



The Spire

First Presbyterian Church

November 2026

Greenwood, SC

A Message From Our Pastor...

Ready to Vote?

Fall—finally!—seems to have arrived, and with it the cooler temperatures and colors that many of us relish. November is a season of excitement and change in the church, too. All Saints Day, November 1, falls on Sunday this year; we will offer a traditional All Saints service that morning, celebrating communion and remembering the many First Pres saints who have died since last All Saints Day.

On November 8, we will recognize our veterans and receive new members into the church. November 15 is Stewardship Sunday. During worship we will present our pledged commitments for the 2027 church year. As the Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) has reported in recent weeks, we are behind in giving for this fiscal year. FOC needs pledges to establish next year's budget. So, as costs continue to rise and we continue to cast the church's mission widely, please consider prayerfully how you intend to support the church in the coming year.

After worship on the 15th, the Session has called a **congregational meeting** to receive a report from the Community Life Center Committee (CLCC). This group will update the congregation on many details of the proposed facility and present a significantly revised cost and funding proposal for this "back porch" project. The committee will address the multiple missional purposes that the proposed facility might accommodate; it will present a timeline for completion and a comprehensive cost more closely aligned with pledges committed to the Building Community capital campaign.

Members present on November 15 will not be asked to vote on the CLCC proposal that morning. Instead, the week after the meeting every member will receive a letter highlighting the information reported at the congregational meeting. The letter will include a ballot for voting on whether or not to build the Community Life Center as proposed. Ballots are to be mailed in or dropped off at the church. The ballot will include a way to make a pledge to the Community Life Center project, or to adjust a pledge already committed.

Members will have two weeks to cast their votes. As with an in-person vote at a congregational meeting, the Clerk of Session and his appointees will count and certify all ballots collected. And by early December we will know if the FPC beacon will soon shine even brighter from the Bailey Circle side of campus.

Of course, November also brings Thanksgiving and the beginning of the Advent season. We have so much to be thankful for at First Pres! Think about that as you pray over your part in the church's future.

Fall blessings,

Brad

SPECIAL SERVICES



NOVEMBER 1

All Saints

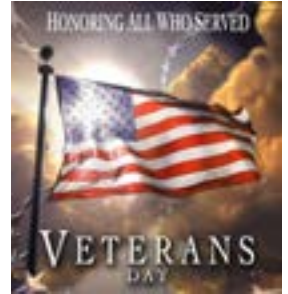
We will recognize all the Firs Pres. saints who have passed away this past year. During the 10:30 service, their names will be said aloud while a candle is lit in their memory. We will have communion during the service.

NOVEMBER 8

We will recognize our veterans.

We ask that our veterans please wear your uniform.

We will be receiving our new members during the service.



NOVEMBER 15

Stewardship Sunday

We will present our gifts to the Lord.

Congregational meeting at the conclusion of the service for the Community Life Center Committee to present information.



NOVEMBER 22

Christ the King Sunday

At the conclusion of the Christian year, the church gives thanks and praise for the 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 and kicking off Thornwell Bells gift project.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Hanging of the Greens

10:30 service

Community Thanksgiving *Worship Service*

Combined choirs, Palmetto Girls Sing, and
Rev. Cn. Janey Wilson of Church of the
Resurrection will deliver the message.

Monday | Nov 23 | 700 PM

 Main Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Together, we
give thanks.*



211 Main Street North

864-229-7551

mainstreetgreenwood.org

NOW THANK WE

Hymns and Masterpieces of Gratitude
Greenwood Festival Chorale



Sunday, November 15, 2026 4:00 PM

Stan Colbert, Accompanist
Paul Fleckenstein, Guest Organist
Steven Skinner, Artistic Director

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

firstgreenwood.com

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



SHine

Seeking Him in Everything

Wednesdays at 5:30
Playground, dinner (\$5),
Bible & music

November 4 – Wear different socks! (Griffith)

