

Prayer List

Paula Ivey
 Kathy Wright
 Frances Graham
 Keith Hodge
 Patsy Randle
 Mary Yeates (mother of mission partner Edward Yeates)
 Libby Stephan & Jayna McQuade (daughters of Sara Wilson)
 Joe Carpenter (Myles Carpenter's brother)
 Churches, communities and EPC mission partners in Syria and Turkey
 Margaret Collins
 Jake & Dennis Meilstrup (Madeleine Roberson's brother and grandfather)
 Peggy Johnson
 Lesa Rhodes & Hugh Shurden (Sandy Jackson's cousin and father)
 Ken Franklin (Dean Franklin's father)
 Richard & Bettye Forbes
 Cynthia Ware, Donna and Herman Ware (Cynthia's parents)
 Janet, Gary & Jay Bardwell, Linda Necaie (Janet's sister) and Will Taggart & family (Jay's friends)
 Maxie Bruce (Brittney McAfee's father)
 Ressie Carpenter
 Andy Lawrence
 Jean Alice McDavid
 Mary Caroline Morris (Carpenters' granddaughter)
 Lee Fleming (nephew of Gloria & Wallace Cade)
 Harold Clark
 Bob Forbus (Jack Forbus's brother); Staci Moak (Jack's daughter)
 Lydia Abraham (Esther Abraham's sister)
 Rae Nell Crumpton
 Gerlene Lifer; and Keitha Scott (Gerlene's friend)
 John Clark Packer
 Dr. Joe Brown
 Roy D. Dreher, Jr. (Jennie Beth Chance's father)
 Bill & Ann Greene
 Delores Irvin (Diane Daniel's sister), Sarah Helen McCloskey & Craig D. Campbell (Daniels' friends)
 Aspen Reynolds (Anita Reynolds' granddaughter)
 John Gassaway and Michael Tubb (Anna Ray Gassaway's brother-in-law and nephew)

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
 Bessie Montgomery – Garden Hills, Columbus, MS
 Marjorie Malone
 Anna Ray Gassaway - SummerHouse Beau Ridge, Ridgeland, MS
 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 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 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Debbie Cooper	Bob Boyd	Haley Graves
Johnny Folsom	Boston Hampton	Wayne Huberty
Mike Jackson	Robbie Holditch	Dalton Miller
Alex Massingill	Jackie Mullen	Caitlin Rackley

Dinner Menu for Wednesday, March 1

Adult Plate: Beef tips, yams, salad, biscuit

Children's Plate: Pizza, corn, brownies

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Adult Plates _____ # Child Plates _____

To sign up, drop this tear-off form in the offering plate, or scan the code for the online form by **Monday, February 27th.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FirstConnect Lunch & Learn TODAY

FEBRUARY 26 | 11:45 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Visiting our church? Interested in learning more about becoming a member at FPC?

Pastor and Nancy Lifer with other staff invite you to FirstConnect Lunch!



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN MARCH

MARCH 1

Liz Garrett

Connecting with your Kids

MARCH 8

Dr. Tony McGee

Superintendent of Starkville Schools

How to partner with local schools

MARCH 15

Spring Break
No Activities

MARCH 22

Sandy Willson

The importance of fathers leading in the home

MARCH 29

Patrick Caver

Social Media & The Law



Nursery & TLC

Childcare is available for infants - 4 year olds from 10:10 to 11:40 on the main floor of the Christian Ed. building. Children Kindergarten-3rd grade may participate in TLC after the Children's Messge

Volunteers needed for TLC & Nursery

Contact Dylan at dylan@fpcstarkville.org to get involved!!

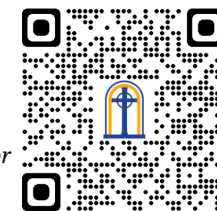


Today's Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Hayes Ferguson's birthday by his family. *If you are interested in giving flowers for worship, please contact Olivia in the church office.*

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.

