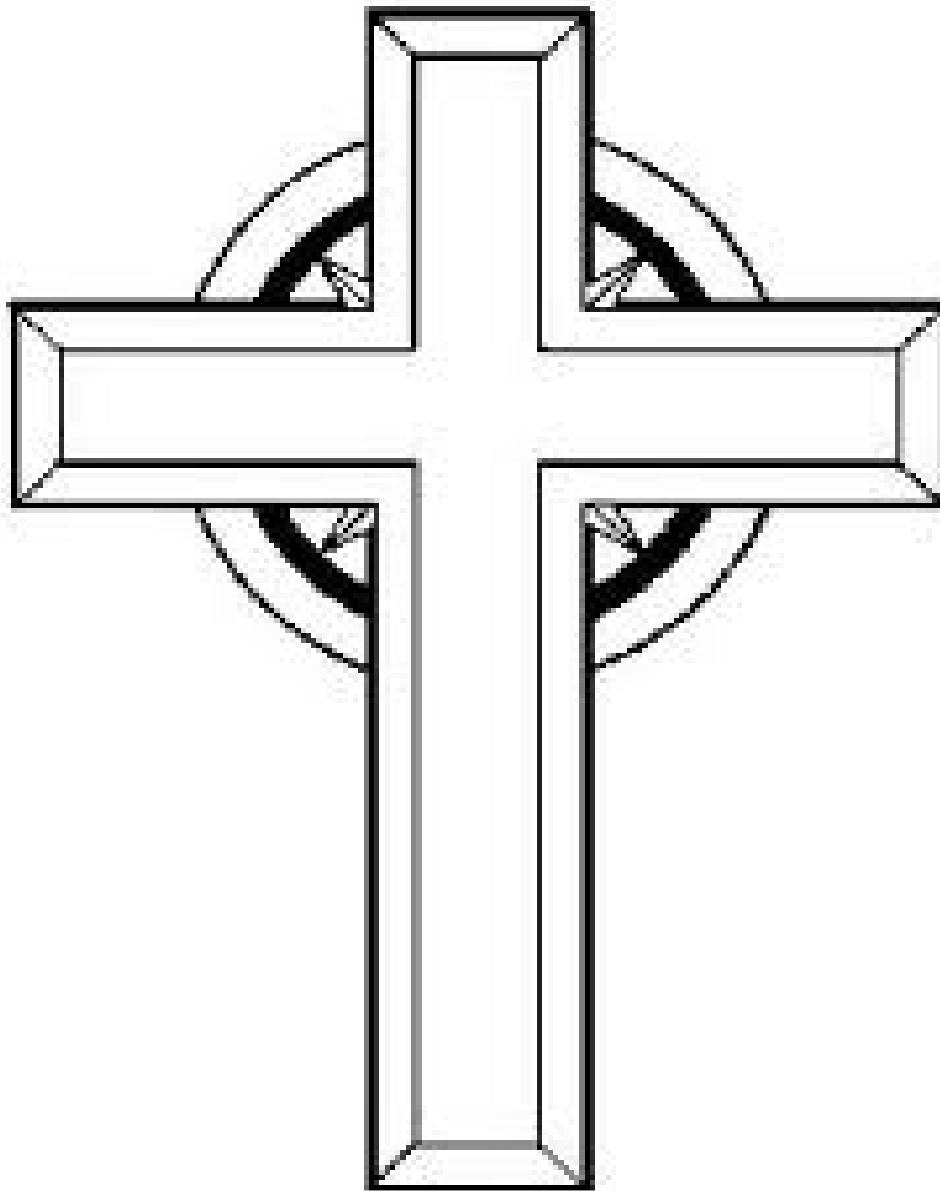


The First Word

JUNE
2025



June 1

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34 and Ps. 97
or 2 Kings 2:1-15 and Ps. 2;
Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21;
John 17:20-26

June 8

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Gen. 11:1-9
and Ps. 104:24-34, 35b;
Rom. 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21;
John 14:8-17 (25-27)

June 15

Trinity Sunday

Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31 and Ps. 8;
Rom. 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

June 22

**2nd Sunday after Pentecost
(Proper 7)**

Semicontinuous:

1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7) 8-15a
and Ps. 42 and 43;

Complementary:

Isa. 65:1-9 and Ps. 22:19-28;
Gal. 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

June 29

**3rd Sunday after Pentecost
(Proper 8)**

Semicontinuous:

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
and Ps. 77:1-2, 11-20;

Complementary:

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
and Ps. 16; Gal. 5:1, 13-25;
Luke 9:51-62

prayer Requests



Diane Keen
(Carol Jones Sister)
Health Concerns

Brennen Bowen
Health Concerns

Toni Oakes
(Ed Oakes Sister)
Health Concerns

Allison L. Jones
(Scott Jones Mother)
Health Concerns

Amy Sullivan
(Pam Sullivan's Daughter-In-Law)
Health Concerns

Julian Gardner
Surgery Recovery

Colin Krieger
Prayer Request
Recovery from fall

Zac & Shelley Clair Nagy
Welcome baby boy,
Noah Russell Nagy

J.D. & Emily Frizzell
Welcome baby girl,
Estlin Rose Frizzell

Sandra Mims
Health Concerns

Jim Loveland
(Holly Longton's father)
Health Concerns

Ginny Oakes
(Ed Oakes Mother)
Prayer Request

Patty Jones Family
Prayer Concerns

Lyla Fulton (2 Years old)
(Holly Longton's Great Niece)
Cancer Diagnosis

The Threadgill Family
On the loss of Mr. William Threadgill

Lee Hackett
Health Concerns

Simon Storer
(Friend of Lee Hackett)
Cancer Diagnosios

Pentecost

Pentecost is Sunday, June 8. Pentecost is the coming of the Holy Spirit to believers after the Ascension of Jesus. We celebrate Pentecost at church on that Sunday. We often wear red to symbolize the “tongues of fire” that rested on the heads of the apostles.

Does the Holy Spirit speak to *me*? How do I know if the Holy Spirit *is* speaking to me? No tongues of fire above me. No angel appearing before me. No audible voice from heaven. Not even a tap on the shoulder.

But there *is* a Scripture from the Word specifically directing me. There is the strong voice in my heart leading me. There is counseling from a trusted friend in Christ instructing me. There are assurances from a sermon that show me the way.

How do I respond when the Holy Spirit *is* speaking to me? The response to the Holy Spirit should always be obedience. Peace is the gift the Holy Spirit gives me when I follow Him. The Holy Spirit may lead me out of my comfort zone, but He will not lead me into a situation or action that is wrong or hurtful to myself or others.

My prayer for this Pentecost is that I will be ever more sensitive to the “still, small voice” of the Holy Spirit.

I Kings 19:12



Financial Information:

The information presented below reflects First Presbyterian Church finances as of May 31, 2025.

YTD Income:	\$81,990.90
YTD Expenses:	\$68,377.74
YTD Balance:	\$13,613.16

2025 Pledge Total	\$163,160.00
May Total Pledged:	\$ 68,000.00
May Total Received:	\$ 74,025.00

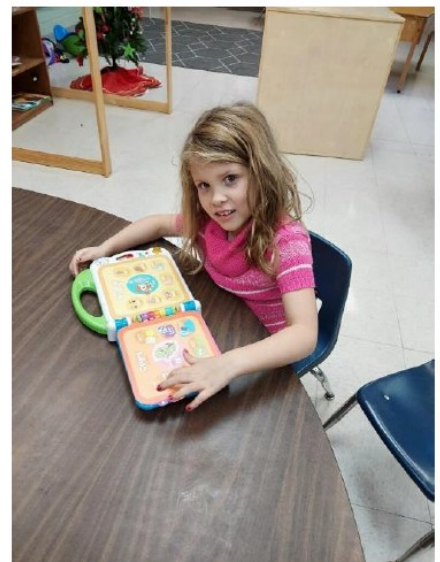
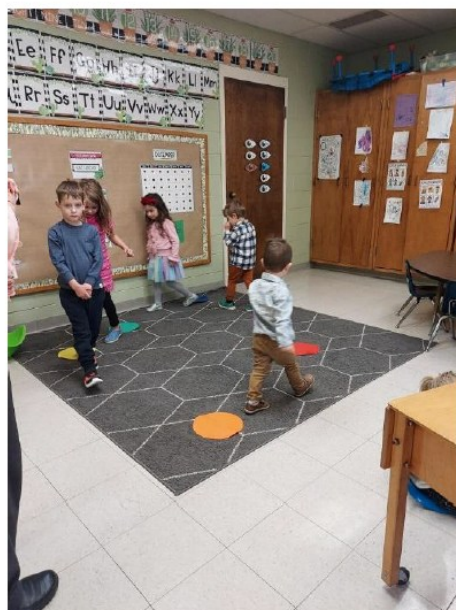
A festive birthday-themed border surrounds the central text. At the top, a blue banner with white stars and a yellow star is flanked by clusters of red, yellow, and blue balloons. The bottom features a blue banner with three wrapped gifts in yellow, blue, and red paper, tied with blue, yellow, and red ribbons. The background is light blue with white stars and a large white semi-circle behind the text.

June Birthdays

Matthew Richardson	June 4
Mary Ellen Owings	June 8
Katy Longton	June 10
Knox Voorhees	June 10
Clay Hackett	June 17
Barbara Taylor	June 21
Hope DeVenney	June 24
Debbie Swartz	June 24
Amanda Bowen	June 26
Sullivan Hill	June 26



**We are seeking volunteers for
the Children's Message.
Contact the office if you
would like to help!**





JOIN A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM TODAY

Nursery Care

Nursery Care is available in the Education Building from 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. from ages birth to kindergarten.

Children's Sunday School

Grades 1 & 2 – 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Grades 3 & up – 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School children will be dismissed at 10:30 a.m.

Children's Sermon – During Worship

Children's Lesson – Ages 4 – Kindergarten

Please pick up children in a timely manner after the service.

Adult Sunday School – Tom Richardson 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The Agape Sunday School class, taught by Tom Richardson, has begun a study of the weekly lectionary readings. The Revised Common Lectionary is a set of scripture readings designed to guide worship and study throughout the church year, beginning with Advent. The lectionary is organized on a three-year cycle, with each year focused on one of the Synoptic Gospels: Year A is Matthew, Year B is Mark, and Year C--our current year--is Luke. In addition to the Gospel, each lectionary lesson typically includes an Old Testament lesson, a Psalm, and an Epistle lesson. Many Christian denominations around the world use the lectionary as a thematic focus for worship; this common worship supports a spirit of unity for Christian education and Christian life. Tracie includes the monthly readings in First Word each month. The readings and resources for study can be found at pcusa.org and workingpreacher.org. All are welcome in Sunday School!

Adult Sunday School – Dennis Harmon 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

In this Sunday School Class, we are studying the book "WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ANGELS." – a story of powerful guardians, a mysterious presence, and God's messengers by Dr. David Jeremiah.

Prayer Group

Wednesdays 12:30 p.m.

The Prayer Group meets every Wednesday in the Parlor. All are welcome to join us.



Join us for
Prayer Group
every Wednesday
at 12:30 p.m.
in the Parlor.

First Presbyterian Church
3200 Bluecutt Road
Columbus, MS 39705



Christian Witness Committee

The Christian Witness Committee is offering you an opportunity for "Alternative Gift Giving" for Father's Day, June 15th. You may make a gift to honor or memorialize a special family member or friend.

Through the Loaves and Fishes program, we at First Presbyterian are committed to feeding children's hungry minds as well as their bodies. Since the beginning of the program we have distributed reading-readiness and reading books to children in our community who eat lunch at Loaves and Fishes; with your help, we would like to continue to do so.

If you would like to make a gift in honor or in memory of a family member or friend, please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church designated for Loaves and Fishes Book Fund. Acknowledgement of this remembrance gift will be mailed to the contributor and the recipient, if applicable, and also published in the First Word. Remember to include mailing addresses.

Contributor: _____

Address: _____

In Honor/Memory of (Circle One): _____

Address of Honoree: _____



JOIN US FOR
Faith, Food, and
Fellowship

Saturday, June 7th
8:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
3200 Bluecutt Road
Columbus, MS 39705

Join us for fellowship and fun!

Come enjoy some girl time
with your "Hilltop Sisters"

Presbyterian Women You're Invited

Sunday, June 15th
3:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
3200 Bluecutt Road
Columbus, MS 39701



The background is a soft watercolor wash in shades of pink, peach, and yellow. In the upper right corner, there is a stylized sun with a large white cross in the center. The sun has yellow rays emanating from it. The text 'Fellowship' is written in a large, elegant, black cursive script, and 'LUNCH' is written below it in a smaller, black, all-caps serif font.

Fellowship LUNCH

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 22, 2025

JOIN US FOR LUNCH IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

BRING YOUR FAVORITE SIDE
OR DESSERT TO SHARE.
SHEPHERDING GROUP 4 WILL
PROVIDE FRIED CHICKEN.

Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 18, 2025



Congratulations Graduates!

