

The First Epistle

Volume 52 / Issue 6 / June 2019



Living in Christ ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER

MOTHER/DAUGHTER/SISTER/FRIEND LUNCHEON
JUNE 18, 2019

11:30 – 1:00 IN MILLER HALL

SPEAKER: MELISSA ABRAHAM

YOU MAY REGISTER THROUGH THE FPC APP OR WEBSITE

Mother/Daughter/Sister/Friend Luncheon

June 18, 2019 in Miller Hall

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Speaker: Melissa Abraham



The cost will be \$8, taken at the door. The meal and dessert will be naturally gluten-free, with the exception of bread on the table.

A nursery for ages 4 & under will be available upon request at the time of registration.

There will be pizza and playground time available for boys under 12.

Please request when you register.

To ensure your meal is reserved, please register by Thursday, June 13.

You may register through the FPC website or app. You may also contact the church at 601-353-8316.

Churchwide Women's Book Club

The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness
by Tim Keller

July 9 | 6:00 - 8:30 | Patterson Hall

Moderator: Shirley Windham

We will gather to share a meal, fellowship, and discuss the book *The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness* by Tim Keller. It is a very short, but very rich read! Salad and grilled chicken will be provided - please bring your favorite salad topping or dressing to share! Books are available in the bookstore for \$5.00. Contact Lisa Oswald (lisao@fpcjackson.org) to register.



Missionaries of the Month

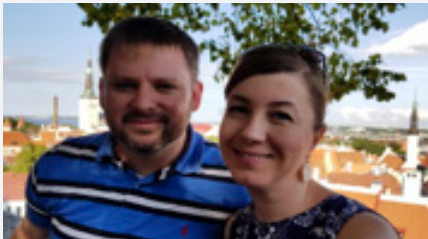


Clarke & Khrystya N — Serving as a church planter with Mission to the World in Lviv, Ukraine. Holy Trinity is now focusing on setting up ministries that care for children all the way from

diapers until they are at the university.

Prayer requests:

- ◊ For wisdom in discipling their volunteer team (3 people).
- ◊ For God to build relationships with teens inside and outside the church.
- ◊ For God to give opportunities to bless teens and their families through hospitality.
- ◊ For courage and wisdom for their volunteer team to take teens further – to go deeper – in challenging teens to follow Christ.



Jon & Olga P — serving with Mission to the World in Ukraine with a church-planting team

- Prayer requests:
- ◊ That their large-group meetings will be a valuable and unique means for students to grow in their knowledge of God, his character and purposes, and what it means to walk with Him through all of life.
 - ◊ For three new students to grow in Christ and deeper in relationship with one another
 - ◊ For God to build strong and close community through small-group Bible study.



Center for Pregnancy Choices — offers alternatives to abortion for women experiencing crisis pregnancies, while declaring the good news about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with an emphasis on abstinence education and presenting adoption as a loving option. Prayer requests:

- ◊ For the staff to remain strong in the wake of often discouraging situations.
- ◊ For their patients to embrace the Gospel and choose life-giving options for their families
- ◊ For the growth and strength of their ministry to match the need of the tri-county area which includes Hinds, Madison, and Rankin counties in Mississippi.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE | by Wiley Lowry

Lunch Pail Theology

What does the resurrection have to do with PB&J's? How could something as significant as the resurrection have anything to do with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches? Well, that was the question that came to my mind last week as I was reading Acts 23.

In Acts 23, Paul was on trial before the Jewish court, and he said to the assembly, "It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial" (Acts 23:6). Jesus' resurrection defined Paul's life to such an extent that the resurrection became the point of attack for his opposition. The persecution Paul endured as a witness to the resurrection is a powerful testimony to a life of faithfulness to God. It reminds me of how Daniel was judged for his obedience to the law of God. His integrity was such that his enemies could not find any wrongdoing with him unless it was to pit their own law against God's law. I wonder if anyone would say the same about us – that obedience to God and the hope of the resurrection are the obvious priorities of our lives.

