

# First Presbyterian Church, PCA

300 N. Strawberry Avenue  
Demopolis, AL 36732  
334-289-3895  
www.demopolispresbyterian.com  
demopres3895@bellsouth.net



Established 1839

## A Message from the Pastor:

Over the past few days we've all felt the change in the air. Fall is coming. One of the ways that we know that Fall is coming is that we're beginning to feel those cooler temperatures in the morning and in the evenings. Hopefully, it won't be too much longer until those cooler temperatures begin affecting the rest of the day as well.

For many of us the coming of Fall is comforting. Fall brings cooler weather, it brings the familiar rhythm of the football season, and it brings the holidays that gather friends and family together. After all of the travel and the brutal heat of the Summer, the coming of Fall and all that comes with it is a comfort to us.

The Heidelberg Catechism is my favorite catechism, and its very first question concerns the idea of comfort. The first question asks this, "What is your only comfort in life and death?" And its answer is amazing. It says this, "That I am not my own, but belong - body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him."

What an incredible comfort for our souls to hear. As the pressure ramps up at work, as grief finds us, as the anxiety and stress of the holidays begins, we have this incredible comfort. That we are not our own, but belong - body and soul, both in life and in death, to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ. If we were "our own" then all of the pressure and responsibility for our future would be resting on our own shoulders. But here we are assured that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, and the result is that without the will of our heavenly Father not a hair can fall from our heads.

As you find time to rest and enjoy the cool breezes of Fall, or to rejoice in your football team's victory, or to gather with the people dearest to you, take time to reflect on the truth that you are not your own. We live in a world that celebrates individualism and independence. Take time this Fall to celebrate all of the blessings that come from the truth that you belong to Christ who is working all things to your good and for your salvation.

Grace and Peace,  
Jeff

### Contact Information:

Jeff Bryant  
fpcdjeff@gmail.com  
(334) 289-3895 Church Office  
(864) 554-1464 Cell

## October 2018

### OUR VISION:

The First Presbyterian Church of Demopolis, Alabama, is a body of believers in Jesus Christ, that wants God's love to grow in us and radiate to all people through us.

To that end,

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

First Presbyterian Church of Demopolis, Alabama is: a fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ, striving to glorify God and enjoy Him forever, by making disciples for Christ, in Demopolis and beyond by:

- Exalting God in authentic biblical worship and prayer;
- Building up believers in knowledge and faith through biblical preaching, teaching, discipleship and fellowship;
- Evangelizing the lost by sharing Christ and living according to His example; Extending God's mercy through sacrificial service to those in need.

# October 2018

<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thu</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>
	<u>1</u>	2	<u>3</u> <u>Wed Dinner:</u> 5:30pm <u>Adult Bible Study &amp; Covenant Kids:</u> 6:15pm <u>Choir Practice:</u> 7pm	4	5 <u>B-day:</u> Emily Buroker	6
7 <u>Nursery:</u> Katy Basinger	8	9 <u>WM/WIC Council Meeting:</u> 4:30pm <u>B-day:</u> Allison Ward	10 <u>Wed Dinner:</u> 5:30pm <u>Adult Bible Study &amp; Covenant Kids:</u> 6:15pm <u>Choir Practice:</u> 7pm	11	12	13 <u>Women's Coffee Get-Together:</u> 10am
14 <u>Nursery:</u> Ruth Symon <u>Diaconate Meeting:</u> 8am <u>Communion</u> <u>Love Gift Offering:</u> <u>Cherish (see below)</u>	15	16 <u>B-day:</u> Tyree Tripp	17 <u>Wed Dinner:</u> 5:30pm <u>Adult Bible Study &amp; Covenant Kids:</u> 6:15pm <u>Choir Practice:</u> 7pm	18	19 <u>B-day:</u> Alan Lashley <u>B-day:</u> Eloise Coddington	20 <u>B-day:</u> T.M. Culpepper III <u>B-day:</u> James Solliday
21 <u>Nursery:</u> Allison Ward <u>Fellowship Luncheon</u> <u>Session Meeting:</u> 4:30pm	22 <u>B-day:</u> Sam Yeager	23 <u>B-day:</u> Melanie Evans	24 <u>Wed Dinner:</u> 5:30pm <u>Adult Bible Study &amp; Covenant Kids:</u> 6:15pm <u>Choir Practice:</u> 7pm  <u>Newsletter Deadline</u> <u>Anniv:</u> Alan & Karen Lashley	25 <u>Anniv:</u> Stephen & Vickie Cannon <u>Anniv:</u> Jeff & Lolly Davidson	26	27
28 <u>Nursery:</u> Nadine Coddington <u>HOP Meeting:</u> 2pm <u>B-day:</u> Dick Farst	29 <u>Anniv:</u> Jeff & Amanda Bryant <u>Anniv:</u> Neil & Jaimee Bules	30 <u>B-day:</u> Tiffany Mackin	31 <u>Wed Dinner:</u> 5:30pm <u>Adult Bible Study &amp; Covenant Kids:</u> 6:15pm <u>Choir Practice:</u> 7pm			

