

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 3, NO. 34 | August 21–27, 2025



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOURISH INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY PRESENTATION

This Sunday, August 24, Rev. Dr. Mark Patterson and the incoming president of the Flourish Institute of Theology (FIT), the ECO seminary, will be joining us for a Moment for Mission at all worship services. They will give an update on the critical importance of preparing, educating, and training pastors and Christian leaders for the future of our denomination. A special Sunday Life Group gathering will also take place at 9:50am in Fellowship Hall. Please join us. We look forward to welcoming you!

BRIDGE CITY OPENING ON SUNDAYS

Starting August 24, Bridge City Coffee at the Intersection will be open on Sundays, 9:00am–2:00pm, for a six-week period. Come enjoy their delicious coffee or tea before or after worship. The Bridge City staff is excited to welcome members of First Presbyterian Church and the wider community during these extended hours. We kindly ask that no food or drinks be brought into the Worship & Arts Center or the Sanctuary.

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER SEPTEMBER 3

Join us on Wednesday, September 3, for a special Family Night Supper at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Our pastors will be in attendance as we enjoy an evening of good food, warm fellowship, prayer, and a fun round of Bible trivia for all ages. Bring your family, invite a friend, and be encouraged as we grow together in faith and community! See the menu and meal prices under WEDNESDAYS.

DISCIPLESHIP

Care Ministry, Don Feuerbach

SUPPORT GROUPS OFFERED THIS FALL

GriefShare is a weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our next group will begin Sunday, September 7, 3:00–5:00pm in Room D210. Visit GriefShare.org or contact Sarah Emore at semore@firstpresgreenville.org to register.

DivorceCare is a support group that will help you heal from the pain of divorce. It's a warm, caring environment led by people who understand what you are going through. Gain hope for your future! Childcare is provided. Visit DivorceCare.org, click on "In-Person," then click on the First Presbyterian Church listing. Sessions will run 6:00–8:00pm on Wednesdays, September 10–December 10. Questions? Contact Sarah at semore@firstpresgreenville.org.

Grow@First, Richard Gibbons

PASTOR'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:

"THE SUPREMACY & SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST"

On Wednesday, September 10, at 12:30pm and 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall, Dr. Gibbons will begin a new study series on the epistle of Colossians. Whether you're new to the faith or have walked with Christ for years, this time in Colossians will encourage you to deepen your trust in Him and live with confidence in His supremacy. Come ready to grow in your understanding, connect with others, and be reminded of the unmatched glory of Jesus Christ.

Missions, Eric Swofford

MISSIONS WEEKEND—COMBINED SUNDAY LIFE GROUPS SEPTEMBER 21

All Sunday Life Groups are invited to gather for a special Missions Weekend session as we welcome Grant Haynes, founder of Global Frontier Missions in Clarkston, GA. Join us at 9:50am in Fellowship Hall as Grant shares how God is moving among the unreached in our own communities and how we can engage in reaching them. GFM exists to mobilize, train, and multiply disciples and churches to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the world's least-reached people groups. For more details, contact Autumn Clark at aclark@firstpresgreenville.org.

Women's Ministry, Claire Ripley

WOMEN'S FALL BIBLE STUDY FALL SHOWCASE

All women are invited to drop by the Abbott Gathering area on Sunday, August 24, 9:00–11:00am, for a showcase of Women's Fall Bible studies. You'll have the opportunity to meet leaders and receive information about the studies. Coffee and light refreshments will also be available. We hope to see you there!

EVENTS

Children's Ministry, Tina Jones

FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

Join us on Thursday, October 2, at 6:30pm, in the Worship & Arts Center for a night of food, fashion, fellowship, and fun as we elevate, celebrate, and encourage our amazing friends with special abilities! We are pleased to announce that this year's Fearfully & Wonderfully Made event features Tanner Smith, a 25-year-old South Carolina native who lives with autism and embraces his mission to "Spread Joy All Around the World." A graduate of the ClemsonLIFE program, he works at The Shepherd Hotel in Clemson, where he lives independently. Tanner gained national recognition on Season 2 of Netflix's *Love on the Spectrum* and continues to inspire thousands through his joyful spirit, signature thumbs up, and advocacy for inclusion in the workplace. Go to FirstPresGreenville.org/Events to purchase tickets and see this year's beneficiaries.

Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser

OPENING RECEPTION FOR NEW ART EXHIBIT

Our next community exhibition, *Mending a Heart: One Brushstroke at a Time*, demonstrates "painting through tragedy, tears, illness, despair, regrets, fear, forgiveness, courage, survival, joy, hope, and healing. It is amazing how creative grief and love can be," says artist Suzanne Accetta. The opening reception will take place on Friday, September 5, 6:00–8:00pm in the Sturgis Gathering area. All are welcome to come and see the exhibition and meet the artist! The exhibit will be located on the 1st and 2nd floors of the Galleries at First Pres.

"THE NATURE OF US" 10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR WITH JOEL ANSETT

Folk songs and stories are coming your way this fall as Joel Ansett celebrates with an anniversary tour of "The Nature of Us" on Thursday, October 9, at 7:00pm in the Student Ministry community room. Joel Ansett is an award-winning singer-songwriter whose blend of folk and R&B has been described as "soul therapy." With over 40 million streams, a Lennon Award, and multiple film/TV placements, his grassroots approach continues to resonate widely. His latest album, *Layers*, explores the unseen barriers in our relationships with strangers, loved ones, and God. Ansett was the wonderful opening act for the Gray Havens' concert last year and we can't wait to have him back. The Songwriter Q&A session will begin at 6:00pm and concert will begin at 7:00pm.

