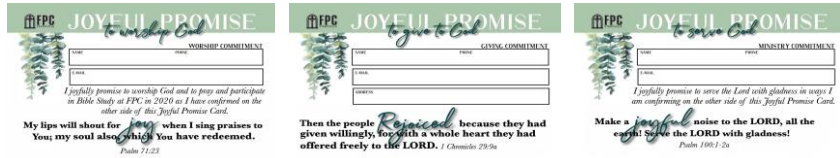


FPC Members:

If you were not able to do so on Nov. 3 or last Sunday on Dedication Sunday,
please complete & submit TODAY - **JOYFUL PROMISE Sunday #3** -
your **JOYFUL PROMISE Pledge Cards for 2020!**



PRELUDE *For the Beauty of the Earth* arr. Renfrow
Jennifer Blackburn

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Martin Lifer

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST'S NAME

INTROIT (11:00 - Chancel Choir, Dr. Craig Aarhus Directing)

***Responsive Reading** - from Psalm 105:43; Isaiah 55:12
Minister: So He brought his people out with joy,
ALL: His chosen ones with singing.
Minister: For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace.
ALL: The mountains and the hills before us shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

***OPENING PRAYER** Joe Nasvytis

***HYMN 13** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

GOOD NEWS IN OUR SEASON OF JOYFUL PROMISE

ANTHEM (11:00 - Chancel Choir) *Gather By the River to Pray* arr. Choplin

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM (11:00 - K-3, K-4, & K-5 Choirs) *Praise Him, Praise Him*

GOD'S WORD FOR YOUNG CHILDREN (Operation Christmas Child Gift Boxes) Amy Aarhus

MORE JOYFUL PROMISE THANKSGIVING GIFTS
MISSION GIFT TO FATHER'S CHILD MINISTRIES, EDWARD YEATES, DIRECTOR Martin Lifer
THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Joe Nasvytis

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 670 - THE GLORIA PATRI**

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

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 or Assistant Pastor Nasytis today, or call Pastor Lifer this week at the church office. You may also send a message to Pastor Lifer via email (mwlifer3@gmail.com).

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: Jack Cook
Today's Ushers: (8:30) Charlie Guest, (11:00) Albert Clark, Lee Weiskopf
Today's Greeters: (8:30) Rubye Guest, (11:00) Ernie George, Amy Weiskopf

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE **Mark 4:1-34**
(ESV Pew Bible pp. 839)

SERMON SERIES ON MARK: *Who Do You Say Jesus Is?*

TODAY'S SERMON **The Lord of the Harvest Who Says,**
"Pay Attention to Your Hearing and the Measure You Are Giving!" [Part 2]
Martin Lifer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS HIS JOYFUL STEWARDS

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION FOR INSPIRATION FOR FAITHFUL & JOYFUL PROMISES

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 JOYFUL PROMISES OF FAITHFULNESS, MERCY & LOVE

***HYMN 96** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

GIVING TO GOD: HIS TITHE, OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS AND OUR JOYFUL PROMISES

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Martin Lifer

OFFERTORY *Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. Thallander
Jennifer Blackburn

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

***HYMN 668** *THE DOXOLOGY* Old Hundredth

***BENEDICTION** Joe Nasvytis

CHORAL RESPONSE *Amen* Traditional

***POSTLUDE** *Voluntary in F* Lau
Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

BIG PICTURE: THE KEY TO EVERYTHING

Jesus says: **"Pay Attention to Your _____ and the _____ You Are Giving!"**

Satan's kingdom comes by talking and taking (in the power of his half-truths).

The world's kingdoms and kings come by _____ and _____.

The leaders of the world win by _____ and _____.

The world's kingdom and power come by shock and awe, tearing up the field.

God's kingdom comes like a little mustard seed planted in the field.

Who's IN, and who's OUT of God's Kingdom and Heaven to come?

God's children enter His Kingdom not by speaking our words but by _____ His Word
and know they belong by the measure of their _____ to the King.

THE KEY TO FAITH (AND GIVING): HOW'S YOUR HEARING?

God's Kingdom AND Saving Faith come by true _____.

