



News & Notes

FROM

First Presbyterian Church

Vicksburg, MS

Building and Property

Hello Everyone,

It is time for the annual update of completed and upcoming projects at the church. First Presbyterian Church has completed these major projects:

- Roof and steeple shingles have been replaced
- Steeple stones have been repaired
- Sanctuary ceiling has been repaired
- The air conditioner in kitchen has been replaced
- 110 overhead fluorescent lights have been converted to LED

We have spent a lot of money performing the repairs, but we have also saved a lot of money too. We had to contract the work on the roof and ceiling but with the help of church members we were able to upgrade 70 overhead lights just for the cost of new bulbs. The kitchen air conditioner was replaced by church members.

The following projects are upcoming; many will be completed this year:

- Replace wooden fence on South side of parking lot
- Replace 18 Old Church Building second floor Windows
- Convert 32 Mansell Hall lights to LED
- Convert remaining Library lights to LED
- Pressure wash and reseal 1962 Church addition roof
- Repair and paint South Street white doors
- Numerous areas need touch-up painting

Continue on Page 2

We have been incredibly blessed with a beautiful building. As the custodians of this church, it is our duty to maintain our facilities. We could use your help. We have many ongoing jobs, from minor maintenance, to painting, to cleaning, to ceiling light LED conversion, and more. If you would like to help with our projects, please let me know. I promise you, I can find you a rewarding job to help us with.

In Christ,
Dennis



Thank you, from the Meals on Wheels team! Our call for more casserole-makers was quickly met. To these new volunteers, and to all who cook and deliver meals as part of this valuable community ministry, your service is greatly appreciated!

Thanks
Beth and Cindy

Check out The Vicksburg Post edition on September 22, 2024. There is a wonderful article about our choir director, Sharon Penley.



Our Christian love and sympathy is extended to:

Neil Ferrell family in the loss of his sister, Melisa Renee Ferrell Floyd, who entered the Church Triumphant on September 19, 2024.



A warm welcome is extended to the newest members of our church family:

Suzanne Sessums and Jes Shivers who both join the church on September 22, 2024.

	2024 Aug	2024 YTD	2024 Budget	2024 YTD %
Regular Fund Income:	40,424.62	395,851.27	697,904.00	56.72%
Regular Fund Expenses:				
Salary & Benefits	29,017.30	223,948.50	368,129.00	60.83%
Building and Property	4,191.17	25,851.21	42,900.00	60.26%
Operations	14,606.20	112,577.92	168,600.00	66.77%
Christian Education	2,828.22	6,813.27	35,375.00	19.26%
Worship	184.71	1,255.91	7,750.00	16.21%
Renewal & Fellowship	867.80	7,829.99	29,450.00	26.59%
Evangelism & Communications	0.00	464.78	0.00	
Outreach and Benevolence	16,073.73	34,586.08	36,500.00	94.76%
Denominational Relations	0.00	0.00	9,200.00	0.00%
Total Regular Fund Expenses:	67,769.13	413,327.66	697,904.00	59.22%
Total Regular Fund Income/(Loss)	(27,344.51)	(17,476.39)		
Kindergarten Net Income	6,512.43	5,250.73		
Total Financial Report Income/(Loss)	(20,832.08)	(12,225.66)		

September 2024 Session Meeting Highlights

Session met for its stated meeting on September 17, 2024, at 5:15pm in the office conference room.

Operations: August 2024 finances were received and approved. Stewardship Sunday will be October 20, 2024.

Endowment: End of August Endowment Fund \$619,106.

Building & Property: New LED light bulbs still being installed. Roof repair options for the 1962 addition are being considered.

Adult Discipleship: Regular Sunday School and Wonderful Wednesdays have resumed.

Communication & Evangelism: Considering how to live-stream Sunday morning worship.

Kindergarten: Led by Laura Montgomery and Barbara Tracy, weekly Chapel Chat has resumed for 3-5 year olds.

Youth Discipleship: Daily devotionals have been passed out to youth. Wonderful Wednesdays have started. Sunday school class is studying Romans.

