

CHURCH CURRENTS

MARCH 2026

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
210 SOUTH WAYNE STREET
MILLEDGEVILLE, GA 31061

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





First Presbyterian Church

Issue No. 355 - March 2026

Pastor:
Rev. Mari Turner

Coord. of Children &
Youth Ministries:
Vacant

Admin. Asst.:
Jessica McQuain

Director of Music:
Dr. Jennifer Flory

Organist:
Kate Phillips

Child Care Providers:
Volunteers

Faith in the Liminal Space

March is a month of transition. Here in Georgia, we are currently navigating the unpredictable shift from winter to spring. We are moving away from the cold but haven't quite reached the full warmth of the new season. In the life of our congregation, we are also in an "in-between" season. We have moved past the beginning of Lent, but we are not yet standing in the light of Easter.

Theologians often call this a **liminal space**. The word "liminal" comes from the Latin *limen*, meaning "threshold." *It is the space between one thing and the next—the doorway where you have left one room but haven't quite entered the other. It can be an uncomfortable place because it feels unsettled.*

We are feeling this liminality quite acutely as a congregation right now. As we engage in our own transitional process—conducting mission studies, re-evaluating our core values, and perhaps addressing some hard truths about our past and future—we are standing in that doorway. This kind of "transitional ministry" is intentional work. It requires us to look honestly at who we have been so that we can clearly see where the Spirit is leading us next.

It is tempting to rush through this. We often treat the "in-between" as a gap to be endured until we reach a place of certainty or find "the next right answer." We might even find ourselves praying for God to "be with" us while we wait for the transition to end.

But our Reformed tradition reminds us that the Spirit does not wait for us to finish our mission study before showing up. We don't need to ask the Creator to join us in this doorway, because the Holy is already present in the transition itself.

The **Kin-dom** isn't a destination we reach only once all our questions are answered. It is the community we are weaving together right now, in the midst of the hard conversations and the "already but not yet" of our shared life. God is just as present in our questioning and our navigating as God is in our traditions or our future goals.

As we continue our Lenten walk, I invite you to look for the Divine in these liminal moments. God is in the honesty of our self-reflection and the neighbor who is walking this threshold alongside us. May we have the eyes to see that this transition is not a gap in God's presence, but a primary space for God's grace.

Peace and Grace,

Rev. Mari Turner

Language for the Journey: Why "Kin-dom"?

In our worship and our newsletters, you may have noticed the use of the term "**Kin-dom**" rather than the more traditional "Kingdom." This small change in a single letter carries a significant shift in how we understand our relationship with the Divine and one another.

While "Kingdom" is a familiar biblical term, it carries a heavy imperial history—images of earthly monarchs, borders, and hierarchies of power. In our Reformed tradition, we believe that the Spirit is constantly reforming us to be more inclusive and more faithful to the Gospel's message of radical love. By using **Kin-dom**, we shift our focus from a territory ruled by a distant monarch to a **family of faith** bound together by the Creator. It emphasizes that:

- **We are kin:** We are all children of the same Source, siblings in a diverse and beautiful human family.
- **Relationship over Rule:** God's "reign" is found in the quality of our relationships and how we care for the "least of these," rather than in power or status.
- **Inclusivity:** The Kin-dom belongs to everyone, breaking down the walls that imperial language often builds.

As we navigate our current "liminal space" as a church, may we continue to find ways to speak and act that reflect the wide, welcoming table of God's grace.



BICENTENIAL CELEBRATION



"The Milledgeville Presbyterian Church is the lengthened shadow of one devoted minister of the Gospel, the Reverend Joseph Stiles. True, other ministers were interested, and manifested that interest by their presence; but the six Charter members were the ones "unto whom the word of God had been preached by the Reverend Joseph Stiles." In the description of the organization of the Church on June 11th, 1826, the following are named as the original Charter members: Messrs. Hugh Craft, Leonard Perkins, Orien Shaw, E. H. Burritt, Mrs. Ann Wiley and Mrs. A. W. Burritt.

