

# CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 3, NO. 7 | February 13–19, 2025



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### STAFF UPDATE

Join us in welcoming Eric Swofford to the FPC staff as Interim Director of Missions. Eric has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2005. He is Head of Finance and Human Resources for the Pars Theological Centre. Eric has

served as Chair of the First Pres Missions Committee and was part of the Global Missions Team of the SC Presbytery. He has participated in mission trips to the Dominican Republic, Egypt, and Liverpool, and an ECO church plant. Eric is married to Heather, and they have two adult children, Isaac and Lydia.

### GALLIVAN-MILLS SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2025-2026

The Gallivan-Mills Scholarship is granted each year to college undergraduate and seminary students who are FPC members. Applications are available at the FPC Reception Desk and online at [FirstPresGreenville.org/gmscholarshipapp.pdf](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/gmscholarshipapp.pdf). Submit your completed scholarship application, with all attachments, to the Gallivan-Mills Scholarship Committee (drop off at the Reception Desk or email to Steven Harvin) no later than Monday, March 31, 2025. Questions? Contact Steven Harvin at [SLHarvin@gmail.com](mailto:SLHarvin@gmail.com), 803.477.8123, or Marilyn Morrison, FPC Foundation Administrator, at 864.565.0992, [mmorrison@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto:mmorrison@firstpresgreenville.org).

### HAVE YOU TAKEN CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY?

Earlier this month, we were introduced to a significant focus of our Strategic Plan's Mission, Vision, and Values. This outcome prioritizes discipleship in the life of the congregation. As a result, we are asking each of you to complete a Congregational Survey, which will take less than 15 minutes. To access the survey, please scan this QR code or copy this link: [bit.ly/fpc\\_survey](http://bit.ly/fpc_survey) to your website browser. Please complete the survey before Friday, February 28.



## DISCIPLESHIP

*Discipleship Ministry, Claire Ripley*

### MARRIAGE MATTERS—BUILDING STRONG MARRIAGES TODAY

Join us for a practical, informative, and biblical exploration of what marriage can be. This six-week course, facilitated by Chuck and Beth Simmons along with Will and Sydney Sykes, will address a variety of topics, all aimed at helping couples build strong, healthy relationships with one another. The course takes place on Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15pm, in Room D305. No registration is required, and you can join anytime.

## EVENTS

*Congregational Care Ministry, Don Feuerbach*

### COMING MARCH 8—THE FRAGILE YEARS: Proven Strategies for the Care of Aging Loved Ones

Do you have a parent or aging loved one nearing or in the most fragile years of life? Are you considering in-home, assisted living, or a nursing home for them? Have they endured repeated hospitalizations, or are they facing major surgery? Are they refusing to give up their independence? Do they have adequate savings to pay for care? Are they getting the right Medicare, Medicaid, or VA benefits? Amy O'Rourke, author and a veteran care management professional, will help you navigate these questions and find the right care for your loved ones in a half-day seminar here at First Pres on Saturday, March 8. You can submit questions to Amy in advance when you register. The seminar is \$25 with the option to purchase her book. Register now at [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/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, March 5. 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.

*Event Operations, Caleb Miller*

### REND COLLECTIVE FOLK! 2025 TOUR

Rend Collective is an eclectic group of multi-instrumentalists from Ireland who, through songs, music, and stories, aim to lead people closer to Jesus. Their current tour will stop at First Pres on Saturday, March 8, at 7:00pm in the Worship & Arts Center. The band has participated in several major tours alongside top artists such as Chris Tomlin, MercyMe, Hillsong United, Kari Jobe, Lecrae, and more. Visit [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events) to link to the ticket site.

*Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser*

### SONIC EXPEDITIONS RECITAL

*Sonic Expeditions* is a classical recital featuring saxophone and piano, played by Michael Matthews and Ruby Lee, respectively. This program, with its French and American flare, seeks to transport the audience through several energetic musical journeys. Join us on Friday, February 21, at 6:00pm in Harper Chapel. Tickets (\$10) are on sale online at [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events) or in person at the FPC Box Office during church office hours.

