

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE (EPC)
AUGUST 18, 2019
RALLY & RIBBON-CUTTING SUNDAY

PRELUDE *Little Chaconne* Hamilton
Jennifer Blackburn

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Martin Lifer

INTROIT (11:00 – Chancel Choir)

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST'S NAME

***GOD'S CALL FOR SABBATH WORSHIP** – from The Westminster Confession of Faith, Joe Nasvytis
ALL: It is the law of our natural, earthly life that some portion of time be set aside for the worship of God. In his Word, God has similarly commanded all people in every age to keep one day in seven holy unto Him as a Sabbath. From the beginning of the world up to the resurrection of Christ, this Sabbath was the last day of the week. Since the resurrection of Christ, the Sabbath has been changed to the first day of the week, called "the Lord's Day" in Scripture, and it has been continued until the end of the earth as the Christian Sabbath.

***INVOCATION** Joe Nasvytis

***HYMN 42** *God of Every Generation* HYFRYDOL

A CELEBRATION OF THANKS & COMMISSIONING ON RALLY SUNDAY

COMMISSIONING CO-DIRECTORS OF YOUTH MINISTRY: KIRK KINARD & REID ROBERSON

THANKSGIVING FOR RIBBON-CUTTING ON NEW YOUTH/C.E. SPACE

COMMISSIONING: FPC CHILDCARE CENTER EXEC.DIR. JAN PETTUS & FPC NURSERY COORDINATOR CASSIE ELMORE (11:00 – Martin Lifer)

***HYMN 440** (Verse 1) *Here I Am, Lord* HERE I AM, LORD

GIVING CHILDREN'S STUDY BIBLES TO 1ST GRADE STUDENTS (Martin Lifer & Ashleigh Murdock)
 Mary McNeel Hearnberger, Carlisle Grace Langston, Jill Carter Langston, and Madeline Jo Rackley

PRAYER WITH FPC CHILDREN: COMMISSIONING FPC SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS
 Ashleigh Murdock and Pastor Martin Lifer

OFFERINGS OF REPENTANT FAITH AND JOY IN GOD'S GRACE

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** – from The (Westminster) Larger Catechism, Q. 1 Reid Roberson
 Minister: What is the primary and highest purpose of human beings?
ALL: The primary and highest purpose of human beings is to glorify God and to enjoy Him completely forever.

***HYMN 670** *Glory Be to the Father*

ANTHEM (11:00 – Chancel Choir)

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION, PETITION & INTERCESSION Joe Nasvytis

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison) Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S MERCY

***HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

OFFERING: GOD'S TITHE AND OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS

***OFFERTORY** *Children's Medley* arr. Ham
Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Having trouble hearing the service? We have portable units that are connected directly to our sound system for optimum audio. Please see an usher about these devices!

Deacon of the Month: Jeremy Murdock

Today's Ushers: (8:30) – Bill Crumpton (11:00) – Billy Harrington, Loren Zimmerman

Today's Greeters: (8:30) – Janice Kinard (11:00) – Brenda Harrington, Janice Kinard

The Flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God by Ellen Mauldin – in memory of her husband, Tom Mauldin, to enhance our worship of God this Lord's Day.

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE **Genesis 1:27; Isaiah 43:1; Revelation 3:12**
 (ESV Pew Bible pp.1; 603;and 1030)

SERMON SERIES *Be Free Indeed: Free in Deed!*

TODAY'S SERMON *Free to Belong and Love Whose We Are* Martin Lifer

INVITATION TO TRUST AND FOLLOW JESUS

CALLED, BLESSED AND SENT AS WITNESSES OF GOD'S WORD

***HYMN 596** *A Charge to Keep I Have* BOYLSTON

***BENEDICTION** Martin Lifer

CHORAL RESPONSE

***POSTLUDE** *Peace I Leave With You* Pasquet
Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

The cradle crosses on the pulpit and the roses beside the chancel are placed today in thanksgiving to God for the respective births of:
James Wellington (Wells) Beaty, born to Rev. Cameron and Emily Beaty on Friday, April 9; and **Harrison Lane Simmons**, born to Lane and Emily Simmons on Friday, August 16.