From this description in Mrs. Beeson's *Historical Sketch of the First Presbyterian Church, Milledgeville, Georgia*, Libby Lounsbury crafted a wonderful playlet entitled *From These Beginnings* that was presented to the Congregation on June 10, 2001. Members of the Fellowship Sunday School Class (see photo) acted out the several scenes:

- Scene 1 begins in Savannah, Georgia on the Stiles Plantation, owned by the father of Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, who became the first pastor of FPC.
- Scene 2, also in Savannah, describes the hiring of Rev. Stiles by Dr. Brown, lead organizer of several new churches in the recently established Hopewell Presbytery.
- Scene 3, women's quilting at the Craft Home the day before the charter meeting of First Presbyterian Church.
- Scene 4, Mr. and Mrs. Craft the evening before the charter meeting.
- Scene 5, Men's meeting later that evening before the charter meeting.
- Scene 6, Entire cast singing the Anniversary Song.



Special to The Baldwin Bulletin

ictured is a collection of church members dressed in historic costumes for the 175th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church. They are, from left: Christina Azahar, Charlotte Gates, Stephanie Azahar, Irwin Gates, Louis Illstrom, Betty Thompson, John Sallstrom, Jackie Northington, Libby Lounsbury, John Lounsbury, Lovett Briggs, Harry Briggs and Harry Beck. They all appeared in a play, written by Libby Lounsbury, commemorating the anniversary.

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP



The Presbyterian Women will take a spring trip to see the blooms at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens.

The group will tour the gardens and have lunch at Longleaf restaurant in the Gardens. Anyone who wants to go on the trip please contact Melba or Nancy.

Date: Thursday, April 16

Northeast Georgia Presbyterian Women Annual Gathering

Sunday, March 21, 2026 at Monticello Presbyterian Church

Our speaker will be Safiyyah Abdulla (a second year Columbia Seminary student.) She has preached at the Milledgeville Presbyterian Church and we look forward to her joining us.

Reservations must be made by March 18, 2026. Breakfast and lunch are covered by the Beth Duncan fund. Registration fee may be paid in gift cards for Mission Haven from Walmart or Home Depot.

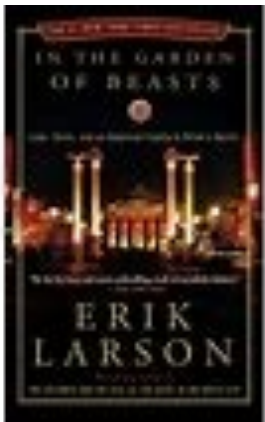
Register by email to rawiebert@gmail.com (Rebecca Shapoori). Include your name, church, and YES or NO for lunch.

Schedule:

Registration 9:30-10:00 AM

Worship 10:00 AM

First Presbyterian Book Club



The First Presbyterian Book Club will meet on Thursday, March 12th in the church parlor at 2:00 pm. The book we will be discussing *In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin* by Erik Larson. The time is 1933, the place Berlin, when William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Nazi Germany.

As evidence of Jewish persecution mounts, Dodd telegraphs his concerns to an indifferent State Department back home. Suffused with the tense atmosphere of the period, the book lends a stunning eyewitness perspective on events as they unfold in real time. This readable work speaks volumes about why the world did not recognize the threat posed by Hitler until Berlin and Europe were awash in blood and terror.

The book that was selected for April is *The Boy Next Door: My Sixty Year Friendship with Bill Clinton* by Carolyn Yedell Staley. The author tells a story from a unique perspective on Bill Clinton's life, having been next-door neighbors and close friends for over sixty years. Staley introduces us to Bill Clinton, the high school student, the neighbor, the son, and the young man dedicated to public service. No previous writer has covered Clinton's high school years who actually knew him and his friends. She shows the person before the oval office; a special friend that became President of the United States.

Come join us in March for a stimulating discussion about Hitler's early years as told from the perspective of someone who actually lived through those events.

~Millie Murphy

The church
has left
the building.



MISSION AND MINISTRY

The church
has left
the building.



The Milly Free Fridge is no longer operating at 601 S. Wilkinson St. as of 2/28/26. **Please direct your donations to the free fridge at Midway Hills Primary School.** In the meantime, Milly Free Fridge will donate items from the Amazon Wishlists to support the snack pack and hygiene pack ministry at First Presbyterian as we continue our search for a new host.

-Jessica McQuain, Milly Free Fridge Organizer

Samaritan Ministry

We helped eight families this month through Samaritan Ministry! Clothing donations are now being accepted; clothing bins are located in the Fellowship classroom at the end of the hall. Please contact Pat Henry or Bill Werts if you are interested in supporting this ministry. Thank you for your continued help.

The next disbursement of funds will be on Tuesday, March 17 at 9:00 AM.



FPC FOOD PANTRY

Tuesdays 9:30am—10:30am!!

