



FPC Chronicle

First Presbyterian Church
Crystal Springs, MS



March 2018

WIC NEWS

“Prayer is offering our desires to God in the name of Christ for things that agree with His will, confessing our sins, and thankfully recognizing His mercies.”
Westminster Shorter Catechism Question 98

On April 14 at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall there will be a CPR/First Aid certification course taught to the first 20 people who have signed up on the bulletin board. The course will start at 9:00 and end at 2:00, with a break around noon. The cost is \$35.00, payable the day of the course. If you have any questions concerning this class, please contact Sue Lee or Beth Dickson. Be sure to sign up soon!
The next meeting of the Women's Ministry will be March 25, 2018 at 5:00 pm.

Activities for the month of March include:

Covered Dish Supper: March 7, Sue Lee/Susan Lee

Sanctuary Flowers: 4 Beth Stevens, 11 Hilda McGuire, 18 Mary Posey, 25 Shirley Purvis

Nursery Schedule: 4 Beth Dickson/Stacey Lee, 11 Dianne Ham/Sue Lee, 18 Todd & JoAnne Davis, 25 Nancy Belknap/Mary Posey

Happy Birthday to Brittney Batton, Jimmy Dickson, Grant Gilliam, Chris Lee, Jim Trunzler

Happy Anniversary to Lewis & Mary Posey, and Kenny & Robbie Bowman

Youth News

From the looks of it, it seems that spring has arrived early for us. That means the Youth will be planning to go to one of my personal favorite places: Twin Lakes Camp for the Against the Flow retreat. It will be on the weekend of March 23-25th and will be \$120 per person, but please do not hesitate to let me know if money is an issue. Our goal is to get Youth to the Retreat. Let me know if I can help in any way and please be in prayer for us.

In Christ,
Grant Gilliam

Missions Minute

In February, our regular \$1,250.00 giving went to Mission to the World for support of Linda Wixon. She returned to Nagoya, Japan on February 11 to work for two years. This will be her last trip for MTW. We also gave \$200.00 to MNA for Anthony Gorsuch.

Mr. Trey Adams and a friend from Thailand will be visiting our church on March 21 to give a report on their ministry. Food will be served. More information for this event will be announced at a later date.

Church Work Day

We will have a work day at the church on Saturday, March 10th. Everyone is invited to join us!

Easter Schedule

This year Easter Sunday is on April 1st. On Saturday morning, March 31st, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Bill and Sharon Lee's property off Mathis Road. Information and sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Feel free to invite other children to attend.

Easter morning will begin with our annual Sunrise Service at 7:00 A.M. at Lake Chautauqua, followed by a continental breakfast, also at the park. This service is for everyone in our community, so invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. There will be no offering and the breakfast is free!

The rest of the day will proceed with our regular schedule: Sunday School at 9:45, then worship at 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

Top 10 Symptoms of Emotionally Unhealthy Spirituality

1. Using God to run from God.
2. Ignoring anger, sadness, and fear.
3. Dying to the wrong things.
4. Denying the impact of the past on the present
5. Dividing life into "secular" and "sacred" compartments.
6. Doing for God instead of being with God.
7. Spiritualizing away conflict.
8. Covering over brokenness, weakness, and failure.
9. Living without limits.
10. Judging other people's spiritual journey.

- *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*, Peter Scazzero

Jim's Gems

When Christians think of security they often consider the security of their relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. And our eternal security in Christ is indeed a glorious truth. To be confident that nothing shall separate us from the love of God (Rom. 8:39); that the God who has begun a good work in us will complete it in the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6); and that God will never allow anyone to take His sheep out of His hand (John 10) are some of the highest joys we can have in this life.

However, there is another type of security – our physical protection from dangers in this life. And while this kind of security is not as vital as our eternal security, it is certainly important. And the Bible makes it clear that protection of human life and property is no trivial matter. After all, 2 of the 10 Commandments deal with this matter (murder and stealing).

These days everyone is thinking about security because of the increase in crime in our society. Those of us who have been around for a while (that sounds better than saying we are older) can remember when it was generally safe to walk the streets, have our kids play outside, and use only minimal safety precautions (locks on doors). Now public gathering places such as schools and churches are having to ramp up their security plans and procedures. The officers of our church have been working hard to study, seek advice from professionals and design the best combination of adequate, realistic and cost-effective measures they can. A security committee is doing most of the legwork for this. Soon you will see results that will enhance our ability to respond to a number of emergency scenarios. I've been using the term "security" but our officers prefer "safety" because this plan will include such things as fires and storms, not just personal threats to our safety.

One other thing: When Nehemiah began leading the reconstruction of the temple after the exile in Babylon, he did two things: he got the people to work on the rebuilding project, using their hands and tools, and he provided weapons to protect everyone from enemy forces (which were very real and present). "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes...half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows and coats of mail...each labored on the work with one hand and held his weapon with the other. And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built" (Nehemiah 4:14-18).

The reason I quote from this passage is not because I believe every church attendee should have a weapon in their possession. Nehemiah's situation is not the same kind of situation we are in today. But I do believe there is a principle here that it is not wrong to use good and realistic judgment to protect ourselves from dangers that might arise. Our officers are seeking to do just that. If you have a question or suggestion about the safety plans being developed, please feel free to speak with any of our elders or deacons.