

**GOD'S  
LOVE  
NEVER  
FAILS**

PSALM 136

heartingod\*tumblr



THE  
**NEWSLETTER**

FEBRUARY | 2017

[www.rfpleypresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.rfpleypresbyterianchurch.com)



**SUPPER BOWL OF CARING** SM

**TACKLE HUNGER**

[TACKLEHUNGER.ORG](http://TACKLEHUNGER.ORG)

## STRAY

We have several stray cats living in our neighborhood. They seem to enjoy eating the food I supply, but won't let me touch them. They must feel threatened and fear a potential loss of freedom.

But how free are they?

Their bodies are likely plagued with sickness; they experience continuous malnutrition; when it's cold outside they have little warmth; and they lack the genuine affection of a human family.

Yet, in their minds, they're free.

The Apostle Paul spoke of true freedom in his letter to the church in Rome by saying, *"You have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life"* (Romans 6:22).

Sometimes, we view sinful actions in life as embracing our "freedom." Like stray cats, there is a temptation to live by our own rules. At the height of rebellion, we resist people of authority, or government leaders, telling us what to do. This can also lead to a rejection of God's healing touch upon our lives.

When we become obedient to God and serve him there is a joy we cannot find on our own. As the Apostle Paul explains, it's in freeing ourselves from sin, that we know fullness in life.

When tempted to stray from the faith, I pray for strength from on high to resist temptation.

It's in surrendering to serve God daily that we know true freedom.

***In the Way,  
Jody***

# Summary of the Stated Session Meeting

## Ripley Presbyterian Church Stated Session Meeting December 4, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

**Attendance:** Reverend Jody Hill; Leon Bailey; Bobby Elliott; Benton Elliott; Robert Goolsby; Norris Howell; Ann Wigington and Lynn Hill. Rev. Jody Hill (moderator) called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

### Clerk's Report:

The December 4 agenda was examined and amended with 2 new items of business regarding committee reports and then approved by common consent.

After examination by the members of the Session, Norris Howell made the motion to approve the November 13 stated meeting minutes of the Ripley Presbyterian Church Session. Robert Goolsby seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

### Old Business:

- The 2016 Per Capita was paid 11/17/16. The 2017 Per Capita is slated to be paid in January 2017.
- Point of Information: An additional total of \$150.00 was collected for "Minute for Missions" special offering designated for Steve Hill's ministry in Peru. The check was mailed per Steve's direction to the Christian Missionary Society, Greenville, S.C., on Nov. 17, 2016. Lynn will contact Steve to ask for an update regarding the ministry in Peru to include in the RPC monthly newsletter.

### New Business:

- It was discussed & agreed upon to serve communion in the pews on Christmas Eve, instead of the

usual method of intinction.

- The service on Christmas Day will consist of two songs performed by Connie & Hal Jeanes, and a short meditation afterward. There will be no Sunday School classes on this day.
- The decision was made to close the RPC Church Office Dec. 26 - Dec. 29. Lynn Hill will still take care of the needed clerical duties for the next week's service and will check the phone messages.
- Point of Information: The Community Thanksgiving Offering to the Tippah County Good Samaritan Center was \$829.00. The check will be mailed 12/5/16.
- Discussion regarding the designation of the Oct. 30 "Cents Ability" offering resulted in decision to designate 1/2 to

the Tippah County Good Samaritan Center and 1/2 to UKirk of Ole Miss. Ann Wigington made this motion, with a second from Norris Howell. Unanimously approved.

- Discussion regarding setting the date for the installation of the newly elected elders (Jennifer Huddleston and Price Elliott). Lynn Hill will contact them to see if either January 8 or January 15 will work better with their schedules.

## **2016 Committee Reports**

### **Worship/L. Hill**

Chairperson Lynn Hill thanked everyone who participated in the "Hanging of the Greens" service this morning.

### **Buildings & Grounds/ L. Bailey & N. Howell**

Norris Howell and Leon Bailey reported that with the threat of freezing weather forecast for the latter part of this week, measure will be taken to ensure thermostats are

set, water is dripping in all faucets & cabinet doors will be opened to allow warm air to circulate. Norrris will take care of shutting off water in the Old Sanctuary building.

### **Christian Education/ A. Wigington**

Ann Wigington reported that the "Soup & Santa" fellowship supper will be held Wed., Dec. 7 at 6:00 pm.

### **Congregational Care & Outreach/N. Howell & L. Hill**

Norris Howell requested that a special "thank you" be written in the January newsletter to issue a special thanks to the RPC members who volunteered their effort in the Coats for Kids project this year.

### **Endowment/ B. Elliott**

### **Personnel & Budget/R. Goolsby, Bobby Elliott & Benton Elliott**

The 2017 RPC Budget was presented by moderator, Robert Goolsby and a motion was made from committee that the budget be approved. It was unanimously approved. Bobby Elliott requested that Robert present the 2017 budget

to the congregation, date to be determined.

