

Prayer List

Scottie & Harold Knight
 Margaret Collins
 Gwen McReynolds
 Cynthia Ware
 The Peace of Jerusalem & Israel; all persons grieving bereaved by the killing or abduction of loved ones in the current war in Israel and Gaza; all hostages; first responders and those in military service; all ministry leaders of our mission partner, CMJ-Israel; US armed forces members; ... and all other tourists visiting Israel and surrounding nations this month.
 All who are grieving the deaths of loved ones in the recent tragedies in Israel, Maine, and Mexico.
 Hugh Shurden, Sandy Jackson, Jim Rhodes & Family following the death of Lesa Rhodes (Jim's wife & Sandy's cousin)

Peggy Johnson
 Andrew Whittenton
 Don & Kathy Curto
 Barbara Tindall (Tindall Morrison's Grandmother)
 Albert Clark
 Earline Howell (Wallace Cade's Aunt)
 John Clark Packer
 Clayton Butler (son of the Lifer's friends, Gary & Kristen Butler)
 Gloria Gentry
 Barbara Johnson
 Andy Lawrence
 Lydia Abraham
 Lea Pitre (Diane King's Neighbor)
 Jack Thompson (Alex Adam's Uncle)
 Libby Stephan & Jayna McQuade (daughters of Sara Wilson)
 Roxene Atkinson
 Thelma Purdy (Neena Howell's mother and Dylan Franklin's grandmother)
 Macey & Byron Bell (Marshall Molen's sister & brother-in-law)
 Janet, Gary & Jay Bardwell, Linda Necaie (Janet's sister) and Lydia Berry (Jay's friends)
 Maxie Bruce (Brittney McAfee's father)
 Ressie Carpenter
 Jean Alice McDavid
 Bob Forbus (Jack Forbus's brother); Staci Moak (Jack's daughter)
 Rae Nell Crumpton
 Gerlene Lifer; and Keitha Scott (Gerlene's friend)
 Roy D. Dreher, Jr. (Jennie Beth Chance's father)
 Delores Irvin (Diane Daniel's sister), Sarah Helen McCloskey & Craig D. Campbell (Daniels' friend)

Additional Prayer List for Health Care/Assisted Living

Carl Ivey, Sr., & Nina Ivey – The Goldton
 Jimmy Lee Dodd – Huntsville, AL
 Dero Ramsey – The Goldton
 Lou Cross – The Goldton
 Hilda Scholtes – The Goldton
 Cattie Taylor – The Beehive, Starkville
 Marjorie Malone

FPC Officers

Rev. Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator // Andrew Fountain, Clerk of Session
 Bob Daniels, Corporate President // Lee Weiskopf, Treasurer

Session of Elders

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Richard Blackburn	Bob Daniels	Larry Anthony
Andrew Fountain	Jeff Foster	Vivian Cade
John Kelley	Charlie Guest	Michele Rackley
Kristen Skinner	John Turner	Lee Weiskopf

Board of Deacons

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Debbie Cooper	Bob Boyd	Haley Graves
Johnny Folsom	Boston Hampton	Wayne Huberty
Mike Jackson	Robbie Holditch	Dalton Miller
Alex Massingill	Jackie Mullen	Caitlin Rackley

Wednesday, November 1, Dinner Menu

Adult Plate: Hamburgers, Loaded Potato Salad, Chocolate Cake
 Kids Plate: Slider Burgers, Baked Beans

Name _____
Phone # _____
of Adult Plates _____ **# of Kids Plates** _____



To sign up, drop this tear-off form in the offering plate, or scan the code for the online form by Monday, October 22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT FPC
 All are welcome to join us for men's, women's, children & youth bible studies!
 Dinner at 5:15 p.m.
 Bible Study at 6:00 p.m.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER/COOK OFF
 NOVEMBER 2, 2023
 6:00 PM
 ROBINSON LAKE

We will have a competition of who can cook the best chili or gumbo.
 Can't Cook? That's ok! Come out and be a judge!
 Jimmy Hardin will also present a short history and current events lesson on Israel.

No need to RSVP if you plan to cook, please contact Andrew Fountain (662) 822-0601

STEWARDSHIP LUNCH
 JOIN US NOVEMBER 12TH FOR LUNCH FOLLOWING OUR 10:30 SERVICE.

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
 Join us November 5th after our 10:30 service for our Operation Christmas Child Packing party!
 All are welcome to join us in packing shoeboxes!

Men's Morning Bible Study
 Introduction to Reading & Understanding the book of Revelation
 Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STARKVILLE

Starkville's Church that Preaches the *Doctrines of Grace*
 Part of the *Evangelical Presbyterian Church*

October 29, 2023
 Reformation Sunday



Sunday Morning Schedule

Lord's Day Service | 10:30 AM
 Sunday School | 9:30 AM
 Fellowship Time | 10:10 AM
 Chapel Service of the Word | 8:30 AM

Access more information and online resources:
fpcstarkville.org

307 University Drive, Starkville, MS 39759
 662.323.1994 | info@fpcstarkville.org

Gathering Music at Front Steps

J.B. Griffith

Welcome & Announcements

Martin Lifer

Call to Worship *from Psalm 124:1-4,8 & 46:7*

Dean Franklin

If it had not been the LORD Who was on our side— let Israel now say—

If it had not been the LORD Who was on our side when people rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

The LORD of hosts is with us!

