



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MARIETTA

Changing Lives with Faith, Hope, and Love

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024 | 8:30AM & 11:00AM

WELCOME TO FPC MARIETTA

This church welcomes you no matter who you are or from where you come. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, we can learn together. We invite you to return often.

FRIENDSHIP PAD

Whether you are a member, a long-time visitor, or just passing by, please sign the friendship pad at the end of your row.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

The nursery is available for infants through 4-yr-olds from 9:30-12:15pm. Children are invited to pick up worship items from the blue cart at the entrance to the Sanctuary and Great Hall. Following the Children's Time during the 11:00 service, children in 4yr Pre-K through 1st grade may go to Children's Church.

STEPHEN MINISTERS ON-CALL

A Stephen Minister is on call each Sunday morning from 10:00am through 12:00pm. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister during that time, please see the front desk or one of the Deacons on duty, and they will locate them for you. *Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2)*

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alonza (Lon) Jenkins by Theresa Jenkins, Tiffany and John Floodquist and Lee and Stephanie Jenkins.

JOIN US

New members are received each month in worship. If you are interested in joining, please contact Ken Farrar at kenfarrar@icloud.com.

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Reformation Sunday honors a great reform movement in the Christian faith, initiated by Martin Luther who nailed his 95 Thesis to the church door in Wittenburg, Germany in 1517. What Luther started, John Calvin continued in Geneva, Switzerland, establishing the theological foundation of the Presbyterian Church. Today we are called to honor this heritage of reformation by identifying the elements of our tradition that are in need of renewal and reformation – we are to be “reformed and always reforming”.

WELCOME

GATHERING MUSIC *Ein’ feste Burg* | Arr.by Velde

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 65)

Praise is due to you, O God;

O you who answer prayer!

**When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.**

Happy are those whom you choose
and bring near to live in your courts.

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 275 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, Our Mighty Fortress,
too often I underestimate you.

Imagining that you are weak, I rely on my own strength.

Imagining that you are distant, the worries of the world threaten to undo me.

Imagining evil’s power is greater than yours, I tremble before the prince of darkness.

**Forgive me Lord and help me to see you clearly,
for I may be weak, but you are a mighty fortress.**

I may be worried, but you are a helper amid the flood.

I may tremble before evil, but lo! his doom is sure.

O God, Our Mighty Fortress, in this silence, hear my confession.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

His mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning.

Great is his faithfulness.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI NO. 581**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you. | **And also with you.**

(11:00am) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 624** *I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM *There is a Land of Pure Delight* | Ives

There is a land of pure delight where
saints immortal reign; infinite day
excludes the night and pleasures banish
pain, and pleasures banish pain.

There everlasting spring abides and
never with'ring flowers, Death like a
narrow sea divides that heavenly land
from ours, that heavenly land from ours.

Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood
stand dressed in living green; so to the
Jews old Canaan stood while Jordan
rolled between, while Jordan rolled
between.

But tim'rous mortals start and shrink to
cross the narrow sea, and linger shiv'ring
on the brink, and fear to launch away, and
fear to launch away.

O could we make our doubts remove,
those gloomy doubts that rise, and see the
Canaan that we love with unbeclouded
eyes, with unbeclouded eyes.

Could we but climb where Moses stood
and view the landscape o'er. Not Jordan's
stream, not death's cold flood should
fright us from the shore, should fright us
from the shore.

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS (NRSV)

Psalms 34: 1-8

Romans 12:1-8

The Word of the Lord | **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON *Faith Seeking Understanding* | Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon

WE RESPOND TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *Elevation II* | Benoit

*DOXOLOGY

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE

*SENDING HYMN NO. 314 *Christ, Be Our Light*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *A Clare Benediction* | Rutter

May the Lord show his mercy upon you. May the light of his presence be your guide
May he guard you and uphold you, may his spirit be ever by your side.
When you sleep, may his angels watch over you, when you wake, may he fill you with his grace.
May you love him and serve him all your days, Then in heaven may you see his face.