That brings me back to PB&J's. My prayer the other morning, as I read Acts 23, was that Jesus' resurrection would be the thread that runs through everything I do. But then, the first thing on my list to do that day was to make sandwiches for our children's lunches, and I didn't want to do it. Before I go any further, let me confess a couple of things:

1. I do not always have a good attitude about the morning rush to make lunches and to get out the door in the mornings. And,
2. When it comes to making lunches, Molly has packed probably around 3,000 school lunches over the last decade and I have done only a few hundred.

In other words, I do not have much room to complain, but that does not mean that I will not try! Which is why I need Jesus' resurrection to change my heart and to transform my everyday tasks.

It is strange to say, but sometimes we overlook the resurrection. Even in worship and in Bible study, we forget that Jesus' resurrection is what

makes the Good News good, and what makes the New Testament new. This is what John Stott writes: "Authentic Christianity – the Christianity of Christ and the apostles – is supernatural Christianity. It is not a tame and harmless ethic, consisting of a few moral platitudes, spiced with a dash of religion. It is a resurrection religion, a life lived by the power of God." In other words, Jesus' resurrection is of the utmost significance for daily Christian living. The resurrection impacts and transforms even the most menial and mundane tasks. Here's how:

1. The resurrected Jesus is our Lord and King – Everything we do is in service to him and is to be done to his honor and glory. (Romans 1:1-6; Colossians 3:23, 24)

2. Jesus was raised to change our hearts – God's will is to make us like Christ and to produce in us love, joy, patience, kindness, and the other fruit of the Spirit. God uses everyday tasks as his way to produce and to display that fruit in us. (Galatians 5:22, 23)

3. The resurrection of Jesus makes us new creations created for good works – We are saved in Christ not only to do good works, but also to do that work in the strength of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:19, 20; Ephesians 2:10)

4. The resurrection of Jesus is our greatest cause for gratitude – Gratitude for what Jesus has accomplished by his death and resurrection is the basis for our obedience to God and our growth in Christlikeness. We are to give thanks to God in everything. (Romans 4:23-5:5; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

5. Jesus' resurrection is our resurrection and our hope – By faith, we have died with Christ and have been raised with him. Our lifestyle is to be that of sacrifice and of self-denial because our hope is with the resurrected and ascended Christ. (Ephesians 2:4-7; Colossians 2:12)

These are just a few of the implications of the resurrection, but Jesus' resurrection revolutionizes everything about everything we do – even little things like making PB&J's. Of course, making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches is a small thing (and more of a blessing than a cause for complaining), but we all need the resurrection of Jesus to motivate and sustain everything we do. The Christian life is resurrection life. 🌿





Minutes of the Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, Mississippi Monday, April 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Don B. Cannada, Clerk of Session

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

- Wes Strebeck was introduced and gave a report on his work and ministry as Senior Minister's Intern.

II. ACTION ITEMS WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- The minutes of March 18, 2019 were approved.

B. CONGREGATIONAL CARE:

- A wedding scheduled for February 1, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, with reception away from the Church, and with Dr. Cory Brock officiating, was approved.

C. DISCIPLESHIP:

- The following recommendations of the Discipleship Committee were approved:

1. That no Wednesday night ministry activities be held on Wednesday, July 3, 2019, except Adult Choir rehearsal.
2. That a church-wide Midweek Fall Kickoff event be held at Laurel Park in the Belhaven neighborhood on Wednesday, August 14, 2019, with no Wednesday night activities being held that night other than Adult Choir rehearsal.

D. MISSION/OUTREACH:

- The following MTW Committee recommendations were approved:

1. That the China Partnership receive a one-time gift toward a matching grant of \$50,000 to invest in church planting in China.
2. That the following applicants be approved for the June 2019 short-term mission trip to Cajamarca, Peru:
Rick Holbert, Stephen Holbert, Peyton Parker, and Alaina Ulmer

- The following MNA Committee recommendations were approved:

1. That Coram Deo, the PCA church plant in Spokane, Washington, which was particularized in December 2018, receive a one-time investment.

E. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

- The following recommendation of Management Committee was approved: That Deacons James R. House III and Walter Newman be granted emeritus status.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

- There being no further business to come before the Session, the meeting was closed in prayer by the Moderator.

Comparative Receipts Net of Expenses

Finance Report

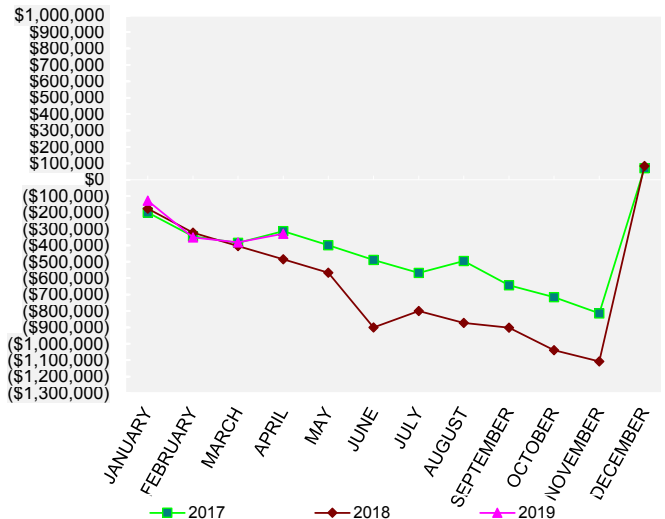
Finance Committee

Our Operating Account is \$258,545.73 as of 4/30/2019. Our Capital Contingency Fund Account has a balance of \$318,492.76. This account is for the maintenance of church property. For the month of April 2019, we had the following receipts and expenditures:

RECEIPTS:		EXPENSES:		
Freewill Offerings	\$ 127,673.17	Operating Expenses	\$ 91,860.71	
Plate Offerings	22,947.79	Administration Expenses	274,337.96	
Tithes & Offerings	397,621.09	Capital Improvements	20,833.33	
Interest Income	2,137.23	Twin Lakes	8,840.84	
Misc. Income	19,669.02	Denominational Giving	7,671.85	
		Worship	9,656.71	
ACTUAL INCOME	570,048.30	Women & Children	4,704.24	
		Young Adults	2,699.73	
		Discipleship Ministry	8,714.12	
		Congregational Care	4,145.82	
		Mission & Outreach	710.50	
		Students & Families	11,312.90	
		Benevolence	71,636.27	
		ACTUAL EXPENSES	517,124.98	

April 2019 Receipts over Expenses	\$52,923.32
Year-to-Date 2019 Expenses over Receipts	\$328,641.87

	2017	2018	2019
JANUARY	(\$199,589)	(\$176,331)	(\$127,892)
FEBRUARY	(\$345,494)	(\$322,518)	(\$351,151)
MARCH	(\$384,988)	(\$404,898)	(\$381,565)
APRIL	(\$313,095)	(\$485,496)	(\$328,642)
MAY	(\$399,384)	(\$566,435)	
JUNE	(\$488,996)	(\$900,411)	
JULY	(\$568,529)	(\$799,834)	
AUGUST	(\$495,040)	(\$872,184)	
SEPTEMBER	(\$642,835)	(\$901,207)	
OCTOBER	(\$715,907)	(\$1,039,318)	
NOVEMBER	(\$814,134)	(\$1,107,546)	
DECEMBER	\$70,721	\$83,691	





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE FIRST EPISTLE

1390 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39202-2095

Address Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE

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JACKSON, MS
PERMIT 122

“First Presbyterian Church of Jackson exists to glorify God by making disciples on the North State Street corridor, in the greater Jackson area, and around the world.”

FPCJ Vision

OUR BROADCASTS

TELEVISION:

Sundays 10:00 a.m. WLBT TV3
Jackson, MS and
WBIH TV Prattville, AL

RADIO:

Sundays 9:30 a.m.: WYAB 103.9

LIVE STREAM:

fpcj.ms/livestream



This summer we'll discuss the greatest story ever told. Our king is the greatest of all time. Our hero, Jesus, saves like no other in history. The terrible villain is defeated. The best part of all...the story is true! All rising 4-year olds-6th grade are invited to come on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30. If you have any questions, email annah@fpcjackson.org.

