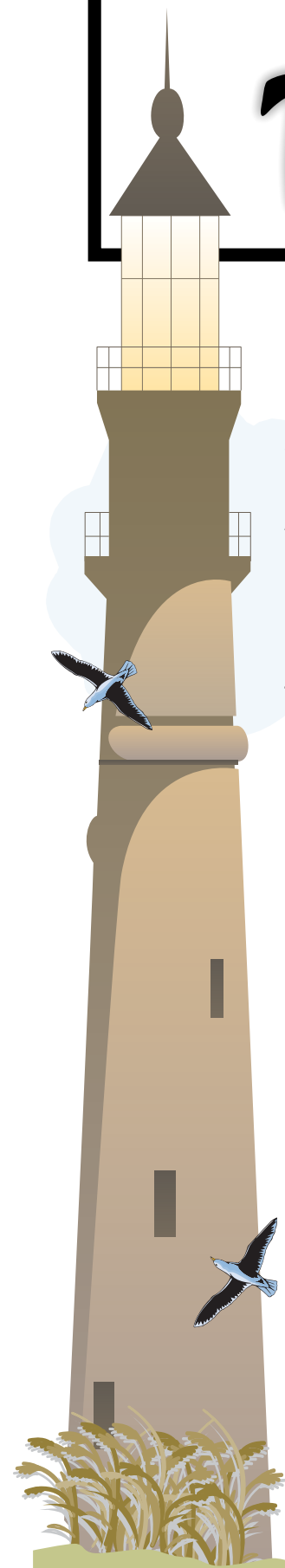
November 2026

# The Lighthouse



**By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation.**

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor – and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be – That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks – for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation – for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war – for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed – for the peaceable and

rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted – for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions – to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually – to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed – to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord – To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science among them and us – and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

Go: Washington

***Many thanks*** to all who participated in our recent missions conference! Our missionaries were well received by our congregation and greatly encouraged. Please continue to pray for the advance of God's kingdom on earth, for our missionaries, and for our church's part in the spread of the Gospel to the whole earth.



# New Sermon Series!

On November 1st Pastor Kyle began preaching an 8-week sermon series on the lives and ministries of the prophets, Elijah and Elisha, during our evening service. We will look at how God sends the prophets to call Israel and Judah back to the Lord and how their impact extended far beyond the boundaries of Israel. Their stories form the framework of 1 and 2 Kings and continue to show us how God will always provide for his people. Please join us at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings as our new sermon series will help us to reflect on the two basic frameworks that allow us to see Jesus Christ in Elijah and Elisha.



## *Now two reports from our missionaries…*

**Prayer and Praise**

Jody Collinge

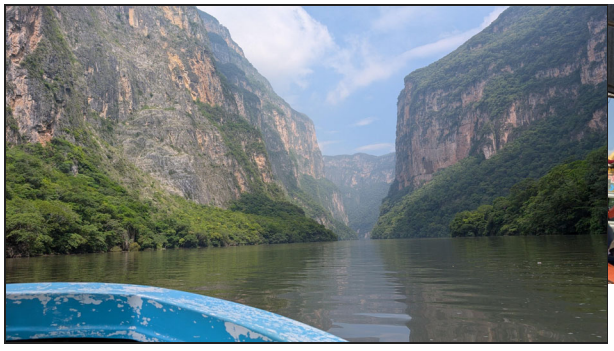
October 24, 2026

"You shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)






1. Thia has been a month of travels. After taking part in the missions conference of First Presbyterian Church of Biloxi (sse the photo below), I headed to Chiapas, Mexico, for our International Wholisitic Missions Conference. This was an excellent gathering of friends and coworkers from Mexico and around the world  We led a workshop on *Reaching the Next Generation* with many vibrant ministry models and an enthusiastic response. Pray that the youth may grow strong in Christ and be active in reaching their own generation. Pray that we may continue to work together and follow through faithfully.





2. We also enjoyed time together with our service team and Representative Council of the Global CHE Network, taking a boat ride through the Sumidero Canyon. Thank God for the beauty of his creation.

