

First Presbyterian Church

Americus, Georgia

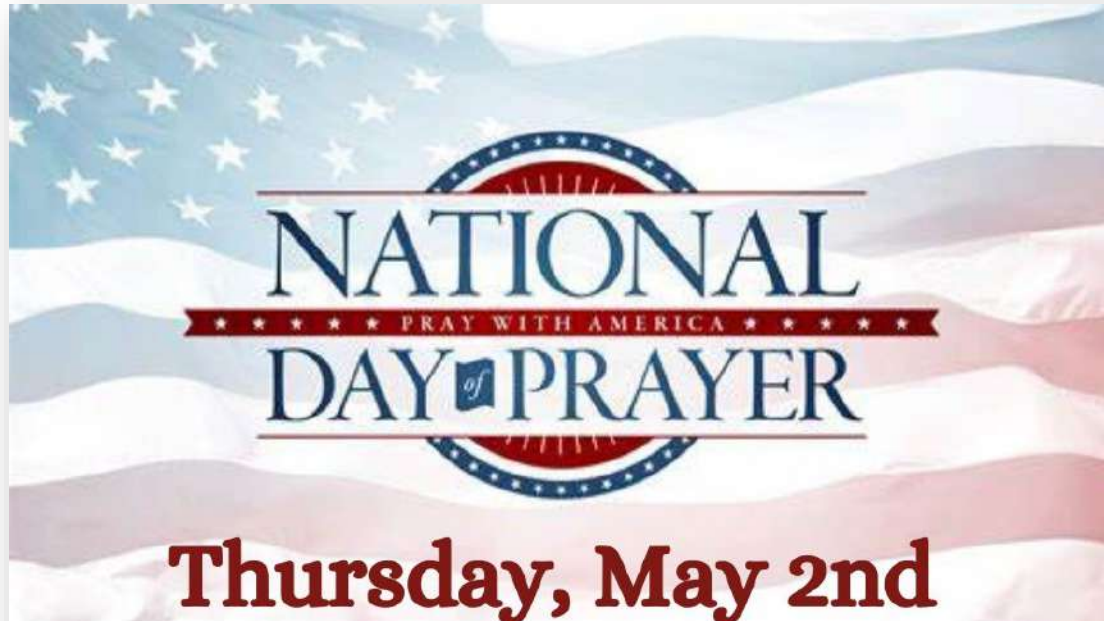
A community of faith responding to God's call.
Loving, learning and leading people to Jesus Christ.

Good Shepherd Sunday



"The Shepherd" ~ Image by Joseph D'Mello via Flickr

The selection in Acts is a continuation of the same story from last Sunday. Peter and John, after healing a man who used to beg at the temple gate, and after speaking to the people at Solomon's Portico on the east side of the temple after that miracle, were arrested and held until the next day. They came before the high priest and his family and questioned them about the healing miracle. Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, spoke to all assembled, recognizing that he and John were arrested because they did something good. He answered their question about the power behind the miracle: the man who used to beg stood before them was healed by the name of Jesus Christ, the one crucified and now raised from the dead.



NATIONAL
PRAY WITH AMERICA
DAY of PRAYER

Thursday, May 2nd

12:00 p.m.

*Americus Public Safety Building
119 South Lee Street, Americus, GA 31709*

First Presbyterian Church of Americus, GA
Sunday, April 21, 2024 ~ 11:00 a.m.

4th SUNDAY of EASTER



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



PRELUDE.....Pianist Candice Godby

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Pastor Sommer Bower

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Good Shepherd, we confess we have gone astray. We have followed the hired hands.
We have listened to the silver tongues that have promised us wealth and power.
Call us back from the paths that lead to ruin.*

**Call us back to Your green pastures and still waters. Journey with us in
the valley of the shadow of death, steering us away from the deadends
of this world’s many paths, and instead into the way that leads to life
in You. In the name of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we pray. Amen.**

***HYMN (#267)**.....Pianist Candice Godby
“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”



2024 Adult Church Softball League

First Presbyterian Game Schedule

- * Thursday, April 11 @ 6:45pm *
- * Tuesday, April 16 @ 6:45pm *
- * Thursday, April 18 @ 8:00pm *
- * Tuesday, April 23 @ 8:00pm *
- * Tuesday, April 30 @ 6:45pm *
- * Tuesday, May 7 @ 8:00pm *
- * Thursday, May 9 @ 8:00pm *
- * Thursday, May 16 @ 6:45pm *
- * Thursday, May 23 @ 6:45pm *
- * Thursday, May 30 @ 6:45pm *



Single elimination tournament: Monday, June 3rd and Tuesday, June 4th

Championship Game: Thursday, June 6 @ 6:45pm

All games played at Sumter Co Regional Park Annex: 726 S MLK Blvd, Americus, GA 31709



*First Presbyterian supports the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry each month financially and with food donations. **The month of April, we will be collecting 20oz. Mustard.**
Donations can be brought to Sunday 11am Worship or to the office Mon - Thurs 9am - 3pm.
As we are fed each month by our Lord Jesus through Holy Communion,
we do our best to help feed others in need.
Harvest of Hope also collects egg cartons and plastic bags. Those items can be delivered directly to
606 McGarrah Street on Tuesday Mornings 8:30am - 11:am.*

APRIL Birthdays

- April 4 - Dianna Bower
- April 10 - Sharon McFarland
- April 15 - Kate Griffith Brooks
- April 19 - Cathy Clark Reynolds

Anniversaries

- April 12 - Jim and Patti Griffith
- April 30 - Malcolm and Anne Perry



Works Cited

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PRAYER LIST

We lift up prayers for those listening Sunday mornings on WISK 98.7, Radio.
May they be spiritually fed. Please Pray for; Our Nation, Our Church;
Our Presbytery, Our Pastor, Our Staff, Our Officers, Campus Ministry,
Our Community and especially:

MEMBERS AND CHURCH FRIENDS AT HOME &/OR IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

Bob & B.J. Bryan Nancy Miller Gloria Johnson Pat Hill
Blanche Palmer Kathy Newkirk Anne & Malcolm Perry

MEMBERS REMEMBERED

Cathy Clark Reynolds
Jim and Kathi Sewell

*You are invited to sign the Prayergrams on the narthex table in fellowship.

