



April 2026

A Newsletter for the Congregation and Friends of First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo, MS

As Elizabeth Bennet is dancing with Mr. Darcy at the Netherfield Ball in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, she says the following thing to him, "We are each of an unsocial, taciturn disposition, unwilling to speak, unless we expect to say something that will amaze the whole room, and be handed down to posterity with all the éclat of a proverb."

We expect to say something that will amaze the whole room.

I think this is why I dislike writing these articles for the newsletter.

Each month, I have to figure out something amazing to say for the whole congregation. One would think that I would have that same fear of a sermon, but I don't because I realize that with a sermon, the Holy Spirit is always involved and somehow can make whatever comes out of my mouth mean something to those listening. But with a newsletter article....

Well, I feel the need to have some kind of amazing insight or interesting tidbit and some months nothing comes.

And yet, the Spirit keeps moving, in our lives and in our wonderful church. We celebrate Easter with a beautiful worship service, a fabulous Fellowship time in the garden, and at the 11 o'clock service on Easter Sunday, we will baptize seven children! The Triune God is moving in our congregation and calling us to nurture the future of these children.

And that is the story of Easter. The story of an empty tomb. The story of God loose in the world! The story of God who loves us and claims us as a member of the family. And sometimes, that story is all we need to have something amazing to say.

Grace and Peace to You this Easter Season,

John

Worship With Us First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 5

Services at 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Easter Brunch at 10:00 A.M.

in the Stuart Garden



[Our YouTube Channel](#)

Sunday's

[Scripture Lesson](#)

[Children's Bulletins
Ages 3 & Up](#)

Bulletin

[Children's Bulletins
Ages 7 & Up](#)

CHECK OUT OUR GOOGLE CALENDAR!

Click the calendar to see everything happening at FPC!





Monthly Updates

Weekly Prayer List



Cancer Treatment:

Scarlett Reeder,

Jim Seiler

Homebound:

Carolyn Gaston, John Gaston, Joy Hyatt

College Students:

Afton Gable, Maggie Gibens, Charlie Gratz

Service Members:

Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray



LET'S SERVE TOGETHER

April

April 2	April 11
St. Luke's Food Pantry at 7:45 a.m.	Helping Hands Volunteers at 9:00 a.m.
April 21	
Cook for the Salvation Army at 2:30 p.m.	

March Memorials, Gifts, and Honoraria

*In memory of Betty Holland, Annette Thornton, and Jack Price from Steve & Lucy Nash. (Congregational Care Fund)

*In memory of Penny Cochran, Jesse Davis, Annette Thornton, Loren Zimmerman, and Jack Price from Alice & Britt Rogers. (Interior Preservation & Restoration Fund)

*In memory of Annette Thornton from Robert & Jane Black. (Undesignated Memorial Fund)

*In honor of Robin & Cindy Faucette's Birthdays from Edna Sue White. (Cuba Mission Fund)

*In memory of Annette Thornton from Mark & Kim Burluson. (Undesignated Memorial Fund)

*In memory of Mrs. Annette Thornton from Dr. & Mrs. Dan Brasfield. (Undesignated Memorial Fund)

*In memory of Mrs. Annette Thornton from Judge & Mrs. Glen Davidson. (Undesignated Memorial Fund)

*In memory of Annette Thornton and Jack Price from Susan Boone. (Congregational Care Fund)

Bible Study Update

Monday, April 6

11:00 A.M.

Bolton/Sistahood Room

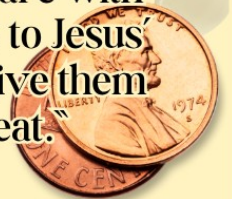
Acts 10

Two Cents a Meal

Two Cents-a-Meal invites every member of your congregation to prayerfully contribute a few cents to help alleviate hunger and poverty. Ideally,

contributions come from "living more simply so that others may simply live."

Participation in is also a commitment to share with others in response to Jesus' command, "You give them something to eat."



