

Sundays@9:30
Join one of the following:
Sojourners - Room 110, led by Lelion Elledge, Jukie Leary, Philip Bell, Bob Roddey, and others in the Henry Reynolds room across from the library. Coffee available.
FISH (Fellowship In Service to Him) – Room 205, led by David Gardner, Christopher Collins, Hood Souter, and others. Coffee available.
Youth – 3rd floor LOFT – 6th – 12th graders with adult volunteers facilitating. Goodies available.
Children (Basement Root Cellar) – K4 – 5th graders welcome in the basement area for a digital study and play. Adult volunteers welcome! Goodies available.
Nursery (Room 120) – infant – K3 in near the playground door.

YOUTH
Sunday Mornings @ 9:30 in the LOFT
with some of our favorite people – Dale Culbertson, the Sanders, the Penneys, and Mrs. Elise! We’re doing *Unoffendable* by Brant Hanson! Goodies and coffee available!

Sunday Evening Youth at 5:30 in the LOFT
None this week - enjoy your fall break!

Wednesday Evening Youth at 5:30 in AH/LOFT
5:30 dinner with Mallory in AH; 6:00 – fun activities and art projects for the Prayer book and Advent devo

It’s October!!!
Mark your calendars for Fall Fest!
Wednesday, October 28
5:30 – 7:00
Dinner provided! In the back parking lot (weather permitting). We need donations of candy and baked goods. We need people to host a trunk for treaters. We need volunteers for set-up, during, and clean-up. Contact Michelle Barksdale.

Thank you so much!
We were able to put together 13 baskets during our Pathway Hands-On Service Project for clients who will be moving out on their own.
This is a starter pack of basics as they set up their own place.

Save the Dates:
Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan, October 11, 2026
Rev. Dr. Jeff Newlin will be preaching

Children’s Sabbath Sunday, October 18, 2026

Do you need a Stephen Minister in your life?
Stephen Ministers are not counselors or therapists. Instead, they are caring Christian friends who can offer a listening ear to help others through the tough times in life. Stephen Ministers are trained and supervised in their ministry. If you are going through a tough time and could use a caring friend, call Brad Christie at the church office.

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH
Please let your pastor know how much you love and appreciate them!

Text to make your contribution!
Your can text FIRSTPRESGWD to 73256 and follow the prompts to make your contributions or other payments.

Sunday, October 4
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
11:30 a.m. - Reception (Lobby)
11:40 a.m. - Chancel Bells
Monday, October 5
10:15 a.m. - Emerald Bells
11:00 a.m. - Circle #4
4:30 p.m. - PGS (Lobby/Sanc)
6:00 p.m. - Girl Scouts (YR)
6:30 p.m. - Boy Scouts (HR)
7:00 p.m. - Circle #6 (BR)
Tuesday, October 6
10:00 a.m. - Staff mtg.
10:30 a.m. Circle #1 (WC)
10:30 a.m. Circle #7
4:00 p.m. - Family Bible Study (BR)
7:00 p.m. - Chorale (Sanc)
Wednesday, October 7
7:00 a.m. - Men’s Bible Study (Conf Rm)
10:30 a.m. - BEMA Bible Study (Conf Rm)
5:30 p.m. - WNF Dinner (AH)
6:00 p.m. - Christmas Art Night (AH)
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir
Thursday, October 8
10:00 a.m. - Home Comm./Visit. (BR)
6:00 p.m. - CLC (BR)
Friday, October 9
Saturday, October 10
9:30 a.m. - 7th Day Adventist (HR/Base/YR)
5:00 p.m. - 7th Day Adventist (HR/Base/YR)

Check the Spire for menus. Be sure to sign up by Monday at noon. You can do that by contacting the front office, signing up on the sheet in the front lobby, or using the yellow cards in the pew racks.

Prayer Submissions
The Intercessory Prayer Group is celebrating its 25th year! And to mark this occasion they are compiling a Book of Prayers and they would love for you to submit prayers that have touched you. Please be sure to note where the prayer came from if you didn’t write it yourself. You can email them to Lea in the front office at office@fistgreenwood.com or leave them in her office. Look for information in the October Spire. Submissions are due by October 15th.

Christmas Card sale to benefit the Annual Women’s Retreat
Stop by the Christmas card ordering station in the lobby any time during the month of October to place an order for one-of-a-kind Christmas cards.
Order now. Delivery December 1st. \$3.00 a card. Payment due at delivery.
Entire amount helps fund the Annual Women’s Retreat.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS in the sanctuary are given by John & Ferol Stroud to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Richard K. Teed and Carl Holloway Stroud.

