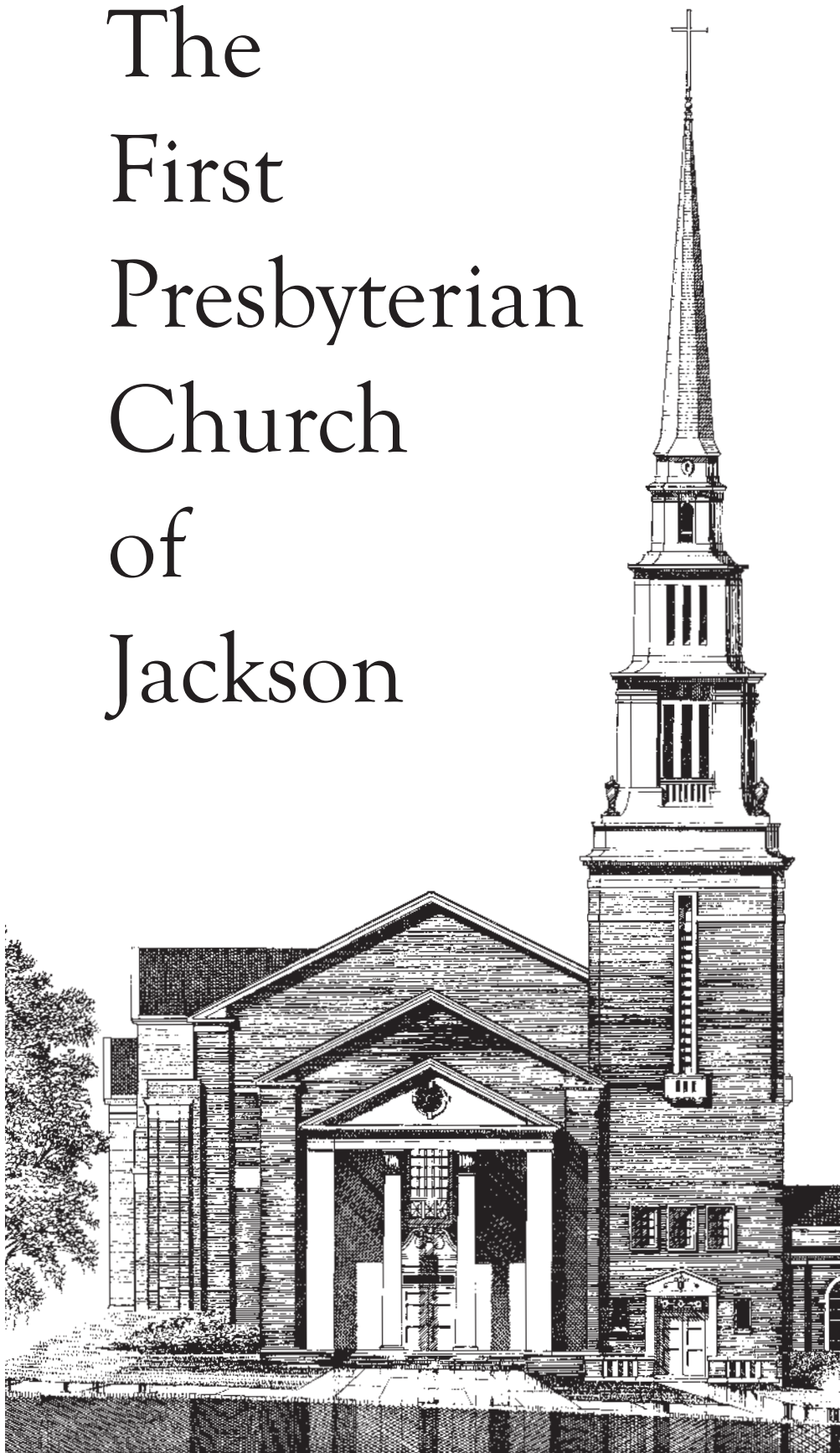


The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Eighteenth Day of December, Two Thousand Sixteen
MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain — Senior Minister

The Reverend Mr. Andrew W. Triolo — Minister of Students & Families

At the time of the Greetings and Announcements and during the Prelude, the congregation is invited to a season of silent and reverent preparation for corporate worship.