Worship: The Lord's Supper will be observed during worship on October 6, 2024.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will be collecting coats and jackets (new and/or gently used) to be donated to Vicksburg Family Development. Bring these items to the cubby area next to the church library. The deadline for collecting will be October 27th.



Dear Church Family,

I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the love, support, and kindness you have shown me. Your prayers, encouragement, and friendship have been a source of strength and comfort.

I am truly blessed to be a part of such a caring and faith-filled church. Whether through kind words, thoughtful gestures, or simply being there, each of you have touched my heart in a special way. It is a blessing to walk this journey of faith alongside you all.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in my life.

With deep appreciation and love,
Elizabeth Wooten & Jes Shivers

A heartfelt thank you goes to the following special saints who volunteered to make Sunday morning fellowship so special during our summer R.C. Sproul series: Betzebe Clark, Schuyler Oaks, Suzanne Braddock, Glenn and Terry Denton, Kaleel and Carmen Jabour, the Boolos Sunday School class, Lisa Martin, Nancy Carr, Sharon Penley, Leslie Rogers, Patrick and Jane Border, Dale and Cindy McClung, Eric and Becky McCaskill, the Mary-Martha Sunday school class, and Will and Laura Montgomery. The brunches you provided made our fellowship time enjoyable! We cannot thank you enough!

Tommye Strickland
Renewal and Fellowship

Youth News

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL IS OFF AND RUNNING!! Jason and Emily Mooney have begun an exciting study of Paul's Letter to the Romans that is specifically geared toward youth and the application of God's Holy Word to their lives. Attendance has been great thus far, and it is our prayer that all parents would avail your youth of this wonderful opportunity to engage in the corporate study of God's Word and a sweet time of fellowship with their peers.

Wonderful Wednesdays have also resumed and will continue through November. Dinner is served at 5:00 pm and youth fellowship/Bible study takes place from 6:00-7:00. All youth are encouraged and welcomed to attend. Of special note, we are planning a Trunk or Treat event for Wednesday October 30th. Please stay tuned for further details on what is sure to be a fun event for our children and our youth.



Please pray for our church families who are raising their own youth or impacting the lives of youth. Please pray for empathy, patience, and above all, steadfastness in Christ. As we strive to encourage and build confidence in our youth, we must be single-minded in our conviction that Jesus Christ is the only source of true hope, joy, and peace. To put our trust in anything else is to trade the truth for a lie, and, in folly, look to this passing world for eternal blessings. Please pray also for our youth, that even in the midst of their trials and temptations, they would trust in Jesus Christ, knowing that they do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Heb. 4:15). Please pray that our youth would know this Savior and trust in His faithfulness and grace.

Ephesians 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.



Sunday School

Regular Sunday School classes started August 25. We had a wonderful time visiting in fellowship with our children at our Donut Party that morning. We are learning about Paul's missionary trips using The Gospel Project Curriculum. Paul's ministry gives us strength and confidence to continue the mission of sharing the gospel and making disciples.

-Pre-K(3) through 1st grade meet in the Rainbow Room (113) with Laurie Malik, Randy Sherard, Phyllis Gebhart, and Gareth Lampkin.

-2nd–6th Graders meet upstairs in the Joyful Noise Room (204) with Betty Kamman, Dennis Coulter, and Laura Montgomery.

It is time to get ready for Operation Christmas Child, an international relief organization project of Samaritan's Purse. National Collection week is November 18-25. The kids and I will deliver the boxes to First Baptist Church during Sunday School on November 24. We can share joy and hope with a needy child in a troubled county and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are collecting items (toys, school supplies, hygiene items, etc.) and money donations. Please do not include used items, toy guns, knives or other war related items, food items, toothpaste, candy, liquids, or breakable items. I will list items needed in the weekly blast these upcoming weeks. We are encouraged to include a note to the child, a photo of ourselves or our family, and a check for \$10 or more to help cover shipping cost. Thank you so much for all of your help.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC

Save the Date – We are having a Trunk or Treat for the kids on Wednesday, Oct. 30th during Wonderful Wednesday Activities. They can wear their Halloween costumes. We will have fun activities for the kids, Trunk or Treat, and they will make Halloween cards for the Nursing Homes. Please let me know if anyone would like to help by decorating their cars and taking part in the Trunk or Treat festivities.

