



The Spire

First Presbyterian Church

June 2026

Greenwood, SC

A Message From Our Pastor...

Bible Reading, Part 2

If you have started reading through the whole Bible for the first time, great for you! That commitment could change your life, so stick with it. Just a reminder to *go at your own pace, go regularly (preferably, every day), and keep going!*

If you're reading through the Bible for a second or third time or more, it may be time to try a different translation. See this cover piece in last month's SPIRE for recommendations.

Another great help on subsequent readings is a good **study Bible**. As with translations, there are dozens of study Bibles, and not all are equal. Especially for a first study Bible, I recommend one that is not thematic or denomination- or tradition-specific. Two of the best are *The SBL Study Bible* and the new *Westminster Study Bible*. Both feature the updated New Revised Standard translation (NRSVue), and both include the most up-to-date materials supported by current biblical scholarship.

I'm sometimes asked about using a **chronological Bible**. I don't recommend a chronological Bible for a first whole Bible read-through. But if you're re-reading, a chronological Bible can be fascinating.

These Bibles organize biblical content in the order that events occurred. So, for example, during the period of the exile, writings from Old Testament prophets who were contemporaries appear together (instead of in separate books), along with psalms or historical writings from the same period. In the New Testament, the events of Holy Week are presented, from Palm Sunday to Easter day by day, instead of gospel by gospel. Chronological Bibles typically include introductions, summaries, and timelines that help you see how the various parts of the Bible work together to tell one great story—the greatest story of all time.

My recommendations for a good chronological Bible are *The Daily Bible in Chronological Order* (NIV), edited by F. LaGard Smith and *The ESV Chronological Bible*, edited by Andrew Steinmann.

However you choose to go about it—a historic or contemporary translation, an audio Bible, a study Bible or chronological Bible (or both!)—I promise that once you've read the entire book you will understand the Scriptures in an entirely different way. And you will know how to talk with those who claim to know the Bible but have never read it all.

So, get reading, or keep reading! And let me know how it's going.

Blessings,

Brad

SPECIAL SERVICES

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

For the months of June, July, and August we will have one worship service at 10:00 am in the sanctuary.

The Sojourners Sunday School Class will meet at 11:00 am in June, "on vacation" in July, 9:00 am in August. All other Sunday School classes will be "on vacation" until September.



Sunday, June 21st, is Father's Day. Join us as we celebrate all of the great dads and dad figures in our lives. We will be accepting the Migrant Ministry offering. The funds collected will be used to purchase gift cards for food, as well as daily devotional books (written in Spanish) for each of the workers in the migrant camps. There are approximately 200 men and women in the camps of the two farms. Make your checks payable to FPC and use the brown offering envelope that will be in the pews and please be sure to mark it for Father's Day offering.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

Mission Impossible

For with God, all things are possible. - Luke 1:37



May 31st - June 4th, 2026
5:30 - 7:30 P. M.

Dinner provided at no cost.
 Register by calling 864-229-5814
 or via this QR code:



We need children to come play and learn about Jesus with us!

We need youth to come have fun and shepherd the children!

We need grown-ups to make this all possible and to love on the children shared with us!

- SKITS - BIBLE -
- LIVE MUSIC -
- SNACKS/DINNER -
GAMES - CRAFTS

SIGN UP WITH MICHELLE BARKSDALE OR ELISE COLLINS

COOK-OUT ON SUNDAY, MAY 31ST AT 5:30.
A-L, BRING A SIDE; M-Z, BRING A DESSERT

Welcome our New Members



**The Butler Family
Grant, Kameryn,
Mason, and Joanna**



**The Flinn Family
Ryan, Greta, and Lily**



Austin Fuller



Braxton and Debbie Moyer



Ellen Schlagel

The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of the American flag. The red and white stripes are prominent in the upper half, while the blue field with white stars is visible in the lower half. The text is overlaid on this background.

I Do Declare ...
1776 - 2026

Greenwood Festival Chorale
Artistic Director Steve Skinner

Sunday, June 14, 2026

4:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church
108 East Cambridge
Avenue

Tickets \$20

Purchase at the door
or from a Chorale member

June 2026 Summer Intern Schedule

Please note that age ranges are COMPLETED, not rising. Younger siblings are welcome anytime if accompanied by a parent/guardian. To RSVP- pay on Realm or to Nan Smith.