First Presbyterian Church Tupelo, MS

Wednesday Night Sign-Up



**Program: The History of Father Stuart
by Judge Glen Davidson, Sr.**

*Wednesday,
April 8, 2025*

Reservations appreciated!

Plates are \$7 per Person


April Wednesday Night Programs



April 1

NO PROGRAM


Holy Week



April 8

Father Stuart

by Judge Davidson



April 15

North MS Animal

Care & Control



April 22

Sheriff's Dept.

by Rud Robison



April 29

Closing Program

Picnic



The Annunciation

*Hail, O favored one, the
Lord is with you!*

– Luke 1:28

The angel Gabriel appears to the Virgin Mary to announce the coming of the Christ Child. Above, the dove of the Holy Spirit descends.

The stylized lily symbolizes Mary's purity.

THIS WINDOW WAS
GIVEN IN MEMORY OF
MR. JOHN P. HUNTER BY
MRS. ALICE ADAMS
HUNTER.



The Nativity

For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

– Luke 2:11

Here are Mary and Joseph watching over the child Jesus who lies in the manger. At the top is the star of Bethlehem. The lamb at the bottom is the Agnus Dei, symbol of God the Son. the cross that he holds presages the Crucifixion.

THIS WINDOW WAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF MR. & MRS. ERNEST LOVE JOYNER, SR. BY MR. & MRS. ERNEST LOVE JOYNER, JR.





UPDATE from Cuba

Although our team has rescheduled their trip to Cuba for the fall, we were able to send the medicine our amazing congregation donated, along with money, to Cuba, and received this note in response:

First Presbyterian Church,

We don't even know where to begin. Thank you feels too small for what you've done for us.

In a moment when things felt uncertain and heavy here in Cuba, when we were carrying more worry than hope, your generosity arrived like light breaking through a storm. Your financial help was not just money; it was relief, it was dignity, it was the reminder that we are not alone. You stepped in quietly and compassionately, without hesitation, and that means more to us than we can fully express.

What touches us even more is knowing that others joined you in contributing. Please extend our deepest gratitude to every single person who gave. Their kindness has made a real difference in our lives during a truly difficult time. It is humbling to know that so many people care enough to act.

In a place where daily challenges can feel overwhelming, your support gave us breathing room, strength, and renewed faith in friendship and human goodness. You didn't just help us financially, you helped us emotionally. You reminded us that even across distances, love shows up in powerful ways.

We carry your kindness in our hearts, and we will never forget it. We hope one day we can repay this generosity, not just in money, but in the same spirit of compassion and loyalty you've shown us.

With all our gratitude and love.

Your Cuban Friends

The page is framed by decorative illustrations. In the top-left corner, there are white flowers with yellow centers and green leaves, along with a light blue and a light yellow Easter egg. In the top-right corner, there is a brown, thorny branch. In the bottom-left corner, there is another brown, thorny branch. In the bottom-right corner, there are white flowers with yellow centers, green leaves, and light blue and light yellow Easter eggs. The background is white with a thin brown border.

Easter Brunch

Sunday, April 5, 2026

10:00 AM

**Join us for brunch in the Stuart
Garden between services this Easter!**

*If you are able, bring a dish to
share!*



The Session

Administrative - Glen Davidson, Sr.

- Discussed a new position for a Director of Children's Ministries. This position is already budgeted.

Christian Education - Corey Littrell

- The committee did not meet in March.
- Wednesday Night Programming
 - a. April 8 - History of Father Stuart - Judge Glen Davidson, Sr.
 - b. April 15 - Animal Control Incidents in Lee County
 - c. April 22 - New Jail - Rud Robison
 - d. April 29 - Closing Picnic

Congregational Care - Jim Fisher

- The committee did not meet.