Our Christian prayers and sympathies are extended to Bill Wilson and his family on the passing of his wife, Ginny Wilson, on September 24, 2026; and, to the family of Elby Hoyt upon his passing on September 28, 2026. We share with them the joy of the promise of resurrection and eternal life.

Congratulations to Jerry & Meg Stevens on the birth of their granddaughter, Margaret Jean “Maggie” Steinbacher, born September 23, 2026. Parents are Lucy & Matt Steinbacher of Greenville. Great-grandparents are Bill & Linda Stevens and John & Norma McAlhany.

Wednesday Night Fellowship
5:15 – fellowship on the playground
5:30 dinner for all ages
6:00 something for everyone!
• Nursery for children infant – K3
• Children K4-5th art projects for the Prayer Book or Advent Devo
• Youth for 6th - 12th art projects for the Prayer Book or Advent Devo
• Women’s Small Group in the parlor room 203
• Men’s Bible Study in room 206
• Lectionary Bible Study in Barksdale Room
• Fellowship in Alexander Hall

Wednesday Night Fellowship & Dinner
OCTOBER 7TH:
5:30 Family Christmas Art Night
(\$5 for everyone) Spaghetti Night
6:00 Christmas Art

World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2026
10:30 am



Interim Pastor -- The Rev. Dr. Brad Christie
Theologian in Residence -- The Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain
Director of Christian Education -- Elise Collins
Director of Music Ministries -- Steve Skinner
Director of Children’s Music -- Sarah Bowen
Music Associate/Organist -- Tim Walters
Noah’s Ark Director -- Lauren Trantham

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Office hours: M-Th: 8:00 - 4:00 and Fri: 8:00 - 12:00

GATHERING MUSIC
Tim Walters

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS
Rev. Brad Christie
Leader: O praise the Lord with me, Ps. 34:3
People: let us exalt God’s name together.

(Please sign and pass the Member/Guest Registry. If you are a guest, your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address will be most helpful.)

PRELUDE
“Sing, Praise, Bless the Lord” Jacques Bethier
Chancel Choir

ADORATION
*CALL TO WORSHIP [Lam. 3:22-23] Eric Gardner (French)
Leader: In the midst of war and division,
in the midst of devastation and loss,
in the midst of change and uncertainty,
People: We wait for God:
[Eric Gardner, in French; then all the people:]
People: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God’s mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning.
Great is your faithfulness, O Lord.

*OPENING HYMN** #297 “In Christ Called to Baptize” ST. DENIO

CONFESSION
CALL TO CONFESSION [Lam. 3:25-26] Elise Collins (Portuguese)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [from Psalm 51]
Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and seek your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Forgive us, O God, in your steadfast love. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your own willing Spirit. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON [2 Tim. 1:10] Elise Collins (Portuguese)
Leader: The power of God has saved us.
Grace is given to us in Christ Jesus,
who abolished death and brought life
and immortality to light.
Friends in Christ, we are forgiven.
People: Thanks be to God!

*HYMN #429 “As a Chalice Cast of Gold” INWARD LIGHT

GIVING of TITHES and OFFERINGS
Call to Offering Stefan Wiecki (German)
Offertory “Day by Day” How
*Doxology (On Screens) OLD HUNDREDTH
*Dedication of Offering Stefan Wiecki (German)
[Stefan Wiecki, in German; then all the people:]
As we have received, so now we give.
As Jesus has shown us, so now we do unto others,
as God has so graciously done for us.
Thanks be to God!
K3-K5 -- May to choose to exit to Room 120;
1st-5th grades -- No Children’s Chapel today

PROCLAMATION
SCRIPTURE READING Rachel Schiera (Korean)
The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
Hear the word of the Lord.

Romans 8:31–39 Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON “If Nothing Can Separate Us, What Can Stop Us?”

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

THE INVITATION Rev. Christie

GREAT THANKSGIVING
[The Great Thanksgiving prayer will close with The Lord’s Prayer, first in Greek, then all the people in English.]
Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Minister: It is truly right to glorify you...
...we sing a hymn to your glory:
All (# 559): Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION Rev. Smith-Mather (Juba Arabic)
Minister: The gifts of God, for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS (Gluten free)
You may partake of the elements and dispose of the cups in the basket before returning to your seat. Or, you may take the bread and cup back to your seat and partake of the elements together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN #826 “Lift High the Cross” CRUCIFER

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL CODA

*POSTLUDE
Please join us for a reception in the lobby.

AIDS FOR WORSHIP - Large print hymnals and wireless hearing devices (instructions are in the pew racks) are available in the narthex.
*Congregation stands **Late comers may be seated