## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

### **FEBRUARY 2025**

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### THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

# Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. Psalm 119:18 (ESV)

You may have noticed that I have recently begun including this prayer sometimes before beginning my sermons. In it we are asking God's Spirit to illuminate his Word for us that it may indeed be that lamp unto our feet and light unto our paths (see Ps. 119:105). How might we cultivate that prayer into our daily Bible reading? I have a simple suggestion.

Let us consider another word about God's Word, 2 Timothy 3:16. It reads, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

#### All Scripture is breathed out by God

That is, the Bible is God's Word, not the word of man. The Apostle Peter helps us here. He states the doctrine of inspiration clearly: "No prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Pet. 1:20b-21). In other words, when we read the Bible, it is God speaking to us.

#### Profitable for teaching

Therefore, as we read our Bible, let us ask of each verse or paragraph or passage, "What does this passage teach me?" What does this passage teach me about God, myself, the world God made, sin, salvation, etc.? We want to gain an understanding of the original meaning of this particular passage of Scripture. Then we consider what it means for us individually and corporately.

#### Profitable for reproof

"Does this passage rebuke me in some way?" Does this passage command me to stop doing anything or to start doing something I am leaving undone? We want to seek to apply God's Word to ourselves and our own situations and circumstances.

#### Profitable for correction

"How can the teaching of this passage transform me?" How does this passage offer either general or specific action steps to make right the things that are wrong in my life? For example, what about my attitude and motivation and my way of thinking? How can these be brought into more conformity with Christ?

#### Profitable for training in righteousness

"What equipment does this passage of Scripture give me for serving Christ?" How does this passage instruct me and tell me how to live rightly. What does this verse say about how I can be more holy even as God is holy? What actions should I take to cultivate a life in which I follow my Good Shepherd down paths of righteousness for his name's sake (see Ps. 23)? Based on this passage, how ought I to live? Let us develop some specific ways of putting the biblical teaching into practice.

May God open our eyes to behold wondrous things in his holy, infallible, and inerrant Word!

In Him, Pastor Josh



Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. Psalm 119:18



# FEBRUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Τυε	WED	Тни	Fri	Sat
						1 <u>B-day</u> : Logan Griffith
2 <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>WM Council Meeting</u>	3 <u>Game/Fellowship</u> <u>Time</u> : 9:30am	4	5 <u>Church-wide Cleanup</u> : 9am <u>B-day</u> : Kip McClure <u>B-day</u> : Price McClure	6	7	8
9 <u>Deacon Meeting</u> <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>Communion</u> <u>B-day</u> : Sally Lessmann	10 <u>Game/Fellowship</u> <u>Time</u> : 9:30am <u>B-day</u> : Kelly McNutt	11 <u>WM Circle Study</u> : 9:30 am	12 Fellowship, Study & Prayer Time: 6pm Session Meeting: 7pm	13	14 <u>Valentines Day</u>	15 <u>Missions Conference</u> 8am Men's Breakfast 11:30am Ladies' Luncheon 5:30pm Family BBQ Dinner 6:30pm Missions Presentations 8pm Fellowship
16 <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>Guest Minister</u> : Rev. Mitch Haubert <u>Fellowship Potluck</u> <u>B-day</u> : Hallie Basinger	17 <u>Presidents' Day</u> <u>Holiday</u> <u>Game/Fellowship</u> <u>Time</u> : 9:30am	18 <u>WM Circle Study</u> : 9:30 am	19 <u>Fellowship, Study &amp;</u> <u>Prayer Time</u> : 6pm	20	21	22
23 <u>Sunday School</u> : 9:30am <u>Worship</u> : 11am <u>HOP</u> : 2pm	24 <u><b>B-day</b></u> : Ezran Resto	25 <u>WM Circle Study</u> : 9:30 am	26 <u>Fellowship, Study &amp;</u> <u>Prayer Time</u> : 6pm	27	28 <u>B-day</u> : Mike Cork	