Fellowship - Aubre Wells

- Easter Brunch will be on April 5 at 10:00 a.m. in the Stuart Garden. The congregation is asked to bring food items to share.
- The end-of-year picnic is scheduled for April 29. Partnership with CE.
- Bingo, Burgers, and Blue Bell - June TBD

Outreach/Mission - Helen Monts

- The Guatemala Water Mission trip was very successful! The group reinstalled two systems and converted a third system. In addition, they also visited 8 previous installation sites and visited a prospective site for 2027.
- Tatum Collins presented gifts from two churches given to FPC in gratitude for water mission work.
 - Iglesia Presbiteriana El Arca (The Ark Presbyterian Church) gave us a plaque and has been a partner since 2012.
 - Iglesia Presbiteriana Arca de Noe (Noah's Ark Presbyterian Church) gave us a table runner and has been a partner since 2017.
- Helping Hands Food Pantry and St. Luke Food Pantry are joining forces effective April 1, 2026. Helping Hands will move distribution to St. Luke Food Pantry located at 2653 S. Eason Blvd. Clients will have a choice (once a month) to come on Thursday, 8-12, or Saturday, 9-11. We have the opportunity for our members to continue to volunteer every 4th Saturday, but we are having discussions to understand how the changes affect our volunteers. We will keep the congregation informed as we learn more.
- Cuba Water Mission Team sent one suitcase (weighing 48 lbs.) of medicines collected with the group from Oxford, MS, who recently went to Cuba. Our contacts, Josmel and Moriana, will deliver the meds to the appropriate churches. (Our group still has boxes of medications they hope to take in the Fall of 2026.)
- Souper Bowl Sunday raised \$2171.00 and was divided between the Youth and Cuba Water Mission.

Property and Grounds - Ben Hunter

- East stained-glass windows have been installed; there are two out of order, and they will be returning to reinstall those.

Safety and Security - David Carlisle

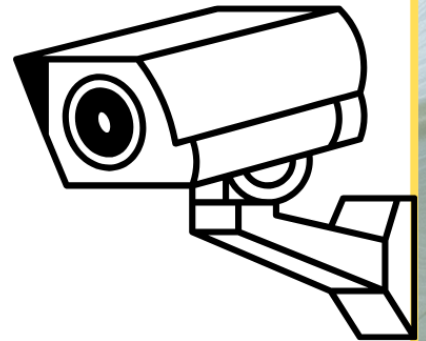
- No information.

Worship - Bob Lence

- The committee did not meet in March.
- Approved baptism of younger children on Easter Sunday at their parents' requests.
 - Loretta Mae Bruce
 - Finlay Reed Clayton
 - Violet Starr Crowell
 - Miles Ander Grisham
 - Oliver Lucas Grisham
 - Olive Anne Kramer
 - Barrett Michael Poindexter
- Approved moving communion to the second Sunday, April 12.

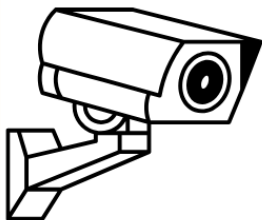
Member Information & Important Dates

- We celebrate the birth of Mamie Elizabeth Hutto she is the daughter of Maddin and Hank Hutto.



Volunteers Needed

We need you to help sub as a camera monitor on Sundays! If you can take a shift (9:00 Worship, 10:00 Sunday School, or 11:00 Worship), please contact Kathy Wallace. We appreciate any help you can give.





New & Prospective Member Class

Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

April 12, April 19, & April 26

All are invited to attend



Volunteer Drivers Needed

For More Information:

