

April 2024

The Lighthouse

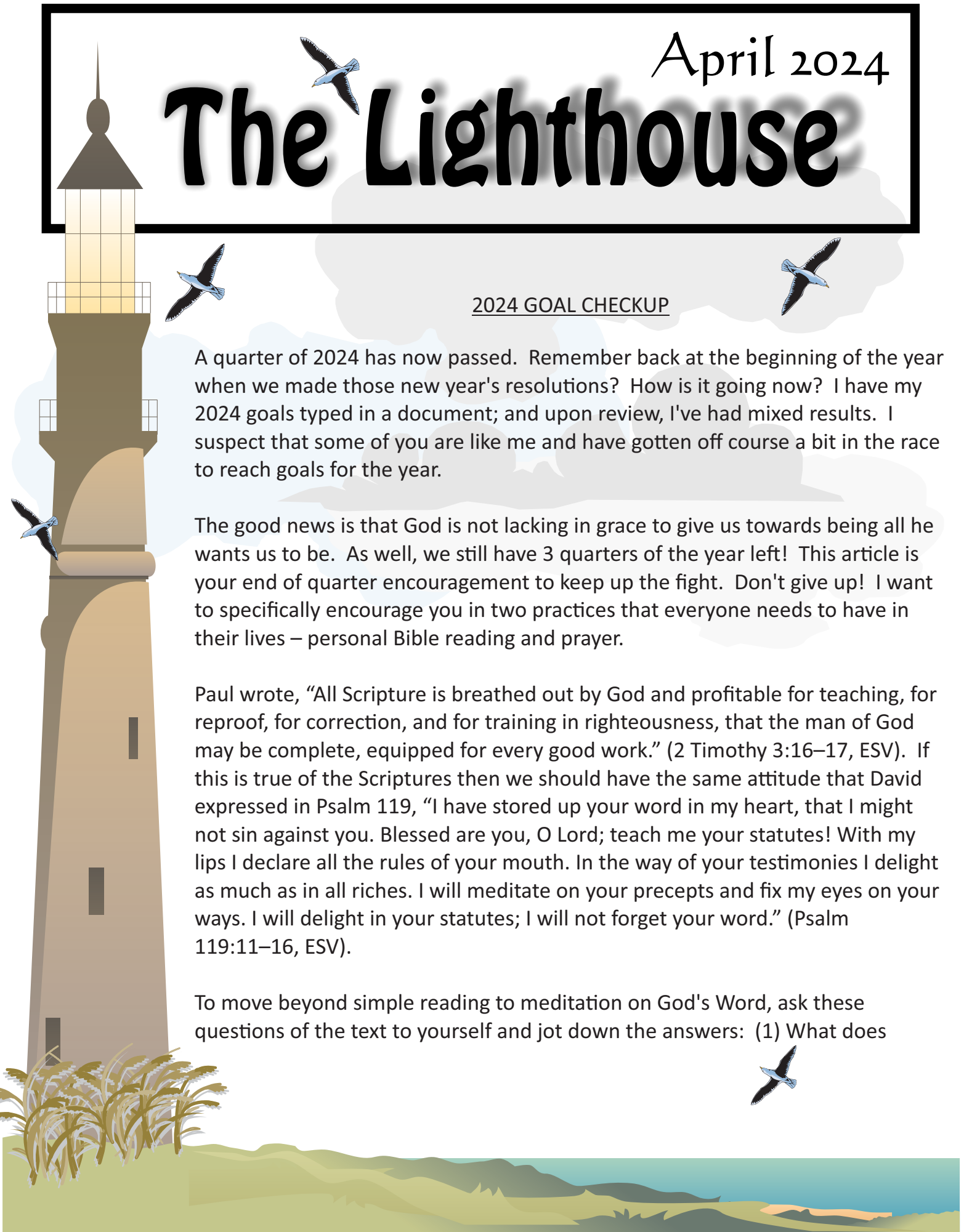
2024 GOAL CHECKUP

A quarter of 2024 has now passed. Remember back at the beginning of the year when we made those new year's resolutions? How is it going now? I have my 2024 goals typed in a document; and upon review, I've had mixed results. I suspect that some of you are like me and have gotten off course a bit in the race to reach goals for the year.

The good news is that God is not lacking in grace to give us towards being all he wants us to be. As well, we still have 3 quarters of the year left! This article is your end of quarter encouragement to keep up the fight. Don't give up! I want to specifically encourage you in two practices that everyone needs to have in their lives – personal Bible reading and prayer.

Paul wrote, “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16–17, ESV). If this is true of the Scriptures then we should have the same attitude that David expressed in Psalm 119, “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.” (Psalm 119:11–16, ESV).