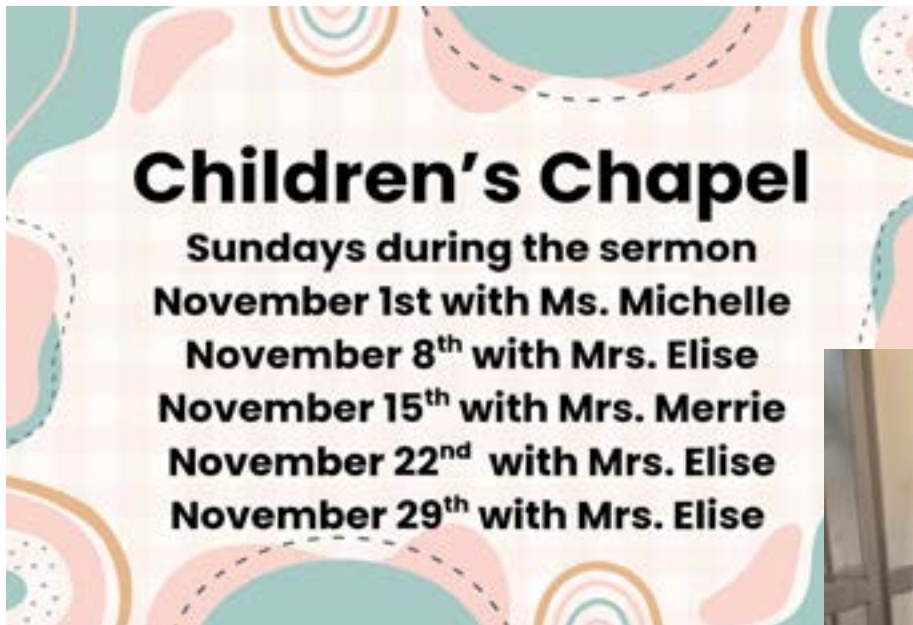
November 11 – Wear your PJs (Wise)

November 18 – Dress like a sheep!!! (LaForge)

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Festivities!

SHine

Seeking Him in Everything



YOUTH: Weekdays

Wednesday Evening Youth in the 3rd floor LOFT

5:30 dinner with Mallory & Grayson in AH
(\$10)

6:00 student-led devo and activities with
Mallory, Grayson, & Dawsey

GOTE
11/4



EGGS

Exalting God's Glory at Sunrise



Join your fellow middle schoolers
for breakfast and a devo
before school!

7:00 - 7:30 at mall CFA.

Carpool after.

September 17

October 15

November 19

December 10

January 21

February 18

March 18

April 15

May 20

GRITS

FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS



JOIN YOUR FELLOW HIGH SCHOOLERS
FOR BREAKFAST & A DEVO
BEFORE SCHOOL AT CFA BY THE MALL
USUALLY ON THE SECOND THURSDAY

7:30 - 8:15

COME WHEN YOU CAN.



YOUTH: Weekends



**PLAID TO BE HERE
FROM HYFI!
I AM MADE
FOR COMMUNITY**

Youth SS at 9:30 in the 3rd floor LOFT

Bring friends.

You do not want to miss this!

11/1 – Dale Culbertson

11/8 – Robbie & Lisa Sanders

11/15 – Luke Penney

11/22 – Elise Collins

11/29 – tbd

Coffee & Snacks available

YOUTH SUNDAY NIGHT

Nov 1 – Does needing help make me weak?

Exodus 17:8-15 We Are Better Together

Nov 8 – What if my life feels insignificant?

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 We Are Part of Something Big

Nov 15 – Do I really belong if I feel different from everyone else?

Ephesians 2:11-22 We Are Connected Through Jesus

Nov 22 – Enjoy your Thanksgiving Week!

Nov 29 – How do we stay united when the world feels so divided?

John 17:6-26 We Are Stronger as One



**Youth Dinner
& Auction
Sunday, February 7th**

*Profiles in Faith
Attention All Young People!*

God used many young people in Biblical days to accomplish his purposes. Among them were David, Samuel, Josiah, Mary, Jeremiah, Esther, Timothy, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Josiah was crowned king of Judah at the age of eight! When David was a teen-age shepherd, he zapped the giant Goliath between the eyes with his slingshot. Esther was an orphaned Jewish girl who became the queen of Persia and risked her life to save her people from destruction. Mary was about fourteen when she received the news from the angel Gabriel that God had favored her to give birth to a Savior. Daniel, Meshach, Shadrach, and Abednego were captured by the Babylonians when they were in their teens. They risked their lives by worshiping God instead of worshiping the gods and the golden image set up by the pagan King Nebuchadnezzar. The seasoned prophet Jeremiah was between seventeen and twenty when God called him out of his comfort zone to prophesy to the people of Judah. Never think you are too young or inexperienced to make a positive difference in the world. When Jeremiah protested that he was too young to be a prophet, God touched his mouth to place words there. God will equip you for what he calls you to do. He will probably not call you to be a prophet or slay a giant, but there are plenty of exciting things He may ask you to do! Stay faithful in attending Sunday school and church, reading your Bible, and praying. You will be surprised at what God has in store for you.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11



Sojourners - Henry Reynolds (Room 110)

11/01	Max Lucado's <i>Tame Your Thoughts</i> #3	Philip Bell
11/08	Max Lucado's <i>Tame Your Thoughts</i> #4	Bob Roddey
11/15	Max Lucado's <i>Tame Your Thoughts</i> #5	Lelion Elledge
11/22	Max Lucado's <i>Tame Your Thoughts</i> #6	Jukie Leary
11/29	Louie Giglio's <i>Waiting Here For You</i> #1	

