

EXPRESSIONS

OUR VISION

A church deeply formed by the Good News of Jesus Christ,
experiencing and expressing God's grace together in Hattiesburg.

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of
the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it.
Isaiah 2:2 ESV



African Bible Colleges Celebrates 50 Years

Knox Baird

On Thursday, September 24, Ruling Elder Randy Martin and I attended the 50 year celebration of **African Bible Colleges** in Jackson, Mississippi.

Established in 1976 by Dr. Jack and Nell Chinchin, African Bible Colleges today operates Christian universities in Liberia, Malawi, and Uganda.

Some of the highlights of the anniversary celebration included an address from Nell Chinchin, who recently observed her 100th birthday! Four of Mrs. Chinchin's students from ABC's campuses attended as well. A number of stories recounted God's abundant provision to the delight of the audience.

What a privilege to represent First Presbyterian Church at this marvelous celebration! Our church has partnered with African Bible Colleges for over 30 years.

See Photos
On Page 2.

INSIDE

African Bible Colleges
Pages 1-2

Operation Christmas Child
Page 2

2026 FPC Fall Festival
Page 3

Upcoming Events
Sanctuary Flowers
Turkeys for Christian Services
Page 4

SUNDAYS

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.



Nell Chinchin with several of her ABC students.



*Palmer Chinchin,
the son of Rev. Jack Chinchin
and twin brother of
Dr. Paul Chinchin.
Palmer is a board member
of African Bible Colleges.*

*Knox with Augustine Davies.
Augustine was in the first
graduating class of African Bible
Colleges in 1983. He is currently
on the ABC Board.
Knox and Augustine were
together at ABC
in 1982 and 1983.*



Operation Christmas Child

October has arrived. We are a little over a month away from our BIG EVENT—OCC Packing Party. The OCC storerooms have been bustling with people counting washcloths, socks, and Christmas cards. We still need about 150 washcloths, small cars and trucks, small balls, Christmas cards, and any small toy item. Remember to check the [Amazon OCC Wish List link](#) for some great ideas.



Remember the importance of prayer. We ask everyone to call upon God to transform each child's life who receives a shoebox. The prayer of righteous people accomplishes much according to the Scriptures.

The Packing Party's dates and times are as follows;

DATES—November 11-15 in Taylor Hall

TIMES—10:00 to 5:00 every day except Sunday.

Sunday is 2:00-4:00.

A very special way to help in this great mission ministry is to help pay for the shipping of these 1,500 shoeboxes. The cost is \$10 per box, which includes the cost of producing a gospel booklet in the child's language. Not only will each child receive all the little gifts inside, but as a result of the gospel booklet, he/she may receive the greatest GIFT of all. Just imagine what your donation can do when you give with joy from a heart overflowing with love and gratitude for how God has blessed you. A child out there somewhere needs to see the love of God because you gave from your heart.

Love always in Christ,
Gary and Debera Shaw
Lacretta Shurden



First Presbyterian Church's

2026 Fall Festival



Enjoy a festive evening filled with autumn charm, live entertainment, and family-friendly fun

Register to host a booth at this link:



October 18, 2026
4:00pm - 7:00pm

Church Parking Lot
4901 Hardy Street.

www.fpchattiesburg.org

[@fpc_hattiesburg](https://www.instagram.com/fpc_hattiesburg)

601-268-0303

Upcoming Events at FPC

Thursday, October 15

Joyful Senior Adult Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., Taylor Hall, with guest speaker, Andres Tellez.

Saturday, October 17

Church Workday, 8-11 a.m. *All are welcome!*

Sunday, October 18

FPC Fall Festival, 4-7 p.m. *Fun for the whole church family!*

Sunday, October 25

FPC Day of Fasting and Prayer. *Details in our upcoming Grace Notes.*

Friday, Oct 30-Sunday, Nov 1

Student Ministry Timber Creek Retreat.

Pray for our students and chaperones.

Women's Ministry Sanctuary Flowers

Caroline Grubbs

Sanctuary flowers in honor of or in memory of a friend or family member may be placed in the Sanctuary on a Sunday during the months of October and November. Please contact Caroline Grubbs to reserve your date.

During the month of December, poinsettias will be used in the Sanctuary and Narthex. If you are interested in honoring a family member or friend, there will be inserts in the Sunday bulletin beginning in late November that will include all the necessary information. The cost is \$25 for each honoree, and all proceeds will be sent to **Palmer Home for Children**. Our goal is to send \$3,000 to Palmer. We appreciate all donors and their generous giving.



Turkeys for Christian Services

Melissa Cain



If you would like to cook a turkey for the **Christian Services** annual city-wide Thanksgiving dinner, please contact Melissa Cain, 601-508-3428 or sign up in Sunday school by Friday, October 30. The turkeys will be supplied with pans and cooking instructions. You will pick up the turkey in front of Taylor Hall on **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH BETWEEN 10:30 AND 11:00 A.M.** and cook it over the weekend. Return the turkey to the church refrigerator in kitchen of Taylor Hall or in front of Taylor Hall to Melissa Cain before **8:45 A.M. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD**. The turkeys will be delivered to Christian Services Monday morning. You will receive a text or email as a reminder with more information a few days before picking up the turkey. If you have any questions, call Melissa Cain.



*Our members and guests
are enjoying the time for food and
fellowship each week between
Sunday school and worship!*



601-268-0303



4901 Hardy Street Hattiesburg, MS 39402



fpchattiesburg.org