Call: 662.840.0787

400 W Jefferson St

Tupelo, MS 38804



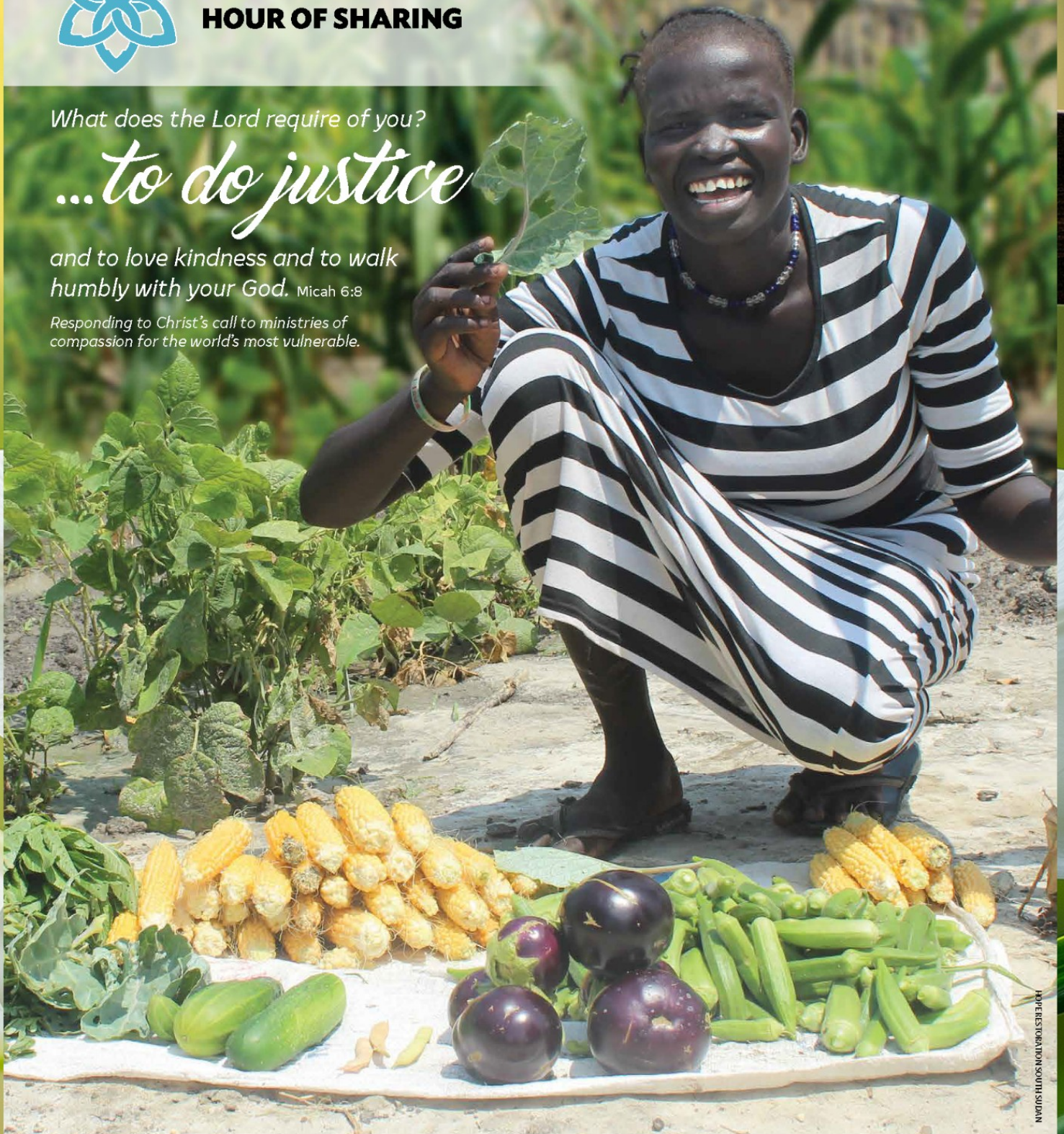
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

What does the Lord require of you?

...to do justice

and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Responding to Christ's call to ministries of compassion for the world's most vulnerable.



HOPE RESTORATION SOUTH SUDAN

POS 12138-26-101



Text **OGHS** to **91999** to support these vital ministries, or visit pcusa.org/oghs.



