

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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JUNE 2024

## THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

### *Our God is in heaven*

*and does whatever he pleases.*

Psalm 115:3

Dr. Knox Chamblin introduced this verse to our faculty-led prayer group one Wednesday morning at RTS-Jackson. His devotional on this verse concerned the personal and family challenges he was facing. He assumed that seminary students would benefit from his witness and counsel. He was surely correct. This verse has been a mainstay for me for 25 years now.

### *Our God*

Believers—regenerate members of the body of Christ—can collectively use the personal plural pronoun to refer to *our* God. Has that wondrous fact ceased to amaze you of late? God is the creator of the heavens and the earth, of the sea and all that is in them. He is *our* God. He is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He is *our* God. Yet he will not fail to judge the wicked and rebellious according to their sin. He is *our* God. He sent his Son to live for us and to die for our sins. Jesus rose again and sent his Holy Spirit to dwell within every believer. He is *our* God. Do not lose your sense of wonder at your close and personal relationship with God through Christ.

### *Our God is in heaven*

Since God is in heaven, Derek Thomas tells us, “The one who most desires to help us is *able* to do so. Because he resides in heaven he is in a position to do for us what we cannot do. ‘His almighty arm,’ writes Witsius, ‘which is ever ready to be stretched forth in behalf of his own people, no created power is able to resist.’” Is that good news of what? By being in heaven, John Calvin writes, God “is lifted up above all chance of either corruption or change...it is as if he had been said to be of infinite greatness or loftiness, of incomprehensible essence, of boundless might, and of everlasting immortality.” We are needy creatures made in God’s image. He is capable to meet our needs according to his wisdom and good pleasure.

### *and does whatever he pleases.*

As we meditate on this profound truth, remember that “God is a spirit, Whose being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable” (WSC Q. 4). We want him to always do *whatever he pleases*. Do we want this with fallen humans? Not so much! But with God... A God “who is not the prisoner of circumstances but their master, is a God to glory in” (D. Kidner). Indeed. We often feel trapped as in quicksand or even concrete. Not so with God. He is determined to accomplish his will. And that includes finishing the good work he began in each of us (see. Phil. 1).

Our God is in heaven and does whatever he pleases. This is great news for us today and every day. It has been for the church in all ages. Friends, we look around both nearby, in our country, and around the world and we see wickedness, abuse of power, immorality, and injustice. God sees it too. And God remains in control. Jesus remains the King of kings. And his Spirit remains the Spirit of truth. So you remain steadfast under whatever trial you may be facing. And pray for your spiritual leaders to do the same. I will close with further verses from Psalm 115. *You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and shield. The LORD remembers us and will bless us. ... he will bless those who fear the LORD—small and great alike (11-12a, 13).*

In Him,

Pastor Josh

Our God  
is in the heavens;  
He does all  
that He pleases.  
Psalm 115:3



**SUN**

**MON**

**TUE**

**WED**

**THU**

**FRI**

**SAT**

						1 <b>Mary Harbin Baby Shower:</b> 10:30am
2 <b>Sunday School:</b> 9:30am <b>Worship:</b> 11am	3 <b>Game/Fellowship</b> <b>Time:</b> 9:30am	4 <b>B-day:</b> Eliza Kate Gill	5	6	7	8 <b>B-day:</b> Claire Mackin
9 <b>Deacon Meeting</b> <b>Sunday School:</b> 9:30am <b>Worship:</b> 11am <b>Communion</b>	10 <b>Game/Fellowship</b> <b>Time:</b> 9:30am <b>WM Council Meeting:</b> 5pm	11	12	13 <b>B-day:</b> Emily Gill	14	15 <b>B-day:</b> Jimmy Mackin
16 <b>Father's Day</b> <b>Sunday School:</b> 9:30am <b>Worship:</b> 11am <b>Fellowship Potluck</b>	17 <b>Game/Fellowship</b> <b>Time:</b> 9:30am	18	19 <b>B-day:</b> Moses McNutt <b>B-day:</b> Milledge Carmichael	20	21	22
23 <b>Sunday School:</b> 9:30am <b>Worship:</b> 11am <b>HOP:</b> 2pm	24 <b>Game/Fellowship</b> <b>Time:</b> 9:30am	25 <b>B-day:</b> Morris Carmichael	26	27 <b>B-day:</b> Mills McClure <b>Anniv:</b> Trey & Chonda Griffith	28 <b>B-day:</b> Hannah Mackin <b>B-day:</b> Ann Resto	29 <b>B-day:</b> Karen Lashley <b>B-day:</b> Jackie Ward <b>B-day:</b> Grey Tripp
30 <b>Sunday School:</b> 9:30am <b>Worship:</b> 11am <b>Deacon's Fund Offering</b> <b>B-day:</b> Katy Basinger						

# UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JUNE

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

**FOOD MINISTRY LEADER OF THE MONTH:** Melanie Evans

**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.

**SESSION:** Dr. Josh Carmichael, Teaching Elder. Ruling Elders: Dennis Davidson, Scott Kirkpatrick, Jimmy Mackin, and Billy Symon.