To move beyond simple reading to meditation on God's Word, ask these questions of the text to yourself and jot down the answers: (1) What does



it say about God? For what can we praise God? (2) What does it say about self? How can I confess sin on the basis of this passage? How can I humble myself before him for and through this? What wrong behavior, harmful emotions, false attitudes result in me when I forget he is like this? (3) What does it say about what I need? For what can I ask God on the basis of this passage? (4) How is Jesus the ultimate example of this attribute, the ultimate solution for this sin, and the ultimate source of this grace? (5) Does my life demonstrate that I am remembering and acting out of this? How would you be different if this truth was explosively alive in your innermost being? If he is really like this, what difference does this particular truth make to how I live today? How would my neighborhood, my family, my church, my friends be different if they saw it deeply? (6) Why is God showing you these particular things today?

Use these answers as a springboard to prayer. Paul exhorted the Thessalonians to “*pray without ceasing...*” (1 Thessalonians 5:17, ESV). Of course, there are other things in life we must do which keep us from praying every moment of the day. Paul knows this, of course. His exhortation is to remind us to not abandon prayer; to be constantly dependent on God in prayer. Jesus was perfect and in perfect communion with his Heavenly Father, yet he took time to go off by himself to pray. If Jesus made it a priority, then there is no doubt that we should do the same.

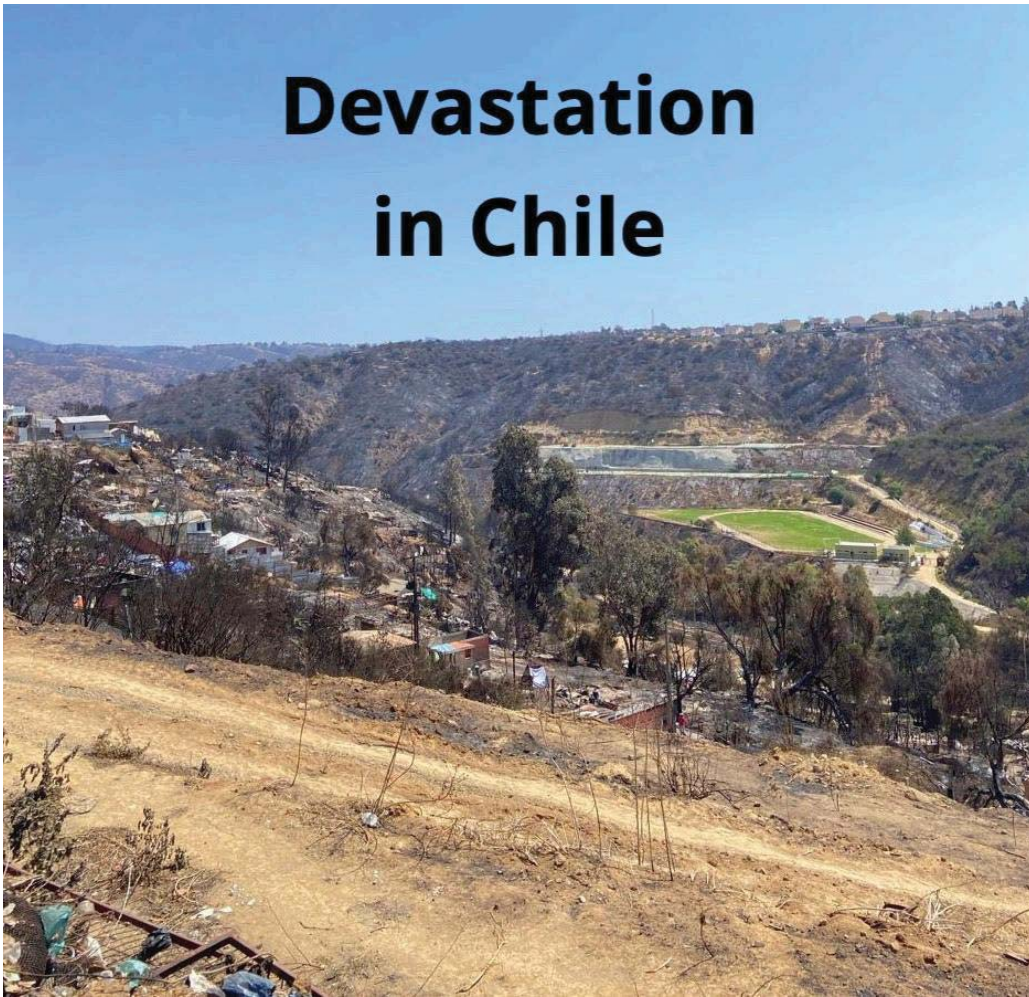
I pray that this little reminder is an encouragement to you to keep up/get back to/or take up the habit of personal Bible study and prayer. Losing weight and exercise are good things to do, but nothing is more important than fostering your own spiritual growth through Bible study and prayer in a corporate and private setting!

