

September 28, 2025

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude on “Amazing Grace”

David Lasky

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 415, v.2)

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Proverbs 3 and Psalm 16

One: Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

All: In all our ways we will acknowledge him, and he will make straight our paths.

One: Let us bless the LORD who guides us; for the LORD is always with us.

All: We will not be shaken, for the Lord is right beside us.

One: Let us worship God.

*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 45

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

DUNDEE

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Wondrous God, forever seeking us, willingly forgiving us, we should be amazed at your grace. Yet how often we ignore your presence. We focus on keeping life in control, in balance, and get angry at the interruptions, the problems that ruin our plans, mess up our days. We never entertain the thought that you may be speaking to us in the turmoil, in the messiness of life. We are so bent on our desires and our plans that we squeeze you out.

Holy God, remind us that you are there in all the circumstances of life. Open our eyes to see and to trust your guiding hand. For Jesus’ sake,

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

One: Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and we are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.

All: In Jesus Christ, we have been lifted 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

(Children through 2nd grade are welcome in Children’s Church with Kara.)

ANTHEM

Cantique de Jean Racine

Gabriel Fauré

O Redeemer divine, our sole hope of salvation, Eternal Light of the earth and sky, we kneel in adoration. O Savior, turn on us Thy loving eye! Send down on us the fire of Thy grace all consuming, whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell, and rouse our slumbering souls with Thy radiance, that they may waken Thy mercy to tell. O Christ, bestow Thy blessing on us, we implore Thee, who here are gathered on penitent knee. Accept the hymns we chant to Thine eternal glory and these Thy gifts we return unto Thee!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 29:1-4

(Pew Bible p. 687)

Psalms 121

(Pew Bible p. 539)

THE SERMON

I Know the Plans I Have for You

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 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *from Declaration of Faith Chapter 1:2*

God is greater than our understanding.

We do not fully comprehend who God is or how he works.

God's reality far exceeds all our words can say.

The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best.

The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.

God comes to us on his own terms

and is able to do far more than we ask or think.

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 DUET

The Lord Is My Light

Frances Allitsen

Colleen Guseman, soprano; Marsha Roberts, alto

*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

Thank you, extravagant God, for your blessings in our lives. We offer ourselves in grateful response, seeking to live with such compassion toward others that your blessings will flow through us to bless our community and our world. For the sake of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

*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

Postlude on “Italian Hymn”

Albert Travis

The flowers today are to the Glory of God and in celebration of Jean Horton’s birthday on September 30, given with love by her friends.

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: Libba Faircloth **October 5:** Elizabeth Rollins
Elder/Deacon on Duty Today: Scott Harris, Margaret Joiner
Elder/Deacon on Duty October 5: Susan Roberson, Kathy James
Monitor/Greeter Today: Craig Rollins **October 5:** Jimmy Campbell
Acolytes Today: Taylor Chubb, Alexander Roberson
October 5: Millie Goodner, Henry Goodner

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

Help for HOPE: During the month of September, our congregation contributed 42 jars of peanut butter and 57 jars of jelly. What a significant contribution this year...a total of 270 pounds, an increase of 85 pounds from last year! On behalf of the Missions and Outreach Committee and the clients of HOPE of Rock Hill, thank you for your generosity in helping to combat hunger right here in Rock Hill.

During October, we will collect pastas and sauces. Please consider contributing boxes, bags, and jars of any type or brand to the box in the Narthex by October 31. Donations go to families in Rock Hill.

Plentiful Harvest Kitchen: Join us at Covenant PC of Rock Hill on Sunday, October 12. Volunteers needed for both shifts: 2-4 pm to prepare the meal and 4-6 pm to serve and clean-up. Contact Rob Joiner to serve in this important ministry.

October Craft Fair Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Craft Fair at FPC to be held on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Starting October 5, we will start collecting gently used books for a **Book Sale** at the Craft Fair. Contact Steve Roberts with questions. **A Bake Sale** will also be held. Members of the church can contribute their favorite baked goods including cakes, pies, breads (sourdough and sweet breads), cookies, candies, and snack mixes. Your donations will help support Bethelwoods scholarships. If you have questions, contact Karen Holt or Melissa Granacher.

Northside School of the Arts Buddy Program We are expanding our partnership with the 7:30 am Reading Buddies to include being a Lunch or Recess Buddy with a student in need (10:15 am to 2:00 pm). The need is for the "Buddy" to spend 30 minutes each week to get to know the student and encourage them to work their best in school. To be a part of this investment, reach out to Elizabeth Rollins for the application process.