Food Pantry served 50 households in February, 6 of them new. We were also recipient of 2 large in-kind donations from outside our congregation at the end of the month which will really stretch our budget dollars in March. Please consider that every appropriate item (see the list!) donated reduces the \$32 cost per bag which funds need to cover. Watch for specials and BOGO items; even the drugstores have good cereal prices sometimes, just notice and buy. Thanks for all you do!

~Donna



Volunteers are appreciated to assist with packing food bags on Monday evenings and helping with the pantry on Tuesday mornings.










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



















MARCH

<p>1</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service— Food Pantry Offering 12:30 PFLAG Luncheon (Upstairs)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service 5:00 PW Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 11:00 PW Bible Study 12:00 Kiwanis 6:30 Session Meeting 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service 2:30 Fraud Prevention Workshop</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 Samaritan Ministry 9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 10:15 Children's School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Sandwich Squad</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 Oconee Recovery Commission</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>9:30-10:30 Food Pantry 12:00 Kiwanis 7:30 NA</p>

MARCH

<p>4</p> <p>10:00 Have a Mug with Mari 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>6:30 Choir rehearsal 7:30 NA</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:30 NA</p>  
<p>11</p> <p>10:00 Have a Mug with Mari 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>2:00 FPC Book Club 6:30 PFLAG (Youth Room) 7:30 NA</p> 	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30 NA</p> 
<p>18</p> <p>10:00 Have a Mug with Mari 5:30 Bicentennial committee 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>7:30 NA</p> 	<p>20</p> 	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 PFLAG movie night (youth room) 7:30 NA</p> 
<p>25</p> <p>10:00 Have a Mug with Mari 6:30 Wednesday Potluck and Study</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>7:30 NA</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4:00 Kiwanis Board Meeting 7:30 NA</p> 

Operations: The church office is open Mon - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Please call the office for an appointment (478) 443-5203



YOUTH MINISTRY



March Youth Schedule: Walking the Path Together

All meetings take place on Sundays after worship unless otherwise noted.

- **Mar 1 – Prayer Rocks and Prayer Walks:** We will head outside to engage our bodies in prayer, using "prayer rocks" as tangible reminders of the burdens we leave with God and the strength we find in the Spirit.
- **Mar 8 – Modern Parables (Part 2):** We continue our look at how the ancient stories of Jesus translate into our world today. Who would we invite to the great banquet in 2026?
- **Mar 15 – No Meeting:** Enjoy the GCSU spring break weekend!
- **Mar 22 – The Labyrinth:** We will walk the labyrinth together, practicing the art of being present in the "in-between" and finding the center of God's peace.
- **Mar 29 – Making Sandwiches and Easter Egg Fun:** A day of service and celebration as we prepare meals for our neighbors and get ready for the joy of the coming Kin-dom.



As our youth navigate their own "liminal spaces" this Lent, we have a wonderful opportunity to support them. We are looking for volunteers to provide lunch for the group following Sunday worship. If you can help nourish our young people as they explore their faith, please sign up at the link below.

Sign up to provide a meal: <https://bit.ly/FeedYouth>

TREASURER'S CORNER

Since my last report we have made some changes. We have moved some of our money to higher yielding accounts to make sure we maximize the interest we earn on the funds.

The contributions have not quite covered our expenses. Please make sure you continue to do what you can to keep everything going. Remember that your support of the general fund, the Samaritan's Ministry and the Food Pantry is the only way these ministries are possible. All of our work follows the example of Jesus.

*Joel D. Burns
Treasurer*

<u>OPERATING BUDGET</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>2026 YTD</u>
Contributions	\$14,938	\$14,938
Other Income	\$9	\$9
Total Operating Income	\$14,947	\$14,947
Total Operating Expenses	\$29,556	\$29,556
Net Operating	(\$14,609)	(\$14,609)
 <u>DESIGNATED FUNDS</u>		
Contributions	\$3,097	\$3,097
Expenses	\$2,324	\$2,324
Net Designated	\$773	\$773



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

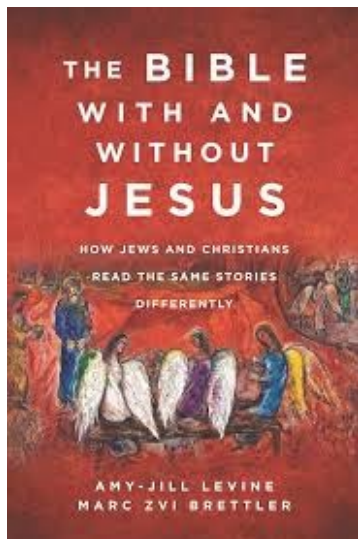


The Bible Sunday School class continues its study of The Bible With and Without Jesus by Amy Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler. This meticulously researched book helps us understand the Jewish perspective on many parts of the holy scriptures.

