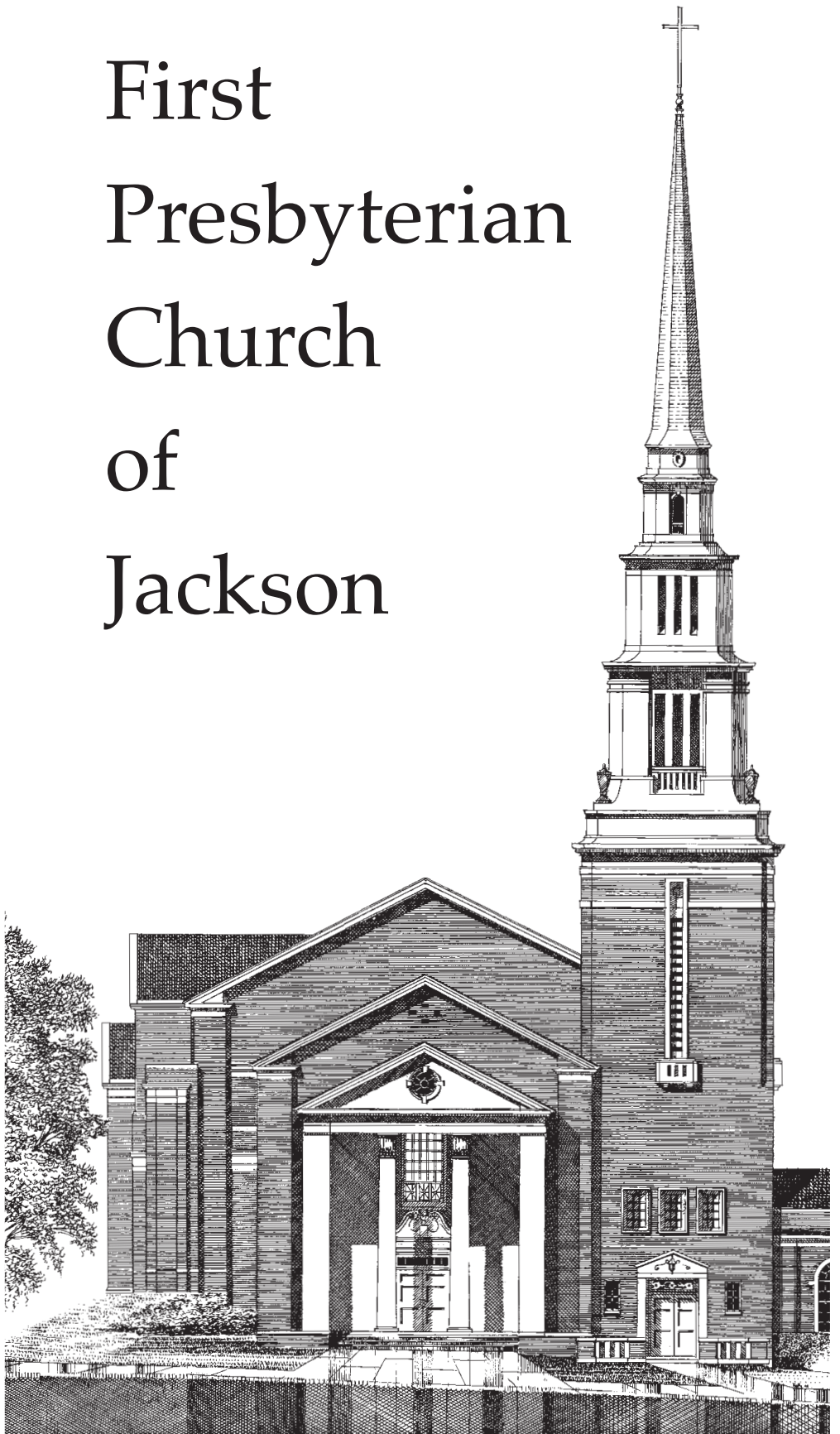


The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



*"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"*

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-Sixth Day of May, Two Thousand Thirteen

MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

Minister of Teaching and Mission

Assisting Minister — The Reverend Dr. William Wymond

Minister of Music and Media

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

**The Greetings and Announcements** (8:20 and 10:50 a.m.)

**The Prelude** — “Jesus and the Children” .....Austin Lovelace  
Connie S. Wadsworth, Organist

**The Introit** — “Almighty God Of Our Fathers” .....Will James

**The Call to Worship**

‡ **The Hymn of Praise No. 15** — “Stand Up and Bless the Lord”

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation**

**The Scripture Reading** — Jeremiah 29:1-32 (Pew Bible pages 656-657)

\*‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 94** — “How Firm a Foundation” (Stanza 1)  
“How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?”

