



February 2012

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Church @ Work

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Church Staff

Rev. Jonas M. Hayes, Pastor

Rev. Edward F. Johnston, Jr.,
Pastor Emeritus

Susan Glasco, Admin. Assistant

Caroleen Eifling, Director of FPP

Suzanne Potter, Director of Music

Darrell Lafayette, Custodian

Our Mission

For the last 150 years, First Presbyterian has been a strong presence in the Mississippi Delta. Through epidemics, wars, floods, changing economic times and social upheaval, our church has taken what Jesus said about those in need and turned it into a statement of faith:

- We welcome one another.
- We are friends with one another.
- We serve one another.
- We do this all in the name of Jesus Christ.

A Message from the Pastor

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Dear Ones:

Over the past several months, church committees and the Session have been involved in strategic planning for the first time in 2 1/2 years. The goals in this Short and Long Range Plan are categorized by councils and committees as follows: 6-month goals, 18-month goals, and 5-year goals. These goals were introduced and circulated at our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 29, and they will continue to be available in the Narthex and the church office. The final draft of the Short and Long Range Plan was approved by the Session on Sunday, January 22. Please note: church committees and the Session will certainly add more goals as we discern and commit ourselves to effective and faithful ministry in our church and community. If there is a goal that you may have which is not on this published document, please contact me by email or phone and I will be sure to take note of it and, if you wish, share it with a committee or the Session.

I invite you to prayerfully read over the Short and Long Range Plan and discern how we, as a family of faith, may work together to achieve the objectives we have set forth. Accomplishing our goals and objectives will require something of all of us: we will need to be creative and thoughtful in our mutual ministry with the church, community, and world. We will need to draw on the core values articulated in our church's statement of faith: hospitality, authentic relationship, servitude, and faith.

In any church's strategic planning process, it is always important to remember: *scripture serves as our truest and most accurate roadmap given to us by our loving God.* The scriptures remind us that God has a long range plan called salvation. This gives us the humility to hear and integrate the words of the text from Ephesians which says, "For by grace (we) have been saved through faith, and this is not (our) doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast."

The Lenten Season is an opportunity for us to be mindful and grateful for God's long range plan. During Lent, we are invited to struggle against everything which separates us from God by exercising repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love. These can become opportunities for our spiritual renewal. In *A Cry for Mercy: Prayers from the Genesee*, Henri J. M. Nouwen says, "How often have I lived through these weeks without paying much attention to penance, fasting, and prayer? How often have I missed the spiritual fruits of the season without even being aware of it? But how can I ever really celebrate Easter without observing Lent? How can I rejoice fully in your Resurrection when I have avoided participating in your death? Yes, Lord, I have to die--with you, through you, and in you--and thus become ready to recognize you when you appear to me in your Resurrection. There is so much in me that needs to die: false attachments, greed and anger, impatience and stinginess.... I see clearly now how little I have died with you, really gone your way and been faithful to it. O Lord, make this Lenten season different from the other ones. Let me find you again. Amen."

What will you do this Lenten Season as your spiritual discipline?

For repentance, I will _____

For fasting, I will _____

For prayer, I will _____

For works of love, I will _____

God's grace and peace be with you,
Rev. Jonas Mark Hayes



**Sunday, February 5
9:30 A.M.
In the Main Hallway**

The Annual Souper Bowl of Caring
is sponsored by the Youth Group of
First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, MS

The youth will accept cans and donations
to support our local FEED program!

***Tackle Hunger with us
In 2012!***

February Birthdays

Ministry of Prayer



February 1	Morgan Woods
February 2	Earline Phillips, Jacquie Turner, Ruth Ann Striebeck, Debra Bell
February 4	Erin Mitchell
February 5	Rene Davis
February 7	Bo Hagwood
February 8	Meg Sanders
February 10	Scott C. McElvain
February 11	Emily Phillips
February 18	Lisa Baskett
February 20	Meri-Winston Winn, Dutch Rushing
February 21	Bobbie Gaston, Sarah Smith
February 23	Ann Laird Jones
February 25	Lea Turner
February 27	Jack Gannon
February 28	Becky Watts

