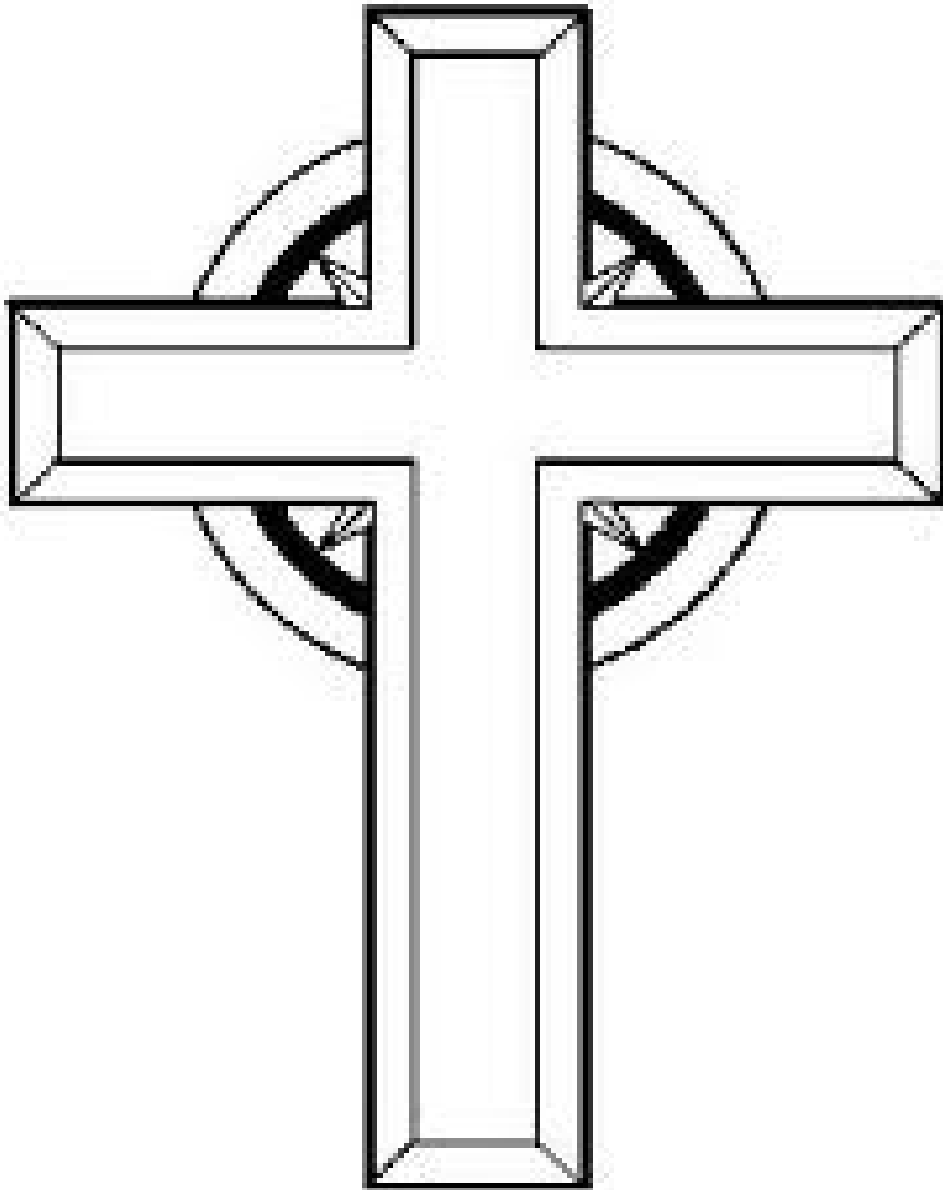


The First Word

**JUNE
2026**



June 7

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Gen. 12:1-9 and Ps. 33:1-12;

Complementary:

Hos. 5:15-6:6 and Ps. 50:7-15;

Rom. 4:13-25; Matt. 9:9-13

June 14

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Gen. 18:1-15 (21:1-7)
and Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19;

Complementary:

Ex. 19:2-8a and Ps. 100;

Rom. 5:1-8;

Matt. 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 21

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Gen. 21:8-21

and Ps. 86:1-10, 16-17;

Complementary:

Jer. 20:7-13

and Ps. 69:7-10 (11-15) 16-18;

Rom. 6:1b-11; Matt. 10:24-39

June 28

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Gen. 22:1-14 and Ps. 13;

Complementary:

Jer. 28:5-9

and Ps. 89:1-4, 15-18;

Rom. 6:12-23; Matt. 10:40-42

A Father's Day Reflection...

