

August 17, 2025

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

**Rise in body or in spirit...(as indicated below)*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Aria Charles Callahan

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 395, v.2)

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word LIEBSTER JESU

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Isaiah 9 and Philippians 2

One: What a beautiful thing it is to be called to worship!

All: What a gift to come together in praise!

One: We are different people with different lives and different stories.

All: But, in Christ, we are one.

One: So, as one, we come and worship our God.

All: As one, we set aside our differences and focus on our shared identity in Christ.

One: Let us come together in worship.

All: Let us come together in praise.

*OPENING PRAYER WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN 664

Morning Has Broken BUNESSAN

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and forgiving God, we are in conflict! We want to be followers of Christ, but we cling to our own desires and plans. We want to be filled with joy, but we are beset with worry and anxiety. We long for a vibrant prayer life, but our busy lives leave us tired and afraid of solitude. We confess that we succumb to the allures of this world — having more, doing more, running faster and harder — and all the while, we fail to see the needs of our neighbors and ignore the needs of our own souls. Forgive us, we pray. Renew within us hearts that are open to receive your grace. Refresh our spirits by the cleansing rain of your forgiveness. Rekindle within us faith, compassion and generosity. We ask this in the name of our Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ.

Silent Prayer - How have you disappointed God, others, or yourself?

AMEN.

*KYRIE ELEISON

KINGDOM

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (adapted from Psalm 145:13-14)

One: “The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.” Friends, believe the Good News:

All: In Jesus Christ, all of our sin has been forgiven, and God has lifted us up to new life with him! Thanks be to God!

*RESPONDING WITH PRAISE

Glory Be to the Father (Hymnal 581) GLORIA PATRI
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Rev. Kara Wheeler

(All children are welcome in Children’s Church with Ms. Kara.)

ANTHEM

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind REST/arr. Hubert H.H. Parry
Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways. Reclothe us our rightful mind. In purer lives, Thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise. In simple trust like theirs who heard beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow Thee. Drop Thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease. Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of Thy peace. Breath through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm. Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire, speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 3:27-32; 16:11; 20:23 (Pew Bible p. 553, 565, 568)

THE SERMON

Wisdom from the Proverbs: Johnny, Be Good Dr. Lee Zehmer

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

What is God saying to you through Scripture, sermon and song?

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 459

O Word of God Incarnate MUNICH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles’ Creed (Contemporary)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please touch the plate as it is passed to offer your time, talents, and tithes to God.

OFFERTORY

Canzona on “Liebster Jesu” Richard Purvis

*RESPONSE: *The Doxology* (Hymnal 606)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Generous God, we have given to you what is yours. You entrust us with so much abundance; accept what we offer to you now as signs of our love for you and our desire to serve you. You alone are Lord of our lives. It is already so; make it so even more for us, day by day. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 703

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me ST. CATHERINE

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION (Hymnal 295, v. 1)

Go to the World! SINE NOMINE
Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Johann Walther

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the 14th wedding anniversary of John and Jennifer Abernathy and in honor of what would have been the 56th wedding anniversary for Bill and Cathy Abernathy.

Guests...WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church!

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us and pray that you will discover anew God’s love for you today.

Please sign the Friendship Pad with your contact information when it is passed. Church members and staff would be delighted to provide you with more information about FPC.

Nursery Care Today: Mary Alice Owen **August 24:** Liz Briggs
Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: Mimi Goodner, Beth Janicke
Elder/Deacon on Duty August 24: Butch Bailey, Diane Hicks
Monitor/Greeter Today: Matt Goodner **August 24:** Rod Hicks
Acolytes Today: Millie Goodner, Mason Goodner
August 24: Taylor Chubb, Alexander Roberson

Remember the following in prayer: Worth Kendall, Mary Tice, Shirley Burton, Beth Easley, Michele Horne, Rev. Dr. Barry Lambert, Keira Esposito, Ashley Platts, Nancy Lowery, Colleen Lathan, Jean Horton, Linda Bradshaw

Rise Against Hunger: We will be packing 15,000 meals in Hopkins Hall at 2:00 pm. Please arrive a little early to check-in. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Watch our *It Starts with a Meal* video to get excited about your event by using this QR code!



Help for HOPE: During the month August, we are asking for **boxes of breakfast cereals**. All brands and kinds are welcome. Please place your donations in the bin in the Narthex TODAY. Your donations make a difference and are very much appreciated.

Church Library Update: We are transitioning our library catalog to a new online database that we hope to release in September! If you have any library books at home, please return them to the baskets in either the upstairs or downstairs libraries so that we can get these books added to our new database.

Women's Fall Bible Study: Join us on Tuesdays, September 9 to October 21 at 10 am, for a study called *Acts: Awakening to God in Everyday Life* by Melissa Spoelstra. In this study we will journey with the first followers of Jesus and witness the birth and growth of the early church through spiritual awakening to the power of God’s Spirit, message, freedom, grace, mission, and direction. Study books are available in the Church Office. (Requested donation of \$10/book to help offset the cost.)

Men’s Fall Bible Study: This study will meet on Wednesday evenings starting September 10. Please contact Terry Dodge for more information.

Mission Outreach Updates: We help at the Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen at 902 Crawford Rd, Rock Hill, on Thursday, August 28 at 10:00 am. Please contact Wendy Blanchard to help. The HOP ministry will **not** meet in August.

Rally Day: On Sunday, September 7 we will have a breakfast potluck at 10:00 am. Bring a breakfast dish/item to share. Please join us as we kick off a new school year of study and faith formation at FPC!

Our 2025 Montreat Weekend will be Friday, October 3 - Sunday, October 5. Full payment is due by October 1. See Kara to register and for more info.