Davis Lily Charlie Ava



Sunday, May 31 -
Thursday, June 4
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Ages K3 - 5th Grade



Water Day
Monday, June 8
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Ages 2nd - 5th
@ FPC



Carowinds
Thursday, June 11
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Ages 3rd - 5th
RSVP by June 9
\$ 50

Money for food and drink



Bowling
Tuesday, June 16
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Ages 3rd - 5th
Drop off/pick up @Expo 300
Bring \$10 for shoes and a drink
RSVP by June 14



Donuts for Dads

Sunday, June 21
After church in the Lobby!
All Ages



Popsicles on the Playground

Monday, June 22
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
@FPC
Ages K5 and under
Parents welcome!!!



BOYS NIGHT

Friday, June 26
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Ages K5 - 5th
@FPC
Bring a swimsuit and a towel!

CHURCH LOCK IN

Friday, June 19 - Saturday, June 20
7 p.m. - 8 a.m.
@FPC
Ages 3rd - 5th

Come and join the Interns and Mrs. Elise at the church for a fun spend the night!
We'll provide dinner and breakfast, but feel free to bring drinks and snacks to share!

July 2026 Summer Intern Schedule



Girls Night

Thursday, July 2

5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Ages 2nd - 5th

Drop off/pick up @FPC
\$20 for dinner at Capris



Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, July 26
During the 10 a.m.
service

Bring your
Backpack!!!



Free Movie

Wednesday, July 8

10 a.m.

Ages K5- 5th

Bring money for snacks!
Drop off/pick up @ Premiere
Cinema 10
for Dog Man



Snow Cones After School

Tuesday, July 28, 5:30
p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

All Ages with parent
discretion

Drop off/pick up @
Pelican's Snoballs-
909 Montague Ave
Bring money for snow
cones!



Riverbanks Zoo

Monday, July 20

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ages 3rd - 5th

\$50

Drop off/pick up @ FPC
RSVP by July 17 12:00 p.m.



More Fun to Come...
Details TBD

Please note that age ranges are COMPLETED, not rising. Younger siblings are welcome anytime if accompanied by a parent/guardian.
To RSVP- pay on Realm or to Nan Smith.

August 2026 Summer Intern Schedule



Pool Party

Saturday, August 1
Families come and enjoy!
Details TBD

Golf and Ice Cream

Tuesday, August 4
4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Ages 3rd - 5th
\$20

Drop off/pick up @ FPC



Goodbye



Forewell to Interns

Sunday, August 9
During the 10 a.m. service
Come and wish our Interns well as
they leave for school!

Please note that age ranges are COMPLETED, not rising. Younger siblings are welcome anytime if accompanied by a parent/guardian.
To RSVP- pay on Realm or to Nan Smith.



**Carowinds
June 11
3rd - 12th grade**

RSVP BY JUNE 7TH
BY PAYING \$50 TO NAN.
SEND FUNDS FOR
FOOD/DRINK
(CAROWINDS IS CASHLESS)
DRIVERS/CHAPERONES
WELCOME!



LUNCH & A SHOW

Join us for lunch at Eggs Up and
then we'll walk over for the
matinee performance of ANNIE!

JUNE 20 | 12:30 PM

RESERVE YOUR OWN TICKETS
FOR THE SHOW

YOUTH





June Youth Events

6/1-6/7 – Volunteer to be a leader at VBS

6/11 – Carowinds - RSVP by paying \$50 per ticket by Monday, June 8th on the Realm event or to Nan. Departing at 8:00 am with a very tentative return time of 8:00 pm

6/21-6/27 – Mission trip to Lincoln, Illinois



We Say Good-Bye

It is with heavy hearts that we say good-bye to Jade Green who has served as our Director of Youth and Young Adults for the last several years. She has added so much and so many wonderful things to the program and to our church family. She will be greatly missed, not just by the youth but the staff as well. We wish her (and Logan) only the best in their future as they move forward in this next chapter.

A Message from Jade:

It has been a blessing that I have been allowed the opportunity to serve the youth of First Presbyterian Church. Supporting their individual faith journeys and witnessing their discipleship has been a privilege. There will always be a special place in my heart for the loud laughter, theological inquiries that kept me on my toes, and the hilarious reminders about how the school drop-off lane works. After prayerful consideration, I believe God is leading me on a path to a new season. I am grateful for the entire First Presbyterian Church Family and the fellowship of growing in faith together.

*Blessings,
Jade Green*



FPC PRESENTS

SUMMER

YOUNG ADULT VIBES
7:00 P.M.

MAY 24 [AT] STARBUCKS BY THE MALL

JUNE 7 [AT] BREAK ON THE LAKE

JULY 10 [AT] BBQ FEST
PARK/MEET AT FPC



**Sundays@10
for Adults!
10:00 am**

Summer Sojourners - Henry Reynolds (Room 110)

11:00 in June

Vacation in July

9:00 in August

FISH (Fellowship In Service to Him) – Room 205





FPC PRESENTS

summer ladies nights out

7:00 P. M. / RSVP TO FPC

FIRSTGREENWOOD.COM



SUMMER Date Nights

7:00 P. M.



