



The Spire

First Presbyterian Church

September 2026

Greenwood, SC

A Message From Our Pastor...

Ready for a PNC?

Book of Order, G-2.0802 The session shall call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee that shall be representative of the whole congregation. The committee's duty shall be to nominate a pastor for election by the congregation.

Last month I outlined tasks to be done before calling a new senior pastor:

- Grounding the whole transition process in **prayer** and congregational discernment
- Reaching clarity and consensus—and communicating—about the **Community Life Center**
- Conducting a **staffing audit**—determining staffing needs, roles, dreams, etc.
- Giving additional attention to **communication**, internal & external
- **Reaching IN** to church members who are no longer fully engaged

At its monthly meetings, the session evaluates progress on each of those tasks. When the session believes that sufficient progress is being made, they will direct the Nominating Committee to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

The church's Administrative Manual calls for a PNC of seven members, "including at least two currently serving elders and one currently serving deacon." The Nominating Committee will determine how the balance of the PNC broadly represents the whole congregation. When the Nominating Committee has a slate of members for the PNC, the session will call a congregational meeting to elect them.

At its first meeting, the PNC will receive detailed instruction from Trinity Presbytery's General Presbyter, Dr. Danny Murphy, and Commission on Ministry (COM) liaison, Gina Brinson. The PNC will then prepare the church's Ministry Discernment Profile. Much of the profile's content will come from the narrative, data, and findings in the Mission Study Report.

With session and COM approval, the PNC will upload the church's ministry profile into a recently re-tooled online system. The PNC will conduct most of its work in this system; so, PNC members should be comfortable with digital communication and online platforms.

If you want to suggest someone to serve on the PNC, check with that person first; if they are willing to serve, then forward their name to the Nominating Committee. If you are the person willing to serve on the PNC, do likewise: check with yourself first, in prayer and maybe in conversation with others in the church. Then contact anyone on the Nominating Committee: Wade Downtin (chair), Betsy Collins, Martha Ann Davis, Philip Bell, Peggy Hammett, Kappy May, and Amy Fennell.

Summer blessings,


Brad

SPECIAL SERVICES

Worship Schedule

Beginning September 6, 2026

9:30 Sunday School

10:30 Worship



KIRKIN' OF THE TARTANS SERVICE

*Get your tartan ready.
Our Kirkin' Service is set
for October 11, 2026 at
10:30 am.*



SUNDAYS@9:30 **I AM VALUED!**

Sept 6 - Michelle Barksdale
Sept 13 - Michelle Barksdale
Sept 20 - Phyllis Collins
Sept 27 - Hood & Caroline Souter
in the Root Cellar



CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

SUNDAYS DURING THE SERMON

**CHILDREN WILL EXIT AS NOTED IN THE
BULLETIN AND THEN RETURN BEFORE THE
SERVICE IS OVER.**



Basement Updates

- Library
- Church
- Workshop
- Under the sea
- Art Center
- Kitchen



YOUTH: Notes from the Loft Weekdays

EGGS

Exalting God's Glory at Sunrise

for Middle Schoolers

3rd Thursdays @ 7:00

Mall Chik-fil-A

Arrange carpool to schools after!

GRITS

God's Refreshment In the
Sunrise

for High Schoolers

2nd Thursdays @ 7:45

Mall Chik-fil-A

High Schoolers - come join us for breakfast,
fellowship & a devo to start your day!



6TH - 12TH GRADE

WEDNESDAY EVENING YOUTH

Dinner in AH
Youth in LOFT

Join us for dinner,
student-led devos,
and fun activities!

WEDNESDAYS 5:30 - 7 PM



Snack Mode

On your grocery run, consider grabbing a snack or drink for our youth.

Leave this in the office
or drop off on the 3rd floor.







Secret Angel Ministry

Secret Angels at FPC exist to encourage and support young adult members in the four transitional years beyond high school. We do this in a variety of ways using guidelines set up by the Secret Angel Committee. The guidelines below have been revised to reflect fairness and balance. We hope you will participate by volunteering to be a Secret Angel.

If you are a young adult, we hope you will complete the Secret Angel information form which can be found in the church office. Please return your form to the church office or email it to Lynn Mack (lynnmack12@gmail.com). Or, you may quickly access and complete the form online via the QR code provided below.

