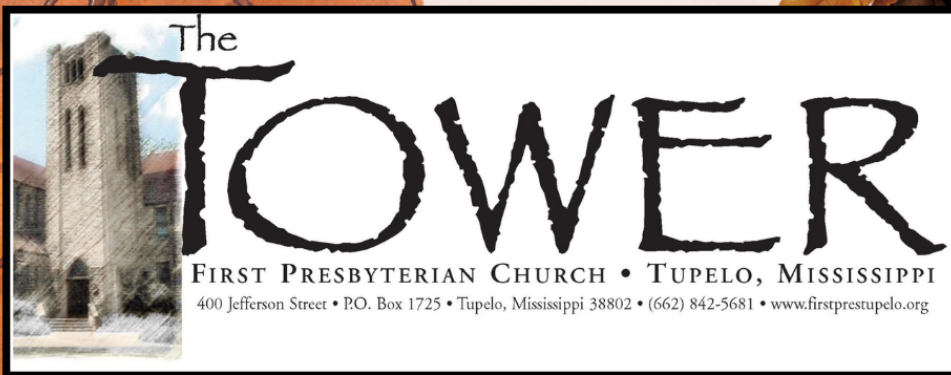




November 2026

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

Siblings in Christ,

We are in a busy and exciting time in the life of our church! We are gaining new members, we are raising money for the future of the church, we are helping others both in our congregation and in the city, and we are gathering to fellowship with one another.

As the church is preparing for the Fall Festival today, I am reminded of why we are doing all these things. Paul tells us to become “imitators of us and of the Lord” (1 Thessalonians 1:6b). How we behave, what we do with our lives, is an example to every one of the children who will walk through the door at the Fall Festival. The life that we live is to be an example to those around us, especially to those children to whom we took a baptismal vow “to guide and nurture by word and deed, with love and prayer” (Book of Common Worship).

It is for this reason, we are also having our capital campaign at this time. Yes, your gifts are being made to protect the sanctuary building, to make our property more energy efficient, and to transform spaces to be of better use in the coming years, but what we are really giving for is to fulfill our baptismal vows. By taking care of the property long-term, we are providing the place for us to gather where we can guide and nurture our children. By creating a more energy efficient campus, we are showing by word and deed the way to care for God’s good creation. By protecting our worship spaces for the next generation, we are able to gather in prayer and show God’s love to each other. In short, this capital campaign is as much about our baptism and the vows we take ourselves and for others as it is about the building.

So, I hope as you pray diligently for this church and its people, as you pray for this campaign to fund our future, that you will remember your baptism and be grateful to God for God has claimed you and loves you.