# CHERISH

A Ministry of Care and Nurture For Pastors' Wives

THE 2018 LOVE GIFT FOR PASTORS' WIVES

[www.2018lovegift.com](http://www.2018lovegift.com)

<u>2018</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2018 YTD</u>
General Fund Contributions	\$7,109.00	\$72,117.70
General Fund Expenses	<u>\$9,741.10</u>	<u>\$63,518.88</u>
Net Gain / (Loss)	(\$2,632.10)	\$8,598.82
<u>2017</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2017 YTD</u>
General Fund Contributions	\$7,454.00	\$74,273.14
General Fund Expenses	<u>\$9,823.64</u>	<u>\$82,331.65</u>
Net Gain / (Loss)	(\$2,369.64)	(\$8,058.51)

## Upcoming Events:

**Deacons of the Month:** TJ Keasler and Ray Evans.

**Nursery Workers:** Please arrive in the nursery by 10:30 am.

**Food Ministry Leader of the Month:** Cindy Keasler

### **Wednesday Night Gathering:**

- Dinner, 5:30 pm.
- Adult Bible Study and Covenant Kids, 6:15 pm.
- Choir practice, 7:00 pm.

**Saturday, October 13th:** Women's Coffee Get-Together (see information below.)

### **Sunday, October 14th:**

- Diaconate Meeting, 8:00 am.
- Communion Service.
- Women's Ministry/WIC Love Gift Special Offering; "*Cherish: A Ministry of Care and Nurture for Pastor's Wives.*"

### **Sunday, October 21st:**

- Fellowship Luncheon, immediately following the morning worship service.  
Leaders — Jackie & Grey Tripp  
Committee — Ray & Melanie Evans  
Andrea Ward  
Tyree Tripp
- Session Meeting, 4:30 pm.

**Sunday, October 28th:** HOP (Hooked on Prayer), 2:00 pm. If you have a heart to pray for the critically, chronically or terminally ill, HOP needs you.

**NOTE: If you are unable to serve for the Nursery or Fellowship Luncheon, please make arrangements to ensure there is adequate coverage.**

## October 2018



### **SHORTER CATECHISM**

**Q.17. Into what estate did the fall bring mankind?**

**A.** The fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery.

### **Scripture Proofs**

Genesis 3:16-19, 23  
Romans 3:16  
Romans 5:12  
Ephesians 2:1

**WOMEN'S COFFEE GET-TOGETHER  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 10:00am  
MACKIN'S HOUSE  
1611 MARENGO DRIVE**

### **Ladies of the Church,**

You are invited to a coffee time at my house on **Saturday, October 13 at 10:00 am.** We are hoping that all the ladies of the church will come. It will be a good time for us to just visit with each other as well as see the book that we will be studying this year.

The book is **IDENTITY THEFT: RECLAIMING THE TRUTH OF WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST**, edited by Melissa Kruger. Each chapter pertains to this theme of our identity, but each chapter is written by a different woman with a different story, followed by a memory verse and questions. The book cost is \$14.39 each. We will need to get a count of the ladies interested so that we will know how many books to order.

As we have done before, we will take turns being the leader. A sign-up sheet for leader and hostess will be provided. The first Morning Circle will be November 13, at 9:30 am and will be at the church.

Lately, we have had more ladies coming to the morning circle but this is a good time for us to consider if there is enough interest in having an evening circle for those that work or have little children.

I hope we will see many women at this "get-together" time!

