

The First Epistle

Volume 55 / Issue 2 / February 2022

JOIN US AS WE DEDICATE THE *JAMES M. BAIRD* *CENTER*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN'S
NEW GYMNASIUM/AUDITORIUM & CLASSROOMS

REACH
BUILDING FOR A PURPOSE



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
Jackson, Mississippi

FPDS
First Presbyterian Day School

JOIN US FOR A JOINT FPC AND FPDS
CELEBRATION
OPEN TO ALL FPC AND FPDS FAMILIES

FEBRUARY 16, 2022
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

DINNER AND OPEN HOUSE – 5:00 P.M.
PROGRAM IN GYMNASIUM – 6:00 P.M.

What's Inside

Find out more about the Baird Center and the February 16 Dedication.
February special event information.
Recap from the Know the Truth seminar series.

Join us as we dedicate the
James M. Baird Center
February 16 | Dinner and Open House – 5 p.m. | Program – 6 p.m.
reachfpc.org

On the morning of January 5, dozens of excited fifth and sixth graders were led to their new classrooms in the James M. Baird Center for the first time. That same night, children from around the community played in the new gymnasium while their parents attended a parenting seminar hosted by our church. The opening of this new facility comes with much anticipation from both Day School students and faculty and FPC members.

“We are so excited to be in this new building,” said FPDS 6th Grade Science Teacher Molly Parks. “There are lots of new things yet to come, but being in a fresh and new learning environment is awesome! I think that having the new gym

and classrooms will help us to continue to meet the needs of our students and faculty.”

After seeing the gymnasium for the first time, FPC covenant child Elsa Gray Forster could hardly contain her excitement. “The new gymnatorium is great,” she said. “There is even a stage! I cannot wait to do a Christmas pageant or VBS skit or something in there.”

The facility boasts 10 new state-of-the-art classrooms for First Presbyterian Day School, as well as a gymnasium/auditorium, walking track, and multipurpose room that will be shared by FPC and FPDS.

“This is something we have dreamed about for many years,”

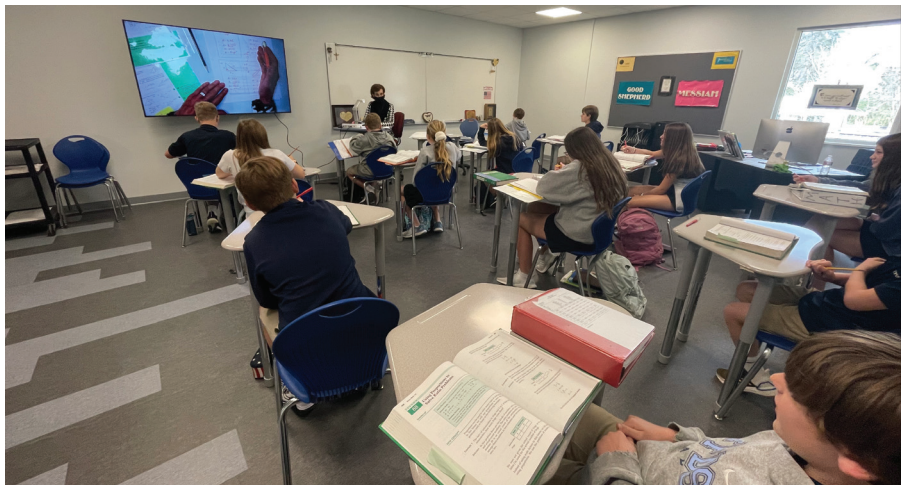
said Dave Fulcher, who chaired the REACH Building Campaign committee. “The old FPC gym had been condemned and even though that was disappointing news to receive, it provided us with an opportunity. The church and the Day School both needed new space and we pray that this gymnatorium and classrooms will help us further our ministry in the city and our neighborhood.”

Join FPC members and FPDS families on Wednesday, February 16, from 5 – 7 p.m. as we dedicate the Baird Center to the glory of God and ask Him to bless our ministry through it.

If you are not able to join us in person, take a virtual tour of the facility online at www.reachfpc.org.



FPDS fifth grade science teacher, Molly Parks, leads students on a tour of the Baird Center on their first day in the new facility.



Sixth grade students follow along as Carolyn White maps out a math problem on one of the Baird Center's new document readers.

Volunteer Opportunities

Crafts for Missions

sewbusy321@hotmail.com

Bookstore

bookstore@fpcjackson.org

Vacation Bible School

christyketchum78@gmail.com

Children's Sunday School

Stock the Pantry for the Mission First
Early Learning Center

Snacks being collected:

Apple Sauce (individual servings)

Cheex Mix

Goldfish

Chewy Granola Bars

Fruit Snack

Animal Crackers

Cheese Sandwich Crackers

(no peanut butter, please)

Items may be placed in the
Donation Bin near the Info Desk.

Welcome to Our World

Charles "Beck" Scott

born December 21
to Jimmy and Morgan
Grandparents Glen and Jean
Bush

"Mary Mills" Koons

born December 30
to Phillip and Mary Love
Grandparents George and
Betty Fair

Nicholas Fitzroy "Fitz" Dempsey

born January 18
to Drew and Anna Maria
Grandparents Billy and
Debbie Dempsey

The Truth Will Set You Free

Know the Truth: Saturday Seminars for Maturing Your Faith

In response to a desire among our people for a deeper understanding of Christian doctrine and God's teaching through His Word, First Pres recently hosted the first in a new series, *Know the Truth: Saturday Seminars for Maturing your Faith*. This first installment addressed the question, "What is the Bible?" and aimed to further equip the saints in the knowledge of what we believe about the scriptures and why we believe it. It was a great morning all around. We asked some of the over 100 folks who attended about their experience:

"We took the whole family, ages 11-47. I told the kids that no one would 'get' everything, but everyone would 'get' something. It was a morning well spent for all of us."

– Deborah Oakley

"It was excellent. We loved the history being explained and the theological categories being more fully explored than we might can get to in Sunday School or a sermon. We are still talking about it."

– Paul Forster

"It was wonderful, and I can hardly wait for the next one!"

– Nan Kipp

"I was encouraged and challenged to persevere in studying God's word. Why do we neglect the book He has given us?"

– Mary Ball

"David's thorough understanding of scripture was encouraging and convicting. It was a great way to spend a Saturday morning!"

– Kurt Vande Streek

"The foundation of our doctrine has many layers and intricacies. It is a blessing to have a gifted pastor who is willing to get into the nitty gritty of the faith - and remind us of God's grace to us in revealing Himself."

– Shirley Windham

"I was very thankful for the opportunity to teach the doctrine of Scripture at a deeper level. There was a great atmosphere in the room and people seemed eager to learn. I'm so looking forward to teaching the doctrine of God next time."

– David Strain

Our next Know the Truth seminar will occur on March 26, 2022, and we will consider the doctrine of God. We will examine who He is, what His nature is, and how He relates to His people. Registration will begin on March 1, and we hope many will be able to join us. We will follow that with two more Saturdays in the fall, August 20 and October 15.

February Special Events

Feb
12

Mother Son
Bowling
fpcj.ms/parenting

Feb
16

Dedication of the
James M. Baird
Center

Feb
18

Joni & Friends
Dinner
ccare@fpcjackson.org

Feb
19

Father Daughter
Dinner
fpcj.ms/parenting

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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HOW SHALL THEY HEAR?

Global Mission Conference 2022
March 2-6, 2022