

CHURCH CURRENTS

APRIL 2025

210 S. Wayne Street, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
478-452-9394; milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com; www.fpcmilledgeville.org



Join us on Sunday mornings
in-person or on Facebook Live

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
210 SOUTH WAYNE STREET
MILLEDGEVILLE, GA 31061



First Presbyterian Church

Issue No. 344 April 2025

Pastor:
Vacant

Coord. of Children &
Youth Ministries:
Vacant

Admin. Asst.:
Lois Callender

Director of Music:
Dr. Jennifer Flory

Organist:
Kate Phillips

Child Care Providers:
Volunteers



Administrative Commission

The Administrative Commission continues their work: scheduling guest pastors, overseeing finance and property concerns, and revitalizing Worship and Congregational Care Committees. Following our April 5 Leadership Training Event, we hope to form an Officer Nominating Committee and begin the process of electing new elders. Here are the names and contact information of the members of the **Administrative Commission First Presbyterian Church Milledgeville**:

Kent Burel 678.525.9683 mkentburel@gmail.com, Corey Ingold 770.490.6831 coreyingold62@gmail.com, Meg Jackson Clark 770.301.6165 megjacksonclark@gmail.com, Lynne Jordan 706.476.2951 lynneq.jordan@gmail.com, John McCrosky 706.339.1559 johnemac6@gmail.com



Coming in 2026: 200th Anniversary

Did you know that our church was founded on June 11, 1826? What a long and rich history we have to celebrate! Our celebration could feature a big party, a special mission emphasis, a sprucing up of our property and more. If you would like to be involved in planning for our celebration, please email milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com.



Leadership Training: Rooted in Love; Growing in Faith

*Join us on Saturday,
April 5, 2025
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM*

This event is designed to provide information on leadership in the PC(USA), tools for healthy congregations, and times for prayerful reflection and worship.

Continental
Breakfast and
boxed lunch
provided

Progress is being made to address the issues with our building. Three contractors have come out to inspect our building. One has bid on the project. The Administrative Commission has accepted the bid from Garbutt Construction based in Dublin. We have hired them to make a detailed inspection and provide us with a plan to do the work that is needed to restore our building. We are hopeful that this estimate will be in hand in three or four weeks.

Everyone should be aware that we have received a letter from our current insurance company informing us that they are dropping our coverage effective at the end of March 2025. They cited numerous deficiencies in our building. The Administrative Commission, with Joel Burns' advice and assistance, has secured coverage from a different insurer. The AC has put a rule in place that we don't want any people paid to do any maintenance on our building unless they are licensed and insured.

That doesn't mean that members can't assist with maintenance. Our members continue to be generous with their time and talents to do the various tasks to make our church an attractive place to worship. We need that to continue. The Administrative Commission has developed a spreadsheet of tasks that need attention. This includes such items as replacing light bulbs to cleaning windows.

Our sanctuary building was built in 1904. It's a treasure. The roof of the sanctuary is metal. The gutters are made of copper. The walls are plaster and lathe. This building has many features that are not in common use. Our job is to protect these features and restore them to mint condition. These unique features are to be preserved. No one is authorized to alter them in any way. We're here to clean and restore rather than remove and replace.

Our building requires our careful stewardship at this point in time and especially as we consider the upcoming Bicentennial of this congregation in 2026. The problems that exist in our building did not come to be overnight. And they can't be repaired overnight. We are at the beginning of a project that will take several years to complete. We will soon

have a plan for the work to be done, the priority of the various tasks, and an estimate of the cost. Everyone is encouraged to contribute to restore and enhance our facility. Your brother in Christ, Kent Burel





CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

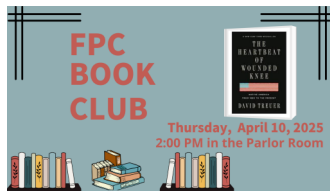


On Palm Sunday, April 13, our young people will present palms in the sanctuary.



Following the service, light refreshments and a craft will precede the **Easter Egg Hunt for ages up to 10. Time: 1-1:30.** Our Youth will hide the eggs. An announcement will be made about practice for the palm procession.

