# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

**OCTOBER 2023** 

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# THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

John Knox brought the Reformation to Scotland. As Presbyterians, we look back to him as one of our closest forefathers in the way we practice our Reformed and Presbyterian Christian faith here in the United States in 2023. Let's have a look at him and thank the Lord for the brave men and women and boys and girls who have gone before us.

John Knox (1513-1572) was a complex man who lived in complicated times. This Protestant reformer and Scottish churchman was born in Haddington and after his studies was ordained priest in 1536. He became a tutor to the sons of landowners who had embraced the new religious ideals of the Reformation. Knox had become a Protestant by 1545 when he was bodyguard and assistant to the itinerant preacher, George Wishart. In 1546, however, Wishart was tried and executed, followed shortly by the assassination of Cardinal David Beaton and the occupation of his castle in St. Andrews by pro-Protestant conspirators. Knox joined these Castilians at Easter 1547 and soon after was compelled to preach his first sermon. A French fleet captured the castle and Knox was condemned to slavery on the French war galleys for nineteen months. Enduring severe illness and the agony of viewing his homeland from the oars, it was during this captivity that Knox's role as a religious leader of exiles was confirmed.

After release Knox preached in England during the reign of Edward VI, being appointed royal chaplain. But after the rise of Roman Catholic Mary Tudor following Edward's short reign, Knox fled to John Calvin's Geneva. These four years in Geneva, preaching to exiles, were happy times of productivity at a place Knox called 'the most perfect school of Christ that ever was in the earth since the days of the apostles'. He took a brief trip to England to marry Marjory Bowes, who gave birth to two sons in Geneva.

Knox wrote treatises concerning the right to revolt, *History of the Reformation in Scotland*, and contributed to the Geneva Bible. Knox returned to Scotland in 1559 after which his long struggle against Mary Queen of Scots ensued as well as his work with the Lords of the Congregation to bring reform to Scotland. Fearlessly preaching against the idolatry of the Mass, Knox is credited with bringing the Protestant Reformation to Scotland. Not alone in his ideals, it is Knox who gave Scotland a body of Protestant doctrine, an enduring pattern of worship, and introduced the Presbyterian system of church government.

Knox championed education, civic virtue, protection of women and children, and godly culture. Knox's contemporaries acknowledged that his powerful preaching from his Geneva Bible at St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh profoundly influenced Scotland's restoration from the barbarous domination of clans to Christian faith and liberty.

To God be the glory,

Pastor Josh

O Lord Eternal, move and govern my tongue to speak the truth.

Prayer is an earnest and familiar talking with God.

Let no day slip over without some comfort received from the mouth of God.

Lord, give me Scotland or I die!

~ John Knox (1513-1572)

Sun	Mon	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 WM Love Gift Offering	2 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am	3 WM Circle Study: 9:30am and 6:45pm	4 Fellowship: 6pm Study/Prayer: 6:15pm	5	6	7
8 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am Communion WM Love Gift Offering	9 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am WM Council Meeting: 5pm B-day: Allison Ward	10 WM Circle Study: 9:30am and 6:45pm	11 Fellowship: 6pm Study/Prayer: 6:15pm	12	13 <u>B-day</u> : Isabelle Basinger	14
15 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am WM Love Gift Offering Fellowship Potluck	16 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am B-day: Tyree Tripp	17  WM Circle Study: 9:30am and 6:45pm  Presbytery Meeting: 9am at Trinity PCA, Tuscaloosa	18 Fellowship: 6pm Study/Prayer: 6:15pm Session Meeting: 7pm B-day: Henry Carmichael Anniv: Erik & Rebecca Lessmann	19 B-day: Alan Lashley B-day: Erik Lessmann B-day: Eloise Coddington	20	21
22  Men's Appreciation Breakfast: 8:30am Joint Officer (Session/Deacon) Meeting: 8:30am Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am WM Love Gift Offering HOP: 2pm	23 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am B-day: Melanie Evans	24  WM Circle Study: 9:30am and 6:45pm  B-day: Peter Lessmann  Anniv: Alan & Karen Lashley	25 Fellowship: 6pm Study/Prayer: 6:15pm	26	27	28
29 Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11am Deacons Fund Offering WM Love Gift Offering B-day: Sadie Atkins	30 Game/Fellowship Time: 9:30am B-day: Tiffany Mackin	31 Reformation Day WM Circle Study: 9:30am and 6:45pm				

# **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OCTOBER**

**DEACONS OF THE MONTH:** David Coddington and Ray Evans

FOOD MINISTRY LEADER OF THE MONTH: Andrea Ward

#### **RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS:**

- Sunday School at 9:30 am.
- Sunday Worship at 11:00 am.
- Monday, Game/Fellowship Time, 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday, Women's Ministry Circle Study, 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall; 6:45 pm at Ann Resto's house.
- Wednesday Night Fellowship, Study, and Prayer time.
   Fellowship is at 6:00 pm and study and prayer time is at 6:15 pm.

<u>**DEACONS**</u>: Glenn Basinger, David Coddington, Mike Cork, and Ray Evans

2023	AUGUST	2023 YTD	
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 9,591.10	\$ 77,987.24	
Gen. Fund Expenses	<u>\$ 7,211.50</u>	\$ 74,309.26	
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 2,379.60	\$ 3,677.98	
<u>2022</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	2022 YTD	
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 7,070.00	\$ 67,854.62	
Gen. Fund Expenses	<u>\$ 8,821.71</u>	\$ 64,621.71	
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,751.71)	\$ 3,232.91	

**AUGUST AVERAGE ATTENDANCE**: 47

# **OCTOBER EVENTS**

October 8: Communion.