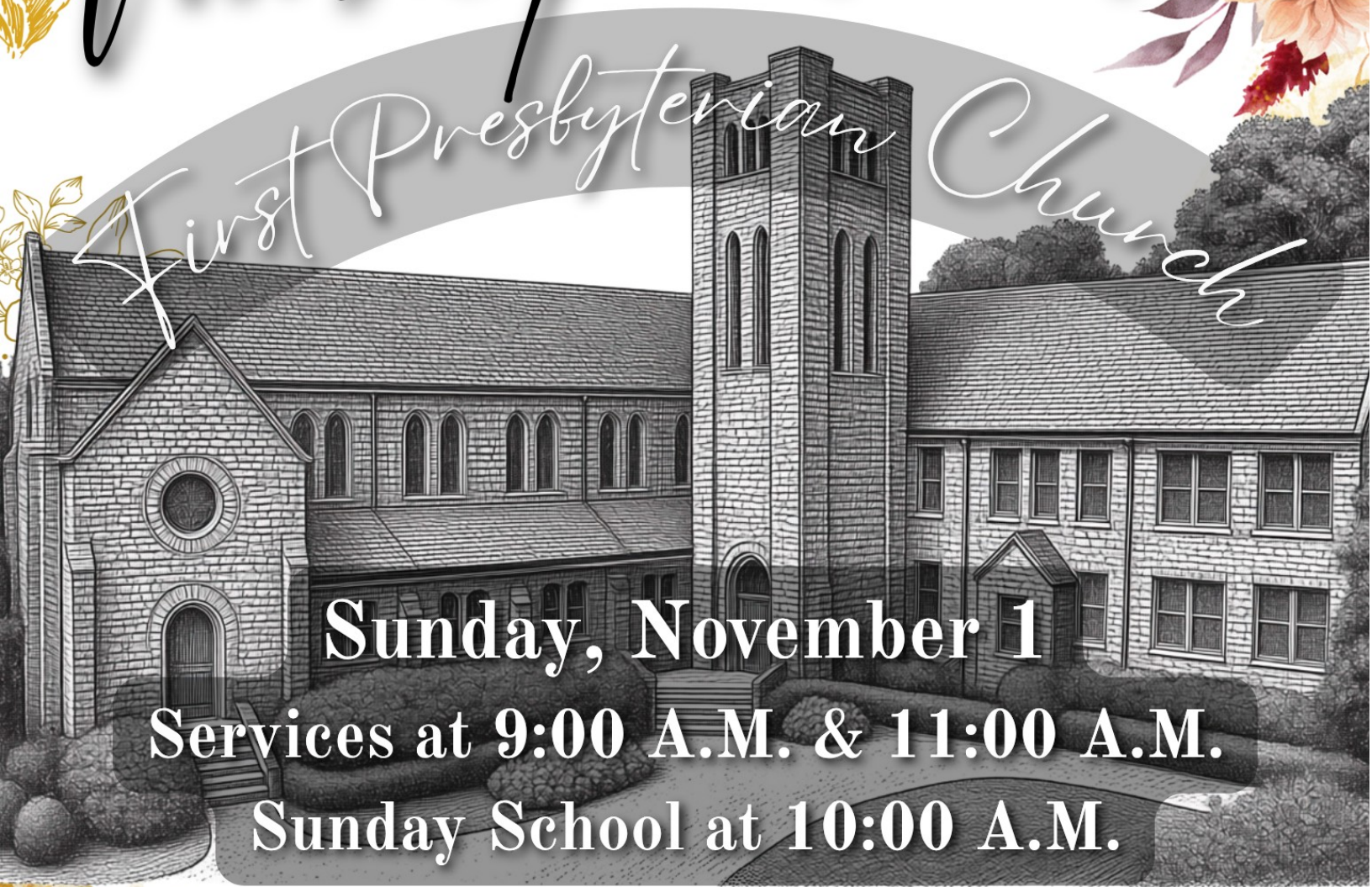
Grace and Peace to you all,

John



Worship with Us

First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, November 1

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

Sunday School at 10:00 A.M.

Our YouTube Channel

Children's Bulletins
Ages 7 & Up

**Sunday's
Bulletin**

Scripture Lesson

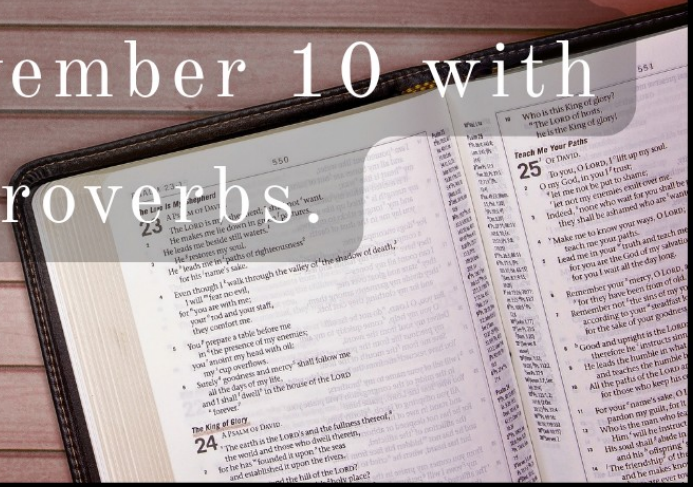
Children's Bulletins
Ages 7 & Up

CHECK OUT OUR GOOGLE CALENDAR!
Click the calendar to see everything happening at FPC!



Bible Study Update

Bible study will resume on
Tuesday, November 10 with
the book of Proverbs.



Weekly Prayer List.

Cancer Treatment

Emily Barber, Margaret Murphey

Homebound

John Gaston, Joy Hyatt, Betty Nash

College Students

Lewis Herman, Magalie Martin,

Joey McDuffie

Service Members

Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray



The Session

Administrative Committee | Debra Robison

- Admin did not meet this month

Christian Education Committee | Heather Crotwell

- Christian Ed did not meet this month
- Committee and session approved following curriculum via email for the Sistahood – *God's Surprises for the Christmas Season* by Susan Robb

Congregational Care | Amanda Davis

- Plans are underway for a pictorial directory for our church. Tentative targeted date of distribution is Easter 2027. Kathy Wallace and Sandy Grimm will be heading up this project.
- Upcoming wedding shower planned for Walker Gibens and his fiancé in February.
- Fall sachets were delivered to homebound members for October happies.
- The Marthas fed about 60 people for the Presbytery meeting. Thank you to all who served.
- Begin announcing and recognizing new members from the pulpit during 9:00 and 11:00 services on the day they join. New members will be given the option of standing with the pastor at the end of service at the back of the church to meet the congregation.