Congregational Care Committee will meet on **Thursday, April 10 at 5 p.m.** The work of this committee includes visitor follow-up, care of members who are ill, homebound, or grieving, and fellowship activities. If you feel God calling you to serve in any of these areas, please plan to join us. If you are unable to attend but would like to participate in this work, please contact Meg Jackson Clark at megjacksonclark@gmail.com or Lynne Jordan at lynne.jordan@gmail.com



The First Presbyterian Church Book Club will hold the April meeting on April 10th at 2:00 pm in the church parlor. We will be discussing *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present* by David Treuer, a member of the Ojibwe tribe in Minnesota and a trained anthropologist.

The generally accepted idea of Native American history has been that American Indian history essentially ended with the 1890 massacre at Wounded Knee. The author has uncovered a different story. The story of the Native American Indian since the end of the nineteenth century to the present is one of resourcefulness and reinvention. The author has written a book that tells the intimate story of a resilient people in a transformative era.

The book selection for May is *Overground Railroad: The Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America* by Candacy Taylor. During the time of Jim Crow segregation, black people were limited in the places that would serve black people. Traveling by car was dangerous, and could get a person killed, if the wrong choice was made in unfamiliar territory. The *Green Book* compiled a list of establishments that served black people ranging from hotels and restaurants to drugstores and gas stations. *Overground Railroad* places these operations in their historical and geographic context and provides a wealth of useful information for social scientists, historians, and students who want to examine important aspects of the changing black experience. Two very different, but interesting, books have been selected for the next two months. Please join us for a stimulating discussion. ~Millie Murphy

Mark your calendars for VBS! **July 21-25, 9:00 am- 12:00 pm.** Sign up sheets and more information about VBS will be available in the coming weeks. **If you would like to help out by volunteering, please contact Kathy Carroll at (770)815-8643 or the church office at (478)452-9394.**





MISSION AND MINISTRY



The Milly Free Fridge continues to help those families and individuals who experience food insecurity in our community. **Make plans to join us Sunday, April 27th to help feed our neighbors and ourselves by making sandwiches for the Milly Free Fridge and cleaning out the fridge when we deliver our donations.**

Please bring any of the following: Sliced bread, lunch meat, jelly, fresh fruit, prepackaged snacks, bottled drinks. We will provide condiments and labeling materials.

Samaritan Ministry

Yet again, we had over 10 families come for assistance this month. Thanks to your generous support, we were able to help EIGHT families keep their utilities on. This outreach and assistance for the community remains vital to our neighbors in need. Thank you for your continued help.

The next disbursement of funds will be on Tuesday, April 15 at 9:30 AM.



During March we were able to serve 43 households, several for the first time. Each of the first three weeks we ran out of food within fifteen minutes. Thanks to careful shopping for sale prices and generous in-kind donations from interested people, some not even in First

Presbyterian, we conserved our budgeted funds so they will go farther. Please continue to support this vital ministry with your donations and your prayers, for we cannot go on without both - and we do need to keep going. Thank you for your support in so many ways....

~Donna Gautier











Food Pantry staples list:

Canned soups; canned pasta; canned ham; tuna; salmon; and chicken; boxed mac & cheese; grits; oatmeal; and/or cereal; peanut butter & jelly; canned fruit and vegetables





April

<p>Youth Fundraiser <small>\$10 per person/ \$20 per family</small> APRIL 6, 2025 Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser</p> 		<p>1 9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>6 9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship with communion 12:00 Youth Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser 1:00 UMC Bridge</p> 	<p>7 7:00 MSG</p> <p>Milledgeville Singer's Guild</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p>  <p>All Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>8 9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 PW Bible Study 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>13 9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service 1:00 Easter Egg Hunt 1:00 UMC Bridge 5:00 PW Bible Study</p> 	<p>14 6:30 PFLAG 7:00 MSG 7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p> <p>Walking Through Holy Week</p> 	<p>15 9:30-10:30 Food Pantry and Samaritan Ministry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>20 9:00 Decorate Lounsbury Cross 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship 1:00 UMC Bridge</p> 	<p>21 7:00 MSG</p> <p>Milledgeville Singer's Guild</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p>  <p>All Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>22 9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>27 9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Youth Group 12:00 Milly's Sandwich Squad 1:00 UMC Bridge</p>	<p>28 7:00 MSG</p> <p>Milledgeville Singer's Guild</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p>  <p>All Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>29 9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 