The God of Jacob is our fortress!

*Invocation Dean Franklin

*Introit Processional Jim Long, Beadle; Bagpiper, J.B. Griffith

*Hymn #656 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* EIN' FESTE BURG

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession Martin Lifer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem *Gather by the River to Pray* Chancel Choir

Confession of Sin *adapted from Psalm 25:1,7,11* Dean Franklin

We lift up our souls to You, O LORD, and we each pray:

Remember not the sins of my youth nor my transgressions; instead, O LORD, remember me according to your steadfast love, for the sake of your goodness! For your Name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for my guilt is massive.

*Assurance of God's Grace *from Psalm 25:12,14*

Who is the man who fears the LORD? The LORD will instruct him in the way that he should choose.

The LORD's friendship is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them his covenant.

*Hymn #668 *Doxology* OLD 100TH

Call to Give God His Tithe and Our Offerings Martin Lifer

Offertory+ *For the Beauty of the Earth* Jennifer Blackbourn

Good News for Children

*Confession of Faith *from The (Westminster) Shorter Catechism, Q. 90* Martin Lifer

How is the Word to be read and heard to become effective for salvation?

For the Word to become effective for salvation, we must pay careful attention to it, prepare ourselves, and pray for understanding. We must also receive it in faith and love, treasure it in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

*Hymn #343 (2x) *Word of God, Speak* WORD OF GOD, SPEAK

*Prayer for Illumination *from Psalm 119:18* Martin Lifer

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things from your instruction.

Scripture *Luke 8:4-15* Pew Bible pp. 864

Sermon *From Dust, Life* Martin Lifer

*Hymn #338 *Wonderful Words of Life* WORDS OF LIFE

*Response to the Good News of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior

All our sins,

We send to the Cross of Christ!

All our troubles,

We send to the Cross of Christ!

All the devil's works,

We send to the Cross of Christ!

All our hopes,

We set on the Risen Christ!

*Benediction

*Sung Response *Threefold Amen* DANISH



Recessional Jim Long, Beadle; Bagpiper, J.B. Griffith

Postlude *A Joyful Trumpet* Jennifer Blackbourn



*The congregation is invited to stand.



Today's Sanctuary flowers are given Women of the Church to the glory of God. If you are interested in providing flowers for Sunday, please reach out to Olivia at 662-323-1994

Visiting with Us? We'd Love to Stay Connected!

Please fill out one of our FirstConnect Cards and drop it in the offering plate! Alternatively, you may scan our QR code or visit fpcstarkville.org/connect.

Want to find out more about faith in Christ, church membership, or ways to serve at FPC? Speak to Dean Franklin, Pastor Martin Lifer, or send an email to Pastor Martin at mwlifer3@gmail.com.



From Dust, Life

Martin Lifer/ FPC Starkville/ October 29, 2023/ Luke 8:4-15

Post Tenebras, Lux: After _____, _____ - Reformation Motto of _____

Gen. 1:2-3 "...darkness was over the face of the Deep.... God said: "Let there be Light!" Cf. Jn. 1:4

de pulvis, vitae: From _____, _____ Gen. 2:7 God formed man from the dust... breath of life...

Sola Scriptura → Church: people saved from dust to life, whose works glorify God. *Is. 55:11, Rom. 10:17, Mt. 5:16*

Lk. 8:1-21 Jesus – By His Word – Creates a Church of Hearers AND Doers *Bearing Fruit*

8:1-3 Jesus Preaches & Brings the Kingdom Gospel in (1) **Word AND (2) Koinonia**

8:4-18 Parables & Teaching on **Hearing AND Living the Word Fruitfully**

8:19-21 Jesus Identifies His True-Heart Family of **Hearers & Doers** → They Love Much **Fruitfully**

8:9-10 (Is. 6:9) Parables: Reveal or Conceal/ Open Hearts v. False or Hard Hearts

Lk. 8:4-15 Parable of Seed & Soils: Sower's Seed (WORD) Is Life & Brings Life to Good Soil

8:5/12 Ones along path: Hear, but **devil** "takes away the Word from their hearts" → no faith & salvation

8:6/13 Rootless ones on rock: Hear & joyfully "believe for a while," but "**time of testing**" → fall away

2 Pet. 2:18-22 after they escaped the world's defilements through knowing Jesus, they are entangled again!

8:7/14 Among the thorns: Hear, but "**choked by life's cares & riches & pleasures**" → fruit doesn't mature

Jn. 15:5-6 "Whoever abides in Me bears MUCH fruit.... If anyone does not abide in Me... thrown into the fire."

8:8/15 Some in good soil: "Hearing the Word, **hold it fast in an Honest & Good Heart and Bear Fruit with Patience.**"

→ **Soli Deo Gloria** Mt. 24:13 "The one who endures to the end will be saved."

Jn. 15:8 "Father is glorified, that you bear MUCH fruit & prove to be MY disciples."

By His Word, Jesus Creates from Dust a Church of Disciples Who Live in Him, Bearing Fruit