FISH (Fellowship In Service to Him) Meeting in Room 205/6

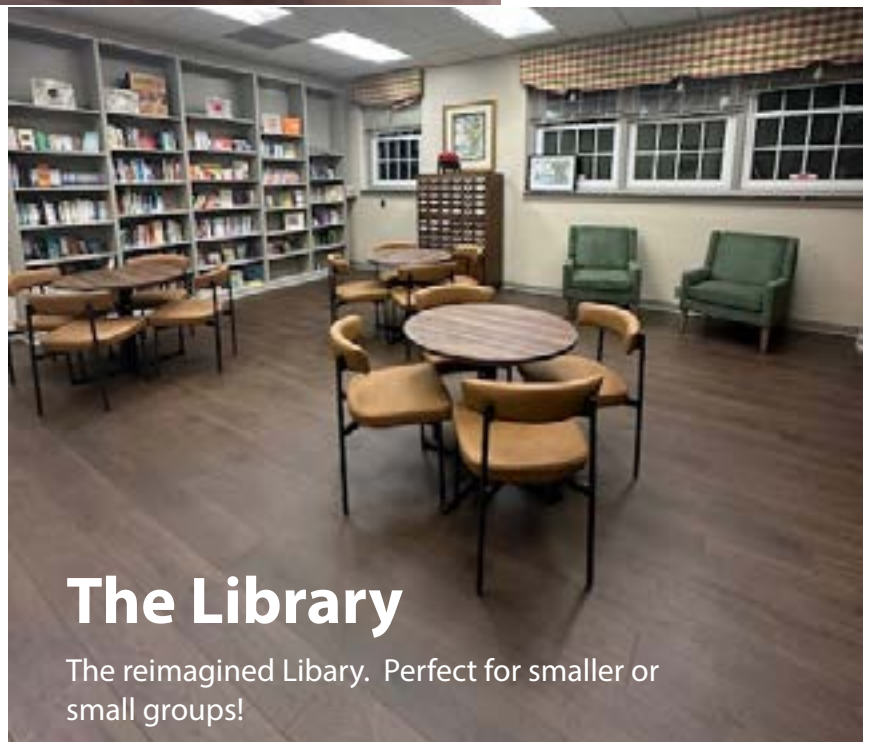
11/01	TBD	Gardner
11/08	TBD	Souter
11/15	Personality Tests & Love Languages	Collins
11/22	<i>Joy to the World</i> #1	Pinson
11/29	Hanging of the Greens	



We are so excited about being more intentional about making our church spaces practical and purposeful. We are a work in progress so thank you for your patience, and we hope you're as excited as we are to see the updates unfold.



This room was once our library, then the LOGOS Choir room, then the Godly Play room, and is now what we will call the Parlor. There is cozy and comfortable seating for around 12 people in a circular arrangement. This room will house materials for PW and PGS and is a lovely room full of light. We also house books for women in this area.



The Library

The reimagined Library. Perfect for smaller or small groups!

the corner study

Formerly known as the pantry for our kitchen supplies, this space got a new floor, new windows, and new paint, and we just couldn't bear to put canned goods back in such a great space. Now this room features a conference table as well as some comfy seating. This room can accommodate around 16.

Rooms 205 and 206 are the conference room now. We have a large table where Session, Diaconate, PW Coordinating Team, and Noah's Ark staff can meet as well as any other groups that would like a large table space for meeting.

The FISH class also uses a portion of the room with seating for 20ish and a tv that can play DVDs or stream material.

The Conference Room

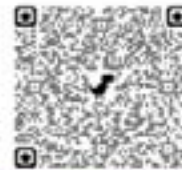
November 4th

WNF

David Sullivan with Set Free Alliance

6:00 P. M. (Dinner at 5:30)

Sharing Christ's Love With People In Need Around the World
We serve people by meeting their most basic human needs.
Working primarily in India, Sierra Leone, and Liberia, we focus on
immediate challenges in order to make a long-term impact and an
eternal difference.



Wednesday Night Fellowship welcomes

MISSIONARY
JIM MCGILL

November 18, 2026

Join us after dinner for
Kenya Missionary, Jim McGill
in Alexander Hall



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!

NOVEMBER 4th: Pork Loin, roasted potatoes, lima beans

Shine Menu: Taco Night

Wear 2 Different Socks Night

NOVEMBER 11th: WEAR YOUR PJ's;

EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Scrambled eggs, Pancakes, Sausage Links,
Grits, Fruit