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17

TRUE Hearing" (_____ to AND _____) separates those who are IN the Kingdom from those who will never be IN. [Mark 4:11-12]

That's why Jesus keeps saying: **"He who has ears TO HEAR, let him HEAR!"**

THE KEY TO EVERYTHING: HOW YOU "HEAR" GOD'S WORD AND BEAR FRUIT.

Jesus says understanding **the Parable of the Sower, the Seed, and the Good Soil that Yields a Great Return** is essential to understanding ALL of his other parables of the Kingdom. [Mark 4:13]

Four "Soils" = Four _____ & Types of "Hearers":

- (1) Hard Heart, the Person Along the Path:
- (2) Shallow Person with very quick emotions/Emotional Heart -> Temporary Hearing & "Joy" that will not withstand the Heat:
- (3) Divided, Uncommitted, and ultimately Overwhelmed/Stressed Heart/Person:
- (4) Heart Open to Receive and Accept the Word, to Hold to it under Heat & Trials, and to Bear & Give Fruit Back - no matter the heat or the schedule & stresses:

The Parable of the Sower and the **Parable of the Lamp Hidden Under a Basket or Bed (with the owners trying to hide & keep what they think is "theirs"!)** are both ultimately focused on whether People (Soil & Lamp-Owners) Faithfully _____ and are changed by what has come to them from the King: Are they fruitful?

THE Q: Is There a Return to the Kingdom on what the King Has Given?

The **END RESULT** of each parable/story is KEY to answering that question, to understanding ALL Jesus' teaching, AND to understanding who's IN and who's NOT IN God's Kingdom.

So Jesus sums up everything with the Savior's Two Directives recorded in Mark 4:24:

- (a) **"_____ to what you hear!" AND**
- (b) **"With the measure you use (give), it will be _____ to you, and still more will be added. For to the one who "has," more will be given, and from the one who "has not," even what he has will be taken away."**

i.e. **"Pay Attention to Your Hearing and the Measure You Are Giving!"**

The **END RESULT** of our story of our Hearing and our Measure of Giving is KEY to God's assurance of his children, whom He saves by grace - grace which leads to our faithful hearing and a generous measure of giving and glorifying our Father in Heaven.

"IT IS LIKE A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED."

Billions of shares in or dreams or words in kingdoms that soon die

v.

Even the tiniest seed or hearing & holding and giving in God's Eternal Kingdom

Week of November 17, 2019

SUNDAY: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Gathering (Fellowship Hall)
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

MONDAY: 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts Building)
 8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous, also on T, W, & F (120 Jackson St.)

TUESDAY: 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (Parlor)

WEDNESDAY: 5:15 p.m. Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
 5:50 p.m. Nursery, Children and Youth programs begin
 6:00 p.m. Adult Study, *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* (Fellowship Hall)
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Make Your Reservations for the FINAL Wednesday Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner of 2019 – this Wednesday 5:15-5:45 p.m.

Please complete your reservation card and place it in the Offering today, or call or send an email to the Church Office **by Monday, at NOON!**

Prayer List

Boswell Kennard
 Greta Bryan
 Paula Elliott
 Pastor Martin Lifer
 Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
 John Clark Packer
 Mae Glass (Vivien Miller's mother)
 Jimmie Brown
 Betty Latimer
 Roxene Atkinson
 Randell Foxworth
 Marjorie Malone
 Billy and Brenda Harrington
 Scott Guest and Thomas Guest (son & grandson of Charlie & Rubye Guest)
 Joe and Carol Mobley
 Sean and Morgan Clark Schnurr & Family
 Bruce Leopold, Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)
 Sylvia Love
 Sherry Siler (Bryn Taylor's sister)
 Ross Collins, Madison Collins (son of Ross and Margaret Collins)
 Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
 Cindy Stewart (friend of George and Jane Vemer)
 Aspen Reynolds (Anita Reynold's granddaughter)
 Teresa Miller (Amy Harrison's mom)
 Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky), Michael Belcher (friend of the Iveys)
 Bob and Dot Forbus, and Staci Moak (brother, sister-in-law, and daughter of Jack Forbus)
 Gerlene Lifer
 Leslie Drane, Frances Ellis (Ellen Mauldin's brother and sister)
 Bobby Fleming (brother of Gloria Cade), and Hazel Davis (Wallace Cade's aunt)
 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

ALL Members & Friends of FPC:

Join the FPC Childcare Center, its children and teachers, for FPC CC's Annual Thanksgiving Program (with lots of Thanksgiving Pageantry & Songs), followed by a Luncheon for all in attendance.

