



P.O. Box 485 • Greenwood, MS 38935-0485

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GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI

AUGUST 31, 2023

FPC Youth are collecting
DOG FOOD AND BONES FOR THE LEFLORE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

Please deliver donations to the church office or the Parish Youth Building by September 24.

2023 =September= EVENTS

SUNDAY 3	WEDNESDAY 6
No Youth	Bible Study
SUNDAY 10	WEDNESDAY 13
Jr High Trip	SALT
SUNDAY 17	WEDNESDAY 20
No Youth	SALT
SUNDAY 24	WEDNESDAY 27
Mission Project	SALT



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youthfpcgwood



A Covenant Order of
Evangelical Presbyterians

CHURCH DIRECTORY

300 Main Street • P.O. Box 485
Greenwood, MS 38935-0485
Phone (662) 453-4680
Fax (662) 453-4699
Website: www.firstgreenwood.net

Pastor..... Dr. Andrew Chaney
 Pastor EmeritusDr. Rusty Douglas
 Director of MusicRev. Ray Smithee
 Director of Youth Whitney Avritt
 Christian Ed. Director Kelli Stainback
 Kindergarten Director Caroline Strawbridge
 Financial Secretary..... Annette McDonald
 Custodian Charles Covington
 Custodian Lonnie Love
 Clerk of Session Richard Oakes
 Board of Deacons.....Rebekah Arant
 Church Treasurer..... Mark Vemer
 Presbyterian Women Eleanor Braswell
 Endowment Committee.....Mike Sturdivant III
 Missionaries.....Bill Holland, Ahava Ministries
 Bill & Bette Bryant Crisis Nursery, Zambia
 Cistern Project of the Yucatan
 Amos Yam, Yucatan
 Potter and Clay Ministries of Cuba
 Presbyterian Church of Aleppo, Turkey
 Ivan Rusyn, Ukraine

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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 C. Strawbridge: fpkdirector@firstgreenwood.net
 Clerk of Session: fpcclerk@firstgreenwood.net



S. A. L. T.

Serving And Learning Together

Wednesdays: September 13—October 11

5:30 p.m. Dinner in Shuler Hall

6:00 p.m. S.A.L.T. Classes (will end at 6:45 p.m.)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Children's Classes: The children will use the study "Kid's Travel Guide to the Fruit of the Spirit".

Youth Class: The youth will continue their study of "What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?" utilizing the popular series "The Chosen".

Adult Class: Elder Miller King will be leading the adults in a study titled "Combating Cultural Christianity".

1. God Is Our Source - 1 Samuel 30
2. Jesus, the Warrior - 1 Samuel 17
3. Throw Away Your Excuses - 1 King 20:35-43
4. For Such a Time as This - Esther
5. Fight for Your Families - Nehemiah

**The Church Office will be closed
Monday, September 4, 2023
in observance of the Labor Day holiday.**

THE LORD'S DAY

September 3—14th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
Sermon Scripture: I Corinthians 11:23-29
Sermon: "Prepare an Answer!"
1. Why Do We Have Communion?
Dr. Andrew Chaney
Children's Sermon: Whitney Avritt
Prayer of Dedication: Elder Ryan Strawbridge
Children's Church: Kitty and Drew Pinkston

September 10 — 15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Worship
Sermon Scripture: Acts 4:5-12
Sermon: "Prepare an Answer"
2. Why Is Jesus the Only Way?
Dr. Andrew Chaney
Children's Sermon: Elder Pat Gullede
Prayer of Dedication: Elder Jim Bowen
Children's Church: Carling and Brett Canterbury

September 17 — 16th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Worship
Sermon Scripture: Jeremiah 9:23-24
Sermon: "Prepare an Answer"
3. How Do We Know God Exists?
Dr. Andrew Chaney
Children's Sermon: Elder Taylor Calhoun
Prayer of Dedication: Elder Sherry Clark
Children's Church: Audra and Alan Ellis

September 24 — 17th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Worship
Sermon Scripture: Acts 2:38-47
Sermon: "Prepare an Answer"
4. Why Do We Have the Church?
Dr. Andrew Chaney
Children's Sermon: Elder Dallas Baker
Prayer of Dedication: Elder Todd Fincher
Children's Church: Mary Clyde and Miller King

September Ushers:

Miller Arant, Dallas Baker, Justin Braswell, David Camp, Robert Cole, Kitty Pinkston

September Hospital Visitation Elder:

Elder Pat Gullede

Shapoor Ahmadi To Speak Sunday, October 1, in a Combined Sunday School Session and in Worship



Shapoor Ahmadi is the Founder of Operation Promises, and part of the leadership of the Liverpool Iranian Church. He is an Associate Evangelist with Mission24.

