

*“Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your faith journey,
you are welcome here.”*



FIRST
— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —
CLINTON, SC
Living, Learning, and Loving like Christ.

October 18, 2026
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Andy S. Chambers, Pastor

F I R S T
— P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H —
CLINTON, SC

Living, Learning, and Loving like Christ

We welcome the following new members to our church family:

Ms. Ella Casto-Waters

*by transfer of letter from Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church, Augusta, GA,
and First Presbyterian Church, Greer, SC*

The Chambers family

Neile, Duren, Elloree and Hollen

by transfer of letter from First Presbyterian Church, Cornelia, GA

Mrs. Julia Gaines

by transfer of letter from Reems Creek Beech Presbyterian Church, Weaverville, NC

Mr. Geoffrey Reabold and Mrs. Emma Reabold,

Cooper and Jackson Reabold

by transfer of letter from Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC

Mr. Tom Sease and Mrs. Jenny Sease

by transfer of letter from Salem Presbyterian Church, Salem, VA

Mr. Griffin Watkins and Mrs. Katie Watkins,

Amelia and Harrison Watkins

by reaffirmation of faith (Katie); reaffirmation of faith and baptism (Griffin)

Centering Prayer

Faithful God, you are here. Tuck us into the cleft of the rock; cover us with your hand when we are anxious, that we may be courageous to do your will, through Christ, who calls us by name. Amen.

*All who are able, please stand.

Prelude

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Arr. James Pethel

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

*Call to Worship (responsive)

Sing to the Lord a new song! Everyone, even the rocks and trees, sing!

Let us shout out in praise!

God does great things for us. See God's amazing works all around us.

Great is the Lord!

Tell of God's wonders! Share stories of God's glory.

Let us worship the Lord!

*Morning Prayer

*Morning Hymn/#187 *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

BRADBURY

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, we confess that we have not been the faithful disciples you call us to be. We have not remembered who we are. We are distracted by glittering gold. We are mesmerized by fame and fortune. We turn a blind eye to systems that perpetuate injustice. We fail to hear the cries for mercy of those who bear unfair burdens. We close our hearts and imagine empathy to be weakness. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that we are yours, citizens of the kingdom of God. Give us courage to be kingdom builders here and now, showing mercy and grace in a world in deep need. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Our prayer continues in silence

***Assurance of Pardon** (responsive)

Friends, hear the good news. God loves you. Even in our imperfection,

Even in our imperfection, God loves us and won't let us go.

Know that you are forgiven and made new, sent forth to love and serve.

Alleluia. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

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.***

Children's Sermon

Choral Anthem

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

arr. Kevin Boesiger

I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus; no turning back, no turning back, no turning back. The world behind me, the cross before me; the world behind me, the cross before me; the world behind me, the cross before me; no turning back, no turning back, no turning back. Though none go with me, still I will follow; though none go with me, still I will follow; though none go with me, still I will follow; no turning back, no turning back. I have decided, I have decided, to follow Jesus.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Romans 15:1-7

p. 924 pew bible

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Andy S. Chambers

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Griffin Watkins

***Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Welcome and Reception of New Members

Prayers of the people and 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.

Minute for Stewardship

Mr. Chip Cooper

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

A Faithful Shepherd Is My Lord

by Hall M. Macklin

***Doxology**

*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**

***Hymn of Mission/#837**

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

SHOWALTER

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response**

Go Now in Peace

by Don Besig

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

***Postlude**

Blessed Be the Name

arr. Faye López

Thank you to Chad Gambrell for serving as liturgist and to the streaming team of Craig Powell (soundboard) and Mica Nixon (Pres. Comm).



Prayers for the Week

Household Prayer: Morning

[Silence]

I listen quietly, Lord, and the morning sounds of creation draw me to you. It is then that I hear your voice, "I am pleased with you and I know you by name." Sometimes it is difficult to fully receive your pleasure in me, to grasp that you are fond of me, even when I have nothing to show for myself. May I remember that I am yours today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

I fold up this day with gratitude, holding close to my heart those whose faith helped carry me through this day. Amen.



Church Family

Margaret Addison
Laura Ashley
Neile Chambers
P-Nut Dowdle
Kathy Hamer
Linda Hunter
Gin Jacobs
Dot Smith

Bereavement

Cindy Jacobs & family
Sonya Atkinson & family
Pam Warren & family
Marvine & Bill Tyler
The Goodbar family
Laurie Addison & family
Marty & Bebe Ademy
Debbie Boland & family
Fran Hipp