Shine Menu: Breakfast too

Wear your pajamas

NOVEMBER 18th: Fish & Chips, Cole slaw

Shine Menu: Pizza

Dress like a sheep

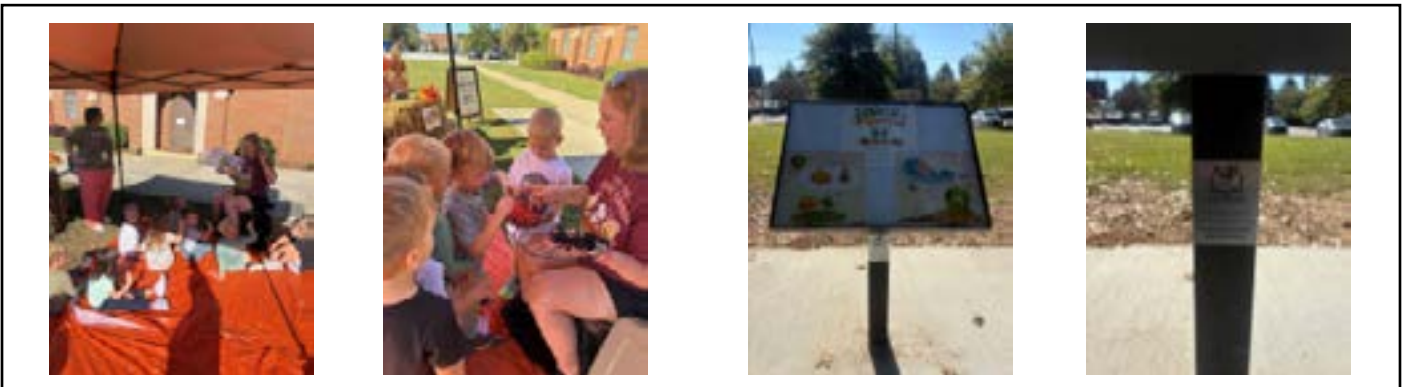
“No matter how simple
the meal might be,
the most important thing is
everyone sharing time
with one another,
creating memories.”



Men's Bible Study Breakfast: French Toast, eggs, biscuits, bacon and grits



October was fire safety month and our annual visit to the pumpkin patch. The children discussed family plans in case of an emergency and learned about fire safety. We are excited about our upcoming fire station field trip. Our local fire fighters brought a truck onsite to educate our younger groups on fire safety too! We are so thankful for them and for all they do for Noah's Ark and our surrounding community. We are also grateful to Mrs. Julie and Mrs. Jennifer at Saint Mark for providing our 3- and 4-year-olds with another year of fun at the patch!



Two years ago, we hosted our annual Charity Walk for the Children's Section at the local library. Mrs. Jody hosts our 4-year-olds bi-weekly for story time, and we were happy to help her gain funds for her Story Walk idea. This month, Mrs. Lauren attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the project. The Story Walk is now officially open to the public. Noah's Ark Preschool is named on the plaque, and the fours will help each month by picking the story to be displayed. We are honored to be a part of this wonderful project for our community.

MISSIONS/OUTREACH

MONTHLY MISSION SPOTLIGHT Thornwell Children's Home

A festive poster for the 'Thornwell Bells' campaign. The background features green pine branches, gold and white striped Christmas ornaments, and several gold bells tied with red bows. The text is centered and reads: 'THORNWELL BELLS for Thornwell Home for Children'. Below this, it says: 'We are excited to partner once again with Thornwell to provide Christmas gifts for their resident children & youth. Please choose a bell off the lobby tree (will be up by Wednesday, November 11th) and purchase a gift and bring it back to the church by December 3rd. Or you may shop by scanning this QR code, which will take you to their Amazon shopping wishlist and will be shipped directly there.' A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the poster.

THORNWELL BELLS
for Thornwell
Home for Children

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Please choose a bell off the lobby tree
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Or you may shop by scanning this
QR code, which will take you to their
Amazon shopping wishlist and will be
shipped directly there.



In addition to Thornwell Bells, you can also help support Thornwell Home for Children by giving to the special offering on Sunday, November 22nd during the service. Please use the brown envelopes in the pew racks and mark for Thornwell (Thanksgiving).

PRE-ORDER NOW!

Celebrating 35 YEARS of Hope, Healing & Advocacy

2027 BEYOND ABUSE SOUVENIR CALENDAR

Inspiring. Meaningful. Impactful.

Our 2027 35th Anniversary Souvenir Calendar celebrates the courage of survivors, the strength of families, and the power of community.



**12 MONTHS
OF INSPIRATION**
Featuring monthly themes that uplift, encourage, and bring awareness.



**CELEBRATING
OUR COMMUNITY**
Honoring the people, partners, and stories that make our mission possible.



MEET MOVIE
Our Canine Companion Therapy Dog who brings comfort, reduces stress, and supports healing.



**YOUR PURCHASE
MAKES AN IMPACT**
Proceeds help provide hope, healing, and advocacy for children and families in need.



BE THE FIRST TO GET YOURS!

PRE-ORDER TODAY!

Scan to Order Here >>>

Reserve yours now!

EVERY PAGE. EVERY PURCHASE. EVERY LIFE IMPACTED.



SERVING CHILDREN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

BUILDING HOPE

Thank You
for being part of our story
and our future!

