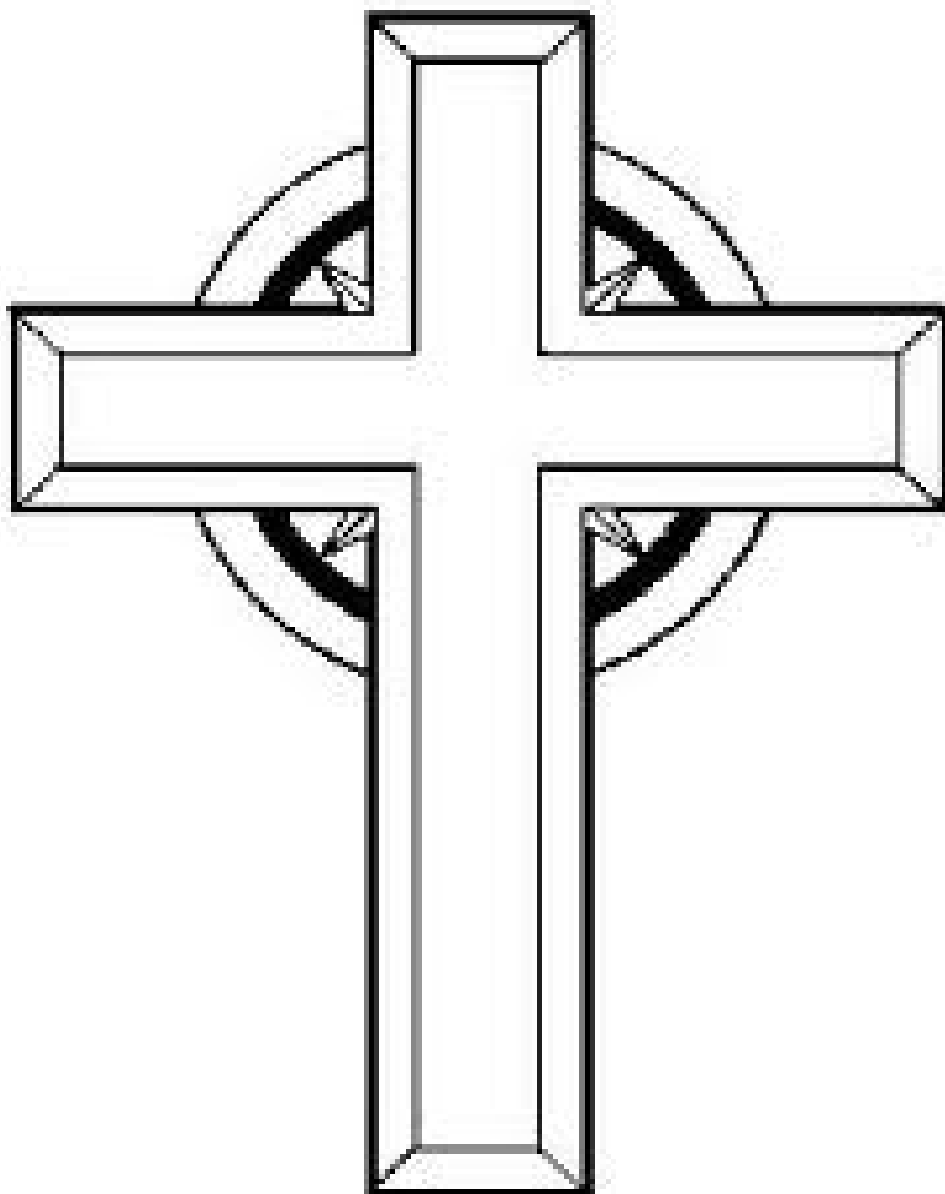


A Publication of First Presbyterian Church • Columbus, Mississippi

The First Word

**SEPTEMBER
2026**



September 6

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Ex. 12:1-14

and Ps. 149;

Complementary:

Ezek. 33:7-11

and Ps. 119:33-40;

Rom. 13:8-14;

Matt. 18:15-20

September 13

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Ex. 14:19-31

and Ps. 114

or Ex. 15:1b-11, 20-21;

Complementary:

Gen. 50:15-21

and Ps. 103: (1-7) 8-13;

Rom. 14:1-12;

Matt. 18:21-35

September 20

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Ex. 16:2-15

and Ps. 105:1-6, 37-45;

Complementary:

Jonah 3:10-4:11

and Ps. 145:1-8;

Phil. 1:21-30;

Matt. 20:1-16

September 27

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous:

Ex. 17:1-7

and Ps. 78:1-4, 12-16;

Complementary:

Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32

and Ps. 25:1-9;

Phil. 2:1-13;

