



# The Spire

## First Presbyterian Church

**November 2024**

**Greenwood, SC**

### **A Message From Our Pastor...**

On October 6th, we had one of the best worship services I have been a part of at First Presbyterian Greenwood. We were without power, lights, and organ, but we had an extra helping of energy. The Holy Spirit was present in a palpable way. Just nine days after the devastation of Hurricane Helene, many people were without power, and trying to put their lives back together. Half of our campus was inaccessible, but people came. In that naturally lit service, we came to worship. I made a joke about the installation of our new LED lights. Brad made a joke about a sermon he preached a few weeks before about the need to unplug. There was a strong cohesion among all who gathered.

Why was that? What made this service that much more meaningful? Some said it was the old familiar hymns we sang or the sharing of the communion table. I think there was even more that made it special. First, when life is generally going well, we complain about our “first-world problems” and overlook the simple blessings. When we were without power and some basic luxuries we began to notice and appreciate what we do have. We were thankful our loved ones were safe. We were not constantly distracted by our devices. Even the night sky was brilliant with stars.

Second, we experienced why Jesus called people together. The common struggle shared with our church family united and strengthened us. Jesus called us to think about our neighbor before ourselves, and this storm revealed the power of selfless living. Many joined together for a pot luck after worship and people brought extra food for those who couldn’t cook in their own kitchens. There was also a collection of food to distribute to those in need. This is the Christian walk at its best.

Third, without power and with limited luxuries, we were forced to slow down for a moment. We all need rest. We all need time in our lives for self-care and to breathe. Sometimes we need to stop and look around to see all of the good in our lives.

Worship on October 6th took us to the core of what worship is all about – God. We were less concerned about how we looked, the intricacies of the liturgy, the usual barriers we put between ourselves and others, and we simply brought what we had to the Lord. What a beautiful occasion and lesson. Let’s not waste what we learned and experienced. Let’s not go back to the old ways. Let’s come every week with the simple goal of worshipping the Lord.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kx', written in a cursive style.

Pastor Kyle

# SPECIAL SERVICES



## NOVEMBER 3

### All Saints Day

We will recognize all of the saints who have passed away this past year. During the 11:00 service, their name will be said aloud while a candle is lit in their memory.

We will have communion during both services.

## NOVEMBER 10

**We will recognize our veterans.**

We ask that our veterans please wear your uniform.

**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Dedication**



## NOVEMBER 17

### Stewardship Sunday

We will present our gifts to the Lord.

## NOVEMBER 24

### Christ the King Sunday

At the conclusion of the Christian year, the church gives thanks and praise for sovereignty of Christ, who is Lord of all creation and is coming again in glory to reign (see Revelation 1:4-8).

We will be accepting the Thornwell Children's Home special offering.



## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

### Community Thanksgiving Service

7:00 pm in our sanctuary



# Sundays@10

Children K3 (potty-trained) - 5th grade

Meet in the Gathering Room in **The Root Cellar**

10:00 – 10:45 A. M.

|             |   |            |
|-------------|---|------------|
| November 3  | 08 - Jacob and Esau again - reconciliation; forgiveness                           | Art        |
| November 10 | 09 - Joseph and his brothers - jealousy   | Recreation |
| November 17 | 10 - - Joseph in Egypt - God makes a way; God uses hard experiences for good      | Media      |
| November 24 | 11 - Moses birth, upbringing, and exile - finding your place by listening for God | Drama      |

.....  
 • **ONLY 3rd – 5th graders allowed!!!** •  
 • **Children’s Chimes in the bell room from 10 – 10:30. Then to the Root Cellar until 10:45.** •  
 • .....  
 • .....  
 • .....



## CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Sundays during 11:00 sermon



|             |   |               |                   |
|-------------|---|---------------|-------------------|
| November 3  | The warrior leader (108)                  | Merrie Wright | Olivia Wright     |
| November 10 | The teeny weenie...true king (116)        | Beth Justesen | Quay & Maddie Ray |
| November 17 | The young hero & the horrible giant (122) | Cindy Leary   | Linsey Anderson   |
| November 24 | The Good Shehered (130)                   | Luke Penney   | Liza Evans        |



Wednesdays  
5:15 - 7:00  
For children K3  
(potty-trained) - 5th

**Wednesday evenings are for church family!  
God equips us for life when we grow deep roots as children!**

| Date    | Lesson  | Volunteer | Volunteer |
|---------|---|-----------|-----------|
| Nov. 6  | 11 – Nicodemus (questions are ok)                             | Willard   | Clark     |
| Nov. 13 | 12 – The Disciples (learning from Jesus)                      | Griffith  | Pinson    |
| Nov. 20 | 13 – Sermon on the Mount (Jesus turns everything upside down) | Dunlap    |           |
| Nov. 27 | Thanksgiving Break  |           |           |

### SHinE Choir

November is a very important month for SHinE Choir as we prepare for Christmas! Please make attendance a priority so that we don't need to schedule extra practices. Thank you!

Anthems- *Christmas Lullaby* and *He Is Born*

Hymn- *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

Praise Songs- *Give Thanks, with a Grateful Heart* and *See, Amid the Winter's Snow*

Bible Story Song- *The Nativity Story*

Worship Time!

Mark your calendars for December 15 (7 PM) and December 24 (5:30 PM).

Each time we sing in worship, we will meet in the children's choir room 30 minutes before the worship service.



