



# First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

First Presbyterian News – March/April 2020

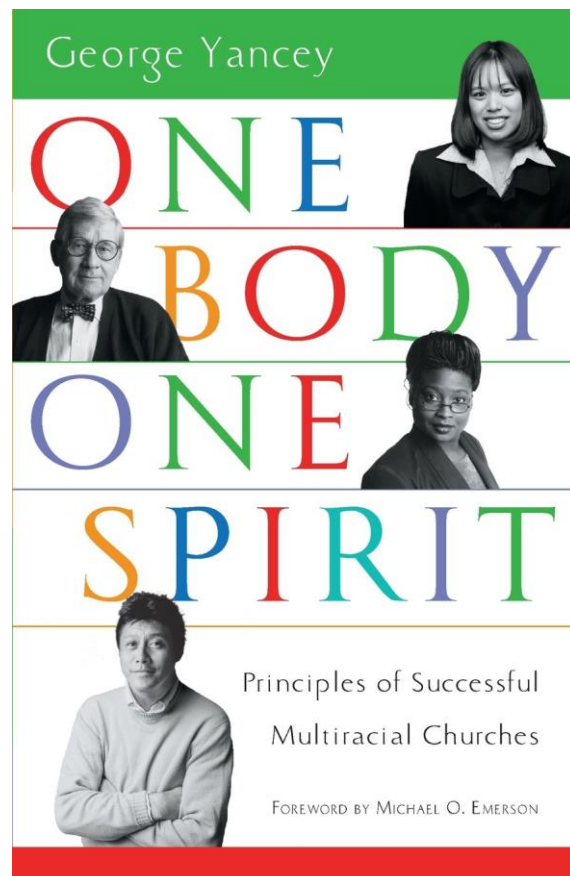
“Our vision is to live and share the ministry of reconciliation in Clarksdale, in Mississippi, and around the world.” (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)

### A word from Pastor Ryan,

This calendar year I will be taking our Session through the book by George Yancey pictured here, “One Body One Spirit: Principles of Successful Multiracial Churches.” Through this I hope to lead our church to press into the vision the Lord gave us even before my time here to be a place of Gospel reconciliation—where black and white, rich and poor live out the unity that is ours in Christ and by his Gospel. Yancey’s book, more than any other I’ve read on the subject, lays out a practical game plan for how to successfully do this.

This discussion is relevant to all who are part of the family of God at FPC and so I commend the book to you for your reading. We are all stewards of this vision the Lord has given, and our unity in it is crucial for the future health and growth of our church. We need everyone to be a part of the conversation, as both learners and contributors. I intend to use my newsletter articles this year to introduce the ideas of the book to those who might not get around to reading it (I’m a realist, you know!). So now, for the 30,000-foot overview....

Yancey is a Christian sociologist. The book is based on a study done in the late 1990s by the Lily Foundation on multiracial churches in the US (the book was published in 2003). Yancey identifies seven characteristics of churches that have been successful in achieving and maintaining racial diversity. They are—  
*(continued on pg.2)*



MORE OF PASTOR RYAN’S LETTER

**Inclusive Worship:** The corporate worship of successful multi-racial churches includes the cultural elements of more than one racial group. Or, as I like to say it, it “creates cultural space for those who are in minority of the church.”

**Diverse Leadership:** The leadership of such churches consists of members of more than one racial group. Particularly, it includes members of the racial minority the church seeks to include.

**Overarching Goal:** Successful multi-racial churches do not make diversity the goal of their churches. The goal is something greater, like effectively reaching the community with the Gospel, to which diversity is a means.

**Personal Skills:** Successful multi-racial churches consist of members, leaders and laypeople both, who possess the skills to relate well to those culturally different than them.

**Location:** Successful multi-racial churches are typically located in diverse communities, where different groups have easy access to the church’s ministry.

**Adaptability:** Successful multi-racial churches are not static. They recognize that through the Gospel of Christ never changes, the culture of particular local churches must always be changing to fulfill the Great Commission effectively in our time and place.