Fall Festival! We will be hosting the Special Needs students from the three high schools for a Fall Festival at FPC on Thursday, October 30. Volunteers are needed! Join in the fun!! Please contact Kara Wheeler or Ann Hunsucker for more info.

Emails and Updates: If you are NOT receiving our emails for the Wednesday E-Blast, Saturday Worship Note, and the monthly newsletter, but would like to receive them, send Jonna an email at jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org and she will place you on those mailing lists. Stay informed about the FPC news and happenings!
If you have a new address, email, or phone number, please send those to Jonna as well. They will be updated in our database.



This QR Code may be used for all online contributions to the church. There is a 1% processing fee for Checking/ACH transfers and 3% for Credit Card transactions.

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, August 17

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Mission and Outreach Meeting
2:00 pm Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing
4:00 pm Handbells

Tuesday, August 19

8:30 am Walking Group
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
6:00 pm Session Meeting

Thursday, August 21

8:30 am Walking Group
2:00 pm Yarns of Love
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class
5:00 pm Pickleball Open Court Play

Sunday, August 24

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Extraordinary Children Training
4:00 pm Handbells

Members of the Session

Susan Roberson, Clerk

Class of 2025

Butch Bailey
Terry Dodge
Mimi Goodner
Mary Anne Sheppard
Chris Wheeler

Class of 2026

John Abernathy
Jimmy Campbell
Scott Harris
Elizabeth Owen
Susan Roberson

Class of 2027

Paul Horne
Ann Hunsucker
Chip Hutchison
Julia Nichols
Sheryl Smith

Members of the Diaconate

Christy Goodner, Moderator

Class of 2025

James Crean
Vickey Dodge
Christy Goodner
Diane Hicks
Sue Munn

Class of 2026

Jennifer Abernathy
Heather Dellinger
Kathy James
Margaret Joiner
Dave Keely

Class of 2027

Beth Janicke
Allen Katz
Joan Musselwhite
Steve Roberts

Deacons of the Month for August

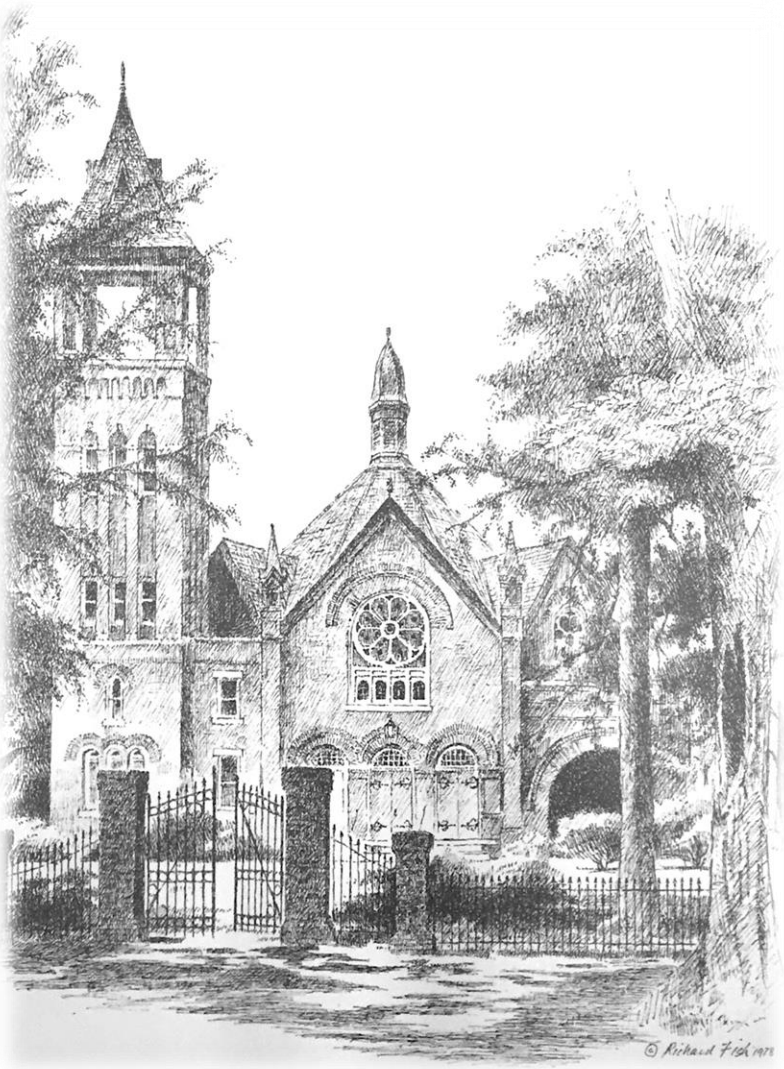
Christy Goodner, Kathy James, Joan Musselwhite

Church Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Friday: Closed

Office Staff and Contact Information

Jonna Eichorn - Administrative Assistant – jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org
Robyn Brown - Financial Secretary - rbrown@fpcrockhill.org
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(803) 328-2467 - firstpresrh@gmail.com - www.fpc-rockhill.org



First Presbyterian Church

234 East Main Street
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730
Organized 1869

We are a diverse family of believers in Jesus Christ, who seek to glorify God by celebrating and sharing God’s renewing and transforming love as we:

Worship the living God with joy and thanksgiving

Teach the Word of God to deepen our faith and grow in our love of Christ

Serve others through sharing our unique gifts of the Holy Spirit

Fellowship with one another to energize our life together as a congregation

Nurture and Embrace all of God’s children.

Dr. A. Lee Zehmer – Senior Pastor
Rev. Kara Wheeler – Director of Family Ministries
Dr. Donald M. Rogers – Director of Music
M. L. Marley – Organist
Angela Harris – Director of Cherub Choir
Ashley Platts – Director of Handbell Choirs