### **Stained Glass Window/D. Bailey**

Norris Howell reported that a request has been issued from Chairperson Diane Bailey to close the Stained Glass Window Designated Funds account at The Peoples Bank, and move the remaining funds to the RPC General Fund account. Discussion followed regarding the remaining invoices outstanding. A motion was made by Leon Bailey to table this request until the next session meeting, when more information will be available. Norris Howell seconded the motion; unanimously approved.

Our next stated meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, Leon Bailey made the motion to adjourn.

Bobby Elliott seconded; unanimously approved. Leon Bailey closed the meeting with prayer.

Lynn Hill  
Clerk of the Session

**Ripley Presbyterian  
Church  
Congregational  
Meeting  
December 4, 2016 --  
11:30 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Rev. Jody Hill who then opened the meeting with prayer.

Clerk of Session Lynn Hill confirmed a quorum was present for the meeting. As Clerk of the Session, she will also

keep the minutes for the Congregational Meeting.

After thanking the members of the 2016 Nominating Committee, Rev. Jody Hill made the motion on the part of the committee that the names of Jennifer Huddleston and Price Elliott be placed into nomination.

Rev. Hill then opened the floor for further nominations.

Norris Howell made the motion that the nominations cease and that Jennifer Huddleston and Benton Elliott be elected by acclamation. Diane Bailey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and Jennifer Huddleston and Price Elliott were elected.

Rev. Jody Hill closed the meeting with prayer.

## A little bit of RPC History about our Wicks organ...



The Ripley Presbyterian Church installed a new 4 rank Wicks Pipe Organ in January 1975. Ed Ludlow served as consultant. A dedicatory recital was held on June 29, 1975. The organists who played in the program were Ed Ludlow, Associate Professor of Organ at Blue Mountain College and Nancy Brock, Organist of the Ripley Presbyterian Church. The organ pieces chosen by the organists for this program were selected to reveal the varying sounds of the new instrument.

The Wicks organ was purchased originally with the plan to move it to the new sanctuary when such facility would eventually be constructed. It was hoped to enlarge the organ after it had been moved. The new sanctuary was built and dedicated in 1980. During the year 1988, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown Ballard died at Tupelo. In that she had been reared in the Ripley Presbyterian Church and maintained a love for its ministry and people, she left a legacy to the church which was used to begin the fund for enlarging the organ. During 1991, Ella Hall Tatum died. The same year, her son, Danny Peyton Tatum died. The Tatum family requested that all gifts contributed to the church in their memories be deposited in the organ

expansion fund. Subsequently, the Tatum family contributed the additional money which was needed to complete the project. The total cost of the organ expansion was in excess of \$28,000.00. Therefore, the organ expansion is in memory of Mrs. Ballard, Mrs. Tatum and Danny Tatum. A bronze plate indicating this is installed on the wall near the organ console.



When the original organ was moved into the new sanctuary, it was a 4 rank instrument consisting of 244 pipes. These pipes represented flue, strings, trumpet and principal ranks. The present expansion added 5 new ranks of pipes including an additional flue, celeste and a three-rank mixture. Other features provided by the expansion are swell-to-great, swell-to-pedal and great-to-pedal couplers. The organ received a new combination action which enables the organist to pre-set the desired stops.



The expansion has broadened the instrument's ability to accompany worship services and to provide a more excellent variety of sounds for recitals. Ed and Anita Ludlow served as consultants. The organ builder was David Finch of Florala, Alabama.

From "Ripley Presbyterian Church, 1837-1997  
A History in Word and Pictures"  
compiled by Billie M. Pickens

## Worship & Christian Education, Etc.

### WORSHIP HOURS

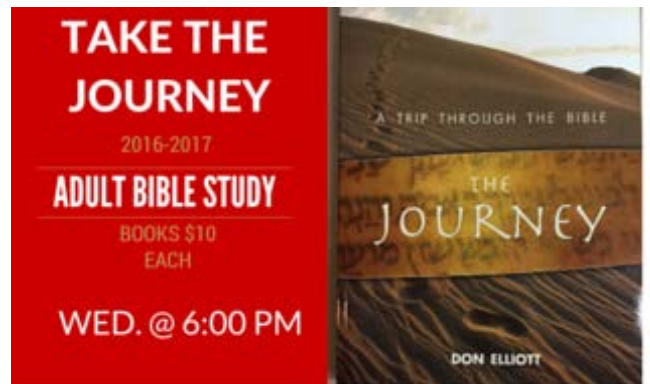
9:30 AM—Sunday School

10:30 AM—Worship Service

*MIDWEEK YOUTH Will  
resume Wednesday, Jan. 11th  
at 5 pm.*

## MIDWEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday  
at 6 PM.



**SAY YES  
TO NEW  
ADVENTURES**

- MIDWEEK 2016-2017 -

5:00 | BIBLE STUDY GRADES 1-4 | SHEA SCOTT, ELIZABETH ELLIOTT  
& RHONDA BROWN

5:00 | BIBLE STUDY GRADES 5-8 | JODY HILL & KENNY HILL

5:30 | SUPPER

6:00 | MUSIC & WORSHIP SKILLS | JENNIFER HUDDLESTON & LYNN HILL

6:30 | RECREATION | B.J. HORTON & BENTON ELLIOTT

Every Wednesday starting September 7  
See You There!