*SENDING MUSIC *A Mighty Fortress* | Arr.by Innes

**Please note that the 11am worship service on Sunday, November 3, will be held in the Sanctuary.
Please join us for worship, then walk through the Tartan Road Market in Holland Hall.
Be sure to come back at 5pm for the Mass of the Children. Details inside!*

If you would like to give online go to fpcmarietta.org, or scan this QR code.



Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor | Rev. Cassie Waits, Associate Pastor | Rev. Dr. Paul Sherwood, Parish Associate
Rev. Dr. Buzz Wilcoxon, Guest Preacher

Paulette Basham, 8:30am Beadle | Denise Lobodinski, 11:00am Beadle | Catherine Sherwood, 11:00 Acolyte
Dr. Jeffrey Meeks, Director of Music & Fine Arts | Chohee Kim, Principal Organist | Chancel Choir

Audio/Visual Team: 8:30am Will Myers | 11:00am Bennett Sherwood, John Hills



Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon grew up in Fairhope, AL. He attended Presbyterian College (BA) and Columbia Theological Seminary (M.Div. & D.Min). He served as the associate pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC and the senior pastor of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church in Mobile, AL. In 2022 he began serving as the inaugural Marianne & E.G. Lassiter Chaplain & Dean of Spiritual Life at Presbyterian College. In the summer of 2023 he served as the acting president of the college. Buz has served on the board of trustees for Columbia Theological Seminary and has written a number of hymns that have been published in Presbyterian resources. He and his wife, Ryann, are the proud parents of two children: Lohi and Wilson.



Presbyterian Promise Presentation Today!

Parents of youth are invited to meet with Buz in the Glover Room at 9:45 am to learn more about the Presbyterian Promise Scholarship offered by Presbyterian College.

Youth are also welcome to attend.

The Presbyterian Promise Scholarship is a commitment by Presbyterian College (PC) to recognize students for their merit and affiliation with the Presbyterian Church. PC seeks to develop students academically and spiritually in this signature scholarship. Students who are members of Presbyterian churches will receive a scholarship for a minimum of \$20,000 per year for up to four years—that's an \$80,000 commitment to you. Learn more at www.presby.edu/admissions.

This Reformation Sunday, when we celebrate the Protestant Reformation and the legacy of the Presbyterian Church, we give thanks to God for what we are able to build when we work together!

Today, we celebrate our relationship with Presbyterian Institutions like Presbyterian College and Presbyterian Village.



As members of First Presbyterian Marietta and residents at Presbyterian Village Austell we feel the warmth of support and friendship provided by this Presbyterian partnership every day.

John and Carol Ripley



At Presbyterian Village, we're proud to be part of this celebrated partnership providing intergenerational opportunities and support to the Marietta community.

Learn more about senior living at PresbyterianVillageAustell.org.



FORWARD IN FAITH

2025 STEWARDSHIP >>> GOAL \$2.2 MILLION

As of October 22, we have received 253 pledges and \$1,727,971. We are almost there! Please remember to turn in your pledges as the 2025 Church budget depends on it. Thank you!



TODAY

TRUNK-OR-TREAT & CHILI COOK-OFF 4-6PM

*The Haunted Hallway has been canceled

Join us for an afternoon of fun for all ages! Come enjoy delicious chili and vote for your favorites!

Kids are encouraged to dress in costume and trick or treat from trunk to trunk!

Enjoy games and inflatables. \$2 Pizza, chips, drink combo (cash only)



KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN

November 10 | 8:30 & 11am

SIGN UP TO CARRY A BANNER! [FPCMARIETTA.ORG/EVENTS](https://fpcmarietta.org/events)

Questions? Email JeffreyMeeks@fpcmarietta.org

In this service, we remember the Scottish origins of the Presbyterian Church with bagpipes and drums, and with the blessing of the tartans. We also celebrate our shared life together as children of God. You are invited to celebrate your unique ancestry by wearing a family plaid or traditional clothing of your heritage.



NOV. 3 | 12-4:50PM | HOLLAND HALL

Come see the newly crafted FPC Tartan Collection on display for the first time!

Bid on the Silent Auction items!

Visit with artists, makers & authors.

Don't forget to enjoy delicious food & drink!

Join us right after service and before the beautiful choral performance that evening.

NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

NOV 3 **All Saints Sunday and Communion Sunday (both services in Sanctuary)**
Tartan Road Market 12-4:50pm
Mass of the Children Concert 5pm | Great Hall
Composed by John Rutter after the sudden death of his son, Mass of the Children is a fitting composition for All Saints Sunday, composed out of Rutter's desire to bring children and adults together.

NOV 10 **Kirkin' of the Tartan** 8:30 & 11:00am Worship
Special Lecture with Dr. Brennan Breed
on Scottish Heritage and Reformation 9:45am | Rm047
Fellowship Breakfast between services in Holland Hall
\$7/ person & \$28/family max
Puerto Rico HS Mission Trip Interest Meeting
4pm | Glover Room *for parents and high school youth*

NOV 24 **Red Cross Blood Drive**
8am-1pm | redcrossblood.org
A pint of blood can save up
to 3 lives! Sign up today!



**A Grief Share
Workshop**
led by Stephen Ministry
NOV 12 | 6-8PM

*Wondering how
you'll get through
the holidays this year?*
Registration details on back.



**Join FPC's Team HEART & SOLE
at the Thanksgiving Gobble Jog, Nov. 28**

All walkers, joggers, runners, and phantom runners
are invited! Questions? Email hartin13@att.net

**MASS of the
CHILDREN**

NOV 3 | 5:00PM



FEATURING FPC CHANCEL CHOIR,
GEORGIA YOUTH CHOIR, & LOCAL MUSICIANS

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FPC OPPORTUNITIES

Angel Tree

Each Christmas, our Mission Committee collects gifts for children in foster care or in need of support during the holidays. You can join us in this effort! Choose an angel tag off the tree in the Gathering Space. Purchase the gift on the tag and deliver it unwrapped to the box in the Gathering Space.

This year we are offering Sunday School classes, Bible Studies, Families and any group to participate by sponsoring a child and purchasing all of their gifts. A wonderful mission project!

FPC Pedalers - Bike Riding Group

Next ride: Friday November 8 | 9am | From the Silver Comet Trail at Floyd Road

We usually ride an hour out and an hour back, but we can modify the ride to fit the needs of the group.

This is a social activity, not a race! We ride for FUN.

If you have questions, please call Jennifer Davis at 404-210-3697 or Nancy Jo Kirk at 678-986-3967.

Calling all artists!

November 7 | 5-6pm | 26 Winters Street, Marietta | Email ginlea@icloud.com with questions.

We are starting a Creative Feedback Group to connect artists to a larger creative community. If you have a hard time calling yourself an artist or maybe you're well established, we want you to join us to build a supportive network to help lift us all up. Muse & Co. has volunteered to be our first host gallery!

We will begin with a welcome, share events to get involved in, celebrations and news. We will break into small groups where each person is invited to share what they are working on, what they hope to achieve through their work and ask for feedback from their group. We really hope you can join us!

Hosted by Muse & Co. and the Music & Arts Committee at First Presbyterian Church of Marietta.

Artists of all or no faith are encouraged regardless of beliefs.

Surviving the Holidays: A Grief Share Workshop led by Stephen Ministry | November 12 | 6-8pm | Lower Level

Are you dreading these holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated? Join us! You'll be welcomed by warm, caring people who understand what you are going through and who want to help. You can RSVP to Denise Lobodinski at lobodrake@aol.com.

There is a \$7 material fee.

Help Wanted! We are looking for a very part-time Kitchen Ministry Assistant to work with Mary Beth on food preparation, ordering and inventory management. If you or someone you know might like further details, please email MeriKateMarcum@fpcmarietta.org. A final job description is in the works, but please spread the word!

Let's Feed Our Youth!

Every Sunday evening, our youth group shares a meal together, provided by church members! If you'd like to sign up, go to fpcmarietta.org/youth! Questions? Email Jana Chesney at JanaChesney@fpcmarietta.org.

My Handy Friend Ministry

The purpose of this ministry is to provide a free service to our members who are in need of assistance with tasks that they may no longer be comfortable doing. If you would like to have help, please fill out the form at fpcmarietta.org/my-handy-friend, and someone will call you to understand your need and let you know if this is something we can do for you. If you have skills and are willing to share them, please fill out the same form.