Grace & Peace,

Tim

Update on the devastating wildfires in Chile from our missionaries on site, John and Cathy Rug...

Devastation in Chile



Charred remains of homes on the hills over Viña del Mar.



Yes, there is still heartbreaking devastation, but God has moved in the hearts of many of you, and has provided emergency funds for us to be able to help these victims, especially those in or related to people in our churches.

This is an enormous undertaking for which none of us were prepared. We are so thankful that Dan Jenny and an assessment team came to help us develop a plan. Here John and the team are visiting some of those who were affected to see exactly what their needs are. Some need temporary housing, others need help finishing what was left of their property, and still others need to replace their work equipment to be able to once again generate family income. In one case, Fernando, a blind man who runs a firewood business, was provided with a new chain saw....which he expertly uses! I wish I could share the video of how

he chops wood with an axe! You would never know he can't see except when he looks for the split logs afterwards.



Many are living in "camping" mode which is ok for now, but we are now in Autumn and the temperatures are dropping as the rains are beginning. The government housing (3 x 6 meters) shown here is better than a tent, but not sufficient. Pray the Lord provides funds and workers to get more people under roof as soon as possible!

If you are interested in helping with these needs, you can send your contribution to MTW with the CEMIPRE account number (90831) Chile Fire Assistance listed on the memo line. If you could please drop us a note letting us know, we will be watching for it.

We are very grateful that Dan Jenny will be bringing two work teams down in April. Please pray for safety in travel and while they work, that much would be accomplished, and that the love of Jesus will shine through to these very bruised and needy hearts.

Thank you all so much!

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you.

Donations Address:
Mission to the World
P.O. Box 744165
Atlanta, GA 30374-4165
John and Cathy Rug #16511

John's Chile phone: +56 99 243-7867
Cathy's Chile phone: +56 99 549-9284
Skype number (free call from US to Chile!) (636) 614-1411
John's email: jrug.mtw@gmail.com
Cathy's email: cathyrugf@gmail.com

Prayer and Praise

Jody Collinge

March 28, 2024

Biggest praise:

HE IS RISEN!

“Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.

Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”

(Luke 24:5-7 ESV)

Travels:

May 12-14: To Mexico City

May 14-17: To Phoenix for IWMC

May 18-21: Service team retreat, near Payson, AZ

May 22: Return to Zihuatanejo

Prayer and Praise:

1. Have you signed up for international Wholistic Missions Conference. yet? May 15-17 in Phoenix. We have a great lineup of speakers and workshops, including Dr. Os Guinness, Rosi Orozco, and Brian Alarid. Click on the announcement to find out more or to register.

A promotional banner for the International Wholistic Missions Conference (IWMC) 2024. The top half features a scenic view of Phoenix, Arizona, with a saguaro cactus in the foreground. The text reads: "IWMC International Wholistic Missions Conference May 15 - 17, 2024 Desert View Bible Church Phoenix, Arizona". The bottom half features a circular portrait of Dr. Os Guinness, labeled "FEATURED SPEAKER DR. OS GUINNESS". To the right of the portrait are social media icons for a globe, email, and Facebook, with the text "connect with Dr. Os". Below the portrait, a short bio states: "Os Guinness is an author and social critic. Os has written or edited more than 30 books that offer valuable insight into the cultural, political, and social contexts in which we all live. He completed his undergraduate degree at the University of London and his D.Phil in the social sciences from Oriel College, Oxford."

2. While you are at IWMC, be sure to come to our GameLife and Children's CHE pre-conference on May 15th, led by Pastor D.J. Bosler and me. Come ready to play and have fun, as well as learning many strategies for working with children. Click on the link below to learn more and to register.

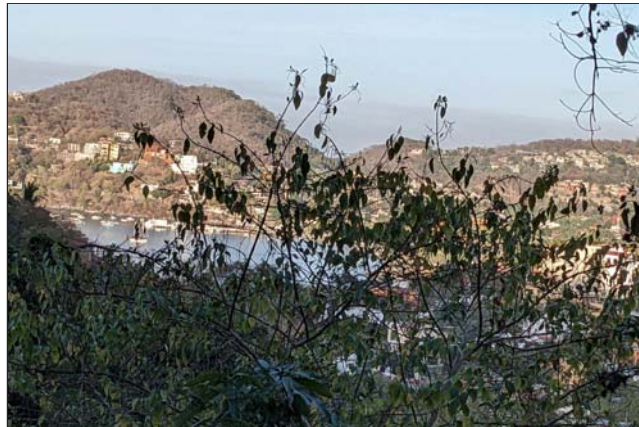
A dark-themed banner for the GameLife and Children's CHE pre-conference. It features the IWMC logo on the left. In the center, the text reads: "GameLife and Children's CHE for New Life in Christ and Healthier Lives for Children and Families (One-Day Workshop)". On the right, there is a yellow button labeled "REGISTRATION". Above the button, a navigation menu includes: "SPEAKERS WORKSHOPS PRE-CONFERENCES SCHEDULE EXHIBITORS FAQ".