First Presbyterian Church of Biloxi and First Pres. of Schenectady





3. After a marathon day of flights, I took part in two mission conferences and am visiting two other churches in upstate New York. Thank God for their commitment to missions and their faithful prayers. Also thank God for his protection during travel and for recovery from mild illnesses, And thank God for wonderful hospitality and time with friends and the beautiful fall colors.



4. On Tuesday, I head back to Texas. Please be praying for:

- Online Bible studies
- Learning Hebrew
- Continuing work with community health evangelism
- Ministries with children
- Christian Health Service Corps

5. Pray also for Jo, as she works in Muslim areas, and for Sammy, Simon, and Kennedy and their teams as they work with Children's CHE ministries in

different parts of Africa. Praise God for how the gospel is spreading in Chiapas, and pray for our ongoing work there,

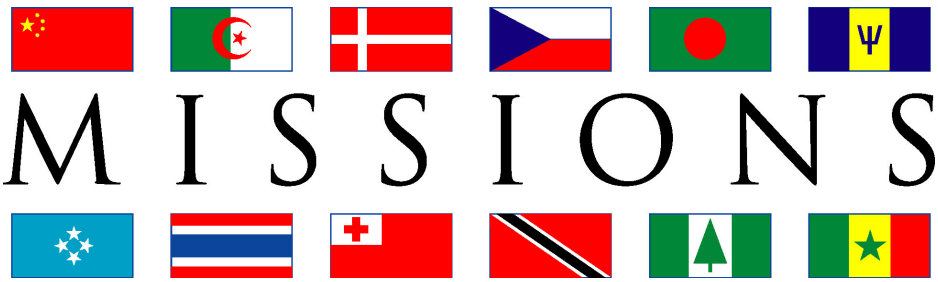
**¡Muchas gracias!**
Thank God for his protection and care each day, and for the Christ's working in our lives.

Many thanks to each of you for your ongoing friendship, prayers, encouragement, and support!

Let me know how I can be praying for you.

Dios les bendiga. May God richly bless you.
*Jody*

**Send donations to:**
Global CHE Network
200 W Frontier St., Suite Q
Payson, AZ 85541.
Please designate that they are for my support. Thanks!



# WORDS FROM THE WILDERNESS

**Establishing a Team To Share God's Heart to Reach the Lost**

## "You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." (Ephesians 2:13)

What makes a person fall away and become far from God? We all make our own sinful choices and have our own rebellions, of course. But sadly sometimes that process is aided, and the rails to destruction are greased, by a church that makes God and His true gospel hard to see. Such is the case with Peter.

Peter was born into and raised in a Unite Pentecostal / Oneness / Holiness church. A church that presented a constant picture of an angry God. One who would abide with no questions, no struggles, no doubts, and no failures. Peter grew up with the pressure and the burden of having to be perfect – In the eyes of his family, in the eyes his church, and most of all, in the eyes of God. And no one can meet that standard. Everywhere Peter turned, as a child and as a teenager, he felt and faced nothing but condemnation and wrath. So, as soon as he could, he ran away and fell away.



And when Peter fell, he fell far. Something in him always still believed in God. But he also knew that Jesus had said it is better to be hot or cold – So Peter chose the cold. He decided to reject the God who had been presented as first rejecting him. And so Peter ran as far as he could from any notion of God – And he lived the life he wanted to live, denying any guilt his past would have put on him for sin, and doing anything and everything a sinful heart unmoored from God chooses to do. For over twenty years, he became the prodigal, lost in a very far country. And he has all of the scars and wounds to show for it.

## But Our God Takes Special Delight In Running To Prodigals

I first came to know of Peter when God brought his wife, Kathy, and their four daughters to our church. Kathy had experienced her own years of wandering – And wonderful redemption (I shared her story in a previous newsletter). When Stephanie and I first met Kathy in Ocean Springs, she told us her story and literally said, "My daughters and I want to be part of your church – But my husband never will!" And so Kathy and her family came. And I reached out to and started to spend some time with Peter. To say the least, he was on his guard – Past trauma can make it so hard to come back to church and back to God, even when it is the very place we need to be!