The Greetings and Announcements (8:25 and 10:55 a.m.)

The Prelude — “Suo Gan” (*Lullaby*) Welsh Lullaby
Shellie Brown, Violin; William Wymond, Organ

The Introit — “Sing, Choirs of Angels” Mendelssohn
Jeff Brown, Guest Director

The Call to Worship

‡* **The Carol of Praise No. 214** — “Angels We Have Heard on High”

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

‡ **The Assurance of Pardon**

The Solo — “Come unto Him” (*Messiah*) G. F. Handel
Kim Porter, Soprano

The Public Profession of Faith

The Biblical Basis
The Introduction of New Members
The Questions of Membership
The Baptism (8:30 a.m. only)
The Prayer
The Declaration
The Blessing

The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory — “Where Shepherds Lately Knel” Carl Schalk
“Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
In that unlikely place I find Him as they said;
Sweet, newborn Babe, how frail, and in a manger bed;
A still small voice to cry one day for me.

How should I not have known Isaiah would be there, His prophecies fulfilled?
With pounding heart, I stare: A Child, a Son, the Prince of Peace, for me.
Can I, will I forget how Love was born and burned its way into my heart:
Unasked, unforced, unearned, to die, to live, and not alone for me.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Isaiah 9:1-7 (Pew Bible page 573)

The Sermon — *Prepare Him Room*: “For to Us a Child Is Born” Mr. Strain

‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 230** — “Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor”

‡ **The Benediction**

The Response — “Joy to the World” Kuykendall

The Postlude — “Chorus of Shepherds” Jacques Lemmens

*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

To All Our
Visitors

We are delighted that you are here with us today. Our hope is that your understanding and love of Jesus Christ will grow because of your visit. To answer any questions you might have, please come by our Greeting Courtyard through the doors on the south side (right side as you face the pulpit) of the sanctuary after the 8:30 a.m. or the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We would love to meet you.

The Music of Christmas

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Choir and Orchestra

This evening
5:00 p.m.

A nursery will be provided
for children through five years old.

Sanctuary doors open at 4:00 p.m.



2016 Holiday Schedule

December 18 5:00 p.m. Music of Christmas (doors open at 4:00 p.m.)

December 19 4:30 p.m. College Christmas Party

December 21 No Wednesday Night Supper/Service

December 23 Church Offices Closed

December 24 4:00 p.m. Family Carols Service

December 25 9:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
No Sunday School or Children's Church
No Evening Worship Service

December 26 Church Offices Closed

December 28 No Wednesday Night Supper/Service

January 1 Regular Worship Services & Sunday School

January 2 Church Offices Closed



THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church Offices:
1390 N. State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202
601-353-8316 • FAX 601-326-9250

website - www.fpcjackson.org
WLBT TV3 10:00 A.M. Sunday
WTWV TV14 Memphis Sunday

CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain - Senior Minister
The Reverend Mr. Ralph S. Kelley - Executive Minister

MINISTERS OFFICE:

David Day, Director of Communications
Lou Ann Flatgard, Administrative Assistant
Marie Phillips, Administrative Assistant
Joe Bynum, Senior Minister's Intern
Wes Strebeck, Senior Minister's Intern
Trey Porter, TV Ministry Producer
Kenneth Smith, Assistant TV Production
Tian Teh, Assistant TV Production
Mark Phillips, Sanctuary Sound Technician

WOMEN AND CHILDREN:

Donna Dobbs, Director
Kimberly Wilkins, Children's Director
Anna Henson, Assistant Children's Director
Rebecca Redman, Women & Children's Coordinator
Lisa Oswalt, Administrative Assistant
Kelley Beth Prabhakar, Intern

NURSERY:

Gena Dear, Coordinator
Hellen Powell, Assistant
Carolyn Anderson
Sherry Anderson
KaDayasia Beal
Daisha Cavett
Mary Gray
Ella Johnson
Joyce Morgan
Lillie Newell
Leslie Olowu
Lawanda Palmer
Louvenia Palmer
Willie Ann Parnell
Monica Pittman
Mary Ross
Dorothy Shelby
Sherrell Smith
Georgia Trunnell
Mary Sue Trunnell