### RESURRECTION LETTERS TOUR COMING APRIL 3

First Pres is the first stop on Andrew Peterson's annual *Resurrection Letters Tour*, Thursday, April 3, at 7:00pm! This tour reflects a wide span of Andrew's music catalog, with a special focus on his critically acclaimed albums, *Resurrection Letters: Prologue, Volume 1, and Volume 2*. The record trilogy poignantly explores the event and surrounding themes of Christ's resurrection, along with its glorious implications for our lives today. Purchase your tickets online at [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events) or in person at the FPC Box Office during church office hours.

*Worship & Music Ministry, Susan Messer*

### SACRED SOLOS@FIRST CONCERT

Come and enjoy God's presence through music on Sunday, March 2, at 2:00pm in the Worship & Arts Center. *Sacred Solos@First* will be a recital performed by professional musicians of First Pres. Vocal, piano, cello, and oboe soloists will prepare us for the Lenten season. Purchase tickets (\$10) at [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events).

### MUSIC CAMP JUNE 9-12 — REGISTER NOW

This year's theme, *The Greatest Stories Ever Told*, focuses on hymns, the stories behind them, and how they tell the story of Christ. Students (2nd–rising 6th grade) will choose an "interest" for the week and get extra time with one of the following: Orff instruments, World instruments, Recorder, Organ/Piano, Drama, Guitar/Strings, or Handbells. Music Camp follows VBS and runs from 12:00-4:00pm. Click the Music Camp icon at [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events) to register. Cost: \$100.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

*Men's Ministry, Charlie Buchanan*

### JOIN THE JOBS FOR LIFE TEAM

"Jobs for Life" is a transformational ministry designed to equip men who are getting back up on their feet to find and keep meaningful employment. FPC Men's Ministry has partnered with Miracle Hill's Greenville Rescue Mission for the 7-week class beginning March 11 (Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:15-8:00pm). We are looking for a few men with a heart to serve others who will join our team to serve as mentors, helping and encouraging students through the class. We are grateful for the ways God has supported this program and blessed all the participants over the past five years. For more information about this rewarding experience, see the FPC Men's Ministry webpage at [FirstPresGreenville.org](http://FirstPresGreenville.org) or contact Dave Forry at 864.380.1013 or [forrydcf@aol.com](mailto:forrydcf@aol.com). [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events) to register. Cost is \$100.

### PICK UP YOUR YELLOW BAGS ON SUNDAY

Pick up Yellow Bags at the church this Sunday, February 16, or use your own bags; fill about 2/3 full with gently used clothing, shoes, handbags, and accessories. Drive through and drop off your bags in the First Pres parking lots on Sunday, February 23, 8:00am–1:00pm. A large truck from Miracle Hill Ministries will be on campus and staffed to receive your donations, which will help homeless children, women, and men in the Upstate.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

February 16, 2025

SERMON SERIES

"Flourishing!

Healthy Then—Healthy Now"

Acts 5:17-29

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30am in the Sanctuary

10:45am Ignite in the

Worship & Arts Center

11:00am in the 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 & 11:00am:

[Facebook.com/firstpresgreenville](https://Facebook.com/firstpresgreenville)

[YouTube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC](https://YouTube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC)

[FirstPresgreenville.org](http://FirstPresgreenville.org) Watch menu

10:45am:

[Facebook.com/firstpresignite](https://Facebook.com/firstpresignite)

[YouTube.com/@FirstPresIgniteWorship](https://YouTube.com/@FirstPresIgniteWorship)

[FirstPresgreenville.org](http://FirstPresgreenville.org) Watch menu

"Like" and "Subscribe" for easy access

## WEDNESDAY

February 19, 2025

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

The "I AM" Sayings of John

12:30pm–1:00pm • Fellowship Hall

6:30pm–7:15pm • Fellowship Hall

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

LIVE STREAMING

6:30pm–7:15pm • Fellowship Hall

[Facebook.com/firstpresgreenville](https://Facebook.com/firstpresgreenville)

[YouTube.com/](https://YouTube.com/)

[@FirstPresGreenvilleSC](https://YouTube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC)