While celebrating the birth of Wells and the birth of Harrison, we also continue to pray for God's comfort to **the family of The Rev. Dr. Albert Sidney (Shep) Crigler III**, following his death in Franklin, TN, on July 31. *Shep, born in Starkville in 1936, was a child of this church family. After graduating from Starkville High School and later from Southwestern College, he earned an M.Div. at Louisville Seminary and went on to a career as a pastor in the PCUSA, including serving for nine years as the Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Oxford, MS.*

Visiting with Us?

We warmly welcome you to our worship of God this Lord's Day.
 Please complete a FIRSTConnect Card and place it in the Offering ...
 or in a FIRSTConnect Box in the entranceways.



If you would like to learn more about growing in faith in Jesus Christ, about church membership and/or about ways you can learn and serve at FPC – then please speak to Pastor Lifer following the service, or call him this week at the church office. You may also send a message to him via **email (mwlifer3@gmail.com)**.



You're Invited!
Join us at 10:35 this morning for the special Gathering on the Northside 3rd Floor of the Sanctuary Building, adjacent to the Music & Choir Room, for our Ribbon-Cutting & Commissioning of FPC's NEW Youth/C.E. Space.

**Follow Up in FPC's Mentoring Ministry Opportunities:
 Grow in Your Faith and Service to God.**

Jesus through the Great Commission commands the church and every believer to be active in **making disciples** in the ongoing process of growth and service. Further – as God's Word has reminded us through our current series, **Be Free in DEED** – Jesus sets us free to know the joy of (a) being mentored through stages of our own growth, and (b) serving to mentor other disciples, as they grow in faith. *If you are interested in being faithful to Jesus through (a) being mentored and/or (b) mentoring others who might be blessed by you, then please speak with or contact Dr. Lifer, Rev. Nasvytis, Ben Jackson, Kirk Kinard, Reid Roberson, or Ashleigh Murdock.*

Among your opportunities to Mentor: We are seeking several volunteers to mentor MSU students who are becoming involved in our CCO/FPC University Ministry; some of the students are already Christians, while some are not yet believers but are open to Christian faith. If you are willing to serve as a mentor to students, please contact Ben Jackson.

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

The "silly" story of Forky in Disney/Pixar's \$1Billion-earning *Toy Story 4*

Forky is the spork-toy Bonnie creates and writes _____ on in her first day in school.

Forky's crisis: Thinking he belongs to the Trash, not to Bonnie, and that his goal is the _____.

The deeply serious side of Forky's story and Gospel that Andrew Stanton authored into *Toy Story 4*

Who? Why? What? ...Whose?

Woody's gospel: Forky belongs to Bonnie, because she has written her _____ on him.

Find your purpose & joy in loving to and loving _____ you are.

Primary & highest purpose of human beings is to glorify _____ and to enjoy Him completely forever.

Deep Gospel Answers that God Authored in the Bible ...and Authors in Us to Teach Our Children, Students, ... and Ourselves.

(1) God authored human beings in his _____: *Imago Dei.*
 [Genesis 1:27; see also James 3:9]

(2) God calls by name whom He redeems, which means they are _____.
 "Fear not, for I have **redeemed** you: I have **called you by name**; you are **Mine!**"
 [Isaiah 43:1b]

(3) In everyone faithful in Him, Jesus will restore God's Image fully, writing on each faithful one God's _____, his City's name, and Jesus' own new _____,
 [Revelation 3:12]

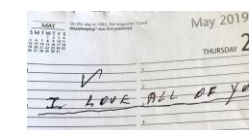
Gospel Truth: Love is _____. Love claims and costs your comfort, other goals, your selfishness, the world's false answers, your time, **AND** your Time (past, present, future).

Gospel Truth: Perfect Love is _____, and Perfect Love will _____.

