



First
Presbyterian
Church

P.O. Box 485 • Greenwood, MS 38935-0485

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First
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Church

GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI

JUNE 29, 2023

YOUTH NEWS



SUNDAY, JULY 9 - FRIDAY JULY 14

Senior High
Fun in the Sun
Hilton Head, SC

SUNDAY 23

All Youth Trip
Geyser Falls

Fun in the Sun participants: Graycen Austin, Olivia Gayle Brock, Anderson Chaney, Caroline Chaney, Sully Dubard, Carsyn Estes, Cate Lovelady, Ainsley Melton, Ava Scott, Rhodes Strawbridge, Sumner Tackett, and Michael Warren. Chaperones: Whitney Avritt, Meagan Austin and Dr. Andrew Chaney.



Vocational Retreat

Tate Dubard and Penn Camp traveled to Atlanta, GA May 25-27 for a vocational retreat with their parents and Youth Director Whitney Avritt. These students underwent aptitude testing at the Johnson O'Connor Research Foundation to help them discover their abilities as they look to choose a college and career.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

300 Main Street • P.O. Box 485
Greenwood, MS 38935-0485
Phone (662) 453-4680
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www.firstgreenwood.net

Pastor..... Dr. Andrew Chaney
Pastor EmeritusDr. Rusty Douglas
Director of MusicRev. Ray Smithee
Director of Youth Whitney Avritt
Christian Ed. DirectorKelli Stainback
Kindergarten Director Caroline Strawbridge
Asst. Kindergarten Director Rebekah Arant
Administrative Assistant Kristen Montgomery
Financial SecretaryAnnette McDonald
Bldg.& Grounds Supervisor Timmy Lott
Custodian Charles Covington
Custodian Lonnie Love
Clerk of Session Richard Oakes
Board of Deacons..... Rebekah Arant
Church Treasurer..... Mark Vemer
Presbyterian Women Eleanor Braswell
Endowment Committee.....Mike Sturdivant III
Missionaries Bill Holland, Ahava Ministries
Bill & Bette Bryant Crisis Nursery, Zambia
Cistern Project of the Yucatan
Amos Yam, Yucatan
Potter and Clay Ministries of Cuba
Presbyterian Church of Aleppo, Turkey
Ivan Rusyn, Ukraine

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A Covenant Order of
Evangelical Presbyterians

The Bible is No Ordinary Book!

Christians have been known to be “people of the book,” and that book, of course is the Bible. Yet the Bible is not just one book. It is actually sixty-six books joined together into the Old and New Testaments. The Bible tells us how the world was created by the one true God—a Being of limitless power and love, and how God will fix the disobedience of His people through Jesus Christ. Around forty-five different people wrote the sixty-six books of the Bible—but each of these people had one thing in common. They were inspired to write every word by God Himself. As 1st Peter 1:21 says, the words in this book did not have their “...origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” This is God’s book, and God is the Author. The writers God used were indeed very different individuals. There were Kings like David and Solomon, prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah, farmers like Amos, fishermen like Peter and John. Luke was a physician. Paul was a Pharisee. There was even a tax collector named Matthew. Most of the people God used to write His book didn’t know each other—they couldn’t because the Bible was written across a period of 1500 years—and in places all the way from Babylon to Rome, but their writings center around the same theme—God’s redemptive plan. The Bible is like a puzzle where each piece is made by a different person independent of the other piece-makers, but they all fit to form a beautiful picture because each writer was inspired by the same source- God through His Holy Spirit. As it says in 2nd Timothy 3, “All Scripture is GOD-BREATHED.” It’s obviously NOT just a book, it is a gift from God to us, and we can thank God by reading it!

Peace,
Andrew

Deacons Say Pray... and Pickle Ball!

Our church is going to lead a new effort to bring Greenwood churches together in the spirit of ecumenicism. The Deacons are creating a Greenwood Churches Pickle Ball League. We have some real pickle ball superstars in our congregation, so we expect First Presbyterian to field several teams. The goal is for this to catch on quickly enough for us to sponsor a Greenwood Ministerial Association March Madness 2024 Pickle Ball Tournament to raise funds for a community outreach project chosen by the teams. If you are interested in playing on one of our teams, please contact Toni Powers at (662) 455-5328.

Grief Support Tea

Wednesday, July 26

2:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor

After the passing of a loved one, there is a period of time needed to ease the pain and loneliness of separation. Readjustment does not come easily, and sometimes the road feels as if it is all uphill. Christian fellowship comes alongside time in the healing process. It can be helpful when those who remain are able to share their worries, their regrets, their fears, their anger, or their musings with other Christian friends. Since we realize that grief is a process, we understand that everyone may be at a different point in their grieving journey. Regardless of where you are along the way, an opportunity to gather with Christian friends may be helpful. You are welcome to gather for tea on **Wednesday afternoon, July 26, at 2:00 in the Church Parlor**, for a time of sharing, reflection, and to be reminded of the good news the Bible offers in our grief journeys. This event is sponsored by the Deacons and led by Dr. Chaney.