The goal of FPC's Secret Angels is to let these young members know they are being prayed for and thought about. Monthly cards are encouraged. We do not want to send the message that money and gifts are needed to feel supported and loved. We also want each person to feel it is equal and fair. Any monetary gift, such as gift cards, should be limited to twice a year and no more than \$25 each.

Young adult members must have completed high school or received a GED and be within 4 years of receiving their high school diploma. Attending a college or university is not a requirement as it was in past years.

Secret Angel volunteers should use the church's address as the return address when mailing a package or card so the volunteer can remain a secret.

The Church's address: P.O. Box 426, Greenwood SC 29648-0426



Volunteers – YOU will make a difference with your prayers, communication and your love. Small gestures can make a huge difference.

If you would like to volunteer to be a Secret Angel or have any questions, contact Lynn Mack –

email: lynnmack12@gmail.com

cell phone: 864-980-6345



Sojourners - Henry Reynolds (Room 110)

September 6 – David Gardner

Adam Hamilton's *Forgiveness*

September 13 – Lesson 1 with Bob Roddey

September 20 – Lesson 2 with Lelion Elledge

September 27 – Lesson 3 with Jukie Leary

October 4 – Lesson 4 with Philip Bell

FISH (Fellowship In Service to Him) Meeting in the library (room 205 is being renovated)

09/06	Get to Know You & Fellowship	
09/13	Church Updates & Fellowship	Brad Christie
09/20	TBD	Pinson
09/27	Faith & Sports Movies	Collins



Bible 101

A Four-Part Lecture Series
4:00 P. M. at Westminster Pres

Coming this month! **Westminster Presbyterian** is sponsoring a four-part lecture series entitled Bible 101, and you're invited! This is not a Bible study but an opportunity to learn about the Bible and get answers to your questions regarding authors, structure, order, translations, and much more. Whether you are a seasoned Bible reader or brand new to the Bible, there will be things to learn. While there may be some overlap in material, each 45 minute session is designed to stand alone and will have opportunity for Q & A. Sessions will be in **WPC's Fellowship Hall**. Please plan to come, spread the word and bring a friend!

Sunday, 8/23

Introduction and Basic Bible Facts
Brian Purcell, MPM (Westminster PC)

Sunday, 8/30

Literary Genres and Devices
Rev. Dr. Brad Christie (First PC)

Sunday, 9/6

No session for Labor Day weekend

Sunday, 9/13

Translations and the Canon
Rev. Phillip Dennis (Ware Shoals PC)

Sunday, 9/20

What Presbyterians Believe and Tools for Study
Rev. Caroline Dennis (Westminster PC)



Wednesday Night Fellowship

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

5:25 – Dinner for children (pay \$5 weekly or by semester/year)

5:30 – Dinner for adults and youth (\$10)

RSVP by Monday or request to be added to the weekly list.

5:45 – Prayer for everyone

Please RSVP by noon of each week or be added to the permanent list!

SEPTEMBER 2nd: Meatball Stroganoff, Pineapple Casserole, Glazed Carrots

Shine Menu: Pasta; Wear a Tie Night

SEPTEMBER 9th: Chicken and Dumplings, Cheesy Cauliflower

Shine Menu: Chicken Nuggets; Wear Red, White, or Black Night

MEN'S BREAKFAST: SEPTEMBER 16th: Country Ham with red eye gravy

SEPTEMBER 16th: Country Fried Steak, Rice with Gravy, Okra and Tomatoes

Shine Menu: Breakfast; Wear a bracelet/wristband Night

SEPTEMBER 23rd: Ham, Potato Salad, Green Beans

Shine Menu: Pizza; Wear a Band-aid Night

SEPTEMBER 30th: Family Christmas Camp Night (\$5.00 per person)

Hot Dog Supper; Wear red, green, or purple!



