



CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 3, NO. 18 | May 1–7, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTHER’S DAY OFFERING MAY 11

Each year South Carolina Presbyterian churches participate in a Mother’s Day Offering for the six Presbyterian Communities of SC. The offering provides charitable care to enable residents to stay in their retirement homes when they have outlived their life’s savings. Their average age is 89! The envelopes will be distributed on Mother’s Day with the bulletins, or visit PresCommunities.org to contribute online. Thank you for your generosity!

2025 GRADUATES TO BE ANNOUNCED IN JUNE

FPC members and family members who are 2025 (or August/December 2024) graduates of High School, College, Graduate School, and Seminary will be announced in early June. To be included, complete the form online at FirstPresGreenville.org/Events or contact Austin Clay (aclay@firstpresgreenville.org) by Friday, May 30.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

You may purchase flowers for the Sanctuary and dedicate them in honor or memory of loved ones on these Sundays: May 18, May 25, June 1 or June 29. Please contact Linda Slash at 864.235.0496 or lslash@firstpresgreenville.org to reserve a date.

ARE YOU A LICENSED FOSTER PARENT?

Join us for a special training on Saturday, May 3, from 9:00–11:00am, featuring Dr. Laurel Shaler—author of three books, including *Loving Adopted Children Well*. This training will equip foster, kinship, and adoptive parents with practical tools for using the five love languages to better connect with and care for their children. RSVP today to tjones@firstpresgreenville.org.

VBS AND DAY MISSIONS TRAINING

If you are registered as a volunteer for Vacation Bible School or Day Missions, please attend a training session on Wednesday, May 14, 6:00-7:30pm in room C201. RSVP to tjones@firstpresgreenville.org.

ARE YOU EXPECTING?

Are you a covenant partner who has a new baby or is expecting? The Children’s Ministry would love to celebrate with you! Please let us know by contacting Evelyn at epenkert@firstpresgreenville.org.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY HIRING SUMMER INTERNS

The Children’s Ministry has openings for two summer interns to work 30 hours a week. If interested, please contact Tina Jones (tjones@firstpresgreenville.org) for an application.

DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship Ministry, Claire Ripley

WEDNESDAY LUNCH AND PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY

While most Grow@First activities have paused for the season, Wednesday lunch and the Pastor’s Bible Study will continue through June 25 in the Fellowship Hall (note: no meeting on June 11 during VBS). Lunch is served at 11:45am followed by Bible Study at 12:30pm.

EVENTS

Congregational Care, Don Feuerbach

TUESDAY HEALING & PRAYER SERVICE

The Healing & Prayer Service is held each Tuesday at 6:30pm in Harper Prayer Chapel. You are invited to come and receive God’s love, peace, hope, and healing through prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit.

THE BRUNCH BUNCH TURNS TWO! JOIN THE CELEBRATION ON MAY 18

Since May 21, 2023, more than 100 covenant partners, singles, couples, and guests have joined the First Presbyterian Sunday Brunch Bunch for a weekly time of fellowship and food. Every Sunday after the 11:00am service, we gather in the Abbott area before heading downtown to share a meal and good company. Now, we’re turning two—and we’d love for you to celebrate with us! Help us kick off year three with record attendance

by joining us on Sunday, May 18, at noon in the Abbott Gathering area. No reservations are needed—just bring your appetite and a friendly spirit. Questions? Contact Rev. Stan Johnson at 864.423.2067. Bon appétit!

Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser

ART & FAITH LUNCH MAY 2

Come hear from folks at The Arbor Institute who will share about their work in faith and the arts on Friday, May 2, at 12:00pm at the Intersection (Bridge City Café). All are welcome to this free event!

LOOKING UP EXHIBIT

Looking Up is a new exhibit which will be installed in May on the first and second floors of The Galleries at First Presbyterian. This exhibit features the work of four regional Christian painters: George Stone, Joe Craighead, and Mark Baral. Watch for more information coming soon!

Student Ministry, Mason Simmons

JR. HIGH AND SR. HIGH ROOTS SCHEDULE

Please be on the lookout for the Jr. and Sr. High Roots calendar for the summer! We look forward to seeing familiar faces and new friends. If you would like to receive the weekly newsletter, please email Mason Simmons at msimmons@firstpresgreenville.org. You can also stay connected by following us on Instagram: @fpc_roots.

RESONATE! CONCERT SUNDAY, MAY 4, AND CHILDREN’S MUSIC CONCERT WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Come celebrate our students (grades 6-12) and children (K4–grade 5) as they showcase all they’ve learned in choir this past year. From joyful singing to an impressive drumming performance of all the books of the Bible by our older children, this is an event you won’t want to miss! Enjoy a variety of musical styles as we explore how music deepens our faith and brings us together as Christians. Through this journey, our young musicians are developing a lifelong skill of praising God through music. We look forward to sharing these free concerts with you:

- Resonate!—Sunday, May 4, 1:30pm, Harper Chapel
- Children’s Choirs—Wednesday, May 7, 6:15pm, Sanctuary

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Children’s Ministry, Tina Jones

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—SIGN UP TODAY

We have 336 children registered for Vacation Bible School (VBS) on June 9-12 with another 84 on the waiting list! We currently need **45** more volunteers to register so we can accommodate all who want to attend.