Fellowship Committee | Elizabeth Rose

- Fall Festival - October 28
- Thanksgiving Luncheon - November 22
- Melissa McDuffie's Brunch - December 20

Outreach/Mission Committee | Mary Margaret Gratz

- Guatemala Mission Group has scheduled its next mission trip for March 8, 2027. This is spring break, so it will allow several folks to go who may have not otherwise been able to go.
- Two members of the Cuba Mission Group, Robin Faucett and Mike Windham, are making a trip to Cuba December 26, 2026 to take money and medications. They have also sent \$4,000.00 to assist with the purchase of solar panels.
- Wine to Water fundraiser is working towards April 2027, for its inaugural event. It will host 150 people at this event. The subcommittee is working on locating a venue.

Property & Grounds Committee | Mac Godwin

- Facility Use for Lake Comorant High School Football Team by Cindy Faucette, October 23, 2026.
- Facility Use for Mutual Culture Club & Forthian Club by Alice Rogers, December 1, 2026.
- Facility Use for Wedding Shower for Walter Gibens by Aubre Wells, February 28, 2027.

Safety & Security Committee | David Carlisle

- No information

Worship Committee | David Carlisle

- Outdoor Worship Service in October 18 at 9:00 and 11:00
- Hanging of the Green – November 22, after the Thanksgiving luncheon.
- Lee Reeder is coordinating the Chrismon tree decorating.
- Carols of Christmas – Chancel Choir's "Carols of Christmas" on Sunday, December 20 at 10:30 a.m. (one service)
- Looking for Chancel Guild members

Meet Ann Kelly

A native Mississippian, Ann was born in Aberdeen, Mississippi and has served churches throughout Mississippi during her ministry. Since her pre-teen years Ann felt the pull to work in the church, though in those early years she thought that meant being the church secretary, and having a real typewriter was part of the attraction. Ann attended Mississippi State as a freshman but spent the rest of her college years at Ole Miss. The extended college plan allowed Ann to work for St. Andrew Presbytery and at Camp Hopewell for a few extra years while going to school part time until she finally ran out of classes to take. Ann graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary in 1992 and accepted a call as Associate Pastor in the Rogers Presbyterian Church in Rogers, Arkansas. Ann, her husband Danny, and their almost two year old Joseph, left Arkansas and landed in Tupelo where she would serve as Associate Pastor for the next ten years.

Since leaving Tupelo in 2005, Ann has served as Associate Executive Presbyter for Camps and Conferences for St. Andrew Presbytery (2005-2012); Interim Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Oxford, MS (2012-2020), and solo pastor at Leland Presbyterian Church, Leland, MS. It's been a great joy to serve in her home state and home presbytery all these years and has allowed Ann to be close to long time friends and family which has meant a lot to her. Ann enjoys all kinds of ministry, particularly mission and worship leadership.

When not at the church, Ann loves to garden, read fiction, dabble with watercolor and pottery and other creative outlets. She is a member of the Leland-Deer Creek Garden Club, the Leland Optimist Club and the Leland Clergy Group. Involvement in the local community is an important part of her life and ministry and one of the things she has always loved about First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo.

Ann has always said she wanted to retire to Tupelo among the people who helped raise her children. She looks forward to getting reacquainted with long time members of the church and getting to know those who have joined in the last twenty years. This move also puts her in closer proximity to her children - Joseph and Sarah (Southaven), Lizzie (Tupelo - a fourth grade teacher at Rankin Elementary). Her youngest child, DK, will be living with Ann for the foreseeable future. Most of all, she's looking forward to being home!



LET'S SERVE TOGETHER *November*

November 5
ST. LUKE'S
@ 7:45AM

November 17
COOK FOR THE
SALVATION ARMY
@ 2:30PM

November 21
HELPING HANDS
@ 9:00AM



*From Your
Financial
Secretary.*

To receive contribution credit for this year, we need all contributions in by December 31. Honorariums and Memorials for this year need to be in by the 6th of December to be counted.

