become mana from above, let the stones be bread and eat.... You know you need this bread! But this is Fake News from the devil, Fake News because Jesus refuses to make Himself the focus instead remaining focused upon God’s leading and provision. “Look after yourself man!” “Take a slice for yourself!” says the devil but it is all Fake News.... The real news, the good news, is all that happens as Jesus persists in trusting all God is and what God says. The real news is that no one can ever live by bread alone but only by hearing and acting upon the Word that God speaks for all.

Well okay then if you won’t eat, come and see all power and wealth of the nations of the world, all the prestige of the kingdoms and empires - I can give all this to you says the devil, it is mine to give, all you need do is worship me and you can have it all Jesus! Again FAKE NEWS. The world and its power and prestige are NOT the devils to give for the earth and all who live on it belong to the Lord, always have, always will, and to worship the devil is impossible for Jesus who will persist to worship God alone.



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

Okay then let me help you Jesus, let me assist you Jesus to be sure that everyone can see the gracious provision of God for surely if you throw yourself from the highest point in the Temple, God will come to rescue you and bear you up, who could then deny the greatness and goodness of God? FAKE NEWS - to coerce faith or somehow prove God's power is not part of how God shares and reveals God's grace. FAKE NEWS for no such stunt, no such demonstration has any value as it puts God to the test.

FAKE NEWS – three times over – Three distractions seeking to interrupt Jesus' identity as the trusting Son of God. Jesus persists in trusting all the way so that you and I and all like us, who can only ever trust God in limited ways can be included in God's purposes, despite our own human limitations.....”

Our next **Discovery Class** is scheduled for this Sunday, **Sunday, March 31, 2019**. If you would like to discover more about the life of Faith Presbyterian Church, or are ready to be welcomed as a member, please contact Pastor Jim Simpson Jim.Simpson@tds.net and plan to attend the Discovery Class, a one Sunday introduction and welcome to Faith Presbyterian Church, including a welcome to the congregation during the 10:30 a.m. Service of Worship. **We already have four people registered for this Discovery Class so if you are ready for membership, come join them!**

From Pastor Jim Simpson: In my sermon on March 3, I suggested that we all set a daily alarm at 10:30 a.m. on our cell phones, smart phones, I-Pads, or computers. This alarm will be a daily reminder for us to pray for the new building as it progresses and when other people hear our alarm go off and ask what it is for, we can tell them about our church and invite them to come share in its life!



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019



Sincere thanks to the Administration Planning Team for hosting our delicious March 9 Second Sunday Lunch!



Beyond the Wood and Stone



This year, for the first time in several years, Fannin/Gilmer **Habitat for Humanity** is building a house with volunteers from our community with the help of some experienced Habitat site project managers from Cobb County, GA and Asheville NC. There have been many people from Faith Presbyterian who have given up their Saturdays and a few weekdays to come out to work on the home with our new homeowner, Ashley Gibson. Once the house is completed, Ashley will sign closing papers and have a mortgage to own the home where she will live with her two young children.



Habitat for Humanity is called “a hand up” not a “hand out.” It enables people who are working but unable to afford a conventional mortgage to have the ability to own a home. Our affiliate saved money for a year and a half to be able to buy the materials to build this home, and Ashley will pay back the amount of the materials and infrastructure in monthly payments just as any other mortgage, but her payments will be interest free and affordable for her, thanks to all of the donations that have been made to our affiliate and all of our fundraising endeavors. I consider all money that is donated as an investment in a family, from those of us who are



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

blessed to be a blessing to others. Research shows that children who grow up in a stable environment where they are not moved every year from home to home, sometimes because of increases in rental costs, and school to school, are more likely to do better in school and have a higher likelihood of going on to higher education.

Faith Presbyterian faithfully makes an investment of mission funds every quarter to HFH Fannin Gilmer. In addition, this year, Women of Faith is taking a monthly collection toward helping with this house. We have chosen to donate the cost of Ashley's welcoming front door, which is seen here in the picture of her home, in progress. We hope that this home will be completed by the end of April, and it is our plan to begin our next home this coming summer. Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Renee Lake at renee@hfhfanningilmer.org if you would like to be added to our email distribution list for news about the build and to volunteer. Renee is also actively seeking organizations or individuals who would like to donate lunch, as our Women of Faith has also done! If you have questions, please email Debbie at dspeterson214@gmail.com.

Do you have a "**Beyond the Wood and Stone**" story? Please share.