Please Remember in Prayer

Friends in Christ

Hope & Stuart Britt (Andy & Randy Sullivans' daughter and son-in-law)
Neal & Lynda Counterman (Lee Counterman's uncle & aunt)
Greg & Jennifer Davis (Friends of Laurie & Lee Counterman/Greg facing extensive surgery for oral cancer in the coming weeks)
Andy Dill (Jackie Waldron's nephew)
Julie Young Keadle (Jettie & Reese Young's sister)
Kim Purcell (former FPC member)
Lannie Finley (Marty Ademy's niece)
Moonyeen Smith (Bebe Ademy's sister-in-law)
Allyson Lunsford (Neile Chambers' dear friend)
Marie McCallister (Amelia & Harrison Watkins' grandmother)
Henry McKinney (Amelia & Harrison Watkins' grandfather)
Clovis Simmons (CHS tennis coach, recent diagnosis of melanoma)
David Hope (Nancy Goodbar's brother)

Global Missionaries: Donald Marsden (US) and Pam (Turkey)



The congregation extends love and sympathy to Fran Hipp at the passing of Irby S. Hipp, III on Monday, October 12th. A service of Memorial and Witness to the Resurrection will be held in the sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. this afternoon. Visitation to follow in the Fellowship Hall.





This Week at FPC

Sunday, October 18

- 9:00 a.m. - Session examination of new members
- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service and welcome new members
- 11:30 a.m. - Kirkin' o' the Tartans practice (sanctuary)
- 2:00 p.m. - Service of Memorial and Witness to the Resurrection of Irby S. Hipp, III (sanctuary) with visitation to follow (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 p.m. - Christian Education Committee (library)

Monday, October 19

- 10:30 a.m. The Classics Hike @ Musgrove Mill (meet @ Visitors Center) Picnic @ noon (picnic shelter)

Tuesday, October 20

- 9:00 a.m. - Classics Gym Walk
- 10:00 a.m. - Mahjongg (Rm. 110-CLC)
- 5:30 p.m. Congregational Care Committee (library)

Wednesday, October 21

- 12:15-12:45 p.m. - Pause & Pray (Chapel)
- 5:30 p.m. - Handbell practice
- 5:30 p.m. - Budget & Finance Committee (library)
- 6:30 p.m. - Choir practice

Lisa Keen will be on vacation through October 25th. Please call the church office for any immediate needs.

Friday, October 23 - Church office closed



The Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2026

Marty Ademy
Emily Holder
Bob Link
Holbrook Raynal
Andy Sullivan
Stan Walsh

Class of 2027

Lee Atkinson
Danny Cook
Amanda Donley
Chad Gambrell
Jean Johnson
Bob McLean

Class of 2028

Austin Barnes
Cyndi Coker
Charlie Gustafson
Harold Nichols
Ashley Powell
Jettie Young



Church Staff

Phone: 864-833-1062

Rev. Andy S. Chambers, Pastor	X 102
Lisa Keen, Office Manager	X 101/575-937-1641 (cell)
Carolyn Payne, Financial Secretary	X103
Hunt Cook, Interim Director of Music	864-923-6037
Dr. Karen Buckland, Organist	864-833-8467
Sheryl Owens, Custodian	

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



We invite you to come to the chapel on **Wednesdays** from **12:15-12:45 PM** for a time to “Pause & Pray”. You are welcome to bring your lunch and join us for this midweek prayer service. The office & courtyard doors will be open.

Mark your calendars for next Sunday, October 25th!



Fall Festival @ Skip & Mary Belle Smith's
5:00-7:00 PM
Hot dogs, sides and Skip's famous chili!
Bring your lawn chairs and your family

Following the Kirkin' o' the Tartans worship service, we invite everyone to the Fellowship Hall for a light lunch reception.



“Connect” with us on **Tuesday, October 27th**, from **7:00 PM to 8:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We encourage everyone to bring your mobile devices and get ready to get connected with Realm! Assorted desserts and beverages will be provided.



All Saints' Day is **Sunday, November 1**. If you would like to acknowledge a loved one who has passed away in the last calendar year, please let the church office know by **Wednesday, October 28**.

The Thornwell logo features a stylized tree and the text 'Thornwell' in a serif font, with 'FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH' in a smaller font below it.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THORNWELL SUNDAY

A cartoon illustration of a turkey wearing a white scarf.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CLINTON

GUEST PREACHER: REV. MYRON WILKINS, THORNWELL PRESIDENT/CEO

11/08/26
DATE

10:30 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE

11:30 AM
LUNCH WITH THORNWELL RESIDENTS AND STAFF

We look forward to Thornwell Sunday on November 8th! Please be sure to join us for this special worship service as we welcome Thornwell residents and staff, and Rev. Myron Wilkins, president and CEO, as our guest minister.



For this year's Advent devotionals, we invite you to reflect and share what Advent means to you. We hope you will consider contributing a favorite memory, a family tradition, original artwork, scripture or meditation. Please send your submissions to the church office by **Wed., Nov. 11th**. We look forward to reading your contributions and sharing them with our church family.