Spring Flower Bulb Fund

Memorials & Honorariums

IN MEMORY OF:

Daisy Aycock

Amy Ray
Josefina Rayburn

John Erskine Bishop

Ann & Chauncey Godwin

Hank Boerner

Helen Boerner

Lynton & Frances Brasfield

Dan & Frances Brasfield

Freddie Chiles

Mary Ann Chiles
Robin & Cindy Faucette

Sudie Crockett

Janice Reynolds

Hoyle Crockett

Janice Reynolds

Mr. & Mrs. K.P. Faucette

Robin & Cindy Faucette

Louise Nanney Godwin

Ann & Chauncey Godwin

Mollie Gratz

Joe & Beverly Chappell
Carl & Nannette Comer
Michael & Mary Margaret Gratz
The McDonald Girls
Betty Reece
Buddy & Mary Stubbs

Judy Joyner Hodges

Dr. & Mrs. Billups
Dan & Frances Brasfield

Betty G. Holland

Susan Boone
Eddy & Carla Holland

Reverend Charles E. Holland

Eddy & Carla Holland

Charles Hyatt

Susan Hyatt
Stuart & Mary Ann Hyatt
Morris & Alice Alexander

Ernest & Frances Joyner

Dan & Frances Brasfield

Linda Lehman

Josefina Rayburn

Mr. & Mrs. Tom McCool

Robin & Cindy Faucette

Susan Newton McDonald

Dr. & Mrs. Billups
Judge Glen & Bonnie Davidson
The McDonald Girls

Margaret Anne Murphey

Carl & Nannette Comer

Claudia Neelly

Dr. & Mrs. Billups

Martha Jo Patterson

Josefina Rayburn

Jack Price

John & Vivian Fleming

Harry Rayburn

Josefina Rayburn

Frances Sheffield

Carl & Nannette Comer

Irma Stubbs

Buddy & Mary Stubbs

Mike Thomas

Carl & Nannette Comer

Perry Thomas

Carl & Nannette Comer

Annette Thornton

Carl & Nannette Comer
John & Vivan Fleming
Mary Shea Rogers
Buddy & Mary Stubbs

Mary Jane Waldrop

Tracy Shane Kramer

Presly T. Wallace, Jr.

Presly & Kathy Wallace

Bill Young

Sarah Young

Wade Young

Sarah Young

Spring Flower Bulb Fund

Memorials & Honorariums

IN HONOR OF:

Judy Billups

The McDonald Girls

Lee Pryor Caldwell

Rudy & Jala Caldwell

Beverly Chappell

Judge Glen & Bonnie Davidson

Jimmy Crockett

Janice Reynolds

Bonnie Davidson

The McDonald Girls

Doyce Deas

Judge Glen & Bonnie Davidson
Chauncey & Ann Godwin
Bill & Lucy Hilbun
Robert & Sheree Lence
George & Edna Sue White: In
Deep Appreciation of Our
Beautiful Church Yard.
Lewis & Mel Whitfield

Beth Ann Ellzey

Janice Reynolds

Jennifer Faggert

Jim & Heather Ingram

Robin & Cindy Faucette

Bill & Lucy Hilbun

Andy & Aurora Godwin

Chauncey & Ann Godwin

Ann Godwin

Janice Reynolds

Babe Gratz

Rudy & Jala Caldwell

Margaret Gratz

Chauncey & Ann Godwin

Dr. Ray Harris

George & Edna Sue White

Sandy Henson

Jim & Heather Ingram

Shelby, Kathleen, Henry, Brooks, & Mamie Hutto

Joey & Michelle Hutto

Joy Hyatt

Susan Hyatt
Stuart & Mary Ann Hyatt
Morris & Alice Alexander

Heather Ingram

Jim Ingram

Abby Ingram

Jim & Heather Ingram

Mary Claire Moncrief

Joe & Beverly Chappell

Sam Pace

Chauncey & Ann Godwin
Bill & Lucy Hilbun
George & Edna Sue White
Lewis & Mel Whitfield