Circle Meetings

Circle 3: November 2 @ 6:45 pm
Member's Home

Circle 24: November 10 @ Noon
Frances Sheffield Classroom

Circle 5: November 10 @ 6 pm
Busylad

Wednesday Night Supper

NOVEMBER 4, 2026

5:30 PM - FELLOWSHIP HALL

Adults: \$10

Kids: \$5

Family: \$40/max



*Kids' menu is available to
ages 13+ at adult pricing.*

MENU

Beef Stroganoff

Sauteed Mixed

Vegetables

Fried Okra

Salad Bar

Rolls

Dessert

Kids: Chicken Tenders & Tots

Program:

Tom
Bryson

*Reservations due
by Noon Tuesday*

11/3



JOIN US FOR
A

POUNDING

TO WELCOME

ANN KELLY

15

NOV

During a pounding party, guests stock the newcomer's pantry by bringing household staples that are traditionally sold by the pound or other non perishables, such as flour, sugar, coffee, cornmeal, canned goods, oatmeal, etc.

5 PM - 7 PM DROP IN
AT THE HOME OF
RUD & DEBRA ROBISON

OCTOBER ADVENTURES



Memorials, Gifts & Honoraria

In memory of **Sudie Crockett**
from **Jimmy Crockett, Becky
Easley, & Janice Reynolds.**

In honor of **Maddin Hutto and
Judge Glen Davidson, Sr.** from
Joey & Michelle Hutto.
(Capital Campaign)

In memory of **Mr. Bobby
Kenny** from **Dan & Frances
Brasfield.** (Capital Campaign)

In memory of **Lauren
Patterson.**
(Flower Guild Fund)

In memory of **Diane Binford
Callender** from **Dan &
Frances Brasfield.**
(Capital Campaign)

In memory of **Annette Thornton, Jack Price, Lanta Craig, Loren
Zimmerman, Larry Hancock, Lauren Hancock Patterson, Scarlett Reeder,
Tom McDonald, Billy Hunter, & Mollie Gratz** from **Chauncey & Ann
Godwin.** (Music Fund)

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Sunday, November 22 @
12:00 P.M.



Martha's Kitchen

Tuesday,
November 10
10:00 A.M.



WELCOME



Guy, Martha, & Robert Jenkins



Ford Abney

Advent Fair

Sunday, Nov. 29



VETERANS DAY



11.11.26

Program in the Stuart Garden at 11:11 A.M.

The Church Office

Will Be

CLOSED

Nov. 25-26

Happy
Thanksgiving

Wednesday Night Menu

- Nov. 4: Beef Stroganoff, Sauteed Mixed Vegetables, & Fried Okra
- Nov. 11: Pork Tenderloin, Mac & Cheese, & English Peas
- Nov. 18: Chicken & Dressing, Sweet Potato Casserole, Ham & Turkey, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, & Cranberry Sauce
- Nov. 25: No Wednesday Night



This Week at FPC

Sunday, November 1

*Communion, Two Cents a Meal Offering, All Saints Day,
Daylight Savings Time Ends*

9:00a: Worship
10:00a: Sunday School
11:00a: Worship
4:30p: Boy Scouts
Youth to Camp Hopewell

Monday, November 2

2:30p: CASA, Gym
6:45p: Circle 3, Member's House

Tuesday, November 3

Election Day

9:00a: T'ai Chi, Garden
2:30p: CASA, Gym
7:00p: AA, Session Room

Wednesday, November 4

10:00a: Staff Meeting
2:30p: CASA, Gym
3:00p: Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom
5:05p: Tower Ringers
5:30p Wednesday Night Program
7:00p Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 5

7:45a: St. Luke's Food Pantry
8:00a: Men's Breakfast, Talbot House
2:30p: CASA, Gym

