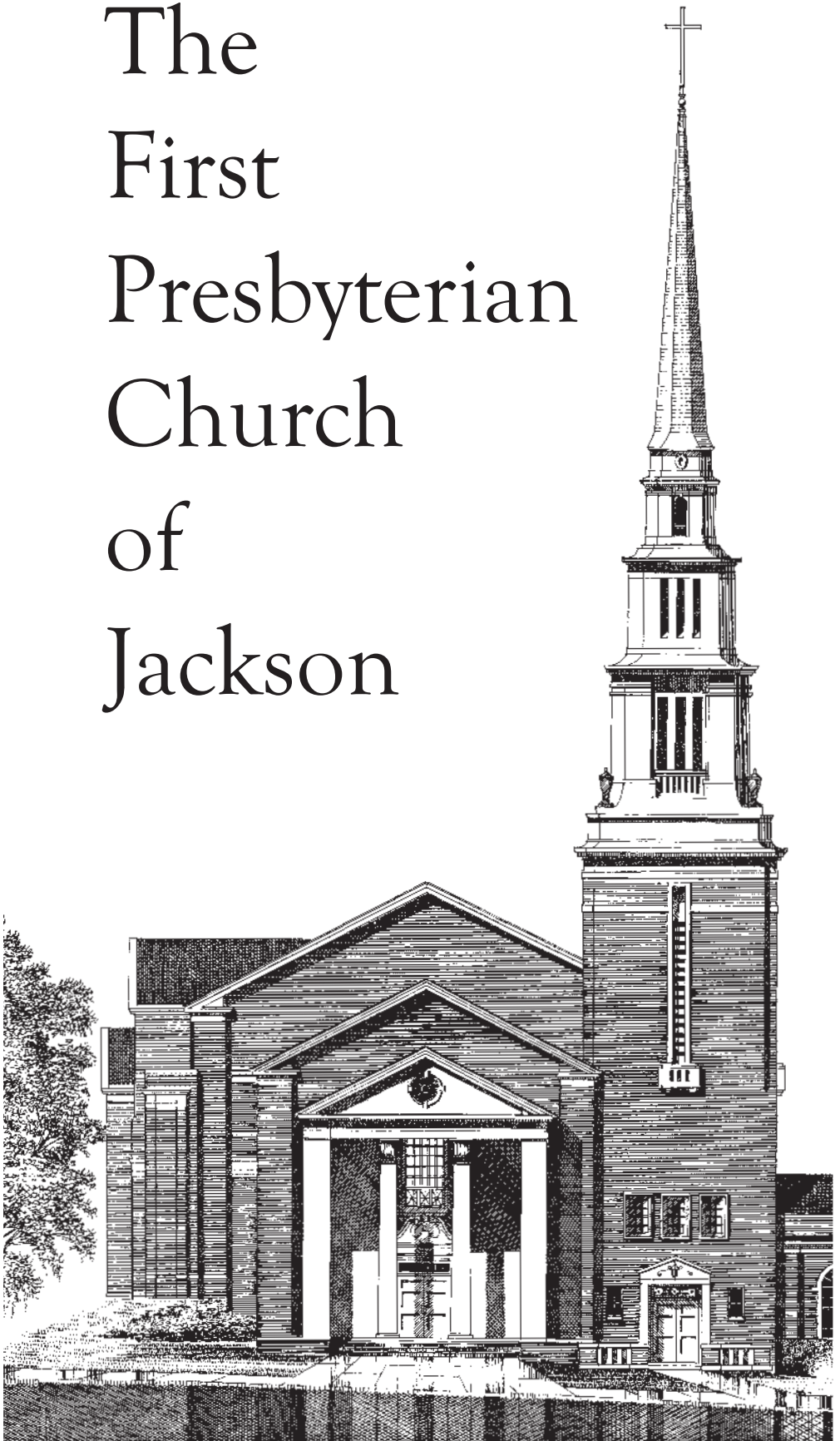


The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Third Day of January, Two Thousand Sixteen
MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

Assisting Minister — The Reverend Dr. Gabriel N. E. Fluhrer
Minister of Discipleship

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 — “Call to Thee Lord Jesus Christ”J.S. Bach

Connie S. Wadsworth, Organ

The Call to Worship

‡* **The Psalm of Praise No. 53** — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

(from Psalm 103)

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

‡ **The Assurance of Pardon**

‡* **The 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, Amen.”