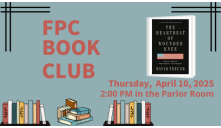









WE ARE A **MATTHEW 25 Church**

Actively Engaged in the World

2025



<p>2 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study 6:30 UMC Bible Study</p> 	<p>3 6:00 IOBI 7:30 NA</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 8:30 - 3:00 Leadership Training 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>9 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study 6:30 UMC Bible Study</p> 	<p>10 2:00 FPC Book Club 5:00 Congregational Care 7:30 NA</p> 	<p>11</p>	<p>12 7:30 NA</p>
<p>16 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study 6:30 UMC Bible Study</p> 	<p>17 7:30 NA</p> 	<p>18</p> 	<p>19 10:00 Decorating Sanctuary 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>23 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study 6:30 UMC Bible Study</p> 	<p>24 6:00 IOBI 7:30 NA</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 7:30 NA</p>
<p>30 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study 6:30 UMC Bible Study</p> 			

Operations: The church office is open Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please call the office for an appointment



YOUTH MINISTRY



**CHILDREN'S
SUNDAY
SCHOOL
10:15am, Craft
Room Upstairs
YOUTH GROUP
12:00pm, Youth
Room**

volunteer with
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



While Gloria Burns and Anne Smart are presenting the Children's Time during worship, **others are welcome to share in this ministry.** If you are interested, please contact Anne or Gloria.

Nine members have volunteered to help on a rotating basis to staff the nursery. Two adults must be present per our church policy.

Nursery Schedule for April:

- April 2- Gloria Burns/Susan McGill
- April 9- Anne Smart/Margaret Ivester
- April 16- Charles Burrell/Nancy Miller
- April 23- Joel Burns/Melba Burrell
- April 30- Anne Smart/Susan McGill



If no young children are present, adults do not need to go to the nursery. If adult volunteer cannot attend said date, please contact another volunteer to switch.

Thank you to the volunteers for helping with this ministry.
~Anne Smart

Thank you to all those who participated in the Potato Bar Montreat Fund Raiser. It was very successful (over \$700). Special thanks to the people who donated and prepared the food, helped with cleanup, and donated money. Our Youth are grateful.

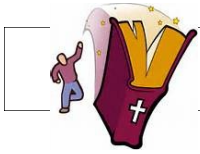


Youth Fundraiser
APRIL 6, 2025
Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser
\$10 per person / \$20 per family

Make plans to join the youth on the first Sunday of April for a Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser. The funds raised will go to the youth to attend Montreat this summer. We are so excited that they get to take part in this wonderful opportunity to more fully explore their faith.



MONTREAT
CONFERENCE CENTER



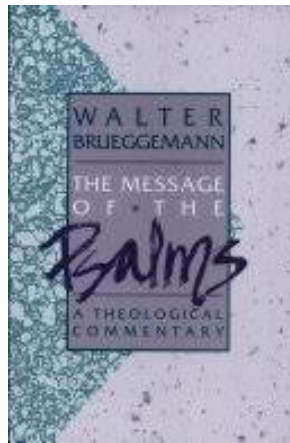
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



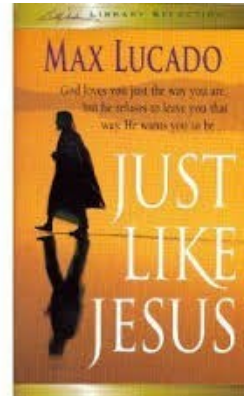
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Bible Sunday School class continues to meet via ZOOM. This conveniently allows us to study and learn in an informal manner from the comfort of our home computer, on a tablet or on our smartphones. We meet for thoughtful conversations **every Sunday at 9:30 AM**. We are studying *The Message of the Psalms* by Walter Brueggemann. Professor Brueggemann makes the Psalms come alive. It has been eye opening. I hope a number of you will join us. If you wish to join by ZOOM, call me at (478) 414-6516 and I will forward the link.