Mary Pace

Bill & Lucy Hilbun

Alice Rogers

Bill & Lucy Hilbun
Janice Reynolds

Holly Rogers

Jim & Heather Ingram

Erin Stubbs

Buddy & Mary Stubbs

Diane Tannehill

Joe & Beverly Chappell

Aubre Wells

Glen & Bonnie Davidson

Edna Sue White

Robin & Cindy Faucette

Mary Elizabeth Williams

The McDonald Girls

Sarah Young

Bill & Lucy Hilbun

Rachel Young

Sarah Young

Kitchen Crew

Bill & Lucy Hilbun

Fellowship Committee

Bob & Carolyn Kelly

Security Team

Bill & Lucy Hilbun

Flower Guild

Buddy & Mary Stubbs

Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School

May 27-29, 2026

Registration Details to

Come!



Weekly

FPC Schedule

Sunday

Easter

Resurrection of Our Lord

9:00 A.M. Worship

10:00 A.M. Brunch in the Stuart Garden

11:00 A.M. Worship

4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts

4/5

Monday

Easter Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA

5:30 P.M. Session Training, Bolton Rm.

6:45 P.M. Circle 3, Member's House

4/6

Tuesday

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi

2:30 P.M. CASA

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

4/7

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting

2:30 P.M. CASA

3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg

5:05 P.M. Tower Ringers

5:30 P.M. Wednesday Night Program

7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

4/8

Thursday

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast

2:30 P.M. CASA

4/9

Friday

12:00 P.M. AA

2:30 P.M. CASA

4/10

Saturday

9:00 A.M. Helping Hands

4/11

Notes

- Sunday is Communion & Two Cents a Meal

April

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 BIRTHDAY HANK HUTTO	4
5	6 BIRTHDAY RUTH BROCK REAGAN DAVIDSON	7 BIRTHDAY CARLI HILLHOUSE MAGALIE MARTIN	8	9 BIRTHDAY JUDY DARSEY KRISTI HILLHOUSE ANNIVERSARY MR. & MRS. PETE MCMURRY	10 BIRTHDAY ANNE MARIE LITRELL	11 BIRTHDAY DANIEL CROTWELL STEPHEN HAZARD
12 BIRTHDAY ANDY CROTWELL BOB HENSON, III ANNIVERSARY MR. & MRS. MARK MONTS	13	14 BIRTHDAY CHRIS ELLIS ZOE HAZEL BAILEY PETERS GREYSON YEAGER	15 BIRTHDAY CHRISTOPHER CURTIS JULIE GIBENS	16 ANNIVERSARY MR. & MRS. ERIC JOHNSON	17 BIRTHDAY BETTIE FELLOWS NANCY BROWN MILAM	18 BIRTHDAY GATLIN FARRAR ANNIVERSARY MR. & MRS. DAVID CARLISLE
19 BIRTHDAY JALA CALDWELL	20 BIRTHDAY KELLEY CAMP	21 BIRTHDAY MICHELLE HUTTO WALT ROSE	22 BIRTHDAY MICHAEL GRATZ, JR. JOHN MICHAEL HERMAN KIMMEL MONTS	23 BIRTHDAY JIM BRUCE ANNIVERSARY MR. & MRS. CHRIS CURTIS	24 BIRTHDAY BECKI DEPEW KADEN WILSON REEDER CHRIS SHEFFIELD	25 BIRTHDAY DAN BRASFIELD JAMIE GEOGHEGAN
26 BIRTHDAY MELANIE DEAS	27	28 BIRTHDAY KERI CAMP ANNIVERSARY JUDGE & MRS. GLEN DAVIDSON, SR.	29	30		