**Michelle Barksdale is our Bible teacher every week!**

Michelle thanks me every time we see each other because she loves being with our children. I thank her right back for being such a blessing to us! She loves developing the lessons and getting creative with crafts. And her service dog is sweet Violet who loves our children like crazy as well! Michelle has been an educator and a member of this church for many years, and she brings her special gifts and talents to serve at FPC by coordinating VBS, Fall Fest, Shrove Tuesday, and so much more with her beloved Janice May. Thank you, Michelle, for all you do and all you are!





## *Summer Bible Fun June 8-12, 2025*

*Arrange your beach trip around these dates  
because you don't want to miss this VBS revival!!!*

*We're planning for lots of:*

- *Children & Friends & New Friends*
  - *Youth & Friends*
  - *Adult Volunteers*
    - *Fun events*
- *An abundance of the love of God!!!!!!*

# Children's Sabbath Highlights



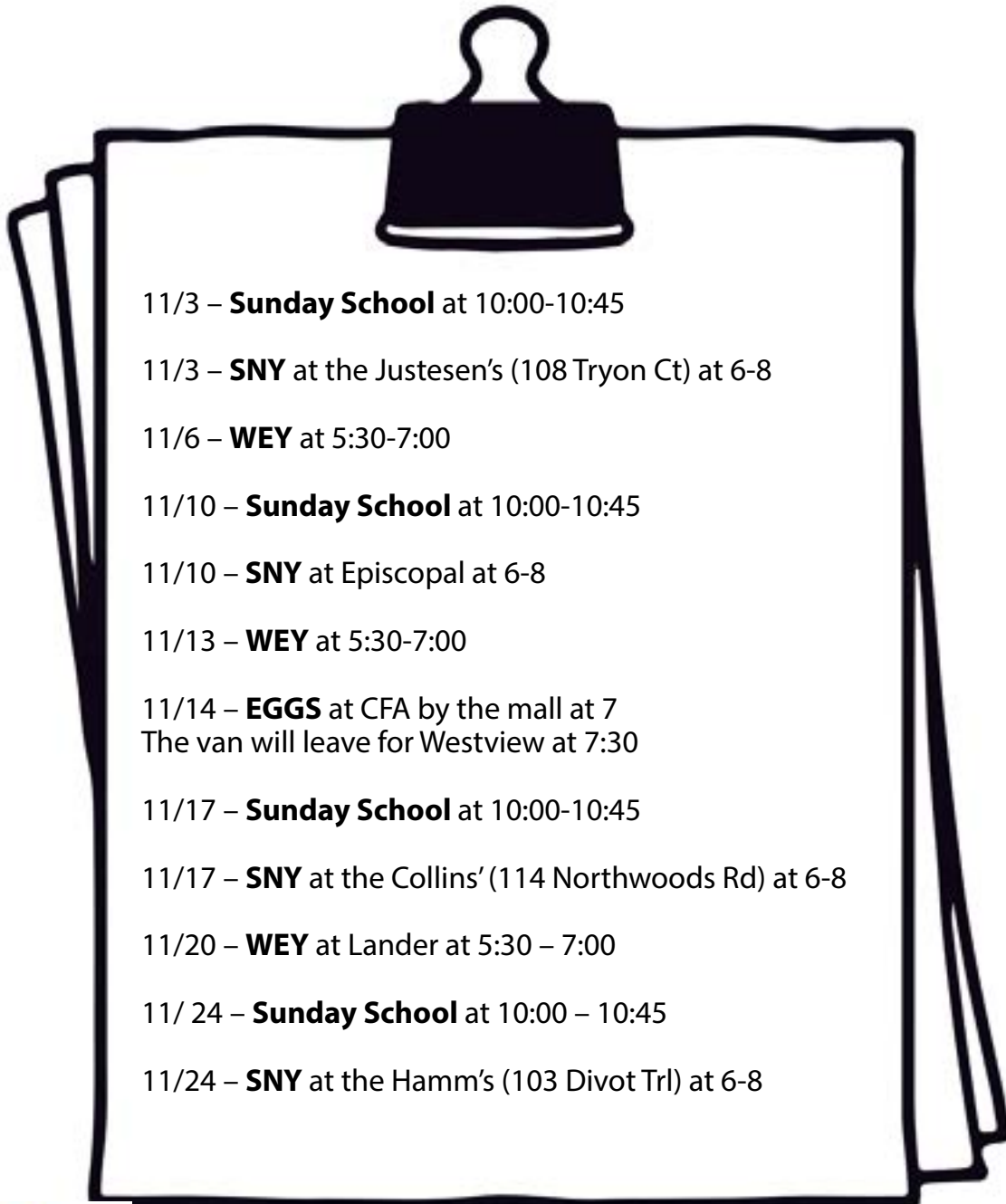
# Kirkin' Highlights



# YOUTH







11/3 – **Sunday School** at 10:00-10:45

11/3 – **SNY** at the Justesen's (108 Tryon Ct) at 6-8

11/6 – **WEY** at 5:30-7:00

11/10 – **Sunday School** at 10:00-10:45

11/10 – **SNY** at Episcopal at 6-8

11/13 – **WEY** at 5:30-7:00

11/14 – **EGGS** at CFA by the mall at 7  
The van will leave for Westview at 7:30

11/17 – **Sunday School** at 10:00-10:45

11/17 – **SNY** at the Collins' (114 Northwoods Rd) at 6-8

11/20 – **WEY** at Lander at 5:30 – 7:00

11/ 24 – **Sunday School** at 10:00 – 10:45

11/24 – **SNY** at the Hamm's (103 Divot Trl) at 6-8



#### Swamp Rabbits Hockey Game

On Saturday, November 16th at Bon Secours Wellness Arena in Greenville. Puck drops at 4:05 pm and after the game we are invited to a faith-based concert in the plaza! We will meet at FPC at 2:30 for the van or carpool.



#### WEY at Lander

On Wednesday, November 20th we will taking the donations collected to Bear Necessities Food Pantry at Lander University. Please bring \$13.63 for dinner at the campus dining hall or pay on Realm.



## Youth Group Mission Trip to Middletown, Ohio



FPC youth will be part of 400 youth who will be serving those in need of home repairs.

This is for rising 9th to completed 12th.

10 youth may register. If others would like to go beyond that, we will start a waiting list and try to get extra tickets. After Endowment support, we hope youth price will be \$249 but we will be fundraising to help offset this cost. Youth who help with fundraiser will receive assistance. Your registration confirmation is your \$50 nonrefundable deposit.



*We will meet on November 14th!  
The van will leave at 7:30 for Westview.*

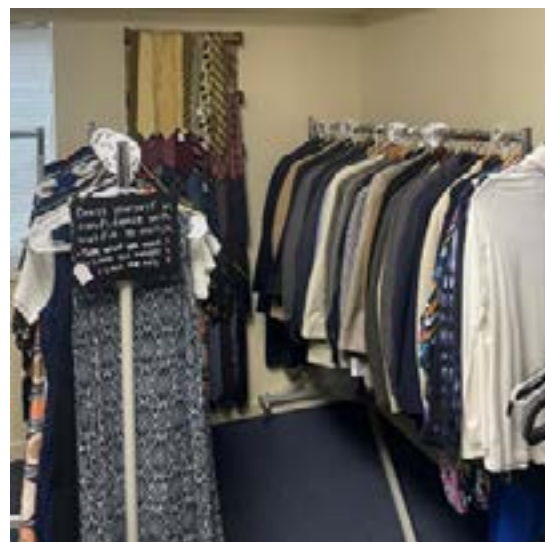
## Donations for Students at Lander University

The Youth will be collecting donations from November 3rd to November 20th for Bear Necessities Food Pantry at Lander. On November 20th, the Youth will deliver the donations and get to see behind the scenes how the students come together to support each other.

Bear Necessities Food Pantry focuses on the necessities of the students. These donations will help many students who are struggling to afford bills and food, don't have access to interview attire, and who are in need of resources.

### Items we are collecting

- Nonperishable food items: protein bars and ramen are a big hit!
- Toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrush, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, dish soap, deodorant, and razors
- Feminine hygiene products
- Laundry Soap
- Business attire: dress shirts, dress pants, suits, dresses, ties, belts, dress shoes, and purses. (If you have anything in your closet that you no longer wear; they do accept used clothing!)
- School Supplies: pens, pencils, notebooks
- Exciting treats: Juice, Gatorade, soda



# Young Adults



We attended Communiversity at Lander University. There was a great turnout, and we are excited to invite all of the young adults to our church! A big thank you to our members who made such delicious cookies for the event!

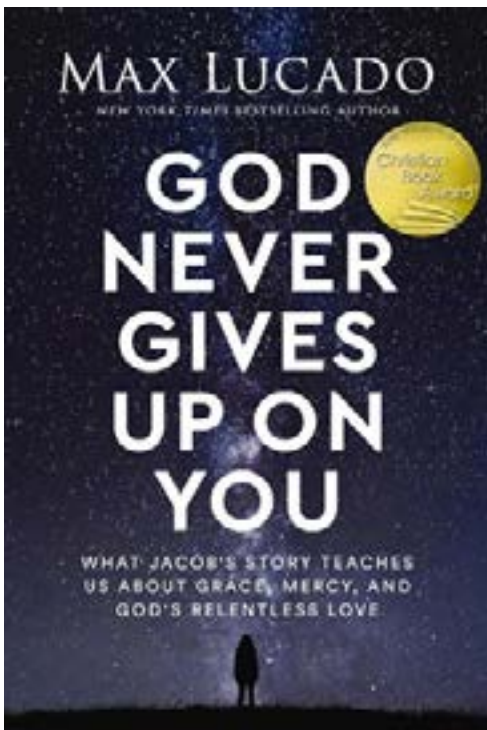


## Sundays@10 for Adults!

10:00

### Sojourners - Henry Reynolds (Room 110)

|         |   |                |
|---------|---|----------------|
| Nov. 3  | Max Lucado: <i>God Never Gives Up On You #3</i> | Philip Bell    |
| Nov. 10 | Max Lucado: <i>God Never Gives Up On You #4</i> | Bob Roddey     |
| Nov. 17 | Max Lucado: <i>God Never Gives Up On You #5</i> | Lelion Elledge |
| Nov. 24 | Rick Warren: <i>The Purpose of Christmas #1</i> | Jukie Leary    |



#### *2024 ECPA Christian Living Book of the Year Winner*

**Ever wonder if you've stumbled one too many times for God to use someone like you? Could you benefit from an encounter with God's unending, unbending, unswerving love and devotion?**

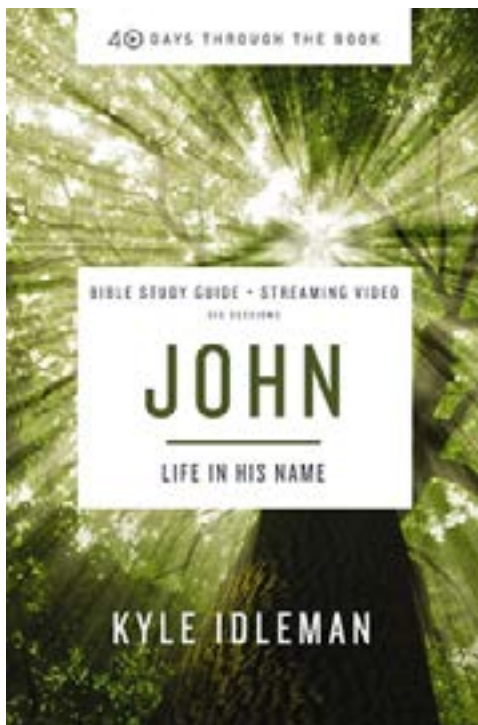
If your answer is yes, it's time for you to see how God's grace transformed Jacob's life. And if you feel undeserving of God's grace, this book will serve as a refresher course on God's perfect plan to use imperfect people to do great things.

*God Never Gives Up On You* is for the strugglers among us and the fumbler within us. For those of us who are part saint, part scoundrel; we mean well, but we don't always do well. We have breakthroughs and breakdowns, often in the same hour. We need no reminder of our failures. But where can we find examples of God's steadfast grace?

No one is more suited to help assure you of God's grace than Jacob. He was less a prodigy and more a prodigal. Strong on savvy. Weak on conscience. Jacob took advantage of his famished brother and pulled the wool over the eyes of his dying father, yet God never turned his back on Jacob. And he won't turn his back on you. If you are ready to start counting on God's grace and believe he never gives up on you, this book is for you.

# FISH (Fellowship in Serving Him) – room 205

|         |  |         |
|---------|--|---------|
| Nov. 3  | Brant Hansen: <i>Unoffendable</i> #6           | Gardner |
| Nov. 10 | Kyle Idleman: <i>John: Life In His Name</i> #1 | Sherrer |
| Nov. 17 | Kyle Idleman: <i>John: Life In His Name</i> #2 | Pinson  |
| Nov. 24 | Kyle Idleman: <i>John: Life In His Name</i> #3 | Collins |



## WHERE DO YOU PUT YOUR TRUST?

We all believe in *something*. We all put our faith in what we trust will sustain us and help us move ahead. For some of us, that might be a relationship or a job. For others, it could be an education, a financial portfolio, or a political platform. But the disciple John, in his Gospel, invites us to put our belief in something much more secure. As he states, “These things [in my Gospel] are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31).

In this six-session video Bible study, bestselling author and pastor Kyle Idleman reveals that John didn’t write his Gospel just to tell us about a profound teacher or a powerful miracle worker. Rather, his purpose was to tell us about the very Son of God who came to this earth so that we “may have life, and have it to the full” (John 10:10). John challenges us to trust in Christ—and to demonstrate our faith in him through the way we live and love others.

The **40 Days Through the Book** series helps you actively engage with God’s Word. Each study encourages you to read through a book of the Bible at least once during the course of the study. As you do, you will gain an understanding of the background and culture of the book, insights into key passages that you might have overlooked before, and clear takeaways that you can apply today to your life.



Dawsey Collins volunteered to coach Reagan Anderson’s soccer team!

# 2025 Women's Retreat Jan. 24-26



Our lives are full of sunshine and rain! It's easy to feel like dancing in the sunshine.  
How can we choose to dance in the rain, too?

Join us for our annual women's retreat!

Please note that William Black Lodge had flooding on their first floor and are  
working hard to make repairs.

So just to be safe, we will be retreating at Kanuga Episcopal Conference Center  
in Hendersonville, NC.

They are so excited to host us this year. Register here:  
If you have already registered, you do not need to re-register.



*It's the most wonderful time of the year!!!*



Class of 2025 angelic celebration!

Time to get creative and submit advent devotions to share with our church family.

People desperately want to hear from YOU!  
Yes, YOU!

When I say Christmas, you say . . .

Write a paragraph or two or five about what gives Christmas meaning for you.

Then email to [dce@firstgreenwood.com](mailto:dce@firstgreenwood.com)

Due November 15th





## Wednesday Night Fellowship

5:15 – Gather - Children on the playground;  
adults and youth in AH

5:30 – Dinner for adults and youth (\$10)  
RSVP by Monday or request to be added to the weekly list.

5:40 – Dinner for children (pay \$5 weekly or by semester/year)

5:55 – Prayer for everyone

6:00 programming Women in the Conference Room (206), Men in the FISH class (205), and Pastor's Bible study in the Henry Reynolds room (110); Children (The Root Cellar); Youth (the Loft)


Menus:

November 6: Country fried steak, scalloped potatoes, broccoli casserole

November 14: Chicken & dumplings and cheesy cauliflower

November 20: Breakfast: Sausage, eggs, pancakes, and more!

November 27: Thanksgiving Break

“No matter how simple  
the meal might be,   
the most important thing is  
everyone sharing time  
with one another,  
creating memories.”



# MISSIONS/OUTREACH

## MONTHLY MISSION SPOTLIGHT

### Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes



The collection date for these special shoeboxes is coming up very soon! Please bring your box(es) to the church **by Sunday, November 10**. We will bless them in the morning worship service before sending them on their way. Please let the church office know if you ordered your box online at [SamaritansPurse.org](http://SamaritansPurse.org) so we have an accurate final count.

Fliers with instructions and labels are in the church lobby to give you helpful information. Label your box as instructed and include \$10.00 for shipping to each box. Please make

checks out to First Presbyterian Church. Don't let the cost deter you from the joy of participating in preparing a shoebox. We will see that your box gets sent!



Presbyterian Women will be accepting donations for The Presbyterian Community in Clinton. The residents and staff are extremely grateful for your gifts. The staff takes your gifts and puts them into gift bags for the residents. The kind of gifts needed include:

Postage stamps

Scratch pads

Post-it Notes

Pens & Pencils

Small Umbrellas

Hand Sanitizer

Deodorant

Moisture lotion

Lip balm/ Chapstick

Nail clippers

Nail polish, especially pink

Hair brushes & combs

Shower caps

Large print Word Search or Crossword Puzzles

Calendar for 2025 (pocket size or large)

Soap: Liquid or bars, anti-bacterial preferred

Body Wash: men or women's

Shampoo & Conditioners

Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Mouthwash

Socks: black or white or navy blue, men or women's

Fuzzy bright colored socks with gripper bottoms

Flashlights with batteries

CARDS: All occasion

Birthday cards—lots needed!

Thank you cards

Kleenex: (Lots needed!) boxes or pocket sizes

You are asked to have your gifts at the church on or before noon on **December 1**. Please leave your donation **UNWRAPPED**. There is a box in the front lobby for you to drop off your gifts.

# MISSIONS/OUTREACH cont.

## ASHER AND SAMAR DIN'S MINISTRY IN PAKISTAN

Asher and Samar Din are ministering to the people of Pakistan in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They have organized sewing circles, ministered in the brick kiln areas where bathroom/shower facilities were installed, worked with the Joy Schools for children, and many other ministries. Missions/Outreach provides \$2,500 each year from their budget for their ministry in Pakistan. This is the same amount that is yearly budgeted for Kenya Faith Missions and to each of our missionaries.

Our Endowment Committee provided the Dins with a van that has helped them to safely travel to remote areas to minister to the people living there. They have been most grateful for this support.

The Dins rely on financial support from churches and individuals to carry out their ministry and to help with their personal needs, and they are in need of more financial support. **10/40's Connections** is a 501c3 organization that has accepted them as their partner missionary and has provided ways to send financial support to them.

A gift can be designated for **Personal Support** or **Ministry Needs**. If you would like to support a particular ministry, please consider designating from the following:

Relief Work                      These situations arise due to fire, flood, or persecution

Sewing Centers

Rickshaws                        These projects earn funds to sustain the projects below

Livestock                        These projects earn funds to sustain the projects below

At this time, *10/40's Connections* matches funds for these four projects.

Projects in Pakistan:

SOW Literacy

Village Schools

Motorcycles which are used as transportation for ministry work

Hygiene Systems

Voice for the Voiceless Health Seminars

### Two Ways to help the Dins in Pakistan

Personal support or Ministry Needs. Send checks to:

10/40s Connections

P.O. Box 1141

Hixson, TN 37343

Designate ASDin

*10/40s Connection is a 501c3 organization which qualifies for charitable tax donations.*

**On-going support** with one-time or monthly gifts to help with their personal support or ministry needs. This is by credit card from this site: <https://1040connections.kindful.com/?campaign=1302229>

You can designate where you'd like your gift to go on the second page of this site.

*(ASD stands for Asher Samar Din. and there is a 3% processing fee.)*

# MISSIONS/OUTREACH cont.



**EMERGENCY PANTRY FOOD ITEMS NEEDED**

- Canned Meats (chicken, salmon, beef stew, Spam, Vienna sausages, etc.)
- Canned Veggies (potatoes, peas, mixed, carrots, corn, beans, kidney beans, etc.)
- Canned Soups
- Spaghetti and Sauce
- Dry Beans
- Rice
- Peanut Butter
- Dry Milk
- Cereal
- Pop Tops for Kids (Spaghetti O's, Ravioli, etc.)
- Can Openers

Deliver to the back door of the GGUM Free Medical Clinic and ring doorbell.

1404 Edgefield Street  
Monday through Wednesday    Noon—4 pm



(exception: Amazon bells). Do not wrap items, but you can send wrapping paper if you like. Most importantly, pray for the recipients of your gifts.

## Hurricane Helene



Hurricane Helene's widespread destruction weighs heavily on all of us. Entire neighborhoods have been wiped out, and countless families are without shelter. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is responding through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). **Emergency grants have already been distributed, and National Response Team members are on the ground.** It will take years to recover. After initial needs are addressed, PDA will remain — providing emotional and spiritual care and long-term recovery to address unmet and ongoing needs. **The needs for the response will be great. God's people are called on to stand in the "GAP" — Give. Act. Pray.**

**GIVE:** Donations can be made online by **scanning** this QR code with your mobile device, **texting** HELENE24 to 41444, **calling** (800) 728-7228, ext. 5885, or mailing a check using the reply device below.



**ACT:** Assemble emergency cleanup buckets (visit [pcusa.info/heart](http://pcusa.info/heart)). Learn how you can help families affected by Hurricane Helene. Stay informed and like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/PDAcares](https://facebook.com/PDAcares)).

**PRAY:** *God of grace and compassion, May your Spirit move in this, your creation, bringing peace amid the turmoil and breathing hope into the places that feel broken. May your Spirit continue to be the quiet but constant reassurance that you are with your children and creation, even in the darkest moments, guiding us toward healing and restoration.*

\$500     \$125     \$50     \$25     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Congregation/PIN \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach the reply form and return it with your gift to your church, or mail with your check to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



## THORNWELL BELLS

Last year our congregation generously provided Christmas gifts for children at Thornwell Children's Home and for Thornwell's Foster Families. We will have the opportunity to do this again this year.

Watch for the Christmas tree in the church lobby (by Thanksgiving week) that will have many gift ideas for our Thornwell Bells. The paper bells will either list an actual gift that you can purchase or an Amazon site where you can order your gift that will be sent directly to Thornwell. Due date will be early December.

Please use the sheet provided to sign out your bell(s). Be sure to attach the paper bell to your donation

# Who needs lights for Worship & Lunch? We bring our own Brightness!

Worship on October 6th



# Presbyterian Women News

## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH



Many of you remember Fred Rogers on TV who said, “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, “Look for the helpers. When things are scary, you will always find people who are helping.” To this day, especially in times of a ‘disaster,’ I remember these words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers - so many caring people in this world.”

As we approach the holidays, we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving. What are you thankful for?

Are we more appreciative and thankful for the power in our home and businesses? Are you more thankful and appreciative for the workers you see on a daily drive who are up in the buckets working on the power lines? Remember, many of them are working while they also have recovery work following Hurricane Helene at their own homes.

We have the opportunity to show gratitude and appreciation for all those serving or helping us as Mr. Rogers shared. We need to think how we can be helpers to others. Not just during hurricane clean up but all time.

During November, let’s spend time thinking about what we are thankful for. We need to spend more time recognizing and expressing our gratitude for what God provides us.

God’s promises are all throughout the scripture. Psalm 121, 1 Chronicles 16:34, Psalm 1:1-3, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, Matthew 6:33 and Philipians 4:19.

What are you promising to God?

Lisa Yarbrough  
CT Moderator

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

~ Advent Dinner--December 15 at 5:30 pm

|  |
|--|
| <p>PW COORDINATING TEAM MEETING<br/>Monday, November 25, 2024 ~ 10:00 am ~ Henry Reynolds Room</p> |
|--|

**Circle 1** will meet on Tuesday, November 5th, at 10:30 am, at Wesley Commons.  
Contact Jean Mabe 941-7817.

**Circle 3** will meet Monday, November 11th, at 10:30 am, in the Henry Reynolds Room.  
Contact Rebecca Wise 554-6993 or Gigi Smith 554-8177

**Circle 4** will meet Monday, November 4th, at 11:00 am, at the home of Martha Ann Davis  
Contact Marilyn Towne 229-6990

**Circle 5** will meet Tuesday, November 12th, at 12:30 pm, in Alexander Hall  
and includes lunch & childcare.  
Contact Meg Stevens 993-7536 & Tara Gibson, 773-991-3374

**Circle 6** will meet Monday, November 4th, at 7:00 pm in the Barksdale Room (122).  
Contact Jessica Willard (jesswillard81@gmail.com, 993-5980) or  
Nickie Murphy (famurphy01@aol.com, 205-317-5347)

**Circle 7** will Tuesday, November 5th, at 10:30 am, at the home of Martha Dunlap.  
Contact Becky Bryson 223-2998 & Jill Koczwar (570) 344-3192.

**Circle 8** will meet on Tuesday, November 5th, at 11:30 am, in the Barksdale Room (122).  
Contact Betty Williams 993-0466.



# Noah's Ark News

We are excited to be back! We have officially reached "busy season" at the Ark. Fire station and pumpkin patch trips to start off the month, followed by our Halloween parade at the end of the month. All while practicing our precious songs for our Fall program, scheduled for November 14th at 6pm in the First Presbyterian sanctuary. Teachers are busy planning festive, hands-on lesson plans and crafts for the children. They will begin creating keepsake placemats for our upcoming Thanksgiving feast, scheduled for November 26th at 11am upstairs in Alexander Hall. So many fun traditions we are excited to continue at our precious preschool!

You will notice a new, but maybe familiar, face at the door each morning greeting your little ones. Welcome back Connie Cook! We are excited for Connie to rejoin our team at the Ark as Office Assistant. Connie will help in the Noah's Ark office, as well as float around to the classrooms to help with crafts and prep work. Connie is a great addition to are already awesome team at the Ark!



Noah's Ark is on the look out for a new Santa to come in for a special chapel lesson and pictures in December. We are so sad that John Williams has retired as Santa after 10+ years of coming to the Ark and will miss him dearly this season! If you know someone that can match his contagious spirit to keep our tradition alive, please contact Lauren at [noahsark@firstgreenwood.com](mailto:noahsark@firstgreenwood.com) as soon as possible. We are excited for the fun to come, and as always, thankful for your continued support of our program.





## Palmetto Girls Sing!



### Mission Statement of Palmetto Girls Sing

Palmetto Girls Sing is a girls' choir that serves girls in grades 4-12 in Greenwood, SC and its surrounding areas. Palmetto Girls Sing seeks to enrich the lives of girls through diverse and high quality choral music. An emphasis is placed on the joy of singing and its importance in our world. Palmet-

to Girls Sing offers girls opportunities for personal, social, spiritual, and artistic growth as the girls learn vocal technique, vocal health, music reading, and performance skills. Palmetto Girls Sing presents its music, both sacred and secular, to the glory of God. As an outreach of First Presbyterian Church, Palmetto Girls Sing is a non-profit organization. We have an official Palmetto Girls Sing website! Visit us at [www.palmettogirlssinggreenwood.com](http://www.palmettogirlssinggreenwood.com)!

### December Fundraisers!

Please support us as we raise funds for our upcoming 10th Anniversary Festival Celebration!

#### Be On the Lookout! for Christmas Wrapping Fundraiser

One day in December (date to be determined), PGS Members will provide a gift wrapping service in Alexander Hall. If you would like help with your holiday gift wrapping, we are here for you! You may bring your own wrapping paper, or we can provide wrapping paper! There will be information on how to register for this wrapping service in our December Spire.

#### Christmas Caroling Fundraiser

What Christmas gift can you get for someone who already has everything they need? We've got you covered! On December 19, PGS members will provide caroling services as a fundraiser. You will need to register ahead of time to provide this service for friends, family or businesses that you would like to honor at Christmas. The cost is \$25. It includes 3 songs, a package of cookies, and a Christmas card with you message. See your December Spire for instructions to register.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our Winter Concert is Monday, December 16. Please join us! Tickets will be on sale for \$10 each, starting in mid-November.

\*\*\*\*\*

Would you like to donate to Palmetto Girls Sing? Any amount is so helpful! You may donate to a scholarship for a particular girl, or make a donation to benefit all of the girls.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my gift to help provide a scholarship. \_\_\_\_\_



# Just Added Festiva Performance!

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## Imani Milele



Imani Milele Choir is a talented group of children from Uganda, Africa, that tour the U.S. each year, raising awareness of the plight of orphaned and vulnerable children. Be ready to worship and praise the Lord. Experience high-energy art, music, and dance; feel soul-riveting rhythms and African drum routines. Witness an authentic African experience, and learn something new with family and friends.

## Sunday, November 17, 2024 4:00 PM

*Concert is free and open to the public*

*Presented by*



\*This project is funded in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John and Susan Bennett

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

108 East Cambridge Avenue • Greenwood, SC 29646 • 864-229-5814

[firstgreenwood.com](http://firstgreenwood.com)



## 2024-2025 SEASON

Sunday, October 6,  
4:00 PM

### **The Carolina Baroque Trumpet Ensemble**

The Carolina Baroque Trumpet Ensemble is composed of trumpet performers and scholars from across the Carolinas who specialize in performance on historic natural trumpets, known today as “Baroque Trumpets” because of the instrument’s celebrated usage during the Baroque period (c. 1600-1750). Joined by leading Baroque trumpeter and international performing and recording artist Kathryn Aducci, the CBTE will present a concert of fanfares and processions from the 17th and 18th Centuries on replica period instruments.

Sunday, December 15  
7:00 PM

### **Christmas @ First Pres**

Presented by the music ministries of First Presbyterian Church, Sing Noel is performed by choirs, handbells, and congregation. Anthems and carols engage the audience with melodies of the season. Join us for music that will bring joy to all this holiday!

Sunday, February 23  
4:00 PM

### **A Pageant of Keyboards**

Be our guest for a collaboration of local keyboardists! Stanley Colbert, Steven Skinner, and Tim Walters utilize five keyboards to create a rhapsodic collage.

Sunday, March 16  
4:00 PM

### **Modern Choral Classics**

In its annual concert honoring the diverse heritage of recent composers, the Greenwood Festival Chorale presents modern choral standards. Director Mr. Steven Skinner leads the chorale in its musical offerings to the community throughout the year. For auditions, contact [steve@first-greenwood.com](mailto:steve@first-greenwood.com) or see the Greenwood Festival Chorale website at [www.gwdfestivalchorale.com](http://www.gwdfestivalchorale.com).

#### **MY GIFT TO SUPPORT THE 2024-2025 FESTIVA ARTS SERIES**

**FRIEND:** \$50-\$99 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; **SPONSOR:** \$100-\$599 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; **PATRON:** \$500-\$999 \$ \_\_\_\_\_; **ANGEL:** \$1,000 + \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and mail it to:

**First Presbyterian Church**

**P.O. Box 426, Greenwood, SC 29648**

or leave it in the church office. Your check payable to  
FPC is tax deductible.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Please keep in mind that these events/happenings/places are not set in stone. Keep watch in the bulletin, next month's *Spire*, and the Pastor's Update for more current information.**

