



September 1, 2026

Important Upcoming Dates

- September 3 | SC5 Leader of Leaders
- September 10 | Presbyterian Women Luncheon
- September 14 | Legacy of Faith Nominations Due
- September 15 | PP Educator's Gathering
- September 18 | Courage In Crisis: The Loving Response of NEST
- September 19 | PP Youth Council Interest Meeting

[View our calendar for full details](#)

REformed flections

from Steve

Grace and peace to you!

I'm excited to announce that, this fall, we are launching *Better Together*, a new approach to our annual Mission Partnership Giving effort. I shared this at our August stated meeting, and it comes with the Coordinating Team's blessing and my own excitement to lead it.

Here's where *Better Together* starts. Our Book of Order reminds us that presbyteries exist, in part, to help congregations grow in the graces of generosity, stewardship, and service. Paul said it more simply still — one body, many members, each belonging to every other member. We are a covenant community, not just a

governing structure. A family of congregations who have promised to carry each other's ministry forward.

That belonging shapes how we think about giving. Generosity was never really a budget question. It's a response — our response to a God who gave first, and who gave everything. When we give, we're not filling a line item. We're living out of the same generous character we were made to reflect. That's true in our own congregations, and it's true of what we give to this presbytery together.

So as *Better Together* unfolds, we want to keep two questions in front of us — not as a program to complete, but as a posture to hold:

Why give at all? What lies at the heart of your generosity?

Why give to the shared ministry of the presbytery, specifically? What might be your role in that collective work?

The first is a question everyone eventually answers for themselves, a matter of gratitude more than obligation. The second is one only we can answer together, because none of us can see the whole of what our shared ministry makes possible from inside our own four walls. *Better Together* exists to help us see it.

In the coming weeks and months, you'll begin hearing real stories — from real people, in our own congregations — about the real impact this presbytery has made on their lives. Not budget summaries or program recaps, but honest accounts of what happened because Providence Presbytery was there. We hope these stories inspire you to think of ways our presbytery has impacted your own life.

You will soon receive a copy of this letter by mail as well as your congregation's 2027 Commitment Card — our invitation for your session to prayerfully consider its part in this shared ministry for 2027, wherever your congregation currently is in that journey, and whatever your next faithful step might look like. *We ask that you return your commitment card to Rose Lemmons-Berry by Friday, December 4, 2026.*

We've also launched a *Better Together* webpage where you can find all of this in one place — impact stories as they come in, program updates, and a digital version of the Commitment Card, in case that's an easier way for your session to respond. You can find it at www.providencepres.org/mission-partnership-giving.

Thank you for being part of our collective journey. Thank you for being a presbytery worth being better together in.

Live in hope,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Steve". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'S' being large and prominent.

[#ProvidentiallyTogether](#)



Legacy of Faith Awards



The Legacy of Faith Award Luncheon is a long-standing Providence Presbytery tradition which honors individuals who have shown the love of God through their work within their respective churches and the presbytery. Churches may honor an older adult individual, or a married couple actively modeling a Legacy of Faith in your community.

KEY DATES

Nominations Due: September 14th via email

Reservations Due: October 1st by phone: 803-693-4160

Event Date: October 6th at Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Church

Hosted by Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Church



October 6th, 2026 11a.m. - 1p.m.

Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Church Family Life Center

1184 North Shiloh Road, York, SC 29745

Menu: Taco Bar with beef and chicken and all the extras. Dessert: nut free cookies or brownies. Drinks: tea, lemonade, or water.

The cost is \$10 per person. We ask churches make one reservation for everyone attending. Space is limited.

Call 803-693-4160 for reservation for the luncheon by October 1st, 2026.

Nominate honoree(s) by September 14th, 2026 via email:

leebarnewell64@gmail.com. Please type *Legacy of Faith Honoree* and your church name in the subject of the email. Use up to 200 words to explain why you chose your nominee and please attach a photograph for the program.

You may honor an individual that has entered the Church triumphant as long as it has been since October 2025.

Congratulations to Rev. Liz Corsig

Blessings abound! We are overjoyed to share these photos from the ordination and installation ceremony of Rev. Liz Corsig yesterday at Unity Presbyterian Church! She is their new Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults and we wish her much success in her ministry. We are grateful for the opportunity to be

#ProvidentiallyTogether.



Join us for our next Presbyterian Women of Providence Presbytery luncheon at Cake Lady Cafe in Fort Lawn on September 10th at 11:30 a.m.

