

*First Presbyterian Church*  
117 S. Pearl St., Natchez, MS 39120  
601-442-2581 fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net

## THE LINK ~ JULY, 2018

### *From the Pastor:*

The Apostle Paul tells the church at Ephesus: "But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love" (Ephesians 4:15-16).

Christians "growing up into Christ" speak the truth in love because that practice promotes continued growth of the community of faith.

Love is the glue of the faith community, holding the ligaments and the joints together as each part is working properly, promoting the body's growth in building itself up in love.

This is a provocative and profound message Paul sends the church today -- grow in unity, grow in love, grow in patience, grow in service, and grow in forbearance toward one another. This kind of growth marks the church as it matures, striving to become more like Christ in its life together.

Together, you are: loving God more each day, serving him with more faithfulness each day, and seeking him more in prayers of praise and thanksgiving.

That's who you are, brothers and sisters, God's church, growing up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ. The glue is love as the joints move and the ligaments stretch and the body grows.

The body of Christ, broken for us; the blood of Christ, shed for us; now is manifested in the work we do in his name. Equipped, fed, and growing to be more like him -- growing up in his name and for his sake -- forgiving, forbearing, healing, and loving as Christ loves us.

Praying for you and giving thanks for you every day,  
*Joan*

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

#### **Monday, July 2**

Noon Worship Ministry meeting-church library

#### **Thursday, July 5**

5:30 a.m. Coordinating Council meeting-church library

#### **Monday, July 9**

5:30 p.m. Session meeting-church library

#### **Monday, July 16**

5:30 p.m. Deacons' meeting-church library

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **Community Outreach**

Natchez Children's Services meets the second Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. -11:30 a.m. in the church library.

The Festival of Music Board meets the second Thursday of each month from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. in the Westminster Room in Stratton Chapel.

#### Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 157 meets every Monday at 7 p.m. in the gym. On Sunday, May 27, Owen Rice, one of the scouts in the troop, was awarded the Eagle Scout status.

### WORSHIP MINISTRY

If you have volunteered to be an usher or greeter at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service, you will be receiving a call soon to be placed on the schedule. Greeter/ushers now have new ID badges to wear on days they serve.

### SPIRITUAL LIFE MINISTRY

#### **Lectionary Bible Study**

You are invited to join Rev. Gandy every Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the church library for a lectionary Bible study.

#### **Noon Prayer Group**

This group meets every Tuesday at noon in the Prayer Room of Stratton Chapel. All are encouraged to come each week, or as you are able, to pray for our church, members, friends and community, and to share prayer concerns with each other.

**Wonderful Wednesdays** is taking a break until August. Watch for occasional special Wednesday programs to be announced.

### MISSION MINISTRY

For a week in early June, the Haiti Medical Mission Team from FPC treated over 530 patients in Cite Soleil and Sarthe on the outskirts of Port au Prince. Team members were Dr. Chuck Borum, Dr. Lee England, Naomi Hayes, RN, and Sai and Sami Dulam, all from Natchez. The mission participants will present an illustrated program on their work in Haiti on Wednesday, July 25. The supper and the program will begin at 5:15 p.m. Please plan to be there!

Everett Washington and Helen and Randy Smith will participate in a PCUSA mission trip to Guatemala, July 6-13. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel and undertake this mission trip. Commissioning for the mission will be July 1, at the 10:30 service.

### MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

**Tuesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 14, 31**

7 a.m. — Men's Prayer Breakfast

Gwen Washington will cook a fabulous hot breakfast for the prayer group on *July 3!*

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

**Tuesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

2 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

This group meets at the Natchez Coffee Co. (509 Franklin Street) the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month. They meet at The Crafted Gallery (112-114 N. Commerce Street) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month.

### CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

A nursery is provided for infants through 4 years old from 8 a.m. until noon on Sunday mornings and at appropriate times for all other church functions. We do, however, welcome children of all ages in our services! For older children, Children's Bulletins, and activity bags are provided during worship services. Just leave the bags in the pews at the end of the service.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children meet for Sunday School each week at 9:15 a.m. They also meet during Wonderful Wednesdays for supper and Bible activities. A nursery is provided for infants and toddlers.

### IN MEMORY OF BARBARA POTTER

The Session has approved a new ministry that remembers the quiet, behind-the-scenes work done by our beloved sister, the late Barbara Potter. The Barbara Potter Silent Hands Ministry will be led by Deacon Diane Hammers. The ministry will include caring for the sanctuary and Stratton Chapel, keeping pews tidy and equipped, and noting problems in both buildings that need to be addressed. We warmly welcome Diane to lead this new ministry. Please speak to her if you wish to take part in this work.



The Youth Sunday School meets each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the church library.

Our youth will head to Montreat July 29-August 5 for a youth conference. This conference is a unique gathering of young people from all over the country for a week of study, worship, and recreation. Attending this year are Adair Carey, Lane Rehms, Ginny Borum, Katie Borum, Alina Sharp, Bryan Johnson, Haley Howington, Tyra Franklin and Everett Washington. Jennifer and Jon Borum will chaperone.

### CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRY

#### **Sandwich, Salad and Sundae Covered Dish Luncheon**

On Sunday, July 15, following the 10:30 service, you are invited to come to Fellowship Hall for our annual Sandwich, Salad and Sundae Luncheon. Bring your favorite summer dish and enjoy good food and fellowship.

#### **Celebrate the Fourth!**

You are invited to a piano concert of patriotic music performed by Burnley Cook, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 1, in the Sanctuary here at First Presbyterian. The free program is open to all in the community. A reception will follow in Stratton Chapel.

### BIRTHDAYS

July 6 Bob Flurry  
July 12 Jim Lessley  
July 16 Alston Doyle  
Archer Doyle  
July 17 Martha Baker  
July 21 Paul Benoist  
July 25 Carl Passman  
July 26 Gwen Washington  
July 27 Dana Dent  
July 28 Francis Martin  
Lane Feltus  
July 29 Donna Ball



### PLAYSCHOOL

*"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV)*

If you would like to volunteer to read to the children, please contact Aretha Davis, Playschool Director (601-445-0700).



### **Wednesday, July 11**

9:30 a.m. PW Coordinating Team meeting

### **Tuesday, July 10**

10:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle (contact: Sue Ann Wilt at 601-445-2242)

Noon Ruth Circle (contact: Pam McDonald at 601-597-4767)

Rev. Joan W. Gandy, Pastor  
Victor Zurck, Music Director  
Deon Buford, Sexton  
Aretha Davis, Playschool Director  
Shirley Greene, Financial Secretary  
Pam McNeil, Office Administrator

### FPC OFFICERS

#### **ELDERS:**

#### **Class of 2018**

Chuck Borum, Sarah Carey, Mary Jo McNerney,  
Anne Vidal Willet

#### **Class of 2019**

Rosemary Hall, Bobby Meason, Danna Mooney,  
Helen Smith

#### **Class of 2020**

Hal Hicks, Leigh Anderson, Phyllis Mashburn,  
Ken Andermann

#### **DEACONS:**

#### **Class of 2018**

Jon Borum, Diane Hammers, Esther Jeffus

#### **Class of 2019**

Sandra Burkes, Denise Seale, Sarah Smith

#### **Class of 2020**

Edie Christian, Ryan Sharp, Gwen Washington