Praying for our growth in faith and unity in Christ,  
Joy



Dear Church Family,

Our next trip to the border is coming up, classes start on Oct 15 and end Nov. 2 This trip as the others has as one if its goals to provide enough skill and knowledge for the students to get a job with a living wage possibly in one of the many **maquiladoras** along the border.

Before I talk about this next session, I want to encourage you to read the piece which was written by an MTW missionary at I55— **ARTICLE ON PAGES 5 & 6** (missionary is one that you can support). I think you will agree that “mission work” is not all “knock on doors” but much is just to make someone’s life a little happier and it can often be the giver.

Back to the next school session and skills to be taught: recently a church in Nebraska has partnered with I55 to have the students make certain products that the church will sell in their annual sale. Because of this I will be teaching cost analysis, quality control, sewing for a market niche, time restraints, packaging, inspection, and shipping. We will begin work on this the first week and then work part-time until the beginning of November.

In addition to the product manufacturing, our project for this year is a sweatshirt jacket with several new techniques. This will take up the rest of this session time and hopefully be completed by the end of the second session (March-April) of 2019.

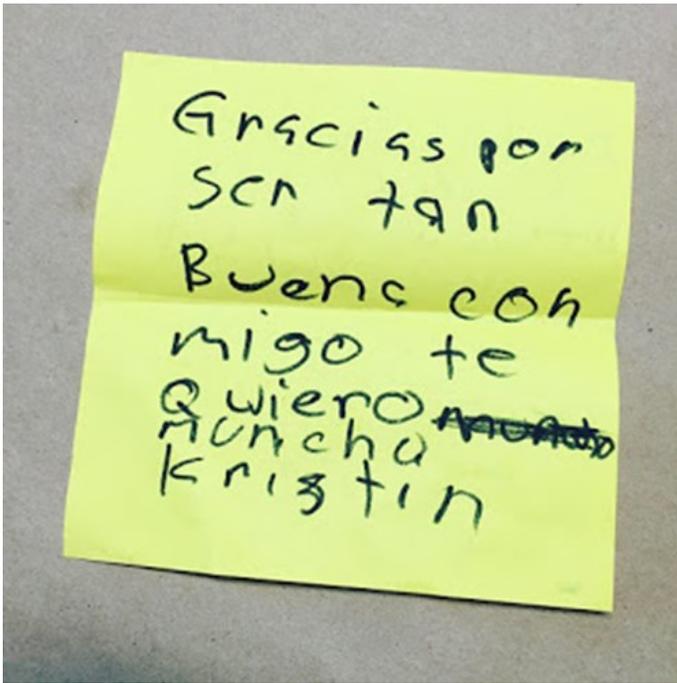
Please pray for all the prep work that needs to be done, for all the students, for my ability to switch from a non-hearing class to a faster paced hearing class, plus for my energy level, and for health and safety. Phil and I will be driving the 5<sup>th</sup> wheel to McAllen so that I have a place to stay on weekends.



Needs for the 2018-2019 school year include the following:

- Broken metal rulers,
- 1 pair of metal snips,
- 1 roll of duct tape,
- Unmatched socks,
- Clean worn jeans – can have holes,
- Ribbon remnants at least 8” long,
- Flat tennis balls,
- Mesh fabric – 15 yards,
- Kids patterned laminated fabric,
- Grosgrain ribbon  $\frac{3}{4}$ -1” wide and 15 yards long,
- Sheer ribbon  $\frac{7}{8}$ ”-1” wide and 15 yards long.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the Isaiah 55 ministry, Joyce Huizinga



**ARTICLE WRITTEN BY A MTW MISSIONARY AT 155:**

They come through our gate nearly every time the community center opens, a sister and brother with slight builds and dark hair and big brown eyes. You know when they arrive. They tend to be loud and proud. The little guy's pitch is higher than the Muppet Elmo. I confess, sometimes we ask him to repeat himself just so we can listen to him and then smile. Sometimes the middle brother comes along with them too, or one of several cousins, a couple of whom have names so similar that only a single vowel makes them different.

We started to know them and learn bits of their story about a year ago. Their dad died, probably the victim of a lifetime of hard circumstance compounded by poor choices. Sometimes it seems as we grieve his loss more than the kids do, these kids who have known loss after loss and keep on living life very matter of factly. They live in a small house a couple of blocks over from us, though their address has changed at least a couple times since we've known them. We're never quite sure what family members will be in their home when we walk them back in the evenings. Right now, they are all in school and seem to enjoy it. But, we are all too aware that could change on any given day.

