



# FPC Chronicle

First Presbyterian Church  
Crystal Springs, MS



## January 2020

### WIC NEWS

It's a new year and with the new year we can be thankful for all the opportunities we have to serve our Lord, our family, friends and others. There so many ways to serve each other inside and outside our church. Please pray for our men as they go to the Local Prison and to Georgetown to share the Gospel with the prisoners and the guys at Mercy House. We are so blessed to have men in our church who take the time to study and share the gospel. I also ask you to pray about ways we can show our dedication to our church besides attending our Sunday Morning Worship Service. 1. Sunday School: there are 2 adult classes along with the children's classes, 2. Wednesday night: Dr. Shull is teaching the Book of Proverbs, 3.Sunday Night: Dr. Shull is preaching the Beatitudes in Matthew.

We have much to be thankful for and for sure are thankful for our new babies and their families!

The next WIC meeting will be January 26, 2020.

Family Night Supper: Beth Shull & Mary Posey

Sanctuary Flowers: 5 WIC; 12 Martha Mathews; 19 Resie Taylor; 26 Sharon Berch

Nursery Schedule: 5 Sue Lee/Rita Jones; 12 Nancy Belknap/Sharon Berch; 19 Beth Shull/Mary Posey; 26 Beth Dickson/Gwen Gallman

Birthdays: 1 Shelley Curtis; 2 Rita Jones; 9 Stephanie Newsome; 11 Kelly Jones; 14 Fran Cockroft, Glenda Sullivan; 22 Beth Stevens

### Youth News

Happy New Year!

First, I would love to thank you all for the Christmas Gift. That was very generous and my family feels so loved by y'all. Second, I would request that you continue to pray for our youth this new year. Please pray that our time when we search the scriptures during Sunday school and youth fellowship throughout the months would be a blessing and used by the Lord.

In Christ,

Grant

### Missions Minute

This month we sent \$1500 to Trey & Kiki Adams and \$300 to Engaging Disability With The Gospel . Please continued to be in prayer for Philip Sealy.

## Jim's Gems

How long is a year? That's not as easy to answer as you might think. For example, there were 365 days in 2019, the year we have just finished. But in 2020 there are 366 days [because of leap year – don't ask me to explain how that works]. And then there are those of us that shake our heads at the end of the year, wondering how the previous 12 months blew by us so quickly. I'm sure there are also people who thought, for whatever reason, that 2019 would never end.

Whether this past year seemed short or long there is no stopping the fact that 2019 is over and 2020 has arrived. Sometimes when we come to this changeover we reflect on the way the past year has been for us. We should do that for our church also. What was 2019 like for FPC? As I see it, the year was a mix of experiences. There were many occasions when many of us enjoyed fellowship and encouragement as we came together every week for worship and other gatherings. We had one of our best missions conferences in recent memory, with preaching from Rev. Sam McDonald, and missionary visitors who provided helpful and challenging reports. The Easter Sunrise Service was well-attended, and gave us a great way to minister to the community. Vacation Bible School was a wonderful time of ministering to kids from our church and across the community. Regular ministries to men in the county jail and at Mercy House in Georgetown have been greatly blessed by the Lord, with many lives changed for Christ. Giving has been good, enabling us to meet our 2019 budget. And it's always good to remind you that our church has no indebtedness! One other blessing to mention is the addition of new faces into our church family [including 2 newborn covenant children – Eldridge Gray Gilliam and Emma Grace Davis], along with a beautiful wedding [Brittney Batton and Phil Davis].

Of course no church escapes going through a year without facing hardships and challenges. Many of our members have had to deal with sickness, family challenges and frustrations when things don't go the way we had hoped. There were periods of discouragement and sadness. We said goodbye to precious members who went to glory: Charlotte Dickson; Willie Cockcroft; Shirley Purvis; and Jo Reed.

Pray for our church for 2020. It will be a year of big changes and adjustments. If you haven't been actively involved in church activities I urge you to prayerfully consider the vows you made when you joined the church. The church needs you, and even more importantly you need the church!

Finally, Beth and I want to thank you for your thoughtful and generous gift to us for Christmas. We truly appreciate you and count it a joy to serve you [as we always have]. We pray God's blessings upon you all for 2020!

*Happy New Year!*