**The Morning Prayer**

\*‡ **The Psalm No. 12** — “Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim”

**The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**The Offertory** — “Create in Me” (Psalm 51) ..... Johannes Brahms  
“Create in me, O God, a pure heart, and grant anew,  
grant a right spirit within me.”

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Reading of Holy Scripture** — Romans 11:33-12:2 (Pew Bible page 947)

**The Sermon** — “The Inscrutable Glory of Grace” ..... Mr. Strain

‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 75** — “O Father, You Are Sovereign”

‡ **The Benediction**

**The Response** — “A Benediction Prayer” .....William Wymond  
“Lord, be in us; Lord, surround us; Lord, go with us;  
Lord, direct us; Lord protect us; for Your glory, Amen.”

**The Postlude** — “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” ..... J.G. Walther

\*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

# EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

**Presiding Minister — The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain**  
Minister of Teaching and Mission

**Assisting Minister — The Reverend Mr. William F. Joseph III**  
Minister of Congregational Care

**The Announcements and Words of Preparation** (5:50 p.m.)

**The Prelude** — “Awake, for the Night Is Coming” ..... Paul Manz  
Connie S. Wadsworth, Organist

**The Call to Worship**

\*‡ **The Hymn of Praise No. 310** — “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

‡ **The Invocation**

**The Evening Hymn No. 128** — “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”

\* **The Greetings**

**The Evening Prayer** — Ruling Elder Marcy Forester

**The Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings**

**The Offertory** — “Praise the Lord! Ye heavens Adore Him” .....J. Wisdon  
Greg and Mary Jane Meyer with Caroline Pillsbury, Accompanist

**The Young Children’s Devotional**

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

**The Song No. 95** — “Though Troubles Assail Us” (Stanzas 1 and 2)

**The Children’s Catechism No. 116**

Q. “What is the fourth request?”

A. “Give us today our daily bread.”

**The Scripture** — Deuteronomy 15:11; Psalm 34:9-10; Psalm 145:15-16;  
John 6:48; Philippians 4:19

**The Meditation** .....Cory Brock, Young Adults Intern

**The Prayer** ..... (The children dismissed following the prayer)

‡ **The Hymn No. 34** — “The God of Abraham Praise” (Stanzas 1-5)

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Reading of Holy Scripture** — Esther 1:1-2:18 (Pew Bible pages 410-411)

**The Sermon** — *Sudden Reversals* “The Lord Reigns” .....Mr. Strain

‡ **The Benediction and Response No. 34** — (Stanza 6)  
“The God of Abraham Praise”

“The whole triumphant host gives thanks to God on high;

‘Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!’ they ever cry.

Hail, Abraham’s God and mine! I join the heav’nly lays;

all might and majesty are thine, and endless praise.”

**The Postlude** — “Postludium” .....Ron Boud

\*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.

# A Guide to the Evening Service

## The Welcome

We welcome all to this service of worship. If you are a Christian visiting with us this evening, we greet you in the name of our common Lord. If you are not a believer, we greet you as a friend and trust that you will sense the warmth and genuineness of our reception. We also hope that this guide will help you understand the various components of our service, and thus make you more comfortable and familiar with it. We try to present most of our announcements prior to the service in order to avoid interrupting the flow of our worship of God with distractions that take our minds away from our central purpose: giving to the Lord the glory due His name.

## The Psalm, Hymn, and Spiritual Songs

### Rejoice, the Lord Is King

This hymn-text comes from Wesley's hymn for our Lord's Resurrection (1746) omitting the sixth verse. The idea for the lyric is inspired by Philippians 4:4 — "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" It is a celebration of the glories of our resurrected Savior, Jesus Christ. It reminds us that the cross was not the final destination for Jesus, but that after "He had purged our stains, He took his seat above." Stanza three calls us to praise Him for the surety of His kingdom. In stanza four, we sing of Jesus' final defeat of all His enemies. And in stanza five, we profess our hope that He will yet return and will "take His servants up to their eternal home." No wonder we respond to each verse with a hearty, "Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!"

