



# First Presbyterian Church of Hernando, MS

# THE FIRST PRESS

Volume 16, Issue 6

June 2007



June

### Liturgists

- 3 Chip Hatcher
- 10 Bill Bailey
- 17 Julia Park
- 24 Holly Neel

### Ushers

- Early Brent and Betty Floyd
- 11:00 Peter and Jody Jarjoura, Jason Parolli, Bert Mills, Sharon and Meredith Walker

### Communion Servers

- Early Brent Floyd, Jeanette Wilkinson
- 11:00 Jason Parolli, Rachel Cook, Bert Mills, Sharon and, Meredith Walker

### Communion Preparation

- Matt and Tammy Parham

### Greeters

- 11:00 Diane Tipton and Sharon Walker



June 26

## From the Pastor's Heart

Dear Members and Friends,

Recently I was talking with a friend about the possibility of a move for him and his family. They were trying to decide whether or not they wanted to leave their town and move to another community nearby; so they were weighing the pros & cons and praying about the decision. One of the things he shared with me really made me think. He said, in essence, "The foremost item on the list for staying and not moving is our church family. We are having a hard time thinking about the possibility of leaving, because our church is so very important to us."

I'm sure those comments revealed another truth: he and his family are also very important to their church! But my friend's wrestling out loud made me think of questions that I'd like to ask you as members of the First Pres flock: How important is your church family to you? If you were thinking of moving to another town, would it grieve you to think of leaving your church, or your pastor, or the friends with whom you have been serving the Lord here? Would your church be the foremost item on your list for reasons to stay? If so, why? If not, why not?

In the sixteen years that I have served as pastor of this church there have been lots of ups and downs. We have had moments when we were doing good things for the Lord. And we have had times when we were doing greater things for the Lord. We have seen many changes in our community, and there have been many changes in our church. I have seen a good many people come and go- some of them were very sad to leave, and others seemed glad to go. But essentially, the question I'd like to ask is, How important is your church to you? If there's something you once had here that's missing for you, I'd like to talk about that with you.

If you haven't been around First Presbyterian in a while, you're missing out on great energy and enthusiasm in the life of our church. Since Ash Wednesday, all through Lent and the season of Easter our church has been filled with the blessings of God's Holy Spirit. We've been blessed with good attendance and a wealth of activities. Just this past month we have shared in the PW Birthday Party Celebration on May 6th, a Mother's Day brunch on May 13th, a terrific graduate luncheon on May 20th, and we're not even into the summer activities that enrich our faith with Montreat, Hopewell, the Youth CUE choir trip, Vacation Bible School, summer Sunday School and Children's Church! We have a new member class going right now, Inquiring Minds, with around 15 participants, and Rev. Amos Hood is doing a great job in leading them through an experience which will prepare some of them for membership. Members have generously provided funding to help us purchase a 25 passenger bus! Lots of possibilities lie ahead. I am excited about what is going on at First Church, and I hope all of us will be filled with God's Holy Spirit as we serve our Lord together in this place.

*Yours in Christ,*  
*Rev. Robert "Chip" A. Hatcher, Jr.*