*More Than a Companion.
She's a Life Changer.*



Canine Companions
caninecompanions.org

Hi, I'm Novie!

I'm the Canine Companions® facility dog at Beyond Abuse, and I have a very special job. I assist our forensic team to provide comfort, relieve stress, and improve our clients' emotional well-being during their sessions.



175 East Alexander Avenue, Oceanfront, NC 27948
844-227-9823 | www.beyondabuse.org



GREENWOOD YOUNG LIFE *18th Annual* **FALL CLASSIC CLAY SHOOT**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026

ROCKY KNOLL SPORTING CLAYS
ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thank You **FOR SUPPORTING** GREENWOOD YOUNG LIFE

Your continued support has played a crucial role in the growth of Young Life here in Greenwood. Because of generous friends and businesses like you, we are able to continue reaching local students, building meaningful relationships, and making an impact in our community.

**WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR PAST SUPPORT
AND HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH US AGAIN THIS YEAR!**



*You were
made for this.*



**TEAMS, INDIVIDUALS
and Sponsors**
ALL WELCOME!



GREAT DAY.
Great Impact.
SUPPORTING LOCAL
YOUNG PEOPLE.



GREAT SHOOTING.
Great Fellowship.
A DAY OF FUN, FELLOWSHIP
AND COMMUNITY.



**YOU WERE
made for this.**



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

MULTIPLE LEVELS TO FIT YOUR
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION.

QUALIFYING SPONSORS ARE INVITED TO OUR
CORPORATE SPONSOR DINNER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026
at The D'Alessandro Farm



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Choose your sponsorship level, register your team,
or sign up as an individual today.



REGISTER OR BECOME A SPONSOR >

greenwood.younglife.events/fall-classic-clay-shoot-2026



Not sponsoring?
**YOU CAN STILL
JOIN US ON THE COURSE!**

YL younglife
Greenwood

You were made for this.
THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE.

Volunteers Needed! Contact us at greenwoodyounglife@gmail.com



Presbyterian Women

Every woman in our church is a Presbyterian Woman. Whether you are part of a circle or not, you are considered a Presbyterian Woman. In addition to attending Sunday worship, Sunday School, or Wednesday Night Fellowship, you can also volunteer for one of the other activities organized by Presbyterian Women. Here are some ways you can be a part of Presbyterian Women without participating in monthly circle meetings.

1. Volunteer to help with Bereavement Meals:

When a church member passes away, our Bereavement Committee offers either a meal for the family or a reception after the funeral service. Many volunteers assist the committee with the food items for this special ministry. You may be asked to make green beans, macaroni and cheese, sandwiches, or dessert. Many church families have been supported by the Bereavement Committee after the loss of a loved one. After the death of her husband, one church member said, "When my husband passed away, I knew I would not have to worry about feeding my extended family because I knew the bereavement committee would step in to help. Being served in Alexander Hall gave me a feeling of home during a difficult time. What a blessing this committee is to our church." If you would like to volunteer with the Bereavement Committee, please contact Martha Ann Davis (864)993-8569 or Betty Williams (864)993-0466 or Lea in the church office. Unfortunately, this committee has been busy in the last few months as we have lost quite a few church members.

2. Volunteer to help with Spiritual Enrichment/ babies:

This committee oversees the honoring of new babies and babies who are baptized in our church. If you cross-stich, this committee could use your help. Each baby baptized receives a framed cross-stich. Contact Ray Steifle (864)980-6884 or Kellar Lightsey (864)980-0465.

3. Culinary Committee:

This committee oversees the planning, cooking, and clean-up of Presbyterian Women sponsored events. If you like to cook or just enjoy time in the kitchen and want to help, contact Betsy Collins (864)223-0324 or Cathy Mays (864)980-9805.

4. Mission committee:

Our church does lots of wonderful mission work locally, nationally, and internationally. If you want to be a part of this great work, there are many ways to get involved with missions and outreach. If you want to help with missions, contact Glenda Davis (864)-992-1981.

5. Of course, you are welcome to join or just visit any of our monthly circle meetings and Bible study "A Look at First Corinthians"!

Blessings,
Meg Stevens
Moderator

First Presbyterian Church Circles and meeting days/times:

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

Circle 3: 2nd Monday of each month at 10:30am

Sara Smith Circle 4: 1st Monday of each month at 11:00am (lunch)

Evonne Little Circle 5: 2nd Tuesday at 12:30pm in Alexander Hall (lunch)

Peggy Gregg Circle 6: 1st Monday 7:00pm (refreshments)

Circle 7: 1st Tuesday 10:30am (refreshments) in homes

Dates to remember for Presbyterian Women:

Annual Women's retreat in Kanuga, NC: January 22-24, 2027

First Presbyterian Church hosts Lenten Luncheon: Wednesday, March 10, 2027

Women's Sunday (announcement of Honorary Life Member recipient and collection of Birthday and Thank offerings): March 14, 2027

Women's Loyalty Dinner: March 16, 2027

**REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR THE WOMEN'S RETREAT
AND PARTICIPATE IN THE CHRISTMAS CARD SALE HAPPENING NOW!**

Please stop by the table in the lobby to see the dozen Christmas card designs to order. (designed and made by our wonderful Patti Gagstetter!) Many of them have very special Christian Christmas messages and graphics. And 2 cards with our church photo! Cards are \$3.00 each. **Last day to order will be November 8th** and cards will be made and delivered by December 1st. All proceeds will be used for the Annual Women's Retreat meeting room and A/V costs.

