



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Andy S. Chambers

469 North Main Street / P.O. Box 165 / Cornelia, Georgia 30531

Phone: 706-778-2822 / Care Line: 706-776-3113

Website: www.firstprescornelia.org



A Note from Pastor Andy:

I felt it important this week to reach out to the church. In this time of social distancing, I have found myself craving for community. I have missed seeing you on Sunday mornings. I have missed passing the peace, shaking hands, hugging—all of it. Livestreaming worship has been great in the sense that we are having almost 500 people join us in our worship, but.....that in no way replaces the feeling of Sunday mornings the way I know we all prefer—in person, for REAL! The main issue I have with livestreaming worship is that I notice an echo in the audio part of the feed. I realize that echo is from the emptiness of the sanctuary. There's been no one here for the sound of my voice to be absorbed in. Oak pews and hard walls can only bounce the sound back at me. That creates an echo and only reminds me that we are not here together in person.

I guess through a monitor will have to do for now, for it is far better than nothing at all. At least we can communicate through the comment lines and through email. Please know I am missing each of you and that I am praying for our church during this uncertain time. I know there is much fear in our older members. I know there is much confusion in our children. I know the rest of us are just trying to maintain and weather this craziness.

Might we remember as I spoke this past Sunday, God through his providential love and care holds us all in his hand—especially in times like these. Let us all once again be reminded to “be patient

in adversity, grateful in the midst of blessing, and to trust our faithful God and Father for the future, assured that no creature (no virus) shall separate us from his love, since all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they cannot even move” (from the Heidelberg Catechism). I would add, let us not take for granted our community/church family. If I have learned anything the past few weeks, it’s the fact that we definitely need each other—not just virtually, but personally.

Feel free to call the office and check in—just say hello and let Kimberly and I know how you are doing. The church website has been updated. Check out www.firstprescornelia.org to see what Kimberly has been up to. Here you can find a recording of the Sunday service, a link to the livestream on Facebook, a church calendar, a link to David Baskin’s Sunday school lesson, and so much more. We are doing our best to make this a ministry resource for you and for anyone who stumbles upon our site.

As far as worship goes, we will continue our online service at least through this Sunday, March 29th with a “hope for” date of April 5th to once again be together. Of course, this will be reassessed by the Session next week. We will let the congregation know of any changes ASAP. We appreciate the grace as we navigate together through this wilderness. You will find in the following pages, this week’s order of worship, prayers for the week, church prayer list, a financial report, and a few announcements.

Please know you all are loved and cared for deeply.
Blessings, Pastor Andy

Centering Prayer before Worship

Lord God, Great I AM, you are resurrection and life. As we worship you this day show us who we are: bearers of good news, messengers of resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. 2 Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! 3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? 4 But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. 5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; 6 my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. 7 O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. 8 It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Morning Hymn

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We are set free by your saving grace, Generous God, yet we must confess how we are still bound by our pride and arrogance. We seem unable to throw off the grave clothes of our habitual sin, finding them too comfortable to wear. We cling to our fears, for they are so familiar and make such good companions.

Yet, there in every corner of our lives, in every shadow we fear, into the cold embrace of death itself, you come, Steadfast Love. You break the bonds of sin and terror, giving us new strength and hope for the journey, and calling us to new life through the love and sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

(our prayer continues in silence)

Assurance of Pardon

You can put your hope in God, dear friends, for God offers us that love which never fades, that life which never ends. God's hope, God's love, and God's grace are forever. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Children's Sermon

Special Music

Natalie Crawford

Scripture

Matthew 27:45-47

Sermon

Seven Words From the Cross: Abandonment

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.

Prayers of the People and 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.

Offertory (Online giving now available www.firstprescornelia.org/give)

Charge and Benediction

Response

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Interested in a BOOK study?

Pastor Andy would like to invite you to join him in looking at the church through the lens of "Difference." How have we allowed difference to divide us? For his doctoral practicum he is looking at how we might embrace difference and therefore create space in our church for difference. Already one group has looked at RACE and how it has divided us a people and as a church. Now, he'd like to invite the whole church to join in this conversation. We will be reading *Disability and the Way of Jesus* by Bethany McKinney Fox to discuss specifically how we might make even more space for folks with various disabilities.

Please email him at pastorfpccornelia@gmail.com if you are interested ASAP. Donations to cover the cost of the book will be appreciated. This study will begin the week after Easter—if we can meet in person, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays (time TBD). If we cannot meet in person, we will introduce how to meet via Zoom remotely.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayer Person(s) of the week: **Jessica Irvin**

In the Oaks (Scenic): **John Howard**
Ruth Breed



In the Military: **Captain Alex McLean** and family; **Cpt. Joe Campbell** and his family,
LCpl Kevin Matthews (Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii) and his family.

Sylvia Palmer; Jerry and Joyce Barrett; Bill Ford; Michelle Truelove and family; Jan Tolbert (friend of Pastor Andy); **Betty Schaeffer; Hadden Carswell** (friend of Duren Chambers and Maddie Chosewood); **Greg Hopkins; John Foster; Celeste Sumner; Teresa Tournalack; Chris Webb & family** (Troy Webb's son); **Ernest Perry** (friend of Sue Smith); **Ann Nermoe** (Bill Ford's sister); **Melody Little** (Marilyn Bedsworth's daughter); **Garth and Sue Smith; Carolyn and Jeff Denton; David and Martha Lee Sherman; Karen Hooper** (Troy Webb's Stepsister); **Mary Sue Tripp** (Troy Webb's cousin); **Maria Costley; Robin Griffin; Khamphant Tournalack** (Souvanh's brother); **Scott and Melissa Painter; Barbara Gates** (Brent Gate's mother); **Jackie Williams** (Sharon Baskin's cousin); **Philip Barber; Bonnie McKim; Brad Donaldson** (Ron & Karen Sprayberry's son-in-law); **Pete Lewis** (Joy Mullen's uncle); **our country, its leaders, and those working in the medical field.**

Upcoming Birthdays

March 26: Margaret Potts & Garth Smith

March 27: Martha Kaulbach

April 3: Sue Martin

April 9: Betty Gillette

April 10: Klayton Sumner

April 12: John MacLean

April 14: John Wayne Armour & Cat Wiles

April 16: Tripp Allen

April 18: Tucker Sumner

April 27: Grace Hulsey

April 29: Jan Barton & Jennifer Hartsock

FINANCIAL REPORT

FEB. 2020	Monthly	YTD
Income	15,241.09	33,018.87
Expenses	18,605.42	36,751.36
Net:	(3364.33)	(3732.49)

MARCH 2020 Income:

<u>03/15/2020</u>	<u>Monthly Total</u>	<u>Budget</u>
2483.00	18,067.02	20,704.17

Special offerings

Capital Projects Fund	150.00
Memorial Fund	25.00
Emergency Fund	80.00
Kenya BBQ	1,035.00

Just a few pictures to make you smile.....

