



# First Presbyterian Church on the Square

## SEPTEMBER 2024 GRAPEVINE

Dear FPC Members & Friends:

September, 2024

One of the reasons we love reading the Bible is because it helps us recognize God's remarkable gifts to our FPC Church Family.

This past week as I read a passage from the Old Testament, I recognized a connection between the Book of Zechariah and FPC Athens.

Written over 2,000 years ago, Zechariah prophesies that God's people in ancient Israel will delight in intergenerational worship, fellowship, and outreach. People of all ages will share the joy of trusting the Almighty God who calls all of Israel to be his children.

3 Thus says the Lord: I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts

shall be called the holy mountain. 4 Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age.

5 And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.

(Zechariah 8:3-5 )

God's miraculous promise for Israel was fulfilled about 500 years before the birth of Christ, after the return of Jewish exiles from Babylon

More than 2,500 years later in Athens, Alabama, God's gracious blessing of intergenerational faith continues to bring great joy to our FPC congregation and community.

As we worship every Sunday as the Church on the Square, and meet throughout the week in homes, groups and other gatherings, we continue to delight in the intergenerational nature of all of FPC's ministries. Listening to the same call that ancient ancestors heard, the FPC Family shares great joy as people of all ages trust and serve the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Susan and I look forward to sharing with you the joy of the Fall Season!

Blessings,

Pastor Karl

## ANNOUNCEMENTS!



- All submissions for Grapevine and the monthly calendar should be sent by email (fpcathens@fpcathens.org) or by phone (256-232-0122) by the 20th of the month.
- Directories are now available in the church office!
- Office hours are Monday - Thursday from 9am - 1pm.



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### The Church Nominating Committee has a new slate of officer candidates for the Class of 2027:

Elders- David Lyle, Deanna McNeill, Chris Shindorf

Trustee- David Whitten

There will be a Congregational Meeting on October 6th at 11am in the Sanctuary to vote on the candidates. As always, nominations will be accepted from the floor.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

**PW Circle will meet on  
Tuesday September 3rd  
at 1pm in Rodgers**

**Hostess: Sharon Hand**

**Program: Lesson 1-Environmental Justice  
Devotional: Carol Copeland**

**Attention FPC Children and Youth:**  
**After a break for the summer SHINE will begin again**  
**Wednesday September 25, 2024**

Shine meets the 4th Wednesday of each month from 6-7 pm at Revival. Shine is open to all children K-5th grade. Each meeting will include a light dinner or snacks, verse of the month, lesson and related activity. Free play will be at the end of the meeting.

"IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN." -MATTHEW 5:16

Please contact DeAnna McNeill for additional information at [deannahmcneill@gmail.com](mailto:deannahmcneill@gmail.com) or 256-497-5020.

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**Additional Volunteers Needed for our growing FPC**  
**Nursery!**

We are so thankful that FPC is blessed with a growing number of infants and young children in our nursery. If you would be willing to be part of a great team of volunteers, we are looking for additional adults to join either the regular rotation or "substitute as needed" nursery schedule.

Please contact Margaret Lotz in the church office at 256-232-0122 or at [fpcathens@fpcathens.org](mailto:fpcathens@fpcathens.org) if you are willing to help with this wonderful opportunity of caring for our young children and families.



## **FPC 195+ Years**

**The Stewardship Committee  
Invites you to a BBQ Lunch**

**Revival at 11:00 a.m.**

**September 29<sup>th</sup>.**

*Focus on the Future*

*It's all about giving back. It's all about God.*



# PRAYER REQUESTS

## CHURCH FAMILY

Doris Welch (Home)	Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Dean Steele	Stephen Toney (Home)
Susie Fogg (Home)	Jac Catlett
Sharon Massey	Diane Lynn (Health)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)	Gale Cottles (Healing)
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)	Christy Arnett (Healing)
Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)	Ken (Healing) and Connie Brown

## THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Brandon Noel - Army	Sean Miller - Army
Adam Naves - Marines	Damien Williams - Army
Kevin O'Neill-Army Nat. Guard	Michael Ress - USAF -AZ
Joshua Hargrove - Deployed	Jay Tulley- Middle East
Justin Ruf- Army Air Guard	

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bob Defour (Doyle & Suzanne Weeks son-in-law)  
Brent Harris (Friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Larry Harris, ( Healing, friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Sue Guyer (Health & Healing, Bonny Noel's sister)  
Gerry & Denzil Smith (Healing) cousin of Jan Ruth)  
Alex Noel (Nephew of John & Bonny Noel)  
Bill Grisham (Health, Pam Gregg's dad)  
Hazel Ruf (Mason Ruf's mother, home)  
Gary Kilgo (Health, Kay Baugher & Carol Quillen's family member)  
Karen Ferguson (Potter's Hand)  
Sherry Thompson (Healing, sister of Christy Arnett)  
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)  
Steven and Silvana Smith (Healing cousins of Jan Ruth)  
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)  
John Cotten (Healing, Potter's Hand)  
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)  
Maggie Ruth Naves (Healing, great granddaughter of Hazel White)  
Robert Jones (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Phyllis Ramshur (Health, mother- in - law of Sean Harbin)  
Mike Frehner (Support, friend of David Lyle)  
Dawn (Healing, mother of Brittney Hicks)  
Cindy Newman (Healing, cousin of Chris Hilgeman)  
The Family of Dr. Charlie Shuler upon their loss of  
Dr. Schuler on 8/18

# September 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship Communion	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	9am Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship 10 am Worship 11am Stewardship Kickoff	30					

OFFICE CLOSED

9:00-1:00 PM  
The Potters Hand  
Pottery Studio

Mission Shower Day  
Stated Session  
Meeting  
6:00 pm  
Revival

9:00-1:00 PM  
The Potters Hand  
Pottery Studio

9:00-1:00 PM  
The Potters Hand  
Pottery Studio

9:00-1:00 PM  
The Potters Hand  
Pottery Studio

9:00-1:00 PM  
The Potters Hand  
Pottery Studio  
SHINE  
FPC Children K-5th  
Revival 6-7 pm

OFFICE CLOSED

Ministry Chair  
Meeting  
5:00 pm

OFFICE CLOSED



# Happy Birthday

September 2024

1st Tom Hand

5th Gwen Bacon

7th Sharon Hand

10th Emily Clem

11th Jack Quillen

14th Chris Paysinger

14th Larry Ugarte

18th Brad Clem

22nd Jacob Greene

23rd Gary Boyd

27th Buffy Quillen

28th Joey Jackson