



# The Presbyview

## Connected to the Past | Living in the Present | Looking to the Future

Last week Sunday we were able to celebrate the history and heritage of our church with our Reformation Heritage Weekend and the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our Presbyterian Church in Smyrna, GA. Hopefully you were able to join us in the Lord's faithfulness to us as a church. It was a joyous Sunday.

The older I get the more I tend to reflect on life, and perhaps this is proof that I'm aging! But I take great comfort in the fact that the Lord told Israel to set up a monument (an Ebenezer) of stones so that they would remember the past. In Joshua 4 we read the reason why:

*In the future when your descendants ask their parents, 'What do these stones mean?' tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.' For the LORD your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The LORD your God did to the Jordan what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over. He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God. (Joshua 4:21-24)*

Did you notice the reason why? They were to remember the events of the past (i.e. crossing the Jordan on dry ground) so that they would connect those event to the character of God –his power in deliverance. In other words the events of the past were to reveal the nature of God. This indeed is true in all of history and one of the great benefits of studying history (and remembering history!). Do you do this with your own personal history? As you think about your own life do you see God's hand upon you? Do you see and remember acts of His faithfulness, mercy, grace, kindness? Or perhaps other times his loving conviction, discipline, and correction? Each of these occasions God is revealing Himself to you and proving His character. Through these events the promises of the Scriptures are being shown in your life. What an amazing reality! The God of Heaven and Earth is personally involved in our life. Why would we want to forget a moment such as that? Reflection in life should bring this to mind often.

There is also another aspect to reflection and remembering that is mentioned in Joshua 4. Did you catch it? "...so that you might always fear the Lord" (4:24b). Contemplation on God's acts and his character in the past should lead us to reflect on our life in the present – namely our obligation and duty to Him. Right theology must always lead to right practice in the Christian life. Not out of a desire for merit (for our merit is in Christ alone) but out of gratefulness to him and a desire to walk in a way that is pleasing to Him. Our reflection is not complete until it brings to mind our own life in the present and the future going forward. So whereas we do not want to live in the past there is tremendous usefulness to looking backwards and learning from it.

So what does this all mean for us as a church as we think about our past? Our past makes us think of God's faithfulness that has allowed for a church in this area to remain for over 100 years. It should make us think of: God's grace to have many thousands pass through our doors either temporarily or as their permanent church home to be ministered by the Lord and the people of God here; God's truth that has been the bedrock of this church's foundation for over a century and has been forever sure in midst of an ever changing world; God's provision to see us through many years of wars, recessions, depression and prosperity. Surely we could go on....

But how should all of this affect us now and as we go forward? God's faithfulness should give us the boldness to venture out in faith just as those few souls did in 1914 in starting a work here. God's grace should give us a desire to see that same grace and salvation in the lives of others as we witness and minister in His name. His truth should continue to be the foundation for our church and the means by which we witness and minister to the world. And His provision to keep us dependent upon Him, as well as confident that He will provide all our needs.

In a world of instant, fast, and fleeting we have the blessing of having longevity. Let us use that to reflect our God who is never changing but is the same, yesterday, today and forever. Our connection with the past will help us in the present and looking to the future with great hope and joy.

## **November**

### **Circle Meetings**

**Tuesday, Nov. 12th & Nov. 19th – 10:00 A.M.**  
Women of the Word - Will meet in the choir room.  
Nursery is provided. **No study on Nov. 5th**

**Tuesday, November 5th – 7:15 P.M.**  
Gentleness Circle - Will meet at the home of Page Whitfield.

**Thursday, November 7th – 10:00 A.M.**  
Faithfulness Circle - Will meet in the church parlor.

**Saturday, November 9th – 8:45 A.M.**  
Kindness Circle - Will meet in the fellowship hall.

## **Wednesday Night Fellowship**

The meal will begin at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$4 per person with a \$12 cap per family.

Following the meal (6:30 p.m.) the adult class will gather for a time of corporate prayer followed by a short devotion. The youth will meet for a time of Bible study and choir will meet in the sanctuary for rehearsal.

### **Wednesday Night Schedule:**

**November 6th**  
**November 13th**  
**November 20th**  
**November 27th—No Meal!**

## **BELL CHOIR**

We are scheduling a Bell Choir rehearsal on Saturday, November 9th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. We will play in the church on Sunday, November 10th during morning worship. We are planning on using our bells more often and hope you will join us. Sign-up in the Narthex if you are interested in participating.

Questions? See Jim Ogburn or contact him at jameswogburn@gmail.com.

## **Missions Committee**

The Missions Committee will meet Sunday, November 10th immediately following the evening worship service in the church conference room.

## **KEENAGERS**

The Keenagers will meet on Tuesday, November 19th at 12:00 noon for lunch, Bible study, and a time of fellowship. Please contact Jim or Lisa Ogburn if you plan to attend.

