



HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL MAY 2017



**AS OUR EASTER SEASON CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION
CONTINUES –**



Photo above: Elizabeth Ryder, Jack Aarhus, and our Children's Choirs' present their vibrant, new spring musical on a glorious April 19, 2017, at FPC.



*Photo above: Newly professing Confirmands Owen Hardin and Simon Banzaf lead our congregation in *The Doxology* following the Apostles' Creed on Resurrection Sunday.*

A NEW DAY DAWNS FOR OUR CONGREGATION

Dear Church Family and Friends,

These are exciting times, as God's Resurrection Power brings new life to FPC Starkville. God Our Father showered us with blessings throughout an amazing April. God inspired joyous worship, and He brought new believers and other new members into our congregation in the weeks leading to Resurrection Sunday. Now, this month, He calls us to look ahead full of hope in his plans for our future. In fact, on our first Sunday this month (May 7), we will have a congregational vote in response to the Session's recommendation that FPC affiliate with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. *Please see also the Notice on Page 6, and join us for this momentous start to our May Sundays and to our mission future at FPC.*

Your Pastor and friend in Jesus the Christ,



Photo above: Bob Daniels & Tanner Chance Ring the Church Bell to Announce It's Time for Worship at FPC!

Photo below: FPC welcomes new members: Rob & Mary Claire Stumpf;; Sam, Ashley & Jack Harrison Myers; Micah, Kelly, Avery & Sam White; Caroline Pound; and Thomas & Margaret Claire Pound.



Photo at left: Tartan Sunday Fellowship on April 2, 2017.



WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AT FPC

TARTAN SUNDAY (APRIL 2)



RESURRECTION SUNDAY (FIRST SUNDAY IN EASTER – APRIL 16)



SECOND SUNDAY IN EASTER SEASON (APRIL 23)



*Photo at left: Children's Choirs sing at 11 a.m. Service.
Photo below: Campbell and Sarah Strickland Receive
Confirmation Gifts from Janice Kinard and Pastor Lifer
on Sunday, April 23, 2107.*



CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERSHIP NEWS

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS IN APRIL

Micah, Kelly, Avery & Sam White



Thomas & Margaret Claire Pound



Caroline Pound



Rob & Mary Claire Stumpf



Kenny, Mallory, Elle & Walker



Photo at left:
Sam, Ashley & Jack Harrison Myers, New Members, on April 2.

Photo at right:
Diapers & Wipes Shower for the Myers Family on April 23 (Eleanor Jane due in May)!



CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERSHIP NEWS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)



Jim Beaty with Simon & Rebecca Banzaf -- following Simon's Confirmation Profession of Faith to the Session on April 2.

In April, we also both grieved a great loss and celebrated the Lord's grace and Call of the Church Triumphant for member **Raymond Edwin (Bud) Love, Jr.** (April 27), Pastor Lifer took the photo at right of Bud with his beloved wife Melanie, son Trace, and daughter Lucy Grace shortly following Lucy's birth in October 2015. Let us all pray for and support Meanie & family in this and the



MINISTRY NEWS



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: SATURDAY MORNING EGG HUNT, APRIL 15.



UPCOMING NEWS: VBS, PARENTS' NIGHT OUT, AND MOVIE NIGHT FOR S.O.S. KIDS & YOUTH

We are all created BY God FOR God!! Join us for **Maker Fun Factory VBS June 12-15, 8:30 am-11:30 am.** Contact Ashleigh if you would like to volunteer or if you have questions.

We will have a **Parents' Night Out on June 2, from 5:30-8 pm**, providing childcare for infants through current 2nd graders (and siblings of these ages). Kids will eat pizza and learn VBS music and help get the church ready for VBS. Let Ashleigh know by May 31st if your child will be there.

SOS kids and Youth!! Get ready for a movie and treat night on May 19! SOS grades 3rd-6th and PYF grades 7th-12th are invited to attend. Contact Ashleigh by May 15th to reserve your spot!



MINISTRY NEWS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

“SIP AND SEE” BRUNCH FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 10:30 a.m.