One of the greatest gifts of love is prayer

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Harold Blue
Bill Harris
Hal Morgan

Dan Hall
Wynette McBeath
Mary Reed

OUR CONTINUING PRAYER MINISTRY for October lifts up the names of these within our congregational family, giving thanks to God and asking for His blessings to fill their lives:

October 5— Shan and Laura Leigh Shivers and Julianna Lee; Dennis Smith; and Richard, Jen and Carrie Smith

October 12—Peggy Standifird; Pete and Amy Stone; and Joe and Tommye Strickland

October 19—Chris, Mary, Hartley, and Sydney Sullivan; Tammy Folger-Sutter; and Blake, Stacey, Morgan, Barrett, and Brandon Teller

October 26—Peggy Teller; Jared, Margaret, Nathan and Lauren Thames; and Jeb, Shelly, Mary Beth and Alex Tingle



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRAYS FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY:

Captain Robinson Bash Brown, Army, son of Rev. and Mrs. Tim Brown

Captain Jimbo Bodron, Army, son of Jim and Donna Bodron

Staff Sergeant Kyle Butler, Army, cousin of Suzanne Means

Lieutenant Colonel Sam Berryhill, Air Force, nephew-in-law of Jim Chaney

Diplomatic Security Special Agent Clifton Jeffery, Jr., Diplomatic Security Service, friend of Dale and Cindy McClung

Staff Sergeant Eric Roberts, Air Force, nephew of Marianne Floyd

Captain Cailin Penley Console, Air Force, niece of Sharon Penley

SPC Luke Hindman, nephew of Rev. and Mrs. Tim Brown

MIDN Noelle Poovey, Navy, friend of the church





Dear Church Members,

Just wanted everyone to know our Preschool and Kindergarten Ministry has begun its 58th year with a high enrollment on 78 students up from 68 last year. Jennifer Coulter has begun her 25th year as director and has a staff of 12 teachers. This is a self-supporting outreach ministry of First Presbyterian Church. It provides quality and affordable education and childcare in our community while in a Christian environment. Please keep Jennifer, her staff, and the young students in your prayers this school year.