We will enjoy fellowship and good food! Friends and spouses are welcome!

Upcoming Workshop



SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

EMBODY · CULTIVATE · INSPIRE

Synod of South Atlantic African-American Clergy and Educator Retreat - Office of Christian Formation - Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Facilitators



Rev. Neema Cyrus-Franklin



Rev. Erika Rembert Smith

Synod of South Atlantic African-American Clergy and Educator Retreat
Wednesday, September 9 - Friday, September 11, 2026 | St. Simon's Island,
GA
Facilitators: Rev. Neema Cyrus-Franklin & Rev. Erika Rembert Smith

The Around the Table Retreat Cohort Model is designed for parents, caregivers, church leaders, volunteers, and faith formation practitioners who are longing for deeper connection, meaningful spiritual practices, and practical ways to nurture faith in everyday life.

This cohort experience combines an in-person retreat with several months of online coaching and encouragement as participants explore simple, sustainable rhythms of faith within households and faith communities. Together, participants will engage practices such as storytelling, prayer, hospitality, rest, service, and intergenerational connection — not as programs to complete, but as ways of living and growing together in faith.

Retreat cohorts are designed to help participants slow down, reflect, build relationships, and leave with practical ideas and goals that can be lived out in their homes, churches, and communities.

[Get More Information](#)

Leadership Development Scholarship Available

Don't forget events like the one above could qualify for our Leadership Development Scholarship. [You can view our scholarship policy and apply here.](#)

Upcoming Book Read

Committee on Racial & Religious Reconciliation (CRRR)

The Color of Compromise Book Read

Two opportunities to participate:

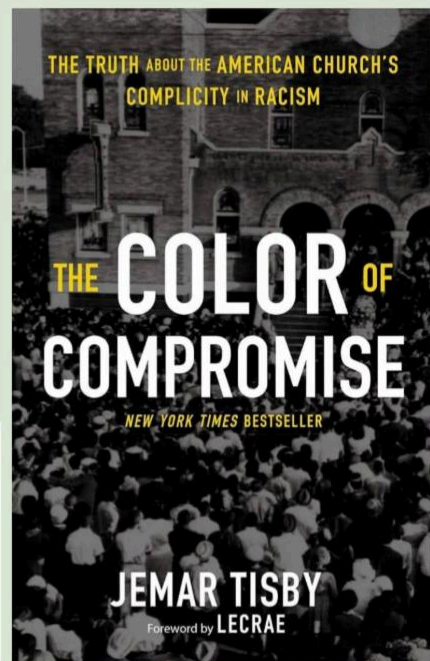
Group 1: Led by Sue Smith at Oakland Ave. Presbyterian Church, 421 Oakland Ave, Rock Hill, SC 29730. This group will meet in person, beginning on Wednesday, September 9th, at 4:00 p.m.

Group 2: Led by Rev. Molly Spangler on Zoom.

This group will meet on Zoom for six weeks, beginning on Wednesday, September 9th, at 6:30 p.m.

Molly's email:

mspangler@unityfortmill.org



[Click to Sign Up](#)

Watch: The Ministry Toolbox

Stewardship season is upon us -- What if stewardship season wasn't a budget necessity, but a pathway to spiritual formation for your congregation?

Our latest The Ministry Toolbox conversation with Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley helps you learn how to reframe generosity as a practice that shapes people toward Christlikeness.

Click below to view the recording and others from our series.



[View The Recording](#)

Support Our Friends In Lebanon

YOU ARE INVITED!

Join us for this special event as we welcome Dr. Martin Accad, President of the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon and hear stories of how God's work is alive and thriving in Christian and Presbyterian communities in Lebanon and Syria. Learn how the current crisis in Lebanon is affecting Christians and people of other faiths.

The Near East School of Theology (NEST) is a vibrant seminary in the heart of Beirut. Come learn how this seminary not only educates people for ministry but also reaches out into its local community as the hands and feet of Jesus, especially in times of uncertainty and war.

Providence Presbytery has a long-standing relationship with NEST, spanning thirty years of connection. Come discover how we can share the story of Christian service with our brothers and sisters in Lebanon and at NEST.

Join us as we experience an engaging conversation with Dr. Accad

**Friday evening, September 18th at 7:00 pm.
Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1830 Celanese Road, Rock Hill, SC.**



***Near East School of Theology faculty and students
reaching out to displaced Lebanese in their neighborhood/***

[Click to Register](#)

Fall Registration Open!