Belonging to and loving sacrificially the One Who truly loves you is totally worth it: **THE Answer.**

Love beats fallen programs. Love beats the Machine.

Andrew Stanton's *Toy Story 4* (Forky, Buzz, etc.); *WALL-E*; and *Toy Story*.



Bill Martin's Note of love following his 90th Birthday, via *Mart Martin and Jamie Dean, World Magazine & The World and Everything in It.*

[Nothing] in all creation can ever separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

Free to Belong to and to Love Whose We Are!

Week of August 18, 2019

SUNDAY: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Ribbon Cutting – new SOS and Youth rooms
 10:40 a.m. Fellowship Gathering (Fellowship Hall)
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

MONDAY: 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts Building)

TUESDAY: 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous, also on T, W, & F (120 Jackson St.)
 7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast (Parlor)
 5:30 p.m. Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
 6:00 p.m. Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY: 6:00 p.m. Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)

SATURDAY: 6:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (120 Jackson St.)

CASSEROLE KITCHEN MISSION MEAL HOSTS AT FPC THIS WEEK
 August 20 – Paula Ivey August 22 – Richard and Jennifer Blackburn

Prayer List

Paula Elliott
 Charles and Roxene Atkinson
 Scott Guest and Thomas Guest (son & grandson of Charlie & Rubye Guest)
 Joe and Carol Mobley
 Marjorie Malone
 Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
 Sean and Morgan Clark Schnurr & Family
 Bruce Leopold; Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)
 Sylvia Love
 Ross Collins
 Billy and Brenda Harrington
 Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
 Aspen Reynolds (Anita Reynolds granddaughter)
 Hazel Davis (Wallace Cade's aunt)
 Teresa Miller (Amy Harrison's mom)
 Emily Chancellor (Natalie Morgan's Niece)
 Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky); Michael Belcher (Friend of the Iveys)
 Bob and Dot Forbus, and Raleigh Wood (brother, sister-in-law, and friend of Jack Forbus)
 Gerlene Lifer
 Leslie Drane, Frances Ellis (Ellen Mauldin's brother and sister)
 Bobby Fleming (brother of Gloria Cade)
 Diane Daniels, her sister, Delores Irvin, Sarah Helen McCloskey and Craig D. Campbell (family friends of Bob & Diane Daniels)
 John Gassaway and Michael Tubb (Anna Ray Gassaway's brother-in-law and nephew)
 David Henderson, Cheryl Kay Linder (Beth Ann Dunlap's stepbrother & sister)
 Frances Knoll Waltman and Cissy Knoll Thomas (Libby Gill's sister and mother)

Additional Prayer List for Health Care / Assisted Living

Bessie Montgomery – Montgomery Gardens
 Cattie Taylor – Beehive, Starkville
 Jane Lusk – The Claiborne
 Jetta Kuykendall – The Grove, Columbia
 Frances Oakley – Sunnybrook Estates, Madison
 Marie Tramel – Plain View, Richland
 Maxine Eastland – Franklin, TN
 Elizabeth Duffey – Presbyterian Village, GA
 Jewel Jacobs (Cindy Walker's mother) – Montgomery Garden
 Lu Graham (Jane Zitta's sister) – The Hermitage, Richmond, Virginia
 Mary Jo Wallace – The Blake at Flowood
 Carolyn Wofford—Heritage At Irene Wood, Memphis, Tennessee

Back-to-School Fellowship for VIP's (Senior Adults) and Children on Wednesday Evening, August 28 (5:30-7:00 p.m.)



Game Night for ALL children and youth of the church and the VIP's
Wednesday Night, August 28th, 5:30-7 p.m. in FPC's Fellowship Hall.
 We will have pizza and games, a fun time for inter-generational fellowship!!
 Please call Amy Aarhus if you have questions.