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

DEACONS OF THE MONTH: David Coddington and Ray Evans

MEAL MINISTRY LEADER OF THE MONTH: Bernice Cork

#### **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.

2024	DECEMBER	2024 YTD	
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 10,817.10	\$ 124,399.89	
Gen. Fund Expenses	<u>\$ 12,073.28</u>	<u>\$ 113,052.83</u>	
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,256.18)	\$ 11,347.06	
<u>2023</u>	DECEMBER	2023 YTD	
Gen. Fund Contributions	\$ 13,512.95	\$ 120,770.57	
Gen. Fund Expenses	<u>\$ 10,871.29</u>	<u>\$ 103,358.66</u>	
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 2,641.66	\$ 17,411.91	

#### DECEMBER AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 45

#### **FEBRUARY EVENTS**

**<u>February 2</u>**: Women's Ministry Council Meeting, immediately following the worship service

#### February 9:

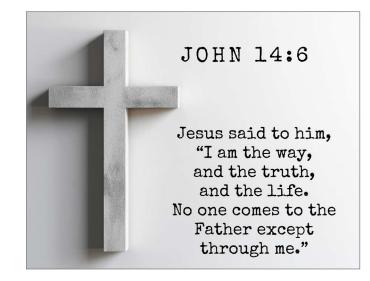
- Deacon Meeting.
- Communion.

February 12: Session Meeting, 7:00 pm.

February 15: 38th Annual Missions Conference.

<u>February 16</u>: Monthly Fellowship Potluck Luncheon, immediately following the worship service. Setup/Cleanup Committee: Coddington, Ward, Buroker, Harbin families.

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







#### **38th Annual Missions Conference**

Please join us on February 15th and 16th for our annual Missions Conference event.

Theme: "Jesus is the Only Way"

Key Verse: John 14:6

Hymn: Jesus Saves

Guest Missionaries:

- Rev. Mitch Haubert, Pastor at Brent Missionary PCA, Chaplain of the Bibb County Correctional Facility, and Director of UnBound216 prison ministry.
- Rev. Jimmy Dukes of Reformed Evangelical Fellowship in Peru.
- Rev. Whit Lewis of Palmer Home for Children.

#### Saturday, February 15th

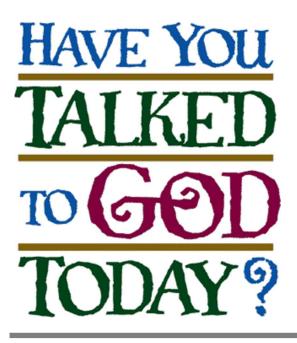
8:00 am Men's Breakfast

11:30 am Women's Luncheon

- 5:30 pm Family BBQ Dinner
- 6:30 pm Missions Presentations8:00 pm Fellowship and Desserts

#### Sunday, February 16th

9:30 am Sunday School11:00 am Worship Service, Sermon by Rev. Mitch Haubert12:00 pm Fellowship Potluck



#### 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):

Acton, Beth Aultman, Keegan Beale, Amy Beeler, Peggy Belcher, Samuel Brooker, Chrissy Brooker, Jan Busby, Rhae Bynum, Linda Davidson, Karen Duncan, Conner Dyer, Doug Earl, Amelia (Tulipan) Faust, Maggie Gardner, Greg Graffeo, Anthony (A.J.) Gross, Ernie Hale, Christopher Daniel Hall, Jimmy Hart, Sarah Elizabeth Haubert, Chloe Belle Headley, David Hux, Karen Johnson, Glenda Lawrence, Bill Lawrence, Lisa Lessmann, Linus

Ligon, Brandon Loney, Judith Mader, Rebecca Malone, Bessie Margo, Chrissy McIntier, Jodie Mee, Marilyn Morgan, Laura Morris, Seth Odom, Kassidy Phillips, Ronnie Ramey, Carrie Regener, Mark Renner, Andy Renner, Elizabeth Reynolds, Christy Sharpe, Adam Stewart, Lee Townsend, Laura Tulipan, Hansen Twist, Ty VanderMolen, Popko Wilder, Emily (Espy) Womble, Caleb

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**

<u>Cancer</u>: Luke (Jonah's son) Scott Kirkpatrick Rick Wilson Jimmy Hall Adam Sharpe Bessie Malone Lulu (Kendall) Ivy

<u>Illness</u>: Laura Morgan Neal Bules David Headley Linda Dunning

<u>Special Needs</u>: 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.