



FPC Chronicle

First Presbyterian Church
Crystal Springs, MS



October 2018

WIC NEWS

“O Come let us sing unto the Lord: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our Salvation!” Psalm 95:1
The new Women’s Ministry Officers will be installed October 3, 2018. The 2018-2020 Officers are:

President	Susan Lee	<u>Committee Chairmen:</u>	
Vice President	Beth Dickson	Prayer Chair	Tommie Barnhart
Secretary	Julie Kent	Flowers for the Church	Dianne Ham
Treasurer	Mary Posey	Nursery	Resie Taylor
Historian	JoAnne Davis	Christmas Decorations	Nancy Belknap,
Christian Growth	Jada Gilliam		Sharon Berch, Tommie Barnhart,
MNA/MTW	Martha Mathews, Beverly Hood		Sharon Lee, Waudine Jackson, Susan Lee

We still need more recipes for the cookbook. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE get your recipes to Susan Lee or JoAnne Davis. You can write them on any kind of paper or email them to us. Our email addresses are in the Yearbook. The new Yearbooks are ready and are in the Fellowship Hall. **The next Women’s Ministry Meeting will be October 21 at 5:00 P.M. since we didn’t meet in September.**

Sanctuary Flowers: 10/7 Betsy Batton, 10/14 JoAnne Davis, 10/21 Stacey Lee, 10/28 Mary Posey

Nursery Schedule: 10/7 Stacey and Sue Lee, 10/14 Dianne Ham and JoAnne Davis, 10/21 Resie and Allyn Taylor, 10/28 Nancy Belknap and Gwen Gallman

Happy Birthday to Charlotte Dickson, Nancy Belknap, Maria Hardy, Martha Mathews, Fred McEwen, Betsy Batton, Janie Taylor, Libby Matthews, Ruth McGuire, Winston Jackson

Happy Anniversary to Bob and Susan Lee

Youth News

First, I want to thank you all for your prayers for our youth who have left for college. Several that I have checked with are not only enjoying it, but have gone to RUF or are making plans to go! Secondly, our Young Adult Fellowship has kicked off and here are the October dates we will be meeting: October 8th, 22nd, and 29th. Please pray for our time together and feel free to donate a snack for our fellowship. We definitely appreciate what was donated last week!
In Christ, Grant Gilliam

Missions Minute

In September, our regular \$1250 giving went to Redeemer City to City. Also \$200 to Anthony Gorsuch, which we have extended our monthly support for another year. Our Missions Conference is over for another year. It went really well. Our speakers were very informative about their missions. Rev. Larry Mills did an excellent job, as always, preaching messages about how we are all called to advance the Kingdom of God.

Reformation Picnic

The Reformation Picnic will be October 27 at Bill Lee’s property. We will have dinner at 6:00 P.M. but you are welcome to come before for numerous activities. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall for how many people you will be bringing and what food items you can bring. The meat will be provided.

Jim's Gems

Why should people live by what the Bible says? For many who read this question the answer is so obvious that they may wonder why I'm even asking it. But let's consider those who would answer this question differently, those who do not live by what the Bible says (except where certain Bible teaching already fits into their personal lifestyles). We who do consider the Bible as our supreme authority for life need to give some reflection on those who don't live by the Bible. I say this because we need to get past just complaining about "those sinful people" and learn to understand why they live as they do, in hopes that we might be able to show them the better way of Christ and His wisdom.

I would suggest 2 reasons why people should live by what the Bible says. One is theological and the other is practical. The theological reason is that the Bible claims to be the revelation of truth that comes from God. We all know it is easy to claim something, but claims must be backed up by sound reasons. I could claim to have graduated from college with a 4.0 grade point average, along with being a Rhodes Scholar. But one look at my academic records would prove otherwise. If there is anything that is crystal clear about the Bible's claims, it is that God speaks through the Bible (II Peter 1:20-21, for example). Even if people do not accept this claim from the Bible, it cannot be denied that this is what we find there. Either we accept what the Bible says about itself or we reject it. For those who objectively examine the message of the Bible, there are ample reasons to believe it and live by it. It has the ring of authenticity and authority, and its words touch the mind and heart as no other book ever has.

The practical reason why people should live by what the Bible says is simple: those who live by the teachings of the Bible are blessed, while those who do not experience needless trouble and heartache, not to mention eternal loss. For example, studies reveal that couples who live together apart from God's order of marriage have a greater likelihood of not enjoying a lasting relationship, along with a greater likelihood of divorce if they eventually do marry. To put it another way, couples who think it is smarter to not marry are going to miss out on the longer and happier relationship that married couples have. Of course, just being married doesn't guarantee happiness. Husbands and wives must be committed to living by God's principles for marriage in order to enjoy true blessings. It should be obvious that this commitment must be between a man and a woman, not between two people of the same sex. God forbids this, and for good reasons. People weren't created for such a relationship, and the evidence is obvious: homosexuals are much more likely to contract serious diseases, and live much shorter lives.

One could think of any number of other examples from everyday life to support the wisdom of living by the Bible, and the contrasting foolishness of living by some other code or standard. We need to place our confidence in living by the truths and principles of Scripture, regardless of what others might choose to do. In His great love for undeserving sinners like us, God desires to bring good into our lives, including joy and peace in our relationships. Through faith in Christ and obedience to His precepts anyone can avoid the trouble and sadness of foolish living. I would encourage you to challenge people you talk to about why they have chosen the paths they have taken. Ask them: Where is this getting you? Point out that there is a better way. Honoring Christ in your life is not only the right thing to do; it also is the way of true and lasting blessing (Psalm 1).

Outreach Ministries

The Lord has led a number of our church members to become involved in ministries to people in much-needed ways. For several years a few of our men have gone to Mercy House in Georgetown to teach men who have troubled lives. God has richly blessed this ministry, as many men have eagerly received Bible teaching and grown in their walk with the Lord. You may have seen some of these men when they have worshiped with us occasionally.

Recently some of our women have begun to visit residents in our local nursing homes to encourage them and pray for them. This is a valuable service of mercy, especially to those who have few or no visitors at all.

Also recently another ministry began to male inmates at the Copiah County Jail. About 6 men are involved in leading Bible studies at the jail. And the Lord has already blessed with over a dozen initial professions of faith!

All of us need to include these ministries in our prayers, as well as individual members who witness to others each week. We must declare the good news of Christ, but only Christ can change hearts!