

CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 4, NO. 34 | August 27–September 2, 2026



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Updates

RECEPTION FOR REV. CHARLIE BUCHANAN

After 15 years of faithful ministry at First Pres, Rev. Charlie Buchanan has resigned from his position as Associate Pastor of Men’s Discipleship. Charlie and his wife, Carrie, have two children and have decided that it is best for Charlie to be a stay-at-home dad for a season. We will have a farewell reception on **Sunday, August 30**, immediately following the 11:00am Traditional Service in the Sturgis Gathering area. This will be an opportunity to express our gratitude, share memories, and offer Charlie and his family our support and prayerful encouragement for the future.

WELCOME TO KATHRYN ANN BATSON

Kathryn Ann Batson has joined the Student Ministry Team as Student Minister. Kathryn Ann is a graduate of Clemson University and recently completed a year-long Fellows program in Washington, D.C. She has served as an Intern with the FPC Student Ministry the past two years. Having grown up at First Pres, Kathryn Ann is delighted for an opportunity to serve the same ministry that fostered her early walk with God. Please join us in welcoming her to the staff!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our fiscal year ended June 30, and we are grateful for your generous contributions to our annual Ministry Budget. Your support, together with the staff’s careful stewardship, resulted in a small cash flow surplus, allowing us to begin funding a much-needed maintenance reserve for our expanded facilities. Thank you for your generosity and faithful support!

ACADEMY FAMILIES: COFFEE & CONNECTION

Are you a parent of a First Presbyterian Academy student—or considering the Academy for your child? Join us for coffee, pastries, and conversation on **Sunday, August 30**, 9:15–9:45am in the Children’s Wing. While your children enjoy Sunday School, you’ll have a chance to meet other families connected to both First Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Academy, and chat with Head of School Dr. Rob Brown. Come connect, ask questions, and enjoy a little time together!

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Parents, help us stay connected with your college student! Please complete a College Information Form for your new or returning college student. Forms are available at FirstPresGreenville.org/events and in the literature racks. Please return completed forms to Autumn Clark at aclark@firstpresgreenville.org or mail them to: First Presbyterian Church, Attn: Autumn Clark, 200 W. Washington St., Greenville, SC 29601. Thank you for helping us care for and encourage our college students in this exciting season of life!

DISCIPLESHIP

PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY: DEEP DIVE INTO ROMANS

New Testament scholars consistently regard the Apostle Paul’s letter to the Romans as one of the most significant and influential of his epistles. Each Wednesday at lunchtime (12:30pm) and evening (6:30pm), we will explore themes of grace, faith, salvation, and the transformative power of the gospel. Whether you are brand new to studying the Bible or have studied His Word for many years, *A Deep Dive into Romans* invites participants to slow down and engage deeply with Paul’s sweeping vision of God’s character and nature reflected in the inseparable love of Christ. We begin on **Wednesday, September 9**. Before the studies, lunch is served at 11:45am and dinner at 5:00pm in Fellowship Hall (\$10).

Congregational Care, Don Feuerbach

FOURTH QUARTER: A NEW LECTURE SERIES FOR SENIOR ADULTS

What does it look like to live with purpose, faith, and joy in the fourth quarter of life? Fourth Quarter is a new lecture series from our Congregational Care ministry designed to encourage, inspire, and equip senior adults to embrace this season of life with purpose and faith. Join us for our

first gathering featuring Yvonne Ulmer, Life Coach and Covenant Partner, who will share practical guidance for living a purposeful, faith-filled, and joyful life.

Thursday, September 10

Lunch: Noon, Fellowship Hall | \$10

Presentation: 12:30–1:30pm

Registration is not required, but is encouraged. Register at FirstPresGreenville.org/events. Come enjoy a delicious lunch, meaningful conversation, and an encouraging message as we begin this new series together!

Discipleship Ministry, Claire Ripley

ALPHA: EXPLORE LIFE, FAITH, AND MEANING

Whether you’re exploring Christianity for the first time, returning to faith after years away, or simply curious about life’s biggest questions, Alpha is a welcoming space to have honest conversations in a relaxed, judgment-free environment. You don’t have to have all the answers. Come as you are. Bring a friend. Everyone is welcome! Alpha begins **Wednesday, September 9**, 6:00–7:15pm, in Room B301. Register now at FirstPresGreenville.org/events. Questions? Please email class leaders, Sara Rieser (riesershine@gmail.com) or Bob August (raugust6@yahoo.com).

Worship & Music Ministry, Susan Messer

MUSIC OFFERINGS FOR STUDENTS

Children and students in K4 through 12th grade are invited to grow in faith through music each Wednesday evening as part of our Grow@First Fall Discipleship Program, beginning **September 9**. Students will prepare music for worship services and the upcoming Christmas@First concerts while learning more about God and growing together through music. Come sing, learn, and grow with us! Questions? Contact Susan Messer at smesser@firstpresgreenville.org.

EVENTS

Children’s Ministry, Tina Jones

CALLING ALL GIRL DADS!

Register now for an memorable evening with your daughter at the 3GEN Ministries Daddy Daughter Dance! It’s all happening on **Friday, September 11**, 7:00–9:30pm at the beautiful Larkin’s Sawmill Venue (22 Graves Drive, Greenville, SC 29609). Join us for a fantastic night of fun, laughter, and connection, complete with yummy desserts, photo ops, and plenty of dancing. We also plan a special “halftime” moment where we pause the fun to give dads the opportunity to bless and affirm their daughters. Register online at 3genministries.org.

Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser

MADE TO CREATE: ART, FAITH & GOD’S MISSION

What if creating art is more than a gift—it’s part of how we participate in God’s mission in the world? Join us for an inspiring evening with author, theologian, and speaker W. David O. Taylor as we explore the vital place of artists and creativity within the life of faith. Whether you are a professional artist, a creative at heart, or simply someone who wants to better understand how art can point us toward God, this evening will encourage you to see creativity as a meaningful expression of faith and calling. Following Dr. Taylor’s lecture, stay for a panel discussion and Q&A. A light reception will follow.

Friday, September 4 | 6:00pm

Student Ministry Area

Tickets: \$20

Register at FirstPresGreenville.org/events

Events Ministry, Caleb Miller

STEPHEN CURTIS CHAPMAN CONCERT PRESALE

Just Announced! Steven Curtis Chapman is bringing The Music of Christmas Tour to our church on **Thursday, December 3**, and here’s your chance at exclusive first access to tickets for a limited time! Use Pre-sale code: CHURCH at www.TPRLive.co to grab your tickets now, until Friday, August 28, at 10:00am. Tickets will go fast, so don’t wait! More than a concert, The Music of Christmas Tour is an invitation to slow down, celebrate the season, and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Come sing along, make memories with family and friends, and celebrate the birth of our Savior with Steven Curtis Chapman and the music of Christmas!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 30, 2026

SERMON SERIES:

“Not Just Sundays”

Revelation 2:8–11

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

The Fall Grow@First booklet is in the church literature racks and online at FirstPresGreenville.org. Go to the Events menu or the Resources section of the Discipleship menu.

FRIDAY

FRIDAYS AT FIRST PODCAST & EMAIL

Tune in every Friday on our YouTube channel (@FPCGreenvilleSC) or your favorite podcast platform to catch *Fridays at First* with our Senior Pastor, Dr. Richard Gibbons. If you prefer email, sign up for the *Fridays@First* eblast at firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect@first and click the red “Subscribe” button.

LOOKING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER

2: Broadway at First!

4: Activate Lecture

9: Fall Grow@First Begins

9: Alpha Class Begins

9: DivorceCare Support Group

9: Handbell Choir Rehearsal

10: Fourth Quarter: A Senior Lecture Series

11: Daddy Daughter Dance

13: GriefShare Support Group

14: Catch Up Hour with Our Neighbors: FCA Furman

16: Radiance Kickoff

16: Above All Kickoff

25: Opening Reception for “Are We There Yet?” Exhibit

OCTOBER

1: Fearfully & Wonderfully Made

This newsletter offers a snapshot of upcoming announcements, events, and opportunities at First Presbyterian Church. For complete details and more information, visit firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect.

MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS ♦ *The pastors and congregation extend blessings to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Black (Susan)* who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on August 27.

SYMPATHY ♦ *The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to Ms. Standish Price* in the death of her brother, Allen King Anderson, on July 22. **Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Clark (Autumn)** in the death of his father, Robert “Bob” Clark, on August 22; and to Ainsley, Sydney, Malachi, and Logan Clark in the death of their grandfather.

MEMORIALS & HONORS
MUSIC MINISTRY FUND

In memory of Rebecca Carter by Paul and Susan Grier; Agape-Fellowship Life Group; Molly Fitzpatrick

TRANSFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND
In memory of Rebecca Carter by Gray Geddie; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sykes
In memory of Knox Wherry Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sykes; Peggy and Chip Crutchfield, Caroline Kear; Diddy and Rolfe Hughes; Dottie and Richard Hill; Carlton and Belinda Manley; Hunter, Leslie, Isabella and Caroline Smith; Hollye Stigler

PRAYER LIST ♦ **Bold** = New *Italics* = In Hospital
Nancy Adams, Bill Anthony, Sandra Banks, Betty Bennett, Harry Bolick, Dan Boling, Jim Childers, Matt Covington, Brantley Daniel, Peggy Denny, Harry Hightower, Don Hobbs, Charlie Hutton, Joe James, Al Johnson, Anne Lide, Jenny McCorkle, Rachel Mullinax, Tom Pettigrew, Ed Reed, Carolyn Rice,

Thom Robelot, Louise Robinson, Jim Rush, Bob Shell, Barrett Taft, Lewis Tollison, Steve Waddell, Beryl 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: Held 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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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
August 27–September 2, 2026

Grow@First Begins Soon

Reception for Rev. Charlie Buchanan
Sunday, August 30

Pastor’s Wednesday Bible Study

Music Opportunities for
K4–12th Grade Students

Daddy Daughter Dance
September 11

Stephen Curtis Chapman Christmas
Concert Pre-sale

For more information about
FPC, visit FirstPresGreenville.org

AUGUST 27–SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Let’s Grow
Together!

We invite you to prayerfully explore the Grow@First fall discipleship opportunities and discover where God may be leading you!

QUESTIONS? Contact Tiffany Boggs at tboggs@firstpresgreenville.org.

Fall 2026

GROW@FIRST

Weekly Discipleship

Now in LITERATURE RACKS & ONLINE
at FirstPresGreenville.org/Events.

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith” (Romans 1:17).

FirstPresGreenville.org