

# CONNECT@FIRST

A Weekly Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC

VOLUME 1, NO. 37 | November 16–November 22, 2023



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Wednesday Bible Studies, most classes, and meals for 2023 have ended, and will resume in January 2024. Watch for Winter-Spring dates and details coming soon.

### DECEMBER 10 SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

As we prepare for the Christmas@First concert this day, we will have two identical Sunday services on December 10 at 8:30am and 10:45am, in the Worship & Arts Center. Please mark your calendar and share with your friends and family.

### 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](https://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events), or fill out a form from the literature racks. Cost is \$20 each; orders are due by Monday, December 11.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING REPORT

At the Congregational Meeting on November 12, the congregation approved changes to the pastors' terms of call, participated in the annual meeting of the corporation, and elected the following officers:

**Class of 2026 Elders:** Clay Brown, Lee Dixon, Emily Doll, Russell Guest, Carlton Manley, Jeff Messer, Edith Parks, Susan Simmons, Eric Swofford, Lisa Van Riper, Thomas Willcox, Nina Williams

**Class of 2026 Deacons:** Wes Ballard, Nathan Banks, Grant Boggess, Drew Boland, Stacey Bradshaw, Kathi Daniel, Gail DePriest, Bobby Martin, Joy McManus, Johnny Vastag

The congregation also approved calling

**Rev. Dr. Mark A. Hutton** to be our **Executive Pastor**.

### 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 you believe would serve FPC well 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 recommendation(s) by filling out a paper form this Sunday and returning it to Autumn Clark at the church office.

### BRIDGE CITY COFFEE REOPENS

We are grateful to announce that Bridge City is back open, located in the Intersection Cafe. Please join us in congratulating them for winning the Coffee Roaster of the Year Award!

## DISCIPLESHIP

*Women's Ministry, Leah Cloud*

### WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

All women are invited to the annual Women's Christmas luncheon on Thursday, December 7, at 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Join us for a Christmas program featuring a short devotional by FPC Covenant Partner Libby Dalton, author of *Libby's Christmas Letters*. A delicious lunch will be catered by Jasmine Kitchen. Cost is \$15 at the door. RSVP by Friday, December 1, to Charlotte Joye at [cjoye@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto:cjoye@firstpresgreenville.org) or 864.565.0956. Please contact Evelyn Penkert at [epenkert@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto:epenkert@firstpresgreenville.org) to reserve childcare.

### PREPARE HIM ROOM: CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR WOMEN

Join us at FPC on Friday, December 1, at 6:30pm as we celebrate the birth of our Savior and embrace the true meaning of Christmas. Kristi McLelland, speaker, teacher, and college professor will present this free event via video stream. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is required. Please register on our website under Women's Opportunities.

## EVENTS

*Care Ministry, Tammy Burkhalter*

### SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE DECEMBER 5

On Tuesday, December 5, at 6:30pm in Harper Chapel,

all are invited to a beautiful candlelight service to honor and remember loved ones who will be especially missed during the Christmas season. Refreshments will be served immediately following the service in the Loggia.

*Children's Ministry, Tina Jones*

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION

We have 39 more Operation Christmas Child boxes available to be filled. Please stop by Children's Ministry to pick up a box before the final collection date. Return boxes to the new Washington Street entrance at FPC during these times: 11/16: 12:00-2:00pm | 11/17: 11:00-1:00pm | 11/18: 10:00-12:00pm | 11/19: 10:00-12:00pm | 11/20: 1:00-3:00pm. Contact Teresa at [twhannon@aol.com](mailto:twhannon@aol.com) with any questions.

*Fine Arts Ministry, Chelsea Fraser*

### CREATIVE SESSION: WRITERS' INCUBATOR

Our next Creative Session: Writers' Incubator will be Tuesday, November 28, at 11:00am in the Student Programming Space. Writers are encouraged to bring something they have recently written, are working on, or have been inspired to share with the group. Bring your own lunch.

### ART AND FAITH LUNCH: CAROLS AND TESTIMONIES

Join us on Friday, December 1, at 12:00pm in the Formal Dining Room to sing carols and share testimonies of God's work in your life, and maybe even in your art. Bring your lunch or eat ahead of time. We can't wait to see you there!

### OPEN MIC HOSTED BY ELEVENTH HOUR THEATER

Join us on Thursday, November 30 at 7:00pm in the Student Programming Space at FPC, as they seek to foster community among playwrights by sharing new work. Please come a little early if you are planning to share work.

*Worship & Music, Susan Messer*

### THE PEOPLE SING! MESSIAH

Glorify our Savior's birth through music of the Christmas season. Join us Sunday, November 26, at 6:00pm for *The People Sing! Messiah*. Sing along with the FPC Sanctuary Choir, a Baroque orchestra, pipe organ, harpsichord, and four outstanding local soloists. Tickets are available at [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](https://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events), for \$15 each. You may also purchase tickets at the First Pres box office located at the main reception area during normal business hours or Sundays before or after worship.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### USHERS NEEDED

If you are interested in serving as an usher on Sunday mornings, please email Chad Brown at [cbrown@dodgeindustrial.com](mailto:cbrown@dodgeindustrial.com) for more information or to sign up.

*Missions Ministry, Brian Stewart*

### HOLLIS ACADEMY ANGEL TREES

Thank you to those who purchased gifts for the Hollis Academy annual Christmas Store. Please return your gifts to the church under the Angel Trees around the church by November 22.

