



STEEPLE PEOPLE

First Presbyterian Church

Clinton, South Carolina

Living, Learning, & Loving Like Christ

August 2026 Vol. 44, No. 21

A NOTE FROM PASTOR ANDY

So far, 2026 has been the year of “all things new” for me and my family. Never in our wildest dreams did we imagine we’d live in Clinton, SC—especially, knowing where we moved from and who lived nearby. But, here we are. All things new—new house, new church, new friends, new routines, and for two of my children, new schools. Oh the anxiety of being the new kid! What do I wear to not stand out too much? Where do I sit in the lunchroom? How will I ever figure out where to go and be? Will anyone like me?

I remember the tears and begging my parents to just let me live with my best friend in the old town. I remember not speaking the entire 4-hour journey to this new place I was being forced to call home. Surely my parents realized how they were ruining my life.

And now here we are with my own child being forced to be the new kid. Where will she sit in the lunchroom and with whom? Will she be accepted? Will she be able to one day call this place home?

Yes, there is so much excitement to “all things new”, but on the flip-side, there is so much in us that resists it. I think our lives of faith are the same way.

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a NEW creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Just returning from the beach where I walked most mornings just after sunrise, I couldn’t help but notice how different the beach and sky were every day. The wind, too, some days would blow steady, and other days it would sit still waiting for the tide’s change to pull it out of hiding. What would each day bring? What new thing might I get to see or experience? Oh, the possibilities.

I know it’s easy as an adult to look back now and realize the opportunities that existed in the newness I faced as a teenager. It’s easy to say to my own child today, “Be brave!” or “You have such an opportunity”, but let’s be honest, “all things new” are not always as easy as watching the sunrise on the beach.

“All things new” takes patience, grace, a loving community, and much conversation to not miss the opportunities therein. As all of our kids go back to school this year, might we, too, look for the possibilities of “all things new” that are all around us and even in us.

I once read we can’t stay where we are and go with God. Sounds like putting the old away and trusting something new. What about for you? What’s the new that’s tugging on your heart in this season of your life? A new routine? Exercise? Bible study? Relationship? The church community?

It IS an exciting time of newness at FPC with much being planned. So, yes, I will say it—Let us be brave and let us not miss the opportunities coming our way. Let’s make it a great August 2026!

On this journey with you!

Andy

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 2

Communion Service & Blessing of the backpacks

AUGUST 9

Rally Day/congregational-wide breakfast (FH)

AUGUST 16

Worship on the Water @ Camp Fellowship

AUGUST 23

Rise Against Hunger (CLC)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN



CHURCH FAMILY

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

FRIENDS OF CHURCH

Stuart Britt
Neil & Lynda Counterman
Andy Dill
Julie Young Keadle
Alan Pinson
Kim Purcell
Trecie Davis Richey
Joe House
Lannie Finley
Moonyeen Smith

BEREAVEMENT

Cindy Jacobs & family
Sonya Atkinson & family
Pam Warren & family
Marvine & Bill Tyler
The Goodbar family
Laurie Addison & family
Bebe Ademy & family



A note from Karen Mattison: *"I wanted to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards and support this summer. I am doing much better and we finally got to Oklahoma to see our grandchildren.*

Thank you, Karen Mattison"



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1

Connor Addison
Tricia Nolan
Raegan Taylor

3

Bee Young

4

Gin Jacobs
Andrew Raynal

5

Scott Meade

10

Nathan Wyatt

14

Ellie Tallman

15

Lois Cooper

16

Tommy Parrish
Pam Warren

19

Elisabeth Zimmerman

20

Kathy Lapomarda

21

Campbell Atkinson



24

Katherine Addison
Gemma Gearheart

25

Jim Adair
John Ferguson

26

ShaSha Gower

29

Nancy Goodbar
Darrell Pitts

30

Margaret Addison

31

Jackie Waldron

AUGUST SUNDAY DUTY/VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

LITURGISTS

8/2: Laurie Counterman

8/9: Harold Nichols

8/16: Camp Fellowship - Worship on the Water

8/23: William Addison

8/30: Ron Zimmerman

SECURITY, DEPOSIT & USHERS

8/2: Lee Atkinson/Austin Barnes

8/9: Holbrook Raynal/Stam Walsh

8/16: Holbrook Raynal/Jettie Young

8/23: Holbrook Raynal/Austin Barnes

8/30: Emily Holder/Austin Barnes

LIVE STREAM TEAM

8/2: Holly Cody

8/9: Zimmermans

8/16: Emily Holder

8/23: Holly Cody

8/30: Emily Holder

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

8/2: Maecy Burton

8/9: Kelly Pitts

8/16: [Worship on the Water @ Camp Fellowship](#)

8/23: Lisa Keen & Susan Raynal

8/30: Gayle Copeland & Jettie Young

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE FOR JULY 2026

July 5

Freedom Fellowship N/A
Sanctuary: 67
Presbyterian Comm.: 4
Online Views: 117

TOTAL: 188

July 12

Sunday School: 26
Sanctuary: 104
Presbyterian Comm.: 6
Online Views: 10

TOTAL: 120

July 19

Catered Breakfast: 42
Sanctuary: 101
Presbyterian Comm.: 7
Online Views: 62

TOTAL: 170

July 26

Sunday School: 40
Sanctuary: 90
Presbyterian Comm.: 5
Online Views: 55

TOTAL: 150

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our final Praying at the Movies Sunday School series will wrap on **Sunday, August 2nd** with Ashley Powell presenting *Tender Mercies*. If you would like to watch ahead of time, it's free to stream on Amazon Prime Video or \$3.99 to rent on AppleTV, YouTube and GooglePlay.