**Nursery Volunteers Needed! (Now, isn't  
that some wonderful news?!)**

If you are interested in volunteering for  
our nursery during worship service,  
please see Lynn Hill.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

**RPC/PW Circle Meetings:** We meet the first Monday after the second Sunday of each month at 10 am in The Gregg Center.

**PW Council for 2016-2017**

Moderator Lynn Hill

[lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net) (662-837-6678)

Vice Moderator | Deborah Steverson  
(662-837-8332)

Secretary—Pat Ledbetter (662-837-7169)

Treasurer | Ann Wigington (662-837-4683)

Historian | Jennifer Huddleston (662-587-6807)

The RPC/PW will be hosting the 2017 Annual Spring Gathering of the Presbyterian Women on

Saturday, March 25 at Ripley Presbyterian Church. We will need everyone's help!

Our Committee Chairpersons will be contacting you very soon! Looking forward to serving with you!

**Save THE Date**

**The Ripley Presbyterian PW**  
are delighted to invite you  
to the 2017 Annual Spring Gathering

MARCH 25, 2017  
REGISTRATION 9:00 AM  
MEETING 10:00 AM  
RIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
302 WEST COOPER ST.  
RIPLEY, MS 38663

**Luncheon at Noon | \$8 per person**  
Please RSVP by March 10  
Lynn Hill  
[lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net)  
662-837-3765





## **RPC Men's Fellowship Breakfast & Devotion**

Meets the first Sunday of every month

@ 8:30 am in the Gregg Center.

**Special Note: We will host a Gideon Representative at our March 5<sup>th</sup> breakfast & devotion.**

## **Scriptures & Readers for February**

---

2-05-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 7: 1,2 & 7

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 22: 1-18

*Bobby Elliott*

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 4: 12-17

SERMON TITLE:

"Jesus Preaches"

2-19-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 9: 1-2

FIRST LESSON:

Leviticus 23: 9-14

*Rhonda Brown*

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 4: 23-25

SERMON TITLE:

"Jesus Heals"

2-12-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 8: 1-5

FIRST LESSON:

Exodus 20: 1-17

*Barry Cook*

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 4: 18-22

SERMON TITLE:

"Jesus Teaches"

2-26-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 10: 12-14

FIRST LESSON:

Numbers 12: 1-16

*Sharon Goolsby*

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew Chapter 5-7

SERMON TITLE:

"The Sermon of the Mount"

# Memorials

## *Stained Glass Window Fund*

In Memory of Robert Scott  
By Richie Cousar

In Honor of Rev. Jody Hill, Bobby  
Elliott, Norris Howell & Lynn Hill  
By Leon & Diane Bailey

In Memory of Doris Whitehead  
Ballard  
By Shirley Huddleston

## *General Fund*

In Memory of Robert Scott  
By Ruth Cook

In Memory of Martha Ray Braddock,  
Darrell Britt & Lorelai Britt  
By Ginger Gay Britt

In Memory of Martha Ray Braddock  
By Mary Adams  
By Barbara Alan Storey  
By Sue Ellen Miller  
By Barry & Marilyn Cummins  
By Mr. or Mrs. Robert S. Ladner

# ~Congratulations!~

To Hannah Horton, Clay Adams & Ty Long for qualifying to compete in the Regional Science Fair at Northeast MS Community College in February!

To Hannah Horton (Grandma Addams in *The Addams Family*), for being awarded "Best Performance by a Featured Actress in a Youth Production" at the Dixie Theatre's 2016 Masque Awards!

To Tristan McKay (Uncle Fester in *The Addams Family*), for being awarded "Best Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Youth Production" at the Dixie Theatre's 2016 Masque Awards!

To Grace-Anne Elliott (Morticia in *The Addams Family*), for being awarded "Best Performance by a Lead Actress in a Youth Production" at the Dixie Theatre's 2016 Masque Awards!

To Julie Howell (The Lady of the Lake in *Spamalot, the Musical*) for being awarded "Best Performance by a Lead Actress in a Mainstage Production" at the Dixie Theatre's 2016 Masque Awards!