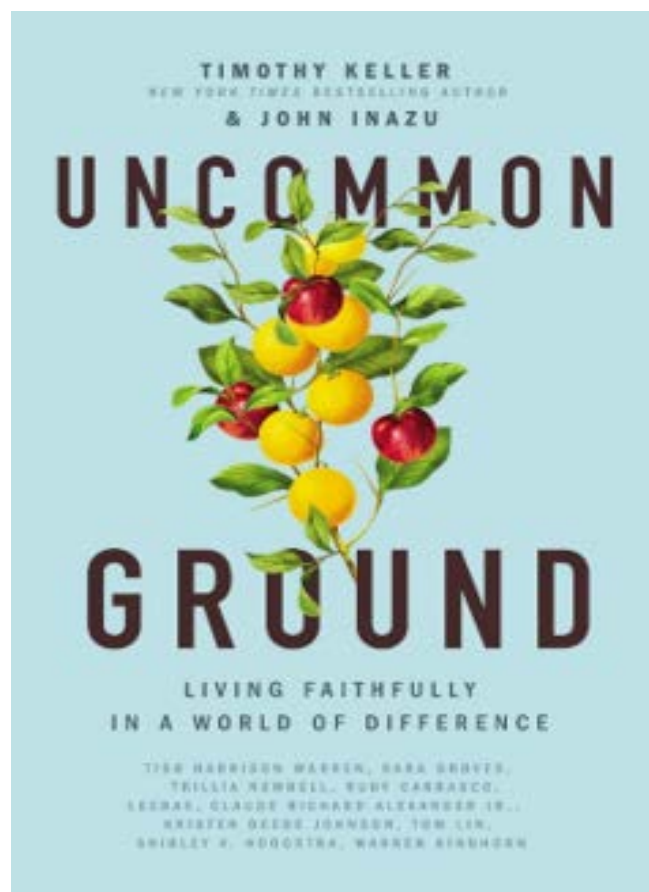
The Building Superintendent's Office has moved back to the former parlor attached to Alexander Hall. Forms are available for committees to submit with work requests.



Pardon our dust! Any guesses where this is?

We are so excited to take the wall out from between rooms 205 (FISH class) and 206 (Conference room).

This space will have a movable divider so that we can use this as one big room or two smaller ones.



*3rd Sundays after church
Lunch @ Panera
September 20th
Chapters 2 and 3*

Our words and actions matter.

We represent God to everyone we encounter.

Think about what you say . . .

how you say it . . .

Think about your actions.

What story do you tell by the way you live?

Before you speak:

THINK

T = Is it True?

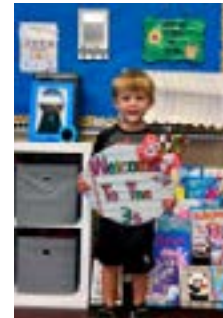
H = Is it Helpful?

I = Is it Inspiring?

N = Is it Necessary?

K = Is it Kind?

NOAH'S ARK NEWS



We are off to a great start for the 2026-2027 school year here at the Ark. We have begun "Specials" and are excited for Music and PE again this year. We have a new Music teacher, Mrs. Jessica, and we have started working on our Fall program songs. Our Three- and Four-year-old children have started Chapel and have been discussing the story of Noah's Ark in the Bible. We will start our Fruits of the Spirit next month. We have also practiced our safety drills and are prepared for a wonderful year ahead. We still have a few spots in our Three-year-old classrooms and one available spot in our Older Ones classroom. Please reach out to Lauren in the Noah's Ark office if you are interested in a spot or want to volunteer/join our substitution list.



MISSIONS/OUTREACH

MONTHLY MISSION SPOTLIGHT Greenwood Pathway House

LAST 12 MONTHS

You help us provide life-changing support that equips people to overcome homelessness permanently.



316 clients **62** children **212** adults **30** seniors **12** Veterans



128 in skills training



51 decided to follow Jesus



96 moved into housing



36 were baptized



92 got a job



61,572 meals served



80 in GPH trauma programs

Thank you!



Pathway Thrift Store

Pathway Thrift Store provides 32% of our operating income and free clothing for our clients.



The store is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM.
1444 Main Street South
in Greenwood

Scan for more information

#HERE4AREASON

5K

SUICIDE
PREVENTION
RUN&WALK



Scan Me



Saturday, September 26

8:30 AM

Greenwood Uptown Market

In loving memory of Tad Justesen

MISSIONS/OUTREACH

WORLD COMMUNION DAY

OCTOBER 4, 2026

World Communion Day, this year on October 4, is a day many Protestant churches come together to promote Christian unity and celebrate Communion together. The sanctuary will be decorated with flags of nations where we have a connection or support the Christian missionaries and programs in that country. Our guest preacher this year is the Reverend Shelvis Smith-Mather. He has been serving with his wife, Rev. Nancy Smith-Mather, in East Africa for almost two decades. They are graduates of The Westminster School in Atlanta; Furman University, and Emory University's Candler School of Theology.



