

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 4, NO. 4 | January 29–February 4, 2026



ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. STAN JOHNSON RETIRES

Rev. Stan Johnson retired on **January 25** after 22 years of faithful ministry at First Pres. Stan will be honored during worship services this **Sunday, February 1**, and a reception will be held in the Sturgis Gathering area following the 8:30am worship service and at 12:00noon.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING ABOUT ADOPTION

Join Lifeline Children's Services for a free, in-person Adoption Information Meeting hosted by First Pres on **Wednesday, February 4**, 6:30-7:30pm in room B202. Learn about international hosting, domestic infant adoption, and international adoption, and get your questions answered by experienced professionals. Go to Lifelinechild.org to register.

INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSING NOTICE

In the event of inclement weather, any delays or closures for First Presbyterian Church will be posted online at WYFF4.com/weather/closings. Please check the church's status before traveling—your safety is important to us.

SANCTUARY FLOWER DATES FOR 2026

You are invited to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of loved ones. The following Sundays in early 2026 are currently available: March 1, 8, 15, 22; April 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10, 24, 31. To reserve a date and provide your dedication for the bulletin, please contact Linda Slash at lslash@firstpresgreenville.org.

DISCIPLESHIP

Children's Ministry, Tina Jones

KIDS CHURCH DURING SELECT WORSHIP SERVICES
On **February 1 and 22**, the sermon topics in worship may not be age-appropriate for our elementary-aged children. Instead of attending worship with their families on these dates, 1st–5th graders are invited to an exciting Gospel jump rope presentation by Learnin' the Ropes on February 1 at Kids Church, and a fun movie and popcorn on February 22. Simply check your 1st–5th graders in at any children's check-in desk before worship on those Sundays. Preschoolers may attend Kids Church as usual.

Men's Ministry, Charlie Buchanan

PURSUIT MEN'S WEEKEND

Join us **April 10–12** for this year's Pursuit Men's Weekend at Windy Gap Young Life Camp in Weaverville, NC. This retreat offers a meaningful mix of fellowship, discipleship, and adventure in a beautiful mountain setting. Over the weekend, men will be spiritually challenged, share plenty of laughter, build new relationships, and strengthen existing friendships. The cost is \$295 and includes lodging for two nights, five meals, use of Windy Gap's incredible facilities, and the weekend journal. Use code FPC75 for a discounted rate. Scholarships and financial assistance are also available. For details and registration, visit 3GenMinistries.org. Questions? Contact Michael Trotter at trottermichael1@gmail.com or Russell Guest at russellguest@charter.net.

Stewardship Ministry, Bobby Hoffman

"GOD AND MONEY" WORKSHOPS

Join us for the remaining sessions of the *God and Money* workshops, 9:45–10:30am, in Fellowship Hall. We'll explore biblical wisdom and practical tools for managing the resources God has entrusted to us.

February 1 – *Estate Planning* with Bob August

February 15 – *Budgeting and Debt* with Tripp Welch
Watch the January 11 and 18 sessions online at FirstPresGreenville.org/give. Click the *God and Money Workshops* link in the menu.

EVENTS

Events Ministry, Caleb Miller

REND COLLECTIVE—U.S. TOUR 2026

We're excited to welcome Rend Collective back to First Pres after a sold-out night last year! This energetic group of multi-instrumentalists from Ireland blends joyful worship, rich storytelling, and infectious celebration to draw people closer to Jesus. If you've never experienced them before, expect an unforgettable evening of praise, reflection, and spirit-filled joy. Join us **Friday, February 24** at 7:30pm in the Worship & Arts Center.

20, at 7:00pm in the Worship & Arts Center for this special evening for all ages. Tickets are on sale now at FirstPresGreenville.org/events.

Fine Arts, Chelsea Fraser

BALLET MAGNIFICAT! THE CALL

Experience a powerful evening of faith, movement, and storytelling with Ballet Magnificat!'s newest original production, *The Call*. Choreographed by Assistant Artistic Director Silas Fennema, this moving ballet tells the true story of Elisabeth Elliot and the missionaries who risked everything to bring the gospel to a remote tribe in the Ecuadorian rain forest. Through breathtaking choreography and a stirring score, audiences are drawn into a story of courage, sacrifice, and redemption. Join us on **Friday, March 6**, at 7:00pm in the Worship & Arts Center. For tickets go to FirstPresGreenville.org/events.