## *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet during the month of November.

## **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

The men's Bible study will meet Monday, Nov. 11th at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Buddy Kelly.

## **Greeter Schedule**

November 3rd  
Church Wing— Tom & Maxine Miller  
School Wing— Ralph & Evelyn Canup

November 10th  
Church Wing— Julie Ramsey  
School Wing— David & Gail Stallings

November 17th  
Church Wing— Jim & Janice Pitts  
School Wing— Smadja Hart

November 24th  
Church Wing— Jill, Gina & Stella Fogarty  
School Wing— Howard & Jean Campbell

December 1st  
Church Wing— Chip & Sis Howell  
School Wing— Dervon Douglas

December 8th  
Church Wing— Randy & Page Whitfield  
School Wing— Rose Zang

December 15th  
Church Wing— Dan & Donna Hall  
School Wing— David & Gail Stallings

December 22nd  
Church Wing— Smadja Hart  
School Wing— Crystal & Lucy Katrek

December 29th  
Church Wing— Jill, Gina & Stella Fogarty  
School Wing— Howard & Jean Campbell

# Nursery Schedule

We ask that all assigned nursery workers report at 10:30 a.m. to relieve choir members. Sign up sheets will be placed in the Narthex for volunteers for SS and Night Nursery coverage.

## November 3rd

Bunny— Meg King/Brittany Newland  
 Fox— Susan Holland/Ahn Phan  
 Owl—Leah Thomas/Scott Holland  
 Extra— Jordan Lee  
 Floater—Will Holland  
 Children’s Church—Yetunde Fogarty

## November 10th

Bunny— Crystal Katrek/Kelly Becker  
 Fox— Leah Williams/Max Thelen  
 Owl—Amy Grantham/Rose Zang  
 Extra— James Wesley  
 Floater— Paige Crooks  
 Children’s Church—Micayla Clark

## November 17th

Bunny— Page Whitfield/Kelly Becker  
 Fox— Hortense Bediam/ Ellen Milberger  
 Owl—Margaret MacGregor/Brandon Soileau  
 Extra— Danny Powell  
 Floater— Daniel Milberger  
 Children’s Church—Kristin Soileau/Gina Fogarty

## November 24th

Bunny— Courtney Anders/Kelly Becker  
 Fox— Jean Campbell/Karen Kee  
 Owl—Nazanin Fakharzadeh/Mary MacGregor  
 Extra— Andy Fogarty  
 Floater— Ella Becker  
 Children’s Church—Ruth O’Neal/Grant Williams/Sara Kee

## NURSERY NEWS

God in His faithfulness is growing our church and we are being blessed with an expanding nursery. Many of you are already providing care to our youngsters and we are thankful for your ministry. This is a call for people to serve and to remind us all of the commitment of assisting parents in the Christian nurture of our children. Therefore, parents who are members and have nursery age children will be placed on the nursery schedule. If you are 18 years old or older and are physically able, we would be excited to have your help as we need more volunteers during Sunday morning and evening worship as well as on Wednesday nights. For more info, please contact Joy Douglas at [joysachon@gmail.com](mailto:joysachon@gmail.com).

# November Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Elianna Fogarty .....	1
Hannah Kee .....	4
Amos Williams .....	4
Jonah Fogarty .....	6
Adam Crooks .....	8
Cannon Crompton .....	9
Linda Hunter .....	13
Chuck Hart .....	15
Ed Gleason .....	18
Lilli Hovey .....	18
Will Holland .....	21
Margaret MacGregor .....	23
Owen Ridings .....	23
Jim Pitts .....	24
Everly Ogburn .....	27
Emma Hovey .....	28
Cooper Stiles .....	28
Lynette Ostell .....	30
Susan Holland .....	30



## WIC NEWS & EVENTS

The Kindness Circle is hosting a baby shower for Yetunde & (Josh) Fogarty on Saturday, December 7th beginning at 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All ladies are invited to attend. They are expecting a baby girl.

Be on the lookout for upcoming information regarding the WIC Christmas banquet.

# November

2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Pres WIC Conference	
3 11:00 a.m. Worship Service & Communion 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship	4	5 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting 7:15 p.m. Gentleness Circle	6 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal & Activities	7 10:00 a.m. Faithfulness Circle	8	9 8:45 a.m. Kindness Circle
10 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee meeting	11 8:00 p.m. Men's Bible study	12 10:00 a.m. Women of the Word	13 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal & Activities	14	15	16
17 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship & Communion	18	19 10:00 a.m. Women of the Word 12:00 noon Keenagers	20 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal & Activities	21 6:30 p.m. Deacon Meeting	22	23
24 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship	25	26	27	28 	29	30
Thanksgiving Break—No School						