[FirstPresgreenville.org](http://FirstPresgreenville.org) Watch menu

WEDNESDAY MEALS

11:45am & 5:00pm • Fellowship Hall

MENU

Fried Pork Chops

Chicken Divan Casserole

Wild Rice Pilaf, Fried Green Beans

Smoked Cheddar Bacon Mac & Cheese,

Braised Cabbage

Rolls/Salads

Chef's Choice Desserts

MEAL PRICES:

Adults: \$10

Children ages 4-12: \$5

Children ages 0-3: Free

Family max: \$40

## LOOKING AHEAD

2/23: Yellow Bag Collection Day

3/2: Sacred Solos@First

3/5: Take Me to the Cross

3/8: The Fragile Years Seminar

Rend Collective Folk! 2025 Tour

4/3: Resurrection Letters Tour

More info on all events at  
[FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events)

## MEMBER NEWS

### BAPTISMS ♦ February 9, 2025

Hopkins Laughlin Newton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Newton (Caroline)

### SYMPATHY ♦ The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Bean (Caroline) in the death of his mother, Charlotte Bean, on January 31, 2025; and to Madison and Harrison Bean in the death of their grandmother

The family of Ms. Betty Parker

The family of Mrs. Carrie Stringer

### IN MEMORIAM

Betty Tarrant Parker ♦ February 19, 1935 – February 6, 2025

Carrie Catherine Cureton Stringer ♦ December 14, 1970 – February 7, 2025

### MEMORIALS & HONORS

#### CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Alva Goodwin Jr. by Circle 10

In memory of Jack and Dot Whitesides by Judy and Don McAlister

In memory of Jack Whitesides by Fred and Rachel Mullinax; Bob and Julia Bandholz

#### CHURCH HONOR FUND

In honor of Kathy Stewart by Adele Beganie

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY FUND

In memory of Alva Goodwin Jr. by Ewan and Becky Sweeney Sr.

#### MUSIC MINISTRY FUND

In memory of Alva Goodwin Jr. by the Agape-Fellowship Life Group

### MEMORIALS & HONORS (continued)

#### MUSIC MINISTRY FUND

In memory of Jack Whitesides by the Agape-Fellowship Life Group

#### PRAYER LIST

Bill Anthony, Nancy Adams, Sandra Banks, Dick Brennecke, Miriam Brice, Lin Cundiff, **Jamie Daniel**, Peggy Denny, Robert Denny, Bud Fant, Michael Faw, Liz Fuqua, Tasha Garrison, Betsy Guffey, Richard Hanks, Mary Haselden, Anna Hewitt, Amy Hunter, Charlie Hutton, Dennis Hutton, Tom Lide, Anne Lybrand, Jenny McCorkle, Paul McGahee, Buddy May, Olive McCord, Mozelle Moore, Jim Nance, Chloris Norman, Becky Powell, Ken Rhoden, Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, Bill Rogers, Claire Taylor, John Volpe, Robin Walton, Lindsay Webb, Beryl Wickliffe, Jan Zimmerman

**Bold** = New    *Italics* = In Hospital

#### PRAYER RESOURCES

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



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
GREENVILLE, SC 29601

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

phone | 864.235.0496

website | FirstPresGreenville.org

email | contactus@firspresgreenville.org

facebook | facebook.com/  
FirstPresGreenville

instagram | @FPCGreenville

mobile app | FPC Live

#### TELEVISION

**First and Foremost** Program  
on WHNS-TV FOX Carolina  
Sundays at 10:30am

ONLINE  
GIVING



#### WHAT'S INSIDE

February 13–19, 2025

Resurrection Letters Tour

Interim Director of Missions

Congregational Survey

The Fragile Years Seminar

Sacred Solos@First Recital

Join the “Jobs for Life” Team

Pick Up Your Yellow Bags

For more information about  
the ministries of FPC, visit  
FirstPresGreenville.org

FEBRUARY 13–19, 2025

ANDREW PETERSON



Resurrection Letters  
TOUR



# Thursday, April 3

7:00PM | FPC WORSHIP & ARTS CENTER

The tour will reflect a wide span of Andrew's music catalog, with a special focus on his critically acclaimed albums *Resurrection Letters: Prologue, Volume 1, and Volume 2*. The record trilogy poignantly explores the event and surrounding themes of Christ's resurrection, along with its glorious implications for our lives today.

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