Please join us for brunch, as we celebrate all of First Presbyterian Church’s new mothers and their children on Sunday, May 7, at 10:30 in the Breezeway and Courtyard outside the East Side of the Sanctuary Building. We will “Sip and See” our newest members and look forward to their formal presentation at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. **If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the brunch, please contact Meredith Martin, (662) 769 7910.**

S.O.S. & Youth Lock-in Overnight at FPC



KEENAGERS LUNCH FELLOWSHIP – MAY 17!

All FPC Senior Members & Friends, and All Others Who Would Like to Join Us:

Wednesday, May 17, Keenagers Event

Come and join in the fun/fellowship of the FPC Keenagers & friends.

Janice Kinard will be the host at 11 am until 1 pm. Sandwiches/Chips/Salad will be our light lunch

FPC MISSION –

RENEWING AND EXPANDING OUR GOSPEL OUTREACH & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



May Sponsors of our Tejas Meal Ministry for Impoverished Children in Tejas, Honduras:

May 3: Pat & Laura Bryan in honor of Mary Ann Madden
May 5: Diane Faulk in honor of Cline Kemp’s 7th Birthday
May 10: Supporters of Mission Outreach
May 12: *Open Date in Need of a Sponsor*
May 17: Supporters of Mission Outreach to Honduras
May 19: *Open Date in Need of a Sponsor*
May 24: David and Ellen Boles
May 26: *Open Date in Need of a Sponsor*
May 31: Wesley, Emily, Tate & Hayes Ferguson

If you would like to **sponsor a Tejas Meal** in 2017, there are some dates available. Please send a check for \$80 made out to Honduras Agape Foundation to Michele Rackley, PO Box 826, Starkville, MS 39760 or leave in the church office or put in the Offering on Sunday.

Photo above: Pastors Larnzy Carpenter, Martin Lifer, and Freddie Rasberry fellowship with our Habitat Mission group from Notre Dame Prep (Baltimore) - hosted at FPC during Holy Week



HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

MAY 2017

First Presbyterian Church
307 University Drive
Starkville, MS 39759

Contact or leave a message for Pastor Martin Lifer or Secretary Beckie Miller in the Church Office –Monday through Friday – at the Church Office Number (662) 323-1994, or via email to Office@fpcstarkville.org. In addition, you may reach the following ministry staff via their direct email addresses listed below:

FPC and FPCCC Ministry Staff- email addresses

Rev. Dr. Martin Lifer, *Pastor* mwlifer3@gmail.com

Ashleigh Murdock, *Children's Ministry Coordinator*
aabmurdock@gmail.com

Dr. Craig Aarhus, *Music Director* aarhus@bellsouth.net

Jennifer Blackburn, *Organist* jenniferblackbourn@hotmail.com

Kathy McGill, *Children's Choir Director* katherinemcgill@hotmail.com

Ellen Mauldin, *Church Librarian* mem3@bellsouth.net

Amanda Corley, *Child Care Director* fpcccdirector@fpcstarkville.org

NOTICE:

After months of study, discussion and prayer,
FPC's Session voted unanimously Sunday afternoon, April 23:

(1) To approve a recommendation from FPC's Faith and Denominational Relations Task Force that FPC affiliate with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church Denomination (the "EPC");

(2) To recommend to our congregation a congregational vote in favor of affiliating with the EPC";

(3) To host a special **Educational and Discussion Gathering in Fellowship Hall during Sunday School time on April 30 (9:45-10:30 a.m.)**, about the EPC and about the recommendation to join the EPC -- which Gathering will include a review by John Adamson (Facilitator of the EPC's Central South Presbytery) and Rev. Dr. Don Elliot (recently-retired Pastor of FPC, Corinth, and a member of Central South Presbytery) -- about the denomination and the presbytery; and

(4) To convene a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 7, at the beginning of the 11:00 a.m. Service (Sanctuary) -- for the purpose of a congregational vote to approve or to disapprove First Presbyterian Church's becoming a member-congregation of the EPC and the EPC Central South Presbytery. All active members of FPC are notified and encouraged to participate in the meeting and vote, as well as in the times of educational updates and prayerful preparation.