

# CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 4, NO. 35 | September 3–9, 2026



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/events) and in the literature racks. Please return completed forms to Autumn Clark at [aclark@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto: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!

### FRIDAYS AT FIRST PODCAST AND 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](http://firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect@first) and click the red “Subscribe” button.

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one on one of the following Sundays, please contact Linda Slash ([lslash@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto:lslash@firstpresgreenville.org) or 864.565.0901): **November 1, 8, 22, or 29; December 6.**

## DISCIPLESHIP

### GROW@FIRST FALL SEASON BEGINS

**Connect. Grow. Serve.** Make this fall a season of growing deeper in your faith and more connected to the life of our church! The new *Fall Grow@First* booklet has everything you need to get started—including Sunday morning worship and classes, weekday Bible studies, and music opportunities for all ages. Pick up a booklet from the literature racks or visit [FirstPresGreenville.org/events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/events) to explore all that’s happening this fall.

### 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](http://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](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/events). Questions? Please email class leaders, Sara Rieser

([riesershine@gmail.com](mailto:riesershine@gmail.com)) or Bob August ([raugust6@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:smesser@firstpresgreenville.org).

## EVENTS

### Children’s Ministry, Tina Jones

#### CALLING ALL GIRL DADS!

Register now for a 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](http://3genministries.org).

### Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser

#### NEW EXHIBITION OPENING SEPTEMBER 25

*Are We There Yet* invites us to consider the experience of fostering and adoption from many perspectives. The journey is often filled with unexpected twists and turns—marked by sorrow and hope, pain and joy. Yet, caring for children and orphans is a calling close to the heart of God.

*“A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing” (Psalm 68:5–6a).*

First Presbyterian Church’s Fine Arts and Children’s Ministries are excited to partner with the Heart Gallery of South Carolina, Flourish Adoption Agency, the Premier Arts Collective Art Room at Triune Mercy Center, and individual artists and their families to share the many emotions and experiences of the fostering and adoption journey through art. Join us **Friday, September 25**, from 6:00–8:00pm for the opening reception in the Galleries at FPC. Meet the artists, experience their stories, and explore this meaningful exhibition.

### Missions Ministry, Eric Swofford

#### CATCH UP WITH OUR NEIGHBORS!

Join the Missions Committee on **Monday, September 14**, 5:30–7:00pm in Room D305, to hear updates from Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Furman, a local ministry supported by First Pres. For more details, contact Autumn Clark at 864.565.0947.

### MISSIONS SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 20

Missional living is about carrying the Gospel into the places where we live, work, and serve. To encourage our covenant partners to get involved in serving our local community, we will feature nine ministry partners during our morning services (8:30, 10:45, and 11:00am). Each organization offers meaningful opportunities to serve and make a difference right here in Greenville. Featured ministry partners include Front Porch Housing, Bel-Aire Community Partners, Piedmont Women’s Center, Lifeline Children’s Services, Homes of Hope, Neighborhood Focus, Jumpstart Prison Ministry, Cross Culture Network, and Christian Learning Centers of Greenville County. Learn more about these ministries and discover how you can live missionally by serving our community.

### Sports Ministry, Caleb McKisic

#### CHURCH LEAGUE BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Church league basketball season for K5–12th grade is approaching! Registration is open through **Saturday, September 12.** Late registration is open September 13–30. Learn more details and sign up at [FirstPresSports.com](http://FirstPresSports.com). Questions? Contact Caleb McKisic at [caleb@firstpresports.com](mailto:caleb@firstpresports.com).

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

**September 6, 2026**

### SERMON SERIES:

**“Not Just Sundays”**

**Revelation 2:12–17**

**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” & “Subscribe” for easy access**

[FirstPresgreenville.org](http://FirstPresgreenville.org) Watch menu

## WEDNESDAY

**September 9, 2026**

### PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY

**Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons**

**12:30pm–1:00pm • Fellowship Hall**

**6:30pm–7:15pm • Fellowship Hall**

### LIVE STREAMING

**6:30pm–7:15pm • Fellowship Hall**

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

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

[FirstPresgreenville.org](http://FirstPresgreenville.org) Watch menu

### WEDNESDAY MEALS

**11:45am & 5:00pm • Fellowship Hall**

### LUNCH & DINNER MENU

Fried Chicken, Oven Roasted Pork Loin, Green Beans, Macaroni and Cheese, Cheesy Pineapple Bake, Melon and Mint Salad, Salad Bar, Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Chef’s Choice Desserts

### MEAL PRICES:

Adults: \$10

Children ages 4–12: \$5

Children ages 0–3: Free

Family max: \$40

## LOOKING AHEAD

### SEPTEMBER

**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**

**20: Missions Sunday**

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

**27: First Christmas@First Choir Rehearsal**

### 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](http://firstpresgreenville.org/about/connect).

MEMBER NEWS

BAPTISMS ♦ August 30, 2026

Mariella Claire Bailey and Jackson “Jack” Christoper Bailey, children of Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Bailey (McKenna)  
Amelia Kate Morris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Morris (Hannah)

CONGRATULATIONS ♦ The pastors and congregation extend blessings to Mr. and Mrs. Reid Bearden (Taylor) on the birth of a son, Charles Brooks Bearden, on August 27.

SYMPATHY ♦ The pastors and congregation extend sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Barr (Kate) in the death of her father, Mr. Jack Ettiger Hartman of St. Simons Island, GA, on August 23; and to Max Barr in the death of his grandfather.

MEMORIALS & HONORS

MUSIC MINISTRY FUND

In memory of Robert and Rebecca Carter by Benjamin and Amy Clauss

TRANSFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND

In memory of Rebecca Carter by Carlton and Belinda Manley  
In memory of Knox Wherry Jr. by Dr. and Mrs. Charles West; Dianne Galloway

PRAYER LIST ♦ Bold = New Italics = In Hospital

Nancy Adams, **Andy Anderson**, Bill Anthony, Sandra Banks, Betty Bennett, Harry Bolick, Dan Boling, Matt Covington, Brantley Daniel, *Debbie Davidson*, 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, *Samantha Templeton*, 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.



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

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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



WHAT'S INSIDE

September 3–9, 2026

*Fearfully & Wonderfully Made*  
Coming October 1

Grow@First Begins Soon

Pastor’s Wednesday Bible Study

Music Opportunities for  
K4–12th Grade Students

Fourth Quarter for Seniors  
September 10

Catch Up with Our Neighbors  
September 14

For more information about  
FPC, visit FirstPresGreenville.org

SEPTEMBER 3–9, 2026

2026 Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

Made to  
**SHINE**  
Brighter Together

Thursday, October 1

WORSHIP & ARTS CENTER

5:30pm: Pre-show & Marketplace | 6:30pm: Event Begins  
\$30 Tickets Available | FirstPresGreenville.org/Events

Signature Sponsor  
**United Community**



