

Prayer List

Peggy Johnson
 The family of Natalie Williams
 The Pennebaker Family
 Charlie Guest
 Albert Clark
 Earline Howell (Wallace Cade's Aunt)
 John Clark Packer
 Cynthia Ware
 Jennifer Blackbourn
 Gloria Gentry
 Barbara Johnson
 Lydia Abraham
 Bettie Cummings
 Andy Lawrence
 Jack Thompson (Alex Adam's Uncle)
 Rubye Guest
 Margaret Collins
 Roxene Atkinson
 Jimmy Lee Dodd
 Mattie Mason during her mission to Paraguay
 Macey & Byron Bell (Marshall Molen's sister & brother-in-law)
 Janet, Gary & Jay Bardwell, Linda Necaize (Janet's sister) and Will Taggart & family (Jay's friends)
 Don Curto
 Libby Stephan & Jayna McQuade (daughters of Sara Wilson)
 Lesa Rhodes & Hugh Shurden (Sandy Jackson's cousin and father)
 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)
 Dr. Joe Brown
 Roy D. Dreher, Jr. (Jennie Beth Chance's father)
 Delores Irvin (Diane Daniel's sister), Sarah Helen McCloskey & Craig D. Campbell (Daniels' friends)

Additional Prayer List for Health Care/Assisted Living

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

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 Blackbourn	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, September 6, Dinner Menu

Adult Plate: Biscuits & Gravy, Sausage, Bacon, Cheese Grits & Shrimp

Kids Plate: Pancakes, Sausage, Bacon, Muffins

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, September 4th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY

Ladies,
 Join us for this bible study where 6 beloved teachers will guide us through a prayer from the Bible that can inspire and transform your own prayer life. We will meet on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall

Books are \$25 and available in the FPC office!



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT FPC ARE BACK!

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.

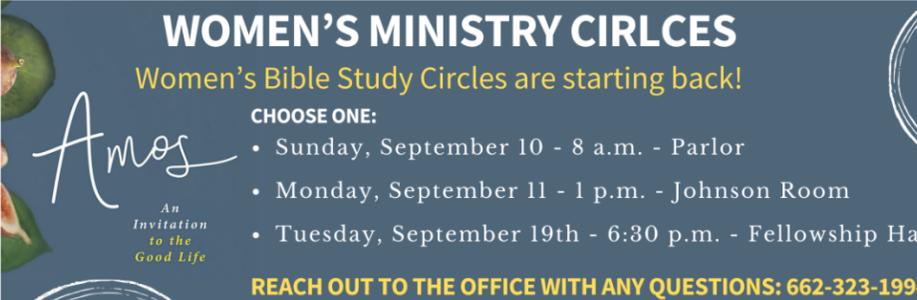
WOMEN'S MINISTRY CIRCLES

Women's Bible Study Circles are starting back!

CHOOSE ONE:

- Sunday, September 10 - 8 a.m. - Parlor
- Monday, September 11 - 1 p.m. - Johnson Room
- Tuesday, September 19th - 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

REACH OUT TO THE OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS: 662-323-1994



TEAM COLORS SUNDAY

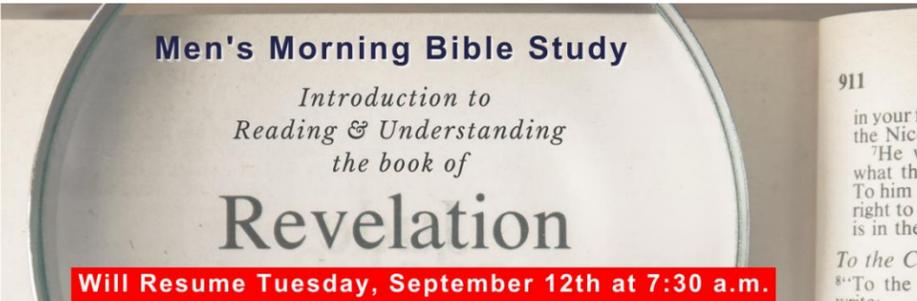
September 17



Men's Morning Bible Study

Introduction to Reading & Understanding the book of Revelation

Will Resume Tuesday, September 12th at 7:30 a.m.




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STARKVILLE

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

September 3, 2023
 Fourteenth Lord's Day
 After Pentecost

He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

JOHN 1:11-13

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

Special Mission India Video

Prelude *Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place* Marquita Beaty

Welcome & Announcements Martin Lifer

God Calls Us

Call to Worship *Adapted from Ephesians 5:19-21* Dean Franklin

Be filled with the Holy Spirit. Address one another through psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.

Let us sing and make melody to the Lord with our hearts! We give thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ –

Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

*Invocation

*Hymn #614 *In My Heart There Rings a Melody* HEART MELODY

God Cleanses Us

Confession of Sin *Adapted from Luke 18:13, 7:6-7* Dean Franklin

Holy God,
Be merciful to us; we are sinners.