### God Moves in a Mysterious Way

On a dark night in 1774, William Cowper (pronounced "Cooper"), a forty-three year old man, sought to drown himself. A series of events led to this mental instability. His mother died when he was six years old, leaving him in quite a state of shock. He was enrolled in an English boarding school while still very young and was subjected to ill-treatment at the hands of other boys. When he was twenty-one, he entered the legal profession, but the strain put on him when he was to be examined for a job caused the first of many mental breakdowns. He tried to commit suicide many times but never succeeded. After several attempts, he was put in an asylum. When he was thirty-three through a visit from a boyhood friend, he came to a saving knowledge of the Gospel of Christ. Soon after, his only romance was ended almost before it began. Only his close friend, John Newton, kept him from taking his life. It was at a similarly low point in his life in 1774 that he attempted to drown himself. As God providentially prevented him from doing so, he recognized God's merciful care for him. That same evening, reflecting upon his narrow escape from death, he wrote these words in his autobiographical hymn:

"God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform;  
He plants His footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm."

### The God of Abraham Praise

This great and robust hymn is a paraphrase by Thomas Olivers. Both of his parents died when he was young, so Olivers did not receive thorough religious training as a child. In God's providence, he heard a sermon by George Whitefield which eventually led him to Christ. Following his conversion, he joined the Methodist Society at Bradford-on-Avon. It was through that organization that he first met John Wesley and joined his evangelistic efforts, mostly in Cornwall. The text of the song comes from *The Yigdal of Daniel ben Judah*, circa 1400, as paraphrased by Thomas Olivers, circa 1765; it first appeared in *John Wesley's Pocket Hymnbook for the Use of Christians of All Denominations*, 1785. The lyrics are based on the 13 creeds of Moses Maimonides (circa 1130- circa 1204). Daniel ben Judah was a Jewish judge in Rome.

# A Guide to the Morning Service

## The Scripture Reading

### Jeremiah's Letter to the Exiles

#### Jeremiah 29. A letter from home

Although Jeremiah is still in Jerusalem, King Jeconiah and most of Judah's leaders have already been carried off to Babylon in the first wave of exiles. Jeremiah is still their prophet, and in this epistle he tells the exiles not to escape but to make themselves at home in Babylon—pursuing the peace and prosperity of that great city—because God's good plans for their future blessing include seven decades of spiritual growth in captivity before they come back home (vv. 4–14). Yet again, the prophet has to confront his naysayers—lying prophets like Shemaiah, who deny that Jeremiah speaks for God (vv. 24–32). (Literary Study Bible, Crossway)

## The Psalm, Hymn, and Spiritual Songs

### Stand Up and Bless the Lord

We begin this Lord's Day by reflecting first upon why we worship. James Montgomery calls us to sing praises and blessings to our God because we are the "people of His choice." While God is owed our worship because He has created all things and sustains all things, we above all should worship Him because He has chosen us as His own people, the people of His inheritance. That proposition should humble us for, as Montgomery explains, God is "high above all praise," and yet He welcomes our praise, thanksgiving, and worship through Jesus Christ. The author of this hymn not only wrote pious meditation, his piety was lived out as he fought to end the exploitation of children serving as chimney sweeps.

### How Firm a Foundation

This hymn first appeared in *Rippon's Selections*, a hymnbook put together by Dr. John Rippon, pastor of a Baptist church in London (from 1773 to 1836). *Rippon's Selections* won immediate popularity. Within three years, Baptists in Philadelphia reprinted this hymn, and in five years, Rippon's whole book was published in New York. The hymn is really a sermon in verse. In the first stanza, the foundation of the Christian faith is said to be the Bible in which God has given us all we need. Those gifts are then specified in the following stanzas. There we are reminded that God will be with us and will uphold us with His all-powerful hand. In times when we see the foundations slipping all around us, this hymn is a reminder that Jesus Christ is our foundation.

### Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim

Inspired by his trip to England where he heard performances of G. F. Händel's *Messiah*, Franz Joseph Haydn wrote an oratorio of his own, *Die Schöpfung* (The Creation), which is loosely based on the opening chapter of Genesis. We begin our praises to God this Lord's Day by singing part of Psalm 135 to the tune of the most well-known chorus of Haydn's oratorio. In the psalm, we call each other - the people of God - to praise His name. As the psalms often do, we can sing to one another reasons for praising God: His goodness, His choice of us as His people, His greatness, His power, and His providence. The hymn begins and ends with a reminder of the special privilege that we have as His people. We not only minister in His house, but in His dwelling place - He dwells with us and we with Him because of His grace.

### O Father, You Are Sovereign

This Margaret Clarkson hymn is powerful, and in it, she acknowledges God's sovereignty even over the most perplexing things in life. This is very significant because she knew great pain in her own life and yet continued to trust in her sovereign and loving God. There is, thus, enormous pathos in her praise to God as "the Lord of human pain" (see stanza 3). The tune is well-known to all, "St. Theodulph" (to which we often sing "All Glory, Laud and Honor").

# FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • MAY 26, 2013

<b>Sunday</b>	<p><b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 8:20 a.m. in the Sanctuary <b>Prayer for Worship Service</b> — 9:00 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. in M133 <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. (Library only) <b>Sunday School</b> — 9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. in various locations <b>Inquirers Class</b> — 9:40 a.m. in the M133 <b>College Sunday School</b> — 9:50 a.m. in the College House <b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 5:30 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. (Library only) <b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 5:50 p.m. in the Sanctuary <b>No Senior High Insight</b></p>
<b>Monday</b>	<p><b>Church Offices Closed</b></p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p><b>Men's Bible Study</b> — 6:30 a.m. in WH204 <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. <b>Deacon Investment Committee Meeting</b> — 12:00 noon in MH</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p><b>Men's Bible Study</b> — 10:00 a.m. in SR <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 10:00 a.m. – 6:25 p.m. <b>Family Night Supper</b> — 5:00 p.m. in MH <b>Junior High Discipleship Groups</b> — 5:00 p.m. on the playground <b>Children's Activities</b> — 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. on the playground/gym <b>The Choir</b> — 5:50 p.m. in MS <b>Children's Classes</b> — 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. first floor SC <b>Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting</b> — 6:30 p.m. in LH</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p><b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</p>
<b>Friday</b>	<p><b>No Scheduled Activities</b></p>
<b>Saturday</b>	<p><b>Men's Prayer Breakfast</b> — 7:30 a.m. in MH</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....” **Jeff & Mary Baldwin** - serving in Greece with Greater Europe Mission. Mailing: Chr. Adamopoulou 8, Pikermi, Attiki GR 190 09; email: jbdawin@GEMission.com.

**Tim & Lana Higginbotham** - serving in British Columbia with North American Indigenous Ministries (NAIM). Mailing: 21079 44 Avenue, Langley, British Columbia, Canada V3A 5B1; email: hitch@telus.net.

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are in loving memory of Gilbert B. Mobley by his family.

## BAPTISM

Last Sunday the sacrament of covenant baptism was administered to Nathan Campbell Best III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Campbell Best, Jr.; Ethan Clark Brock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cory Clark Brock; Reeve Clark Payne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Guy Payne; Grayson Gunter Saxon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Saxon III; Anna Grace Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Clayton Smith; Finnegan David Taaffe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel C. Taaffe; and Brynn Piper Whitney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Joseph Whitney.

## THURSDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Recent college graduate? New to Jackson? Young Adults - please join us Thursday, May 30th at 6:30 p.m. for Thursday Night Fellowship. If you are a Young Adult - single, married - come join us as we fellowship, eat barbeque, sing, and hear from God's Word. Thursday Night Fellowship is our mid-week large group Bible study, with an RUF large group feel to it. This summer we will be going through a series entitled, *Gospel Community: the One-Anothering Nature of the Church*. Join us at Danny and Holly Story's home (2416 Culleywood Road). Contact David Felker (601-850-8650) for more details, bring some friends, and come on out. Here's our summer schedule: May 30th—David Felker; June 13th—Les Newsom; June 27th—Billy Dempsey; July 11th—Brian Sorgenfrei; and July 25th—Cory Brock.

## ATTENTION RISING COLLEGE FRESHMAN!

Join us for College Sunday School this summer in the College House (beside the Belhaven Street parking lot on North State Street). Our topic this summer is *Gospel Relationships*. Teachers will include our new college staff members Kelly Jackson and Stefan Sanchez, as well as David Felker, Jeff Jordan (RUF MC), etc. Move up date for incoming freshman is June 2nd. We hope to see you there!

## SUMMER RUF

Attention all college students (including rising freshmen)! We will kick off our summer Bible Study (Summer RUF) on Tuesday, June 4, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Holly and Danny Story (2416 Culleywood Rd). Ben Shaw (Southern Miss RUF) will be speaking. The theme for the summer is *Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate*. Bring friends!

## GUESTS OF VBS

We love our guests at VBS! Please invite a friend or a neighbor to come to VBS (June 3-7) with you. Visitors must be five-years-old by September 1 of this year to attend. Children of parents and grandparents who are church members are able to come to VBS at age three and don't forget to register your children!

## A VBS THANK YOU

Thank you, thank you! Because of you, we now have enough supplies to arm ourselves for an entire week of VBS. We can always count on our congregation to answer our call for supplies. As VBS approaches, please pray for the hearts and minds of all the children attending. Remember the workers and staff as well. Pray for safety of all those involved, good weather, and the offering which will be given to Gideons.

## MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON JUNE 18, 2013

It's not too early to make reservations to attend our popular annual WIC Mother/Daughter Luncheon. This event is not just for mothers and daughters, but for everyone! Lou Anne Harper will speak on "We Love Because He First Loved Us." Please register by calling the receptionist at 601-353-8316 or emailing her at receptionist@fpcjackson.org. Nursery provided upon request.

# THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

web site - www.fpcjackson.org  
WLBT TV3 10:00 A.M. Sunday  
WBVV TV14 Memphis  
WBIW Prattville, AL

## THE SESSION

The Reverend Dr. J. Ligon Duncan III, Senior Minister

John A. Crawford, Clerk	Arthur P. Davis	Robert Y. Love, Jr.	A. Jerry Sheldon
James S. Armstrong	Stephen M. Edwards	Wiley P. Lowry, Jr.	Jerrald L. Shivers
J. Mark Baird	James D. Elkin	A. William May	Mark A. Sorgenfrei
D. Kyle Ball	T. David Elkin	George W. May, Jr.	Paul H. Stephenson III
McNeill Bartling III	George R. Fair	John H. McVey, Sr.	Marvin E. Stockett
Bryant R. Boswell	Kenneth G. Fairly	Robert B. Mims	William O. Stone, Jr.
John H. Bowen III	W. Craig Flowers	J. Longstreet Minor III	Daniel B. Story II
Max P. Bowman	Marcial D. Forester, Jr.	James L. Moore	Orrin H. Swayze, Jr.
Forrest G. Bratley, Jr.	L. H. Fulcher, Jr.	William McNeill Moore	Tian C. Teh
Donald G. Breazeale	Alan F. Futvoye	Doyle B. Moorhead	Denny A. Terry
John P. Buchanan	Claude W. Harbarger	J. Lee Owen, Jr.	Timothy M. Threadgill
Don B. Cannada	William K. Harper	Joel G. Payne, Jr.	Jim B. Tohill
Al P. Chestnut	Samuel D. Hensley	William D. Payne, Sr.	Noel K. Toler, Jr.
Stuart H. Clarke	Paul Hurst	William M. Penn	R. Barry Vickery
C. David Cleland	W. Wayne Husband	Thomas I. Rice III	Alan H. Walters
William S. Cook	W. Harper Keeler	Richard L. Ridgway	T. Calvin Wells
Robert A. Cunningham	Crane D. Kipp	Stephen W. Rosenblatt	A. Terrel Williams
T. Doug Dale, Sr.	Ralph H. Lord	Richard W. Russ	Marcus M. Wilson
			Mark J. Windham

Elders Emeriti: Thomas H. Bowen, Jr.; Victor B. Clark; Robert F. Cooper, Jr.; William H. Cox, Jr.; Allan G. Edgar, Jr.; Owen C. Elder, Jr.; Frank H. Hagaman; W. Jefferson Hamm, Sr.; Homer Lee Howie, Sr.; Leland Hume, Jr.; H. Richard Johnson, Jr.; Leon E. Lewis, Jr.; Dickson R. Liddell; William A. Long, Jr.; C. Eugene McRoberts, Jr.; Sidney A. Robinson, Jr.; Lewis Van Ness Rusing; Joel E. Varner