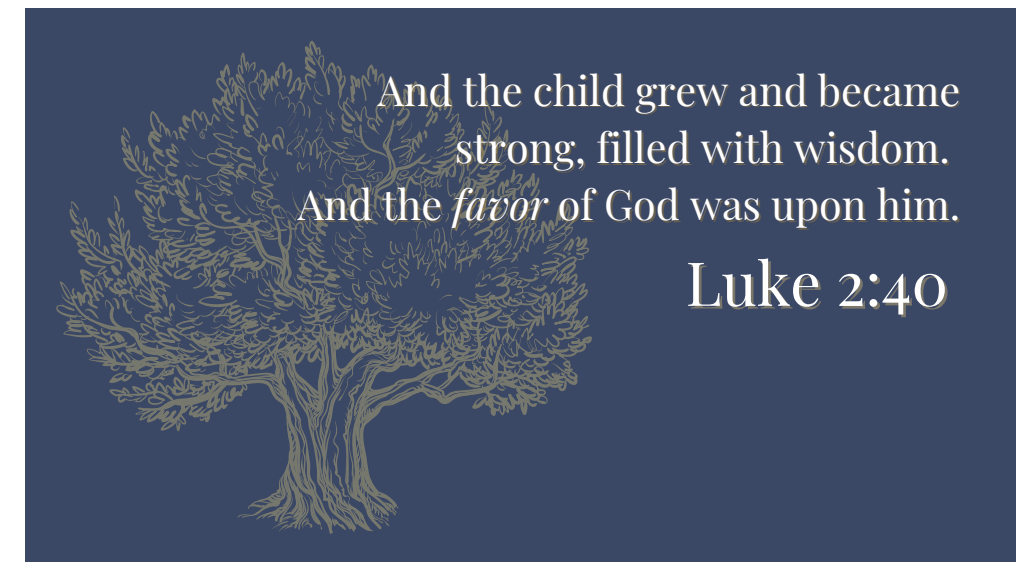
Want to find out more about faith in Christ, church membership, or ways to serve at FPC? Speak to Dean Franklin or Reid Roberson, or send an email to Pastor Martin at mwlifer3@gmail.com



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STARKVILLE

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

February 26, 2023
 First Lord's Day in Lent



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

February 26, 2023
 Lord's Day Service

Welcome & Missions Update
 Reid Roberson & Boy Scout Troop 14

Prelude
Pastorale (Wagner)
 Jennifer Blackburn

***Call to Worship**
Psalms 5:3, 11-12
 Dean Franklin

O LORD, in the morning You hear my voice;

in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.

Let all who take refuge in You rejoice;

Let them ever sing for joy, and spread Your protection over them, that those who

love Your name may exult in You.

For You bless the righteous, O LORD;

You cover him with favor as with a shield.

***Invocation**
 Dean Franklin

***Hymn #56 (vv. 1-3)**
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
 ST. DENIO

Confession of Sin
 Dean Franklin

Almighty and most merciful Father,

We have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed

too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against

Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is

no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their

faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared

to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for

His sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of

Your holy Name.

***Assurance of God's Grace**
Matthew 11:28

***Hymn #668**
Doxology
 OLD 100TH

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Call to Give God His Tithes & Our Offerings
 Reid Roberson

Give Online: fpcstarkville.org/give
Give by Mail: First Presbyterian Church, 307 University Drive, Starkville, MS 39759

Offertory
Jesus Paid It All (arr. McDonald)
 Jennifer Blackburn

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.

***Confession of Faith**
Larger Catechism Q. 38
 Reid Roberson

Why did the mediator have to be God?

The mediator had to be God so that he might sustain and keep his human nature

from sinking under the infinite wrath of God and the power of death; that he

might make his suffering, obedience, and intercession of real value and effect;

and that, in order to satisfy God's justice, he might gain God's favor, purchase

this very own people, give his Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring

them to everlasting salvation.

