

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 2, NO. 53 | December 19, 2024 - January 1, 2025



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Join us for services at 11:00am and 7:00pm in the Worship & Arts Center; and 2:00pm, 4:00pm, and 11:00pm in the Sanctuary. Mark your calendar and visit FirstPresChristmas.com for more details. **PARKING:** Please use the Richardson Street Parking Garage if you are able. The parking closest to the church will be reserved for seniors and those with disabilities.

WORSHIP SERVICE CHANGE DECEMBER 29

On December 29 we will have only two worship services: 10:45am in the Worship & Arts Center and 11:00am in the Sanctuary. A nursery is available beginning at 10:30am. We will also have Kids Church, but no Sunday School for children.

HEALING PRAYER SERVICE UPDATE

We will not be holding the Tuesday Healing and Prayer Services on December 24 or 31. The service will resume on January 7, 6:30–7:30pm, in Harper Chapel.

BOOKS & GIFTS@FIRST HOURS

Please note that the bookstore will be open on Sunday, December 22 from 9:00am–12:45pm, Monday, December 23 from 9:00am–2:00pm, and closed December 24 through January 1.

STAFF SERVICE AWARDS

We are pleased to congratulate the following staff who reached special milestones in 2024: Charlotte Joye, 30 years; Barbara Seibel, 15 years; Brian Stewart, 15 years; Kate Fagan, 10 years; Dustan Chevalier, 5 years; Stephen Griner, 5 years; Nancy Myers, 5 years; Sarah Wannamaker, 5 years; and Taiesha Lowden, 5 years.

YEAR-END GIVING

As we approach the end of the year, we thank everyone who has given to the operating budget to support the many ministries and activities of the church. The last day to accept 2024 gifts in the office will be Tuesday, December 31, by noon. If mailed, they must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2024. Further details may be found in the Year-End Giving brochure online (click the GIVE menu) and in the literature racks.

END OF YEAR GIVING TO THE FPC FOUNDATION

The FPC Foundation wants to wish everyone a blessed Christmas and New Year. The Foundation is a wonderful place to make a year-end gift to an endowment which can impact ministries for years to come. Two of our endowments have matching funds for any gift received, which means your gift amount will be doubled. They are for International Missions and the First Presbyterian Academy. Please prayerfully consider a gift designated to one of these endowments. If you have questions or want more information, contact Bobby Hoffman (864.565.0962; bhoffman@firstpresgreenville.org) or Marilyn Morrison (864.565.0992; mmorrison@firstpresgreenville.org).

SUGGEST OFFICERS FOR NEXT YEAR

To help build a slate of church officers for election next year, members of the congregation are invited to suggest individuals to serve as Elders or Deacons. The officer nominating committee will contact those recommended and invite them to explore a possible call to leadership through the FPC Ministry Development Course beginning in January. Please submit your recommendations by email to Autumn Clark at aclark@firstpresgreenville.org.

DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship Ministry, Claire Ripley COME GROW WITH US IN 2025!

Get connected next year and grow in your faith! Coming soon in our Winter/Spring Grow@First schedule, you'll find details on Sunday Morning Worship and classes, weekday studies, and music opportunities for all ages. Brochures are available in the literature racks and online at FirstPresGreenville.org. Questions? Contact Charlotte Joye (cjoye@firstpresgreenville.org).

Missional Ministry, Brian Stewart

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The MDC course, open to all covenant partners, is a great preparation for any church leadership role and a prerequisite for officer nomination. You are invited to attend one of the two orientation meetings on Sunday, January 5, at 9:00am in Room B202, or Wednesday, January 8, at 6:00pm in Room B301. To register for the orientation, contact Autumn Clark at aclark@firstpresgreenville.org. For more information, contact Brian Stewart at bstewart@firstpresgreenville.org.

PERSPECTIVES COURSE BEGINS JANUARY 2025

The Perspectives Course is a comprehensive study of God's global movement to bring His glory from all the people groups of the earth. This 15-week course begins Thursday, January 16, 6:30–9:15pm in Room D305. If you're not sure, try the first two classes for free. Discounted registration is available until December 31. To register, visit Perspectives.org/courses/greenville-sc-spring-25/. For more information, contact Kelli Morrison at 864.380.9611 or Brian Stewart at bstewart@firstpresgreenville.org. If you need childcare, contact Evelyn Penkert at epenkert@firstpresgreenville.org.

Stewardship Ministry, Bobby Hoffman

BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP CLASSES IN JANUARY

If money, wealth, and possessions appear in 2,350 Bible verses and 16 of Jesus' parables, it is safe to say that God views these topics as critically important. Learn more about biblical financial stewardship on Sundays, January 12, 19, and 26, 9:45–10:30am in Fellowship Hall with Bob August (Estate Planning), Mark Clary (Saving and Investing), and Tripp Welch (Budgeting and Debt). No registration is necessary. Contact Bobby Hoffman at bhoffman@firstpresgreenville.org for more information.

EVENTS

Care Ministry, Don Feuerbach

DIVORCE CARE BEGINS JANUARY 8

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. Once you register, you'll need to order a participant's manual through this registration portal. The cost is \$20. Childcare is provided.