FPC Officers

Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator / Will Martin, Clerk of Session
 Elders Emeriti: James (Jim) Long and Dero Ramsey

Elders Serving on Our Session

<u>Class of 2019</u> Dolph Bryan Harold Clark Cecelia Cook Bob Daniels Orly Hardin Edward Kemp	<u>Class of 2020</u> Carl Ivey Jim Beaty Peggy Johnson Jeff Foster	<u>Class of 2021</u> Wallace Cade Jack Forbus Will Martin Cal Rackley
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Deacons Serving on Our Diaconate

<u>Class of 2019</u> Peggy Branch Vivian Cade Joel Downey Jason Ryder	<u>Class of 2020</u> Johnny Fair Tabor Mullen Jeremy Murdock Kristen Skinner	<u>Class of 2021</u> Glenda Clark Jack Cook Peyton Fandel Robby Holditch
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FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry

Will Rackley, *President*, Charlie Weatherly, *Treasurer*

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, *Moderator*

**Women's Retreat – THIS Friday Night 6 p.m. at Harvey's Restaurant,
 Saturday Morning beginning 8:30 a.m. at FPC Fellowship Hall
 Shape to Bear Fruit**

**Women – Members, Visitors and Friends:
 Our First Presbyterian Church (EPC) invites you a fun and spiritually renewing
 weekend of good food, fellowship, and a Bible Teacher Rachel Reynolds.**



Friday, 6 pm – meet at **Harvey's** for dinner, fellowship, and an Introductory
 Message to our Saturday Bible Study, led by Rachel Reynolds.

Saturday in the Fellowship Hall

8:30 am – Breakfast with Worship music
 9:00-11:00 am – Bible Study Lessons on **Bearing Fruit**
 11:00 am – **Paint party** with artist Mande Lewis
 11:45 am – Lunch

(After the retreat, you're also invited to stay for a bit to help the Fellowship Committee decorate for the Tailgate Sunday.)

Rachel Reynolds and her husband, Rev. Steve Reynolds, are the founding ministry team for RENEW, an Associate Reformed Presbyterian New Church Development in Fort Myers, Florida. **Rachel is the Worship Leader of RENEW. She also has years of experience as a superb Children's Ministry Director and Women's Ministry Director at First Presbyterian Church, Corinth. In addition to being the wonderful mother of our own Kristen Skinner (and grandmother of Jon Kyle and James Breter Skinner!), she is a longtime, beloved friend of Pastor and Nancy Lifer – going back to their seminary years.**

So join us Friday night at Harvey's for dinner, fellowship, and an overview of Saturday's events in the Fellowship Hall, where our speaker, Rachel Reynolds, draws from John 15:4, "Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

Registration fee is \$15. Questions about the Women's Retreat? Speak to Kristen Skinner or to Ashleigh Murdock today, or contact Ashleigh this week.

Fall Thursday Afternoon Women's Bible Study -

One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land by Priscilla Shirer
Priscilla's words summarize the focus of the study : "... Promised land living does not mean a life with no problems. It means experiencing God's power and presence in spite of difficulty."

**This seven-session study will begin on August 29,
 meeting each Thursday 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
 To register and order a workbook (\$15), please contact Peggy Johnson.**



Starkville's Church
That Preaches the *Doctrines of Grace*
 and
That is Part of the EPC –
A Global Movement of Evangelical Christians.



FPC in Mission!

Deacon and Starkville Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Joel Downey (*above photo, at far right*) speaks, as FPC's Nancy Lifer - **President of Starkville Habitat for Humanity - (above, at left)** joins **MSU President Mark Keenum** and New **Homeowner-to-be Keyana Triplett** and family members for the **Groundbreaking on Tuesday, August 13, of the 11th Maroon Edition Habitat Home.**

AUGUST 18, 2019

RALLY & RIBBON-CUTTING SUNDAY

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

Ribbon Cutting for FPC's Youth Ministry Space (Sanctuary Building THIRD Floor) | 10:35 a.m. – ELEVATOR AVAILABLE TO 3RD FLOOR!

Worship Service | 11:00 a.m.

Visit Our Website for Sermon Podcasts & Ministry News
www.fpcstarkville.org

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Office Hours
Mon. - Friday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00-4:30 p.m.