Shapoor, a Civil Engineer and former asylum seeker from Iran, is all too familiar with the fears and struggles that refugees experience after leaving their war-torn homelands or oppressive governments. Now based in Liverpool, he pastors the Liverpool Iranian Church and leads the Middle East Outreach Department of Mission 24.

Shapoor is familiar with the religious identity that keeps many immigrants in bondage, a bondage that appears to be weakening as more and more new arrivals in Europe are expressing interest in learning about Jesus, and the salvation, hope and life he offers.

As a former devout Muslim, Shapoor is uniquely qualified to reach immigrants, especially those who call Islam their faith. Fluent in Farsi, and conversant in Turkish, he can easily communicate and explain the foundations and Biblical truths of the Christian faith to his brothers and sisters from the Middle East, and other parts of Asia and Africa. In addition, his first-hand knowledge of Islam has equipped him with a special advantage when it comes to countering misunderstandings, objections or misconceptions that many Muslims have about Jesus in general.

Shapoor's ministry aims to reach more refugees in the city of Liverpool and further afield through visiting local hostels and befriending refugees, partnering with churches throughout Europe to reach refugee communities, holding training events and conferences for believers in the Near East and running a "House of Prayer" in Liverpool.

Based in Liverpool, England — the first stop for refugees entering England — Shapoor calls this strategic location home for him and his outreach.

Today, our world is witnessing a phenomenon like none before—more Muslims are coming to the saving knowledge of Jesus as their Lord and Savior than in any other time in history. Shapoor's ministry is part of this movement.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

August 2023

1. Approved transferring Anna Jennings Nix's membership to the Madison Methodist Church in Madison, MS.
2. Committees Chairs were reminded their 2024 budgets need to be submitted at the September Session Meeting.
3. Items of Information from the Kindergarten: Current enrollment is 39 and will increase to 44 by Feb. 2024. Current teachers are Caroline Falls (1 year-old's), Debby Powers (older 1's and 2's), Sarah Kay Davidson (older 2's), Margie Barger (3's), Lorie Guenther (4's), Jamie Bartlett (Activity/Teacher/Assistant), Ryann Donahoe (1/2 Day Assistant). The staff participated in a 2-day education session with training in CPR, participation in a director's course and a review of warning signs of autism/learning problems. Two Smart Boards were acquired. Procure, an online system allowing parents to check children in and out, pay tuition, communicate with teachers, etc., will be utilized. The annual fire inspection was passed.
4. Approved the "Chosen Bible Study" for Wednesday Youth Bible study, and "IronStream Media" for Youth Sunday School.
5. Approved offering the opportunity for an international mission trip with Ahava Ministries over the upcoming 2024 Spring Break.
6. Approved the Fall Youth Calendar.
7. Approved Toni Power and Susan Gregory as members of the Youth Committee, Class of 2026. These are second terms for each.
8. Approved a request from Dr. Rusty Douglas to borrow FPC's Church of Scotland tapestry for Montreat's Kirkin' Celebration on Memorial Day of 2024. Katharine Douglas Taylor will transport the tapestry to and from Montreat.
9. Approved the 2023-2024 dates of worship, other observances, and communion.
10. Approved a new system of scheduling communion servers.
11. Approved allocating \$3,000 from the General Memorial Fund for the return of the Classics at First Concert Series for this Fall and the Spring of 2024.
12. Approved inviting our missionary, Shapoor Ahmadi, to preach in worship on World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023.
13. Approved a combined Sunday School class along with breakfast on October 1 to hear Shapoor Ahmadi speak about his work with Iranian refugees in Liverpool, England.
14. Approved Miller King to lead the fall adult SALT class, with Dallas Baker as back-up, in "Combating Cultural Christianity."