Light & Life Ministry, Don Feuerbach

VIALE PLAY TICKETS ON SALE NOW

The Light & Life Ministry has announced an encore performance of the one-act play, *Viable*, on Friday, January 24, here at FPC. *Viable* is a heart-warming, triumphant story of a mother heavy-laden with secret shame, sorrow, and self-condemnation for 30 years because of her choice—until she experiences the healing, renewing, and restorative love of Jesus Christ in a most unexpected and unusual way. Tickets are on sale now at FirstPresGreenville.org/Events. Proceeds will support Lifeline Children's Services—visit lifelinechild.org for more information about their ministry.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Missions Ministry, Brian Stewart

SAVE ITEMS FOR MIRACLE HILL

We may not celebrate Boxing Day in the U.S., but if you are cleaning out gently used items, please consider boxing up and setting them aside for Miracle Hill Ministries Yellow Bag project coming to FPC February 23. Suggested donation items include gently used clothing, shoes, handbags, and accessories.

HOLLIS CHRISTMAS STORE THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your amazing generosity and support for our 12th annual Hollis Christmas Store! We had more toys donated than ever before and over 50 volunteers worked lovingly and tirelessly. It was a great weekend made possible by God's goodness through the generous people at First Pres.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

WORSHIP

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

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

Advent Series: "Loves Pure Light"

Scripture: Matthew 2:7-12

8:30am Nursery

9:30am Children's Sunday School

9:45am Student Life Groups

9:45am Adult Life Groups

10:30am Kids Church

Sunday, December 29, 2024

WORSHIP

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

Rev. Dr. Claire Ripley

Scripture: Matthew 7:24-27

9:45am: *Some Life Groups may not meet. Please check with your leaders.*

10:30am Nursery & Kids Church

LIVE STREAMING

12/22 8:30am:

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

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

FirstPresGreenville.org Watch menu

12/22 and 12/29 11:00am:

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

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

FirstPresGreenville.org Watch menu

"Like" and "Subscribe" for easy access

LOOKING AHEAD

12/29/2024: Service times—10:45am Ignite and 11:00am Traditional

1/5/2025: Communion All Services

Ministry Development Course
Orientation (also on 1/8)

1/8/2025: Grow@First Winter/Spring
Classes/Meals Begin

THE GALLERIES AT FIRST HOLIDAY HOURS

We would love to see you and your families at our current exhibitions, *Looking for a Place* and *Quilted Faith*, over the holidays. Normal open hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00am–3:00pm. Please note these dates the Galleries at First will be closed: December 25–27 and January 1, 2025.

More information about
all events can be found at
FirstPresGreenville.org/Events.

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*

MEMBER NEWS

BAPTISMS ♦ December 15, 2024

Wells Thackston Pearce and **Briggs Alan Pearce**, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Pearce (Brie)

CONGRATULATIONS ♦ *The pastors and congregation extend blessings to*

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Parr (Ashley) on the birth of a son, John Bryan Parr, on December 9

Mr. and Mrs. Trippe Erwin (Ryan), on the birth of a daughter, Olive Victoria Erwin, on December 11; and to grandmother **Stacey Olive Erwin**

Mr. and Mrs. Zach Hennigan (Madison) on the birth of a daughter, Annie James Alyse Hennigan, on December 11; and to grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Rusty King (Karen) and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hennigan (Mandi)

SYMPATHY ♦ *The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to*

Ms. Lynn Jeffcoat in the death of her sister, Beth Copeland of Laurens, on December 14.

MEMORIALS & HONORS

CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Wilma McGarity by Bill and Dianne Broom

In memory of Susan Tousignant by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Adams; Anna Schultheis; Jennifer Ernest; United Bankshares, Inc.

HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY FUND

In honor of Millard and Margaret Goodnough by Randy and Emily Fowler

TURNER MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Robert Buchanan "Bo" Wilson Jr. by Andy and June Anderson

PRAYER LIST

Bill Anthony, Nancy Adams, Dick Brennecke, **Miriam Brice**, Lin Cundiff, Peggy Denny, John Dominick, Bud Fant, Michael Faw, Liz Fuqua, Tasha Garrison, Betsy Guffey, Richard Hanks, Mary Haselden, Anna Hewitt, Amy Hunter, Charlie Hutton, Dennis Hutton, Ginny Johnson, Tom Lide, Pat Loft, Anne Lybrand, Jenny McCorkle, Paul McGahee, Raoul Glenn, Buddy May, Mozelle Moore, Jim Nance, Chloris Norman, Becky Powell, Joanne Quantz, Ken Rhoden, Louise Robinson, Bill Rogers, Lee Shelton, Barbara Seibel, Carrie Stringer, Claire Taylor, Frank Vickers, John Volpe, Robin Walton, Lindsay Webb, **Jack Whitesides**, Beryl Wickliffe, *Carrie Williamson*, Gretchen Horwath Wood, 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](https://facebook.com/FirstPresGreenville)

instagram | [@FPCGreenville](https://www.instagram.com/FPCGreenville)

mobile app | FPC Live

TELEVISION

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

ONLINE
GIVING



WHAT'S INSIDE

December 19, 2024 - January 1, 2025

Christmas Eve Services

Grow@First Winter/Spring Schedule
Now Available

Year-end Giving Opportunities

Viable Tickets on Sale Now

DivorceCare Begins January 8

Biblical Stewardship Classes
Begin January 12

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

DECEMBER 19, 2024 - JANUARY 1, 2025

*Gather Your Friends and Family
on Tuesday, December 24!*

Christmas Eve Services

11:00am : Children & Families With Nativity | Worship & Arts Center
2:00pm : Afternoon Service | Sanctuary
4:00pm: Children & Families With Nativity | Sanctuary
7:00pm: Candlelight Service | Worship & Arts Center
11:00pm: Watchnight Service | Sanctuary

More Info at FirstPresChristmas.com

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC
VOLUME 2, NO. 53 | DECEMBER 19, 2024 - JANUARY 1, 2025