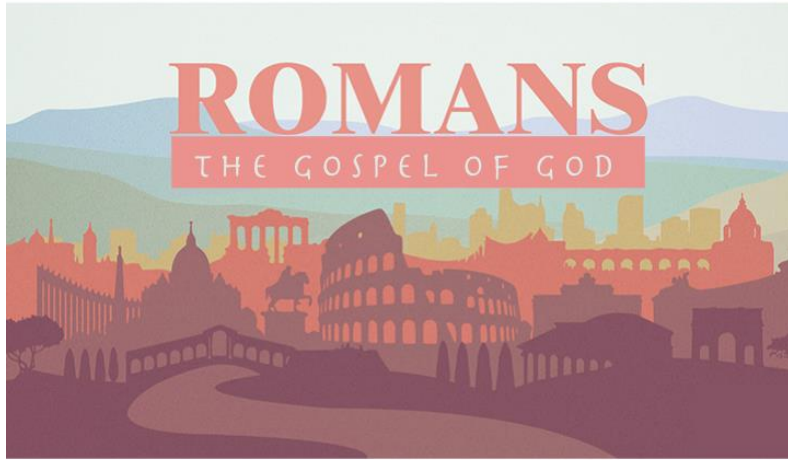
I hope you will meditate on the principles and engage with the leaders of the church about them. Remember that we are all in this together—rooted in the history of our church but also stretching ourselves to be more what God would have us in the future. I look forward to sharing the journey with you all!

In Christ’s love,  
Pastor Ryan

MARCH & APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Leah Carr	3/02
Douglas Jones	3/08
Chris Stoltman	3/11
Charlie Fyfe, IV	3/11
Lois McMurchy	3/13
Levi Dean	3/14
Freeland Bass	3/21
Suzanne Weiss	3/26
Jodie Frazer	4/03
Hartley Kittle, III	4/03
Steele Pettit	4/04
Ryan Dean	4/06
Ben Frazer	4/09
Amelia Morson	4/10
Millie Morson	4/11
Mary Margaret Pierce	4/11
Bill Wilson	4/12
Marque Evans	4/14
Anna Byrd	4/17
Charles Fyfe, III	4/19
Lilla Noland	4/26
Lucy Harris Jackson	4/30

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



MARCH

Sunday, Mar. 01 – Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: Romans 1:1-7 (Communion)

Sunday, Mar. 08 – Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: Romans 1:8-15

Sunday, Mar. 15 – Worship @ 11:00, Mark Webb  
Sermon Text: Romans 1:16-17

Sunday, Mar. 22 – Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: Romans 1:18-32

Sunday, Mar. 29 – Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: Romans 2:1-11

APRIL

Sunday, Apr. 05 – Worship @ 11:00, Mark Webb  
Sermon Text: Psalm 118:19-29  
(Communion)

Fri., Apr. 10 – Good Friday Service @ 5:00 pm  
Sermon Text: Psalm 22:1-31 (Communion)

Sunday, Apr. 12 – Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: Psalm 16:1-11

Sunday, Apr. 19 – Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: Psalm 110:1-7

Sunday, Apr. 26 – (Children & Youth Sunday)  
Worship @ 11:00, Ryan Dean  
Sermon Text: 2 Samuel 2:11-36

FPC sermons are now broadcast weekly on WROX, Sundays at 10AM. Spread the word to those who can't make it to worship but would benefit by listening in.

97.5 FM – CLARKSDALE – AM 1450  
WWW.WROXRADIO.COM

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
11:00 AM IN THE SANCTUARY  
Come join us to learn about our children and youth ministry!

**MARCH**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p> <p><b>Communion</b></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Young Men’s Study 6:00 a.m</p> <p><b>WIC Council Meeting @ 9:30 a.m.</b></p> <p><b>Deacons’ Meeting 5:30 pm.</b></p>	<p>4 Young Women’s Study 10:30 am</p> <p><b>Women’s Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</b></p>	<p>5 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>	<p>6 Care Station – 8:45 Emily Cooper Lois McMurchy</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD!</b></p>
<p>8 <b>FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST</b></p> <p>Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p> <p><b>Daylight Saving Time Begins</b></p> <p><b>Mission Trip Dalton, GA</b></p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>Morning Women’s Fellowship Group 9:30 @ Bass Home</b></p> <p><b>PDS Spring Break</b></p> <p><b>Mission Trip Dalton, GA</b></p>	<p>10 Young Men’s Study 6:00 a.m</p> <p><b>Mission Trip Dalton, GA</b></p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Mission Trip Dalton, GA</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Mission Trip Dalton, GA</b></p>	<p>13 Care Station – 8:45 <b>Need Volunteers</b></p> <p><b>Mission Trip Dalton, GA</b></p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Youth Night 6PM</b></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Young Men’s Study 6:00 a.m</p> <p><b>Noon Women’s Fellowship Group @ Emily Cooper home</b></p> <p><b>Session Meeting 5:30 pm.</b></p>	<p>18 Young Women’s Study 10:30 am</p> <p><b>Women’s Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</b></p>	<p>19 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>	<p>20 Care Station - 8:45 Carolyn Davis</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Young Men’s Study 6:00 a.m.</p>	<p>25 Young Women’s Study 10:30 am</p> <p><b>Women’s Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</b></p>	<p>26 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>	<p>27 Care Station – 8:45 Margaret Johnson</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Young Men’s Study 6:00 a.m.</p>				