MISSIONARIES REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

-Ben & Esther Campbell, Push the Rock Intl.
- Tim & Lois Hunter, Spoken Worldwide
- Rev. George Haugen (PC USA Minister), Antioch Partners

PRAYER REQUESTS

~ Rev. Jim Huffaker passed away on Saturday, April 12, 2024. Rev. Huffaker served as an interim at our church from 2010 to 2011. His service will be at Grace Presbyterian Church, 1415 Airport Road, Panama City, FL 32405 on Saturday, April 27th at 10:00am. Sympathies and condolences may be sent to his wife, Almeda Huffaker; 2105 Shamrock Lane, Lynn Haven, FL 32444.

~Dillon Road Presbyterian Church ~ From the Flint River Presbytery perpetual prayer calendar, we celebrate and pray for the Pastor, Session and Congregation of Dillon Road Presbyterian.



April 2024 ~ Elder of the Month ~ Carrie Hawkins

SESSION (Ruling Elders):

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Carrie Hawkins	Ronnie Greer	Mary Catron
Sharon McFarland (clerk)	Terry McDonald	Jim Griffith
	Richard Pollette	David Minich

2024 Corporation Officers elected on Feb. 4, 2024

President: Ronnie Greer - VP: Terry McDonald
Secretary: Sharon McFarland - Chief Financial Officer: Bill Krenson

SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READER

Elder Carrie Hawkins

John 10:11-18

NRSV updated edition

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Acts 4:5-12

NRSV updated edition

5 The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, 6 with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7 When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, 10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. 11 This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' 12 There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

This is the Word of God, for the People of God,

Thanks be to God.



*HYMN (#187).....Pianist Candice Godby
"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

SERMON.....Pastor Sommer Bower
"In No Other Name"

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY.....Pianist Candice Godby

*DOXOLOGY (#606)Pianist Candice Godby

***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.***

*HYMN (#353).....Pianist Candice Godby
"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

*BENEDICTION

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey God's commandments and do what pleases God. And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of God's Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as Christ has commanded us. All who obey God's commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit that Christ has given us.

POSTLUDE.....Pianist Candice Godby



We are absolutely delighted that you've chosen to worship with us today!

May Christ's peace be with you until we meet again.

You can always join us on our

website: [americuspresbyterian.org](https://www.americuspresbyterian.org) and on

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fpcamericus/>.



CHURCH EVENT CALENDAR

***For a complete calendar, please visit: <https://www.americuspresbyterian.org/calendar/>**

COMMUNION ~ Celebrated on the first Sunday of every month during 11:00 am worship.

FPC OFFICE HOURS ~ The Church Office is open Monday - Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm.

COMMUNITY SERVICE MINISTRY ~ Every Thursday 9:00am– 11:30am in the FPC Mission House at 127 S. Jackson St.

CHURCH SOFTBALL ~ If you are interested in playing church softball this season, please contact Coach Nate Herron at (229) 815-2914. You will find a Presbyterian game schedule when you turn this page; y'all, it's time to Root, Root, Root for the home team at the old ball game!

MOVIE NIGHT ~ Every Friday at 7pm (thru the first week of July) join Elder Richard Pollette in the church library featuring "The Chosen" miniseries.

SPRING CONCERT ~ Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:30pm in the GSW Jackson Performance Hall is Band Director, Cynthia Richmond's Spring Concert: featuring the Concert Band, Concert Choir and Southwest Civic Chorus. Several church members will also be performing and participating!!

BETHESDA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH SPRING REVIVAL ~ First Presbyterian has been cordially invited to a Spring Revival; Tues, Wed & Thurs April 23-25 at Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church (225 Forrest St, Americus) . A worship service begins nightly at 7pm with guest preacher Rev. Garry Baker, Pastor of Greater Faith Baptist Church (Decatur, GA).

COME JOIN THE HUB ~ Sunday, April 28th from 4pm-6:30pm join a group of Happy Unified Believers - at Second Thomasville for food, friendship, and fun! This presbytery-wide event is the first of many get-togethers focused on fellowship and building relationships throughout our congregations. Come be a part!! (1306 Fletcher Street, Thomasville, GA 31792)

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER ~ Thursday, May 2 at 12:00pm (Noon).

NEXT STATED FLINT RIVER PRESBYTERY MEETING ~ Saturday, May 4th at 10am -VIA ZOOM. Registration begins online at 9:30am.

NEXT STATED SESSION MEETING ~ Tues, May 7th at 6:00pm. (April meeting is postponed.)

MAY "SEEKERS" CHURCH BOOK CLUB ~ The church book club is meeting Wednesday, May 8th at 11:30am in the First Presbyterian Church Parlor.

SAMA & CSM APPRECIATION BANQUET ~ Thursday, May 9, at 5:30pm Calvary Episcopal Church (408 South Lee Street) is hosting a covered dish banquet on behalf of Sumter Area Ministerial Association to install their new officers and give thanks for the ministry and volunteers. All are invited to come and bring a favorite dish to share.

TRE (Trained Ruling Elder) ~ Flint River Presbytery Pastoral Leadership classes began SAT, April 13th. The 12-month course will meet monthly on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Elder David Minich is attending.