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

Good News for Children
 Reid Roberson

***Psalm 1**
How Blessed is the Man
 FOUNDATION

1. How blessed is the man who walks not on ad - vice
 2. He is a strong tree plant - ed by flow - ing streams,
 3. The wick - ed may not join in judg - ing the right,

Of sin - ners and wick - ed, nor stands in their way,
 yields fruit in his sea - son, his leaf - er green.

There - fore, they will not stand and judge be - fore God.
 Re - fus - ing to sit in the scot - ter's re - cline,
 In all things he pros - pers, stands strong in the wind

For God, he a - lone, knows of right - eous - ness way,
 He de - lights in God's law, med - i - tates day and night.
 that drives out all the wick - ed as chaff in the breeze.

and the way of the wick - ed shall per - ish that day.

Prayer for Illumination
 Martin Lifer

Scripture
Gal 6:1-3, 7-10; Lk 2:39-52
 pp. 975, 858

Sermon
Parent God's Child in Wisdom & Grace (Part 1)
 Martin Lifer

God Commissions Us

***Hymn #546 (vv. 1-2, 4)**
Dear Lord and Father of Mankind
 REST (ELTON)

***Benediction**
 Martin Lifer

***Hymn #56 (vv. 4)**
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
 ST. DENIO

Postlude
 Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Parent God's Child in Wisdom & Grace – Introduction:

On a night a youth is choosing ruin or redemption, will he/she seek *your* shepherding? **You can**

only shepherd out of what is *already* in you. Jesus fills Christians with

neither legalism (Pharisaic hypocrisy) nor licentiousness (Pagan progressivism) but His Spirit

of wisdom & grace.

They'll share their hunting but what about *hurting*? ... sports; but sex concerns, spiritual concerns?

God's Harvest Law - Judgment: (1) _____ you sow, that's _____ you'll also reap.
 Don't be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that will he also reap. Gal. 6:7b

(2) _____ you sow, there you will also reap. **(3)** _____ you sow, thus you will also

reap.

Heart Harvest: what goes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart & this defiles a man. Mt. 15:18

Harvest Warning for Parents: (a) Folly is bound up a youth's heart. Prov. 22:15; cf. Jer. 17:9

(b) "Let a youth do what he wants, and he'll grow up to be a self-willed adult

incapable of change." Prov. 22:6; paraphrase by R. Clifford, *Proverbs* (Westminster John Knox, 1999)

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. Prov. 4:23

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore

him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Gal. 6:1

Grow, Share and Guard in Wisdom & Grace:

The Way of Wisdom & Grace: Jesus was *at Home* with Himself, Earthly Parents and God His Father

Jesus continued to advance in wisdom & stature and in favor [grace] with God & men. 2:52; cf. 1:80b

Then He went down with them & came to Nazareth and was subject to them. 2:51

"After three days, they found him" The whole gospel → Resurrection Wisdom & Grace.

Why were you searching for Me? Did you not know that it is necessary for Me to be

in the [House] of MY Father?" Lk. 2:48-49

Child! Why have you done so to us? See, *your* _____ & I distressed were seeking you!" 2:48

Jesus' 1st-Recorded Words: His Own Pronouncement of Sonship relation to _____

All were astounded *by his understanding.* Lk. 2:47 Spirit of wisdom & *understanding* is 11:2

Where's Jesus? Food? Music? Friends? Girls? Sporting? God's House, discussing Word w/ sages

Very human family! The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But his parents were unaware. 2:43

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was 12

years old, they went up according to the custom. Lk. 2:40; Dt. 16:16-17 *Wisdom & Grace*

...*shall not appear before the LORD* empty-handed. *Each shall give as he's able, per God's blessing.*

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart... soul ... might. And these words I command

you ... shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children [a-m-p-m]... Dt. 6:5-7a

The child grew & became strong, filled with wisdom, and God's grace was on Him. Lk. 2:40; cf. 1:80a

Doctrine of Incarnation: Fully human, Christ needed to grow up in body, heart & mind, soul & will

Jesus at Home with Himself, His Earthly Parents and God His Father

Parent God's Child in Wisdom & Grace (Part 1):