DISCIPLESHIP:

Gabe Fluhrer, Minister
Gary Sinclair, Assistant
Lisa Kim, Administrative Assistant

MUSIC:

Bill Wymond, Minister of Music
Janie Clarke, Children's Choirs Director
Heather Hunt, Assistant Children's Choirs Director
Ginny Warren, Administrative Assistant
Jonathan Hunt, Intern

MISSION AND OUTREACH:

Ed Hartman, Minister
Leo Yen, Mission Assistant to Chinese
Christina Meenan, Administrative Assistant
John Prabhakar, Intern

Boopie Beard, Learning Resource Center Director
Mary Ball, Editor of *The First Epistle*
Ruth Smith, Wedding Coordinator

THE DAY SCHOOL

www.fpbs.org
(601) 355-1731 FAX (601) 355-1739
Gary Herring, Headmaster
Paula Clark, Director of Instruction and Curriculum
Emily Oswalt, Director of Instruction and Curriculum
Carolyn Wilkinson, Administrative Assistant
Susan Graves, Front Desk
Cheryl Gibbs, Bookkeeper
Jeannie Vickers, Asst. Bookkeeper

CONGREGATIONAL CARE:

Billy Dempsey, Minister
Lisa Walters, Administrative Assistant
Jason Wegener, Intern

PASTORAL CARE:

Wiley Lowry, Minister
Brister Ware, Minister
Lisa Walters, Administrative Assistant
David Groendyk, Intern

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES:

Andrew Triolo, Minister
Augusta Fair, Assistant
Hunter Nicholson, Assistant
James Ritchey, Assistant
Laura Rutledge, Assistant
Julia Wright, Assistant
Jenny Sanders, Administrative Assistant
Martin Antoon, Intern

BUSINESS OFFICE:

Cliff Ford, Business Administrator
Jimmi Phillips, Financial Associate
Barbara Eichelberger, Administrative Assistant
Lynn Smith, Receptionist

SECURITY:

Don McCluskey, Security Director
Richard Banes, Security
Sam Hilliker, Security
Patrick McCluskey, Security
Clinton Miller, Security
Edmond Monroe, Security
Anthony Shepherd, Security
Craig Stewart, Security
Vernon Williams, Security

FACILITIES:

Tim Derrick, Maintenance Manager
Ricky Banks
Claude (Bear) Lawson
Johnny McGee

CUSTODIAL:

Jim Williams, Jr., Supervisor
Travis Caldwell, Asst. Supervisor
Bobby Bowie
Christopher Brown
Jerome Henry
Demarcus Jackson

FOOD SERVICE:

Irene Underwood, Hostess
Mary Carson
Laura Jackson
Lorene Kelly

YOUNG ADULTS AND COLLEGE

David Felker, Minister
Anna Woodyard, Young Adults/Covenant College Students
Joe Johnson, Young Adults Intern
Kelly Jackson, College Coordinator
Wil Nettleton, College Intern
Jenny Sanders, Administrative Assistant

TWIN LAKES CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

www.twinlakescamp.org (601) 845-6858
Florence, MS

Mark Magee, Executive Director
Andrew Vincent, Camp Director
William Crutcher, Asst. Camp Director
Shannon Craft, Reservationist
Grayson Erwin, Hosting Director
Lisa Smith, Secretary and Camp Registrar
Warner Mitchell, Maintenance Superintendent
Bobbie Godbey, Food Service Director

MINISTRIES SUPPORTED BY THE CHURCH

(Benevolence Committee)

DENOMINATIONAL

PCA Discipleship Ministries Committee
PCA General Administration Committee
The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley

INSTITUTIONAL

Belhaven University
Covenant College
First Presbyterian Day School
French Camp Academy
John Reed Miller Lecture Series
Palmer Home
Reformed Theological Seminary

MISSION TO JACKSON

Beginning Again in Christ
Bethany Christian Services
Center for Pregnancy Choices
Child Evangelism Fellowship
Deacons / MTJ Special Fund
Friends of Alcoholics
Jackson Youth for Christ
Gateway Rescue Mission
Lantern Medical Clinic
Mission First
Mustard Seed