The Scripture Reading — Mark 1:1-15 (Pew Bible page 836)

The Morning Prayer

‡ **The Hymn No. 34** — “The God of Abraham Praise”

The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory — “What Wondrous Love Is This?”Kurt Kaiser

Genneysa Case, Soloist

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Exodus 19 (Pew Bible pages 60-61)

The Sermon — *God Reigns: “Meeting the Great King”*Mr. Strain

‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 100** — “Holy, Holy, Holy!”

‡ **The Benediction**

The Postlude — “Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”J.S. Bach

*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

Presiding Minister — The Reverend Dr. Gabriel N. E. Fluhrer

Minister of Discipleship

Assisting Minister — The Reverend Mr. Ralph S. Kelley

Executive Minister

The Announcements and Words of Preparation (5:55 p.m.)

The Prelude — “Evening Meditation” Paul Benoit
Connie S. Wadsworth, Organ

The Call to Worship

‡ **The Hymn of Praise No. 605** — “All the Way My Savior Leads Me”

‡ **The Invocation**

‡ **The Hymn No. 165** — “Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

* **The Greetings**

The Evening Prayer — Ruling Elder Harper Keeler

The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory — “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”
William Wymond, Piano

The Young Children's Devotional

For children currently in 4-year-old through 3rd grade Sunday School

The Children's Catechism

Q 36. Did Adam act for himself alone in the covenant of life? A: No. He represented the whole human race.

Q 37. What effect did the sin of Adam have on you and all people? A: We are all born guilty and sinful.

Q 38. How sinful are you by nature? A: I am corrupt in every part of my being.

Q 39. What is the sinful nature that we inherit from Adam called?
A: Original sin.

Q 40. Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature? A: No. Our hearts must be changed before we can believe in Jesus and go to heaven.

** **The Meditation and Prayer** James Ritchey, Student Ministry Assistant

‡ **The Evening Hymn No. 691** — “It Is Well with My Soul”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (Pew Bible page 986)

The Sermon — “Faith in the Face of Overwhelming Doubt”Dr. Fluhrer

‡ **The Benediction**

‡ **The Response**

“O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
‘Even so’—it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.”

The Postlude — “Come, God Creator, Holy Ghost”J.S.Bach

*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

**Children dismissed after the prayer

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.

LADIES SPRING BIBLE STUDIES – NEW MEMBER REGISTRATION

MOMS: “The Heart of Contentment”

Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., beginning January 13

For: Mothers of children birth to 6th grade

Teacher: Emily Hartman

Format: Small Groups and Large Group Lecture

To register: Contact Joanna McNeel at 601-807-1596 or
joanna.b.mcneel@gmail.com

Son of God: The Gospel of Matthew

Thursdays: 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., beginning January 7

For: Ladies of all ages

Teacher: Laura Husband

Format: Lecture

To register: Contact Alice Patterson at 601-906-6755 or
alipatte@gmail.com

The Envy of Eve: Pursuit of Contentment

Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., beginning January 14

For: Ladies of all ages (We have small groups for mothers of 6th -
12th graders)

Format: Small Group Book Club

To register: Contact the Women and Children’s Ministry
Department at 601-973-9115 or omegas@fpcjackson.org

If you are currently enrolled in one of these studies,
there is no need to register.

MID-SOUTH MEN’S RALLY JANUARY 29, 2016



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. Douglas F. Kelly, Richard Jordan Professor of Theology, Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte, NC. 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. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Repair at lisar@fpcjackson.org or 601-326-9243.

A GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

One important aspect of any good event is that it has a definite beginning and end. This communicates intentionality and gives a gathered group of people an obvious sense of what is taking place. This same idea applies to our weekly corporate worship. For the participation and benefit of God's people, we desire the flow of worship to be clear and discernable so that collectively, we participate more fully in the means of grace that God has given. We previously considered the reasons why our service begins with a Call to Worship. This morning we set aside a few moments to think through why our service closes the way it does. What is the Benediction, and why do we have one each week?

What is the Benediction?

The word "benediction" has Latin origins (bene = "well," and dicere = "to speak"). A benediction, then, is a word that "speaks wellness/goodness" to a person or group. So properly understood, it is a blessing. The Benediction blessing is an ancient Hebrew practice and was a highlight in the temple worship of the Old Testament saints. After a sacrifice was made, the high priest would stand with arms raised over the people and pronounce the Aaronic blessing recorded in Numbers 6:24-26: "The Lord bless and keep you: The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." The New Testament is replete with benedictions as well. Jesus pronounces these blessings over the disciples; Paul includes them within his Epistles, and the writer of Hebrews pronounces a benediction in his appeal to the "God of peace" to "equip you with everything good that you may do His will" (Hebrews 13:20-21). The Benediction is not just a parting prayer, but it is the conferral of a covenant blessing based on God's faithfulness to His people. John Calvin describes it as a "pledge of that divine benevolence which is the source of our salvation".