Upcoming Fall Events

New Members Cook Out! Deacon Emmie Daugherty in the Front Door Fellowship is heading up a new member tradition that Covid temporarily halted- the tradition of “new members cookout.” Isn’t it wonderful that the Deacons are bringing it back! This will be a nice opportunity for you to get to know the newer members of our congregation since the last cookout. The date and time will be announced soon!

Empty Nesters Unite! So many seniors have flown the nest and gone to colleges and jobs in the past few years. Coming to terms with children growing up and becoming independent produces a flood of emotion, relief, and joy. Sometimes one of those emotions, but many times all of them, are a wake-up call to one of life’s important transitions. We would like to offer an opportunity for empty nesters to support one another as they grieve, celebrate, and share with one another as they come to terms with this vital life transition. “Empty Nesters Unite!” is sponsored by the Deacons. Date and location for the program will be announced soon!

THE LORD'S DAY

July 2 — 5th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, Shuler Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship
Sermon: Elder Miller King
Children's Sermon: Elder Allyn Camp
Prayer of Dedication: Deacon Zach Luke
Children's Church: Audra & Alan Ellis
Security: Powell Litton & Andy Austin

July 9 — 6th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, Shuler Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship
Sermon: Tracy Ebarb
Children's Sermon: Shannon Melton
Prayer of Dedication: Deacon Christie Beattie
Children's Church: Carling & Brett Canterbury
Security: Sam Pigott & Chris Cascio

July 16 — 7th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, Shuler Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship
Scripture: Psalm 42:1-11
Sermon: "Beginning the Journey"
Dr. Andrew Chaney

Children's Sermon: Larkin Camp
Prayer of Dedication: Deacon Emmie Daugherty
Children's Church: Mary Clyde & Miller King
Security: Clifton Thach & Don Brock

July 23 — 8th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, Shuler Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship
Scripture: Romans 10:5-17
Sermon: "What's Guiding You?"
Dr. Andrew Chaney

Children's Sermon: Elder Pat Gullede
Prayer of Dedication: Deacon Sam Pigott
Children's Church: Meagan & Wade Litton
Security: Heston Powers & Jacob Clark

July 30—9th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, Shuler Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship
Scripture: Mark 11:20-25
Sermon: "What You Say Matters"
Dr. Andrew Chaney

Children's Sermon: Elder Jane Crump
Prayer of Dedication: Elder Dallas Baker
Children's Church: Samantha & Sam Pigott
Security: Jim Quinn & Craig Brewer

July Ushers:

Taylor Calhoun (head), Jane Crump, Lawson Gary, Floyd Melton III, Toni Powers, Mike Sturdivant III

July Hospital Visitation Elder:

Todd Fincher

Thank You

To the Congregation of First Presbyterian Church,
We know that we can never begin to thank everyone who was involved in the beautiful celebration and dedication of the Marion Peteet Howard Heritage Library on Sunday, April 16, 2023. We can express from our hearts what a humbling experience the day was for us. We enjoyed the stories shared by those at the reception, in the parlor that was beautifully decorated with flowers, and the food was delicious and lovingly prepared.

It was perfect that Confirmation was on the same day. She would have loved that! The history belongs to the future, and Dr. Chaney did a beautiful job tying it all together. We all look forward to returning and visiting the library and the church to which we are forever connected.

With love, gratitude, and deep appreciation,
The Family of Marion Peteet Howard



Save the Date

Sunday, August 13th

9:45 a.m. in Shuler Hall

Blessing of the Backpacks during Rally Day

Welcome New Members

David Grace and Pieter Keeve joined our church on June 11. They are originally from South Africa and are here working on Reese Pillow's farm. They both enjoy hunting, fishing, and going to the gym. In becoming members of FPC, David and Pieter want to grow in their faith and grow nearer to God.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS June 2023