To Jennifer Huddleston, for being awarded "Best Technical Achievement with Lights/Sound" (*Spamalot, the Musical*) at the Dixie Theatre's 2016 Masque Awards!

To Nolan Hill, who graduated from the EMT program at Coahoma Community College in December, and passed his National Registry Exam for EMT's in January!

To Luke Hill, for earning 1<sup>st</sup> chair/drumline in the Corinth Middle School Band!

To Noah Hill, for making the Dean's List at Blue Mountain College!

To Tristen McKay for making the President's List at Mississippi State University!

To Grace-Anne Elliott for making the President's List at The University of Mississippi!

~We are so proud of you!~

# Missions

## Volunteers for TCGSC

The Tippah County Good Samaritan Center is always looking for volunteers.

Their hours are: **Mondays only**  
9:30 am – 11:30 am  
1:00 pm -3:00 pm  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Phone: 662-512-003



A Message from Grace-Anne Elliott (currently a student at Ole Miss and a devoted "regular" at UKirk of Ole Miss meetings.)

*"Just wanted to say THANK YOU! To RPC for donating money for our meal at UKirk last night! I have been so blessed to have a found a church while I am away from home. Miss you all!" --Grace Anne Elliott*

---

Get ready to "suit up"!

February 5, 2017!

"Souper Bowl Sunday!"



Dear Church,

After learning about the damage & horrific devastation suffered by the people of South Mississippi as a result of tornadoes that swept through the area two weeks ago, RPC came together and collected \$1,220.00.00 to be sent to the Greater Pinebelt Community Foundation. This money was personally delivered by Rep. Jody Steverson to their Disaster Relief fund designated to provide immediate help for those affected by this storm.

Please continue to keep South Mississippi in your prayers.

And thank you for your generous & compassionate heart.



happy  
birthday

Happy  
Anniversary

## FEBRUARY Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 9 Lisa Wigington  
Rhonda Brown
- 11 Peggy Parker
- 12 Liz Elliott  
Sue Gossett  
Charlie Holland
- 13 Mary Alan Bailey
- 16 Joey Bullock
- 17 Jennifer Huddleston  
Geneva Mauney
- 28 Lauren Steverson

### ~Save the Dates~

February 5 | Men's Fellowship  
Breakfast & Devotional 8:30 am

February 5 | "Souper Bowl of Caring"  
Sunday! Every dollar collected will  
go toward The Tippah County Good  
Samaritan Center!

February 12 | Session Meeting | 5PM

February 13 | RPC/PW Circle Meeting  
@ 10 am Gregg Center

February 15 | Churchwide Fellowship  
Meal @ 6:00 pm  
(Youth will meet @ 5:00 pm)

# RPC SESSION

## Class of 2017

**Ann Wigington**-Christian Education Co Chair; Buildings & Grounds Co Chair; Elder Nominating Committee Co Chair | 662-512-2277 | [hwig@bellsouth.net](mailto:hwig@bellsouth.net)

**Robert Goolsby**- Personnel & Budget (Moderator) | 662-316-2644 | [rgools@ripleycable.net](mailto:rgools@ripleycable.net)

**Norris Howell**- Vice Moderator; Buildings & Grounds Co-Chair, Congregational Care & Outreach [Co-Chair | 662-837-1750 | \[nljhowell@yahoo.com\]\(mailto:nljhowell@yahoo.com\)](#)

## Class of 2018

**Benton Elliott**-Personnel & Budget Co-Chair; Congregational Care & Outreach Co Chair | 662-316-2994 | [bentonelliott41@gmail.com](mailto:bentonelliott41@gmail.com)

**Lynn Hill, Clerk of the Session** -Worship Committee Co Chair; Christian Education Co-Chair | 662-837-6678 | [lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net)

## Class of 2019

**Jennifer Huddleston**- Worship Committee Co-Chair | 662-587-6807  
[huddlestonj@stippah.k12.ms.us](mailto:huddlestonj@stippah.k12.ms.us)

**Price Elliott**- Personnel & Budget Co-Chair; Endowment Fund Chairperson | 662-512-2483 | [pelliott@dixie-net.com](mailto:pelliott@dixie-net.com)

## YOUR CHURCH STAFF

RPC Office Phone---662-837-3765  
Office Hours: Mon-Wed/ 9 am to 4 pm  
Thursdays 9 am to Noon

**Jody Hill**---Pastor  
662-512-8226  
[jody.hill34@gmail.com](mailto:jody.hill34@gmail.com)

**Lynn Hill**---Church Administrator

662-837-6678  
[lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net)

**B.J. Horton**---Director of Christian Education---662-587-1315  
[bjhorton@lda-cpa.com](mailto:bjhorton@lda-cpa.com)

**Jennifer Huddleston**---Director of Music---662-587-6807  
[HuddlestonJ@stippah.k12.us](mailto:HuddlestonJ@stippah.k12.us)

---