~Joel D. Burns



FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL



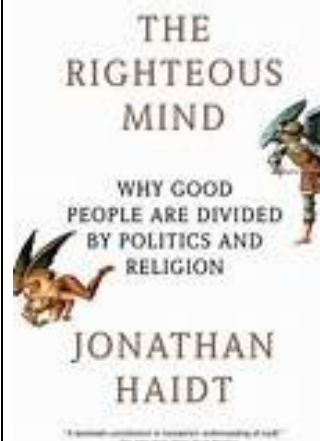
We are studying *Just Like Jesus* by Max Lucado. This group meets in person in the parlor room **every Sunday morning at**

9:45. We would love to have you join us. ~Bill Werts

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY

The Wednesday night study group meets in person for a pot luck supper and lively discussion every week. We have started to discuss *The Righteous Mind, Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion* by Jonathan Haidt. This fascinating book delves into the hidden reasons people have for behaving the way that we do.

The pot luck begins at 6:30 P.M. If you do not wish to participate in the pot luck, the discussions begin about 7:00 P.M. Please join us. ~Joel Burns



The **DAILY RIPPLE** is an app developed as part of the PC (USA)'s 1001 New

Worshiping Communities initiative. Every weekday, the app and website publish a "100-150-word droplet" reflecting on Scripture. Each droplet creates a "ripple" through a question that prompts a positive action. Engage with the app a few minutes (1% of your day) each day to find ways to strengthen and grow your faith and discipleship.

Make plans to join us at the church to carpool to Eatonton Presbyterian Church for a Maundy Thursday service. We will meet at 5:15 PM, Thursday, April 17 in the FPC parking lot to attend the 6:00 PM service in Eatonton.

*Maundy
Thursday
Service*

**THURSDAY,
APRIL 17, 2025 @ 6:00 PM
EATONTON PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

**MEET AT FPC @
5:15 PM TO CARPOOL
TO EATONTON**



TREASURER'S CORNER

As you probably know, we have a number of issues with our facilities which are requiring the church to spend fairly substantial sums to repair our building. The cost of our insurance has also increased. We are making changes in our other expenses to try to cover some of these costs, but we will still have to use a good bit of our money to pay for the repairs and insurance. Please remember this when you think about your contributions. Please support the general fund, the Samaritan's Ministry and the Food Pantry. All of our work is an effort to follow the example of Jesus. ~Joel D. Burns, Acting Treasurer

	January	February	2025 YTD
Contributions	\$37,091	\$13,709	\$49,422
Other Income	\$689	\$689	\$1,378
Designated Funds Received	\$3,377	\$3,359	\$6,736
Total Income	\$40,468	\$17,068	\$57,536
Budgeted Expenses	\$27,933	\$16,736	\$44,669
Designated Funds Spent	\$2,004	\$2,191	\$4,195
Total spent	\$29,937	\$18,927	\$48,864
Net (Loss)	\$10,531	(\$1,859)	\$8,672

Honoring Our Loved Ones with the Virtual Lilies Project

This year, in lieu of individual lilies, we'll be placing four large lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one, we invite you to donate \$20 to the Samaritan's Fund to help our neighbors in the community with utility assistance.



To participate, simply call or email the office by **April 17, 2025**. Include the name of the person you wish to honor or remember so we can list them in our Easter bulletin. Our worship will be enriched, and your loved ones honored as we support those in need in our community who have no other resources.



Worship Volunteers Needed!

Worship Committee

Our Worship Committee is getting reorganized and wanted to give you the opportunity to be a part of worship leadership. We are looking for people to

serve as **greeters** - welcoming visitors and members when they arrive, getting them a bulletin, letting them know about childcare/children's bags, restrooms, etc. as needed. All you need to do is be present 15 minutes before the start of worship, and remain at your post a few minutes after worship begins to greet latecomers.

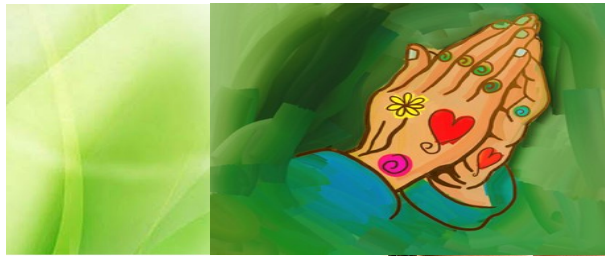
We have several people who currently serve as **liturgists**, but would be glad to add you to the rotation. Liturgists lead several portions of the worship service - the Welcome and Announcements, Call to Worship, Prayer of the Day, Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Thanksgiving. Finally, during this interim time, we want to invite any of our ordained elders to assist with **servicing communion**. If you would like to serve in any of these ways, please contact the Church Office at milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com.