Doing nothing for others is
the undoing of ourselves.

We must purposely be
kind & generous.

or we miss the
best part of existence.

- Horace Mann

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



FPC
Women's Retreat
2027

January 22-24, 2027
Kanuga, NC
Register via this QR code
or with Nan





2026-2027 SEASON

Sunday, September 13
4:00 PM

Swamptooth

Drawing from a vast depth of internal talent, Swamptooth plants one foot firmly in the traditions of bluegrass, keeping a uniquely Southern string sound close to their hearts while bravely progressing the genre beyond its boundaries. Coupling a high-energy, relentless bluegrass sound with the steadfastness of professional, experienced troubadours, Swamptooth embodies an indelible appeal that can ignite the passion of nearly any audience who happens across their path.

Saturday, October 24
7:30 PM

Rivertree Singers

Step into a luminous soundscape shaped by a thousand years of sacred tradition. Sacred Radiance: A Millennium of Choral Music invites listeners to encounter the enduring beauty of cathedral repertoire. Under the direction of Dr. Warren Cook, Rivertree Singers brings clarity, warmth, and expressive depth to this expansive collection. Join us for an evening of reflection, resonance, and radiant

Sunday, November 15
4:00 PM

A Choral Thanksgiving (Ticketed Event)

Greenwood Festival Chorale presents exquisitely crafted choral arrangements and festive settings of thanks including Bless This House, Now Thank We All Our God, We Gather Together, and John Rutter's incomparable For the Beauty of the Earth. Paul Fleckenstein, graduate of the famed Westminster Choir College, accompanies the Greenwood Festival Chorale for this program and will also present two organ solos: Richard Purvis' Thanksgiving, and Sigrid Karg-Elert's Nun Danket Alle Gott. Paul hails from Wilmington, DE, and was college roommates with GFC Artistic Director, Steve Skinner.

Sunday, February 21
4:00 PM

The Sounds of Paris

Greenwood native and clarinetist, Eric Gardner, currently serves as a missionary in France. This afternoon, he will musically transport you to the country he loves with a program including works by Debussy and Ravel, as well as some "hidden gems" of the French repertoire.

Sunday, April 18
4:00 PM

Tim and Friends

Tim Walters takes the stage in a program of classical, gospel, and jazz fusion. He will be joined by friends who will "knock your socks off" with their gospel artistry. Bring a few "shout outs" for Tim in our now traditional improvisation.

MY GIFT TO SUPPORT THE 2026-2027 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.



Palmetto Girls Sing, Season 12- October 2026

Palmetto Girls Sing, an outreach of First Presbyterian Church, is in its 12th season. With 57 girls enrolled in the program, we are excited about the opportunities that are ahead of us. The "Grace Notes Choir" is for girls in grades 4-6, and the "Lyrics Singers" are our 7th-12th grade girls. We meet each Monday night in the sanctuary and choir room at First Presbyterian Church.

Winter Concert- Featuring "Christmas Messiah for Young Voices"

Our Winter Concert is Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$10, and the event will be a fundraiser for our trip to Italy. Our goal is 300 guests at our concert. We would LOVE to see you there! Please watch your Spire for information on how to buy tickets!

"Alleluia" is the theme of our Winter Concert. "Alleluia" means to praise the Lord. We have many reasons to do so, every day. This sacred music concert will feature songs with the words "Alleluia" and "Hallelujah." The first portion of the concert features sacred music that is related to the theme, but not necessarily considered Christmas music. The second portion of the concert will feature famous choruses from the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah, arranged appropriately for young voices. Be ready to hear favorites such as "For Unto Us a Child Is Born," "Glory to God," and of course, "The Hallelujah Chorus."

October Reflections

We had "spirit nights" in October: Neon Night, Pajama Night, PGS T-Shirt Night, and a Fall Outfit Night. It was great fun! In October, we also had our Fall Social at Northside Baptist Church which included a meal, Pumpkin Painting, S'mores and plenty of social time.

Plans for November!

