

Why should I become involved?

Call from First Presbyterian Church:

- It is our purpose as the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta to be and to become

A community of grace

A people of praise

For the healing and hope of the city and

For the reconciliation and peace of the world.

Call as Presbyterians:

- To seek and voice God's shalom (peace)
- To proclaim the inclusive Gospel of justice and mercy
- To share in Christ's work of compassion and love
- To witness the Spirit's prophetic activity in the church and world

<http://www.pcusa.org/phewa>

The Bible tells me so...

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justice,
And to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 25: 31-41

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Care for the sick

"Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Looking for even more ways to serve? Check out the following websites:

<http://www.firstpresatl.org/ministries/community/community.html>

- lists all the Community Ministries opportunities at FPC

<http://www.handsonatlanta.org>

- lists of ways to get involved with various non-profit organizations in Atlanta. HOA can connect you and your family to over 500 organizations.

<http://www.pcusa.org>

<http://www.pcusa.org/children/index.htm>

- learn about ways the Presbyterian Church (USA) is advocating for children's rights and to get involved in advocacy.

"Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



First Presbyterian Church

Elementary Ministries

1328 Peachtree St NE

Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Phone: 404-228-7735

Email: kbrubaker@firstpresatl.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of ATLANTA

First Presbyterian Church

*It's time
to get
involved...*



Families
Involved in
Outreach,
Community
Ministries,
and Advocacy

Elementary and Family Ministries

Involvement within FPC

Every Member CAN

Every Member CAN collects nonperishable food items for the Venable Food Pantry. The Venable Food Pantry distributes food to the working poor who need emergency assistance in making ends meet because of illness, temporary job loss, or reduced work time. In one year, approximately 131,000 pounds of food is dispensed through the Pantry. That's nearly 62 tons of food, and the pantry meets or exceeds that total each year. Bring food items every week and deposit them in the bin located near the reception desk in the main building or in the Community Ministries office on the 2nd floor. For more information, contact Mary Joe Dellinger at 404-228-7766 or at mjdellinger@firstpresatl.org.

Sunday Morning Prayer Breakfast

Each Sunday morning from 7 A.M. until 8:15 A.M., the Church hosts a breakfast and devotional in Fifield Hall for as many as 500 men, women, and children who are homeless. Preparations begin at 6 A.M. and all ages are invited to help (under 16 with parent supervision). For more information, contact Mary Joe Dellinger at 404-228-7766 or at mjdellinger@firstpresatl.org.

Edna Raine Wardlaw Coker Women's Shelter

The Edna Raine Wardlaw Coker Women's Shelter provides a safe, supportive transitional living environment for guests with the goal of achieving self sufficiency in an independent living situation. The Shelter accommodates up to 12 guests at any time, serving over 60 women per year. Each year over 150 volunteers participate by spending the night, bringing dinner, or serving as coordinators for the volunteer calendars. Families are invited to prepare dinner and eat with the guests and to volunteer by spending the night. To volunteer, call Gail Ramey at 404-228-7767 or email garamey@mindspring.com.

Meals on Wheels

Families are invited to prepare and deliver meals to shut-in individuals within 5 miles of the church. This is a fun family project when children are out of school for holidays or the summer. To volunteer, call Julie Davie at 404-228-7726 or email jdavie@firstpresatl.org.

Hillside Partnership

Did you know that FPC has a partner church? Hillside Presbyterian Church in Decatur is our partner church. To find ways to volunteer with Hillside members, contact Rev. Connie Lee at 404-228-7741 or e-mail clee@firstpresatl.org.

Involvement within Atlanta

The Atlanta Community Food Bank

The ACFB supplies food and other products to nearly 700 non-profit feeding programs throughout North Georgia and metro Atlanta, distributing over 1 million pounds of food each month. The mission of ACFB is "to fight hunger by engaging, educating and empowering our community." Families can become involved in 2 main ways:

- 1) Community Gardening Initiative— Participate in planting, mulching, weeding and harvesting gardens that beautify neighborhoods and reduce family food budgets. Must be 10 yrs. old to participate.
- 2) Project Rescue Center— Help inspect, sort and pack assorted donations of non-perishable food, paper goods, medicines and cleaning projects for distribution. This is great for a Saturday event or a day when children are out of school. Must be 8 yrs. old.

Contact Suzanne Roush at 404-892-3333 to volunteer. <http://www.acfb.org/volunteer/>.

Habitat for Humanity

Though volunteers must be 16 years old to volunteer to build a house with Habitat for Humanity, there are many ways families and children can become involved after a house is built. Each year FPC sponsors many Habitat houses, and once they are built we need volunteers to decorate, plant trees, etc. Contact Rev. Charles Black at 404-228-7727 or cblack@firstpresatl.org to get updates about Habitat.

Project Open Hand

The mission of Project Open Hand/Atlanta is "to help people with chronic disease or disability overcome barriers to improved health by offering home-delivered meals and prevention-based nutrition programs." As with Meals on Wheels, children can help deliver meals to individuals. Contact Greg Romanoski, Director of Volunteer Services, at 404-419-3320 to become involved.

Trees Atlanta

Many children are interested in environmental causes and concerns. Trees Atlanta is a non-profit citizens' group dedicated to protecting and improving our urban environment by planting and conserving trees. Each Saturday morning volunteers can be found planting trees and maintaining greenspace areas. Contact <http://www.treesatlanta.org/volunteer/html> to find volunteer opportunities.

Atlanta Humane Society

Children who love animals can become involved with the Atlanta Humane Society even though they can't volunteer until they are 18. Check out <http://www.atlantahumane.org/>.

Involvement around the World

Refugee Families

Did you know that FPC sponsors refugee families? We do, and they need your partnership. You can partner with a Refugee family and do the following:

- Learn about their family and their culture
- Share with them your knowledge about the U.S.A.
- Make a meal for the family
- Send a card and gifts for special events
- Sponsor a child to go to summer camp
- Help with transportation
- And more

If you are interested in partnering with a Refugee family, contact Rev. Connie Lee at 404-228-7741.

Mission Partnerships

FPC has partnerships in Brazil, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, and Jamaica. Though most elementary children are too young to go on the mission trips (the Brazil Family trip welcomes children over the age of 10), there are important ways children can become involved. Many of the partnerships serve children and schools. Children and families are invited to make "school supplies packs" or "toy packs" to send to the children involved in the partnerships. Contact Rev. Connie Lee at 404-228-7741 or clee@firstpresatl.org for more information.

Advocacy

Children are often the best advocates for other children. To learn about some of the policies that are impacting the lives of children and families in the United States, check out the following Child Advocacy organizations:

- Children's Defense Fund
<http://www.childrensdefense.org/>
- Presbyterian Children's Advocacy
<http://www.pcusa.org/children/index.htm>
- United Nations Children Fund
<http://www.unicef.org/>
- Save the Children
<http://www.savethechildren.org/>
- Voices
<http://www.voices.org/>
- Children Now
<http://www.childrennow.org/>

"You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give."

Winston Churchill