



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MARIETTA

Changing Lives with Faith, Hope, and Love

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025 | 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 9:30am-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 chancel flowers today are given to the glory of God by Carrie Kennedy in loving memory of her parents, JoAnn & Steve Hudson, and her favorite aunt and uncle, Ann & Bob Kennedy.

Contact Mary Anne Lanier to sign up to provide flowers: 17lanier@gmail.com

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

Epiphany is the worship service that marks the Magi's visit to the Holy Family. After Christ's birth, they came bringing him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The color green marks the worship space and the pastors' robes during this season after epiphany. The green will remain as we read Gospel lessons focused on Jesus' life and teachings.

WELCOME

GATHERING MUSIC *When in Our Music God Is Glorified* | Hobby

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Psalm 19*)

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the earth proclaims his handiwork.

**Day to day, we hear of his blessings,
and night to night we listen for knowledge.**

The sun rises in joyful anticipation for a new day,
like a groom on the day of his wedding.

**May the words of my mouth be filled with such joy,
and may the meditations of my heart be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,

**We wonder why there is no joy in our hearts,
when we fail to see our self-absorption and petty desires.**

**We claim to look for you but how can we find you,
while we shamefully ignore those around us who are made in your likeness?**

**We move about as if we were the wise ones,
yet our actions are based on assumptions and deep-seeded fears.**

**We know your law,
but we work harder to avoid it rather than fulfill it.**

**We say 'Lord, come save us,'
but we refuse to turn our backs to sin and raise our faces to your light.**

**Forgive us, Lord, in this silence hear our confession,
and may your everlasting mercy set us free to new life.**

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.

(11:00am) RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

*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. 459 *O Word of God Incarnate*

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

More Love to Thee, O Christ | Martin

*More love to Thee, O Christ,
More love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
on bended knee;
This is my earnest plea:
More love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee!
More love to Thee!*

*Once earthly joy I craved,
Sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek,
Give what is best;
This all my prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee!
More love to Thee!*

*Then with my final breath
singing thy Praise;
this be the glorious cry
my hear shall raise.
This still its song shall be
More love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee!
More love to Thee!
More love to Thee!*

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS (NRSV)

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Luke 4:14-24

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

SERMON *The Divine Agenda* | Rev. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor

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 *Cello Suite* | Bach

*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

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



GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE

*SENDING HYMN NO. 265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL BLESSING *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* | Rutter

*SENDING MUSIC *Finale* | Widor

Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor

Rev. Cassie Waits, Associate Pastor of Discipleship

Rev. Meri Kate Marcum, Associate Pastor of Fellowship & Outreach

Adrean Grant, Parents Day Out/Nursery Coordinator

Bob Smith, 8:30am Beadle

Jean Tafoya, 11:00am Beadle

Zoë Payne, 11:00am Acolyte

Dr. Jeffrey Meeks, Director of Music & Fine Arts

Chancel Choir | Sarah Kepps, cellist

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

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE



SUNDAYS

Find details in the bulletin or scan the QR code

- FEB 2** Communion Sunday
Everyone is welcome to take part in the sacrament of communion in the Presbyterian Church. You don't have to be a member. The table is open and you are welcome. If you have a gluten sensitivity, the bread in the center of each tray is gluten free.
Youth Movie Night | 5-7pm | Holland Hall
- FEB 9** FPC 101 Class for New Members | 9:45-10:45am | History Room
Youth Super Bowl Party | 6pm | at the Marcum's
- FEB 16** FPC 101 Class for New Members | 9:45-10:45am | History Room
No Children/Youth Sunday School | Nursery opens at 10:45am | No Youth Group
- FEB 23** FPC 101 Class for New Members | 9:45-10:45am | History Room
Presbyterian Women Sunday Circle | 5pm | Glover Room
Youth Group 5-7pm

More opportunities!

The Scott Barton Scholarship was established to assist in the college education of a student, who, like Scott, is a gifted student who values church and community commitments. Current high school seniors are encouraged to apply! Details at mariettaschoolsfoundation.com/endowments-scholarships/

Boy Scout Troop 252 has been a part of FPC for decades. Cub Pack for boys and girls is also offered. Email pkgooge@gmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (9:45-10:45AM)

Children Sunday School

2s and 3s: Rm 103 | Prek-1st Grade: Rm 206
2nd-5th Grades: Rm 216

Youth Sunday School

Grades 6-12: Pastors Conference Room

Adult Sunday School

Young Adults | Rm 231
30-50s Class | Lectionary study | Rm 053
New Seasons | Lectionary study | Rm 051
Explorers | Ephesians | Rm 050
Faith Builders | Lectionary Study | Rm 055
Faith Journeys in the Americas | Rm 052

TO DO LIST..

- Update your recurring financial gift via Realm or Pushpay.
- Send us your photos of church life! fpcmarietta.org/gallery
- Pick up an Engagement Catalog!

RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY!

