



FPC Chronicle

First Presbyterian Church
Crystal Springs, MS



February 2020

WIC NEWS

There will be a **Sunday Soup Luncheon** following the Sunday Morning Worship Service on **February 9th**. We have all the soups we need. Please bring dessert, crackers, or chips & dip or sandwiches. We will be honoring our new deacons and also providing lunch to David Thomae, missionary, who is preaching for Dr. Shull.

Several things are happening in the next few months: Feb. 9, Sunday Luncheon; March 14, Tiffany Taylor's Bridal Shower 1 -3 PM; and April 12, Easter. Also, Jim and Beth Shull, and Grant and Jada Gilliam will be preparing to leave for the next chapters in their lives. Please keep them in your prayers. Words can't express how much they have meant to all of us.

There are cookbooks still available for sale.

Family Night Supper: Beth Dickson & Betsy Batton

Sanctuary Flowers: 2-Beverly Hood, 9- Beth Dickson, 16- Renee Brister, 23- Amy Blair

Nursery Schedule: 2- Stacey Lee/Jada Gilliam; 9- Resie & Allyn Taylor; 16- Betsy & Richard Batton; 23- Susan & Chris Lee

Birthdays: 1- Stacey Lee; 4-Amanda Neely; 9- Sheila Fielder

Youth News

January has come and gone, believe it or not! We are on to February.

Youth Fellowship will meet on February 2nd and 23rd this month at 4:00 pm as we continue our study through Biblical Relationships. Also, please continue to pray for our Sunday School time. We just finished learning about the Trinity! Thank you for your prayers and support.

Grant--

Missions Minute

This month our regular \$1500 went to Dr. Jim Stewart with Evangelism Explosion and we gave \$300 to MNA for Engaging Disability With The Gospel.

Jim's Gems

Country crooner Willie Nelson used to sing, "You Always Hurt the One You Love," and it does often happen that way. Whether intentionally or not, we tend to take out our frustrations or anger on those closest to us. And the reverse can take place when those that we love [and believe who love us] will wound us deeply by their words or actions, or by their lack of words or actions. Many of us still bear the scars of emotional anguish from some unloving treatment that we received. Sometimes, as another old song was titled, "Love Hurts."

So what can we do, if anything, to avoid or at least reduce hurting or being hurt by those we love? Call me anti-sentimental if you want, but the answer is *not* going to be found in that annual chocolate and flower fest known as Valentine's Day. Don't get me wrong: I am not opposed to expressing love to the one you love any time, including Valentine's Day. But just like Easter and other holidays, people can spend a lot of money in the U.S. just because it is a certain day. So it is good for the economy I suppose. Even so, there are deeper lessons on practicing love both when we are hurt, and when we hurt others. Of course those deeper lessons are found in the Word of the God who is love.

If you hurt someone you really love, such as a relative or a fellow Christian, you are called upon to seek forgiveness from that person. That takes humility and grace. The one you hurt may or may not accept your attempt at reconciliation, but what you do is a start. Improvement might come later.

If someone hurts you, you should pray for healing, and if that person approaches you and asks for forgiveness, then you should immediately grant it. Again, the offender might never ask you to forgive them, but you can forgive them as a matter between you and the Lord. And you should keep on loving them. This also requires humility and grace.

The ultimate basis for these righteous actions is the love God has for us in Jesus Christ. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" [Ephesians 4:32]. "In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another" [I John 4:10-11].

So Happy Valentine's Day to you, and may the love of Christ rule in your hearts every day of the year!

Guest Speaker

Dr. David Thomae, missionary (MTW) will be our guest speaker in the morning service on February 9, 2020. Immediately after the service, we will have a Soup Luncheon.

Officers Retreat

The Officers Retreat will be February 22, 2020 at Camp Wesley Pines in Gallman. It will begin immediately after the Men's Breakfast Saturday morning.

TJ & Taylor Smith are the proud parents of Rylee Jean Smith, born January 17, 2020. Join us in giving thanks to our Father in heaven for this precious gift. Remember them in your prayers.