ACTIVATE: AN INVITATION TO MAKING

ACTIVATE is a creative conference designed to connect deep theology with hands-on practice. Featuring keynote speakers Esther Lightcap Meek and Andy Squyres, this gathering invites you to explore your creative calling and imagine how God might use your work to bless the church and community. With extended small-group time led by local artists, you'll learn, experiment, and create together. Dates are **February 26–28**. Register now at FirstPresGreenville.org/events. Join us!

Sports Ministry, Caleb McKisic

SPRING ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Get in the game this spring! Register now for the Adult Spring Basketball League for both men and women. This six-week league begins in **March** and offers a great way to stay active, build community, and enjoy some friendly competition. View the full game schedule, FAQs, and register at csarec.com/spring-basketball-league. Questions? Email info@csarec.com or call 864.660.2080.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

Registration is open for Rising K5–5th grade boys and girls at First Pres! Summer Sports Camp runs **Monday–Friday, May 26 through August 7**, from 9:00am–12:00pm. Each week is filled with high-energy sports, snack breaks, and meaningful character-building lessons in a fun, encouraging environment. Space is limited, so register today at csarec.com/summer-sports-camp. Questions? Email info@csarec.com or call 864.660.2080.

Worship & Music, Susan Messer

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

Mark your calendars for **June 8–11** as we celebrate Christmas in the Summer! Open to rising 2nd–6th graders, campers will explore music in fun, hands-on ways throughout the week! Rising 7th–12th grade students may apply to be counselors. Registration is open at FirstPresGreenville.org/events.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Children's Ministry, Tina Jones

NIGHT TO SHINE—FEBRUARY 13

Be part of a prom where every guest is treated like royalty! Night to Shine is a special event for individuals with special needs, hosted locally this year by First Pres, David's Table, and Fairview Baptist Church of Greer. There are many ways to serve, including as a Buddy, on the meal team, with the parking crew, and praying for the event (click the Night to Shine icon at FirstPresGreenville.org/events). To learn more and to register to volunteer, visit davidstable.org.

Missional Ministry, Eric Swofford

YELLOW BAGS FOR MIRACLE HILL—10 YEARS!

A small yellow bag can make a big difference! Join us as we celebrate our 10th year of supporting Miracle Hill Ministries through the Yellow Bag Project. By donating gently used clothing, shoes, and accessories, you help stock Miracle Hill's thrift stores—funding programs that serve individuals experiencing homelessness and those struggling with addiction in our community. Yellow bags will be available at the church **Sunday, February 8, through Friday, February 20**. Please return your filled bags on **Sunday, February 22**.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

February 1, 2026

Sermon Series:

"Tough Topics—Suicide"

Romans 8:35–39

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30am | Sanctuary

10:45am | Worship & Arts Center

11:00am | Sanctuary

8:30am Nursery

9:30am Children's Sunday School

9:45am Student Life Groups

9:45am Adult Life Groups

10:30am Kids Church

LIVE STREAMING

8:30am, 10:45am, 11:00am

YouTube.com@FirstPresGreenvilleSC

FirstPresgreenville.org Watch menu

"Like" and "Subscribe" for easy access

WEDNESDAYS

February 4, 5:30pm

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

Deep Dive in Romans

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

12:30pm–1:00pm • Fellowship Hall

6:30pm–7:15pm • Fellowship Hall

LIVE STREAMING

6:30pm–7:15pm • Fellowship Hall

YouTube.com/

@FirstPresGreenvilleSC

FirstPresgreenville.org Watch menu

WEDNESDAY MEALS

11:45am & 5:00pm • Fellowship Hall

Lunch and dinner are prepared by our chef each Wednesday, serving a selection of meats, vegetables, salads, and desserts.

MENU:

Chef's Choice

MEAL PRICES:

Adults: \$10

Children ages 4–12: \$5

Children ages 0–3: Free

Family max: \$40

LOOKING AHEAD

JANUARY

30: Jess Ray Concert

FEBRUARY

1: God & Money Workshop

8–20: Pick up Yellow Bags

13–16: Sanctuary Retreat

15: God & Money Workshop

18: Take Me to the Cross Worship and Prayer Service

20: Rend Collective Concert

22: Yellow Bag Sunday

26–28: ACTIVATE Arts Conference

MARCH

6: The Call: Ballet Magnificat!

This newsletter offers highlights of announcements, events, and opportunities. For the full list of information, visit firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect@first.

MEMBER NEWS

SYMPATHY • The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hennigan (Mandi) in the death of her mother, Mary Helen Bobo of Pickens, SC, on November 30, 2025.

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Morrison (Marilyn) in the death of his father, Mr. Clyde Morrison, on January 20, 2026. Marilyn is the FPC Foundation Administrator.