*You were in the mind of God from the beginning – before earth got its start – before oceans, springs, rivers, and lakes – before mountains were sculpted and hills took shape – you were in the mind of God. Long before God stretched out earth's horizons and tended to the minute details of soil and weather and set sky firmly in place – you were in the mind of God. There is no one in the world God loves more than you.
God bless you on your birthday!*

Those on Active Duty

Barry Crosby, Brian Germany, Austin Young

Expectant Couples

Katherine (Hough) & Sam Newsom, Sarah & Larkin Mitchell, Pete & Stephanie Weathers, Stephanie & Fortson Baird, Paden & Rob Dawkins

New Parents

- Lauren (Jones) & Adam Marconi, Ann Reid (11/3/11)
- Emily (Phillips) & Hamilton Frey, Stephen Phillips Frey (11/10/11)
- Amy & John Walker, Lampton Lee (12/20/11)

Those at Home

- Vernell Caruthers @ 1976 Susan Dr.
- Mac Payne @ 1203 Kirk Cr.
- Betty Lee Winn @ 1111 E. Gamwyn Dr.

Those Away

- Mary Elizabeth Lundy, Emirtus, 103 Fox Chase St., Apt. 129, Hattiesburg, MS, 39402
- Nelle Rowell, 3270 North Broke Bow, Birmingham, AL, 35242
- Earline Roman, Indywood Glen, 1416 Ernie, Greenwood, MS, 38930
- Walter Roman, Indywood Personal Care Home, 541 Dorsett, Indianola, MS, 38751

Those in Assisted Living/Nursing Homes

Washington Care: Jere Lane, Mildred Franklin, Marianne Gannon

Magnolia Gardens: Dorothy Gilliland, Apt. #301; LaVonne Jefferson, Apt. #206; Janet England, Apt. #112; Eunice Miller, Apt. #305

Wellington Place: Addie Jacobs, Rm. #104

FPC's Family

John Gibson, Gerald Abraham, Dick Nourse, Bob Robinson, Marianne Gannon, Bobbie Jean Hobson

FPC's Friends

Jenni Cumbaa, Hubert Kessler (friend of Betsy Dyer), Mollie Stock, Betty Bartol (Lisa Baskett's mother), Hayden Brent Casavechia (friend of Dowdy family), Mike Ramsey (Margaret Baird's brother-in-law), Kristee Trammell, Betty Nelson (Coco Buehler's friend), Dr. Carl Nichols (Lottie Mae Dawkins' dad), Chester Moore Legg (Barry Schuster's mother), Dud Burke (Dudley Couey's uncle), Ike Newton, C. D. Lamar (Ted Lamar's father), Linda Mosley (Dowdy family friend), Nell McGarrh (Ruchell Phillips' mother)

*"Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid."
- John 14:27*

Mardi Gras Madness

February 13



Doors will open at 4:00 P.M. for shopping

Dinner from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M.

Tickets are \$10 – available Sundays in the main hall, weekdays in the church office; also at Montage Marketplace, Leland Presbyterian, and Good Samaritan Clinic

Clean Water Sunday

Sunday, March 18



***Join us on Sunday, March 18 at 9:00 A.M.
for a special Sunday school class led by guest preacher
Chris McCrae of Living Waters for the World***

Chris McCrae has been active for many years in providing assistance to people and communities in need. His work includes:

- Director for Solar under the Sun
- Member of Central Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith
- CLP trained 103 (Technical installation) instructor for Living Waters for the World
- PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) Committee member
- Haiti Network co-coordinator for Living Waters for the World
- New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity's first Project Director in 1988 through 1991
- Board of Directors for Arkansas Valley Habitat for Humanity in 2000 to 2006

2011 Frank Carlton Humanitarian Award



Photo by John Keen

Rev. Jonas Hayes, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, MS and Director of Delta180, Inc., was selected by Warren-Washington-Issaquena-Sharkey Community Action Agency (WWISCAA) to receive the 2011 Frank Carlton Humanitarian Award. Rev. Hayes was acknowledged for his work as a board member of Community Counseling Center, the Delta Economic Development Center, and the Good Samaritan Health Clinic and for starting the non-profit organization, Delta180, Inc. A documentary on the formation and success of Delta180, Inc. is being produced by Cyprus Bend Productions (filmmakers: Anne Rayner and Robbie Fisher) and is expected to be completed this spring.