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS, continued

15. Approved the children's fall and winter SALT classes using "The Travel Guide to the Fruits of the Spirit" by Group Publishing.
16. Approved the women's Sunday School class using these books on marriage: Dr. Emerson Eggerich's "Love and Respect" and Gary Thomas' "Sacred Marriage".
17. Received a gift in the amount of \$5,000 from Jay and Becky Evans in honor of Gwen Evans and in memory of Jim Evans. Stewardship and Finance will decide at their September meeting how the money is to be used.
18. Approved the covered drop off and parking lot plans for the Kindergarten and Education Building as outlined by the Building and Grounds Committee, and to recommend such to the congregation.
19. Approved accepting the bid of KT Builder for construction of the covered drop off and parking lot in the amount of \$507,250.00
20. Approved notifying and educating the congregation about the proposed construction project.
21. Authorized the Stewardship and Finance Committee to take the steps necessary to acquire the funds for the cost of construction of the covered drop off and parking lot.
22. Called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 17, 2023, for the purpose of 1) authorizing the covered drop off and parking lot project, and 2) authorizing a Capital Campaign to pay for the project.
23. Reported that Kristen Montgomery has resigned her position as church secretary to take a position with Delta Streets Academy.
24. Staff Conferences are scheduled for Sept. 18.
25. Witness Meetings with benevolence recipients are scheduled for Sundays, August 20, 27, and September 10.

News from First Presbyterian Kindergarten

Back to school has come and gone and all students and teachers have settled into their new routines. We had two, gently used SMART boards, generously donated to us by Pillow Academy, installed in the 3K and 4K classrooms.

Upcoming: weekly chapel, visits to ARTplace and the local library, and preparations for FPK's Grandparent's Day which will be in October.

Also, a big thanks to Polly Henson, Mary Neff Stewart, Ashley Farmer, Nancy Tollison, Susan Smith, Beth Moses, Rebekah Arant, and Jane Crump, for treating our staff to two lovely lunches during our training days!

Caroline Strawbridge,
FPK Director



Proposed Covered Drop-Off and Parking Lot for the East side of the Van Arnold Education Building

