

Let us love and sing and wonder, Let us praise the Savior's name! He has hushed the law's loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame; He has washed us with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God.

JOHN NEWTON, 1774

April 2023

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**Issue 4** 



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### SUNDAY SCHEDULE AT FPC

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.

All worship services are available online! <u>livestream.com/fpc-tv</u> <u>facebook.com/fpchattiesburg</u> **RUF 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** Davis Morgan

Dear friends,

One of my favorite things about my job with Reformed University Fellowship is being able to say that I'm serving at its original campus! RUF, as you may know, is our denomination's campus ministry, but it is also a child of the Presbyterian churches here in Hattiesburg! **And this spring we celebrate the 50th anniversary of its birth!** 

It was in the school year of 1972-1973 that the first official "RUF" gatherings occurred, with Mark Lowrey – a son of FPC – serving as its first minister, on behalf of the local Presbyterian churches. It began with Mark simply knocking on dorm room doors and inviting students to a Bible study. Since then, that ministry has not only taken root here in Hattiesburg, it has bloomed across the country and around the world.

Today, half a century after those first dorm room Bible studies, RUF is on over 140 campuses, from Manhattan to Miami and from Western

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Carolina to Western Washington. Our ministry today also welcomes the nations in through **RUF-International** and even stretches around the world through **RUF-Global** in places like Mexico, Japan, West Africa, and Ukraine.

Because of RUF's rich connection to First Presbyterian Church and her sister churches in town, it is my joy to invite you to come celebrate her 50th anniversary with us **April 28-30th**! Many of you have been touched by the ministry of Reformed University Fellowship in one way or another, and "we have to celebrate and be glad!" (Luke 15:32) So, join us all weekend to rejoice in what the Lord has done in our midst!

Festivities will kick off with a barbecue and worship time Friday evening and continue the following morning with a **Legacy Brunch** (hosted by Woodland Church) featuring founding pastor Mark Lowrey and current RUF Area Coordinator Richie Sessions. Saturday's festivities will culminate in a **Celebration Concert** featuring Sandra McCracken and Wendell Kimbrough in our own sanctuary!

Features of the anniversary celebration will be incorporated into Sunday morning at FPC, and we'll wrap up the weekend with a communal **Hymn Sing** at Bay Street Church as part of our Fifth Sunday service the evening of April 30! We would love to have you join us for this special time of remembering, reconnecting, and rejoicing, as we glorify God for what he has done, and look forward in faith to what he will do in our midst moving forward! To RSVP, use the QR code in our schedule graphic, or reach out directly to me at davis.morgan@ruf.org!



UNIVERSITY OF Southern Mississippi

50 YEARS OF RUF! COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

## FRIDAY, APRIL 28

5:30PM WELCOME PARTY @First Presbyterian Church Catered by Keaster's BBQ

> 6:30pm Worship Time Ben Shaw

# SUNDAY, APRIL 30

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES 10:45AM - First Presbyterian 11AM - Bay Street Presbyterian 11AM - Woodland Presbyterian

6PM JOINT SERVICE WITH HYMN SING @ BAY STREET PRESBYTERIAN Clint Wilcke

## SATURDAY, APRIL 29

10:00AM LEGACY BRUNCH: RUF Past & Future @Woodland Presbyterian Church Mark Lowrey & Richie Sessions

6:00PM CELEBRATION CONCERT Sandra McCracken w/ Wendell Kimbrough @First Presbyterian



### The FPC Student Ministry Invites You to Two Special Events in April!

### Senior Recognition Dinner

### Wednesday, April 19, 5:30 p.m., Taylor Hall

Join us as we celebrate our high school seniors-

Charlie Greer Maddie Grenn Lauren Jordan Andrew Smith John Spencer Bella VanSlyke Liliana Wicht

### Youth Cake Auction Wednesday, April 26, 5:30 p.m., Taylor Hall

Proceeds from the auction assist our young people attending RYM Summer Conference and fall and spring retreats.



### Spring Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth

Classes meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. each week!

#### **TEACHER**

#### AGE

2 year-olds Whitney Middleton Damea and Louis Benton 3 year-olds Bonny and Matthew Boyd 4 year-olds Haley and Will Morgan 5 year-olds 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades Megan and Ben Pace Donna and Lee Rouse 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Leah Claire and Grant Bennett  $4^{th}$  grade **Bobby Blass** 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades Marion and Wes Curry Shea McNease and D Palermo Communicants  $7^{\rm th}$ - $12^{\rm th}$  grades Zeek Dean

| LOCATION          |
|-------------------|
| Currie Hall 105   |
| Currie Hall 106   |
| Currie Hall 204   |
| Currie Hall 203   |
| Currie Hall 107   |
|                   |
| Stanway Hall 204  |
| Stanway Hall 203  |
| Stanway Hall 201  |
| McIntosh Hall 201 |
| McIntosh Hall 202 |

LOCATION

## PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

- April 2 Rev. Davis Morgan (a.m.); Rev. Zeek Dean (p.m.)
  - 6 Rev. Knox Baird (Maundy Thursday Communion Service)
  - 9 Rev. Josh Adair (Sunrise Service); Dr. Guy Richardson (9 a.m. & 11 a.m.)
  - 16 Rev. Josh Adair (a.m.); Dr. Mark Strum (p.m.)
  - 23 Rev. Knox Baird (a.m.); Rev. Zeek Dean (p.m.)
  - 30 Rev. Richie Sessions (a.m.); RUF Hymn Sing at Bay Street PCA (p.m.)



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# EASTER AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

<u>Thursday, April 6</u> Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Sunday, April 9

Sunrise Worship Service, 7:00 a.m. at Canebrake Country Club, 18<sup>th</sup> green Worship Services, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

No Sunday School or Evening Worship Service on Easter