Contact: Randy Griggs (hrrandallg@gmail.com) Randy Borden (randyborden@yahoo.com)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



Sign-up Sheet in Gathering Room **Sign-up by March 14**

It's that time of year again for the amazing Special Olympics. Athletes will take to the field for the annual Fannin County Track & Field event! This is such a wonderful event for all involved, and such a special time for the athletes.

Track & Field this year will be at Fannin County High School on **April 12th at 9:00 am**. There will be a plan in case of rain, but it will probably be on the same day and time just at a different venue if that happens. Also, lunch and T-Shirts will be provided for all volunteers.



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

Blue Ridge Assisted Living would like to know if anyone in our congregation would like to volunteer in the Memory Care Unit to handle Bingo or other activities. Please call Elaine Whitley at 407-712-4847 to help.



CPR/AED Training

LOCATION: NEW FANNIN EMS BUILDING

964 Windy Hill Rd., Blue Ridge

Saturday, May 18, 2019 10:30 am –12:30 pm

\$25 per person

Class size is 16 people maximum

A sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Room



Calling Post We are updating our automated calling system for alerting members of changes or cancellations of church events due to weather or road conditions. The Church Directory has been used for listing your primary telephone number as follows:

- If the first number listed is your home number, it will be the primary alert number.
- If there is no “home” number, the cell number listed is entered as the primary alert number.
- If there is no “home” number and two cell numbers listed, the first cell number listed is entered as the primary alert number.

If you wish to have a different alert number or change the number from a “home” number to a cell number, then please let Al Gnann know. He will have the primary contact numbers if you have questions or any changes you want made. You may contact him at algnann@gmail.com For you who have caller ID, the number calling you with the alert is 405-308-4474.



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

AUDIO, VIDEO, LIGHTING SUB-COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP.

LAST DAY TO TURN IN A SURVEY IS THIS SUNDAY, 3/17. If you don't have answers to some of the questions, that's OK. PLEASE TURN IN A SURVEY ANYWAY! We will follow up with you. Survey forms are available on the table in the gathering area.

Do you have Audio, Video or Lighting operating, selection or installation experience? Would you like to be part of the exciting work in planning and recommending AVL equipment and systems for our new church building? If so, we have a place for you on the AVL Sub-Committee. Please consider sharing your time and talents. To volunteer or for more information, contact: Harold Wills. 404-786-7330. haroldwills@hotmail.com

Please fill out the following survey and bring it to church, or email it to church.

HEARING ASSIST SURVEY

We will be in our new sanctuary before we know it. In preparation, your Audio-Video-Lighting Sub-Committee (AVL) has been charged with recommending a Hearing Assist system that will provide improved listening capabilities for those in the congregation who may well be served by hearing assistance. If hearing assistance would be of help to you, please answer these questions and place your completed survey in the offering plate or return it to the church office by **Sunday March 17.**

1. Do you currently wear hearing aids or are you considering getting hearing aids in the future?
Yes _____ No _____
 2. If you currently wear hearing aids, what is the brand? _____ Year Purchased? _____
 3. Do your hearing aids have a Tele-coil (T-coil)? Yes _____ No. _____
 4. Do you have a smart phone? Yes _____ No. _____
 5. If so, do your hearing aids sync with your phone or a remote Yes _____ No. _____
 6. I have used a hearing assist system in another church? Yes _____ No. _____
 7. If so, please describe it
 8. Were you satisfied with its effectiveness? Yes _____ No _____
 9. Why?
 10. Would you be willing to purchase your own accessory(\$30-50) if needed? Yes_ No_
- Name:(Optional)_____ .



(So we can follow up with you for clarification or additional information.) Additional survey forms are available on the table in the greeting area. If you have any additional comments or



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

questions, contact: Harold Wills. 404-786-7330. haroldwills@hotmail.com Please include any additional comments.

CRAFTY FRIDAY – March 15 1-3 p.m.

Our crafters will gather at Faith on Friday, March 15, 1-3 p.m., to make hand-crafted items for welcome/gift bags for a very special organization – Blue Ridge Little Pink Houses of Hope. *Little Pink Houses of Hope* is a national non-profit organization that provides free week long vacations for breast cancer families. Every retreat is designed to help families relax and reconnect during the cancer journey. In June 2019, the Blue Ridge community welcomes up to 12 families who will each receive a wonderful welcome basket full of “all things about our community.”