**APRIL**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>1 Young Women's Study 10:30 am</p> <p>Pastor Ryan Speaking @ Lenten Luncheon @ Noon @ CUMC</p> <p>Women's Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</p>	<p>2 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>	<p>3 Care Station – 8:45 Emily Cooper Lois McMurchy</p>	4
<p>5 Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY</p>	<p>6 Morning Women's Fellowship Group 9:30 @ Bass Home</p>	<p>7 Young Men's Study 6:00 a.m.</p> <p>Noon Women's Fellowship Group @ Emily Cooper home</p> <p>Deacons' Meeting 5:30 pm.</p>	<p>8 Young Women's Study 10:30 am</p> <p>Women's Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</p>	<p>9 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>	<p>10 Care Station – 8:45 Need Volunteers</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 6:00 PM</p>	<p>11 EASTER EGG HUNT 10:00 am</p>
<p>12 FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST</p> <p>Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p> <p>EASTER SUNDAY</p>	13	<p>14 Young Men's Study 6:00 a.m.</p> <p>Session Meeting 5:30 pm.</p>	<p>15 Young Women's Study 10:30 am</p> <p>Women's Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</p>	<p>16 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>	<p>17 Care Station - 8:45 Carolyn Davis</p>	18
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<p>26 Sunday School-9:45 Worship – 11:00</p>	27	<p>28 Young Men's Study 6:00 a.m.</p>	<p>29 Young Women's Study 10:30 am</p> <p>Women's Group 6:00 pm @ Meraki</p>	<p>30 Thursday Bible Study – 7:00am @ Rest Haven</p>		

## 2020 Elder Shepherding Groups

This year we have a new system for Elder Shepherding Groups. All active elders (and Mark Webb) have chosen families from the membership of FPC to “shepherd.” Your shepherd’s ministry to you will entail getting to know you (as much as you are willing), praying for you, and keeping regular contact with you (at least bi-monthly). We encourage you to respond to your elder’s ministry to you—return calls, share your needs with him, respond to his encouragement and challenge. Consider Hebrews 13:7, “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.” If you haven’t heard from your elder, please contact Hartley Kittle who is charged with leading the elders’ shepherding effort: (662) 645-7348.

### **Bass, Hamp: 902-7063**

1. Draper, Neal & Leah (*Benton*)
2. Duff, Nathan (*Kinney*), & Jackie (non-member)
3. Graves, Lee & Barbara
4. Peay, Pat & Chanda
5. Pierce, Benjy & Mary Graydon (*Ben*)
6. Weiss, Rich & Ann Rene (*Elaine, Liz, Emelia*)
7. Weiss, Ricky & Suzanne, (*Cissy*)

### **Draper, Neal: 313-0338**

1. Barnes, Dudley & Claire
2. Frazer, Willis & Jodie, (*Benjamin*)
3. Gibbs, Joe & Marilyn
4. Jackson, Na’Shya (*Braylon, Nadalyn*)
5. Shannon, Frances
6. Walhood, Mavis
7. Webb, Mark & Kandis (*Morgan*)
8. Weiss, Cissy

### **Duff, John: 902-7354**

1. Dean, Ryan & Leslie (*Evan, Levi, Olivia*)
2. Draper, Benton
3. Drew, Claire
4. Flowers, Betty Sue
5. Johnson, Pete & Margaret

