



The First Press

*Celebrating the
Members, Ministries,
Happenings, and
the Amazing Grace
and Love
at
First Presbyterian
Church
Decatur, Alabama*



OUR STAFF:

Rev. Richard H. Brooks, Minister
richardhbrooks@gmail.com

Kobe Brown
Music Coordinator

Cheryl Wade
Organist

Rob Corn
Social Media Outreach Coordinator

Julie Loggins
Administrative Assistant

CONTACT US:

First Presbyterian Church
701 Oak Street NE
Decatur AL 35601
256-353-0253
FPCdecaturAL@gmail.com

INSPIRATIONS - Pastor Brooks

Isn't Life Confusing?

We are only beginning to see the light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel. This pandemic of darkness has consumed us for over a year claiming the lives of more Americans than WWI, WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars all combined. The tragic period of darkness is coming to an end, and the light of renewal is beckoning us to travel forward.

The Covid pandemic has left its mark on most parts of American life. Churches, particularly, have been affected in ways that are still to be determined. You and I must trust God's providence as to the disposition of many things dear to us. But as we walk into the light of a new era, we can focus our glaze on how we view life and see each other.



Henry David Thoreau said, "It's not what you look at that matters. It is what you see." There is an importance to assessing everything realistically. A wise person clarifies what is factually present in any given situation. However, the person of faith also remembers the significance of perception. Jesus said, "Seek, and ye shall find." "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and all things will be added unto you."

Let us look beyond the apparent destruction of kingdoms in this world; so we can see God's Kingdom of righteousness at work within us and through us in society.

"Show mercy, do justice, walk humbly with God." - Micah

"You have not lived today, until you have helped someone who can never repay." John Bunyan

STAY CONNECTED

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



The congregation will have its annual meeting following the May 2nd 9:30 am worship service. We will share in the Lord's Supper at that service and elect and install new elders at the congregational meeting. The annual financial report will be distributed.

Plan to join us for this service and the important meeting of the church congregation immediately following the service.

GUEST PASTOR, REV. ALISON KLING April 18th and 25th

On April 18th and 25th, Rev. Alison Kling will be joining us while Rev. Brooks is taking a much-needed break.

Rev. Alison Kling is the Executive Director of Free 2 Teach, a non-profit that provides free resources to teachers in Madison County's three public school systems. Following overseas development work in Latin American and Africa, Alison worked as an elementary school teacher in New York City Public Schools with Teach for America. She holds a B.A. in International Studies, an M.S. in Education, and an M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary as well as a certificate in Forced Migration Studies. She is an ordained minister of the PC(USA), with ministry experience at the Presbyterian Mission to the United Nations, Covenant Presbyterian in New York City, and Covenant Presbyterian in Huntsville. She lives in Huntsville with her husband, David, and her two boys, George and Teddy.



NEW CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Amber Stewart has worked with our church for two years helping organize and develop updated church administrative procedures. The session regrettably accepted her request to leave this position so she can spend more time with her elderly mother in North Carolina. We will be eternally grateful for Amber's assistance following the resignation in January 2019 by Karen Moore. We wish Amber and her family the very best.



In God's gracious providence, Julie Loggins has begun working with our church as its new administrative assistant. Julie is well-known in our presbytery as she has worked for two years at the North Alabama Presbytery office. She comes with a strong commitment to the Christian faith and the education and work experience our church needs as we restart ministry programs.

Happy Birthday . . .

April 4
Hilda Borie

April 6
Charlotte Moores

April 7
Dicky Maynor
Jacqueline Hardwick

April 12
Chris Sansing
Barbara Martin

April 19
Anne Fowler

April 24
Roselyn Maples

April 28
Jane Rowe

Our Homebound:

Juanita Dukes
Lynn & Ann Fowler
Barbara Martin
Sue & Charles Murphree
Liz Pilgrim
Jane Rowe
Caroline Taylor

Our Family Members in Military Service:

Peyton Davis
Army
Fort Campbell, KY
(nephew of Luke Pryor)