Our class is meeting in person (in the Betty Newton Campbell church parlor) every Sunday at 9:45 AM unless bad weather forces us to use ZOOM alone.

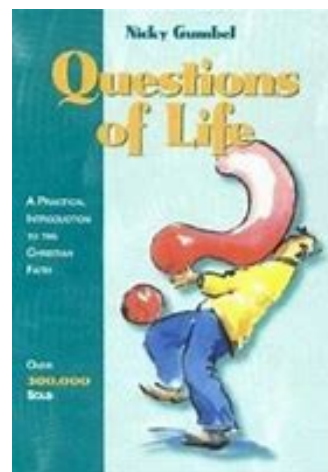
I hope a number of you will join us. If you wish to join by ZOOM, call me at (478) 414-6516 and I will forward the link.

~Joel D. Burns



FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are studying *Questions of Life: A Practical Guide to the Christian Faith* by Nicky Gumbel. This group meets in person **every Sunday morning at 9:45**. We would love to have you join us.
~Bill Werts



d365

d365 is a daily devotion written for youth and adults. The devotion follows a five-step format – **Pause, Listen, Think, Pray, Go**. The **Pause** step remains the same all week and is designed as a centering tool as you begin the devotion.

The **Listen** step is the scripture passage for the day, using the

Common English Bible translation.

The **Think** step is the devotional thought by the week's writer.

The **Pray** step is the start of a prayer that you can expand into your own conversation with God.

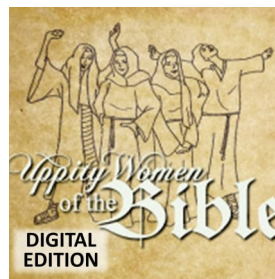
The **Go** step is a call to action – launching you from this moment toward acting on what you have heard.

As you read the thoughts of the writers, think about your own response to the scripture for the day. Let the writer's words serve as background for your own conversation with God.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY

The Wednesday night group meets in person for a great pot luck supper and lively discussion every week. We are finishing the Uppity Women of the Bible by Dr. Lisa Wolfe. This video series takes a fresh look at the books of Ruth, The Song of Songs, Esther and Judith. With humor and wit the professor makes the study a joy.

After we finish Uppity Women, Reverend Mari will lead us in a study of Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America by Ted V. Foote and P. Alex Thornburg. This book is designed to assist us in countering the narrative of Christian Nationalism.



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!



SESSION NEWS



Highlights from the February Session Meetings:

- Accepted Wyatt Henry as a new member by reaffirmation of faith.
- Approved signatories to new checking, money market and CD accounts at Truist Bank to obtain maximum interest on current funds.
- Selected Susan McGill (chair) and Bill Werts as the Session representatives on the Nominating Committee.
- Elected Susan McGill as the third commissioner representing FPC to the Feb. 28th Northeast Georgia Presbytery Meeting.
- Approved hosting the NE GA Presbyterian Women fall meeting (originally scheduled for August 22).
- Approved Dale Chapin as pulpit supply on April 26, 2026.
- Approved and submitted the 2025 Statistical Report to the PC(USA).
- Prepared the 2025 Annual Report for the February 15 Congregational Meeting.

~ Respectfully submitted, Susan McGill, Clerk of Session

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Care & Fellowship Team

The Fellowship Team almost turned the business meeting on February 15th into a party with the Mardi Gras theme and a little N'awlins jazz. About forty members enjoyed lunch and took care of business. Lunch was prepared by Donna Gautier, Linda Bradley, Will Humphrey, Susan McGee, Carrie Cook, Ruby Werts, Margaret Ivester, Frida Ituka, Cecilia Odihe, Gloria Burns, Anne Smart, Millie Murphy, Jane Tipton, and Becky Humphrey. Thank you! Thanks, also, to those of you who checked "help with food" on the Time & Talent Survey. If you have not been contacted, don't worry. You will be!

