

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

300 N. Strawberry Avenue
Demopolis, AL 36732
334-289-3895
www.demopolispresbyterian.com
fpcdemopolis@gmail.com

JANUARY 2025

THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

In 2025: Let us be quick to hear (see James 1:19 ESV)
Let's consider how to be wise—how to live skillfully—in the use of our ears, that is, in how we listen.

*Hear, my son, your father's instruction,
and forsake not your mother's teaching,
for they are a graceful garland for your head
and pendants for your neck.*

*My son, if sinners entice you,
do not consent.*
(Proverbs 1:8-10)

*He who answers before listening--that is his folly
and his shame.*
(Proverbs 18:13)

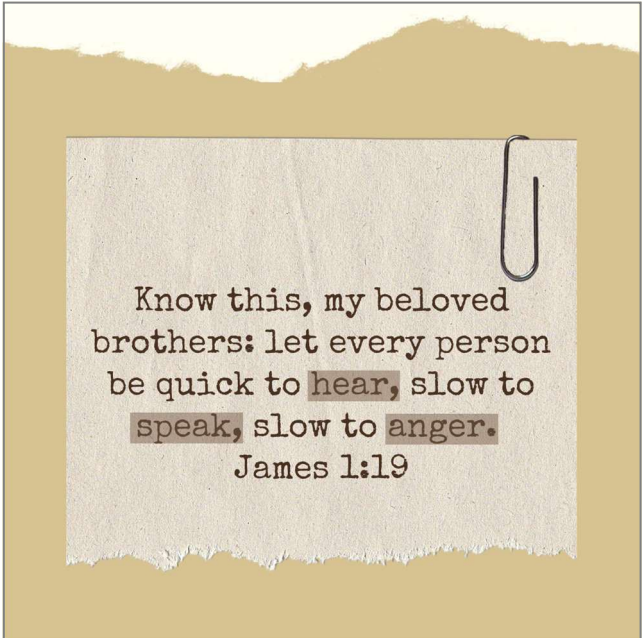
*Pay attention and listen to the sayings of the wise;
apply your heart to what I teach,
for it is pleasing when you keep them in your heart
and have all of them ready on your lips.
So that your trust may be in the Lord.*
(Proverbs 22:17-19a)

Generally speaking, who should we listen to? The wise people in our lives, such as our parents, our grandparents, our mentors, our teachers, people we know to have the wisdom of experience. We listen to the LORD as he speaks in his word. Oh, and, of course, the person speaking to you or to me at any given moment. At least let the speaker finish before you rattle back an answer (or *Facebook post, etc.*). The proverbs are big on listening ... and listening thoughtfully.

Who should we resist or actively ignore? Sinners. That is, those set on evil (1:11-19); scoffers and fools (1:22); the adulteress (7-9); the worthless, wicked, whisperer, and winker (6:12-15). You get the point. We do not listen to those who can lead us astray. And we never outgrow this wisdom!

But why the focus on our ears? So that we may live lives adorned with grace, treat others with respect, be life-long learners, be wise ourselves, grow in knowledge, be ready to give an answer, and display our trust in the LORD.

A prayer to begin a new year: Lord Jesus, In Isaiah 50, the prophet spoke of you as one who listened to your Father morning by morning so that you had the tongue of one who was taught. And in the Scripture you revealed to us the words of your Father. Please help us to be people who listen, who learn, and who know what to say and when to say it. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Know this, my beloved
brothers: let every person
be quick to **hear**, slow to
speak, slow to **anger**.
James 1:19

JANUARY 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

			1 <u>NEW YEARS HOLIDAY</u>	2 <u>B-day</u> : Jonathan Cannon	3 <u>Anniv</u> : Billy & Ruth Symon	4
5 <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am	6 <u>Game/Fellowship</u> <u>Time</u> : 9:30am <u>B-day</u> : Kristy Atkins	7	8 <u>B-day</u> : Isaac Cannon	9 <u>B-day</u> : Marcie Coddington	10	11
12 <u>Deacon Meeting</u> <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>Communion</u>	13 <u>Game/Fellowship</u> <u>Time</u> : 9:30am	14 <u>WM Circle Study</u> : 9:30 am	15 <u>Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time</u> : 6pm <u>Session Meeting</u> : 7pm	16	17	18 <u>B-day</u> : Edith Gill
19 <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>Fellowship Potluck</u>	20 <u>Game/Fellowship</u> <u>Time</u> : 9:30am <u>MLK HOLIDAY</u>	21 <u>WM Circle Study</u> : 9:30 am <u>Presbytery Meeting</u>	22 <u>Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time</u> : 6pm	23	24	25 <u>WP WM Annual Meeting</u>
26 <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>Congregational Meeting?</u> <u>HOP</u> : 2pm	27	28 <u>WM Circle Study</u> : 9:30 am <u>B-day</u> : Ozzy Resto	29 <u>Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time</u> : 6pm	30	31	

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY

DEACONS OF THE MONTH: Glenn Basinger and Mike Cork

MEAL MINISTRY LEADER OF THE MONTH: Ann Resto

RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS:

- Sunday School at 9:30 am.
- Sunday Worship at 11:00 am.
- Monday Game Time at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday Fellowship, Study, and Prayer Time at 6:00 pm 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>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>2024 YTD</u>
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 9,382.55	\$ 113,582.79
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$ 7,577.90	\$ 100,979.55
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,804.65	\$ 12,603.24
<u>2023</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>2023 YTD</u>
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 8,250.58	\$ 107,257.62
Gen. Fund Expenses	\$ 7,105.25	\$ 92,487.37
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,145.33	\$ 14,770.25

NOVEMBER AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 42

JANUARY EVENTS

January 12:

- Deacon Meeting.
- Communion.