These kids, they have few secrets. We're pretty sure that they say whatever crosses their mind. During Vacation Bible School, the cooking activities thrilled the youngest boy. He took a bite of his fruit tart and exclaimed, "*¡Es deliciOSO!*" The pendulum swung dramatically by the end of that same week, when he sobbed, nearly inconsolable, over a misplaced and then lost bottle of bubbles. The oldest, her expressions leave nothing hidden. Broad hand motions nearly always accompany her words, almost like a miniature conductor directing her own private orchestra. On this day during art class, obviously unimpressed by the origami project that is not going well at all, she singsongs cheerfully, "*Aburrida, aburrida, estoy muy aburrida...*" ("Bored, bored, I am very bored..."). I roll my eyes and laugh knowingly, and yet try to salvage the activity before the poorly folded boats shipwreck completely.

But at the end of that same class, this same very distracted girl grabs a piece of the square paper and the black sharpie pen we are using to make eyes on folded fish. Out of the corner of my own eye, I see her scribbling. I figure at least she's managing to entertain herself for the last few minutes instead of distracting the others. After a minute, she hollers my name and holds out the now folded paper. I take it and open it, and find the sweet note pictured above.

"Thank you for being so nice to me I love you much Kristin"

(note- in your mind, be sure to say "*Kris-teeen,*" with so much *eeeeee* that you don't really hear the *n...*)

What?! A thank you note?! I really appreciate that unexpected token. I look my young friend in the eye and thank her and give her a hug.

***(Continued to Page 6)***



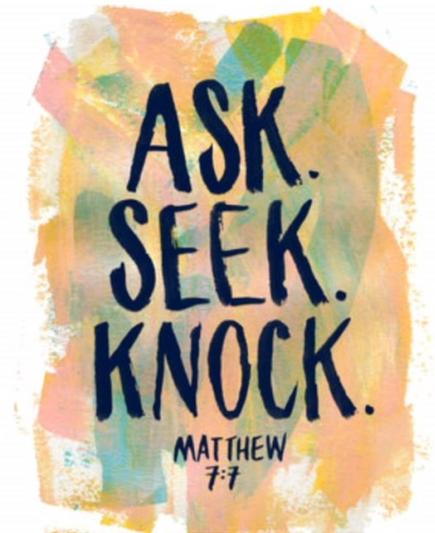
(Continued from Page 5)

But then her brother, seeing what just happened, he wants to write something too. The oldest of the two grabs my note and starts scratching out his own, copying his sister's words the same, one by one except for changing the name at the end to include one of my teammates. The youngest brother, he's in first grade and though he sings out the vowels with zeal, he's not really up to writing a full letter on his own, not quite yet. Determined not to be left out, he instructs me to write out his words. He dictates,

*Te quiero mucho. ¡Doy gracias!* (He said that part Very Enthusiastically so I added the exclamation points.) *Kim Ashley* (his intended recipients)

"I love you so much. I am thankful! Kim Ashley"  
He grabs the work almost before I dot the final "i" and shoves it at my friend and runs out of the room, already late to the next class.

Really, the class this day was something of a fail - I struggled with the origami and the kids struggled with the origami and there was not one bell, not one whistle, to make this day memorable or especially note-worthy. Even so, these kids must see something worthwhile in their time with us, enough to leave us with handwritten reminders. I think about resilience, about the grace that allows these young ones living in the midst of what some would consider chaos and hardship to still understand and express love. I think about how much grace we've been shown in our own lives, despite our impatience and all manner of sin, and I'm humbled. I think today maybe the teacher became the student.



**You will go out in joy and  
be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and hills will  
burst into song before you,  
and all the trees of the field  
will clap their hands.**