And yet God, our loving Father, began to work in Peter's life. The first step He used, actually, was when Peter started hearing talks by Jordan Peterson – who himself is not a Christian, but who draws heavily from a Christian worldview and order in his discussions. Peter began to hear an intellectual appeal that put the longings he was feeling in his heart into words. He began to wonder if there were indeed answers and hope to the things he had lost in his years of wandering and rebelling on his own. He began to re-evaluate what he thought he knew and the atheism he had claimed on his descent away from any notion of God.

And that led Peter to our church. Where he began to sit under the word of God, and to hear of the gospel and of grace. He began to consider whether or not there was truth – And if that truth could be found in a Person. The person of Jesus Christ. And God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who wasn't angry with him. Who didn't condemn him. But who literally gave Himself to save Peter from himself. And besides just hearing, Peter began to interact with the people of our church. Other young believers. People who also had stories of being found and reclaimed and brought back to the grace of God. Grace – When seen in its truest form, it becomes a powerful attractant.

And so, over the last 2+ years, I have had the great privilege of watching as God has reclaimed a prodigal son. The verse I put at the beginning has been lived out**:** God uses the blood of Jesus to bring those who were once so far away back close. The lost sheep has been reclaimed. And the lost son…Has come home!

Peter's story doesn't end there, however. Through God's grace, Peter has become one of the most faithful members and worshippers at our church. He is far from perfect, as Peter will be the first to tell you. He is rough. And he is real – Sort of like the very ones Jesus came to hang out with and save! And Peter is there, wanting more of Jesus. He asks lots of questions – Great questions. He is part of the men's group that meets at my house on Sunday nights, and he is hungry. Not just for the bacon we eat every Sunday night – But for brothers who can encourage each other to "grow up" in Christ and in godliness. He is finding the grace of Jesus, and now he wants to share that with other men. And God is using it all to change who Peter is – As a man, as a husband, as a father… And as a child of God!



# This. This Is Why We Have Come to Ocean Springs

In most of my newsletters, I tell **stories from Government Street**. Those stories are exciting to share, and I love telling how God is at work, and of the conversations and connections God is bringing with His gospel as we go into the bars and find musicians, servers, and patrons – Lost souls God is bringing back to Himself.

But let me be clear**:** Government Street itself is not the point. It is not the goal. It is not the reason. The reason we have come to Ocean Springs is so that God might, through His grace, power, and love, bring His gospel to bear and **save many souls**. So that He might find many Peters and bring them back to Himself. He does not need us. But we pray He will be pleased to use us to save the lost.

And then to b**uild His church**. So that the word of God can be shared. And that the body of Christ will be built up to works of service and gratitude to our Savior. That many more might hear of Jesus. And that more churches might be planted. That even more people will hear the good news of the gospel. And so that, through it all, the worship of Jesus will spread far and wide and **change many people's lives and stories – For all eternity!** We not in a rush – But there is so much to do!



It is a big goal. It might even seem too much. Too lofty. Too ideal. And in our own selves, it would indeed be impossible. But then I see Peter. He comes and gives me a big bear hug as I greet him on Sunday morning. I watch him worship Jesus with his arms around his family, and I see the smile on his face – The smile of a man who has been saved. I see the change. I see the gospel lived out. And I watch as Peter sets the pattern for transparency, for hunger, for growing in Jesus – And for sharing the gospel with others that they might come to Jesus too!

I watch. And I have great hope. For if God can save Peter, He can save others. And if God wants to work in and change the life of a man like Peter – What might it look like if He sends the gospel out to those who are lost and far gone all up and down the gulf coast. So that many who are far….Might be brought back close through the gospel of Jesus Christ!