3. What is GameLife? GameLife uses games to help children learn Bible truths and apply those truths to their own lives. As in Children's CHE, the children share what they learn with their families. Pray that lives and communities may be

transformed by Christ. Click below to learn more.



4. Please be praying for the CHE and Children's CHE ministries in Africa. Yesterday I met with Sammy, Simon, Jo, and Greyson to plan a trip for this July and August. We plan to go to Malawi first to see Greyson's extensive children's ministries and a to give Children's CHE training. We also hope to enjoy time together and build our friendship. Then on to Kenya to see Jo and Ben Kijabe's amazing CHE ministries (and maybe a few African animals.) Pray for a fruitful time together.
5. Pray also for God's wisdom and direction in responding to and planning trainings for people keenly interested in community health evangelism and Children's CHE in Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. God is at work in this region!
6. Pray that the cabin will be finished well and will be used to serve God.
7. Meanwhile, our online Bible studies with children and adults are going well, and I am also enjoying the Zihuatanejo children's ministries. Continue to pray for the families.
8. Continue to pray for a new pastor for Ixtapa Christian Fellowship. Thank God that we have a strong candidate.
9. And this is a delightful time of year to be in Zihuatanejo. Many Mexicans flock here for Easter. I hope you can come to visit!



¡Muchas gracias!

Many thanks to God for the gift of his Son. He is risen indeed!

And thanks to you for your prayers, encouragement, and support! Let me know how I can be praying for you.

With love,

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!

BIRTHDAYS for APRIL

Elizabeth Moseley 3rd
 Norman Bagby 9th
 Kay Pringle 15th
 Rosemary Bailey 17th
 Marilyn Kooienga 17th
 Tal Braddock 26th
 Steve Lustig 30th

Carol Roch 4th
 Virginia Horn 12th
 Janet Selig 16th
 Joan Gauthier 17th
 Benjamin Willson 19th
 Ken Pennell 29th

Dates to Remember for April

April 1 Men's Bible Study at 6:30pm at the church

April 6 Men's Breakfast at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall

April 7 Communion

April 10 Ladies Circle Meeting at 9:30am in the church parlor

April 14 Monthly Luncheon after the worship service. Please bring a dish to share

April 15 Men's Bible Study at 6:30pm at the church

April 15 Deacon's Meeting at 5:30pm

April 17 Women's Leadership Meeting at 5:30pm in the church library

April 23 Session Meeting at 6:00pm in the church

Women are invited to a spring trip to Bellingrath Gardens on Sat. April 27th. We will tour the house and gardens. Transportation provided. Will meet at the church

For the month of April we are going to give "April Shower Blessings" by having a food drive for loaves and fishes. A box will be outside the church office for the collection. Items needed are: canned goods are green beans, carrots, peas, corn and any type of canned fruit. Peanut butter and jelly, oatmeal, grits, maple syrup, instant mashed potatoes and pasta. Please do not bring any other items than what is listed, as they specified what they needed. Thank you very much!





**1340 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530
228.374.6880**

firstpresbiloxi.org

First Presbyterian Church of Biloxi is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. To learn more about the PCA, log on to pcanet.org

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
Scott Malthaner	830-320-1070	scott.malthaner@firstpresbiloxi.org
Ken Pennell	601-674-1637	ken.pennell@firstpresbiloxi.org
Aaron Smith	601-214-0918	aaron.smith@firstpresbiloxi.org
Tim Horn (Pastor)	662-313-8445	tim.horn@firstpresbiloxi.org
Shannon Philio (Assistant Pastor)	228-327-3875	shannon.philio@firstpresbiloxi.org

Deacons

Andy Bagby	228-547-5334	andy.bagby@firstpresbiloxi.org
Phil Harding	410-310-2389	phil.harding@firstpresbiloxi.org
Steve VanderKooy	228-990-1933	steve.vanderkooy@firstpresbilox.org

Church Musicians

Jeff Harrison	Music Director	jeff.harrison@firstpresbiloxi.org
Melba Sipriano	Pianist/Organist	melba.sipriano@firstpresbiloxi.org

Church Secretary

Kim Clark	228-374-6880	info@firstpresbiloxi.org
------------------	--------------	--------------------------