May 22 @ Good Times

June 5 @ ReFuel
in Abbeville

July 10 @ BBQ Fest - park and meet at FPC

Join us for FPC Couple's Outings!

RSVP TO THE CHURCH
(864) 229-5814

firstgreenwood.com



FPC

Summer Bookclub

JOIN US AS WE READ &
DISCUSS A BOOK A MONTH
THIS SUMMER.

The Hornet's Nest
by Jimmy Carter
June 21st at 11:15 for brunch
at Eggs Up to discuss

Higher Grounds Cafe
by Max Lucado
July 19 at 11:15 for brunch
at Eggs Up to discuss

Uncommon Ground (ch 1)
by Tim Keller & John Inazu
August 16 at 11:15 for brunch
at Eggs Up to discuss



IN THE KNOW

Come
volunteer for
VBS! It's not
too late!

The new floor
in the library
looks great!

Check out the new
First Aid Kits that
are located in the
back lobby,
Noah's Ark wing,
and Kitchen area.

Call the front
office if you're
interested in
receiving a bulletin
and/or CD from
Sunday's service
each week.

2026 Noah's Ark Preschool Graduates



We are so proud of each one of you! You have grown so much through your years at Noah's Ark. We pray that you take the foundation you've received here at the Ark and thrive in your next season. Remember, you are a child of God. You are wonderfully made, dearly loved, and precious in His sight.
There is no one else like you!

MISSIONS/OUTREACH

MONTHLY MISSION SPOTLIGHT Kenya Faith Missions

On April 7 Mrs. Njango Mankuleiyo, the wife of Bishop Manasseh Mankuleiyo, traveled to Kenya for a three-week mission trip. She was the featured guest speaker at the Annual Bisil Youth Conference with over 600 youth attending.

Many gave their hearts to Jesus. Youth ministers and college students were housed at the Mankuleiyo's Mission House. Njango commented: "The Conference was fantastic and it was such a blessing from God." Another guest pastor spoke to the Maasai youth, stressing the importance of an education and loving Jesus. Njango and other women ministered to young girls, encouraging them to remain strong Christians and abandon bad cultural habits. During her mission, Njango distributed 72 Maasai Bibles which brings the grand total to 10,001 Maasai Bibles distributed since 2019 by Bishop and Mrs. Mankuleiyo. The Bibles have been provided through Endowment grants and funds raised by Kenya Faith Missions.



MISSIONS/OUTREACH cont.



Greenwood Co FCA-April



April was a special month. We celebrated our last LU FCA of the year at the lake with worship and student testimonies. Thank you John & Beth for hosting us! I got to baptize Karson from LU volleyball as well. I got to pray with state runner-ups

Greenwood High Tennis. 96 Track & Field got together for a team devotion and team picture. This is just a glimpse of all the doors God opened this month!



Greenwood High FCA had their 2nd Fields of Faith of the year that was COMPLETELY student led. The students did the worship, testimonies, & brought the bible message. At the end of the night we all got in prayer circles & asked God to bless our community and loved ones!

LU FCA handed out sports drink popsicles to all the spring sports teams to share the love of Jesus & show them we care for them! Thank you to the Lewis family for helping distribute!



MISSIONS/OUTREACH cont.

Fifth-Sunday Project of the Western Cluster Churches

**First Presbyterian is responsible
for sponges (assorted sizes) and
scouring pads**

**Donations due to First Pres by
Friday, May 29th at noon.**

- ✓ Sponges, assorted sizes
- ✓ Scouring pads
- ✓ Prayers
- ✓ Assemble contents for buckets

**Assembly at
Westminster Presbyterian**

- ✓ Sunday, May 31st
- ✓ 3:00-5:00 pm





Festiva presents The King's Brass!

Wednesday, July 29, The King's Brass will present a spectacular collage of concert music, hymn-based tunes, and popular selections.

This 7 pm concert will involve audience participation as well as some entertaining antics rarely experienced in church!

These 8 brass players, plus accompanist will "blow your socks off" with stunning arrangements and antiphonal effects.

There will also be a sing-along of epic proportions!

We are in need of several home stays for the artists (likely for July 28th and 29th). Would you share some non-smoking accommodations and breakfast with our guests?

Contact festiva@firstgreenwood.com if you can host.

