

# Blaze

From The Flint

March



2017

## First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, GA

*Each month, Blaze highlights a member of Flint River Presbytery in the hope that a greater sense of community will assist all of us in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This month we highlight First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, GA.*



"Staying Power": those words titled the "Vision Poem" adopted by the Session in 2003. The city of Columbus, founded in 1828 on the border in the wilderness, had grown to over 1,000 people when this church began its ministry in 1830. For over 185 years, First Presbyterian has stayed to serve and worship Jesus Christ in the heart of Columbus. Those years have included wars, economic depressions, times of internal dissension and national strife, building programs and even a fire in 1892 that left the sanctuary a shell. Through good times and bad First Presbyterian has shown, by the grace of God, staying power.

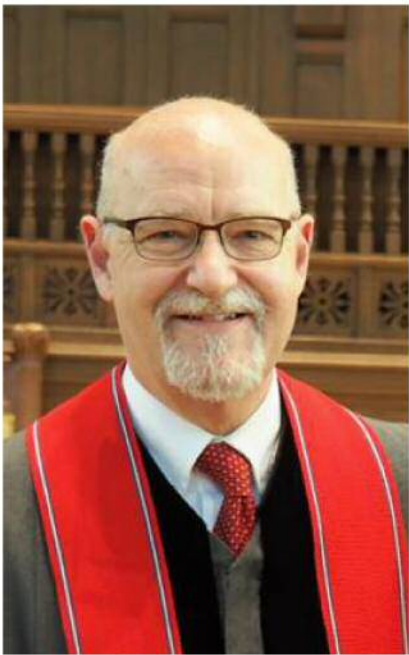
Today, the church continues to **worship**. We offer two vibrant worship services: a low key traditional service in the chapel at 8:45 am and a full traditional service at 11:00 am in the sanctuary. Special worship services take place around the Christmas and Easter seasons.

Today, the church continues to **study**. Church school convenes for all ages on Sundays. The Men's Prayer Breakfast serves the need for study and fellowship. Three circles continue to meet for study and fellowship for the Women of the Church. Periodic short term studies take place as well. The children have a program that meets on Wednesdays during most of the school year. The youth program follows the school calendar with its meetings.



The sanctuary of First Presbyterian

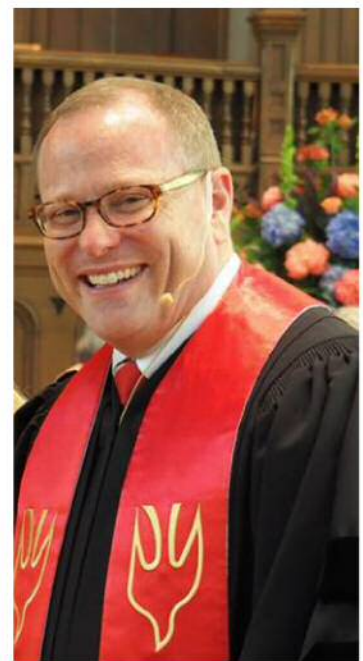




**In the photo at left is  
Rev. Dr. Joel Alvis, Interim  
Teaching Elder**

**and**

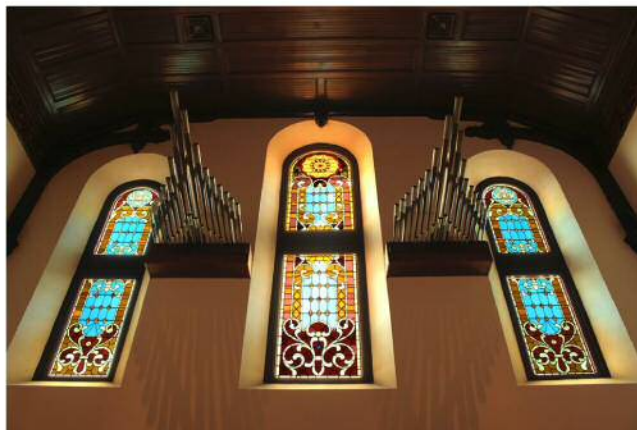
**In the photo on the right is  
Rev. Dr. Jones Doughton,  
Associate Teaching Elder**



Today, the church continues to gather to break bread and **fellowship**. Christmas Breakfast, Easter Brunch, Stewardship Dinner, Celebration Sunday, Family Fun in the City - we enjoy our time together as church family.

Today, the church continues to **serve**. Members serve two delivery routes for a local meals delivery program. Members participate in a twice a week sack lunch ministry. First Presbyterian participates with other churches in a Food Pantry. First Columbus also serves in a homeless ministry with area churches. Four times a year, homeless families stay in Sunday School rooms converted into bedrooms for that week.

"Staying Power" - it is not just a catchy title - it is a way of life and ministry on this corner in Columbus, Georgia as Jesus Christ has led this church for over 18 decades. Well into its 19th decade, we are confident that He will lead it still to yet another new place of **worship, study, fellowship, and service**.



**Beautiful stained glass  
windows  
facing First Avenue  
are on the back  
wall of the main  
sanctuary.**

*Many thanks to Rev. Dr. Jones Doughton for providing the information  
to tell us about First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, Georgia.*