"Let your eyes look directly forward & your gaze be straight before you. Keep straight the path of your feet & all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left, turn your foot away from evil. Proverbs 4: 25-27

Fatherhood is a noble & challenging pursuit. In the six years since I became a father, I have known greater joy, greater love, greater hope, greater trepidation, greater frustration & greater triumph than I ever imagined were possible. It can also seem daunting, for as my own father has reminded me, I have still only experienced the first chapter in what will be a long story of ever-changing challenges.

Sullivan was born six weeks early in the summer of 2020. I was on the road in Shreveport, LA & had to turn around & make my way quickly back to Austin. My wife, Kelsey had to face the prospect of a cesarean without me. Thank God my mother was there with her in my stead. I will never forget the fear as we spoke before the surgery, the prayers in the car fueled by caffeine & anxiety, or the overwhelming joy I felt on a roadside somewhere in central Texas when I learned that mother & baby were alive & well. I thanked God & continued on to the hospital.

Sullivan had to spend the next several weeks in the NICU, his little hands too small to wrap around my finger. My first experience with fatherhood was singing & reading to him while he was covered in equipment & underwent special treatments. The first time we changed his diaper or fed him a bottle were in the hospital. We were so nervous when we brought him home, he was so tiny & beautiful, I had no doubt God had helped us bring him home & my role would be to protect this little angel.

Two years later we were blessed with Eleanor who was healthy, strong & had a will of her own right from the start. The challenges of raising two small children while moving to a new home & state brought frustration but also great satisfaction to us both, we grew as parents & were strengthened as partners.

Now, in 2026, Sullivan is healthy, playful, curious & strong. Eleanor is a little princess full of life & my wife is a tremendous mother & partner. My life overflows with blessings.

So, what have I learned? Fatherhood is the most demanding & important endeavor I have ever undertaken. At times it is ok to feel frustration, even anger but also deep pride, love & humility which can bring you close to tears. Sometimes it is best to laugh together at the chaos of life & pray for more patience in the midst of it all.

Most importantly, I have learned how much joy there is in simply being with them. Wrestling on the floor, being the target of Sullivan's jokes, and being the one Eleanor runs to. I am a blessed man to have them and their wonderful mother in my life.

I pray for the strength to protect, guide & nurture them & to walk faithfully before them keeping my eyes forward and my steps steady in the path the Lord has set before me.

Robert Hill May 27th, 2026



PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAISE REPORTS

Harolyn Jones has almost recovered from her fall. She says thank you for all the prayers.

Colby Huffman (friend of Halli Powers) is recovering well and has returned home.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sandra Mims

Continued Prayers

Brennen Bowen

Continued Prayers

Toni Oakes

(Ed Oakes' Sister)

Continued Prayers

Allison L. Jones

(Scott Jones' Mother)

Continued Prayers

Noah Russell Nagy

Continued Prayers

Rowland Jennings

Health Concerns

Hilda Nance

Hillary Richardson's Aunt

Recovery from stroke

Sherean Harrington

(Hope Oakes' Stepmother)

Continued Prayers

Jon & Dorothy Fortman

Continued Prayers

Ginny Oakes

(Ed Oakes' Mother)

Continued Prayers

Simon Storer

(Friend of Lee Hackett)

Cancer Diagnosis

Wayne Bruchey

Health Concerns

Doug & Kandi Aultman & Family

Continued Prayers



June Birthdays

Matthew Richardson	June 4
Jennie Taylor	June 4
Mary Ellen Owings	June 8
Clay Hackett	June 17
Barbara Taylor	June 21
Hope DeVenney	June 24
Debbie Swartz	June 24
Amanda Bowen	June 26
Sullivan Hill	June 26
Melinda Hatcher	June 29

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



"Let the little children come to me." Matthew 19:14

Thank you to our faithful children's message volunteers. You are a blessing.

Contact the church office if you would like to volunteer.





JOIN A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM TODAY

Nursery Care

9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Nursery Care is available in the Education Building for 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 Message – 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.

Beginning Sunday, January 11, the Agape Sunday School class (Tom Richardson, teacher) will embark on a study of selected literary works (primarily Scottish) that have a theological focus. The study will examine how writers have used biblical references within their works and how they have responded to particular issues of the history of the Presbyterian Church, to major points of church doctrine (especially the influence of John Calvin), and to important ethical and moral questions that have arisen from the social and political application of church doctrine. The literary selections will be provided to the class. The class meets Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor of the education building.