The Smith-Mathers, both ordained PC(USA) ministers from the Greater Atlanta Presbytery, were married and took their first ordained calls in Kenya in 2008. In 2011 they were reassigned to the new nation of South Sudan. Although S. Sudan separated from Sudan, civil unrest has continued for many years resulting in thousands of people being killed or displaced to refugee camps.

Rev. Shelvis, a University of Oxford graduate, helped develop a peace institute through RECONCILE that trains leaders nationwide. Currently, he serves as the RECONCILE Peace Institute Advisor, working with Sudanese and South Sudanese colleagues to ultimately bring peace to both countries. Rev. Nancy managed the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s South Sudan Peace and Education Project, a significant denomination-supported initiative that worked with South Sudanese partners to improve literacy rates in a nation that once had one of the highest illiteracy rates in the world. She and their four children now reside in Charleston, SC where she serves in communications for the Reformed Church in America.

From the Endowment



The First Presbyterian Endowment and the Session thankfully acknowledge a gift of \$50,000 to establish the Russie Prather Beaudrot Music Fund as a new Restricted Fund that will benefit the music program at FPC. The gift made in honor of Russie Prather Beaudrot by her grandchildren will provide funding for special music expenses and programs as requested by the music director and music committee. The principal is invested as part of the Endowment assets to generate permanent, ongoing income with a portion available to support and grow the music program at FPC.

The Endowment manages 15 Restricted Funds that have use conditions for the funds in each account. Six of the restricted funds are tied to scholarships for higher education, nursing/engineering, and seminary. The other named funds benefit missions, Christian education, buildings and grounds, music, flowers and the Byrd Garden.

Requests that do not qualify for funding from a restricted account are supported from the unrestricted general account. Awards made from this account continue to benefit our local community and others worldwide. Examples include support for the Burton Center, Senior Center, Pathway House, Faith Home, Thornwell, Palmetto Girls Sing, Camp Fellowship, Kenya Faith Missions, and the Pakistan mission.

You can be part of the Endowment's exciting work by contributing to a specific fund or to the general unrestricted fund. Any amount can be applied to an existing fund and invested for long term support of the Endowment's mission. To establish a restricted fund, a minimum of \$25,000 must be contributed. Donations can be made as part of your tax planning, estate planning, insurance policies, or cash.

Current members of the Endowment are Carson Penney, Chair, David Gardner, Laine Orcutt, Liza Logan, Yates Brown, Merwin Rogers, Jack Jennings, Sam Leaman, and Adam Eichelberger. The office (864) 229-5814 can provide contact information for these members for any questions or further information.



Presbyterian Women August 2026

“As we begin a new year together, may we come with expectant hearts, ready to grow deeper in faith, richer in fellowship, and bolder in serving Christ.”

A new year of circle meetings begins in September. If you are a woman in our church or a guest of our church, you can participate in any circle. The circles meet once a month for fellowship and Bible study. Women of the church also volunteer through Presbyterian Women in many ways, including helping with bereavement, volunteering in missions and outreach, and planning the women's retreat, the loyalty dinner, and Women's Sunday. We also participate in spiritual enrichment, welcome new babies to our congregation, and help with culinary events. There is a place for any woman who would like to join in the fun and fellowship. You can always help with these activities without being in a circle too. Just reach out and let us know how you would like to be involved.

Presbyterian Women Leaders 2026-2027:

Moderator: Meg Stevens

Vice Moderator: Lynda Thurman

Secretary: Peggy Hammett

Historians: Anna Welborn & Lynda Thurman

Culinary Committee: Betsy Collins & Cathy Mays

Spiritual Enrichment/Babies: Ray Steifle & Kellar Lightsey

Bereavement: Martha Ann Davis, Betty Williams, & Hunter Bell

Retreat: Patti Gagstetter & Elise Collins

Missions: Glenda Davis

First Presbyterian Church Circles and Coordinators and meeting days/times:

Circle 1: Jean Mabe: 1st Tuesday of each month at 10:30am at Wesley Commons.