6. Larson, Johnny & Cyndi
7. McLain, Cody & Anna Catherine
8. Williamson, Dotty

### **Falls, Buck: 645-2825**

1. Andrews, Randall
2. Bays, George & Mary Virginia (*George Jr., Naomi*)
3. Beckham, Peggy
4. Holt, David & Cindy (non-member),
5. Humber, Linda
6. Lewis, Ben & Staci (*Josiah, Nolan, Micab*)
7. Parks, Mary Myers & Andy (non-member) (*Toler*)
8. Betty Porter
9. Walton, Tommy & Bridgette
10. Werbeck, Hart & Helga

### **Frazer, Willis: 902-7530**

1. Abney, Parker
2. Brown, Phyllis
3. Campos, Chris & Amanda Claire
4. Dickinson, Robert Ellis, III
5. Noland, Mark & Cali (*Lilla, Kate, Emmie*)
6. Smith, Terry & Susan (*Matthew, Olivia*)
7. Steinour, Katie
8. Stoltman, John & Pat

### **Holt, David: 902-3391**

1. Barnes, John & Ginny
2. Falls, Buck & Meri (*Fisher*)
3. Foster, Alice
4. Nicholson, Tay
5. Ryan, Katelin
6. Stoltman, Chris & Amelia (*Lawson, Knox*)
7. Stroud, Seth & Liz (non-member)
8. Vincent, Nancy
9. Myrick, Daniel & Kendall

### **Johnson, Pete: 609-6320**

1. Allen, Horace & Kay
2. Cooper, Emily
3. Duff, John & Jean
4. Evans, Peggy
5. Frazer, Willis, Jr. & Caroline (*Lucy, Bowen*)
6. Gallo, Julian & Taylor (engaged)
7. Kittle, Hartley & Lynn
8. Maclin, Patsy
9. Phillips, Gramm & Anna Kathryn (*Isaac*)
10. Wilson, Bill & Dina (*Brett*)

### **Kittle, Hartley: 645-7368**

1. Bass, Hamp, IV, Freeland
2. Byrd, Alan & Kristi (*Alec, Adam, Aiden, Anna*)
3. Davis, Carolyn

4. Fyfe, Charlie & Jerrie Marie (*Watkins*)
5. Fyfe, Charles & Mary Beth
6. Grant, Gerry & Beverly
7. Hood, Howard & Linda
8. Jackson, Cole & Laura (*Crawford, Lucy Harris*)
9. Jones, Kirk
10. Lott, Kaci and Matt (*Poppi Grace, Willow*)

**Morson, John: 902-4493**

1. Bryant, Amanda (*Ann Barnes*)
2. Johnson, Clifford
3. Nabors, Lou Anne
4. Robertson, Trina
5. Shannon, Dan & Andrea (*Daniel*)
6. Spinks, Bobby & Michelle (*Jackson, Reece, Wynne*)
7. Walton, Brandon & Jennifer (*Fowler, Bennett*)
8. Wyatt, Eddie & Jennine

9. Young, Joey & Hannah (engaged)

**Webb, Mark: 901-283-6299**

1. Atibalentja, Josue & Emily Weissman (*Ava Amarisa*)
2. Bass, B & Anna
3. Carr, David & Leah (*David, Elizabeth*)
4. Evans, Mary (*Jgemarriyah Evans, Marque Evans, Delvin Miller, Johniyah Miller, Johmyron Miller*)
5. McMurphy, Lois
6. Morson, John & Millie (*Amelia, Andrew*)
7. Peay, Libby
8. Williams, Van & Carnita



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Lee & Barbara Graves  
Phyllis Brown  
Johterrian "Marque" Evans  
Mary Evans (*JgeMarriyah,  
Delvin, Johniyah,  
Johmyron*)





E A S T E R   W O R S H I P   2 0 2 0

Join us for worship at 11am this Easter season as we worship King Jesus together.

PREACHING SERIES: "PSALMS OF THE PASSION"

- Sunday April 5 (Palm Sunday): Psalm 118:19-29
- Friday April 10, (Good Friday): Psalm 22:1-31 (6PM)
- Sunday April 12, (Easter Sunday): Psalm 16:1-11
- Sunday April 19: Psalm 110:1-7



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900 W. 2ND ST. CLARKSDALE, MS  
WWW.FIRSTPRESCLARKDALE.COM



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