On **Saturday, November 14**, we will spend the morning with a guest artist, Deedy Welborn. She is voice professor at Anderson University and an expert in Body Mapping. She will lead a workshop, helping the girls to understand how their bodies can help or hinder them as a singer. She will also work with us on two of our pieces for our Winter Concert. On **Monday, November 23**, we will sing at the Community Thanksgiving Service at Main Street Methodist Church. The service begins at 7:00 PM. Don't miss this one!

Rome Choral Festival

From June 11-18, 2027, we will travel to Rome, Italy to participate in the Rome Choral Festival. We are combining with the Carolina Youth Chorale from Myrtle Beach to represent our state in this festival. We will also collaborate with the Pensacola Children's Choir and other choirs from the United States. Dr. Alex Gartner will be our conductor for the festival and concert in Rome. After the festival, we will travel to Siena, Florence and Assisi. In Florence we will give a second concert with the Carolina Youth Chorale. We are very excited, and a little nervous about our first adventure outside of the USA. What an amazing opportunity for these girls. Please pray for our experience there as well as our hearts as we prepare!

Fundraising Goals

While we are very grateful for the support we have received, we still need to raise \$5,000 to meet our goal for the Rome Choral Festival. You can help us by attending one (or all) of our three concerts this year. Or, we are looking for individual patrons and business sponsors. Would you consider being a patron/sponsor? We will also host a couple of fundraisers. Please watch for information about those. Thank you!

Patron/Business Sponsor Form

Please complete this form and mail it to the church or give it to Nan Smith, attention, Amy Fennell. Checks can be made to First Presbyterian Church with Palmetto Girls Sing in the memo line. It is also possible to donate through the First Presbyterian Church website. Just use the pull down bar to designate the funds for PGS. Thank you!

Name (as you would like to see it in our concert programs):

Amount

Mailing Address:



HANDEL'S MESSIAH



WITH BOB GLICK

Come join us Wednesday, December 2nd
for an evening with our own Bob Glick as
he presents *Handel and his Messiah*.

5:30 P. M. in the sanctuary

@reallygreatsite

WE NEED . . .

CHRISTMAS PICTURES

for our

2026 Advent Devotional

Do you have a Christmas picture that is your favorite
of all time?

Snap a picture and send it to Elise along with why it's
your fave!

Due by 11/11

dce@firstgreenwood.com

Kirkin' Highlights



GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION

RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS:

(Home unless noted)

Philip McKinney

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; to the family of Elby Hoyt upon his passing on September 28, 2026; to Sandra Cobb and her family on the passing of her brother, Jimmy Gorman, on October 11, 2026; to Luther Clark and his family on the passing of his sister, Rosellen Dugan of Mountain Home, ID, on October 11, 2026; and to the family of Jimmy Fowler (former membr) of Anderson on his passing on October 15, 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; and to Jay & Christy Nexsen on the birth of their granddaughter, Chandler Christine Nexsen, born October 12, 2026. Parents are Julian & Chandler Nexsen of Greenville.

Other Items of Interest

We will celebrate the **Lord's Supper** on Sunday, November 1, 2026.

Deadline for the November issue of The Spire is Wednesday, November 11, 2026.

TEAM MEETINGS

Buildings & Grounds will meet Monday, November 9, at 5:15 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Christian Education Committee** will meet Sunday, November 8, at 6:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **CLC** will meet Thursdays, November 5, 12, and 19 at 6:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

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

Financial Oversight will meet Wednesday, November 18, at 12:00 noon, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Missions/Outreach Committee** will meet Sunday, November 8, at 11:30 am, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team will meet Monday, November 23, at 10:00 am, in the Conference Room (Room 206).

Stephen Ministry will meet Wednesday, November 11, at 4:00 pm, in the Barksdale Room (Room 122).

The **Youth Committee** will meet Sunday, November 8, at 11:45 am, at Panera.

Joint Meeting of the Session, Diaconate, and Endowment (current and incoming) will be held Sunday, November 22, at 11:45 am, in Alexander Hall. Lunch will be served.

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

STEWARDSHIP

THE OFFERING OF OURSELVES

The alms for which your generosity is asked are nothing exterior to the sacrament, but a part of it. If you were living in the day of the ancient Church, you would be bringing not money, but cakes of bread and flasks of wine. All would be placed upon the altar, part would be consecrated for the Eucharist, the remainder would be given to the sick and poor. Now you bring money. But your money is still presented along with the bread and wine, and it still means the same thing. The offering is your offering; it is you yourselves who are laid on the altar to be consecrated, and to be made the body of Christ. Your gift is a token of yourself. I break the bread for the death of Christ, and we are all sacrificed to God in Christ's death, dying in Him to our own will, and receiving Christ our true life in communion.