Contact Us

SOCIAL MEDIA and INTERNET

Web Page: www.fpcjackson.org
Twitter: @FPCJxnMS
Facebook: @Firstpresjackson
Instagram: @fpcjackson
Look for the FPC Jackson app

MAIN PHONE

Phone: (601) 353-8316
Fax: (601) 326-9250

MINISTERS

Senior Minister	David Strain
Executive Minister	Ralph Kelley
Music Minister	Bill Wymond
Congregational Care	Billy Dempsey
Pastoral Care	Wiley Lowry and Brister Ware
Mission/Outreach	Ed Hartman
Discipleship	David Felker
Young Adults/College	Cory Brock
FPDS Chaplain	Gary Sinclair

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Women/Children	Donna Dobbs
Students/Families	Stephen Biggs

The First Epistle is a monthly publication mailed at the beginning of the month.
Submit articles: Mary Ball, at maryb@fpcjackson.org.
Church member in the hospital, births, and deaths: Lynn Smith at (601) 353-8316.
Change of address or name: Marie Phillips at mariep@fpcjackson.org or (601) 973-9101.

June 2019 at FPC

Week of June 2-8

- 2 - VBS Volunteer Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 2 - New Members Received
- 3-7 - Vacation Bible School
- 5 - No Wednesday Evening Supper or Services



Week of June 9-15

Week of June 16-22

- 18 - Mother/Daughter/Sister/Friend Lunch

Week of June 23-29

- 25-28 - General Assembly in Dallas, TX

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNING

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY EVENING

6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- 5:00-6:15 p.m. Midweek Dinner in Miller Hall (MH)
- 5:30 p.m. Kids in Gym or on Playground
- 6:30 p.m. First Forum (MH) Children's Program

Circle Bible Studies

Circles do not meet in June, July, or August.

Pray for One Another

Mari Lynn Hays
Miss Sara Hazard
Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt (Dianne) Hazard
Mr. and Mrs. Stewart (Amy) Heard and family
Miss Bethany Heath
Mr. and Mrs. Bob (Leah) Heath
Mr. and Mrs. William Daryle (Margo Alexis) Heath and family

Mrs. Amy Heckman
Mrs. Barbara Hederman
Mr. and Mrs. Doug (Blair) Hederman and family
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil (Carolyn) Heidelberg III
Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Jennifer) Heidelberg and family
Mrs. Dorothy Hemphill

Congregational and Pastoral Care

In Loving Sympathy

- Prayers and loving sympathy go to
- ◇ Ken Ball in the death of his father.
 - ◇ Austin Lenox in the death of his grandfather.
 - ◇ The family and friends of Marion Swayze.

Welcome to Our World

"William" Dean Dunaway
born April 9
to Andrew and Carley Grandparents
*Dean and *Ginger Dunaway

Susanna Louise Bock
born April 24
to *Charlie and *Evana

"Lewis" James Brock
born May 17
to *Heather and *Cory Grandparents
*Steve and *Traci Brock

Sundays at FPC

2 Sun. AM - Strain
Sun. PM - Strain

9 Sun. AM - Strain
Sun. PM - Strain

16 Sun. AM - Strain
Sun. PM - Strain

23 Sun. AM - Strain
Sun. PM - Brock

30 Sun. AM - Strain
Sun. PM - Sinclair

Midweek Menus

5 No Wednesday Evening Dinner or Activities

12 Fried catfish
Turnip greens
Grits
Cornbread/biscuit
Banana pudding
Peach cobbler
Sugar free blueberry pie
Kids: Hot dogs

19 Pork chop
Mac-n-cheese
green beans
biscuits/yeast rolls and Desserts
Kids: hot dogs

26 Smoky Mountain chicken
Corn pudding
Broccoli salad
biscuits/yeast rolls and Desserts

Menus are subject to change.



