



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MARIETTA

Sunday, September 13, 2026 | 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. Our doors are wide open. 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 children ages six weeks through 4 years old 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 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.

Join us

New members are received each month in worship. If you are interested in joining, please contact Matt Burnham at mattburnham2021@gmail.com.

Chancel Flowers

There are dates available this summer and fall to provide flowers for worship.

Contact Mary Anne Lanier at 17lanier@gmail.com.

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

The color green marks the Sanctuary during the time after Pentecost. This season of the church year is a time when the church focuses on spiritual growth and discipleship.

Gathering Music

Be Still | Grote

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Chorister's Prayer | Maloney

*Call to Worship (*Psalm 103*)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

Let all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

Who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

For the Lord is merciful and gracious,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

As a father has compassion for his children,

The Lord has compassion for all who stand in awe of him.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn of Praise No. 620 *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Prayer of Confession

Good and Gracious God,

We come before you wallowing in our brokenness instead of clinging to your promise of restoration. We come holding onto hurts and wounds instead of letting them go to receive your healing. We come doubting your presence in our midst instead of training our eyes to notice your faithfulness. Forgive us, God. Free us from the burden of trying to control the world and other people. Help us to remember you cause the sun to rise every morning and the moon each night, and so too, you hold us steadily and mercifully in your hand.

In this silence, hear our 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*

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.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(11:00am) **Children's Message**

(11:00am) **The Sacrament of Baptism** Daphne Quinn Heath,

Daughtert of Matthew and Daron Heath

Hymn of Preparation No. 415 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

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

How Lovely are the Messengers | Mendelssohn

The Chancel Choir

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace.

*To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.*

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings (NRSV| CEB)

Exodus 14:19-31| Matthew 18:21-35

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

Sermon

“Let it Go”

Rev. Meri Kate Marcum | Associate 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 arose 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.

Sunday School Teacher Commissioning

Offering/Offertory

You Are Mine | Kim

***Doxology No. 606**

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. 649** *Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

The Peace of God | Rutter

***Sending Music**

Sortie | Franck

Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor | Rev. Meri Kate Marcum
Rev. Cassie Waits, Associate Pastor | Betsy Sherwood, Preschool Director
8:30am Beadle: Carol Callaway | 11am Beadle: Meg Hartin
8:30am Acolyte: Deacon | 11am Acolyte: Deacon
Dr. Jeffrey Meeks, Director of Music & Fine Arts | The Chancel Choir
Daram Song, Associate Director of Music & Fine Arts
8:30am AV: Steve Jones | 11am AV: Bennett Sherwood, CJ Song

Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers today are given with love and remembrance of Sidney Clotfelter by the Clotfelter family.



Church Leadership Recommendations due 9/27

Did you know that this is a member-led church? Members, like you, are ordained to serve three-year terms as officers, then work alongside our pastors and staff to further the ministries and mission of the church. The Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) is now accepting recommendations for the ordained positions of elder and deacon. Please submit your recommendations at fpcmarietta.org/onc-suggestions.

Paper copies are also available in the Gathering Space.

FPC Marietta Picnic

Sunday, September 27 | Noon | Holland Hall



Fellowship Breakfast

Second Sundays | 9:30am | Holland Hall

Submissions for Advent Devotional Due 9/30

The word advent is defined as the arrival of a notable person, thing or event. In Advent season, Christians celebrate the first coming of Christ. This year, the church will publish an Advent Devotional with the theme: Wise Men Still Seek Him. Each devotional must begin with a scripture, include reflections on the text and end with a prayer. If you would like to contribute to the 2026 Advent Devotional, please send your submission to Jane.Manning@cobbcounty.gov by September 30.



Discovering God Through Scripture

Wednesday, September 16 | 9:30-11:30am | Room 50

Have you ever wanted to read the Bible cover to cover? With the “Discovering God through Scripture” course, led by Rev. Zeta Lamberson, you will journey through every book of the Bible over a three-year period. Our next cohort will begin this month and meet on third Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30am.

Registration for the first year of the course can be completed in Realm, and tuition is \$50 per student. Scan the QR code or visit Realm to register.



Adult Sunday School Returns this Month

New Seasons | 9:45am | Room 51

Introducing a New Series this Fall: Bible Stories We Never Heard in Sunday School

Salt and Pepper | Returns September 13th | 9:45am | Room 53

Scripture Seekers | Returns September 13th | 9:45am | Room 50

Rooted | Returns September 13th | 9:45am | Room 231

SPECIAL SERIES COMING SOON: EXPLORING GENESIS WITH RABBI STEVEN LEBOW

October 4, 11 and 18 | 9:45am | Holland Hall

You are invited to participate in this interactive study of the first book of the Bible, led by Rabbi Steven Lebow, over a three-week period. Adult Sunday School classes are encouraged to attend.