**Isaiah 55:12**



## Hooked On Prayer (HOP):

Allinder, Ike	Hilbish, Bette	Sakon, Ethan
Allinder, Kate	Hocker, Jeannie	Sharp, Chris
Bazuin, Caiden	Hogg, Ian	Sims, Anna Katherine
Beeler, Peggy	Holman, Joann	Sims, Sarah
Boggs, Ben	Hooks, Chesnee	Stemple, Nita
Brooker, Chrissy	Husbands, Jennie	Stephens, Kay
Brooker, Jan	Hux, Karen	Styles, Leon
Busby, Rhae	Jennifer (Missionary)	Taylor, Marie
Cistrunk, Narsis	Kimbrell, Tommy	TenHaaf, WM
Coburn, Luiza	Kirkland, Jamie	Terry, Pope
Coker, Jean	Kyser, Helen	Thornton, Alaina
Collins, Bette	LaRocca, Dominic	Tipton, Carolyn
Collins, Brandon	Lashley, Joe	Trayler, Drew
Combs, Angie	Latham, Jeffie	Tucker, Sadie
Cook, Buddy Roy	Leascher, Chad	VanderMolen, Popko
Cook, Jonathan	Leascher, Jim	Williams, Ed
Copeland, Roy	Lessman, Linus	Williams, Mary Lynne
Craig, Kaleigh	Ludeman, Brandon	Williamson, Trevor
Cross, Margaret	Marquis, Alana	Wise, Naomi
Crispin, Michelle	McCarter, Jean	Witherspoon, Mary Stewart
Daughtery, Jody	McCraw, Beverly	Womble, Caleb
Davidson, Karen	McDonald, Nelda	Wright, Hettie
Deas, Deloris	McIntier, Jodie	
Drinkard, Charles	Mickens, Jaleesa	
Duncan, Conner	Miller, Tommie	
Dunning, Norbourne	Mills, Angel	
Dyer, Doug	Milsap, Goldie	
Eatmon, Megan	Mize, Robin	
Eshee, Judy	Morgan, Laura	
Espy, Emily	Mullinax, Eddie	
Etheridge, Brooks	Mutisya, Cecilia Ndunge	
Ezell, Bobby	Newberry, Madi	
Farst, Dick	Parker, Mary	
Feller, Olivia	Perry, James	
Finley, Betty	Phillips, Max	
Fuqua, Blake	Pickerill, Paula	
Hart, Sarah Elizabeth	Plummer, Kaegan	
Harvey, John	Randall, Ruth	
Hayes, Betsy	Reynolds, Christy	
Hedrick, Gail	Saelens, Jacob	



## OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS

### All Military Personnel

Ch William Broderick  
 Kyle Westbrook  
 Dan Parsons  
 Sam Brasfield  
 Jason Freeman  
 Kyle Newton  
 Steven Mackin  
 Gregory Harrington  
 Jimmy Hart  
 Jonathan Stephens  
 Victor Resto  
 Daniel Phillips  
 Josh Allums  
 James Hayes  
 Joseph Wilson  
 Brian Tripp

### Cancer:

Jody Daugherty  
 Rita Poole Horton  
 Luke (Jonah's son)  
 Angela Green  
 Ava Hunter  
 Kaleigh Craig  
 James Perry  
 Scott Kirkpatrick

### Illnesses

Joe Bunn  
 Jimmie Lawrence  
 Brian Schrieber  
 Jennifer Cohen Sullivan  
 Sarah Marlene Chapman  
 Elizabeth Forehand  
 Carolyn Tipton  
 William Burke  
 Ian Hogg  
 Cecil Radcliff  
 Glenn Shealy  
 Dick Farst  
 Laura Morgan

### Special Needs

Joe Lashley  
 CJ Golston  
 RJ Blount  
 Loretta Strickland  
 Liz Bond  
 Michael Jacks  
 Melanie Hulsey  
 Sue Entrekin  
 Sarah Elizabeth Hart  
 Frank Ramey  
 Viola Cook  
 William R. Horton

If you know anyone who needs to be added or taken off any of these lists, please provide Ann Resto with the information to keep the prayer lists current.

### Shut-Ins:

Luiza Coburn  
 Mary Parker

**Please do not forget about the Christmas Cards for the Troops.**

How you can participate:

- prepare Christmas cards and include a personal and encouraging message;
- tell friends and family about our program as we want lots of cards to send; and
- pray for all of our servicemen and women.

Also, do not forget that the cards will need to be mailed out to the chaplains by November 15th for overseas delivery in order for the cards to be received by Christmas. If you have any questions, please contact Ann at the church office at 334-289-3895 or email at [demopres3895@bellsouth.net](mailto:demopres3895@bellsouth.net).



**“BE STRONG AND  
COURAGEOUS, FOR THE  
LORD WILL BE WITH YOU  
WHEREVER YOU GO”  
JOSHUA 1:9**