Circle 3: Kappy May & Kathy Snyder: 2nd Monday of each month at 10:30am

Sara Smith Circle 4: Carol Umphress: 2nd Monday of each month at 11:00am (lunch)

Evonne Little Circle 5: Michelle Barksdale & Lisa Sanders: 2nd Tuesday at 12:30pm in Alexander Hall (lunch)

Peggy Gregg Circle 6: Nickie Murphy & Jessica Willard: 1st Monday 7:00pm (refreshments)

Circle 7: Becky Bryson & Jill Koczwar: 1st Tuesday 10:30am (refreshments)

Dates to Remember:

Women's Retreat: January 22-24, 2027

Women's Sunday: March 14, 2027

PW Coordinating Team Meeting: Monday, September 28, 2026, 10:00am, Henry Reynolds Classroom

Blessings,

Meg Stevens

Moderator

Walking by faith.
Tripping constantly.
Indwelled by the Holy Spirit.



January 22-24, 2027
Kannuga, NC



notes

Everybody should have a job!

For a church with 800(!) members, we should accomplish something awesome!

Everyone needs a job! In church, a job should:

- Be something you are fair to good at
- Be something you look forward to
- Be worth your while
- Be of service to your church family
- Be nourishing to you

The mere “law of averages” informs us that at least 10% of our members are qualified for the “job” of worship leaders by singing in the choir. Yes, it does require a weekly rehearsal, but we are certainly going to prepare as we lead God’s people in worship!!!!

That said, we have room, chairs, and music for those seeking their ministry job. I’m praying the Holy Spirit will nudge you (if this ought to be your contribution) to sing with us. Chancel Choir starts Wednesday September 2 @ 7 pm in the Choir room (we don’t lead on Sunday until September 13). Our Sunday schedule is robing/warm-up at 10, Worship at 10:30.

Or, would like to play bells? We have several spots open for Chancel Bells. We rehearse Sundays at 11:40 beginning September 13th.

Might the Holy Spirit prompt you to let me know so that I can have your music ready?

steve@firstgreenwood.com or 814-464-6046

SWAMPTOOTH IS IN THE HOUSE!



JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF BLUEGRASS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 4:00 PM

CONCERT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Presented by



south
carolina
arts
commission

"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 Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation of SC."

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

firstgreenwood.com

A Call to Serve Our Community

Are you feeling called to serve others through prayer, encouragement, and a caring presence?

I am a partially retired Nurse Practitioner who has been praying about starting a simple outreach ministry through our church. The goal would be to offer a welcoming presence for people in our community who may need prayer, supportive listening, encouragement, or practical items such as Bibles, healthy snacks, socks, and other necessities.



Possible outreach activities could include:

- Street evangelization and sharing God's love
- A "Need A Prayer?" table or sign
- Supportive listening and encouragement
- Handing out Bibles, snacks, socks, and other needed items
- Offering sandwiches, hot dogs, soup or simple meals as the ministry grows
- Meeting outside on church grounds once a week so our neighbors know we are here for them

You do not need special experience—just a willing heart. If you are a prayer warrior, enjoy helping others, have a heart for outreach, or simply feel led to explore this opportunity, I would love for you to join me for an initial meeting to discuss possibilities.

Please watch the attached video about a retired Nurse Practitioner who began a similar outreach in her hometown. Prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to help begin a local mission of compassion, prayer, and service.
https://youtu.be/DI7kj_R-jSQ

Interested in learning more or joining the discussion?

Please contact:

Debbie Moyer

dmoyernc13@aol.com

Community Life Center Committee

25

A letter to the Congregation:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Community Life Center (CLC) committee is an ad hoc committee created by the Session to take the previous plans and preparations to build a family life center through the next phase of development toward physical construction. In addition to being charged to work through many construction-related items such as building plans, timelines, and financials, we have also been charged with creating clear and regular communication with the congregation to answer as many questions as possible, as well as, to help further explain and clarify the purpose and mission for this project.