Why is it given each week?

The weekly pronouncement of the benediction serves as a reminder to the congregation that God has both the first and last Word in worship. He invites us to commune with Him through the Call to Worship, but He also blesses us through the Benediction as we depart. It is interesting that the final verse of the Book of Revelation says, "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen" (Rev. 22:21). The very last verse in our Bible is itself a benediction. Therefore, in seeking to pattern our worship after the Bible, we close every service with God's blessing. As we receive the Benediction given at the end of the service, let it be a reminder that we do not go in our own strength, but we are accompanied by the mighty blessing of God, who works in and through us to accomplish His glorious purposes.

FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • JANUARY 3, 2015

Sunday	<p>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 Children’s Church for 3 and 4-year-olds — during 11:00 a.m. worship service in M135 Pre-Service Announcements — 10:55 a.m. in the Sanctuary The Learning Resource Center — 5:30 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. (Library only) Pre-Service Announcements — 5:55 p.m. in the Sanctuary No Senior High Insight</p>
Monday	<p>Circle Bible Teachers Meeting — 9:00 a.m. in WH204 WIC Leadership Council — 9:30 a.m. in PH Diaconate Executive Committee Meeting — 11:45 a.m. in MH Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring — 3:00 p.m. in SC210</p>
Tuesday	<p>Sew & Sow — 9:00 a.m. in SC211 Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring — 3:00 p.m. in SC210 Presbytery Mission to Military — 4:00 p.m. in WH204 Management Committee Meeting — 5:30 p.m. in SC215 Internationals Class — 6:45 p.m. in PH</p>
Wednesday	<p>MOMS Spring Leader Training — 9:00 a.m. in PH Men’s Bible Study — 10:00 a.m. in WH202 Interns Meeting — 4:00 p.m. in Basement Classroom Family Night Supper — 5:00 p.m. in MH Youth Ski Trip Informational Meeting — 5:30 p.m. in WH202 Adult Choir Rehearsal — 5:50 p.m. in MS Junior High D Groups — 6:30 p.m. in YH Churchwide Night of Prayer — 6:30 p.m. in MH</p>
Thursday	<p>Discipleship Training Luncheon — 11:30 a.m. in MH</p>
Friday	<p>No Scheduled Activities</p>
Saturday	<p>No scheduled Activities</p>

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...." **Kurt & Jill P.** – Serving with Mission to the World in Europe. For more information, please contact the Mission Department. **Tim & Lana Higginbotham** – Tim serves as the Operations Director of North American Indigenous Ministries overseeing Field Directors and ministries. Mailing address: P.O. Box 698, Fort Langley, BC V1M 2S1 Email: timhiggy@shaw.ca

SUNDAY EVENING SERMON SERIES

From Christians to atheists and everyone in between, people are interested in the end of the world. Nevertheless, the subject of the end times is usually considered something best left for prophecy experts, with little to no practical importance for everyday life. But the Bible challenges this view, considering the end times to be one of the most practical and important subjects a believer can study. Join us for our Sunday evening sermon series, beginning January 3, as Dr. Gabe Fluhrer leads us in a study through 1 Thessalonians entitled, "How to Live in the Last Days."

COLLEGE MINISTRY DINNER AND A MOVIE

College students, join us for Dinner and a Movie, Monday, January 4, 2016. We'll meet at Pizza Shack in Madison at 6:00 p.m. and go to a movie (tbd) afterward. For more information contact Kelly Jackson at 601-624-7121. Hope to see you there!

CHURCHWIDE NIGHT OF PRAYER

Across history God has often brought seasons of revival and spiritual renewal to His church when God's people have gathered to pray together. To help us grow in this area, at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 6, after our usual family supper, the entire congregation will gather in Miller Hall for an evening of prayer and praise. We hope that a periodic gathering for prayer like this will become a regular feature of our church's life. Spurgeon called the prayer meeting the "engine room" of the church. Churches change at prayer meetings. The kingdom of God advances when God's people pray. Come and join us with expectant hearts as we look to God for His blessing on the work of the gospel at home and around the world.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/D GROUP TRAINING LUNCHEON

All Adult Sunday School teachers, D Group leaders, and Sunday School officers are invited to a training luncheon on Thursday, January 7, at 11:30 a.m. in Miller Hall. Dr. Gabe Fluhrer, Minister of Discipleship, will outline the character of a disciple of Christ and how our Sunday School and D Group ministries can help others in their walk with Jesus. Lunch is \$6.00 per person. Please RSVP to Lisa Repair at lisar@fpcjackson.org.