*Events Ministry, Caleb Miller*

### PRODUCTION VOLUNTEERS

With the holiday season quickly approaching, we are in need of more production volunteers for upcoming Christmas concerts and the ECO National Gathering in January. Needed positions include Sound, Lighting, Camera, and Video Playback (ProPresenter) operators. No experience is required; training is provided. Please email [productions@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto:productions@firstpresgreenville.org) if interested.

### GUEST SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

We need several event and guest service volunteers to provide a welcoming experience for those attending events at FPC. Please email Linda Sholtis ([lsholtis@firstpresgreenville.org](mailto:lsholtis@firstpresgreenville.org)) if you are interested. Positions include hosts, ticket takers, ushers, merchandise assistants, and trained crowd managers.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

#### WORSHIP

8:30am & 11:00am in the Sanctuary

10:45am Ignite

in the Worship & Arts Center

Rev. Dr. Richard Gibbons

Sermon Series: God's Wee Rascal

8:30am Nursery

9:30am Children's Sunday School

9:30am Student Life Groups

9:45am Adult Life Groups

10:30am Kids Church

12:00pm Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary and Worship & Arts Center

#### LIVE STREAMING

8:30am & 11:00am:

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

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

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

10:45am:

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

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

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

"Like" and "Subscribe" for easy access

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Wednesday Bible Studies and meals

have ended for the Fall season. Watch

for new studies coming in January 2024.

## LOOKING AHEAD

#### November 26:

*The People Sing! Messiah*

#### November 28:

Creative Session: Writers

#### November 29:

Family Advent Festival

#### December 1:

Women's Christmas Luncheon

#### December 1:

Art and Faith Lunch

#### December 5:

Service of Remembrance

#### December 7:

*Prepare Him Room event*

#### December 9 & 10:

Christmas@First Concerts

#### December 10:

New Sunday Worship Times:

8:30am and 10:45am

#### December 24:

Christmas Eve Services

8:30am | 10:45am |

11:00am (with live nativity) |

7:00pm (candlelight service)

## PASTOR OF THE DAY

### November 16–November 22, 2023

For Pastoral emergencies, please call 864.235.0496.



MEMBER NEWS

MEMORIALS & HONORS  
CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

*In memory of Jane Coleman* by Joe and Ann Jennings; Thomas, Fisher & Edwards, P.A.; Mr. and Mrs. Knox L. Haynsworth, Jr.; Lottie Smith; Jo and Harry Ussery; Lillian Darby  
*In memory of Barbara Ellison* by Lillian Darby; Luther and Sally Boliek; Lou and George Creswell; Beverly Borngesser; Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Ellison, Jr.

MILITARY MINISTRY FUND

*In memory of Bill Smith* by Circle 10

MUSIC MINISTRY FUND

*In memory of Janet MacCallum and Robert MacCallum* by Deryl McKinney

TRANFORMING THE HEART OF THE CITY FUND

*In memory of Jane Coleman* by Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Manley

TURNER MEMORIAL FUND

*In memory of Jane Coleman* by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Banksy  
*In memory of T. G. Hanner* by Tina Faris; Carol Loyless

PRAYER LIST

Bill Anthony, Tom Brissey, Pat Burns, Susan Cable, Lang Cheves, **Joe Cole**, Janet Collins, Marian Dameier, Peggy Denny, *Tom Drake*, Becky Dueben, Larry Freeman, Mike Freeman, Becky Garcia, Millie Gedney, Doug Gilstrap, Pam Goldman, Natalie Hall, Fran Hardin, Jack Hardin, Gladys “Hap” Henderson, Ginny Johnson, **Ron Lemley**, Tom Lide, Jennifer Loft, John Loft, Pat Loft, Anne Lybrand, Geoff Marsh, Megan McCommons, Mozelle Moore, Chloris Norman, Alex Olyarchuk, Bette Ann Phillips, Shari Phillips, Lois Pick, Becky Powell, Mason Powell, Courtney Prosise, *Ed Reed*, Joann Reed, Ken Rhoden, Catherine Sandifer, Janice Shartle, Jude Smith, Carrie Stringer, Shirley Timmerman, Melanie Ann Tinnelly, Margaret Thornton, John Volpe, Don Youatt, Spires Welch, Beryl Wickliffe, Thomas Wilcox, Jan Zimmerman  
Bold = New    *Italics* = In Hospital

THE AMAZING



By Increasing your donation by 1% of your annual income in 2024, you will support the needs of First Pres and ministries that God has called us to serve.



If every member participates, the results would indeed BE AMAZING!

PRAYER RESOURCES

**Congregational Care Director, Tammy Burkhalter:** Call 864.565.0943  
For emergencies, upcoming surgeries, or hospital information.  
**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.



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  
instagram | @FPCGreenville  
mobile app | FPC Live

WHAT'S INSIDE

November 16–November 22, 2023  
Christmas@First Concerts  
*The People Sing! Messiah* Concert  
Women’s Christmas Luncheon  
OCC Collection Begins

TELEVISION

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

For more information about the ministries of FPC, visit [FirstPresGreenville.org](http://FirstPresGreenville.org)

ONLINE  
GIVING



NOVEMBER 16–NOVEMBER 22, 2023

THE WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS  
CHRISTMAS@FIRST

GOOD TIDINGS  
of GREAT *joy*  
December  
9 & 10

Visit [FirstPresGreenville.org/Events](http://FirstPresGreenville.org/Events) for tickets or scan the QR code here.

