



THE LINK ~ October, 2017

“Autumn Praise”

I praise you, Lord, for autumn:
for falling temperatures and morning chill,
trees turned gold and red, brown and orange,
falling leaves and blowing leaves,
the smell of burning leaves,
the joy of leaf-pile jumping.

I praise you, Lord, for autumn:
the interplay of outside temperatures
and inside warmth,
the promise of cider and pumpkin bread,
the blessing of blankets and sweaters.

I praise you, Lord, for autumn:
the beauty and hope in the change of season,
the promise that the coming of autumn
heralds another ending,
a new beginning,
and the wonder of another winter,
another spring,
another summer,
yet to come.

By Bob Hostetler-[Guideposts](#)—“Power of Prayer”, September 27, 2016

MEETINGS

Sunday, October 1

11:30 a.m.—Coordinating Council meeting

Monday, October 2

Noon—Worship Unit meeting

Sunday, October 8

11:30 p.m.—Session/Deacons Meeting

OCTOBER WORSHIP INFORMATION

We will have several supply pastors filling the pulpit this month. October 1: Rev. Chas Jones; October 8: Dr. Catherine Cook; October 15: Rev. Barron Banks; October 22: Rev. Leon Bracey; and October 29: Rev. Chas Jones.

Sunday, October 1—World Communion Sunday

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

Whoever welcomes a little child in my name, welcomes me.

Matthew 18:5

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, along with activity bags filled with paper, puzzles, color pages, and crayons are provided. You may leave the bags in the pews at the end of the service and we’ll replenish them for the next week!

SPIRITUAL LIFE UNIT

The Spiritual Life Unit will meet on Monday, October 2, at 5:30p.m. (and on the first Monday of each month in the future.) Anyone interested in planning or teaching is invited to join us.

Wonderful Wednesdays suppers begin at 5:15 p.m. and are \$6.00 per plate (maximum of \$20.00 per family), followed at 6:00 p.m. by an Adult Bible Study led by Charles Hall, youth activities and Bible study led by Ralph Loe and Helen Smith, and Children’s Bible activities taught by Diane Hammers.

Please consider joining one of the adult **Sunday school** classes, which already enjoy good attendance. Ladies Bible studies, called Circles, have restarted and they, too, encourage you to join these small groups and to bring a friend.

The Men’s Prayer Breakfast meets each Tuesday morning at 7:00 a.m. for prayer. They, too, would enjoy having your company.

For more information about any of these groups, please contact the church office (601-442-2581).

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE UNIT – The Kirkin’ o’ the Tartans

Mark your calendar! The Kirkin’ o’ the Tartans will be Sunday, October 29. The schedule

- Early worship at 8:15 a.m. in Stratton Chapel
- Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.
- Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. with bagpiper

A covered dish luncheon will follow in Fellowship Hall. The church will provide the main dish. Please bring a little extra, as we usually have a number of guests/visitors on this Sunday.

MISSION UNIT

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Members of PDA’s National Response Team are working in Texas, Louisiana Florida, Georgia and South Carolina to provide aid, assess damage, and offer spiritual and emotional care for those impacted by the winds and flooding from Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. While PDA has already been in contact with presbyteries throughout Florida and Puerto Rico, the Church remains mindful of the areas where contact has been difficult to make. Once the information arrives from the Florida Keys as well as the Caribbean islands nearly wiped from the map, the destruction of this storm will begin to be fully known. There are years of recovery ahead. Will you help extend the hands of Christ?

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance’s emergency response and specialization in long-term recovery is fueled by your generous gifts. Designate gifts to: [Atlantic Regional Hurricanes DR000194](#). You can also give with a credit card by visiting [presbyterianmission.org/GIVE-Irma](#) or by calling 800-872-3283.

PDA is still in need of support for mucking out and rebuilding efforts in the Gulf region after Harvey. Thank you to those of you who have already directed gifts to ([DR000169-Harvey](#)).

Prayer:

God of help and hope, in the challenging days, months and years to come, work through us to bring relief and respite from urgent need, comfort and the hope of peace for those who grieve the loss of family, home and safety, and faith to walk on through weary days of rebuilding. May we be steadfast in love, stronger than death, and thus, with those whose lives we seek to sustain, together bear witness to your redeeming love. Amen.

MEN’S CULINARY EVENT REPORT

Due to your generosity and some really great food, the Men’s Culinary Event raised over \$5,000 for FPC’s mission work! Thank you to all who cooked and volunteered, as well as those who attended!!



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 some of the Playschool classes, please contact Aretha Davis, Director, at 601-445-0700.



Youth Sunday School meets each Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

Youth Bible Study and activities meet each Wednesday.
Teachers: Ralph Loe & Helen Smith

Our Youth have been quite helpful to the visiting pastors, setting an example for younger children and presenting the children's message during the 10:30 service. They recently helped Rosemary Hall deliver Stew Pot meals following church. They will be hosted by Everett Ratcliffe at his and Catherine's Cranfield home on Sunday evening, October 1.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Wednesday, October 4

9:30 a.m. PW Coordinating Team

Tuesday, October 10

10:30 a.m.—Rebekah Circle

Noon—Ruth Circle

Wednesday, October 11

Noon—Lydia Circle

PW Moderator's Report by Barbara Colwell, Moderator

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Our 2017-2018 year started off with Pam McDonald and me attending the Fall Gathering at First-Trinity Presbyterian Church in Laurel, MS on September 16. The program included an

overview of this year's Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses – The Community of Christ in Hebrews". This promises to be an interesting and stimulating study.

We had our September meeting and luncheon on September 20. This year's officers were installed: Moderator, Barbara Colwell; Treasurer, Mary Jo McNerney; Secretary, Sarah Carey; Together-In-Service, Leigh Anderson; Spiritual Leadership/Offering Interpreter, Pam McDonald. The positions of Vice-moderator and Historian are open at this time. If you would like to recommend someone for these positions or are interested in serving yourself, please let me know. The Coordinating Team meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the Westminster Room.

Our Circles meet every month: Rebekah on the second Tuesday (contact Sue Ann Wilt for time and location); Ruth Circle on the second Tuesday (contact Pam McDonald); Lydia Circle (contact Beverly Aldridge). All are welcome.

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. Romans, 12:6.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

2:00 p.m. For location, contact Sue Ann Wilt (601-445-2242).

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

7:00 a.m.—Men's Prayer Breakfast



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- October 2 Ron Miller
- October 3 Mae Holyoak
- October 5 Chapman Sharp
Alina Sharp
- October 7 Adam Kirk
- October 8 Ralph Loe
Joey Willett
- October 9 Judy Stahlman
- October 10 Jake Moreland
- October 17 Sherry Jones

- October 18 Jenna Aldridge
- October 19 Lynn Britt
- October 25 Judy Kempinska
- October 28 Cara Serio
- October 30 Butch Kempinska
- October 31 Marvin McDonald

Stewardship Thought

“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”

-2 Corinthians 8:7, NIV



First Presbyterian Church
400 State St., Natchez, MS 39120
fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net
601-442-2581