COMMUNION

Communion Sunday will be next Sunday, January 10. Please begin prayerfully preparing your hearts and minds to receive the Lord's Supper. For those interested, professionally prepared gluten-free "crackers" will be available for communion Sunday. They will be placed on the table on the south wall of the Greeting Courtyard. Please pick up a piece on the way into the morning worship service.

BAPTISM

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, January 17, 2016. Space is available for the 8:30 a.m. worship service. To make your reservation, please contact Lisa Walters at 601-973-9102 or lisaw@fpcjackson.org.

YOUNG ADULT LADIES' AND MEN'S EVENTS

"SUFFERING: DOES GRACE GROW BEST IN WINTER?"

The Young Adults Ministry will have two events on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. The men and ladies will each have events at separate locations with special guest speakers. Save the date. More information to follow.

JOINT OFFICERS' MEETING

A joint officers' meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21, at 6:00 p.m., beginning with a catered meal in Miller Hall. All officers are urged to attend what will be a useful and important evening of discussion and reflection on an important area of our church's life, history and mission. The cost of the meal is \$10. Men, please RSVP by Monday, January 18, by calling Lynn Smith at 601-353-8316 or by emailing her at receptionist@fpcjackson.org.

CONNECT WITH FPC ONLINE

website: www.fpcjackson.org

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

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church Offices:
1390 N. State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202
601-353-8316 • FAX 601-973-9119

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

WOMEN AND CHILDREN:

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

NURSERY:

Gena Dear, Coordinator
Hellen Powell, Assistant
Carolyn Anderson
Sherry Anderson
Irene Ballard
Gloria Collier
Angela Dunson
Mary Gray
Lee Alice Harris
Ella Johnson
Lillie Newell
Leslie Olowu
Lawanda Palmer
Louvenia Palmer
Willie Ann Parnell
Monica Pittman
Mary Ross
Dorothy Shelby
Carol Tisdale
Georgia Trunnell
Mary Sue Trunnell

DISCIPLESHIP:

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

MUSIC AND MEDIA:

Bill Wymond, Minister of Music
Willard Harrell, Music Assistant
Connie Wadsworth, Organist
Janie Clarke, Children's Choirs Director
Heather Hunt, Assistant Children's Choirs Director
Trey Porter, TV Ministry Producer
Kenneth Smith, Assistant TV Production
Tian Teh, Assistant TV Production
Mark Phillips, Sanctuary Sound Technician
Ginny Warren, Administrative Assistant
Jonathan Hunt, Intern

MISSION AND OUTREACH:

Ed Hartman, Minister
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.fpds.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
Wiley Lowry, Minister of Pastoral Care
Briester Ware, Minister of Pastoral Care
Lisa Walters, Administrative Assistant
Jason Wegener, Congregational Care Intern

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES MINISTRY:

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

BUSINESS OFFICE:

Earl Davis, Business Administrator
Jimmi Phillips, Financial Associate
Barbara Eichelberger, Administrative Assistant
Lynn Smith, Receptionist

SECURITY:

Don McCluskey, Security Director
Richard Barnes, Security
Sam Hilliker, Security
Patrick McCluskey, Security
Clinton Miller, Security
Edmond Monroe, Security
Craig Stewart, Security
Diana Stewart, Security
Vernon Williams, Security

FACILITIES:

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

CUSTODIAL:

Jim Williams, Jr., Supervisor
Travis Caldwell, Asst. Supervisor
Michael Barber
Bobby Bowie
Demarcus Jackson
Michael Jackson
Josh Knight

FOOD SERVICE:

Irene Underwood, Hostess
Mary Carson
Laura Jackson
Lorene Kelly

YOUNG ADULTS/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.twinklakescamp.org
Florence, MS
(601) 845-6858
Mark Magee, Executive Director
Andrew Vincent, Camp Director
Matthew Elliott, Asst. Camp and Program Director
Shannon Craft, Reservationist
Grant Lyons, Hosting Director
Lisa Smith, Secretary and Camp Registrar
Warner Mitchell, Maintenance Superintendent
Fred Rice, Maintenance
Bobbie Godbey, Food Service Director
Emma Williams, Head Cook
Rita Breedon, Housekeeping

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
Neighborhood Christian Center

Pioneer Ministries
Young Life

OUTREACH

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