THIS FRIDAY, Nov. 22, 11:00 a.m. - Noon

Samaritan's Purse OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Deadline for boxes to be turned in is next Sunday.
 Blessing of the Boxes will be **Sunday, November 24.**



ALL ADULTS, COLLEGE STUDENTS, AND YOUTH – NEXT SUNDAY

JOYFUL PROMISE Sunday #4

9:45-10:30 A.M. IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

We will have a **PLENARY SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSION** to share about FPC's **MISSION TO SCOTLAND**

AND

FPC'S BEING PART OF THE UNITED KINGDOM PARTNERSHIP TO RENEW GOSPEL MINISTRY AND CHURCHES IN THE U.K.

Hear from our October Mission Team. Learn what we did this fall for God's Kingdom Mission, and learn what's next in our JOYFUL PROMISE TO GOD'S GOSPEL IN THE U.K.!

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

Deacons Serving on Our Diaconate

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Peggy Branch	Johnny Fair	Glenda Clark
Vivian Cade	Tabor Mullen	Jack Cook
Joel Downey	Jeremy Murdock	Peyton Fandel
Jason Ryder	Kristen Skinner	Robby Holditch

Officers-Elect

<u>Session Class of 2022</u>	<u>Diaconate Class of 2022</u>
Harry Bell	Jack Atkins
Scotty Crawford	Rebecca Banzhaf
Wesley Ferguson	Janet Bardwell
Susan Gamel	Lee Weiskopf
Brien Henry	

FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry

Will Rackley, President, Charlie Weatherly, Treasurer

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, Moderator

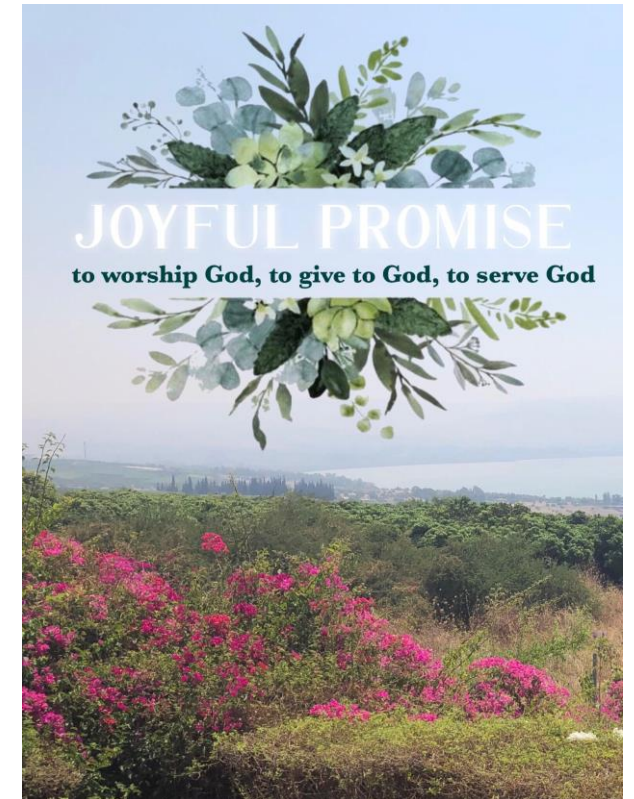
Mission for the month – Child of the Church Missionaries (2 candidates)

Circle Meetings - 2nd week of each month (7:00 pm Circle meets 3rd Mon.)

One remaining Session for November Bible Study "Stuck" Lesson 3: MAD, read James 1:19-17
 Monday, 11/18 @ 7:00 pm, location TBA



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



JOYFUL PROMISE
 to worship God, to give to God, to serve God

NOVEMBER 17, 2019

JOYFUL PROMISE Sunday #3

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Gathering (Fellowship Hall) | 10:30 a.m.

Worship Service | 11:00 a.m.

Visit Our Website for Sermon Podcasts & Ministry News

www.fpcstarkville.org

Church Office
 307 University Drive, Starkville, Mississippi 39759
Phone | 662-323-1994 Fax | 662-323-1999
Office Hours
Mon. - Friday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00-4:30 p.m.