

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 4, NO. 19 | May 14–20, 2026



ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNE 21ST MEN'S CHOIR

Calling all men! With Father's Day approaching, First Pres Men's Discipleship will be hosting a very special men's choir at both our 8:30am and 11:00am services on June 21. Sign up and invite your son, father, brother, or friends! To participate, simply email Charlie Buchanan at cbuchanan@firstpresgreenville.org.

2026 GRADUATES TO BE ANNOUNCED IN JUNE

FPC members and family members who are 2026 (or August/December 2025) 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 **Sunday, May 31**.

DISCIPLESHIP

Women's Ministry, Tiffany Boggs

REGISTER NOW: WOMEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Registration is open for the First Pres Women's Summer Bible Study: *Now and Not Yet* by bestselling author and artist Ruth Chou Simons. Too often, we feel disappointed with our "right now"—our life circumstances, our relationships, our lack of progress towards our dreams and goals, our daily grind. Simons reminds us of God's powerful provision and faithful promises for those "who have ears to hear." The study will be offered on **Tuesdays, June 16–July 28**, 9:30–11:00am and 6:00–7:30pm, and **Wednesdays, June 17–July 29**, 9:30–11:00am (with childcare). We hope you will join us this summer! Visit FirstPresGreenville.org/Events to register.

RADIANCE SMALL GROUP REGISTRATION

Are you a woman in your 20s to early 40s looking for a small group? Join Radiance! Groups meet in mentor leaders' homes for dinner and Bible study on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8:00pm. Together, we "do life" as we grow in faith, enjoy retreats and fun activities, and serve our Greenville community. Registration is open now through August 8 for the Fall and Spring 2027 semesters. Participants are placed in groups with others in a similar life stage. Click the Radiance icon at FirstPresGreenville.org to sign up. Questions? Contact Diana Orders at dianaschmittorders@gmail.com.

EVENTS

Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser

FINAL CALL: EIGHTEEN MILE BLUEGRASS BAND

Join us on Friday, May 15, at 6:30pm for an unforgettable evening of bluegrass music with Eighteen Mile. This dynamic group of five young musicians blends deep roots in traditional bluegrass and gospel with fresh, original songwriting. Their passion for crafting a classic sound—while telling their own stories—creates a performance that resonates with every audience. Named after Eighteenmile Creek in the Upstate of South Carolina, the band brings a genuine small-town charm and authenticity that is both engaging and inspiring. Don't miss this special night of music that's sure to capture hearts.

NEW EXHIBIT COMING SOON: IN THE LAND OF WOODEN SHOES, A HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

Join us for an Opening Night Reception on Friday, June 12, at 6:00pm in Building A and the Lenz Gallery. This powerful exhibition, a collaboration between the Anne Frank Center and South Carolina artist Mary Burkett, tells the stories of children affected by the Holocaust through moving visual portraits and storytelling. More than an art exhibit, it is an immersive experience of remembrance—honoring young lives, fostering empathy, and inviting reflection. The exhibition runs through November and is open to individuals, families, schools, and community groups, with guided tours and special programming available. For more information or group bookings, contact Chelsea Fraser at cfraser@firstpresgreenville.org.

CULTIVATE 2026: ROOTED

Cultivate 2026: *ROOTED* is coming to First Presbyterian Church, June 19–21. This in-person retreat will gather faithful creatives and leaders for a weekend of keynote

speakers, workshops on writing and publishing, worship, guided prayer, and meaningful community in the heart of downtown Greenville. Space is limited, with fewer than 35 seats remaining. Registration is \$250 and includes special offerings such as a free Friday community dinner, professional author/artist headshots, and unique breakout experiences. For more details and to register, click the QR code.



First Presbyterian Academy, Rob Brown ACADEMY GRADUATION AND ENROLLMENT

The Graduation Ceremony for the First Presbyterian Academy Class of 2026 will be held on Thursday, May 21, at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. You are welcome to join us to celebrate this milestone in the lives of our students.