April

SCHEDULE

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 10:00AM STAFF MEETING 2:30PM CASA 3:00PM MAH JONGG 5:05PM TOWER RINGERS 7:00PM CHANCEL CHOIR	2 7:45AM ST. LUKE'S 8:00AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 2:30PM CASA 6:00PM BRAVER ANGELS 7:00PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	3 12:00PM AA 2:30PM CASA 7:00PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	4
5 EASTER SUNDAY 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:00AM EASTER BRUNCH, STUART GARDEN 11:00AM WORSHIP 4:30PM BOY SCOUTS	6 2:30PM CASA 5:30PM SESSION TRAINING, BOLTON ROOM 6:45PM CIRCLE 3	7 9:00AM T'AI CHI 2:30PM CASA 7:00PM AA	8 10:00AM STAFF MEETING 2:30PM CASA 3:00PM MAH JONGG 5:05PM TOWER RINGERS 5:30PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM 7:00PM CHANCEL CHOIR	9 8:00AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 2:30PM CASA	10 12:00PM AA 2:30PM CASA	11 9:00AM HELPING HANDS
12 COMMUNION TWO CENTS A MEAL 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION 11:00AM WORSHIP 4:30PM BOY SCOUTS	13 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY 2:30PM CASA 5:30PM COMMITTEE MEETINGS	14 9:00AM T'AI CHI 10:00AM MARTHAS 12:00PM CIRCLE 24 2:30PM CASA 6:00PM CIRCLE 5 7:00PM AA	15 10:00AM STAFF MEETING 2:30PM CASA 3:00PM MAH JONGG 5:05PM TOWER RINGERS 5:30PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM 7:00PM CHANCEL CHOIR	16 8:00AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 1:30PM SHEPHERD'S CENTER MEETING 2:30PM CASA	17 12:00PM AA 2:30PM CASA	18 STUBBS WEDDING
19 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION 11:00AM WORSHIP 4:30PM BOY SCOUTS 5:30PM YOUTH	20 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY 2:30PM CASA 5:00PM STEERING COMMITTEE 6:00PM SESSION MEETING	21 9:00AM T'AI CHI 2:30PM CASA 2:30PM SALVATION ARMY 7:00PM AA	22 10:00AM STAFF MEETING 2:30PM CASA 3:00PM MAH JONGG 5:05PM TOWER RINGERS 5:30PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM 7:00PM CHANCEL CHOIR	23 8:00AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 2:30PM CASA 5:30PM SESSION TRAINING, BOLTON RM.	24 12:00PM AA 2:30PM CASA 5:30PM BUNCH REHEARSAL	25 ANNABELLE BUNCH WEDDING
26 9:00AM WORSHIP 10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION 11:00AM WORSHIP 4:30PM BOY SCOUTS	27 2:30PM CASA	28 9:00AM T'AI CHI 2:30PM CASA 7:00PM AA	29 10:00AM STAFF MEETING 2:30PM CASA 3:00PM MAH JONGG 5:05PM TOWER RINGERS 5:30PM PICNIC 7:00PM CHANCEL CHOIR	30 8:00AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 2:30PM CASA 3:00PM TCPS BOARD APPRECIATION, FH		

THE SESSION

Rev. John Brock Moderator
Lisa Nichols, Clerk of the Session

Class of 2026

Glen Davidson, Sr.
Jim Fisher
Ben Hunter
Bob Lence
Corey Littrell
Helen Monts
Aubre Wells

Class of 2027

Heather Crotwell
Amanda Davis
Beth Anne Ellzey
Mac Godwin
Mary Margaret Gratz
Debra Robison
Liz Rose

Class of 2028

Jim Bruce
Tatum Collins
Lee Herman
Trey Phyfer
Buddy Stubbs
Virginia Toliver
Kathy Wallace

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John Brock, Pastor
Melissa McDuffie, Director of Youth and Christian Education
Dr. Bob Taylor, Director of Music
Dr. Ray Harris, Organist
Dr. Kathy McMurry, Treasurer
John Buchman, Audio/Visual Technician
Claire Leeke, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs
Cindy Faucette, Church Librarian
MJ Whitt, Church Secretary
Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary
Penny O'Quinn, Morning Receptionist
Lucy Wells, Afternoon Receptionist
Ricky Kimbrell, Maintenance Superintendent
Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

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