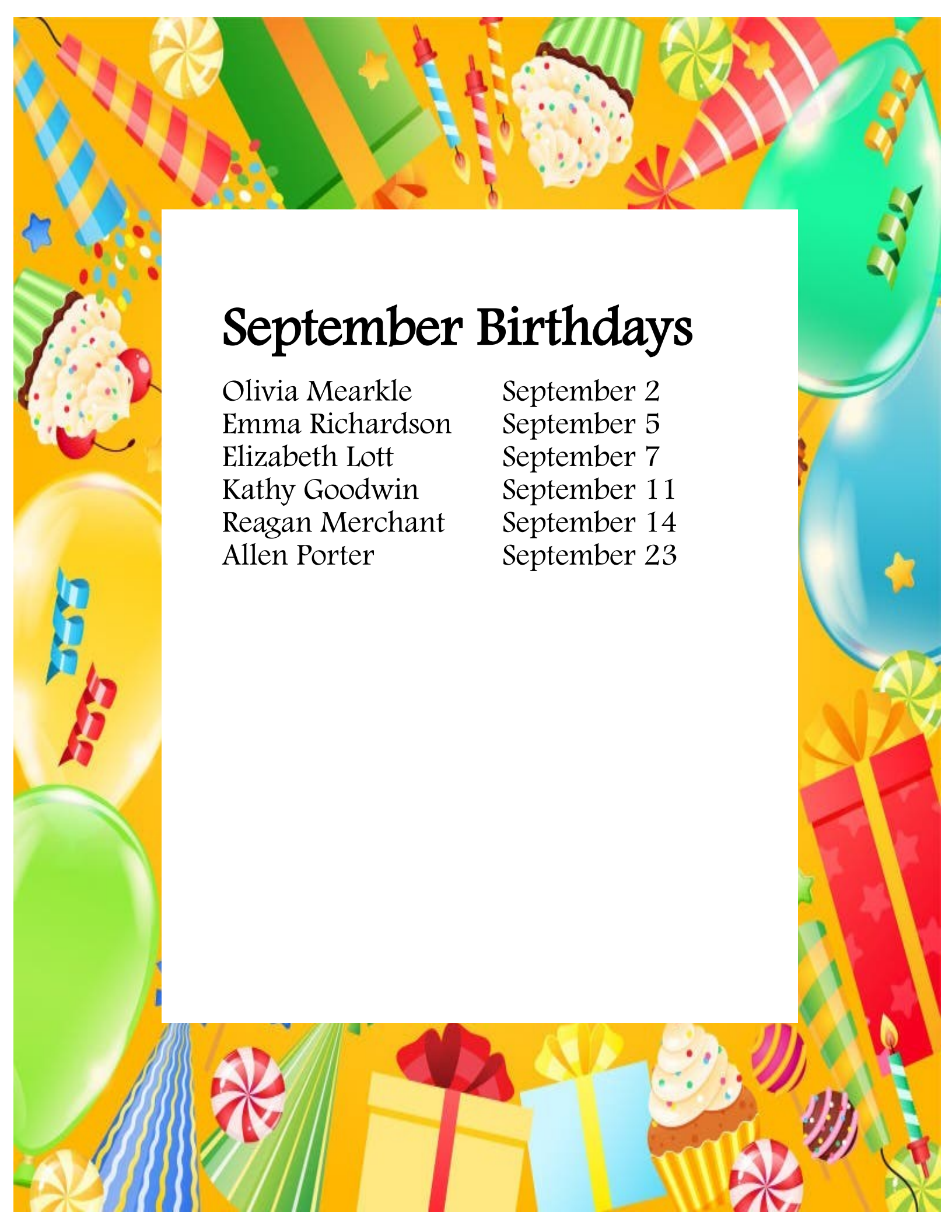
Matt. 21:23-32

Thank You

Sincerest thanks to my First Presbyterian Church family for the outpouring of love and support shown to my Mom and our family during this difficult time. Mom still has a long road to recovery, but we feel that she is in a good place to receive the care she needs to regain her independence. Friday, August 28th she was transitioned to The Windsor Place for rehabilitation. Although this is a huge adjustment for her, we are very pleased with the care she has received thus far. Please keep her in your prayers during her continued recovery. The prayers have definitely been felt during such a scary time.

Much Love,

Tracie



September Birthdays

Olivia Mearkle
Emma Richardson
Elizabeth Lott
Kathy Goodwin
Reagan Merchant
Allen Porter

September 2
September 5
September 7
September 11
September 14
September 23

September Pulpit Supply

September 6, 2026 ~Reverend Deacon Pam Rhea

September 13, 2026 ~Reverend Buren Blankenship

September 20, 2026 ~Reverend Deacon Pam Rhea

September 27, 2026 ~Melissa McDuffie

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.

The Agape Sunday School class (Tom Richardson, teacher) has begun a study of the gospel of Matthew. Matthew is the gospel for this year in the lectionary readings. We are following the gospel lectionary readings each week, but we are also looking at background texts to help understand each Sunday's selection. The lectionary readings can be found in First Word or at pcusa.org under the "Worship with Us" tab. 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!