We are grateful for the interest the congregation has shown in response to our presentation in late July and are grateful both for the questions and feedback we received as a result. In addition, we also received a small handful of questions about things that are beyond the scope of our charge. We have done our best to answer as many things as possible, and we hope that this report provides further clarity about the project.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support,

The Community Life Center Committee



The vision statement of FPC Greenwood: *We aspire to be a beacon that encourages people to live with hope, confidence, and peace through the saving grace and love of Jesus Christ*

Overview/Background:

The first charge to the CLC committee was:

Inform the congregation and refine *“the purpose and mission of the Community Life Center with the goal of gaining complete buy-in.”*

As part of the description of this charge, the CLC committee was specifically instructed to:

“Create a clear mission statement for how this proposed building aligns with our church mission.”

Our work has revealed that the current vision statement for the church does NOT currently have a strong guiding presence for our church. The recently conducted Mission Study Report helped the church to rediscover our vision statement.

Rebooting the Beacon

A lot has happened since the last time (2016) FPC thought deeply about the vision and direction of the church. (i.e. COVID, Helene, and staff turnover to name just a few). During the Vision 360 Workshop, it was apparent that most participants were unfamiliar with the statement. The Vision Statement has not helped guide our church.

The Mission Study document suggests creating Mission Pathways based on answering the question: *“How might we better be a beacon that encourages people to live with hope, confidence, and peace through the saving grace and love of Jesus Christ?”*

Our challenge: *How do we become a better beacon?*

The Mission Study document makes it clear that by strengthening the beacon and making it more visible, the light of Christ can shine farther and have greater impact on our community. Specifically, it lists key opportunities for growth that include: membership & expectations, newcomer integration systems, and online presence & digital mission.

So what do we do?: *We need to reboot the beacon.*

A case for the Community Life Center Project (“Back Porch”)

Our Challenge: Finding new ways to shine our beacon to reach people where they are.

“I’m not ready to come inside – but I’d love to sit on the porch.”

Imagine a neighbor offering you a glass of lemonade. You're grateful for the invitation, but you're not quite ready to walk through their front door. The Back Porch creates a space where that first step can be smaller. It is a relaxed, welcoming space that invites people to come as they are, stay awhile, and discover a community where they can feel at home.

What could this new building bring to our church?

We are proposing a multi-purpose Community Life Center of just under 12,000 sq. ft. that contains:

- A larger fellowship space
 - o Contemporary worship
 - o Community performances
 - o Other special events like Mission Fairs, Noah's Ark graduation, and Fall Fest
 - o VBS
- Active Recreation & Unrestricted Play space:
 - o A Movement Ministry of faith-based fitness classes for all ages
 - o Youth, SHINE, Noah's Ark, Scouts
 - o Pickleball, volleyball, basketball
 - o Camps
- Warming Kitchen for meals with large groups:
 - o Church-wide dinners
 - o Lenten Luncheons
- Facilities adequate to handle:
 - o Hosting mission camps/groups
 - o Lock-ins
 - o Emergency response situations
- A meeting room
 - o Collaborations with local community agencies
 - o Educational programming
 - o Youth gatherings
- Office, storage, and workshop

Current Status:

- Engaged Uldrick Builders to have civil engineering study completed by the end of August.
- Project budgetary pricing to be provided by end of September.
- Presentation to the congregation in the 4th Quarter to approve the project.

GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION

RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS:

(Home unless noted)

Thurmond Bishop

George Brockenbrough -- WC Healthcare

Our Christian prayers and sympathies are extended to Lynn Mack and her family on the passing of her mother, Anita Greene, of Fort Mill, SC on July 26, 2026; to Kris Abell and her family on the passing of her stepfather, Ken Williams of Greenville on July 28, 2026; to Keith Lethco and his family on the passing of his mother, Pauline "Polly" Lethco, on July 30, 2026; to Robbin Goforth and her family on the passing of her brother, Rick Cartner of Gilbert, SC, on August 13, 2026; and to the family of Bob Willy upon his passing on August 22, 2026. We share with them the joy of the promise of resurrection and eternal life.



Congratulations to Kelsey and Neal Stevens on the birth of their daughter, Mary Reid Stevens, born August 18, 2026. Grandparents are Bryan and Roberta Sherard.

Other Items of Interest

We will celebrate the **Lord's Supper** during the 10:30 service on Sunday, September 6, 2026.

The church **offices will be closed** Monday, September 7, 2026, in observance of Labor Day.

Deadline for the October issue of The Spire is Wednesday, September 15, 2026.

