



FPC Chronicle

First Presbyterian Church
Crystal Springs, MS



August 2018

WIC NEWS

“Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth! That your beloved ones may be delivered; give salvation by your right hand and answer me! With God we shall do valiantly; it is HE who treads down our foes.”

Psalm 108:5-6, 13

The Women's Ministry yearbook for 2018-2019 is being started now. The information forms can be picked up in the foyers on the tables as you enter or depart the church. Please take one and fill it out. The information is vital to the success of many of the responsibilities we have to serve in the life of the church. Please return them to the office before August 26. The next meeting of the Women's Ministry will be August 26, 2018 at 5:00pm.

Sanctuary Flowers: 5 Julie Kent, 12 Ruth McGuire, 19 Laura Westmoreland, 26 Sharon Lee

Nursery Schedule: 5 Richard/Betsy Batton, 12 Tim/Amy Blair, 19 Julie Kent/Jessica Davis, 26 Todd/JoAnne Davis

Happy Birthday to Danielle Fielder, Jada Gilliam, Dianne Ham, Bo Lohman, Jo Reed, Beth Dickson, Becky Smith, Jean Eady, Ginger Bass, Hayden Kent, Ken Newsome, John Batton

Happy Anniversary to Daniel & Shelly Curtis

Youth News

Greetings Church Family!

First I want to give thanks for the pastor appreciation lunch. Jada and I are deeply thankful for that expression of love for us. Secondly, ready or not, school starts back soon. Please be in prayer for our youth starting in new grades and previous youth who will be starting college. Lastly, Jada and I are considering a young adults bible study at our house this year. If you would be interested, let me know!

In Christ, Grant Gilliam

Missions Minute

In July, our regular \$1250 giving went to MTW for Clay Quarterman. Also \$200 to Anthony Gorsuch, which we have extended our monthly support for another year. We also gave \$500 to CSF (Bebo Elkin) and \$500 to Beginning Again in Christ (Dr. Sal Pelicano).

Missions Conference

The Missions Conference will be September 22 & 23. Our speaker will be Rev. Larry Mills. Please make plans to attend!

Jim's Gems

Recently I read some disturbing statistics about human population growth trends (or the lack thereof). Fortunately for you, I can't find the article that contained those statistics, so you won't have to wade through those. But here is what struck me about those statistics: In North America we are moving towards zero net population growth, and then to negative growth as a population. To put it another way, not enough babies are being born to keep up with the current population. There are a number of reasons for this, but I will mention just two. One reason is that fewer people of child-bearing age want to have children. Typical explanations are that having children interfere with professional goals, and/or that having children is too expensive. One more reason is abortion. Talk about population reduction! Since abortion was "legalized" in 1973 there are about 60 million fewer people in our country than there would have been.

For years there have been dark predictions that the world was becoming overpopulated, which would lead to disastrous results. Certainly some areas and cities have dense populations, and there are serious problems associated with that. But there is plenty of room in the world for everyone, and lots of room to spare!

The Christian take on this matter is simple: We are given the glorious calling to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" (Genesis 1:28). The best thing Christian husbands and wives can do for God's glory is to have children (unless, of course, the Lord does not enable them to have children). This assumes as well that such parents will do all they can to teach and train their children to know the Lord through faith in Jesus Christ.

The point in all of this is that we must not allow ourselves to buy into the secular mindset that discourages having children. For example, if a couple waits until they think they can afford to have a child, or until their job situation is acceptable, they will quite likely never have children. Christian couples should seek to have children, letting God determine if and when He will give them children. Let God handle the population issues!

In our church community we should rejoice in this glorious calling for our married couples to have children, and to assist them in the Christian education and nurture of these covenant children. Right now we rejoice in the fact that several young wives with connections with our church will be giving birth soon. Pray for them, and for Christians across the country to follow God's plan rather than the world's when it comes to having children! While it is not easy to be parents, the blessings are wonderful! "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward" (Psalm 128:3).

Finally, and on a separate note, Beth and I thank you very much for thinking of us at the Pastor Appreciation Luncheon recently. We are grateful for your love and support. And, guess what? We appreciate you!

Elders on Calendar

We have added the Elders assigned to each church member on our monthly calendars.

Security System

We will begin arming the church security system on August 1. Please see a Deacon if you have any questions.

Sound System

Our new audio system will be installed the beginning of August. One benefit of the new system is it will allow us to digitally record sermons and put them on the website.

Iron Men

The Iron Men Bible study is now meeting at the church every Friday at 10:00 A.M.