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


Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church Parlor

3200 Bluecutt Road

Columbus, MS

All are welcome!





**MEN'S
PRAYER**
Breakfast

June | 8AM
6th

**First Presbyterian Church
3200 Bluecutt Rd.
Columbus, MS**

Join us for fellowship and fun!

Come enjoy some girl time
with your "Hilltop Sisters"

Presbyterian Women You're Invited

Sunday, June 14th
3:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
3200 Bluecutt Road
Columbus, MS 39701





Join us for lunch

June
Fellowship Meal

Sunday, June 28, 2026
Following worship

Shepherding Group 4

Sweet Peppers Deli Boxed Lunches

Order Forms will be provided in your
bulletins beginning Sunday, June 14th.



Loaves and Fishes Book Program - Father's Day "Alternative Gift Giving"

The Christian Witness Committee is offering you an opportunity for "Alternative Gift Giving" for Father's Day, which is June 21. This opportunity allows you to make a gift honoring or memorializing 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 the Loaves and Fishes Book Fund. Acknowledgement of this remembrance gift will be mailed to the contributor and the recipient, if applicable, and published in the First Word. Remember to include mailing addresses.

Contributor: _____

Address: _____

In Honor/Memory of (Circle One): _____

Address of Honoree: _____



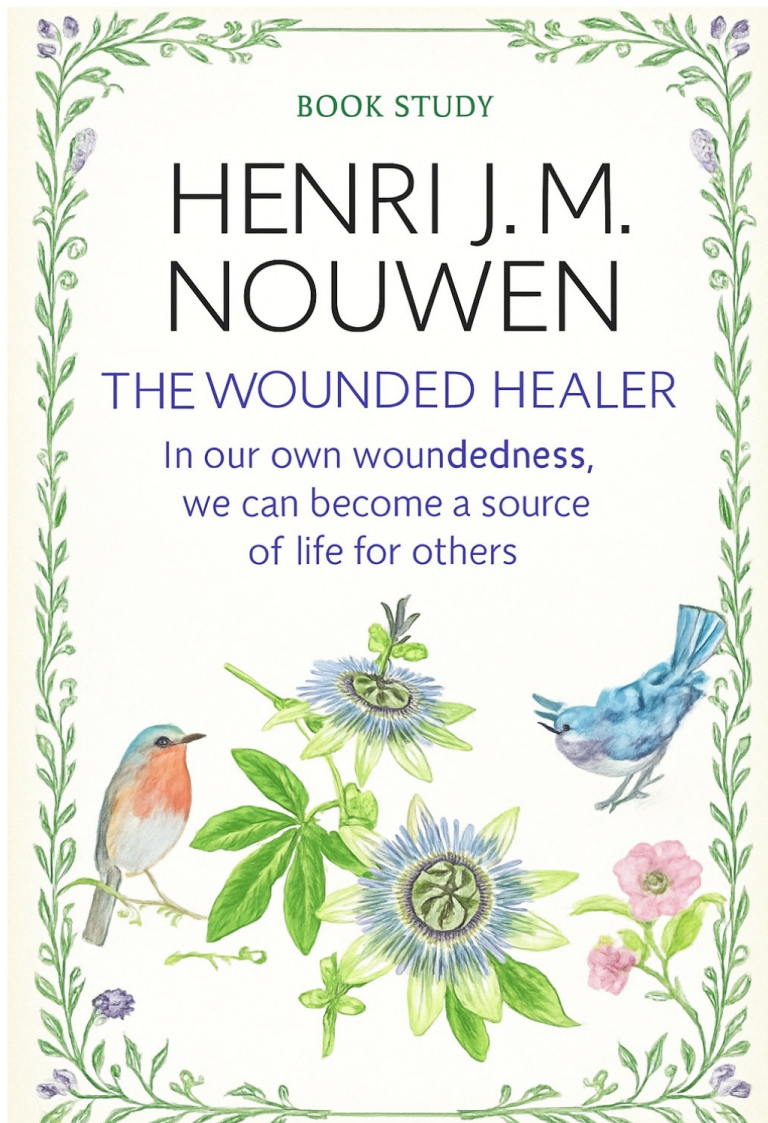
First Presbyterian Church

"Come up The Hill to worship; go down The Hill to serve."