FPA Shannon Forest and FPA Downtown are open for enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year. Please visit the school's website at FirstPresAcademy.com to schedule a tour or for enrollment documents.

Worship & Music Ministry, Susan Messer

THE COOLEST WEEK OF THE SUMMER!

Looking for something fun, creative, and meaningful for your kids this summer? Music Camp, **June 8–11**, is the perfect place to explore music, imagination, and play! Kids can enjoy VBS (9:00am–12:00noon) in the morning and stay for Music Camp in the afternoon (12:00–4:00pm). From ukulele and world percussion to piano, organ, and drama, campers will experience a wide range of hands-on musical activities with a highly qualified staff of teachers. This year, we're bringing the North Pole to the South with a festive "Christmas in the Summer" theme, complete with carols, holiday-themed music games, and plenty of cool surprises along the way. The week concludes with a special double feature: a live finale concert for family and friends, followed by a celebratory trip to Discovery Island Waterpark—a perfect way to end an unforgettable week with a splash! Cost: \$100 per child. Register online at FirstPresGreenville.org/events.

PROCLAIM LIBERTY CONCERT TICKETS

This July 1, experience an inspiring evening of worship and patriotic celebration at *Proclaim Liberty*—a concert honoring our nation's 250th birthday. Featuring a full choir and orchestra, this special event is designed for the whole family. Tickets are on sale now—Adults: \$15, Children: \$10. Visit the Events page at FirstPresGreenville.org to purchase. Join us as we celebrate 250 years of freedom, lift our voices in worship, and proclaim liberty together on **Wednesday, July 1, 6:00–7:30pm in the Sanctuary**.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Children Ministry, Tina Jones

HELP SHAPE THE FAITH OF THE NEXT GENERATION

Have you been looking for a way to invest in the lives of others? Would you like to help children come to know and follow Jesus? If so, we invite you to be part of discipling the children of our church. We are currently building our Children's Ministry volunteer team for August 2026 through July 2027. Opportunities include leading children's worship, caring for infants and toddlers, teaching or assisting in a classroom, serving as a buddy for a child with special needs, and welcoming and helping children to their classrooms. Most volunteers serve just one shift per month. To learn more, contact Tina Jones, FPC Children's Ministry Director, at tjones@firstpresgreenville.org, or explore available roles by clicking the QR code.



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

May 17, 2026

Sermon Series: "Life Empowered and Enabled" (John 1:35–42)
Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons preaching

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30am | Sanctuary
10:45am | Worship & Arts Center
11:00am | Sanctuary

SUNDAY EDUCATION

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

All services

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

"Like" and "Subscribe" for easy access

FirstPresGreenville.org Watch menu

WEDNESDAY

MAY 20, 2026

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

12:30pm–1:00pm • Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY LUNCH

11:45am • Fellowship Hall

MENU

BUILD A BOWL—Fill a bowl or make a tortilla wrap your way.

Grilled Chicken Breast/Roasted Pork BBQ/Sauteed Shrimp
Yellow Rice/Black Beans
Assorted Cheeses
Sauteed Squash/Roasted Peppers/Sauteed Onions
Homemade Salsas/Sauces/
Fresh Vegetable Toppings
Chef's Choice Salad
Fresh Fruit
Tortillas
Chef's Choice Desserts

MEAL PRICE: \$10

LOOKING AHEAD

MAY

21: FPA Graduation Ceremony
24: Memorial Day: Church Campus Closed

JUNE

7: Communion Sunday
8–11: VBS and Day Missions
8–11: Music Camp
12: *In the Land of Wooden Shoes* Exhibit Opening/Reception
16–17: *Now and Not Yet* Women's Bible Study Begins
19–21: Cultivate 2026: *ROOTED* Retreat Women's Bible Study Begins