Austin Farrer

The Crown of the Year

(as printed in the FPC bulletin Nov. 17, 1996)



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

*Order forms for poinsettias
will be available in the church
lobby on November 1st.*

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

***Deadline to order is November 16th
and cost is \$23 each.***

Welcoming A Child



*Anyone who welcomes a little child like this
in my name is welcoming me, and anyone
who welcomes me is welcoming the one who
sent me. Luke 9:48.*



Christmas Drop-In at the
home of Rick and Janice May
127 East Cambridge
Saturday, December 12th
5:00 - 8:00 pm

*WE have sevreal baptisms coming up
in the next several months.
Look for these baptism wish cards in the
pew racks and leave them a special note
in the offering plate on this special day.*

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. Stock and other direct transfers often come with no additional information about the donor's identity.

2027 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.

From the Home Communion and Visitation Team. . .

Our Committee needs your help. . . please let us hear from you! If you are at home or in a retirement community and no longer able to drive, or if you are restricted by health challenges from attending regular Church events, we would like to visit you. We are the Home Communion and Visitation Committee, a subcommittee of the Diaconate Congregational Care Committee. This is a "behind the scenes" group of FPC members who visit, send cards, and serve communion to our Church Family. . . we consider it an honor and privilege to support and show concern for members through this ministry.

BUT, our Committee needs to hear from YOU! If you would like us to add your name to our list of members served, please contact Lea at the Church Office or phone Barb Robinette (864.337.6778) or Donna Thompson (864.993.5435), Chairs of the Committee. If you know of members who might benefit from this ministry, please contact those people and ask them (or their caretakers) to get in touch with us. We need ALL Church members to be the eyes and ears of our Committee. . . your help will assist us in better serving our Church Family.

Members of the Home Communion and Visitation Team: Donna Cowan, Hunter McClintock, Toma Mulkey, Barb Robinette, Kathy Snyder, Craig Stuckey, Donna Thompson, Marilyn Towne, Anna Welborn, Betty Williams, and Mary Ann Wright



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.



"The Prayer of a Righteous Person is Powerful and Effective." James 5:16

God uses the means of prayer because He wants us to remain dependent on Him, to remind us that we are creatures in need, and that He is the giver. Our prayers really do make a difference. They change us and the way we view God, and they're the means God uses to intervene in the world. Therefore, God moves when we ask. Our prayers are part of His plan. Our job is to pray, knowing our prayers are making a difference because that's the way God has chosen to work.

(from *Stand to Reason: Clear-Thinking Christianity*)

Committed Prayers invite you to pray in the chapel on the last Monday of every month at 4:30 pm.



MINISTRY OF CARING

In Matthew 25 we read, "For I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; I was naked, and you clothed me; I was sick, and you visited me; I was in prison, and you came to me." One of the ways our congregation offers this ministry is through the Stephen Ministry program. In January, FPC will begin training members for doing caring work. Would you like to learn to help others while growing in your understanding of yourself? If so, talk with Brad Christie or one of the current Stephen Ministers.

*To all of our Kirkin' participants:
I hope your family found blessings in our 17th Kirkin' Service. Thank you so much to all who participated to make the day special. Mark your calendar for next year! October 10, 2027!*

*Sincerely,
The Kirkin' Committee*

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.

Saturday, October 31	Happy Halloween! Change Clocks
Sunday, November 1	All Saints Recognition Communion New Members Class (9:30 am, Barksdale Room)
Wednesday, November 4	Set Free Alliance presentation (6:00 pm, Alexander Hall)
Saturday, November 7	Service and Reception for George and Pat Wilson (1:00 pm, Sanctuary and Alexander Hall)
Sunday, November 8	Veterans Recognition Sunday New Members Class (9:30 am, Barksdale Room) Receive New Members (10:30 am) New Members Luncheon (11:45 am, Alexander Hall)
Sunday, November 15	Stewardship Sunday Congregational Meeting (11:30 am, Sanctuary) Festiva (4:00 pm, Sanctuary)
Sunday, November 22	Christ the King Sunday Joint Officer Lunch and Meeting (11:45 am, Alexander Hall) Baptism Accepting Thornwell Children's Home Offering
Monday, November 23	Community Thanksgiving Service (7:00 pm, Main Street UMC)
Wednesday, November 25	Church offices close at noon
Thursday-Friday November 26-27	HAPPY THANKSGIVING Church offices closed
Sunday, November 29	Hanging of the Greens First Sunday of Advent
Wednesday, December 2	Bob Glick presents a talk on Handel's <i>Messiah</i> (5:30 pm, Sanctuary)
Sunday, December 6	Second Sunday of advent Communion Congregation Christmas Party (4-6:30 pm, throughout the church)
Wednesday, December 9	Dinner and Caroling (Time TBD, Wesley Commons)
Saturday, December 12	May's Open House (Drop-In beginning at 5:00 pm, 127 East Cambridge Ave.)



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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Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Elise Collins

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Music Associate/Organist

Mr. Timothy Walters

Director of Children's Music

Ms. Sarah Bowen

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Chair of Endowment

Mrs. Carson Penney