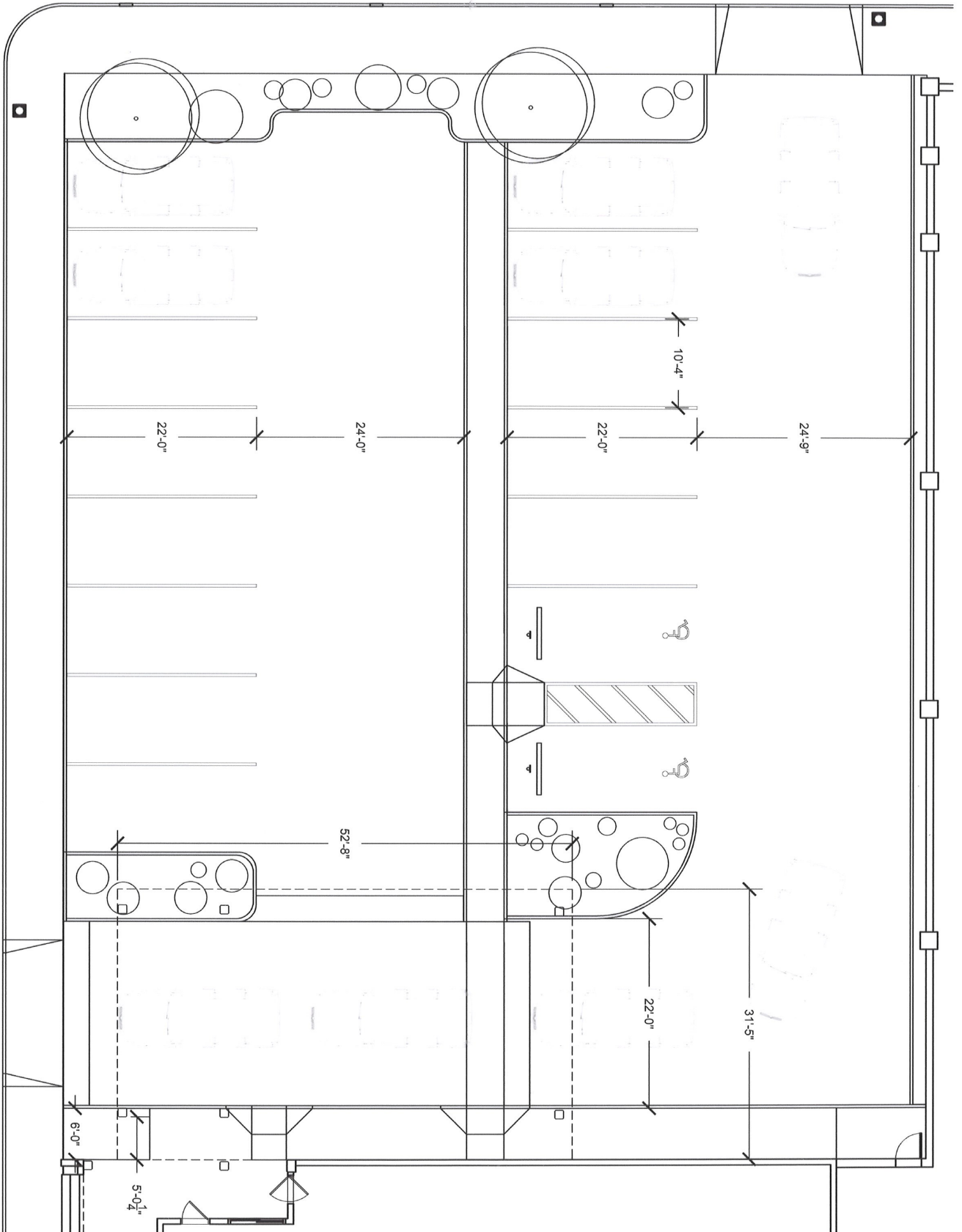
The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 17, 2023, for the purpose of 1) authorizing the covered drop-off and parking lot project and, 2) authorizing a Capital Campaign to pay for the project.

This project provides safe, off-street loading and unloading for adults and children entering the building for Sunday School or Kindergarten. It also provides for fifteen additional parking spaces, two of which will be designated as handicap parking.

(Parking Lot Diagram on Back Page)

WALTHALL STREET

WASHINGTON STREET



September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Communion Assignments 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship/ Communion No Youth	4 Office Closed Labor Day	5 5:30 pm FPK Board	6 2:30 pm Liturgy 5:30 pm Youth Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study 6:00 pm. Chancel Choir	7 6:45 pm Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast	8	9
10 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship 12:30 -8:00 pm Jr. High Lunch/ Trip, Party Safari -Flowood 12:30 pm Witness Committee Meeting	11 10:00 am PW Coordinating Team 12:00pm S & F Comm. 4:30 pm Christian Ed. Comm. 5:00 pm Youth Comm. 5:30 pm B & G Comm. 6:00 pm W & M Comm.	12	13 12:00 pm Noon Bible Study 2:30 pm Liturgy 5:30 pm SALT dinner 6:00 pm SALT classes 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	14 6:45 pm Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast 5:30 pm Administrative Comm.	15	16
17 9:40 am Choristers 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship No Youth	18 12:00 -2:00 pm Staff Employee Conferences 5:00 pm Deacons 5:30 pm Session	19 9:30 am Staff Meeting	20 12:00 pm Noon Bible Study 2:30 pm Liturgy 5:30 pm SALT dinner 6:00 pm SALT classes 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	21 6:45 pm Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast	22	23
24 9:40 am Choristers 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Worship Youth Mission Project	25	26	27 12:00 pm Noon Bible Study 2:30 pm Liturgy 5:30 pm SALT dinner 6:00 pm SALT classes 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	28 6:45 pm Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast	29	30

Moon Lake PYF - August 20



First Presbyterian Kindergarten