*On Friday, May 15th, 339 meals were served, and 37 children's books were distributed.
Thank you to our faithful volunteers, 16 volunteers helped make this happen!*



Many thanks to Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea for leading a study of *The Wounded Healer* by Henri Nouwen for the last six weeks. It has been a meaningful study of how our own woundedness can help to recognize the woundedness in others and minister to them. Pam has a great gift for teaching, and we are so blessed that she shares this gift with us. Thank you, Pam.



Wednesdays 1:30

April 15

April 22

April 29

May 6

May 13

May 20



Led by Pam Rhea

deaconrhea@gmail.com

JOIN US

First Presbyterian Church
3200 Bluecutt Road
Columbus, MS



First Presbyterian Church
Graduate Recognition
May 17, 2026

Columbus Christian Academy
Kindergarten Graduate
Sullivan Hill



Mississippi University for Women
College Graduate
Allee Kate Weathers



PCDP TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK, APPRECIATION BREAKFAST & PARENT SUMMER SEND-OFF



PCDP TEACHER Appreciation Week
THANKS FOR BEING THE BEST IN THE WEST! OUR HATS GO OFF TO YOU!
May 11 - May 15

Monday
HATS OFF TO YOU!
ENJOY FRESH COFFEE, JUICE AND DONUTS IN THE PARLOR.

Tuesday
STEAK START HERE!
ENJOY A SUMMERY SNACK BAR AT THE PARLOR.

Wednesday
TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST!
COME AND GET IT! ENJOY A PLUMBY BREAKFAST AT 8:00 AM IN THE PARLOR.

Thursday
MUSY ON DOWN TO THE WATERING HOLE! GRAB A "LETHAL" BART AND GRAB YOURSELF A FANCY LEMONADE.

Friday
HEAD DOWN TO THE PARLOR FOR A SWEET TREAT.

WANTED
PCDP TEACHERS
FOR YOU TO SADDLE UP AND GET READY FOR US TO APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO!
REWARD: A STOKPIN' GOOD TIME

This Weeks Events Are Sponsored By PCD. Thank You Truly For All The Work That You Do!









P.C.D.P.

PRESBYTERIAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
PLAY. LEARN. GROW.



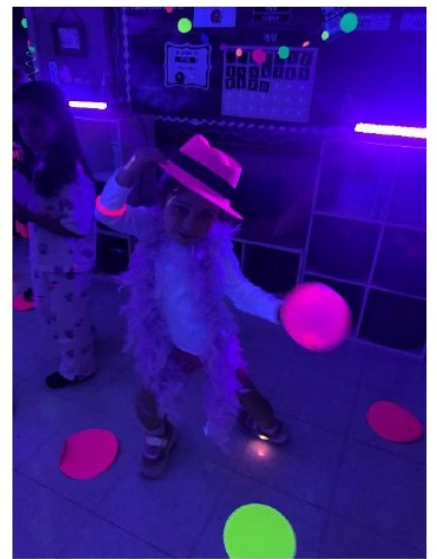
The Presbyterian Child Development Program's summer program begins this month! We are excited to have 14 children attending on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting June 9th and ending July 30th. We have many fun activities planned for the season.



We also want to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who donated items to the preschool this school year. We could not serve the children as effectively as we do without your continued support.



PCDP Glow Party





FUN TIMES



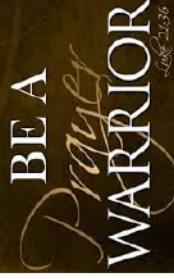
Come Worship With Us Every Sunday!

Choir Practice 9:00 a.m.

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. ALL are welcome!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 5:00 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting	4 5:30 p.m. AI-Anon	5	6 8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
7 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Worship Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea 12:15 p.m. Christian Education Meeting (Parlor)	8 10:00 a.m. Congregational Care/ Christian Action Meeting	9 PCDP Summer Program Begins (Tuesdays & Thursdays)	10 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group	11 5:30 p.m. AI-Anon	12	13
14 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 a.m. Admin./Finance Meeting 11:00 a.m. Communion Worship Rev. Buren Blankenship 12:15 p.m. Deacons' Meeting 3:00 p.m. PW Gathering	15	16	17 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group *All Committee Meeting minutes due to the church office.*	18 5:30 p.m. AI-Anon	19	20
21 4th Sunday after Pentecost Happy Father's Day! 8:30 a.m. Session Meeting 11:00 a.m. Worship	22	23	24 12:30 p.m. Prayer Group	25 5:30 p.m. AI-Anon	26	27
28 5th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Worship 2 Cents A Meal Fellowship Meal- after worship Sweet Peppers Deli Boxed Lunches Shepherding Group 4	29	30				