In Christian Love,
Fred Peyton



October 1-Mike Doyle, Carolyn Lambiotte, Elizabeth Wooten

October 2-Lucy Montgomery

October 5-Addie Shaw Buckner

October 7-Darrington Carraway

October 8-Gareth Lampkin

October 11-Le Brown, Fred Peyton

October 13-Kaleel Jabour, Susan Upshaw

October 15-Mickey Barlow, Tammy Boolos , Slade Lyons

October 16-William Montgomery, Lexi Varner

October 17-Sam Dixon, Ridley Fink

October 18-Charles McLean, Craig Peacock

October 19-Ronnie Brown, Becky McCaskill, Bill Robinson

October 21-Cindy McClung

October 24-Annslee Averett, Deanna Miller, Grace Upshaw

October 25-Sandra Shingler, Jimmy Vessell

October 27-Harold Blue, Ed Buelow, Harry Ulery, John Owen Upshaw

October 28-Dotti Rankin

October 30-Pam Gee

October Schedule of Duties

USHER SCHEDULE

October 6—G. Denton, T. Boolos, C. Martin-Nez,
P&A Stone

October 13—D. Miller, J. Freeman, G. Fulcher,
J&B Kamman, D&J Bottemiller

October 20—D. Smith, K&C Jabour, S&S Upshaw,
K. Klaus

October 27—M. Corley, D. Jackson, G. Hayes,
L&D Giffin, W. Montgomery

SUNDAY MORNING OPENING

October 6—G. Denton

October 13—D. McClung

October 20—K. Jabour

October 27—W. Montgomery

NURSERY COORDINATOR- STACEY TELLER

Shell White & Sharon Harris

October 6—Shell/Sharon

October 13—Anslee Averett

October 20—Shell/Sharon

October 27—Sydney Sullivan

CHURCH FLOWERS

October 6—Lee Giffin

October 13—Klaus Family

October 20—Beverly Mihalyka

October 27—Ann Sherlock

FLOWER MINISTRY

October 6—Helen Butler

October 13—Ann Gee

October 20—Ada Lauderdale

October 27—Terri Denton

MEALS ON WHEELS

Friday, October 4

Mac N Cheese

B. Hall
B. Kamman
C. McClung
D. McClung
R. Gay

Cookies

J. Bottemiller
D. Fenwick
D. Miller

Tuesday, October 22

Casseroles

M. Barlow
T. Denton
M. Finney
P. Fulghum
S. Hampton
R. Hunt
B. Mihalyka
D. Miller

Cookies

M. Johnson
B. Cashman
A. Sherard

Summer is ending and the holiday seasons will soon follow. The Volunteers of the Storehouse Community Food Pantry are coming to you with a special request. We need your help so we can provide a Special Holiday Meal Package for those seeking assistance. Each Special Holiday Meal Package consists of a certificate for redeeming a baking hen, a box of StoveTop Stuffing, a gravy packet, a can of cranberry sauce and a box of instant pudding. The cost is \$20 each. Last year's generous donations provided 400 of these meals. Sadly it wasn't enough and we ran-out before all were served. We pray that our 2024 goal of 500 Special Holiday Meal Packages will be enough to put that special meal on the table of every family asking for help. The total cost to do this is \$10,000. And that, my friend, is why your help is so desperately needed.

The Storehouse Community Food Pantry is funded totally by the generosity of donors and operated by volunteers. Please as a (group or individual) help us reach our goal to distribute 500 Special Holiday Meal Packages by making as many \$20 donations as you are able. Every \$20 donation will provide a holiday meal to a family in need. Donations of boxes of Stovetop Stuffing, gravy packets, cranberry sauce, or instant pudding are also welcomed. The food orders and hen certificates must be ordered well in advance of the Thanksgiving Christmas holidays, so please respond soon. If you have any questions or need additional information call us at 601-461-8269, leave a message and we will return your call or, you may reach out to our volunteers. Donations may be mailed to our PO Box listed below or dropped off at the Pantry during operating hours.

Thank you and God bless your generosity.

The Storehouse Community Food pantry is open weekly Monday and Wednesday from 10 am to 12 and Thursday from 5pm to 6 pm

Contact us:

718 Bowmar Avenue (inside Travelers Rest Baptist Church)

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 820914

Vicksburg, MS 39182



OCTOBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

		1 7:15 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Al-Anon 5:15 Deacons	2 9:30 Explorer's 4:00 Davis Small Group 4:30 Choir Interns 5 Meal 6 Kids–Youth activities, 6 Small Groups	3 10:00 Fireside Chat	4 10:30 MOW	5
--	--	---	---	---------------------------------	-----------------------	----------

6 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Communion and Worship	7 6:00 Choir	8 7:15 Men's Bible Study 9:45 –Ruth Circle 12:00-Hanna/Lydia 12:00 Al-Anon	9 9:30 Explorer's 4:00 Davis Small Group 4:30 Choir Interns 5 Meal 6 Kids–Youth activities, 6 Small Groups	10 10:00 Fireside Chat	11	12
---	------------------------	---	---	----------------------------------	-----------	-----------

13 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Pastor Appreciation Day	14 6:00 Choir Office Closed for Columbus Day	15 7:15 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Al-Anon 5:15– Session	16 9:30 Explorer's 4:00 Davis Small Group 4:30 Choir Interns 5 Meal 6 Kids–Youth activities, 6 Small Groups	17 10:00 Fireside Chat	18 Newsletter Deadline	19
---	---	---	--	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------

20 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Stewardship Sunday	21 6:00 Choir	22 7:15 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Al-Anon 10:30-MOW	23 9:30 Explorer's 4:00 Davis Small Group 4:30 Choir Interns 5 Meal 6 Kids–Youth activities, 6 Small Groups	24 10:00 Fireside Chat	25	26
--	-------------------------	---	--	----------------------------------	-----------	-----------

27 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	28 6:00 Choir	29 7:15 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Al-Anon	30 9:30 Explorer's 4:00 Davis Small Group 4:30 Choir Interns 5 Meal 6 Kids–Youth activities 6 Small Groups	31 10:00 Fireside Chat		
--	-------------------------	--	---	----------------------------------	--	--