Missions, Eric Swofford

COMMUNITY WORSHIP WITH EL REVELACIÓN MARANATHA FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Experience an unforgettable night of worship with El Revelación Maranatha, lovingly known as the DR Band, on Friday, September 19, 7:00–9:00pm in the Worship & Arts Center. Each summer, the DR Band tours the U.S. to raise support for El Hospital Buen Samaritano (The Good Samaritan Hospital), a ministry partner we've joined for more than a decade to provide life-changing medical care for those in need in the Dominican Republic. Whether you've served on a mission trip, supported through prayer, or simply want to enjoy an evening of vibrant, multicultural worship, this concert is for you! Free tickets are available now at FirstPresGreenville.org/events.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Special Needs Ministry, Tina Jones

CONSIDER BEING A BUDDY TO A CHILD OR YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Do you have a heart for children and youth with special abilities? Did you know we have multiple families raising children with special needs who would like to attend worship on Sunday mornings? We are seeking a few more people to serve as buddies in this ministry. Training is provided. Contact Dr. Brenda Harper at bharper@firstpresgreenville.org for more information.

Worship & Music Ministry, Susan Messer

JOIN THE CHRISTMAS@FIRST CHOIR!

Do you like to sing? You're invited to join the Christmas@First concert choir! Rehearsals begin on Sunday, September 28, 4:00–5:30pm in the Choir Room. Questions? Contact Choral Director Susan Messer at smesser@firstpresgreenville.org.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 24, 2025

SERMON SERIES

"Sustaining Faith"

Genesis 12:10–20

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

WEDNESDAYS

Family Night Supper September 3, 5:30pm

MENU: Fried Chicken, Roast Pork BBQ, Macaroni and Cheese, Fried Okra, Roasted Carrots, Pinto Beans, Cornbread, House Salads, Assorted Chef's Desserts, Ice Cream Sundaes

MEAL PRICES:

Adults: \$10

Children ages 4–12: \$5

Children ages 0–3: Free

Family max: \$40

Fall Season Grow@First Begins September 10

Pick up the new Grow@First booklet for the Fall season of Bible studies, classes, and meals.

LOOKING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER

3–Family Night Supper

5–*Mending a Heart* Exhibit
Opening Reception

11–History & Architecture Tour

12–Daddy Daughter Dance

13–*An Evening at the Piano* with
David Nevue

16–Radiance Kickoff

17–Above All Kickoff

19–DR Band Concert

21–Missions Sunday

OCTOBER

2: Fearfully & Wonderfully Made

3–5: Pursuit Men's Retreat

For more events and details go to firstpresgreenville.org/events.

Note: This newsletter provides a brief overview of announcements, events, and discipleship and serving opportunities. For a complete list, visit firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect@first.

MEMBER NEWS

BAPTISMS ♦ August 17, 2025

Naomi Gwendolyn Bridges, daughter of Mr. Michael Bridges
John Hampton Scully Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Scully (Harriet)
Smith Fontaine Wanner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Wanner (Janie)

CONGRATULATIONS ♦ The pastors and congregation extend blessings to

Mr. and Mrs. James Millard Herlong (Sylvia Wills Ninnemann), who were married in the Sanctuary on August 16, 2025.
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Armstrong (Randy) on the recent celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary.
Mr. Bill Quarles Jr., who celebrated his 102nd birthday on July 31, 2025.

PRAYER LIST ♦ Bold = New Italics = In Hospital


Bill Anthony, Nancy Adams, Sandra Banks, Keren Clay, Buddy Daniel, Debbie Davidson, Peggy Denny, Bud Fant, Liz Fuqua, Martha Gallivan, Larry Goodwin, Darst Guest, Danette Hanks, Richard Hanks, Anna Hewitt, Tina Hicks, Harry Hightower, Don Hobbs, Amy Hunter, Charlie Hutton, Stephanie Johnson, John Kylin, Mary Kylin, Tom Lide, Anne Lybrand, Paul McGahee, Mozelle Moore, Rachel Mullinax, Jim Nance, Martha Nance, Charles Nickles, Chloris Norman, Becky Powell, Ken Rhoden, Carolyn Rice, Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, Bill Rogers, Tom Seay, Clifford Selby, Rhody Taber, Claire Taylor, Lewis Tollison, John Volpe, Jocelyn Williams, Beryl Wickcliffe, Jan Zimmerman

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 RESOURCES continued

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.

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FRIDAYS AT FIRST





APPLE PODCASTS



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an amazon company

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WHAT'S INSIDE

August 21–27, 2025
Grow@First Fall Season
Women's Fall Bible Study Showcase
Pastor's Bible Study
Family Night Supper
Missions Weekend Events
New Art Exhibition
Fearfully & Wonderfully Made

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

ONLINE GIVING



@fpcgvl


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

AUGUST 21–27, 2025

Fall 2025

GROW@FIRST

Weekly Discipleship



I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. Genesis 12:2

FirstPresGreenville.org

NOW IN LITERATURE RACKS & ONLINE

Come Grow With Us!

Get connected this year and grow in your faith! In our new Fall Grow@First schedule, you'll find details on Sunday Morning Worship and classes, weekday studies, and music opportunities for all ages.

Questions? Contact Charlotte Joye at cjoye@firstpresgreenville.org.
For the online brochure, visit FirstPresGreenville.org/Events