*For information regarding the weekly FPC Prayer
Group, please contact Cathy Young at 662-386-5750.*



First Presbyterian Church



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



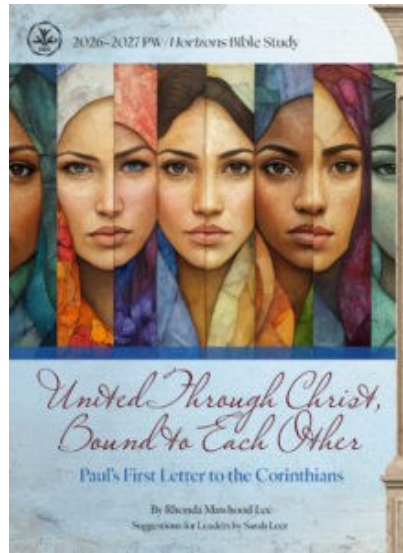
Saturday, September 5, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

Join us for food and fellowship!

Presbyterian Women Gathering

Join us Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

All are welcome as we begin our new Horizon's Bible Study,
United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other.



Overview of the 2026–2027 PW/*Horizons* Bible study:

Paul wrote at a time when Christians expected Jesus' imminent return; he challenged his friends to be ready when that day came. Two thousand years later, the church is still waiting, still affirming that Jesus will return, and still proclaiming that this world has already been transformed by God's life-giving love. Our challenge remains to live in ways that demonstrate our trust in the resurrection.

Many of the questions asked by our earliest siblings in faith remain ours, too. How can our lives demonstrate our trust in Jesus Christ's victory over death? What do we do when different understandings of the gospel undermine church unity? How can Christians understand gender and sexuality? When conflict arises, how do we deal with it?

This Bible study will raise many questions while providing few direct answers. Those, you will seek yourself through prayerful reading, thinking, and discussion. I pray that unity in Jesus Christ will guide you and your study group and inspire you, together, to do everything in love.

All are welcome to join us for an afternoon of refreshments and fellowship.

Please contact Cathy Young at 662-386-5750 if you have any questions.



First Presbyterian Church will be serving
Loaves & Fishes Friday, September 18, 2026
Volunteers are needed. Show your support by signing up today!
"Come up The Hill to worship; go down The Hill to serve."



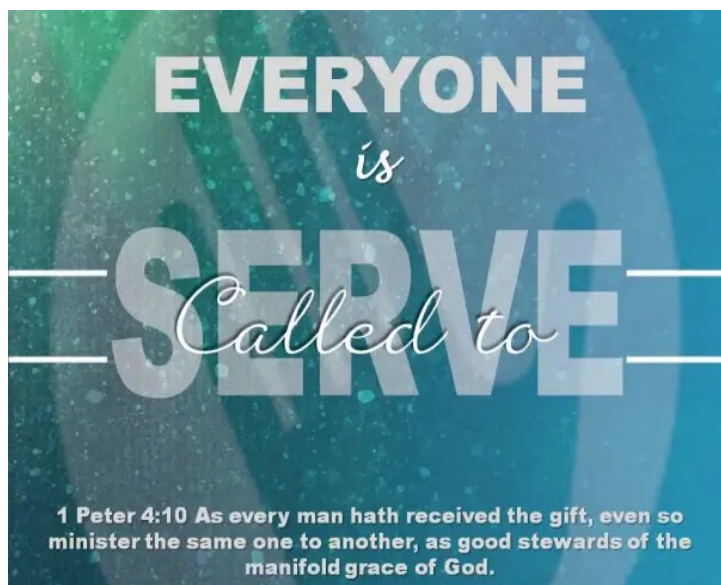
A decorative border of bright yellow sunflowers with dark brown centers and green leaves, arranged in a repeating pattern around the edges of the page.

Join us for lunch

September
Fellowship Meal

Join us
Sunday, September 27th
following worship.

Shepherding Group 3 will provide
fried chicken. Please bring your
favorite side or dessert to share.



Thank you, Brandon Tilp, for volunteering to read scripture.
You did an excellent job!

We are still seeking individuals to make announcements,
read scripture, and/or liturgy on Sundays.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office.
Phone # 662-328-5992/Email: firstprescolumbus@gmail.com

Many thanks to Gaines and Keith Gaskin for helping sort, bag, label, and tie 145 new books, which will be distributed to children at our Loaves and Fishes lunches.

Thanks, too, to Lezli Waits who selected these books from Scholastic Press and ordered them through the Scholastic Book Club.

And a huge “thank you” to all who support this book project with your blessings of money that make the purchases possible.



PCDP

August 18, 2026



PCDP is back in session for our fall semester!
We have had a great response for enrollment and have just a few spots left.

Our PCDP students have been busy making new friends,
learning classroom rules and having fun.
We look forward to our upcoming thematic units,
pets, shapes, colors, fall, and apples.

Our Kinder-Prep class will begin working on our alphabet
scrapbooks soon and we could use magazines for pictures.
If you have any you are looking to get rid of, send them our way.

Thank you!