Bring your fresh picked flowers **Easter morning starting at 9:00 AM** to decorate the floral cross, better known as the **Lounsbury Cross**. John & Libby Lounsbury were critical in starting this cherished tradition of First Presbyterian Church Milledgeville. We look forward to celebrating Easter with you.



Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 AM we will be meeting to decorate the sanctuary with flowers for the Easter season. There will be coffee, sweets and good company available, so make plans to join us!





PRAYER Requests

Church Family:

Harry Beck, ongoing health concerns
Nan Carpenter, ongoing health concerns
Sunda Coleman, recovering from surgery after a fall
Ellen Thompson, recovering at home from broken hip

Extended Family:

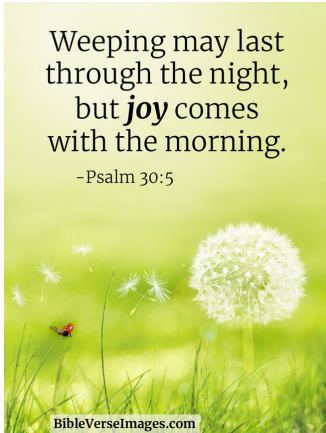
Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues
Wesley Applebury, completed cancer treatments and showing no sign of the disease, attending seminary in Atlanta, **Columbia Theological Seminary, D. Wesley Applebury, Box 289, 701 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030**
Mark Archer, Sunda Coleman's brother-in-law, hip replacement, recovering at home
Michael Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's grandson, multiple health concerns
Blake Connolly, Mary Lucik's great grandson, ongoing health concerns
Taylor Croghan, Craig Callender's niece, EDS diagnosis
Susan Eilers, Mary Lucik's friend, cancer
Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer
Peter Hall, Gini Wilkerson's brother, ongoing health concerns
Alonzo Kelley, Craig Callender's father, Stage 4 Melanoma
Velma Kelley, Craig Callender's grandmother, ongoing health concerns
Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns
Donald Lucik, Mary Lucik's son, recovering from back surgery
Charles Morgan, Jennifer Flory's father, ongoing health concerns
Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, ongoing health issues- at Carlyle House in Macon
Paul Orman, Barbara Orman's husband, ongoing health concerns
Chris Pearson, Sunda Coleman's son, recovering at home; dialysis
Renee Pearson, Sunda Coleman's daughter-in-law, diagnosed with congestive heart failure, at home
Runette Pounds, Sunda Coleman's mother, ongoing health concerns
Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis
Windy Spaide, Craig Callender's sister, ongoing health concerns
Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards' son-in-law, ongoing health concerns
Ike Thomas, ongoing cancer treatments
Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, at home in hospice care
Wayne Woodard, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

In Assisted Living:

George and Nan Carpenter, PO Box 527, Jefferson, GA 30549
Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Nancy Holbrook, The Dublin Place, 504 Fire Tower Rd, Dublin, GA 31021
Maryann Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Runette Pounds, Oaks at Lake Wildwood, Rm 109 Cherry St, 6191 Peake Rd, Macon, GA 31220
Suzy Smith, The Haven, 1061 Willow Run Rd, Unit 4, Greensboro GA 30642

Limited Mobility
Helen Danuser

Military Service
Will Deason
Rebecca Elangwe
(Both are Reservists)



Weeping may last through the night, but **joy** comes with the morning.

-Psalm 30:5

BibleVerseImages.com

Anniversaries

April 5~ Andrew & Min Lindsay



Birthdays

April 4~ Donna Gautier
April 9~ Jennifer Carroll Morris
April 9~ Anne Smart
April 10~ Jose Garcia
April 18~ Roy Phillips
April 21~ Marianne Edwards
April 22~ Mary Lucik
April 23~ David Baarda
April 25~ Vera Bales
April 28~ John Sallstrom

April 29~ Bob Carroll
April 30~ Wesley Applebury