The Care Team has reached out to those who have lost loved ones. Meals have been delivered and visits have been made to members who have had recent surgeries. Millie is sending cards and Harry is checking in by phone. Please use the Prayer Request Cards located in the pew pockets or call the church to let Pastor Mari and/or the Care Team know of needs.

Communicating is the key!

SAVE THE DATE – Sunday, March 15th, 2:30 pm – Fellowship Hall – for a special event sponsored by the Care and Fellowship Team. A **Fraud Awareness Program: Stay Safe From Scams and Hackers** will be presented. This program is provided by the Civic Woman's Club in partnership with the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office. Though developed with senior citizens in mind, the program has information for all ages. The topics include investment scams, phone scams, romance scams, online scams, and hacking and identity theft. Bring friends and join us for this timely presentation. Refreshments will be served.

Congregational/Corporation Meeting Update

At the Feb. 15 meeting (after a delicious lunch provided by the Congregational Care and Fellowship Committee), the congregation approved the following:

- 1) Adoption of new By-Laws
- 2) Elected corporate officers: Andrew Allen as President (CEO), John Bradley as Treasurer (CFO), and Susan McGill as Secretary.
- 3) Approved the Nominating Committee: Susan McGill (Chair) and Bill Werts representing the Session, and Pat Henry, Anne Smart, and Glory Nwankonta as at-large members.

John Bradley also presented the 2026 Budget and discussed proposed repairs to stop the water intrusion into the building in several places.



Worship Committee

- A flower calendar is located in the kitchen on the side of the fridge. Please consider honoring or remembering someone with the gift of flowers for the sanctuary. Contact Becky at (478-457-5349) for more info.

Property Committee

- Work on the roof of the church will begin in March. While work is underway, the front door to the church may be blocked. Entry will need to be through the kitchen door.



Photos courtesy of Becky Humphrey



ODDS AND ENDS



Journeying Together: A Season of Lent

The season of Lent begins on February 18th—a forty-day journey (excluding Sundays) that invites us into a time of intentional reflection and spiritual renewal as we prepare our hearts for the miracle of Easter.

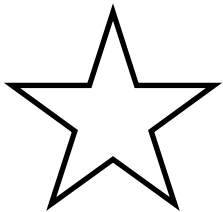
While Lent is often associated with the tradition of "giving something up," it is perhaps more helpfully viewed as a season for **taking something on**. It is an opportunity to clear space for new growth by adopting spiritual disciplines that draw us closer to God and to one another. Whether it is committing to a daily practice of prayer, engaging in consistent acts of service, or making time for deep scriptural study, these forty days offer us a rhythmic way to dwell more fully in God's presence.

Walking Together: 2026 Lenten Devotional

To help guide your personal reflection and spiritual practice throughout these forty days, our church has curated a special Lenten Devotional. We invite you to use this resource daily for scripture readings, prayers, and reflections designed to help you nourish your faith during this season.

You can access and download the digital devotional at: <https://bit.ly/2026LentenDevotional>

May this Lent be a season of transformation for you and for our entire congregation as we explore new ways to follow the path of Christ. Let us walk into the wilderness together, knowing that we do not walk alone.



Welcome to the church family, Wyatt Henry!

Wyatt is a student at GCSU and is originally from Buford, Georgia. He learned about FPC when he first visited Milledgeville and walked by. On Saturdays you can find him volunteering at the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF). Be sure to give Wyatt a warm welcome next time you see him!



- March 1 ~ Marion Robinson
- March 2 ~ Maria Etheridge
- March 3 ~ Lin McKnight
- March 4 ~ Jenny McDade
- March 8 ~ Kerry McGill
- March 10 ~ Jessica McQuain
- March 13 ~ Natalie King
- March 14 ~ Charles Morgan
- March 18 ~ Cindy Phillips
- March 19 ~ Susan Janzen



- March 3 ~ Bob & Eloise Lamb
- March 17 ~ John & Debbie Lamsma

Prayer

CONDOLENCES

Mary Lucik for the passing of her sister, Vona Hill Wohlenberg

CHURCH FAMILY:

Sherry Henry, recovering from surgery
Holley Cowan, recovering from surgery at home
Harry Beck, ongoing health concerns
Nan Carpenter, ongoing health concerns
Louise Sallstrom, ongoing health concerns

EXTENDED FAMILY:

Darryl Allen, Andrew Allen's father, ongoing health concerns
Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues
Kandace Allen Bivins, friend of Margaret Ivester, heart attack
Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer
Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns
Charles Morgan, Jennifer Flory's father, ongoing health concerns
Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, ongoing health issues—at Carlyle House in Macon
John J. Murphy, Kathy Carroll's father, recovering from kidney operation
Chris Pearson, Sunda Coleman's son, medical complication requiring hospitalization
Renee Pearson, Sunda Coleman's daughter-in-law, diagnosed with congestive heart failure, at home
Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis
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 Woodward, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

IN ASSISTED LIVING

Nan Carpenter, PO Box 527, Jefferson, GA 30549
Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Laura King, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive
Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Runette Pounds, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Louise Sallstrom, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive
Suzy Smith, The Oaks Peake, 400 Foster Rd., A2, Macon, GA 31210
Frankie Holder, Pruitt Health-Marietta, 50 Saine Dr. SW-Room 215, Marietta, GA 30008

Military Service
Will Deason
Rebecca Elangwe
(Both are
Reservists)



Liturgist Schedule

Mar 1 & 8: Becky
 Humphrey
Mar 15 & 22: Frida Ituka
Mar 29: Jan Hoffmann

Greeters:

• Mar 1: Margaret Ivester & Bill Werts
• Mar 8: John & Emily Bradley
• Mar 15: Pat & Sherry Henry
• Mar 22: Nancy Miller & Millie Murphy
• Mar 29: Margaret Ivester & Bill Werts

Nursery Volunteer Schedule

Mar 1 ~ Charles Burrell/Nancy Miller
Mar 8 ~ Anne Smart/Gloria Burns
Mar 15 ~ Joel Burns/Sherry Henry
Mar 22 ~ Margaret Ivester/Susan McGill
Mar 29 ~ Laurie Peebles/Gloria Burns

Looking Ahead - Holy Week 2026

Palm Sunday, March 29: Join us for a service featuring a palm processional and the procession of the cross as we sing "Be Not Afraid." Our choir will share an anthem and choral responses composed specifically for our congregation.

Maundy Thursday, April 2: We will gather for a service of communion at 6:30 PM, followed by choir practice.

Good Friday, April 3: The sanctuary will be open from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM for meditation and prayer. Music, prayer guides, and activities will be available for all who wish to drop in.

Easter Sunday, April 5: We celebrate the resurrection with special music, the flowering of the cross, and the sharing of communion.



We will be meeting on Thursday, March 5, at 6:30 PM, in the loft to rehearse music for Palm Sunday and Easter. We may also practice the anthems that are scheduled between now and then. We will also rehearse Easter music again on Maundy Thursday evening, April 2, after the service which will be at 6:30 PM. Please join us if you are able and encourage anyone else you think might want to sing to come.

- Dr. Jennifer Flory, Music Director

One Great Hour of Sharing

In the Reformed tradition, our stewardship extends far beyond the walls of our local sanctuary. During the season of Lent, we participate in **One Great Hour of Sharing**, a denominational offering that allows us to join with other PC(USA) congregations to share God's love with people in need around the world.

For over 75 years, this offering has provided a tangible way to build the **Kin-dom** by supporting three vital programs:

- **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance:** Restoring hope to communities following natural or human-caused disasters.
- **Presbyterian Hunger Program:** Working to alleviate hunger and systemic causes of poverty both domestically and internationally.
- **Self-Development of People:** Partnering with marginalized communities to advocate for social justice and sustainable change.

When we give to One Great Hour of Sharing, we acknowledge that we are all kin, and that our abundance is meant to be shared. Look for the special offering envelopes in the pews throughout March, or you can give online via the church website.

"You shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in." — Isaiah 58:12 (RSVUE)



Celebrating First Presbyterian Church of Milledgeville's Bicentennial Year

On May 3 the Bicentennial Committee plans to present the playlet written by Libby Lounsbury for the 175th church anniversary. The beginning scene will be presented during Morning Worship. The rest of the playlet will be staged in Fellowship Hall during a fellowship reception.

Ruby Werts will be leading this simple, but fun presentation. You do not have to have any acting experience. Needed are:

- people of all ages to portray people who began our church 200 years ago
- narrators for each scene
- helpers: to move set pieces, to help gather costumes/props/etc.

It will take a lot of people to do this special program. There will be no auditions and very few rehearsals will be required. (Those dates will be discussed at the General meeting which will be April 5 in Fellowship Hall after Worship.)



Photo courtesy of Georgia Historic Newspapers



Spring forward in faith!
CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS and
join us on time for worship.