Pioneer Ministries
Young Life

OUTREACH

Fellowship of Christian
Athletes
Pastor's Special Fund
Reformed University
Ministries
Television Ministry
Young Business Leaders

FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016

Sunday

Pre-Service Announcements — 8:25 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Prayer for Worship Service — 9:00 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. in M133
The Learning Resource Center — 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.
 (Library only)
Sunday School — 9:40 a.m. in various locations
Pre-Service Announcements — 10:55 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Children's Church for 3- and 4-year-olds — during 11:00 a.m.
 worship service in M135
Nursery Workers' Christmas Lunch — 1:00 p.m. in M102
Music of Christmas — 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary (Doors open
 at 4:00 p.m. - Nursery provided through age 5)

Monday

College Christmas Party — 4:30 p.m. at the home of the
 Creekmores (143 McHarris Rd. in Madison)

Tuesday

The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Shepherding Committee Meeting — 5:30 p.m. in SC 215

Wednesday

Men's Bible Study — 10:00 a.m. in WH202
The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
No supper or services

Thursday

No Scheduled Activities
The Learning Resource Center Closed

Friday

Church Offices Closed

Saturday

Men's Prayer Breakfast — 7:30 a.m. in MH
Family Carols Service — 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

CH - College House
LH - Lowe Hall
M - Main Floor
MCR - Ministers
 Conference Room

MH - Miller Hall
MS - Music Suite
PH - Patterson Hall
YH - Youth House
SC - Study Center

WH - Westminster Hall
HC - Hutton Chapel
LRC - Learning Resource
 Center
SR - Session Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

II THESSALONIANS 3:1 — “Finally, brethren, pray for us....”

Thomas and Erna Dreyer- Serving as church planters with Reformed Church Randburg in Johannesburg, South Africa. Email: thomas@gkrandburg.org.za

Way & Amy Rutherford- Serving as Campus Minister with Reformed University Fellowship at Baylor University in Waco, TX.
Email: wayrutherford@gmail.com

FLOWERS

The poinsettias in the Sanctuary for the month of December are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Denny Austin Terry by the Terry family.

The poinsettias in the foyer for the month of December are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of “Mop” and Jack Howard by their daughter, Betsy Howard, and grandson, Bill Abbott.

NEW MEMBERS

On December 4, 2016, the following new members were welcomed into our fellowship: Mr. Luis Victor Castro, Mr. Weldon W. Doe, Mr. and Mrs. Paul William (Ann Lowrey) Forster, Miss Ada Brooks Forster, Mr. and Mrs. Ruffin Craven (Mary Allyson) Lowry, Mr. Joseph Lynn Perkins, Jr., and Drs. Hess McClellan (Sara Martin) Robertson.

STEWARDSHIP 2017

As we prepare for the 2017 budget year, it is important that each member of the congregation supports the work and worship of First Presbyterian Church. If you have not turned in your stewardship commitment card for 2017, you may place it in the offering plate during this Sunday's worship services. Cards are available in the sanctuary pews and in the tract racks throughout the church. To date, we have received 333 Stewardship Commitment cards for a total of \$3,571,158 and 34 Debt Retirement cards for a total of \$51,977.

YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

If you are planning to donate stock to First Presbyterian Church before the end of the year 2016, please notify Cliff Ford in the Business Office at 601-973-9107. In order for year-end church contributions to be deducted on your 2016 tax return, they must be received at First Presbyterian Church on or before December 31, 2016. The Business Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., and you may give online until midnight, December 31, 2016. If you mail your contribution, the envelope must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2016. Security will be posted on the south side of the church (Pinehurst Street) to receive any contributions that may be dropped off after hours on December 31, 2016. All gifts received or postmarked after December 31, 2016, will apply to your 2017 Contribution Statement.

COLLEGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

A Christmas party will be held for college students tomorrow, Monday, December 19, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Creekmores' home in Madison (143 McHarris Road). Come, and see your friends who are home for the holiday, and enjoy really good food! For more information, contact Kelly Jackson at 601-624-7121.

