



# OUR PURPOSE

[how we get there]



*"I see this campaign as an opportunity not only for the future, but also for spiritual renewal in our congregation now. There is nothing like a common goal and a common prayer to bring forth a sense of purpose and renewal. This campaign means hope and love. This special family here on the square raised me in the love of Christ, raised my children in the love of Christ, and I hope will raise my grandchild and many others in that same love. Opportunity to serve this family and the community excites me. Opportunity, hope, love, and a renewal in Christ is my prayer for this campaign." — Sharon Hand*

On Sunday, November 22, 2015, everyone will be given the opportunity to make a three-year commitment over and above what you are already giving. Our gifts will not be equal in amount, but they will be equal in sacrifice.

*"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."*

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us." — II Cor 9:6-11*

 FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
ATHENS, ALABAMA

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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Athens, AL 35611

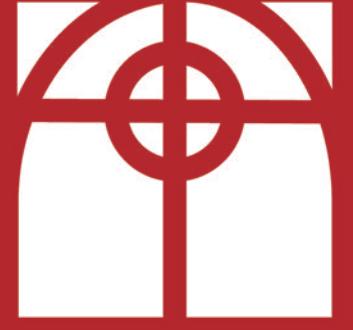
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## Serving...On the Square

 FIRST  
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ATHENS, ALABAMA





# OUR STORY

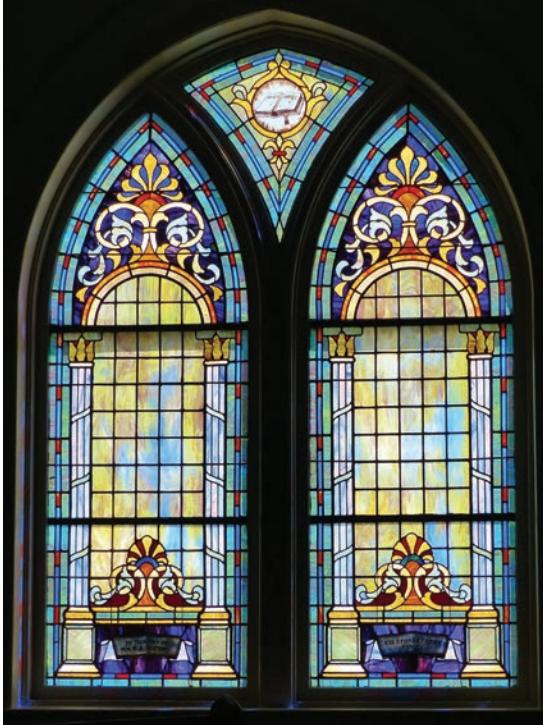
[who we are]

*"One of my earliest memories as a young child is sitting on one of those hard pews we had, and looking at the beautiful stained glass, especially the one with the lambs. Today, they are the first thing I look at after I sit down, (on a cushioned pew), and no matter where I am on a Sunday morning, at some point I still reflect upon those beautiful windows in our Church on the Square."* —Ruth Whitten

*"My church is a sanctuary where I find a special closeness with God as well as the FPC family. It encompasses the spirit of worship, feeds my needs, and brings me joy!"* —Joyce Counter

*"My church is a family of families with all the blessings of love and problems and disagreements of every extended family, but every Sunday is a family reunion, full of love."* —Duane Counter

For over a century, First Presbyterian Church has been "the church on the square," serving our community and the world. Because of its location near the center of Athens, our building and our congregation have long been involved with and committed to the well-being of both our church family and our community. It is our hope First Presbyterian will continue to be a sanctuary to all who are part of the family of God.



- Restore our historic stained glass windows in the sanctuary
- Restore the steeple; secure and seal the sanctuary brick
- Renovate the Clem Tire building, creating a multipurpose space which will serve both our church and the community
- Paint and re-floor education building and Rodgers Center



# OUR VISION

[where we are going]

We have a unique opportunity to impact and renew the mission of Christ by FPC Athens. This capital and stewardship campaign is not an end in itself; it is a means to an end. Its deepest purpose is to be obedient to the vision that God has given us to strengthen our church's witness and mission. Additionally, completing these capital projects now will aid us in attracting a pastor who will lead us as we strive to serve God.

In the words of Chris Paysinger, "Renovating the former Clem Tire Building is all about taking that building and seeing if it can project our mission into the community."

This church has been serving for 186 years and using this building in such service for 126 years. However, the mission of this historic church is far greater than a building. Our mission is among the mighty acts of God and is a very vital part of what God is doing to redeem the world. By being good stewards of the facilities, we prepare to serve for the next 186 years, actively participating in what God is doing here on the Square and around the world.

*"First Presbyterian Church in Athens is a beautiful church of love and acceptance. No matter where you are in your journey of faith, FPC stands with open minds, open hearts, and open arms to welcome you. We live and love in that experience."* —Hal and Karan Baker