High School Graduate:

Allison Krieger

Kindergarten Graduates:

Abigail Monroe Conway

Kiera Elkins

Zoe Elkins

Astrid Miller

Amelia Rose Richardson

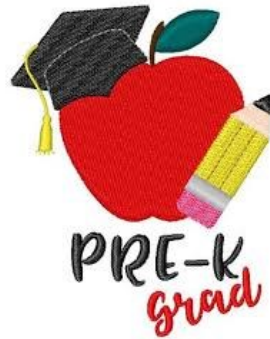
We are so proud of you!



PCDP
Presents
"Summer Friends & Sunny Skies"



Congratulations PCDP 2025 Pre-K Graduates



Penny Voorhees, Carter Payne, and Atlas Hall

PCDP Kinder Prep Class had a special visitor.

Mr. Steve stopped by to share pictures from "Share the Trail", his game cam.

Flopsy the Doe, Pete the raccoon, Mr. red tail fox, a bobcat, coyote, squirrels, lots of turkeys, Canadian geese, and so much more all made special appearances.





BIG HOUSE BOOKS

PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO READ

The Big House Books Project
was a huge success!
We donated 10 boxes of
books and packaged 126
books for 42 prisoners.

Thank you for your donations.

Thank you to our volunteers:

Anna Jones

Jack Jones

Hope Oakes

Emmett Richardson

Thomas Richardson

Hillary Richardson



Plastic Bag Repurposing Project

10 volunteers sorted, double bagged, rolled, and packed 2,517 plastic bags to facilitate food distribution by Helping Hands. A big "thank you" to the dozens of folks who saved and donated bags for this project begun by the Deacons!



Pill Bottle Donation Drive—Washing Session

Tuesday, May 13th brought together five FPC folks who sorted, washed, dried, bagged, and shipped 411 pill bottles. The bottles were sent to Matthew 25 Ministries in Ohio. This ministry includes the bottles in shipments of medical supplies that go to developing countries.





Friday, May 16, 2025 we served 349 meals and distributed 87 books to our community. Thank you for the help of our 16 volunteers, and the members who donated brownies.

Mark your calendars:
Our next volunteer opportunity
will be Friday, July 18th.



HELPING HANDS ANNUAL FAN DRIVE



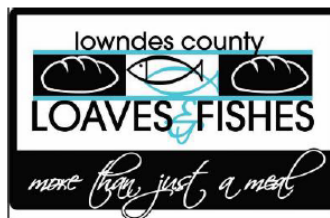
Helping Hands is accepting NEW fans and monetary donations for fans throughout the summer months. Fans can be dropped off at Helping Hands (223 22nd St N) M-Th 8:30am-12:30pm and monetary donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 1241, Columbus, MS 39703

For more information, please contact Jennifer Garrard at 662-328-8301 or hhands389@gmail.com

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT

HELPING HANDS FAN DRIVE

Fans may be dropped off in the Education Building and we will deliver them to Helping Hands. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please drop in the offering plate on Sunday or leave in the church office, reference: Helping Hands Fan Drive.



FPC would like to provide bottled water when we serve at Loaves and Fishes.

Please consider donating cases of 8 oz. bottled water.

Donations may be dropped off at the designated area in the Education Building.




The Worship & Music Committee is seeking individuals to make announcements, read scripture and/or liturgy on Sundays. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tori Pumphrey at tpumphrey27@gmail.com or send an email to the church at firstprescolumbus@gmail.com.

Come Worship With Us Every Sunday
 Choir Practice
 9:00 a.m. Every Sunday
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
 Social Gathering: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 Worship: 11:00 a.m.



Join us for Prayer Group
 every Wednesday at
 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 7th Sunday of Easter 8:30 a.m. Session Meeting 11:00 a.m. Worship Dr. Tom Richardson	2 6:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting	3	4 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group	5 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon	6	7 8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
8 Day of Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Communion Worship Rev. Buren Blankenship Congregational Meeting following worship	9	10 PCDP Summer Program Begins	11 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group 5:00 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting	12 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon	13	14
15 Trinity Sunday Happy Father's Day! 11:00 a.m. Worship Pam Rhea 3:00 p.m. PW Gathering	16	17	18 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group	19 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon	20	21
22 2nd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7) 11:00 a.m. Worship Melissa McDuffie Fellowship Lunch following Worship (Shepherding Group 4)	23	24	25 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group	26 5:30 p.m. Al-Anon	27	28
29 3rd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 8) 11:00 a.m. Hymn Sing 2 Cents A Meal Offering	30				The PCDP Summer Program begins Tuesday, June 10th. The Program will be Tuesday and Thursday of each week.	