

The TOWER

First Presbyterian Church • Tupelo, Mississippi

400 Jefferson Street • P.O. Box 1725 • Tupelo, Mississippi 38802 • (662) 842-5681 • www.firstprestupelo.org

December 2026

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

Dear Church Family,

Over the past several weeks, we have shared our hopes and plans for the future of our church through our Vision in Action Capital Campaign. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity, encouragement, and prayers you have already offered.

This campaign is about more than buildings and improvements. It's about investing in the place we call home, creating welcoming spaces for fellowship and ministry, and ensuring our church is ready to serve the needs of future generations.

As we bring Vision in Action to a close, we want to extend one final invitation to everyone who has not yet made a pledge. We hope you will take a moment to prayerfully consider how you can be part of this effort. Every commitment, regardless of size, makes a difference.

We also ask you to continue praying for our church as we consider how best to use the funds entrusted to us. May we be thoughtful and faithful stewards of this generosity and use these resources in ways that strengthen our church and its ministry for years to come.

There's still time to participate! Please turn in your completed pledge form to the church or fill out the online form here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSed2imtHQRx3tLml9tzt8zCPNNwGXtO8i7iiqsBibTWWkE9gg/viewform?usp=header

Thank you for being part of this important chapter in our church's story. Together, we are preserving what we love and preparing for what's next!

With gratitude,

Campaign Committee

Worship with Us

First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, November 29

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

Sunday School at 10:00 A.M.

Our YouTube Channel	Sunday's Bulletin	Scripture Lesson
Children's Bulletins Ages 3 & Up		Children's Bulletins Ages 7 & Up

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



Bible Study

PROVERBS 1:20-33

DECEMBER 1 @ 11:00 A.M.
BOLTON/SISTAHOOD ROOM

Weekly Prayer List

Cancer Treatment

Emily Barber

Homebound

David Price, Charlie Barber, Mary Ann Chiles

College Students

Daniel Crotwell, Anne Crotwell, Afton Gable

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

LET'S SERVE TOGETHER

December

December 3
St. Luke's Food Pantry
at 7:45 a.m.

December 15
Cook for the Salvation Army
at 2:30 p.m.

December 19
Helping Hands Volunteers
at 9:00 a.m.

Circle Meetings:

Circle 3: Monday, December 7 @ 6:45 pm
Member's Home

Circle 24: Tuesday, December 8 @ Noon
Frances Sheffield Classroom

Circle 5: Tuesday, December 8 @ 6 pm
Busylad



What a wonderful welcome! I already felt like I was coming home, but your hospitality confirmed it. We were sufficiently "pounded," so I have not had to go to the grocery store, and thanksgiving is taken care of. It's been fun getting to know the new members and reconnecting with old friends. Those of you who have joined in the last 20 years may want to get to know your new Parish Associate before you believe all the things you hear! I can't wait to see what God has in store for us.

Grace & Peace

Rev. Ann Kelly

Martha's Kitchen

Tuesday,
December 8
10:00 A.M.

Joy Gift Service

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 13
5:30 P.M.

One Service

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 27
10:30 A.M.
No Sunday School



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.

Wednesday Night Supper

DECEMBER 2, 2026

5:30 PM - FELLOWSHIP HALL

Adults: $10
Kids: $5
Family: $40/max

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

MENU

Chicken Alfredo
Steamed Broccoli
Glazed Carrots
Salad Bar
Rolls
Dessert
Kids: Pizza

Program:

TBA

Reservations due by Noon Tuesday 11/3

Advent Made With Love



REGISTER:

INFORMATION:

Sunday, November 29
4:30 - 6:00 P.M.
For Children of All Ages
Crafts, Dinner, & Hot Cocoa Bar!

Your children are welcome to join us for a night of crafts - making Advent wreaths for your home, crafts to share with our shut-ins, and more - reminding us that even th smallest hands can share the greatest love this season. Come be a part of a night filled with warmth, creativity, and the spirit of giving!