All students are invited to bring their backpacks to the worship service on **August 2nd** for a special "Blessing of the Backpacks". We will also celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All loose offerings will go to the Social Services Fund.



Join us in the Fellowship Hall at **9:30 a.m.** on **August 9th** for Rally Day and a traditional catered breakfast by Stoddard's of eggs, bacon, grits, coffee & juice. Please RSVP to the church office by noon **Wednesday, August 5th.**



August 16th, join us for "Worship on the Water at **10:00 a.m.** @ Camp Fellowship. FPC will serve as host church and Pastor Andy will deliver the message. Please RSVP to the church office by **Aug. 6** if you are planning to stay for lunch. A suggested donation of \$15 will cover the cost of lunch, which will include BBQ/chicken fingers, mac & cheese, green beans, dessert, lemonade, tea and water. Come, bring your family and enjoy this wonderful time of waterfront worship and dining with your church family.



On **Sunday afternoon, August 23rd**, we will welcome the incoming freshman class of Presbyterian College to our church and our community at our Rise Against Hunger food packaging event in the Christian Life Center. Together, we will pack 25,000 meals for people in need around the world. We will do this in shifts: Shift #1 from 2:00–3:15 and Shift #2 from 3:30–4:45. Registration is strongly encouraged to help us be ready for all our volunteers but can also be done at the door. You can sign up for either shift. Set-Up will be done by volunteers from the PC Men's Wrestling team. You are also welcome to sign up to help with

Clean-Up at 4:45. Please plan to join us for this opportunity for Christian service and to extend a warm welcome to the new freshman class of PC. Please register using this link: <https://act.riseagainsthunger.org/event/e788247> and remember to sign the Volunteer Release & Waiver by scanning the QR code, above-left.



The Congregational Care Committee is preparing to show love and care to our FPC college students. If you have a college student, please send their address for the upcoming school year to the church office. We are also collecting \$10 gift cards to send to college students throughout the year. A basket will be in the workroom to collect any gift cards. Ideas include *gas cards, restaurants, or shopping at Walmart, Target, Amazon or grocery stores*. We have over 20 college

students in schools all over South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. Please remember these young people in your prayers as they prepare for another year.



The Racial Equity Subcommittee is sponsoring a "supply drive" to help replenish the food and school supply pantries at Presbyterian College. We have been working with the Director of the PresbyFIRST and Jacob's Scholars programs to identify the needs of the

pantries and we would like to start a "supply drive" with the support of the FPC congregation. The following is the list of supplies that they are asking for: *Peanut butter, Jelly, Oatmeal, Hormel Compleats, Poptop Chef Boyardee, tuna kits and Easy Mac. Laundry detergent (pods or small bottles), toilet tissue, paper towels, toothpaste, body lotion, body wash. (Scent and Dye-free items are encouraged.)*

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN

LET'S CELEBRATE THE SCOTTISH HERITAGE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Kirk is the Scottish word for "church". Tartans, with their distinctive plaid, represent specific Scottish Clans, regions, or regiments. The "Kirkin' o' the Tartans" is the presentation of a Scottish family's symbol, its tartan, at church for blessing. FPC will honor the heritage of the Presbyterian Church, as well as our own family heritage on:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2026

Would you like to see if your family name has an official tartan? If so, would you like to present the tartan for a blessing during the service?

"I don't have a Scottish heritage."

Are you sure?

Chad Gambrell, Derrick Adair, and Jean Johnson are ready to help you research your family heritage. They will also place your order for your family tartan to be used during the Kirkin' o' the Tartan service. The cost would be \$100 for your tartan flag and a pole. Families who participated in 2017 and/or 2018, your flag is at the church or at your home - so you don't need a new one. Tartan flags will be ordered August 12th, so let us know if you need help finding your tartan.

You can search for your surname and tartan by going to the links below:

<http://www.houseoftartan.co.uk/scottish/searchsurname.asp>

<https://www.scottishtartansauthority.com/>



AUGUST 2026



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

		Each Tuesday at the CLC: 9:00-10:00 a.m. The Classics Walk 10:00-Noon - MahJongg, Rm. 110			Church Office closed	1 CLC Reserved 2:00 -6:00 p.m. - Faith United Ministries
2 Sunday School for all (FH) 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. - Holy Communion and Blessing of the Backpacks	3	4 Administration Cmte 5:30 p.m. (library) Global Mission Cmte 7:00 p.m. (library)	5 Deadline to RSVP for Aug. 9th catered breakfast - Please call church office by noon	6 W&M Cmte 5:30 (library) Deadline to RSVP for Camp Fellowship lunch following Worship on the Water (8/16)	7 Church Office closed	8 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Palmetto Boys/Girls State Banquet
9 Rally Day & catered breakfast Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m. Congregational meeting - 11:30 a.m.	10 Congregational Life Cmte 5:30 p.m. (library)	11	12	13 Women's morning Bible study - 9:45 a.m. CLC dining room	14 Church Office closed	15
16 Worship on the Water @ Camp Fellowship 10:00 a.m. with waterfront lunch following the worship service	17	18 Cong. Care Cmte 5:30 p.m. (library)	19 B&F Cmte 5:30 p.m.(library)	20	21 Church Office closed	22
23 Rise Against Hunger - CLC - 2:00 - 4:45 p.m. Session meeting 11:30 a.m. (library)	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOTES & REMINDERS