## Come, Join Us In This Work God Is Doing!

You can be part of this story. We long for and cherish your **prayers** and you **standing with us** in the hope and heart to reach the coast with the gospel. Please pray for us as we evangelize and disciple people like Peter. And, we invite you to partner and invest with us **financially:**

To give to to the story God is telling in Ocean Springs**:**

- Use the QR code to the right, or visit donate.pcamna.org/1749
- Checks can also be sent payable to**:**
  Hope Presbyterian Church
  % First Presbyterian Church
  1340 Beach Blvd
  Biloxi, MS 39530

## You Can Also Find Us Online:

- Our website**:** www.HopeForOS.org
- Our YouTube channel**:** https://www.youtube.com/@HopePresbyterianChurchofOceanS
- And our Facebook page**:** https://www.facebook.com/groups/613907074215025

**Thank you, dear friends. Thank you to all who pray for us and all who give to support God's work here. He is on the move! And may His grace and love be with you, always!**



HOPE CHURCH
— of Ocean Springs —

# Shepherding List

| David Allen | Ben Bowden | John Chaney |
|---|---|---|
| Bowden, Diane | Bagby, Andy | Allen, David |
| Chaney, John | Brookhart, Warren | Glidewell, Lenny |
| de La Rie, Anky | Brookhart, Linda | Glidewell, Joy |
| Gosnell, Ken | Clark, Mike | Glidewell, Joy Lynn |
| Gosnell, Joan | Clark, Kim | Kuhn, Karen |
| Kooienga, Marilyn | Genzer, Frank | Mann, Greg |
| Malthaner, Scott | Lustig, Steve | Pennell, Ken |
| Moseley, Jim | Lustig, Michelle | Rydbeck, Lynne |
| Moseley, Elizabeth | Mavar, Nancy | Smith, Aaron |
| Pennington, Phillip | Palmer, Kyle | Smith, Chris |
| Rhett, Charlotte | Palmer, McLaurin | Smith, Ellie |
| Washington, D'Andre | Palmer, Navarro | Smith, Gideon |
| | Palmer, Solomon | Smith, Evelyn |
| | | Turney, Tammy |
| **Regular Attenders** | **Regular Attenders** | **Regular Attenders** |
| Bergland, John | Collins, Glen | Bowden, Opal |
| Hicks, Bryce | Collins, Susan | Curry, Marolyn |
| Hicks, Gayle | Harrison, Tom | Eckel, Matthew |
| Hung, Leo | Sprague, Heather | Kornman, June |
| Tsai, Phoebe | | |
| Jasinski, Cathy | | |
| Smith, Maria | | |

| Mike Clark | Jeff Harrison | Aaron Smith |
|---|---|---|
| Bagby, Fran | Bowden, Ben | Blakeney, Jonathan |
| Bagby, Norman | Bowden, Julia | Blakeney, Elizabeth |
| Gauthier, Joan | Bowden, Gabbie | Blakeney, Peter |
| Gauthier, Tricia | Butchers, Kayleigh | Blakeney, Matthew |
| Harding, Phil | Davenport, Kathy | Blakeney, Hannah |
| Harding, Vielsa | Edwards, Kathleen | Estabrook, Galadriel |
| Harrison, Jeff | Gryder, Eloise | Estabrook, Asilia |
| Harrison, Katherine | Handel, Fran | Clark, Nick |
| Misner, Janet | Misko, Amy | Horn, Sarah |
| Misner, Jim | Roach, Rachel | Horn, Tim |
| Pringle, Kay | VanderKooy, Steve | VanderKooy, Aaron |
| Roch, Carol | VanderKooy, Kathy | Willson, Ben |
| Venning, Mike | VanderKooy, Ashley | Willson, Kerri |
| Venning, Laura | O'Malley, Harriett | Willson, Lane |
| Venning, Jacob | | Willson, Claire |
| Venning, Eli | | Willson, Corinne |
| Venning, Rachael | | Willson, Rosie |
| **Regular Attenders** | **Regular Attenders** | **Regular Attenders** |
| Dent, Mike | Bishop, Linda | Diaz, Manuel (3) |
| Dent, Elaine | Butchers, Simon | Diaz, Ashley |
| Garrett, Dan | Gonzales, Maria | VanderKooy, GG |
| Garrett, Christine | Olmstead, Tom | Paul, Buddy (4) |
| Williams, Ron | Parker, Sharon | Paul, Jade |
| | Roach, John | |
| | Shaw, Pat | |