The Frank Carlton Humanitarian Award was given to Mr. Frank Carlton on December 1, 1995, for his leadership and contribution to WWISCAA and the community at large. He was a staunch supporter of WWISCAA until his death. Mr. Carlton was appointed to the Board of Directors in 1986. He served as Vice Chairman and was elected Chairman in 1988.

Under his leadership:

- Warren County was added to the agency's service areas
- Friends of WWISCAA (a private for profit organization) was organized
- The Education Station, a child development center was opened in 1995 (now referred to as the Frank Carlton's Education Station)
- A Shelter for the Homeless was opened in Warren County
- The Adult Day Care in Washington County was developed (now called the Wisdom Exchange Recreation Center)

This award is given annual to an individual residing in Warren, Washington, Issaquena, Sharkey or Yazoo County. The recipient is nominated by a committee comprising all counties.

Looking Forward

February Helping Hands Volunteers:

Frankie England – 662-378-2554 (home)

662-695-1277 (cell)

Parker England – 662-347-4181

Kindermusik and Children's Choir programs

meet on Wednesdays from 6:00 P.M. – 6:45 P.M.

These programs are open to all members and their friends.

--*Kindermusik* (for children ages Newborn – 5 yrs.) meets in the Elementary Sunday school Classroom in Nunan Hall.

--*Children's Choir* (for children ages 6+) meets in the Choir Room.

A New Member's/Explorer's Class

– led by Rev. Hayes – will be held on Sunday mornings in

February from 9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. The class will be held in Rev. Hayes' office. It is open to all who are interested in learning more about the theology and governance of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Youth Group will meet at First Presbyterian Church (Nunan Hall) during the month of February. Youth Fellowship meets on Sunday evenings from 5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. *Please note:* There will be no meeting on February 5.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet for 4-sessions to conclude their study on Galatians beginning on Wednesday, February 1. The study is open to all Men of the Church and their friends. It will meet on February 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 7:00 A.M. – 7:45 A.M. in the Library.

XYZ will meet on February 9 @ 11:15 at the church. We will have lunch at The Coffee Shop in Leland and then tour The Leland Progress. Please contact Dana Warrington, 820-2414 or Mary V. Watson, 378-2765 for further details.

Mardi Gras Madness is Monday, February 13.

Calling All Cooks: Frozen casseroles are needed for the freezer party at Mardi Gras Madness. Popular items are chicken, seafood, and meat entrée casseroles as well as specialty vegetables, soups, and gumbos in either 8" or 9x13" well-sealed pans or plastic tubs. Labels & recipe ideas will be available in the volunteer's office at the church. For questions, please call Beverly Trotter or Sherry Spragins.

The Media Center for Mardi Gras Madness

needs the following: books on tape, popular books, children's books, DVD movies for children or adults, music CDs, etc. Please contact Margaret Baird if you have any donations - 378-3980 or 820-4309.

Ash Wednesday is February 22.

The youth of First Presbyterian Church and St. James Episcopal Church

are finalizing details for their Annual Spring Break Mission Trip. For this year's trip, they are planning to offer Disaster Assistance and Tornado Recovery in Joplin, Missouri. This year, Spring Break is Friday, March 9 – Sunday, March 18. The trip is open to all youth ages 15 and up. Please contact Rev. Hayes if you have any questions.

Clean Water Sunday will be on Sunday, March 18. Guest preacher: Chris McCrae of Living Waters for the World. Chris will lead a special Sunday school class open to everyone on the same day at 9:00 A.M. in Nunan Hall.



Living Waters for the World Update: Our Water Team Needs You! If you are looking to get involved with our Clean Water Team, please consider attending Clean Water U in 2012. Here are the dates—all sessions except October are held at Camp Hopewell in Oxford: March 21-25, May 2-6, June 11-15, September 5-9, October 7-11 (California campus). You don't have to attend CWU to become a member of the team. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kendall Cox at 662-931-1737 or kendall@everymother.org



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If you want to receive this newsletter in full color via email, please contact the church office, 662-332-3144 or email susan@firstpresgreenville.com

Mardi Gras Madness

February 13

(see page 4 for details)