October 9: Women's Ministry Council Meeting, 5:00 pm.

October 15: Monthly Fellowship Potluck. Setup/Clean-up

Committee: Weltin and Coddington Families.

October 17: Presbytery Meeting, 9:00 am at Trinity

Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa.

October 18: Session Meeting, 7:00 pm.

## October 22:

- Men's Appreciation Breakfast, 8:30 am.
- Joint Officer (Session and Deacon) Meeting, 8:30 am.
- Hooked on Prayer (HOP) will meet at 2:00 pm at Eloise Harris' home. Please see page 4 for more details on this activity. For more information, please contact Eloise Harris or Joy Mackin.

#### October 29:

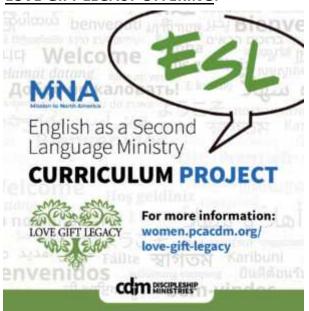
- Deacons Fund Special Offering.
- Women's Ministry Love Gift Legacy Offering.

# **HELP NEEDED**

The Demopolis Food Pantry has an on-going need specifically for 15-ounce cans of vegetables and fruit. We will maintain a collection box in the Fellowship Hall for donations to support the Food Pantry. Thanks for your support to help this vital community ministry!



# WOMEN'S MINISTRY LOVE GIFT LEGACY OFFERING:

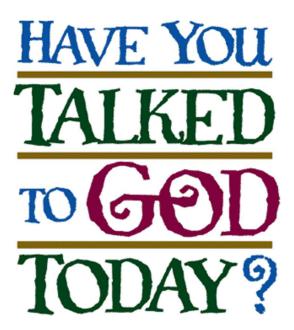


## **CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR THE TROOPS**

We hope you will get an early start and help support our Christmas Cards for the Troops annual event. Start planning now to prepare your cards. All cards will need to be delivered to the church by

November 12th.





# PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAITH PROMISE MISSIONARIES

Robert & Lisa Stewart Andy & Bev Warren Doug McNutt Jimmy & Nadia Dukes Joy Ayabe Clete Hux Jonah **General Support General Support** 

Chaplain Ministry

Mission to the World — Japan Mission to the World — Ethiopia Trinity Center for World Missions — Central Africa Reformed Evangelistic Fellowship — Peru Wycliffe Bible Translators — Papua New Guinea Apologetics Resource Center — Birmingham, AL Frontiers — Undisclosed Muslim Country The Lighthouse Women's Center — Demopolis, AL Palmer Home for Children — Hernando, MS Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC)

# **HOOKED ON PRAYER (HOP):**

Abrams, Riddell Acton, Beth Allinder, Kate Bazuin, Caiden Beale, Amy Beeler, Peggy Belcher, Samuel Brantley, Maggie Bridges, Ida Lee Brooker, Chrissy Brooker, Jan Brown, Walt Busby, Rhae Bynum, Linda Cooper, Dr. Clarence Davidson, Karen DeWitt, Robert Duncan, Conner

Dyer, Doug Finley, Betty Gardner, Greg

Graffeo, Anthony (A.J.)

Hall, Jimmy

Hart, Sarah Elizabeth Haubert, Chloe Belle Headley, David

Hocker, Jeannie Hoggle, Judy Huizenga, Fran Hux, Karen

Lane, Barbara

Lawrence, Lisa Lessmann, Linus Ligon, Brandon Mackin, Jimmy Mader, Rebecca Margo, Chrissy McIntier, Jodie Miles, Connie Morgan, Laura Morris, Seth Ndunge, Cecilia Parr, Higley Phillips, Ronnie Ramey, Carrie Renner, Andy Renner, Elizabeth Reynolds, Christy Sharp, Chris

Sims, Anna Katherine Stewart, Lee

Thornton, Alaina Tipton, Carolyn Townsend, Laura

Tulipan, Amelia Tulipan, Hansen Turner, Becky

Twist, Ty

VanderMolen, Popko Wilder, Emily (Espy) Womble, Caleb

Zimmerman, Steve

If you have a heart to pray for the critically, chronically or terminally ill, HOP needs you.

> Can you pray? WE NEED YOU!

Can you knit or crochet? WE NEED YOU!

# Can you write note cards? WE NEED YOU!

HOP is a prayer shawl ministry. We give shawls, throws, or blankets to the critically, chronically, or terminally ill to let them know we are praying for them. You do not need to know how to knit or crochet to be involved.

Any monetary gifts or donations of supplies, yarn, note cards and/or postage is greatly appreciated.

Please contact Eloise Harris or Joy Mackin for more information on how you can get involved.



#### **OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### Cancer:

Luke (Jonah's son) Scott Kirkpatrick Jimmy Mackin Rick Wilson Jimmy Hall

#### Illness:

Laura Morgan **Neal Bules** David Headley Linda Dunning

#### Special Needs:

The Hutton Family

#### Other Needs:

Christina & Danny Addison Abigayle Kircharr Harry Jeong

#### **Military Personnel:**

Chaplain William Broderick Sam Brasfield Steven Mackin Victor Resto Joseph Wilson Josh Tyson Blake Ivy **Austin Griffith** Kaleb Brown Nathan McCaskill

# In the Mission Field:

Lucy Lessmann — Costa Rica

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.