Friday, November 6

12:00p: AA, Session Room
2:30p: CASA, Gym



November 2026

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <i>Birthday</i> Pam Wilcox Armour Mitzi Moore Virginia Toliver <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Grayson Robbins</p>	<p>2 <i>Birthday</i> Jean Magee <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Claude Clayton III</p>	<p>3 <i>Birthday</i> Ansley Caldwell Bill Hilbun</p>	<p>4 <i>Birthday</i> Sarah Helen Beckham Chauncey Godwin Jr. Jenkins Wells</p>	<p>5 <i>Birthday</i> Isabella Posey <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Tatum Collins</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 <i>Birthday</i> Ana Morgan Beckham Bob Taylor Abby Ingram Mark Reynolds</p>
<p>8 <i>Birthday</i> Sally Kate Collins Kathryn Martin Charlie Gratz <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Travis Abney</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 <i>Birthday</i> Kristyn Martz Janice Reynolds <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Jim Bruce Mr. & Mrs. Jay Mason</p>	<p>13 <i>Birthday</i> Diana Schmoeller <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Ben Hunter</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 <i>Birthday</i> Sallie Kate Ray</p>	<p>16 <i>Birthday</i> Beth Anne Ellzey</p>	<p>17 <i>Birthday</i> Joe Chappell John Fleming</p>	<p>18 <i>Birthday</i> John Rasberry Jr.</p>	<p>19 <i>Birthday</i> Lori McDaniel Virginia Ellis</p>	<p>20 <i>Birthday</i> Glen Davidson Sr. Louise Gable Ray Harris Jay Mason</p>	<p>21 <i>Birthday</i> Harris Faucette Elizabeth Stokes Chandler</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 <i>Birthday</i> Clarence Shepherd</p>	<p>25 <i>Birthday</i> Sarah Jenkins Pete McMurry Bob Kelly</p>	<p>26 <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. John Parker</p>	<p>27 <i>Birthday</i> Owen Leeke John Michael Ray</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 <i>Birthday</i> Bob Black Neil White Jr. <i>Anniversary</i> Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gratz Jr.</p>	<p>30 <i>Birthday</i> Leslie Geoghegan Joy Hyatt</p>					

November 2026

Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communion • Two Cents a Meal Offering • Daylight Savings Time Ends 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 4:30p Boy Scouts Youth to Camp Hopewell	2 2:30p CASA, Gym 6:45p Circle 3, Member's Home	3 Election Day 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 2:30p CASA, Gym 7:00p AA, Session Room	4 10:00a Staff Meeting 2:30p CASA, Gym 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 5:30p Wednesday Night Program 7:00p Chancel Choir	5 7:45a St. Luke's Food Pantry 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House 2:30p CASA, Gym	6 12:00p AA, Session Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	7
8 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 4:30p Boy Scouts	9 2:30p CASA, Gym 5:30p Committee Meetings	10 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 10:00a Martha's, Kitchen 12:00p Circle 24, Sheffield Room 2:30p CASA, Gym 6:00p Circle 5, Busylad 7:00p AA, Session Room	11 Veterans Day 10:00a Staff Meeting 11:11a Veterans Day Program in the Garden 2:30p CASA, Gym 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 5:30p Wednesday Night Program 7:00p Chancel Choir	12 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House 2:30p CASA, Gym	13 12:00p AA, Session Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	14
15 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 4:30p Boy Scouts 6:00p Meet & Greet Pounding for Ann Kelly @ Rud & Debra Robison's House	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ann Kelly's First Day 2:30p CASA, Gym 5:00p Steering Committee Meeting 6:00p Session Meeting	17 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 2:30p CASA, Gym 2:30p Cook for the Salvation Army, Kitchen 7:00p AA, Session Room	18 10:00a Staff Meeting 2:30p CASA, Gym 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 5:30p Wednesday Night Program 7:00p Chancel Choir	19 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House 1:30p Shepherd's Center Meeting, Rec. Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	20 12:00p AA, Session Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	21 9:00a Helping Hands
22 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 12:00p Thanksgiving Lunch 1:00p Hanging of the Greens 4:30p Boy Scouts	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break • Redoing Gym Floors 	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break • Redoing Gym Floors 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 7:00p AA, Session Room	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office Closed • Thanksgiving Break • No Wednesday Night Program • Redoing Gym Floors 10:00a Staff Meeting 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 7:00p Chancel Choir	26 Thanksgiving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office Closed • Thanksgiving Break • Redoing Gym Floors 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Break • Redoing Gym Floors 12:00p AA, Session Room	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redoing Gym Floors
29 Advent Fair 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 4:30p Boy Scouts	30 2:30p CASA, Gym					

THE SESSION

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

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

Class of 2029

Richard Hastings
Jimmy Milam
Curtis Monts
Mary Ellis Pace
Margaret Parker
Daintry Thomas
Al 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
Jeff Nock, 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

Connect with Us



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Google calendar to see the latest FPC news!

First Presbyterian Church, PCUSA

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Visit us online: <https://www.firstprestupelo.org>

