

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 4, NO. 5 | February 5–11, 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 8**, and a reception will be held in the Sturgis Gathering area following the 8:30am worship service and at 12:00noon.

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 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.

LOST AND FOUND

This is the "last chance" table to discover what is yours among all the lost and found items we have accumulated. The items will be on a table by the elevators in Building D main hallway from Sunday, February 15, through Sunday, February 22. Please look for any items you have been missing; anything remaining after February 22 will be donated to Miracle Hill Ministries.

DISCIPLESHIP

Children's Ministry, Tina Jones

KIDS CHURCH DURING SELECT WORSHIP SERVICES

On **February 8 and March 8**, 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 for a movie and popcorn February 8 at Kids Church, and an exciting Gospel jump rope presentation by Learnin' the Ropes on March 8. 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 15 – *Budgeting and Debt* with Tripp Welch

February 22 – *Estate Planning* with Bob August
Watch the January 11 and 18 sessions online at FirstPresGreenville.org/give. Click the *God and Money Workshops* link in the menu.

EVENTS

Children's Ministry, Prayer Ministry, Student Ministry, Worship & Arts Ministry

TAKE ME TO THE CROSS—LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

All are invited to a Lenten Worship and Prayer service on Wednesday, February 18. The Harper Chapel doors will open at 6:00pm and the service begins promptly at 6:15pm. Led by First Pres ministry leaders, this service will prepare our hearts for the season of Lent through songs, Scripture readings, and a time of prayer. All are welcome.

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 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

RECEPTION FOR THE ART OF STORYTELLING

The Art of Storytelling celebrates the beauty of narrative through the treasured medium of illustration, highlighting the way stories connect us and reflect the greater story God is writing in our lives. Featuring more than half a dozen local illustrators, *The Art of Storytelling* is sure to delight and inspire you with its whimsy and power. Join us on **Friday, February 6** from 6:00–8:00pm for an opening reception and enjoy basking in *The Art of Storytelling*!

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.

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.

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

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 beginning **Sunday, February 8, through Sunday, February 15. Please return your filled bags on Sunday, February 22.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP

February 8, 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](https://www.youtube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC)

FirstPresGreenville.org Watch menu

"Like" and "Subscribe" for easy access

WEDNESDAYS

February 11, 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/](https://www.youtube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC)

[@FirstPresGreenvilleSC](https://www.youtube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC)

FirstPresGreenville.org Watch menu

WEDNESDAY MEALS

11:45am & 5:00pm • Fellowship Hall

MENU:

Beef Pot Roast

Orange & Soy Glazed Mahi-Mahi

Roasted New Potatoes

Steamed Green Beans

Pineapple Bake

Butternut Squash

Coleslaw

House Salads

Fresh Fruit

Chef's Choice Desserts

MEAL PRICES:

Adults: \$10

Children ages 4-12: \$5

Children ages 0-3: Free

Family max: \$40

LOOKING AHEAD

FEBRUARY

8–20: Pick up Yellow Bags

13–16: Sanctuary Retreat

15: "God and Money" Workshop

18: Take Me to the Cross Worship and Prayer Service

20: Rend Collective Concert

22: "God and Money" Workshop

22: Yellow Bag Sunday

26–28: ACTIVATE Arts Conference

MARCH

6: *The Call* with 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

CONGRATULATIONS ♦ *The pastors and congregation extend blessings to*

Ms. Joy McManis on the birth of twin granddaughters, Abner Kate Ingle and Gracie Bryant Ingle, on January 27, 2026.

SYMPATHY ♦ *The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to*

Mr. Jason “Jay” Hanus in the death of his mother, Mrs. Ruth Polly of Oswego, NY, on January 28, 2026. Jay is a Maintenance Sexton at FPC.

Mrs. Anne Lide in the death of her husband, Dr. Tom Lide, on January 28, 2026; to **Pam McShea** and **Dana Smith** in the death of their father; and to **Paige McShea**, **Cameron Smith**, and **Andrew Smith** in the death of their grandfather.

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas E. Lide ♦ *May 1, 1931 – January 28, 2026*

MEMORIALS & HONORS

CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of David Norris III by Roger and Jaimie McQueen; Bill Holland; Benny Holland; Houston and Cheryl Peden

TRANSFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND

In memory of Robert Carter by Ewan and Becky Sweeney, Sr.; Lavern Mumma, Sr.; Sara Karns

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, **Ron Lemley**, Anne 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, 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.



The FPC Military Ministry assists and prays for church members of our congregation serving in the Armed Forces (Active Duty, Reserves, National Guard). Visit the Military Ministry page under Care and Prayer on our website to learn more.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
GREENVILLE, SC 29601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

phone | 864.235.0496

website | FirstPresGreenville.org

email | contactus@firspresgreenville.org

youtube | @FPCGreenville

facebook | facebook.com/FirstPresGreenville

instagram | @FPCGreenville

app | FPC Live

podcast | Fridays at First

e-newsletter | FirstPresGreenville.org/about/connect@first

TELEVISION

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

ONLINE GIVING



@fpcgvl

WHAT'S INSIDE

February 5–11, 2026

ACTIVATE Arts Conference

Honoring Rev. Stan Johnson
This Sunday

10th Year Supporting Miracle Hill
Through the Yellow Bag Project

PURSUIT Men's Retreat

Rend Collective 2026 Tour

The Call with Ballet Magnificat

For more information about
FPC, visit FirstPresGreenville.org

FEBRUARY 5–11, 2026

FEBRUARY 26-28

an Invitation to Making

ACTIVATE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN ARTS CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE:

Esther Lightcap
Meek

KEYNOTE:

Andy Squyres

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER,
VISIT FIRSTPRESGREENVILLE.ORG/EVENTS

NOW ONLINE!

AN INTERVIEW WITH FINE ARTS DIRECTOR, CHELSEA FRASER,
ON HOW GOD CREATED EVERYONE TO CREATE IN EVERYDAY LIFE!

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