You'll notice that our Youth Sunday School will be meeting in the Pastors Conference Room for the next several weeks! Thanks to your support from the recent campaign to renovate our Youth Room and bathrooms! The project is underway!

Find a small group!

This is not an exclusive list. For more opportunities or details, go to fpcmarietta.org/get-involved

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

How Much More by Lisa Harper

Tuesdays | 9:30am-12:00pm | Room 055

Refreshments, workbook discussion, and a video.

Looking ahead! A study of Esther: Daring Faith For Such A Time As This by Kelly Minter begins March 4.

Email newbush@comcast.net.

Thursday Bible Study Spring 2025 Study

Thursdays at noon | \$7 lunch | Holland Hall

Surprised by Hope by N.T. Wright

Email CassieWaits@fpcmarietta.org.

FPC Men's Group

Bonhoeffer Video Series: 1/27, 2/17, 3/24, 4/28

In Bonhoeffer, a four-session small group study, New York Times bestselling author Eric Metaxas will help you discover the major themes of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's writing and speaking and how he not only helped transform an entire faith community in Germany during World War II, but how his beliefs continue to impact the Christian faith of people throughout the world today.

Email jdknox162@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Women 2024-2025 Study

Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation

PW has two groups that each meet one evening a month on Sundays and Mondays. Email akkeane@gmail.com.

Young Adult Small Groups

Various Times/Locations

Email JoeJordan@fpcmarietta.org.

Youth Group

Sundays | 5-7pm | Grades 6-12

Email JanaChesney@fpcmarietta.org to be added to the email list for special events and details!

Book Club

2nd Wednesday of every month at 6pm

Next Meeting - February 12: *The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War* by Ben Macintyre

Email njkirk@mindspring.com.

Writers Support Group

3rd Tuesdays | 7pm

Members include professional writers and hobbyists. The group shares wine and snacks.

Email cfz3@hotmail.com.

Dinner Groups and Wine Groups

Various times/locations

Small groups meet monthly at a group member's home. Participants bring a dish or beverage to share. Hosting rotates among the group members.

Wine Groups: Email rsloop47@gmail.com.

Dinner Groups: Email cfz3@hotmail.com.

Jubilee

Monthly social group for adults 55+ with frequent luncheons and outings. Email PaulSherwood@fpcmarietta.org.

FPC Pedalers

Next Ride Feb. 12 | 1:30pm | Floyd Rd Trailhead

This group usually rides for an hour out and an hour back, but can modify the ride to fit the needs of the group. We ride for fun! Email njkirk@mindspring.com.

Movement Class

Thursdays | 10am | Sessions are \$25 each.

An hour of strengthening, balance training, and movement life skills designed for seniors.

Email lynnelooop@gmail.com.

Card Groups

Various Days/Times

Like to play cards? We've got groups for you!

Email pkgooge@gmail.com.

Need a little extra support?

This is not an exclusive list. For more opportunities or details, go to fpcmarietta.org/care-and-support

WINTER WEATHER HELP

FPC On Demand Clothing Drive

Cold weather brings with it many challenges and it brings a particular challenge to individuals incarcerated in July but released in January, for the clothing worn at the time of confinement is the same clothing worn when released from the Cobb County Detention Center.

With the chill of winter upon us, we are asking for your help. Please donate coats, sweatshirts, jeans and shoes from your closets or a local thrift shop. Please note that the need for men's clothing is about 15 times greater than for women.

You will find a bin in the Gathering Space labeled FPC On Demand Clothing Drive. Thank you for your generosity!

Emergency Overflow Shelter Transportation

MUST will activate emergency shelters when overnight temperatures are expected to fall to 35 degrees or below. We need volunteers to drive the church van, to ride in the van (so two volunteers are in each van, and to drive their own vehicle (for transporting luggage and other belongings).

Reach out to Jeff Byrd at 770.295.8326 or jeffbyrdis@gmail.com for more details!

Family Autism Support Group

3rd Thursdays | 7:00-8:30pm | Room 051

For families of those on the autism spectrum including school/community resource information. Email drjanet770@gmail.com.

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Support Groups for individuals with a mental health condition and another group for families who have a loved one with a mental health condition meet regularly at FPC. Email programs.namicobb@gmail.com.

Stephen Ministry

So much in life can sideline us and sometimes we just need someone to talk to about it all. Trained Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with distinctively Christian one-on-one caregiving as you deal with any life difficulty or transition. Email francisr@bellsouth.net.

My Handy Friend

The purpose of this ministry is to provide a free service to our members with limited ability such as age, physical, or economic ability, who need some assistance. If you are in need of assistance or would like to volunteer your time and skills, go to fpcmarietta.org/my-handy-friend/.

Pantry on Church

We partner with Sweetwater Mission in Austell to distribute groceries and essentials to approximately 280 families who drive through our church's main parking lot every Tuesday from 5-7pm. More at fpcmarietta.org/pantry.