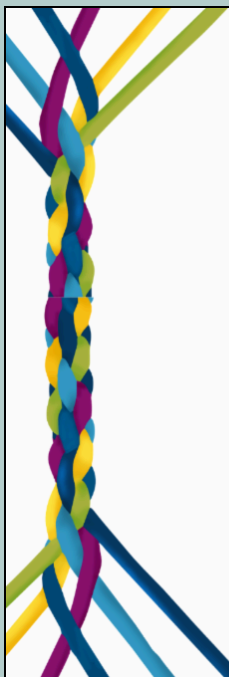


SC5 School of Theology

Sponsored by the Five Presbyteries of South Carolina



[Click for More Information](#)



SYMPOSIUM 2026

INTENTIONAL:

Intergenerational **OCTOBER 8-9**
Preaching, Teaching, and Worship **2026**



Rev. Dr. David Csinos

Rev. Dr. Heidi Biermann

Rev. Dr. Lakisha Lockhart

Rev. Jenny McDevitt



bit.ly/4vJnFaU

October 8-9, 2026
In-Person and Hybrid in Charlotte, NC

A two-day symposium for practitioners to explore the foundations and frameworks for intergenerational ministries the first day. The next day move from theory to practice in your

context. Write liturgy, outline sermons and educational experience then receive feedback from the leaders in these areas. Leaders include Dave Csinos, Rich Volez, Janaki Gooty, Jenny McDevitt and more! For more information on leaders and logistics visit:

bit.ly/4vJnFaU

New Webinar Series on Affordability

From the Presbyterian Committee on the Self Development of People

Labor & Living Wages Webinar

You're cordially invited to the first of three webinars in a new iteration of "The Struggle is Real" series by the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People. The virtual gathering will be held on **Zoom at 1 pm (ET) September 3** and focus on labor and living wages.

The series seeks to assist the church in walking in deep solidarity with those who are under the weight of economic disenfranchisement and exploitation. It offers space to explore affordability and its impact on communities while connecting Presbyterians with those already engaged in this work and with others committed to addressing economic disenfranchisement, including some of SDOP's partners that are making a difference in communities around the nation .

Future topics in the webinar series, which is highlighting affordability issues, will include **healthcare on October 1** and **housing/homelessness on November 5**.

For more information or to register, [go here](#).

New Film Series

From the Presbyterian Hunger Program

New film series on faith and earth care

Presbyterian Hunger Program partner Blessed Tomorrow has created series of short films that can serve as an educational resource and inspiration for congregations as the Season of Creation approaches. The seven-part film series, "Caring for the Earth: Stories from Faith Communities," shows examples of climate work by people of faith as the climate crisis continues to wreak havoc. Learn more:

<https://pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/2026/8/5/faith-and-climate-film-series-can-help-us-usher-season-creation>

Cohorts Forming Now

The Faith Formation Leader Connection brings together leaders of faith formation ministries in the PC(USA). We do this by offering a variety of ways for leaders to share, connect, and learn through Community Circles, Resource Zooms, Listening Circles, and Cohorts. All leaders are welcome to connect to this network and find the entry points that enrich their ministries. Here are upcoming opportunities.

[**Get More Information**](#)

Faith Formation Leader Connection

1st Wednesday SACK Lunch Conversation

(South Atlantic Community Knowledge)

A monthly Zoom for sharing across the Synod!



Conversation Topic

September 2 - New Worshipping Communities

October 7 - Courageous Conversations

November 4 - Systemic Poverty

December 2 - Food Ministries



[Click For Details](#)

New Mission Neighborhood Booklet

Providence Presbytery has many opportunities for members to join in God's kingdom work. We invite you to read and share our Mission Neighborhood Booklet and find a way you and your congregation can get involved!

2026 Providence Presbytery Stated Meetings

- November 8, 2026 | Riverview Presbyterian, Fort Mill, SC | 2:30 p.m.

Providence Presbytery Staff Members

Executive Presbyter: [Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley](#)

Stated Clerk: [Rev. Dr. David Bender](#)

Business Administrator: [Rose Lemmons-Berry](#)

Technology & Communications Coordinator: [Katie Rutland](#)

Newsletter Submissions

Do you have content or announcements for the Presbytery Newsletter? It will be published every other Tuesday. Please send items to be included to [Katie](#) no later than the Friday before publication.

[View as Webpage](#)



Providence Presbytery | P.O. Box 2601 | Rock Hill, SC 29732 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!