1. Approved Richard Oakes as Clerk of Session, Ryan Strawbridge as Assistant Clerk of Session, and Mark Vemer as Church Treasurer.
2. Corrected minutes from the March 2023 Session Meeting as follows: Under the Endowment Committee Report, the amount allocated to undesignated benevolences should be \$4,550 instead of \$2,550 and the amount allocated to Palmer Home should be \$385 instead of \$365.
3. Dr. Chaney has made the following recommendations for committee chairs for 2023-2024: Clerk of Session - Richard Oakes; Assistant Clerk of Session - Ryan Strawbridge; Building and Grounds: Jimmy Lott - Chair, Jim Bowen - Vice Chair; Christian Education: Sherry Clark - Chair, Pat Gullede & Dallas Baker, Vice Chairs; Kindergarten Board: Cathy Jennings - Chair, Mary Haley Flautt - Vice Chair; Staff Support: Chuck Conditt - Chair, Richard Oakes - Vice Chair; Stewardship and Finance: Moss Melton - Chair, Ryan Strawbridge - Vice Chair; Witness Committee: Todd Fincher - Chair, John Stewart - Vice Chair; Worship and Music Committee: Susan Beckham - Chair, Reese Pillow - Vice Chair; Youth Committee: Taylor Calhoun - Chair, Alan Barger - Vice Chair; Church Security: Miller King - Chair.
4. Approved the payment of \$10,000 to the Community Food Pantry and \$5,000 to the Community Kitchen. The funds will come from 2021 Endowment Fund income that was reported to the Session at the March 2022 meeting. \$7,425 remains for allocation.
5. Approved allocating the \$22,848.00 approved for the Outreach Foundation in the 2023 budget for each of the following receiving \$5,712: Bettye and Bill Bryant Nursery, Yucatan Cistern Project, San Pablo Presbyterian Seminary in Yucatan, and Ukraine Seminary.
6. Approved \$36,364.88 from the Scott Fund to be used for 2023 mission trips.
7. Approved the payment of the \$2,950.00 collected for tornado relief following the March 24, 2023, tornadoes, to Mercy Chefs, a program that fed victims and first responders in Rolling Fork.
8. Approved the following payments recommended by the Endowment Committee in its report to the Session at the March 2023 meeting: \$7,500.00 from the McKinnon Fund to the Outreach Foundation; \$2,438.00 to the Community Kitchen from the Local Benevolence allocation; \$2,000.00 to the Community Food Pantry and \$2,550.00 to the Community Kitchen from the Undesignated Benevolences allocation.
9. Approved the transfer of the \$1,639.00 allocated for Capital Improvements by the Endowment Committee in its March 2023 report to the Session to the Building and Grounds Committee.
10. Approved the transfer of \$1,065.00 allocated for Local Handicap Projects by the Endowment Committee in its March 2023 report to the Session to the Building and Grounds Committee.
11. Approved the transfer of \$5,000 from the Scott Fund to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. \$3,000.00 of this fund was given to tornado victims in Blackhawk and Rolling Fork.
12. Approved the payment of \$5,500.00 from the Scott Fund to the Medical Benevolence Foundation.
13. Approved John Heston Powers, Richard Macy, and Alan Ellis as members of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, Class of 2026.
14. Approved the acceptance of a gift of \$700 for the benefit of "You Matter Ministries."
15. Approved raising Ray Smithee's credit card limit from \$2,000 to \$3,000.
16. Approved raising Whitney Avritt's credit card limit from \$3,000.00 to \$6,000.00 for FUN IN THE SUN camp week in July.
17. Approved Ryan Strawbridge as a member of the Staff Support Committee, Class of 2026.
18. Approved Rebekah Arant and Courtney Walker as members of the Kindergarten Board, Class of 2026.
19. Noted Caroline Strawbridge and Rebekah Arant are working to finalize the paperwork for the Child Care Strong Grant.
20. The Christian Education committee approved giving two of the nursery workers \$100 each to commemorate eight and ten years of service. Money will come from funds allocated for payment of nursery workers.
21. Noted Fall S.A.L.T. dates - September 13 through October 11.
22. Approved Rhodes Strawbridge and Grace Jefcoat as members of the Youth Committee. Rhodes will serve a one year term and Grace will be a member of the Class of 2026.
23. Due to the cancellation of the Junior High Trip to The Great Escape, the following events have been added to the summer calendar: Movie Trip to Madison Malco on June 25; and trip to Geyser Falls on July 23.
24. Approved Trish Rodgers as a member of the Security Committee, Class of 2026.
25. Approved Beth Moses, Class of 2026 and Thomas Gregory, Class of 2025, as members of the Worship and Music Committee. Thomas will serve the unexpired term of Ashley Farmer.
26. Approved the expenditure of \$2,000.00 from the Memorial Fund to secure the Memphis Pipe Band for the 2024 Kirkin' O' the Tartan's service on March 3, 2024.
27. Noted the organ console will be raised up on the chancel for the month of July.

July 2023

First Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship	3	4 Church Office Closed	5	6	7	8
9 Youth-Fun In the Sun 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship	10 Youth-Fun In the Sun	11 Youth-Fun In the Sun	12 Youth-Fun In the Sun	13 Youth-Fun In the Sun	14 Youth-Fun In the Sun	15
16 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship	17	18 9:30 am Staff Meeting	19	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22
23 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship 1:00 pm Youth to Geyser Falls	24	25	26 2:00 pm Grief Support Tea, Church Parlor	27	28	29
30 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship	31					

Youth Community Service Projects

Every Wednesday in June, the youth have volunteered at different locations. On Wednesday, June 7, they packed hotdog bags with You Matter Ministries. On Wednesday, June 14, the youth helped clean up at the Leflore County Humane Society. On the last two Wednesdays in June, the youth volunteered at the Community Food Pantry. Thank you to all who served!

