

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Elder of the Month FRED RICHMOND

May 14: Ushers/Greeters: Russ Childers and Ronnie Greer

Radio Announcer: Ronnie Greer;
Bk Cara/Ella Hawkins

May 21: Ushers/Greeters: Schley Gatewood and Sharon Parks

Radio Announcer: Jim Griffith; Bk Ronnie Greer

May 28: Ushers/Greeters: Bill Krenson, Pat Hill, and Cathy Clark Reynolds.

Radio Announcer: Sharon McFarland; Bk Jim Griffith

Elder of the Month

Beth Williams

Find us on
facebook



www.facebook.com/fpcamericus

Listen to us every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. on WISK radio. 98.7 on your radio dial.

Weekly sermons can also be downloaded from our web site.

First Presbyterian Church - 229-924-2162
Email: office@americuspresbyterian.org
www.americuspresbyterian.org

STAFF

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Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 14

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
10:40 a.m. - Elders meet for prayer (parlor)
11:00 a.m. - Worship with Rev. Bower

Wednesday, May 17

6:00 p.m. - Building and Grounds Committee Mtg

Thursday, May 18

12 Noon - 175th Anniversary Committee Lunch Meeting

Friday and Saturday, May 19-20

Sanctuary reserved for the Allison Wilson & Brantley Easom Wedding

Sunday, May 21

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
10:40 a.m. - Elders meet for prayer (parlor)
11:00 a.m. - Worship with Rev. Bower

Tuesday, May 23

5:30 p.m. - Graduation Banquet
7:00 p.m. - Stated Session

Friday, May 26th

8:00 p.m. - Americus High School Graduation
8:00 p.m. - Crisp County High School Graduation



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Americus, Georgia

**A community of faith, responding to God's call
Loving, learning and leading people to Jesus Christ.**

Welcome to Worship! We hope and pray that you are embraced by God's Love through our members, our pastor, and our staff this morning. If you are a guest, please fill out one of our guest cards so we can be in touch with you. We invite you to join us for Sunday School next week at 9:45 a.m.

May 14, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

Order of Service

*All Are Invited to Stand in Body or in Spirit
The congregation is invited to respond at the **bold** print

PRELUDE

Lenard Martin, Jr., pianist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

How can we know the way of God?

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Let us worship God.

*HYMN (Blue 457)

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

verse 1, 2, 5

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Patient and forgiving God, we come to you this day. Remind us that your blessings are poured out in many ways, through many people. Give us the confident faith that reaches beyond our own lives to help others. Forgive us when we sink into our own selfishness and pettiness. For it is in those times that we turn our back on you. Bring us back to you, to the awareness of your eternal love. Make us grateful, God. Make us grateful for all that we have in our lives. In Christ's Name, we pray. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (B-579)**

Gloria Patri

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Sommer

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

and also with you

Let us share the peace of Christ with our neighbors.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 13: 6-11

If anyone secretly entices you—even if it is your brother, your father’s son or your mother’s son, or your own son or daughter, or the wife you embrace, or your most intimate friend—saying, “Let us go worship other gods,” whom neither you nor your ancestors have known, 7 any of the gods of the peoples that are around you, whether near you or far away from you, from one end of the earth to the other, 8 you must not yield to or heed any such persons. Show them no pity or compassion and do not shield them. 9 But you shall surely kill them; your own hand shall be first against them to execute them, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

10 Stone them to death for trying to turn you away from the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 11 Then all Israel shall hear and be afraid, and never again do any such wickedness.

Acts 7: 55-60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” 57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. 58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“The Stones of Forgiveness”

Rev. Sommer Bower

Prayer List

Please Pray For - Our Nation, Our Church; Our Pastor, Our Staff, Our Officers, Campus Ministry, Our Community and especially:

MEMBERS HOMEBOUND &/OR IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

Bob & B.J. Bryan	Rev. Bill Gettys
MariAnne Griffith	Martha House
Mary Mackey	Nancy Miller
Ruby Nesbitt	Claude Rhyne
Kitty Williams	

MEMBERS

Martha Ann Studstill

MEMBERS REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

May 14

Amzie Harper; Michael Harper
Amanda Harper

May 21

Darryl and Cara Hawkins
Carrie and Ella Hawkins

MISSIONARIES REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

Benji and Esther Campbell, WBT
Anne D (India)

Please notify the church office at 924-2162 or office@americuspresbyterian.org if you would like to add someone to our prayer list and/or request a PrayerGram. Please have an address available for PrayerGram requests

Elder Elections

The process for nominating and electing Elders to the Class of 2020 has begun.

The nominating committee has been meeting regularly and have accomplished a huge amount of work over the past few weeks.