MEMORIALS & HONORS

CHURCH HONOR FUND

In honor of Rip and Edith Parks by John and Jeanie Killey

CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Jim Nance by Sara Anne Collins

In memory of Jim Smith Jr. by Doug Neal

TRANSFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND

In memory of Marcie Camp Radcliffe by Beth and Chuck Simmons

In memory of Jim Smith Jr. by Jo and Harry Ussery

In memory of Robert Carter by Denton and Donna Burnette; Jo and Harry Ussery; Martha McLeod and Georgia Ansell; Carlton and Belinda Manley; Susan and Paul Grier; Brunhilde S. Vinson; Crescent Music Club; Beth and Chuck Simmons

PRAYER LIST • Bold = New *Italics* = In Hospital

Nancy Adams, Andy and June Anderson, McFall Anderson, Bill Anthony, Sandra Banks, Betty Bennett, Harry Bolick, Le Anna Browning, John Cooter, Brantley Daniel, Debbie Davidson, Peggy Denny, Bud Fant, Liz Fuqua, Martha Gallivan, Larry Goodwin, Richard and Danette Hanks, Anna Hewitt, Tina Hicks, Harry Hightower, Don Hobbs, Amy Hunter, Charlie Hutton, Anne Lide, Tom Lide, Don McAlister, **Jenny McCorkle**, Paul McGahee, Deryl McKinney, Lee Miller, Rachel Mullinax, Martha Nance, Chloris Norman, Carolyn Rice, Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, Bill Rogers, Joan Snowden, Lewis Tollison, Charlotte Watson, Beryl Wickliffe

PRAYER RESOURCES

Congregational Care: To pass on information regarding a medical emergency, upcoming surgery, or admittance to the hospital, please call Rev. Don Feuerbach, 864.565.0928.

Prayer Appointments: To schedule a confidential appointment with our Healing Prayer Team Members, call 864.565.0960.

Prayer Requests: For general prayer requests, call 864.565.0970.

Healing Prayer Service: Every Tuesday at 6:30pm in Harper Chapel

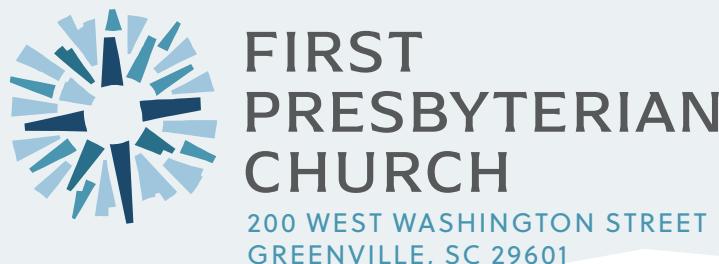
For Pastoral emergencies, please call 864.235.0496.

IN THIS WEEK'S PODCAST

Dr. Gibbons will sit down with congregation member and First Pres Office Manager, Barbara Seibel, for a compassionate and thoughtful conversation about suicide, informed by personal experience and pastoral care. This episode approaches a sensitive topic with honesty, grace, and hope for those who may be carrying grief or questions of their own. *Listener discretion is advised.*

Listen to Fridays@First on our YouTube channel (@FPCGreenvilleSC) or on your favorite podcast platform. Be sure to like, comment, and subscribe to stay connected.

Want to get the Fridays@First eblast each week? Visit firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect@first and click the red "Subscribe" button.



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TELEVISION

First and Foremost Program
on WHNS-TV FOX Carolina
Sundays at 10:00am



WHAT'S INSIDE

January 29–February 4, 2026

"Tough Topics" on
Fridays@First Podcast

Honoring Rev. Stan Johnson
This Sunday

10th Year Supporting Miracle Hill
Through the Yellow Bag Project

Just Announced:
PURSUIT Men's Retreat

Rend Collective 2026 Tour

ACTIVATE Arts Conference

For more information about
FPC, visit FirstPresGreenville.org

JANUARY 29–FEBRUARY 4, 2026



LET'S TALK.

**WE CARE DEEPLY ABOUT YOU
AND YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

Don't miss this week's episode with Dr. Gibbons and a special guest.

FRIDAYS@FIRST PODCAST

This episode approaches a sensitive topic with honesty, grace, and hope for those who may be carrying grief or questions of their own.

[Listen on YouTube \(@FPCGreenvilleSC\)](https://www.youtube.com/@FPCGreenvilleSC) or on your favorite podcast platform.



More Resources Available Here:
FirstPresGreenville.org/Care

nimh.nih.gov/shareNIMH

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