Student Ministry

Summer with FPCYM

Weekly:

Girls Supper Club

Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. at Rose or Augusta's House

Summer Snow Cone Challenge
Mondays 3-4 p.m. at Nandy's Candy

Senior High Insight
Sundays at 7:30 p.m.

Junior and Senior High Midweek
6 -7:30 pm at FPC

Service Opportunities:

Neighborhood Christian Center's "Oasis"

(Summer Super Stars)

Monday- Thursday 8:30-3pm at FPC

Guys' Open Gyms

Some Thursday Nights in June and July

Events:

Insight Kick Off
Sunday, June 2

Geyser Falls
Friday, June 7 (Dinner Included)

Lake Day
June (date TBD)

Senior High Pool Day
June 18 at Augusta's House

Junior High RYM
June 24 - 28
at Laguna Beach Christian Retreat

Senior High RYM
July 8 - 13

at Laguna Beach Christian Retreat

Senior High (Joint Guys and Girls)
Supper and Signs
July 16 at Augusta's House

Boys (Junior and Senior High)
Braves Game Trip
July 18

Junior High Trip to High Heaven
Trampoline Park
July 24

Staff:

Stephen Biggs

stephenb@fpcjackson.org/601-720-0092

Rose Turner

roset@fpcjackson.org/601-850-6697

Augusta Fair

augustaf@fpcjackson.org/601-540-6893

Austin Lenox

austinl@fpcjackson.org/256-617-2891

Charles Marchman

charlesm@fpcjackson.org/796-972-2410

Administrative Assistant Lilly Foerter
youthhouse@fpcjackson.org/601-973-9117



Young Adults

Young Adults Events

Young Adults Night at the Park
June 4, 2019

Cook Out and Kickball Tournament
Laurel Park

Young Adults Breakfast for Dinner
June 9, 2019
The Felker home (2004 Laurel St.)

Young Adults Sunday School
Talking Jesus: Evangelism and Apologetics in a Modern World
June and July
Sunday Mornings at 9:40 AM
Patterson Hall

Young Adults Small Groups
Authentic Neighbors: Hospitality for Young Adults
Tuesdays at 6:30 PM
Guys - The Brock Home
Girls - Contact Mackenzie Hemphill at 601-572-6909.



Mission & Outreach

Jakarta Mission Trip

FPC is sending a team to Jakarta, Indonesia, to do college evangelism through cultural exchange and conversational English training. for two weeks in June. Please pray for safety and fruitfulness.

Peru Mission Trip

The Peru trip is June 21-29, 2019. The theme of VBS this year is *Dare To Be Daniel*. Children will be making lion masks, and the Bible story centers around Daniel 6. This year we will be collecting SMALL bottles (1.25 ounce) of liquid glue, and baseball caps - new or gently used. Please bring donations to the white bin by the Welcome Desk **by June 13**.



General Assembly

PCA General Assembly

General Assembly will be held this year in Dallas, TX, from June 25-28, 2019.

Commissioners:

Teaching Elders:

David Strain, Ralph Kelley, Cory Brock, Wiley Lowry

Ruling Elders:

Ned Currie, David Elkin, Paul Hurst, JoJo Payne, Richard Ridgway, Bill Stone, and Mark Windham



Pastoral Care

Baptism

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, July 21. To make your reservation, please contact Marie Phillips at mariep@fpcjackson.org



Women & Children

Thank you!

Thanks to the many people who have contributed to the Children's Ministry by donating items and volunteer hours for Vacation Bible School.

Volunteers Needed

The Children's Ministry is actively recruiting member volunteers for the upcoming Sunday School term which begins Sunday, September 1. If you enjoy working with children, being a table teacher, leading music, playing the piano or teaching Bible lessons, we have a spot for you! Substitutes are provided to allow for times when volunteers need to be away. Volunteers of all ages are welcome; you do not have to be a parent. Please consider serving in this way! Questions? Contact Kimberly Wilkins.