**Palmetto Girls Sing
Season 12 Registration is
NOW OPEN!**



Audition Dates

May 28
4-6 PM

June 18
4-6 PM

July 23
4-6 PM

**To register your rising 4th - 12th grader,
scan the QR code or visit our website at
www.palmettogirlssinggreenwood.com**



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 First Things email for more current information.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Sunday, May 31 | Trinity Sunday Baccalaureate Sunday (11:00 service) Graduates Reception (12:00 noon, Front Lobby) 5th Sunday Cluster Project (3:00-5:00 pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church) Session (4:00 pm, Henry Reynolds Room) VBS Cook-Out & Kick-Off (5:30 pm, Side Lawn & Alexander Hall) |
| Monday-Thursday June 1-4 | VBS (5:30 pm, Alexander Hall) |
| Friday, June 5 | Date Night (7:00 pm, Refuel Abbeville) |
| Sunday, June 7 | 10:00 Summer Worship Time Begins Communion Sojourners Sunday School (11:00 am) Young Adults (7:00 pm, Break on the Lake) |
| Tuesday, June 9 | Church Offices Closed for Staff Planning Day |
| Thursday, June 11 | Ladies Night Out (7:00 pm, Montagues) |
| Sunday, June 14 | Greenwood Festival Chorale Concert (4:00 pm, Sanctuary) |
| Wednesday, June 17 | Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (7:00 am, Alexander Hall) |
| Sunday, June 21 | Father's Day Accepting Migrant Ministry Offering Summer Book Club (11:15 am, Eggs Up Grill) |
| Thursday, June 25 | Ladies Night Out (7:00 pm, Break on the Lake) |
| Sunday, July 5 | Communion |
| Thursday, July 9 | Ladies Night Out (7:00 pm, BBQ Festival) |
| Friday, July 10 | Date Night (7:00 pm, BBQ Festival) Young Adults (7:00 pm, BBQ Festival) |
| Thursday, July 23 | Ladies Night Out (7:00 pm, Montague's) |
| Sunday, July 26 | Session (5:30 pm, Henry Reynolds Room) |

GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION

RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS:

(Home unless noted)

Bob Willy -- Wesley Commons Healthcare



Congratulations to Anna Bryce & Cauley Hobson on the birth of their daughter, Beckitt Mae Hobson, born May 13, 2026 in Matthews, NC. Grandparents are Randy Flowe and Rhonda Flowe, great-grandmother is Dot Wood.



TEAM MEETINGS

The **Admin Committee** will meet Sunday, June 7th, at 5:00 pm, in the Conference Room (Room 206).

The **CLC** will meet Thursdays, June 11, 18, 25 at 6:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Committed Prayers** group will meet Monday, June 15th, at 5:00 pm, at T. W. Boons.

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



The lift now has “call buttons” which will bring the carriage to you on any floor. It also operates without a key! Many thanks to Jim Booth for these improvements.

Other Items of Interest

We will celebrate the **Lord’s Supper** during the 10:00 service on Sunday, June 7, 2026.

Deadline for the July issue of The Spire is Monday, June 15, 2026.

The church offices will be closed Tuesday, June 9th for Staff Planning Day.

| June 2026 | | | | | | | Calendarpecker The Maker of Calendars |
|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |

GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION cont.



FUNERAL/MEMORIAL SERVICE PLANNING

Have you given any thought to pre-planning your funeral/memorial service and in doing so, giving yourself and your family peace of mind? We can help you with that.

We have developed a worksheet that will help you and your loved ones to be a little more prepared for when the time comes.

What scripture would you like read at your service?
What hymns would you like to be sung?

There are several other questions that you may not think about that we will need to know. This will not only help you and your family but it will aid us as well.

If you would like a copy of the Funeral/Memorial Worksheet, please pick up a copy located in the magazine rack to the right of the desk in the front lobby, contact the front office at 229-5814, or office@firstgreenwood.com.

We do ask that once you have completed this form, to please return a copy to us for our records.



ARE YOU FRAZZLED?

Have you or someone you know been sick or hospitalized?

Are you or someone you know homebound?

Are you or someone you know completely frazzled?

Please let the church office know so that we can visit with you, offer home communion, pray with you, or set you up with a Stephen Minister.

We are here for you.

Feel free to contact the front office or one of our ministers.



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Theologian in Residence

The Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain

Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Elise Collins

Director of Music Ministries

Mr. Steve Skinner

Music Associate/Organist

Mr. Timothy Walters

Director of Children's Music

Ms. Sarah Bowen

Audio/Visual

Mrs. Tamara McLeod

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Mr. Philip Bell

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Chair of Endowment

Mrs. Carson Penney