BAPTISM

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, January 15. Space is available for both services. To make your reservation, please contact Lisa Walters by January 11, at 601-973-9102 or lisaw@fpcjackson.org.

2017 COMMUNICANT CLASS

A new Communicant Class will be offered to students 6th grade and older who are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church. The four classes will be held in Miller Hall during the Sunday School hour and will begin on Sunday, January 8, and conclude on Sunday, January 29. For more information contact the Children's Ministry Department at 601-973-9105, or email kimberlyw@fpcjackson.org.

MID-SOUTH MEN'S RALLY – JANUARY 27, 2017

Men, please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our annual Mid-South Men's Rally. Our speaker this year will be The Reverend Dr. Carl Trueman, professor of church history at Westminster Theological Seminary in Glenside, PA, and author of more than a dozen books. No advance registration is necessary. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:15 p.m., with the first session beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 601-326-9243 or discipleship@fpcjackson.org.

SUPPORT GROUP

If you are struggling with alcohol or other chemical dependence and would like to get together with people who share in the same struggles, we have a small and very safe group that meets regularly for just that purpose. This discreet, monthly meeting is one of friendship, encouragement, and biblical reflection. Personal anonymity is very important at this meeting. For more information, please call or text 601-260-1636. Also, every month a group of those who have family members (spouses, children, siblings, parents) who struggle with addiction meets for a time of mutual encouragement and Christ-centered counsel. Anonymity is required. For more information concerning the place and time of these meetings, call or text 601-260-0388.

CONNECT WITH FPC ONLINE

website: www.fpcjackson.org

Follow us on Twitter
[@FPCJxnMS](https://twitter.com/FPCJxnMS)

Like us on Facebook
[Facebook.com/FirstPresJackson](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresJackson)

Download the First Pres App free
<http://get.theapp.co/d6ed>

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

At FPC, we believe that family worship is important. Recognizing the time challenges of a busy week with work and school, we want to make it as easy as possible for you. So we hope you find this Family Worship Guide helpful and use it in your homes this week. Each week addresses a question from the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, with a daily scripture reference, key thought, and questions for family discussion. You can use this abbreviated version by simply taking this bulletin home with you today, or get the complete version emailed to you weekly by subscribing at fpcj.ms/fam-devo. Or contact the church office at 601-353-8316 or receptionist@fpcjackson.org.

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS:

Question 29: *How are we made to take part in the redemption Christ brought?*

Answer: We take part in the redemption Christ bought when the Holy Spirit effectively applies it to us.

MONDAY

Scripture: Read Titus 3:1-7

Key Thought: The Holy Spirit applies what Christ purchased for us.

Questions:

- What has Christ done? What does the Holy Spirit do?
- What does the word "effectual" mean?
- According to the catechism answer and Titus 3:5, who is active party in the salvation of sinners? Why is this important?

Prayer

TUESDAY

Scripture: Read John 1:1-14

Key Thought: Salvation is not hereditary.

Questions:

- What things are true of you because of the family you were born into?
- What does John mean when he says that Christians are children born "not of blood"?
- Should you assume that you are a Christian if your parents are?

Prayer

WEDNESDAY

Scripture: Read John 1:1-14

Key Thought: Salvation is not through the will of the flesh.

Questions:

- What is the "will of the flesh"?
- If you were physically dead, could you will to move from one grave to another? Why not?
- Could you will to lift the Empire State Building over your head? Why not?
- Can any sinner will to receive salvation through Christ? Why not?

Prayer

THURSDAY

Scripture: Read John 1:1-14

Key Thought: Salvation is not through the will of man.

Questions:

- Can a person be forced to do something against their will?
- Do governments sometimes force people to change religions?
- Can a government, through force, change a person's actions?
- Can a government, through force, change a person's heart?

Prayer

FRIDAY

Scripture: Read John 1:1-14; Titus 3:1-7

Key Thought: Salvation is entirely of God.

Questions:

- Does salvation depend on anything in man himself?
- Did Jesus die in order to make salvation possible for anyone who wanted to be saved? What is wrong with this statement?
- Is the work of Jesus Christ complete?
- Are we commanded to repent and believe? What must happen before we are able to do these things?

Prayer