Come join us as we make simple craft items for the *Pink* welcome baskets for Little Pink Houses of Hope – we’ll be painting rocks, decorating mason jars, making bookmarks, and maybe a few other things. You don’t have to be “crafty” to come -- if you can cut a straight line, tie a knot, or glue there's a job for you !!! All are always welcome. Please join us for good fellowship, good friendship, and a wonderful afternoon sharing our time and talents “beyond the wood and stones.” A sign up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Room. A flyer about the Blue Ridge retreat is on the Community bulletin board for anyone who may want to volunteer during the retreat week (June 15-22).

[Click to get to the Faith Facebook page](#) If a story or post or photograph receives 5 or more likes, shares or comments hundreds more people will see that item on their Facebook feed, so please be encouraged to react to the posts you see on the church Facebook page.

March Children’s Church

March 17: Patty Morris and Jeannine Lazenby

March 24: Maggie March and Treva Wheatley





Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019



Family Connection Opportunity--Food Bank volunteers:

For all community-minded folks! For everyone interested in volunteering, there is a food handling class which new volunteers will be given later on. You may work before you receive the training. Registration is now online at signupgenius.com but I have been using the church signup sheets and registering Faith Presbyterian. If you need to get in touch, my contact information is **Hilda**

Giles hjthebb@gmail.com 770-605-0040. The food bank is located just off Ada Road on Fannin Industrial (about 5 minutes from church).

Online Church Directory The new system is now in use and we are continually correcting typos and errors in our data. If you see any edits, please let us know. The latest Directory is available on the church website at <https://faithpresbyterianusa.org/church-directory> Password is: Faith

If you have any experience using the database, Microsoft Access, we would love to hear from you, email Bob Goodyear rrgoodyear@mindspring.com



Add your voice

Interested in singing in the choir? Just call or email Kathy Cardwell at kathycmac@gmail.com or at 828-361-0007 for more details. Kathy Cardwell, our Music Director, is also able to offer **private** piano and voice lessons on Wednesday afternoons at the Church. Contact Kathy to discuss further.

The New Building Committee (Wood and Stone Committee) and Capital Campaign Committee continue their work. Members of the committees are:

New Building Committee (NBC)	Capital Campaign Committee (CCC)
Bruce Burn	Janeese Glascock
Candy Frank	Bill Green
Tim Huffstetler	Tom Barrentine
Jim Reich	Grace Thomas
Carl Riggs	Rick Borden
Barbara Schmus	Carl Riggs
Bill Young	
Catherine Branch	
Rita Oberle	

Reverend Simpson serves, ex-officio, both committees.



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019



New Building and Capital Campaign Committees... Ask for your continuing prayers for wisdom and guidance. February 24, 2019: here is some recent activity at our construction site for the new church—looks like they are setting up to put in drainage. We are hoping for dry weather so we can pour some concrete.

“Construction sites can be a dangerous place for spectators. A safe distance is well defined by the erosion control fencing surrounding the site. We will be supplying pictures frequently of the progress, but if you visit the site, please stay behind the black erosion control fencing. Thanks for helping us keep everyone safe.”

If you want to provide input, suggestions or have questions, please feel free to reach out to anyone on the WSC.

	<p><u>Day by Day, Faithfully Forward</u> Some highlights and ways to be involved.</p>
<p>March 20, 27 April 3,10,17</p>	<p>Noon: Lenten Lunch and Learns</p>
<p>Monday, March 25</p>	<p>1:00 Women of Faith</p>
<p>Friday, March 29</p>	<p>Red Cross Blood Drive</p> 
<p>Sunday, March 31</p>	<p>9:00 Discovery Class for those interested in joining our church.</p>
<p>Sunday, April 14</p>	<p>Palm Sunday, COMMUNION Second Sunday Lunch</p>
<p>Thursday, April 18</p>	<p>7:00 Maundy Thursday Service</p>



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

Friday, April 19	7:00 Good Friday Service at Blue Ridge United Methodist Church with combined choirs
Sunday, April 21	Easter Sunday

****Church Newsletter:** Email articles and photos for the newsletter to faithpcbueridge@gmail.com by 10 AM on Monday for publishing in that day's Faith Happenings.

Prayer Requests: During office hours (M-F, 9-1), please call the church office or at other times, please email or call Candy Frank at cmwfrank@aol.com (706) 632-5920. Prayer requests for immediate needs relating to persons directly connected to members and friends of Faith are circulated via email and others are included and published weekly in the Prayer List circulated via the Newsletter.