Memorials, Gifts, & Honoraria

In honor of John Brock, Ann Kelly, and Staff from Sarah Young. (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)

In honor of Fellowship Committee Members from Sarah Young. (Fellowship Committee)

In honor of Leslie Geoghegan, Beth Ann Ellzey, & Anna Brock from Sarah Young. (Cherub Choir Fund)

In honor of Ray Harris & Bob Taylor from Sarah Young. (Music Fund)

In honor of George & Wanda Dent from Sarah Young. (Guatemala Fund)

In honor of Cindy Faucette & Garra Owens from Sarah Young. (Sistahood Class)

In honor of Jean Magee from Sarah Young. (Cuba Fund)

In honor of Lee Reeder from Judy Bryan Mello. (Capital Fund)

In honor of Sarah Hardison, Tracy Kramer, and the Sistahood Class from Steve & Lucy Nash. (Capital Fund)

In honor of Lorena Phyfer from Steve & Lucy Nash. (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)

In honor of Vivian Fleming, Lisa Nichols, Ann Godwin, Anne Marie Littrell, Kathy Wallace, Judy Griffie, & Judy Billups from Steve & Lucy Nash. (Presbyterian Women Fund)

In honor of Janice Reynolds, Holly Rogers, Ann Godwin, Alice Rogers, Mitzi Moore, Toni Martin, Liz Rose, Lee Herman, Aubre Wells, Sarah Young, & Al Wallace from Steve & Lucy Nash. (Fellowship Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Lewis and Mel Whitfield. (Capital Campaign Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Mel & Lewis Whitfield. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Frank & Charlotte Wilburn. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Scarlett Reeder, Lanta Craig, and Penny Cochran from the FPC Presbyterian Women. (Memorial Garden Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from FPC Presbyterian Women. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Nellie Epps. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from David Williams. (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Wade Purcell. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Lynn Moody. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Best Foam, Inc. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Judy Bryan Mello. (Capital Fund)

In memory of Gladys Wilson from Steve & Lucy Nash. (Capital Fund)

The Longest Night

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

6:00 P.M.



Christmas Choral Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

10:30 A.M.


November Fun

RECEPTION FOR

Melissa

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:30 A.M.

Office Closed

DECEMBER 28 & 31

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Christmas Eve

SERVICES

4:00 P.M.

5:30 P.M.

11:00 P.M.

LET'S HELP OUT TODAY!

Showers of Love

Please Donate!



Coats

Gloves

Hats

Where to Place Donations?

place donations in the box located in the church breezeway

This Week at FPC

Sunday, November 29

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
4:30p: Advent Fair, Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 30

2:30p: CASA, Gym

Tuesday, December 1

Election Day

9:00a: T'ai Chi, Garden
11:00a: Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood
1:00p: Mutual Culture Club & Forthian Club Meeting, Fellowship Hall
2:30p: CASA, Gym
7:00p: AA, Session Room

Wednesday, December 2

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, December 3

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

Friday, December 4

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

DECEMBER 2026

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Birthday Taylor Neal	2 Birthday Jackson Caldwell	3 Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Joey Hutto	4 Birthday Elise Alexander Katherine Peters	5
6 Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Travis Abney	7 Birthday Tim Posey Cannon Rogers Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Monts III	8	9	10 Birthday Butch Cockrell Jr. Barbara McCullough	11 Birthday Briley Grey Montgomery Ruby Kathryn Patterson Olivia Reynolds	12 Birthday Glen Davidson Jr.
13 Birthday Doyce Deas Sarah Hardison Sheree Lence	14 Birthday Thomas Johnston Corey Littrell Holly Walker Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Rud Robison Jr.	15 Birthday Sam Agnew Carl Comer Richard Payne	16 Birthday Larry Crowell IV	17 Birthday Amanda Davis	18 Birthday Jane Black Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Barry Walker	19 Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Ray Grimm Mr. & Mrs. Corey Littrell
20	21 Birthday Carson Clark Jennifer Martin	22 Birthday Kirk Biddle	23 Birthday Garra Owens Barry Walker Kelsey Whitten	24 Birthday Amy Fagan Kirsten Mason	25	26 Birthday Mark Cobb Lacy Luckett Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. John Gaston Sr.
27 Birthday Payne Atkinson Bob Lence Margot Myers Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Moore	28 Birthday Emma Claire Wallace Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Dale Mr. & Mrs. Steve Depew	29 Birthday Nora Camp Mary Shea Rogers Anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Andy Luckett	30 Birthday Maggie Gibens	31 Birthday Helen Monts Liz Rose		