Rise Against Hunger Update: The meals that we packaged in August are headed to the Philippines! The Philippines faces near constant threats of natural disasters like earthquakes, typhoons and volcanic eruptions. These disasters cause displacement and major loss of livelihoods and infrastructure, and disproportionately affect poor communities in rural areas, where people rely on agriculture and fishing. The Global Hunger Index categorizes the Philippines as having a “moderate” level of hunger overall. Rise Against Hunger partners with organizations that support educational programs by providing meals to children at schools and early child development centers. The meals you packaged will help ensure that children have access to the consistent nourishment they need to live healthy lives and successfully pursue their education.

Save the Dates!
October 26 at 5:00 pm: Trunk and Treat!
November 2: Stewardship Catered Lunch after Worship
November 16 at 11:00 am: Kirkin’ of the Tartans Service
November 23 at 10:00 am: Advent Family Workshop
December 14 at 5:00 pm: Christmas Dinner & Nativity Presentation
Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Office Staff and Contact Information

Jonna Eichorn - Administrative Assistant – jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org
Robyn Brown - Financial Secretary - rbrown@fpcrockhill.org
Mail to: Post Office Box 1011 - Rock Hill, S.C., 29731
(803) 328-2467 - firstpresrh@gmail.com - www.fpc-rockhill.org

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, September 28

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Sunday School
10:15 am New Member Reception in Chapel
11:00 am Worship
12:15 pm Worship Committee
3:30 pm Handbells
5:00 pm Children’s Choirs
4:30 pm High School Youth Mission Night

Monday, September 29

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 30

8:30 am Walking Group
10:00 am Women’s Bible Study
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

Wednesday, October 1

6:30 pm Men’s Bible Study

Thursday, October 2

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, October 5

9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship
3:30 pm Handbells
5:00 pm Children’s Choirs

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
Sherry Hutchison

Deacons of the Month for September

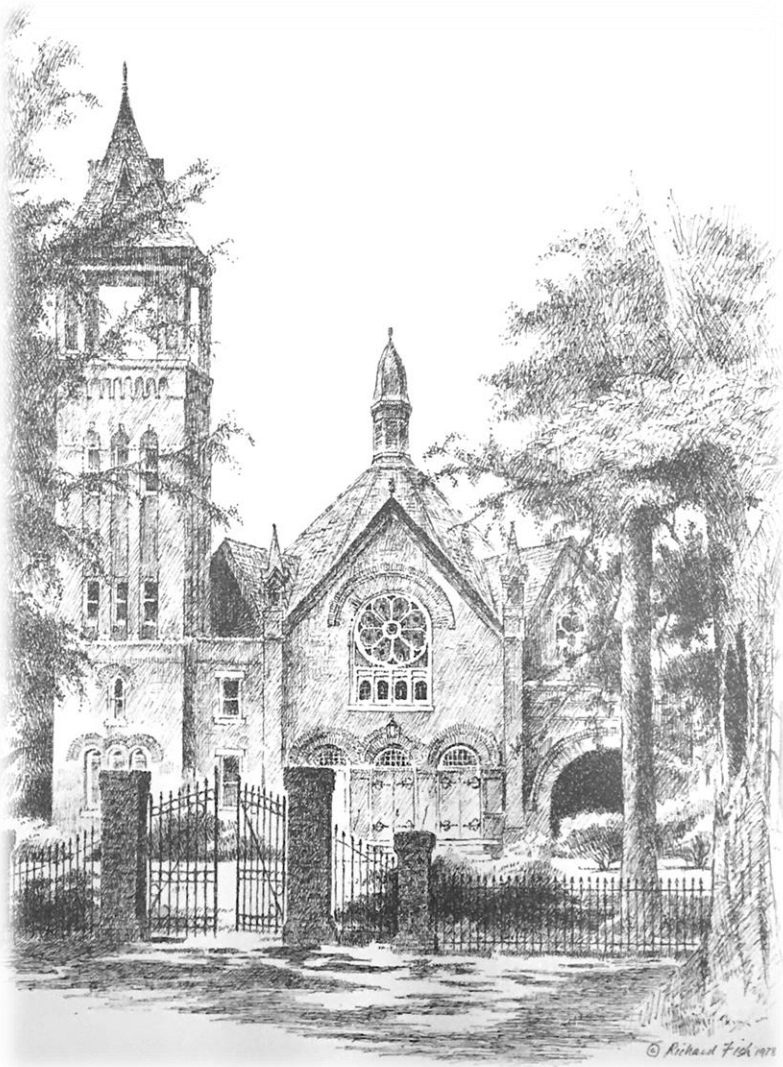
Diane Hicks, Margaret Joiner, Steve Roberts

Church Office Hours

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



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% fee for Credit Card transactions.



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