JULY

1: Proclaim Liberty Concert
3: Church Campus Closed for July 4 Holiday

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

MEMBER NEWS

BAPTISMS ♦ May 10, 2026

Hewlett Mattison King V, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matt King (Chamblee)
Frances Catherine Rue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Zachary Rue (Caroline)

CONGRATULATIONS ♦ The pastors and congregation extend blessings to

Greg Mims and Emily West, who were married on April 16, 2026
Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Dixon (Anna Brady), who were married on May 2, 2026

SYMPATHY ♦ The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Tompkins (Kim) in the death of his father, Dr. Dale Tompkins, on May 7, 2026; and to Lauren Tompkins, Melanie Tompkins, and Matt Husman in the death of their grandfather; and to Luke, Allie, and Olivia Husman in the death of their great-grandfather.

IN MEMORIAM

Dale Alva Tompkins ♦ October 20, 1938 – May 7, 2026

FUNERAL SERVICE

A funeral service will be held for **Kathi Paramore** on Wednesday, May 20, at 4:00pm in Harper Chapel. Visitation begins at 3:00pm.

MEMORIALS & HONORS

CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Bud Fant III** by Dr. and Mrs. David Williams
In memory of **Betty Farr** by Dan Breeden, Jr.; Ann N. Evans; Chip and Judy Comer
In memory of **Lambert “Whit” Jordan Jr.** by Harriet Johnson
In memory of **Gena McGowan** by Dr. and Mrs. David Williams; Harriet Johnson

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION

In memory of **Lambert “Whit” Jordan Jr.** by Margaret Carver; Rolph and Diddy Hughes; Harry and Jo Ussery

SANCTUARY FLOWER FUND

In memory of **Elizabeth Robison** by Dr. and Mrs. David Williams

TRANSFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND

In memory of **Robert Carter** by Rob and Anne Bailey

TURNER MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Bill Lusk** by Dr. and Mrs. David Williams

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

Nancy Adams, Bill Anthony, Sandra Banks, Betty Bennett, Harry Bolick, Dan Boling, Dick Brennecke, Brantley Daniel, Peggy Denny, Richard and Danette Hanks, Harry Hightower, Don Hobbs, Charlie Hutton, *Anne Lide*, Jenny McCorkle, Lisa Merck, Rachel Mullinax, Chloris Norman, Carolyn Rice, Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, **Alex Therien**, Lewis Tollison, Beryl Wickliffe, Jetty Wickliffe

PRAYER RESOURCES ♦ For Pastoral emergencies call 864.235.0496.

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



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
mobile 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

May 14–20, 2026

Join Our Crew!
VBS and Day Missions

Eighteen Mile Bluegrass Band

You're Invited! Graduation Ceremony
for FPA Class of 2026

Join the June 21st Men's Choir for
Father's Day

Worthy Mentor Program

Cultivate 2026: *ROOTED* Retreat

Proclaim Liberty Concert Tickets

For more information about
FPC, visit FirstPresGreenville.org

MAY 14–20, 2026

JOIN OUR CREW: JUNE 8–11

DAY MISSIONS: 32 YOUTH ON WAITLIST
VBS: 124 CHILDREN ON WAITLIST

DONATE

Necessity Items:
Soap, deodorant,
ziplocs, trash bags,
and more

Homeless Kit Items

SERVE WITH US!

Ways to serve children/youth:

Lead a tribe, participate in a drama, assist with crafts, or guide preschoolers to stations. Drivers needed to take youth to serve, hosts, set up/tear down, organize homeless kits, etc.

Ways to serve volunteers:

Bring bagels, biscuits, OJ, drinks, cookies, etc

PRAY

Pray for children,
youth, and
communities served
to hear and
experience the
gospel and encounter
the love of Christ.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF NEEDS OR TO REGISTER AS A VOLUNTEER, LOOK FOR 'JOIN OUR CREW JUNE 8-11' ICON HERE:

FIRSTPRESGREENVILLE.ORG/EVENTS

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