They are well on their way to being able to call a congregational meeting with a slate of nominees for the Elder Class of 2020. They hope to be able to do this within the next two weeks.

Nominating Committee

Richard Pollette, Session Representative
Emily Collins
Tom McFarland
Cynthia Richmond





CONGRATULATIONS TYLER RICHMOND! Tyler received the John Philip Sousa Award for most outstanding band member at Crisp County High School.

The pinnacle of achievement in a high school band program, the Sousa Award recognizes outstanding dedication and superior musicianship. ... John Philip Sousa (1854–1932) was the longtime director of The President's Own Marine Band, as well as a prolific composer and arranger.

First Pres is proud of all of his accomplishments. Tyler will be attending UGA in the Fall and has auditioned for the Marching Redcoat Band.

Way to go Tyler!

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday, May 17

6:00 p.m. - Building & Grounds Committee

Thursday, May 18

12 Noon - The 175th Anniversary Committee

STATED SESSION

Tuesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.



PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

You teach us to "let the peace that comes from Christ rule in our hearts." (Col. 3:15) When I forgive in words, allow your Holy Spirit to fill my heart with peace. I pray this peace that only comes from Jesus will rule in my heart, keeping out doubt and questions. And above all, I am thankful. Not just today, not just this week, but always.

I am grateful for the mothers and father, sisters and brothers, friends and loved ones who continually show me compassion and love. With gratitude I can draw closer to you and let go of unforgiveness.

Today I choose to not throw this stone.

I will pray for forgiveness and love and patience and kindness.

I will not throw this stone.

Understanding that it is often fear of the unknown and fear of that which we do not understand that drives our desire to throw stones,

I make the decision to not throw this stone.

Help me walk in righteousness, peace, and joy, demonstrating Your life here on earth.

Gracious God, I choose to be kind and compassionate, forgiving others, just as You forgave me. I will not throw this stone. I will place it in the baptismal waters, as a reminder to myself and all believers that the grace and peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, has the power to guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

You are invited to walk forward and place your stone in the baptismal fount. Once you are seated you are invited to join the congregation in singing *Jesus Remember Me* (3 times)

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (B-592)

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

*HYMN (Blue 466)

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Lenard Martin, Jr., pianist

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS ARE GIVEN BY DONNA MINICH IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF ALL WOMEN WHO HAVE LOVINGLY MOTHERED AND/OR TOOK A CHILD UNDER HER WINGS. THOSE TO BE. THOSE WHO ARE WITH US NOW AND ALL WHO HAVE PASSED ON BEFORE US.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

PLEASE NOTE

The 175th Anniversary Committee is hard at work with the office trying to confirm addresses of current, past members and friends of First Presbyterian.

Please look over the list of addresses on the Usher Table to confirm what we have. The master list shows who has been sent a reminder magnet and will receive an invitation.

If you know of a former member you would like to invite, please add them with their address to the list or email the office with their address. If you note an address that needs changed, please edit on the master list or add to the blank sheet of paper provided.



Save the Date
Sunday, August 20, 2017
175th Anniversary Celebration
First Presbyterian Church
Amerieus, Georgia

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175TH
Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, August 20, 2017

Special Mother's Day Offering TODAY



PRESBYTERIAN HOMES
OF GEORGIA

Presbyterian Homes is a ministry of love. You see it in the giving of time, talent, and treasure by thousands of supporters. You see it in the caring staff, administration, volunteers, supporters, and Board of Trustees. You see it in the lasting covenant they share with Presbyterian churches statewide. Most especially, you see it in the faces of the residents, confident in this covenant relationship.

The Caring Hands Fund benefits the most vulnerable residents. Monies are used largely to bridge the \$4 million gap between Medicare reimbursement and the actual cost of the high quality of care that they provide for the health services residents. Almost 85 percent of the charitable expenditures are used to cover this cost. Caring Hands donations also allow in-home services to help residents in independent apartment homes maintain their independence.

Since 1949, no resident has been asked to leave Presbyterian Homes of Georgia because they have outlived their finances. Look for specially marked **Caring Hands** envelopes in today's bulletin.

Graduation BANQUET

Tuesday, May 23rd
5:30 p.m.

Join us for dinner on Tuesday, May 23rd as we recognize our high school and college graduates:

Tyler Richmond - Tyler is graduating from Crisp County High School and has been accepted to The University of Georgia.

Lily Ingle - Lily graduated home school and will be attending Georgia Southwestern State University.

Justice Fedd graduated the nursing program at GSW and is working as an RN for Phoebe.

***Fish Fry prepared by Fred Richmond. *Chicken Fingers Available**
Please bring vegetables, salads or desserts to share.