**DEACONS:** Glenn Basinger, David Coddington, Mike Cork, and Ray Evans.

<u>2024</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>2024 YTD</u>
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 10,490.16	\$ 42,174.43
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$ 7,987.29	\$ 38,718.81
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 2,502.87	\$ 3,455.62
<u>2023</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>2023 YTD</u>
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 11,705.26	\$ 39,460.14
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$ 7,279.98	\$ 34,147.30
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 4,425.28	\$ 5,312.84

**MARCH AVERAGE ATTENDANCE:** 39

## JUNE EVENTS

**June 1:** The ladies are invited to Mary Harbin’s Baby Shower to be held at Rebecca Lessmann’s home at 10:30 am.

**June 9:**

- Deacon Meeting.
- Communion.

**June 10:** Women’s Ministry Council Meeting, 5:00 pm.

**June 16:**

- Father’s Day
- Monthly Fellowship Potluck Luncheon, immediately following the worship service. Setup/Cleanup Committee: Mackin, Basinger and Buroker families.

**June 23:** Hooked on Prayer (HOP) meeting, 2:00 pm at Eloise Harris’ home. For more information on HOP please see page 4.

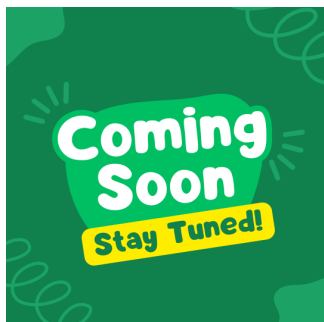
**June 30:** Deacon’s Fund Special Offering. This offering is taken whenever there is a 5th Sunday in the month. The Deacon’s Fund provides limited financial assistance to those in our congregation and community who find themselves with a special need.

## KITCHEN RENOVATION UPDATE

We extend our gratitude to everyone who has dedicated their hard work to our kitchen renovation project! The kitchen underwent several improvements: the removal of wallpaper, repairs and fresh paint on the walls and ceiling, fixing wood damage on the island, replacement of the old flooring, and a new coat of paint for the walk-in pantry.



As we strive to have our kitchen functional for the upcoming potluck on June 16th, the kitchen cabinets are being cleared out, with many items set aside for disposal. These items are now available in the Fellowship Hall for anyone interested. Feel free to take what you need, and if you do so, kindly consider leaving a donation for the Women’s Ministry kitchen fund. Any remaining items will be discarded the week before the June potluck.



**Puddle Jumpers 2024 is fast approaching. We are now recruiting help for the upcoming sale. Be watching for more information coming soon.**

# HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?

JUNE 2024

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAITH PROMISE MISSIONARIES

Robert & Lisa Stewart	Mission to the World — Japan
Andy & Bev Warren	Mission to the World — Ethiopia
Doug McNutt	Trinity Center for World Missions — Central Africa
Jimmy & Nadia Dukes	Reformed Evangelistic Fellowship — Peru
Joy Ayabe	Wycliffe Bible Translators — Papua New Guinea
Clete Hux	Apologetics Resource Center — Birmingham, AL
Jonah	Frontiers — Undisclosed Muslim Country
General Support	The Lighthouse Women's Center — Demopolis, AL
General Support	Palmer Home for Children — Hernando, MS
Chaplain Ministry	Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel (PRCC)

## HOOKED ON PRAYER (HOP):

Acton, Beth	Lawrence, Lisa
Allinder, Kate	Lessmann, Linus
Anderson, Kirsta	Ligon, Brandon
Aultman, Keegan	Mader, Rebecca
Beale, Amy	Margo, Chrissy
Beeler, Peggy	McIntier, Jodie
Belcher, Samuel	Morgan, Laura
Brooker, Chrissy	Morris, Seth
Brooker, Jan	Petite, Maddie
Brown, Walt	Phillips, Ronnie
Busby, Rhae	Ramey, Carrie
Bynum, Linda	Renner, Andy
Davidson, Karen	Renner, Elizabeth
Desmond, Huey	Reynolds, Christy
Duncan, Conner	Stewart, Lee
Dyer, Doug	Townsend, Laura
Earl, Amelia (Tulipan)	Tulipan, Hansen
Finley, Betty	Turner, Becky
Gardner, Greg	Twist, Ty
Graffeo, Anthony (A.J.)	VanderMolen, Popko
Hall, Jimmy	Wilder, Emily (Espy)
Hart, Sarah Elizabeth	Womble, Caleb
Haubert, Chloe Belle	
Headley, David	
Hocker, Jeannie	
Hogle, Judy	
Hux, Karen	
Johnson, Glenda	

**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  
Eliza Horton

### Military Personnel:

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

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.