Updated September 14, 2026

# BIRTHDAYS for NOVEMBER

Kayleigh Clark Butchers 13th

Matthew Blakeney 8th

Harrison Horn 11th

Vielsa Harding 13th



Winston Horn 28th

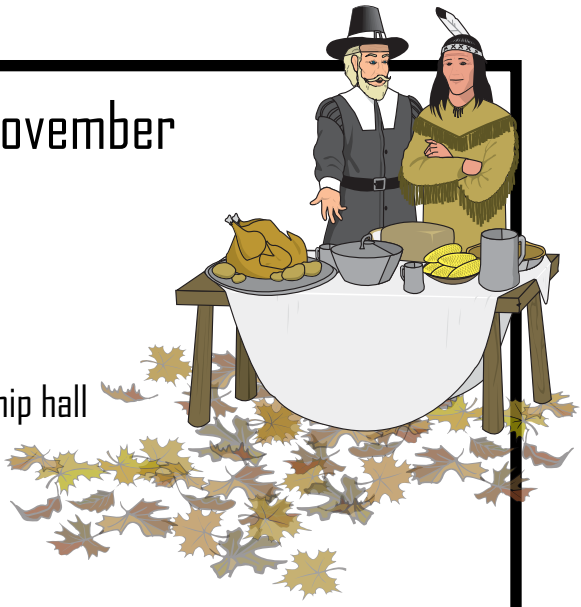
Aarn Smith 15th

Lynne Rydbeck 16th

Kathy VanderKooy 21st

Fran Bagby 25th

## Dates to Remember for November



November 1st. Communion

November 2nd. Men's Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor

November 7th. Men's Breakfast at 8:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall

November 9th. Session Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the library

November 11th. Veterans Day

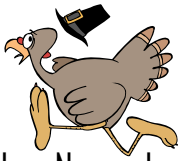
November 14th. Ladies Bible & Brunch at 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church



November 16th. Deacon's Meeting at 5:45 p.m. at the church

November 16th. Men's Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor

November 22nd. Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon after the morning worship service





November 26st. Thanksgiving

Church office will be closed Wednesday-Friday, November 25-27, for the Thanksgiving holiday

Operation Christmas Child boxes due by Sunday, November 22nd, if you pack your own box. A party to put the boxes together with items donated will be held on Saturday, November 21st.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BILOXI

**1340 Beach Boulevard**
**Biloxi, Mississippi 39530**
**228.374.6880**
**firstpresbiloxi.org**

**A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America.**

## Pastoral Staff

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Tim Horn (Senior Pastor)** | 662-313-8445 | tim.horn@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Dean Rydbeck (Pastoral Care Minister)** | 337-351-5294 | dean.rydbeck@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Kyle Palmer (Pastoral Intern)** | 228-860-7412 | kyle.palmer@firstpresbiloxi.org |

## Church Staff

| | |
|---|---|
| **Jeff Harrison** | Music Director |
| **Janet Misner** | Interim Pianist |
| **Kim Clark** | Secretary |
| **Greg Mann** | Facilities Manager |
| **Kerri Willson** | Nursery Coordinator |

## Elders

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **David Allen** | 228-547-1007 | david.allen@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Ben Bowden** | 228-596-5007 | ben.bowden@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **John Chaney** | 228-238-4379 | john.chaney@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Mike Clark** | 228- 326-3213 | mike.clark@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Jeff Harrison** | 228-596-6600 | jeff.harrison@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Aaron Smith** | 601-214-0918 | aaron.smith@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Ken Pennell (Elder Emeritus)** | 601-674-1637 | ken.pennell@firstpresbiloxi.org |

## Deacons

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Andy Bagby** | 228-547-5334 | andy.bagby@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Jonathan Blakeney** | 228-327-1781 | jonathan.blakeney@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Phil Harding** | 410-310-2389 | phil.harding@firstpresbiloxi.org |
| **Steve VanderKooy** | 228-990-1933 | steve.vanderkooy@firstpresbilox.org |
| **Ben Willson** | 910-274-1464 | ben.willson@firstpresbiloxi.org |