Greatest Need: Tribe Leaders (serve in pairs) to guide small groups through stations like worship, Bible lessons, crafts, snacks, the marketplace, and games.

Other Open Roles: Drama team and preschool VBS.

The sooner you register, the sooner we can finalize children’s placements and prepare for an amazing week! Sign up today: VBSpro.events/p/events/24572e/ volunteers or click the VBS icon at FirstPresGreenville.org/Events. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus to these children!

DAY MISSIONS SUPPLIES DRIVE

The Children’s Ministry is collecting supplies to support low-income housing residents and those in need within our community. You can make a difference by donating essential items! For a list of items needed, click the “Summer Day Missions donations list” icon on the Events page of the website. Drop off your donations by May 18 at the Children’s Ministry check-in desk (across from the Nursery). For details, contact Karen King at 864.565.0936 or kking@firstpresgreenville.org. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Event Productions, Caleb Miller

PRODUCTION SERVICES WANTS YOU!

Join the production services team and help create exciting and worshipful experiences through sound, lighting, video, and stagecraft. Training will be provided—no experience is required. For more information, please email productions@firstpresgreenville.org.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SUNDAY

May 4, 2025

SERMON SERIES

“What Do We Believe?”

1 Peter 1:1-2

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 & 11:00am:

Facebook.com/firstpresgreenville

YouTube.com@FirstPresGreenvilleSC

FirstPresgreenville.org Watch menu

10:45am:

Facebook.com/firstpresignite

YouTube.com@FirstPresIgniteWorship

FirstPresgreenville.org Watch menu

“Like” and “Subscribe” for easy access

WEDNESDAY

May 7, 2025

PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY

12:30pm–1:00pm • Fellowship Hall

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

Lunch: 11:45am • Fellowship Hall

MENU: Chefs Choice

PRICE: \$10

LOOKING AHEAD

May 4: Resonate! Concert

May 4: Senior Recognition in
Worship

May 7: Children’s Choirs Concert

May 8-10: The Lightning Thief

May 18: Brunch Bunch
Anniversary Luncheon

June 9-12: VBS/Day Missions

June 9-12: Music Camp

June 12: Music Camp Showcase

July 18: A Night of Good News
with Illusionists The Laflins

More info on all events at
FirstPresGreenville.org/Events

MEMBER NEWS

BAPTISMS ♦ April 27, 2025

Evans Lewis McTeer son of Mr. and Mrs. Parker McTeer (Anna)
Madeline James Morris daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Morris (Hannah)
Walker Scott Stone son of Mr. and Mrs. William Stone (Rebecca)

SYMPATHY ♦ The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to

Mrs. Cindy Plating in the death of her husband, Mr. Jack Plating, on April 26, 2025; and to Todd, Chris, and Jill Plating in the death of their father.

IN MEMORIAM

Jack David Plating ♦ November 2, 1952 – April 26, 2025

PRAYER LIST

Bill Anthony, Nancy Adams, Sandra Banks, Miriam Brice, Keren Clay, Peggy Denny, Bud Fant, Liz Fuqua, Tasha Garrison, Darst Guest, Betsy Guffey, **Danette Hanks**, Anna Hewitt, Tina Hicks, Harry Hightower, Wanda Hightower, Don Hobbs, Amy Hunter, Charlie Hutton, **Frances Kowalski**, John Kylin, Mary Kylin, Tom Lide, Anne Lybrand, Jenny McCorkle, Paul McGahee, Mozelle Moore, Rachel Mullinax, Jim Nance, Martha Nance, Chloris Norman, Becky Powell, Ken Rhoden, Carolyn Rice, Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, Bill Rogers, Claire Taylor, **Lewis Tollison**, John Volpe, John M. Walker, **Jocelyn Williams**, Jennifer Winter, Beryl Wickcliffe, Jan Zimmerman

Bold = New *Italics* = In Hospital

For Pastoral emergencies, please call 864.235.0496.

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

IN THIS WEEK’S PODCAST

In this week’s episode of Fridays@First, Dr. Gibbons highlights important upcoming events in the life of our church, including a special moment of recognition for graduating high school seniors during the Ignite service this Sunday.

While co-host Michelle Ward is away, Fine Arts Director Chelsea Fraser steps in to interview Lindsay Donovan, Upper School Choir and Theater teacher, about the Academy’s upcoming production of *The Lightning Thief*, taking place May 8, 9, and 10.

You can listen to Fridays@First on our YouTube channel (@FPCGreenvilleSC) or through your preferred podcast platform. We encourage you to listen, like, comment, and subscribe to stay connected!

To receive the Fridays@First eblast each week, visit firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect@first and click the red “Subscribe” button.





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mobile app | FPC Live

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

ONLINE
GIVING



WHAT’S INSIDE

May 1–7, 2025

FPA Presents *The Lightning Thief:*
Theater for Young Adult Audiences

Resonate! and Children’s
Choirs Concerts

Wednesday Lunch and
Pastor’s Bible Study

Mother’s Day Offering for
Presbyterian Communities

Day Missions Supplies Drive

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

MAY 1–7, 2025

FIRST PRES ACADEMY PRESENTS

The Lightning Thief

Theater for Young Audiences Edition



3 SHOWS: MAY 8TH | 9TH | 10TH AT 7:00PM!

Tickets at FirstPresAcademy.com/Fine-Arts