Children's Sunday School + Youth Meetings Return

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PARENT MEETINGS ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Parents of children from birth through 5th grade, please gather in the Sanctuary at 9:45am. Children will be dismissed to Sunday School, while parents receive important information.

Parents of youth in 6th-12th grade should meet in the Youth Room at 10:30am.

YOUTH MEETINGS

September 13 | Youth Meeting | 5-7pm | Youth Room

September 20 | No meeting due to Fall Break

September 27 | Youth Meeting | 5-7pm | Youth Room



POPSICLES IN THE PARK



Sunday, September 13 | 5:30-6:30pm | Lewis Park

SECOND GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

Sunday, September 20 | 11am Worship Service





FPC Marietta Meal Packaging Event

October 4, 2026 | 4-6pm | Great Hall

Rise Against Hunger works in countries around the globe to fight hunger, targeting communities facing high rates of food insecurity. This fall, FPC Marietta will package 17,000 meals to donate abroad. We need your support to achieve this goal! Scan the QR code to volunteer to pack meals or help with event set up/clean up. Visit the Gathering Space or email 17lanier@gmail.com for more information.



Donate Prom Gowns, Princess Dresses + Business Attire

We are collecting new and gently-worn evening wear and business attire for boys and girls ages 4-18. This drive benefits foster, adopted and underprivileged children. Please bring your donations to the Gathering Space. Items can be placed in the marked bin or hung in the closet.



Donate Paperback Books for Cobb County Jail Library



Thin out your bookshelves and donate some of those page-turners to support our Jail Ministry. Preferred genres include automotive, fantasy, horror, self-help, African-American authors, Spanish-language and world history. A donation bin is located in the Gathering Space.

October 3, 2026

7-10pm

3503 Plum Tree Ct. NW
Kennesaw, GA



FPC Wine Tasting Event at the Sloops

You are invited to taste wine and dine at the home of Bob and Lynne Sloop! Bring an appetizer and a bottle of your favorite wine to share. Interested in joining a smaller wine tasting group of 8-12 people that meets monthly? Contact Bob Sloop at rsloop47@gmail.com.

Blessing of the Animals

October 3, 2026 | 10am | Main Parking Lot



Caregivers + Littles Playgroups

Connect with families who share your faith at FPC's weekly playdates, continuing this fall. Locations rotate among members' homes, and all are welcome to attend. Children should be preschool age or younger, and caregivers must remain with their children. Scan the QR code to join the Playgroup GroupMe and get details, including playdate locations and times. Meeting times will alternate between mornings and afternoons. Questions? Email MeriKateMarcum@fpcmarietta.org.





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: QUILTERS NEEDED

Monday, September 14 | 10am-noon | Holland Hall

The Presbyterian Women's group gifts a home-made quilt to every baby born to members of the church. As the congregation continues to grow, so does the need for quilters. If you can quilt or would like to learn the craft, please contact Shirley Newton at 850-249-6954 or snewton1028@gmail.com to support this ministry.



TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY: SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Tuesday, September 15 | 9:30am-noon | Room 55

Navigate these three chapters of the book of Matthew as they were originally heard and intended to challenge us to think differently about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Questions? Contact Linda Bush at 770-856-8443 or newbush@comcast.net.



AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, September 17 | 7-8:30pm | Room 51

Meeting on the third Thursday of the month, this support group is for families of those on the autism spectrum. Share information, hear from subject matter experts, take part in group discussions, and find school and community resources. For more information, please contact Janet Lewis at drjanet770@gmail.com.



FPC MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Fourth Mondays | 6pm | Glover Room

Develop a deeper relationship with God and other men of faith through Bible study, discussion, prayer and fellowship with the FPC Men's Group. This fall, the group will welcome FPC Marietta preachers as guest speakers. A dinner option is available. For more information, contact John Knox at jdknox162@gmail.com.



NAMI COBB MENTAL HEALTH DROP-IN CENTER

Open Tuesday-Thursday | 1-4pm | Pre-Register Online

The NAMI Cobb Mental Health Drop-In Center is now open on the lower level of the church. The center, which is the first of its kind in the state, offers peer support, activities, education and resources in a welcoming environment that promotes hope, connection and recovery. Learn more at namicobb.org.

FPCMARIETTA.ORG/FIND-YOUR-PLACE

189 CHURCH STREET | MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30060 | 770-427-0293