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Saturday, November 2              | Change Clocks   |
| Sunday, November 3                | Communion during both services<br>All Saints Recognition<br>Recognition of children who have participated in communion class                        |
| Sunday, November 10               | Veterans Recognition<br>Accepting Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes   |
| Thursday, November 14             | Noah's Ark Fall Program (6:00 pm, Sanctuary)  |
| Sunday, November 17               | Stewardship Sunday<br>Imani Milele Children's Choir Concert (4:00, Sanctuary)   |
| Tuesday, November 19              | Trinity Presbytery meeting (9:30 am, Westminster, Columbia)   |
| Sunday, November 24               | Christ the King Sunday<br>Accepting Thornwell Children's Home special offering<br>Joint Officer Meeting (Time TBD, Alexander Hall)                  |
| Monday, November 25               | Community Thanksgiving Service (7:00 pm, Sanctuary)   |
| Wednesday, November 27            | Church offices close at noon  |
| Thursday-Friday<br>November 28-29 | Church offices closed   |
| Sunday, December 1                | First Sunday of Advent<br>Communion during both services<br>Dr. Cliff Cain preaching<br>Hanging of the Greens (11:00 service, Sanctuary)            |
| Sunday, December 8                | Second Sunday of Advent<br>Communion during early service<br>Christmas Caroling at Wesley Commons (6:00 pm)   |
| Tuesday, December 10              | Greenwood Festival Chorale Concert (7:00 pm, Sanctuary)   |
| Thursday, December 12             | Noah's Ark Christmas Program (6:00 pm, Sanctuary)   |
| Saturday, December 14             | Wreaths Across America Service (12:00, Sanctuary)<br>Youth to help with wreaths   |
| Sunday, December 15               | Third Sunday of Advent<br>Communion during early service<br>Advent Dinner (5:30 pm, Alexander Hall)<br>Christmas at First Pres (7:00 pm, Sanctuary) |

# GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION

## RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS:

(Home unless noted)

Susie Goodwin

*Our Christian prayers and sympathies are extended to* Robbin Goforth and her family on the passing of her husband, Don Goforth, on October 8, 2024. We share with them the joy of the promise of resurrection and eternal life.

**Ushers Needed**

We need ushers for both the 9:00 and 11:00 services. Please contact the front office if interested.

## Other Items of Interest

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper during both services on November 3, 2024.

**Change your clocks** on Saturday, November 2nd. Daylight Saving Time ends.

**Deadline for the December issue of *The Spire*** is Monday, November 11, 2024.

The **church offices will close** at noon on Wednesday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday. We'll be back in the offices on Monday, December 2nd.

## TEAM MEETINGS

The **Session, Diaconate, and Endowment** will meet Sunday, November 24th at 5:00 pm, in Alexander Hall. This meeting will be action items only. **Committee Chairs**, in addition to your regular monthly report, please submit a report from your committee reporting for the entire year. Please highlight up to three items that you would like Pastor Kyle to include in his State of the Church address in January. **Deadline to submit reports is Monday, November 18.** You can send them to Lea at office@firstgreenwood.com.

The **Buildings & Grounds Committee** will meet Monday, November 11th, at 5:15 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Congregational Care Team** will meet Monday, November 4th, at 10:00 am, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Men of the Church** will meet Monday, November 5th, at 5:30 pm, in the Henry Reynolds Room (Room 110).

The **Missions/Outreach Committee** will meet Sunday, November 10th, at 4:30 pm, in the Henry Reynolds Room (Room 110).

The **Prayer Shawl Team** will meet Friday, November 1st, at 9:30 am, in the Library (Room 121).

**Presbyterian Women** will meet Monday, November 25th, at 10:00 am, in the Henry Reynolds Room (Room 110).

**Stephen Ministry** will meet Wednesday, November 13th, at 4:30 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Worship Committee** will meet Tuesday, November 19th, at 5:30 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Youth Team** will meet Sunday, November 10th, at 12:15 at Panera.

**Please note that the place, time, and date of these meetings are subject to change.**

## FROM THE FINANCIAL OFFICE

### CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO OR BANK

If you plan to give contributions from your investment portfolio or from your bank directly to the church, please let Nan Smith in the financial office know. Nan can be reached at 864-229-5814 or [finance@firstgreenwood.com](mailto:finance@firstgreenwood.com). Stock and other direct transfers often come with no additional information about the donor's identity.

### 2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes are available in the hallway between the two lobbies. If you do not see yours or would like to start using offering envelopes, please contact Nan Smith in the financial office. These offering envelopes are mailable. There is no need to put them in another envelope to mail them, just put a stamp on them. If you give online or once a year, and would like to discontinue receiving the envelopes, please return them to Nan with a note letting her know.

**Note that your envelope number may have changed.** If you use offering envelopes, be sure to use the ones for the current year. As more people start giving electronically, we are ordering fewer offering envelopes, and your envelope number may have changed.

### Called Congregational Meeting

The Session would like to invite the members of FPC to gather for a congregational meeting on November 10th at 10:30 am. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on moving forward with a capital campaign, which would determine the feasibility of building a family life center. This step is not whether to proceed with the construction; that choice will come later. This step is simply to proceed with a campaign to determine the financial backing of such a project. While the Session unanimously endorses the campaign, it wants to ensure that the congregation has the final word and voice. Only those present at the meeting will be able to vote and votes will be by ballot.



### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

*Order forms for poinsettias  
will be available in the church  
lobby on Monday, November 4th.*

*Or you may contact the church office  
to complete the form.*

***Deadline to order is Friday, November 22nd.***



THE SPIRE - (USPS 736-430) is published monthly by the First Presbyterian Church, 108 E. Cambridge Ave., PO Box 426, Greenwood, SC 29648-0426. Periodicals paid at Greenwood, SC. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 426, Greenwood, SC 29648-0426.

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Parish Associate

The Rev. Dr. Brad Christie

Theologian in Residence

The Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain

Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Elise Collins

Director of Music Ministries

Mr. Steve Skinner

Director of Youth & Young

Adult Ministries

Miss Jade Green

Music Associate/Organist

Mr. Timothy Walters

Music Associate/Guitarist

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Moderator of Deacons

Ms. Carol Umphress

Moderator of Presbyterian Women

Mrs. Lisa Yarbrough

Chair of Endowment

Dr. Jukie Leary