## THE DIACONATE

Douglas M. McDaniel Chairman	V. Reid Cotten	James R. House III	R. Weston Russ
G. Bailey Adams	John L. Cox	Carey A. Johnston	Bryan B. Rutledge
John H. Allgood III	Paul L. Cox	J. Dallis Ketchum	Malcolm Saxon III
Kirkpatrick Anderson	John A. Crawford, Jr.	Terry R. Levy	Kenneth C. Seawright
F. Hall Bailey	J. Holt Crews	Michael M. Manning	Jeff W. Skelton
David M. Baird	William L. Crim, Jr.	R. David Marchetti	John Lowe Smith
Kenneth C. Ball	Edward J. Currie, Jr.	Victor H. Meena, Jr.	William F. Sneed
Charles F. F. Barbour	Thomas D. Dale, Jr.	Robert A. Miller	Stewart C. Swayze
William H. Barbour III	Guy H. Davant III	James L. Moore, Jr.	L. Ford Terry
James M. Bateman	John Daniel Davis	J. Walter Newman IV	Robert L. Thomas
Lewis W. Bell	David B. Day	J.T. Noblin	Michael T. Tramel
Victor E. Blaylock	Robert G. Dye, Sr.	J. Lee Owen III	J. Wilbourn Vise
David L. Bowling	Robert G. Feild	Leroy H. Paris II	Arthur C. Wadsworth
Walter J. Brand	David H. Fulcher	R. Phillip Parker	Joseph W. Wadsworth
P. Sharkey Burke, Jr.	W. Douglas Garland III	Charles R. Porter III	H. Coles Wilkins, Jr.
Beau Burrow	Willard Benton Gregg	Benjamin W. Roberson	Joseph T. Wilkins III
C. Glen Bush, Jr.	Zeb King Henson	S. Craig Robinson	Neil T. Witherow
	L. Lawrence Houchins, Jr.	Cy Rosenblatt	Walter R. Wofford, Jr.
			John H. Young III

Deacons Emeriti: T. Oscar Burris, Jr.; R. Barry Cannada; Larry W. Edwards; Charles R. Gardner; Billy C. Greenlee; Gary J. Herring; J.O. Manning, Jr.; Boyd Thompson; Joe P. Uithoven; Richard B. Wilson, Jr.; Wirt A. Yergler, Jr.; Donn E. Young

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL—9:40 - 10:40 A.M.

Mr. William O. Stone, Jr., General Superintendent  
Mr. Jim Prince, Special Ed. Coordinator  
Mr. & Mrs. Crane Kipp, Churchtime Coordinators  
Mrs. Hall Bailey, Information Desk Coordinator

## THE CHURCH PROGRAM

### THE SUNDAY SERVICES:

* Sunday School	9:40 A.M.
* Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
* Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.
Senior High Insight	7:30 P.M.
Communion	2nd Sunday in January, April, July and October
Baptism	3rd Sunday in January, March, May, July, September, and November
New Members Received	1st Sunday in February, April, June, August, October, and December at 5:15 p.m. in PH

\*THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER MEETING:.....Wednesday, 6:30 P.M.  
Family Night Dinner.....Wednesday, 5:00 - 6:15 P.M.  
Adult Bible Study.....Wednesday, 6:30 P.M.  
Junior High Discipleship Groups.....Wednesday, 5:00 P.M.  
Children's Activities.....Wednesday, 5:30 P.M.

\*THE CHOIR REHEARSAL.....Wednesday, 5:50 P.M.

### THE WOMEN IN THE CHURCH:

\*Administrative Council.....First Monday, 9:30 A.M.  
\*Circles.....Second Week

THE MEN OF THE COVENANT.....First Thursday, 11:45 A.M.

THE SCOUTS: Boy Scouts (Troop 18) (Weekly).....Monday, 7:00 P.M.

THE SESSION MEETING.....Second Monday, 7:00 P.M.

THE DIACONATE MEETING.....Second Monday, 5:30 P.M.

\* A nursery for infants and pre-school children is maintained by the Church.