December 2026 Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 11:00a Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood **1:00p Forthian Club Meeting, Fellowship Hall** 2:30p CASA, Gym 7:00p AA, Session Room	2 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	3 **7:45a St. Luke's Food Pantry** 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House 2:30p CASA, Gym	4 12:00p AA, Session Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	5
6 • Communion • Two Cents a Meal Offering 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 4:30p Boy Scouts	7 2:30p CASA, Gym **6:45p Circle 3, Member's Home**	8 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden **10:00a Martha's, Kitchen** 11:00a Bible Study **12:00p Circle 24, Sheffield Room** 2:30p CASA, Gym **6:00p Circle 5, Busylad** 7:00p AA, Session Room	9 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	10 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House 2:30p CASA, Gym	11 12:00p AA, Session Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	12
13 9:00a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship **12:30p Brooke Burleson Piano Recital** 4:30p Boy Scouts **5:30p Joy Gift Service**	14 2:30p CASA, Gym **5:30p Committee Meetings**	15 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 11:00a Bible Study 2:30p CASA, Gym **2:30p Cook for the Salvation Army, Kitchen** 7:00p AA, Session Room	16 10:00a Staff Meeting 2:30p CASA, Gym 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 7:00p Chancel Choir	17 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House **1:30p Shepherd's Center Meeting, Rec. Room** 2:30p CASA, Gym	18 12:00p AA, Session Room 2:30p CASA, Gym	19 **9:00a Helping Hands**
20 **9:30a Reception for Melissa** **10:30a Christmas Choral Concert** 4:30p Boy Scouts **6:00p Longest Night Service**	21 2:30p CASA, Gym **5:30p Session Meeting, John Brock's House**	22 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 11:00a Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood 2:30p CASA, Gym 7:00p AA, Session Room	23 10:00a Staff Meeting 2:30p CASA, Gym 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 7:00p Chancel Choir	24 Christmas Eve **4:00p Christmas Eve Service** **5:30p Christmas Eve Service** **11:00p Christmas Eve Service**	25 Christmas 12:00p AA, Session Room	26
27 10:30a Worship 4:30p Boy Scouts	28 • **Office Closed** 2:30p CASA, Gym	29 9:00a T'ai Chi, Garden 11:00a Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood 2:30p CASA, Gym 7:00p AA, Session Room	30 10:00a Staff Meeting 2:30p CASA, Gym 3:00p Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Classroom 5:05p Tower Ringers 7:00p Chancel Choir	31 New Years Eve • **Office Closed** 8:00a Men's Breakfast, Talbot House 2:30p CASA, Gym		

THE SESSION

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

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Heather Crotwell	Jim Bruce	Richard Hastings
Amanda Davis	Tatum Collins	Jimmy Milam
Beth Anne Ellzey	Lee Herman	Curtis Monts
Mac Godwin	Trey Phyfer	Mary Ellis Pace
Mary Margaret Gratz	Buddy Stubbs	Margaret Parker
Debra Robison	Virginia Toliver	Daintry Thomas
Liz Rose	Kathy Wallace	Al Wallace

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John Brock, Pastor
Rev. Ann Kelly, Parish Associate
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

Visit our website, join us on Facebook, or visit our Google calendar to see the latest FPC news!

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