January 14: Women's Ministry Circle Study, 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. See below for more information.

January 15:

- Wednesday night fellowship, study and prayer time resumes.
- Session Meeting, 7:00 pm.

January 19: Monthly Fellowship Potluck Luncheon, immediately following the worship service. Setup/Cleanup Committee: Symon, Colgrove, Davidson and Lashley families.

January 21: Warrior Presbytery Meeting.

January 25: Warrior Presbytery Women's Ministry Annual Meeting, at Riverwood PCA in Tuscaloosa. Registration and Fellowship from 9:00 to 9:30. The program, "**Freedom From Fear**" will be presented by our own Bess Weltin and Melanie Evans. RSVP is January 5, 2025.

January 26:

- Congregational Meeting immediately following the worship service to discuss the 2025 Budget items. (*Tentatively scheduled.*)
- Hooked on Prayer (HOP) meeting, 2:00 pm at Eloise Harris' home. For more information on HOP please see page 4.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CIRCLE STUDY

The Women's Ministry Circle study will resume every Tuesday morning beginning on January 14th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall and will be led by Karen Lashley. The books are \$16.00 each.

This video study will be from the book, "**No Empty Word: Relentless Pursuit, a Study on Hosea**," by Paula Miles (PCA/CDM). This study will focus on the graphic story of God's deep love, relentless pursuit, and transformation of His faithless and sinful people. With plot twists expected in a romantic movie, God called the prophet Hosea to marry and love the unfaithful prostitute, Gomer, to live out the reality of God's relationship with Israel—and us.

We hope the ladies will embrace our next study as we continue to grow together in God's Word.

SAVE THE DATE:

2024 MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Save the date for our 38th Missions Conference which will be held on **February 15 and 16, 2024.**

Guest missionaries:

Rev. Mitch Haubert, Pastor at Brent Missionary PCA, Chaplain of the Bibb County Correctional Facility, and Director of UnBound216 (formerly known as Jumpstart Alabama) prison ministry.

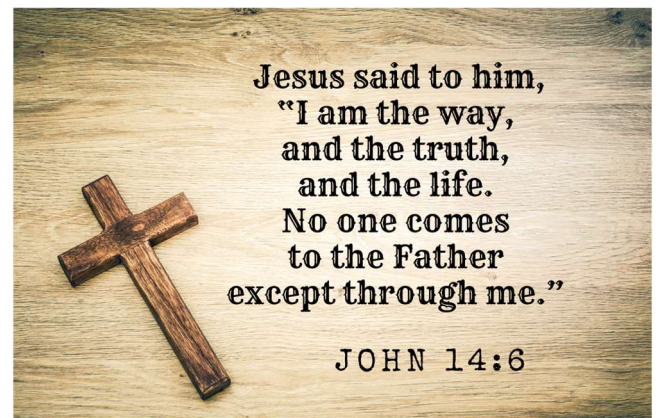
Rev. Jimmy Dukes of Reformed Evangelical Fellowship in Peru.

Rev. Whit Lewis, Senior Director of Community & Church Partnerships of Palmer Home for Children.

Scripture: Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)

Theme: Jesus is the only way.

More information will be coming in the next several weeks. Plan ahead and save the date to attend this event as we get ready to kickoff another Faith Promise year of giving.



HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?

JANUARY 2025

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	Mader, Rebecca
Aultman, Keegan	Malone, Bessie
Beale, Amy	Margo, Chrissy
Beeler, Peggy	McIntier, Jodie
Belcher, Samuel	Mee, Marilyn
Brooker, Chrissy	Morgan, Laura
Brooker, Jan	Morris, Seth
Busby, Rhae	Odom, Kassidy
Bynum, Linda	Phillips, Ronnie
Davidson, Karen	Ramey, Carrie
Duncan, Conner	Regener, Mark
Dyer, Doug	Renner, Andy
Earl, Amelia (Tulipan)	Renner, Elizabeth
Faust, Maggie	Reynolds, Christy
Gardner, Greg	Sharpe, Adam
Graffeo, Anthony (A.J.)	Stewart, Lee
Gross, Ernie	Townsend, Laura
Hall, Jimmy	Tulipan, Hansen
Hart, Sarah Elizabeth	Twist, Ty
Haubert, Chloe Belle	VanderMolen, Popko
Headley, David	Wilder, Emily (Espy)
Hux, Karen	Womble, Caleb
Johnson, Glenda	
Lawrence, Bill	
Lawrence, Lisa	
Lessmann, Linus	
Ligon, Brandon	

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
Rick Wilson
Jimmy Hall
Adam Sharpe
Bessie Malone

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
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.