Bill Westley	Bill Westley	Please pray for strength and healing for Bill Westley, who shares: "I am undergoing a course of radiation treatment following a diagnosis of prostate cancer. The treatment has been a little harder than I thought and has kept me away from the gym and church and may well do so through the end of April. At this time we don't need any practical assistance just everyone's prayers."
Tom King	Kim King	Please pray for Tom, as he has been diagnosed with pneumonia in one lung and COPD. Our prayers for his strength and healing are appreciated.
The family of Beverley Guffie (a childhood friend of the Riggs)	Doris Riggs	Beverley has lost her valiant battle with cancer; please pray for her husband, Jim, and family in Missouri.
Claire Smith (Connie Griggs' mother)		Praise Update: Connie says her Mom, Claire Smith, who has pneumonia, is doing better. Our prayers continue to be appreciated. .
The family of Mary Ann McCallen	Lynn Hayes	Update: Mary Ann (the sister of Pat McCallen, Lynn's dancing partner) has passed away after having suffered a massive stroke during chemotherapy. Please remember Mary Ann's family in your prayers.
Everett Irvine		Please pray for a dear friend of Sandy Jaffie's from the community theater. His name is Everett Irvine and he was airlifted to Erlanger March 2 with a possible stroke and a brain bleed. Several of our Faith congregation know of him from the theater.
New grandson in NICU	Paula Morris	PRAISE UPDATE: Mom and baby have been able to go home. Our prayers are appreciated for Paula's new grandson and his parents, Ed and Brook. The baby was in the NICU with respiratory issues after birth.
Shirley Copeland	Candy Frank	PRAISE UPDATE: Shirley's knee surgery March 1 went well; her sister is with her as she recovers at home and expects to be up and around soon. Our prayers continue to be appreciated.



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

<p>Scott Pickle (The Barrentines' nephew)</p>		<p>Please add Scott Pickle to your prayers; Scott was diagnosed with cancer last November and underwent successful surgery; he has had to come off radiation and chemo treatments for the time being because of serious side effects. Our prayers for healing are greatly appreciated.</p>
<p>Sonya Burleson</p>		<p>UPDATE: Sonya has been at a rehab facility closer to her family in Milton, GA. Our prayers continue to be greatly appreciated. Sonya would welcome cards and notes. Her address is: Sonya Burleson, Brickmont of Milton - Room 206, 2925 Webb Rd., Milton, GA 30004. Sonya expects to be released home on Friday, March 15.</p>
<p>Virginia McPhee</p>		<p>UPDATE: Virginia sends her sincere thanks to everyone for our prayers on her behalf. Our prayers continue to be greatly appreciated.</p>
<p>Maggie March</p>		<p>Maggie asks for prayers for healing as a new cancer nodule has been found in her upper right lung lobe. She sends praise and thanks for healing of her blood clots and resolution of internal bleeding from coumadin</p>
<p>Peggy Zinsli</p>		<p>Prayers for healing of kidney issues she now faces along with continued Dr. visits to find relief of pain.</p>
<p>Nance Huish</p>		<p>Nance continues to receive advice and treatment on several physical challenges. She will have a procedure this week that will hopefully alleviate her back pain. Please keep her lifted up in your prayers.</p>
<p>"Today's Challenge, Tomorrow's Legacy" Faith's Capital Building Campaign</p>		<p>Join your prayers of joy and prayers for a safe and speedy construction process. Let us pray for the response to our Capital Campaign as we plan for our future building: Our Loving God, by your love and grace, may we run, and not be weary. May we rise up on the wings of eagles. May we know that You, our everlasting God, are always with us! Amen.</p>

Faith Presbyterian Church

Mission Statement: By God's love and grace, we are Called, Committed and Led.

Vision Statement:

Called by God to be Faith Presbyterian Church of the North Georgia Mountains, we welcome all to join together to worship God.

Committed to following Jesus' example, we joyfully share God's love, grace and gifts with all in our church family and community.

Led by the Holy Spirit, we invite all to grow spiritually in this community of Faith.

Church Priorities for 2019 (as adopted by the Session at the Session Retreat, November 2018):

- Increase membership and participation through connecting with and serving those who reside in our community
- Continue as a spiritual community worshipping God by the sharing of our time, talent and treasure.
- Equip and encourage all to follow in Jesus' footsteps and to show God's love, grace and care.
- Develop effective church leaders
- Develop effective communication to include appropriate use of technology



Faith Presbyterian Church Happenings!

March 11, 2019

- Construct our new church facility.
- Prepare for the transition to our new church facility.
- Recognize the challenge of the expense of the new building, while maintaining and developing our ongoing life and witness.