Now, Gracious Father, please hear our individual confession of sin:

O Lord,
We are not worthy to have You come under our roof.
But say the word, and we shall be forgiven and healed.

*Assurance of God's Grace *from 1 John 1:8-9*

If we say we have no sin, then we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Hymn #668 *Doxology* OLD 100TH

God Consecrates Us

Call to Give God His Tithes & Our Offerings Martin Lifer

(If you would like to give to today's special offering towards FPC's support of Mission India's ministry to persecuted Christians and churches in the State of Manipur, please write in the memo line India-Manipur)

Offertory *Children of the Heavenly Father* Marquita Beaty

Prayer of 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 *Lord of Forever* Chancel Choir

*Confession of Faith *from The Westminster Confession of Faith, Ch. 5* Dean Franklin

God, Who created everything, also upholds everything. He directs, regulates, and governs every creature, action, and thing – from the greatest to the least – by his completely wise and holy providence.

*Hymn #670 *Glory Be to the Father* GREATORIX

Good News for Children Amy Aarhus

*Hymn #443 *Open My Eyes, That I May See* SCOTT

Prayer for Illumination Martin Lifer

Scripture *Luke 7:1-10; John 1:11-13* Pew Bible p. 863,886

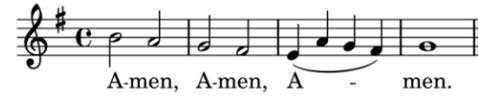
Sermon *Who Has Amazing Faith?* Martin Lifer

God Commissions Us

*Hymn #623 (2x) *Something Beautiful* SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

*Benediction Martin Lifer

*Sung Response *Threefold Amen* DANISH



Postlude *Salvation unto Us Has Come* Marquita Beaty



*The congregation is invited to stand.



Today's Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God by Beverly Jones.

If you are interested in giving flowers for worship, please contact Olivia in the church office.

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. or send an email to Pastor Martin at mwlifer3@gmail.com.

Notice of Congregational Meeting on September 10th

On Sunday, September 10, at 10:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary, there will be a called Congregational Meeting for the purpose of the election of our 2026 Officer Class. If there are no nominations from the floor, an election will be held on that day.

Nominees presented by the Congregation's Elected Nominating Committee for the Session Class of 2026 and the Diaconate Class of 2026

The nominees for the office of elder are Jim Beaty, Carl Ivey, John Kelley & Andrew George. The nominees for the office of deacon are Alex Massingill, Jack Atkins, Jay Cook, and Richard Blackburn. Nominees bios are available in the vestibules.

There will be no fellowship time between the services. Please promptly make your way to the Sanctuary after Sunday school releases.



Thanksgiving to God and congratulations to Jack, Tanner, and their families following the wedding of Tanner Fant to Jack Bryan on Friday, September 1st on the Isle of Skye in Scotland.

Who Has Amazing Faith?

[Martin Lifer/ FPC Starkville/ September 3, 2023]

Now when Jesus heard this, He was amazed at him, and ... said to the crowd ... following Him, "I say to you, **not even in Israel have I found such great faith.**" Lk. 7:9 (cf. Mt. 8:10)

Jesus often amazed people. Gospels record only 2 Times Jesus was amazed:

Mk. 6:6 – He was amazed at the _____ of people of Nazareth, his hometown.
Lk. 7:9/Mt. 8:10 – He was amazed at the centurion's _____. Jesus sometimes refers to his disciples as people of little faith; this is the only time Jesus refers to someone's faith as **Great/Much**.

"Faith is the willingness to bet your very life on the promises and character of God." S. Zeisler

Faith is a gift of God. Am I seeking, asking God for it, living by it, growing & sharing it?

7:1 When He **had completed/fulfilled all His teaching** (not only Sermon 6:20-49 but all Ch.4-6) in the **hearing (akoas)** of the people ["**who comes to Me, hears my words & does them**" 6:47].

Salvation & True Discipleship (Lk. 4-6) include Humble Faith, Selflessness, Poverty, Self-Acknowledged Sick/Sinners seeking Physician, Compassion, Mercy, Extreme Love & Giving

When the centurion _____ (**akousas**) about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him...

In LUKE - 1st *individually-identified* Gentiles in Jesus' public ministry AND miracle-working

1) Elders' Religious Heart (*Merit Calculations*): "He's **worthy** for you to grant..., **because**"

2) Centurion's Heart of Grace, Humility & Faith "I'm **not worthy** to have You come...." generosity to Israel, synagogue & servant; humble poverty before Jesus; amazing faith AND theological insight into something of Jesus' sovereign power

3) Jesus' Heart of Grace, Humility & Faithful Seeking "have I **found such great faith**" 7:9/19:10 - "**For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.**"

Nothing gladdens the Lord more than when a person has faith in Him and His authority. And nothing saddens the Lord more than unbelief." Steven Cole

How does Jesus Assess My Heart & Actions: Astounding Unbelief or Amazing Faith?

My prayer & life commitment for God's gift of growing, powerful faith in me: