

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 3, NO. 47 | November 20–26, 2025



ANNOUNCEMENTS

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Help decorate our church for Christmas by ordering poinsettias in honor or memory of loved ones. Order online at FirstPresGreenville.org/Events, or fill out a form from the literature racks. Cost is \$25 each; orders are due by **Wednesday, December 10**.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE CHANGES FOR CHILDREN

Due to the holiday weekends, on **Sundays, November 30 and December 28**, the nursery will open at 10:15am and Kids Church (K2-K5) will open at 10:30am. There will be no early service or Sunday School for children on these dates.

FRIDAYS AT FIRST PODCAST: CONFRONTING ALCOHOL ADDICTION PART 2

In the **November 21** episode of the Fridays at First podcast, Dr. Gibbons continues a discussion with two special guests about alcohol addiction. Both guests share how faith has played a role in their recovery and ongoing sobriety. Alcoholism is a reality that impacts many families—especially during the holiday season. If you missed Part 1, you can hear it by going to our YouTube channel. Thank you for listening, and we encourage you to share these podcasts with others!

Where to listen: Fridays at First can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/@FirstPresGreenvilleSC/videos> and on your favorite podcast platform. To receive the Fridays@First eblast go to FirstPresGreenville.org/about/connect@first and click the red “Subscribe” button.

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE DECEMBER 14

Because the Sanctuary will be set up for the Christmas@First concert on **December 14**, we will have two identical worship services at 8:30am and 10:45am in the Worship & Arts Center that Sunday. Please mark your calendar and share this change with your friends and family.

HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE BOOKSTORE

Are you looking for the perfect Christmas gift for a friend, family member, or new believer? Visit Books & Gifts @ First where you’ll find a wide selection of devotionals, Christmas cards, faith-based artwork, ornaments, home goods, and even edible treats—all thoughtfully chosen to help you share the love of Christ through your giving. Complimentary gift wrapping is available. For holiday hours, visit FirstPresGreenville.org/bookstore.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

11:00am Children's Service | Worship & Arts Center
2:00pm Afternoon Service | Sanctuary
4:00pm Children's Service | Sanctuary
7:00pm Candlelight Service | Worship & Arts Center
11:00pm Watchnight Service | Sanctuary
Mark your calendar and visit www.FirstPresChristmas.com for more details.

DISCIPLESHIP

Missions, Eric Swofford

PERSPECTIVES COURSE: GOD'S PLAN, PURPOSE, AND PROCESS

The Perspectives Course is a comprehensive study of God’s global movement to bring Him glory from all people groups of the earth. Over a quarter of a million people around North America have participated in this transformational training. This 15-week course begins January 15, 6:30pm, at Greenville Christian Fellowship. Register at <https://perspectives.org/courses/greenville-sc-spring-26/>. Scholarships are available! For more information, contact Kelli Morrison at 864.380.9611 or Eric Swofford at eswofford@firstpresgreenville.org.

Care Ministry, Don Feuerbach

DIVORCE CARE BEGINS JANUARY 7

DivorceCare is a weekly seminar/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. Register at DivorceCare.org; enter “Greenville, SC” in “Find a Group Near You”; then click on the First Presbyterian Church listing. Questions? Contact Sarah Emore at semore@firstpresgreenville.org.

EVENTS

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE DECEMBER 9

All are invited to the beautiful candlelight service on Tuesday, December 9, at 6:30pm in Harper Chapel to honor and remember loved ones who will be especially missed during the Christmas season. The service will include Scripture readings with a time of reflection and meditation, the observance of Holy Communion, special seasonal music, and commemorative candle lighting. A nursery is available by reservation to Evelyn Penkert (864.565.0963 or epenkert@firstpresgreenville.org).

Children’s Ministry, Tina Jones

OCC SHOEBOX DROP-OFF NOVEMBER 20–24

Please see the collection schedule below as you return shoeboxes to the Washington Street entrance next week:
11/20: 12:00pm–2:00pm • 11/21: 11:00am–1:00pm
11/22: 10:00am–12:00pm • 11/23: 10:00am–12:00pm
11/24: 8:00am–10:00am
Questions? Contact Teresa Hannon at twhannon@aol.com.

FAMILY ADVENT FESTIVAL DECEMBER 3

Join us for the Family Advent Festival on **Wednesday, December 3**, 5:30–7:30pm in Fellowship Hall. It’s a great way to kick off the Advent season with your whole family by making a fun craft and enjoying Christmas cookies together! Register at FirstPresGreenville.org/events for a family ticket that includes crafts, cookies, and beverages. Pizza and additional crafts are available as add-ons when purchasing a ticket. Space is limited.

Worship & Music, Susan Messer

TICKETS ON SALE FOR CHRISTMAS@FIRST CONCERTS:

THE WONDROUS GIFT IS GIVEN

Join us for this year’s Christmas@First concerts on **Saturday, December 13, at 2:00pm or 6:00pm, and Sunday, December 14, at 3:00pm**. You’ll hear Christmas favorites by our 100-voice choir, full orchestra, and handbell choir as we celebrate our Savior’s birth through songs of the season, both sacred and secular. Purchase tickets at FirstPresGreenville.org/events or at the First Pres box office (main reception area) during normal business hours Monday–Friday. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children (12 and under). **Please note: The December 14 concert is sold out.**

Women's Ministry, Tiffany Boggs

GIFTS WORTH GIVING WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

All women are invited to the annual Women's Christmas Luncheon on **Thursday, December 4**, 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Our special guest is singer and songwriter Emily Cupelli, who will bring a message of encouragement, prayer, faith, and hope. Cost is \$15 for lunch and registration is open now. A pay at the door option is also available for cash only. Free childcare is offered (age 5 and under) with a deadline of November 28 (sign up online). Go to FirstPresGreenville.org/events for more details and to register. Questions? Contact Tiffany Boggs at 864.565.0931.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

CARING FOR OUR SENIORS: GOLF CART MINISTRY

We are grateful for the opportunity to introduce a new ministry for our senior members who park in the Main Church Parking Lot off Richardson Street on Sundays. We have recently acquired a golf cart to help transport members from their cars to the church entrance, making their arrival easier and more comfortable. To make this ministry possible, we need volunteers who are willing to drive the golf cart during Sunday morning service times. If you are 25 years of age or older and would be willing to serve by providing rides around the parking lot, please contact Mike Templeton at mtempleton@firstpresgreenville.org.

Volunteer shift times are:

- 8:00–9:30am
- 9:30–11:00am
- 11:00am–12:30pm

Thank you for considering this meaningful way to serve our church family!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

November 23, 2025

SERMON SERIES

“Insights from Isaiah”

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:

YouTube.com/FirstPresGreenvilleSC

FirstPresgreenville.org Watch menu

10:45am:

YouTube.com/FirstPresIgniteWorship

FirstPresgreenville.org Watch menu

“Like” and “Subscribe” for easy access

WEDNESDAY

The Fall Season of Grow@First Has Ended

Grow@First will resume on **Wednesday, January 7, 2026**. Watch for the new booklet of Bible studies, classes, small groups, and musical opportunities for all ages, online and in the literature racks in December.

LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER

30: Christmas for a Cause
Market and Concert

DECEMBER

3: Family Advent Festival

4: Women’s Christmas Luncheon

9: Service of Remembrance

13 & 14: Christmas@First Concerts

14: Worship at 8:30am & 10:45am
in the Worship & Arts Center

24: CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

11:00am Children’s Service

2:00pm Afternoon Service

4:00pm Children’s Service

7:00pm Candlelight Service

11:00pm Watchnight Service

28: Worship at 10:45am & 11:00am

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

MEMBER NEWS

BAPTISMS ♦ November 16, 2025

William Buist Bickley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Bickley (Carly)
Sophie Ann Hopkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hopkins (Madeleine)
Barnes Cox Powell, son of Ashley Barnes Powell

SYMPATHY ♦ The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to

The family of Mrs. Becky Powell, who died on November 15. Services will be held at Rolling Green on December 14.
Mr. and Mrs. Ben V. Crider Jr. (Ann) in the death of his mother, Ms. Catherine Crider Sandifer of Simpsonville, SC, on November 15.

IN MEMORIAM

Rebecca H. Powell ♦ September 4, 1937 – November 15, 2025

MEMORIALS & HONORS

TRANSFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND
In memory of Thomas W. Edwards Jr. by Carlton and Belinda Manley
YOUTH MINISTRY FUND
In memory of Mozelle Moore by Ewan and Becky Sweeney Sr.

PRAYER LIST ♦ Bold = New Italics = In Hospital

Nancy Adams, Andy and June Anderson, McFall Anderson, Bill Anthony, Sandra Banks, Betty Bennett, Harry Bolick, Keren Clay, John Cooter, Brantley Daniel, Debbie Davidson, Peggy Denny, Bud Fant, Liz Fuqua, Martha Gallivan, Larry Goodwin, Danette Hanks, Richard Hanks, Anna Hewitt, Tina Hicks, Harry Hightower, Don Hobbs, Amy Hunter, Charlie Hutton, Stan Johnson, Stephanie

PRAYER LIST continued

Johnson, John Kylin, Mary Kylin, Phyllis Laney, Tom Lide, Anne Lybrand, Jenny McCorkle, Paul McGahee, John McGraw, Rachel Mullinax, Jim Nance, Martha Nance, Chloris Norman, Bane Ouzts, Carolyn Rice, Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, Bill Rogers, Tom Seay, Clifford Selby, Lewis Tollison, John Volpe, Jocelyn Williams, Beryl Wickliffe

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.



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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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

November 20–26, 2025

- Year-end Giving
- Fridays@First Special Edition Podcast Part 2
- Order Poinsettias for Christmas
- Family Advent Festival
- Women's Christmas Luncheon
- Worship Time Change December 14
- New Golf Cart Ministry for Seniors

For more information about FPC, visit FirstPresGreenville.org

NOVEMBER 20–26, 2025

YEAR-END GIVING

Thank you for your faithful generosity and support of the ministries of First Presbyterian Church.

As you prayerfully prepare to complete your 2025 contributions, we encourage you to consider the most beneficial ways to give—whether through cash or non-cash assets—to maximize potential tax savings through deductions or tax avoidance strategies. Helpful information about various giving options is available in the Year-End Giving brochure, located in the literature racks throughout the church and online.
If you have any questions about year-end giving, please contact Kristy Service, 864.565-0929 | kservice@firstpresgreenville.org or Bobby Hoffman, 864.565-0962 | bhoffman@firstpresgreenville.org.

Please note these important year-end deadlines:

- Cash or checks must be received in the church office by noon on Wednesday, December 31.
 - Mailed gifts must be postmarked by 12/31/25.
 - Online gifts made on December 31 will be counted for 2025.
 - Stock gifts, QCDs, or Donor Advised Fund distributions should be initiated by December 12 to ensure processing by year-end.
- Please notify Kristy Service (864.565.0929) or Bobby Hoffman (864.565.0962) of any stock gifts so they can be properly credited.