TEAM MEETINGS

Buildings & Grounds will meet Monday, September 14, at 5:15 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Christian Education Committee** will meet Sunday, September 13, at 5:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **CLC** will meet Thursdays, September 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 6:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Committed Prayers** group will meet Monday, September 28, at 4:30 pm, in the Chapel.

The **Endowment** will meet Monday, September 14, at 5:30 pm, in the Conference Room (Room 206).

The **Missions/Outreach Committee** will meet Sunday, September 27, at 11:30 am, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team** will meet Monday, September 28th, at 10:00 am, in the Henry Reynolds Room (Room 110).

The **Session** will meet Sunday, September 27, at 5:00 pm, in the Chapel. New officers will be giving their faith statements.

Stephen Ministry will meet Wednesday, September 9, at 4:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Youth Committee** will meet Sunday, September 13, at 7:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

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

NEW OFFICER TRAINING will be held each Sunday afternoon in September at 2:00 pm, in the Henry Reynolds Room (Room 110).



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.



We will be trying out a temporary coffee bar in the front lobby in September. If we have a good response, we'll make it more a permanent fixture. Please be sure to watch your little ones as we will have HOT liquids and we don't want them to get burned.

Eat, Drink, And Be Merry!

On the third Sunday of each month, a group of First Presbyterian readers meets at a local restaurant after church to discuss a book they have read. In commemoration of America's 250th birthday, our first read was the Hornet's Nest by Jimmy Carter. We learned a lot about the Revolutionary War in South Carolina and Georgia. Our next book was a light-hearted novel with deep Christian messages by Max Lucado: Miracle at the Higher Grounds Cafe. Now we are discussing Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference edited by Tim Keller and John Inazu. This book is a guide to living faithfully in a divided world and showing love and respect to those whose beliefs are different from ours. It can be ordered from Amazon.

We will be discussing this book for several months. Come and join us as we read, discuss, eat, and make merry!



David and Joyce Hyde will be celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary on September 15, 2026. Please join us in wishing them many more years of love, laughter, happiness!



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.



Did you know there is a group of church members who come together in the chapel to pray once each month? The Committed Prayers group lifts up to God our church, our community, our state, and people throughout the world. The needs are many. Praying together is a powerful, wonderful experience! As we pray for others, we grow closer to God and to each other. We invite you to join us on the last Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel.

Betsy Collins (facilitator), Libby & Philip Bell, Janie Bowen, Joyce Brown, Penny & Frank Cannon, Brad Christie, Elise Collins, Sandra Cobb, John Eichelberger, Susie & Rich Goodwin, Scottie Jeffries, Robbin Goforth, Peggy Hammett, Toma Mulkey, Missy Richardson, Nancy Wilson

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, September 6	SUNDAY SCHOOL--ALL CLASSES (9:30 a.m.) WORSHIP SERVICE with Communion (10:30 a.m.) Officer Training (2:00 pm, Henry Reynolds Room)
Monday, September 7	Church offices closed
Sunday, September 13	Officer Training (2:00 pm, Henry Reynolds Room) Festiva (4:00 pm, Sanctuary)
Wednesday, September 16	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (7:00 am, Alexander Hall)
Sunday, September 20	Officer Training (2:00 pm, Henry Reynolds Room)
Thursday, September 24	Noah's Ark Fall Festival Program (6:00 pm, Sanctuary)
Saturday, September 26	Here4AReason 5K (Greenwood Uptown Market)
Sunday, September 27	Officer Training (2:00, Henry Reynolds Room) Session (5:00, Chapel)
Sunday, October 4	World Communion Sunday Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather preaching
Sunday, October 11	KIRKIN' OF THE TARTAN SERVICE Rev. Dr. Jeff Newlin preaching
Sunday, October 18	Children's Sabbath Sunday New Members Class (9:30 am, Barksdale Room) Diaconate Meeting (5:30 pm, Henry Reynolds Room)
Wednesday, October 21	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (7:00 am, Alexander Hall)
Sunday, October 25	Reformation Sunday New Members Class (9:30 am, Barksdale Room) Session Meeting (5:30 pm, Henry Reynolds Room)
Wednesday, October 28	Fall Fest
Saturday, October 31	Happy Halloween! Change Clocks
Sunday, November 1	All Saints Recognition Communion New Members Class (9:30 am, Barksdale Room)



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