

SUNRISE CHURCH | JUNE 2026

The Beacon



Embrace Joy This Summer

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

- Psalm 118:24

The last Sunday in May is Trinity Sunday. On Trinity Sunday, we celebrate how God is present in the life of the church. Jesus promised the disciples that he was sending the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to *teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.* (John 14:26) The gift of the Holy Spirit energized and inspired the church, sending the disciples out into the world with confidence.

You may not know how difficult clergy find preaching about the Trinity. Sermons on the Trinity run the risk of being theoretical and rather abstract. Describing God as the *Three-in-One* can easily plunge us into a theological discourse. Trinity Sunday is an opportunity for us to recognize two essential aspects of God: *the power of God's presence and relationships.*

In a passage from Exodus we hear how God was actively present with the people of Israel. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night were visual reminders that God was ever present. The power of God's presence had rescued the people from bondage in Egypt and was guiding them back to the *Promise Land*. During that journey, God was rebuilding a relationship with the people and showing them how to be in relationship with each other.

The church has affirmed the reality that Jesus, as the Son of God, combined these relationships in his person, as fully human and fully divine. As the Apostle Paul would later write in II Corinthians, *For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.* (II Cor. 4:6) The Apostles experienced God as the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer. This was not a theoretical idea that struck them; it was an encounter with the living God as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

On the Sunday of the Memorial Day Weekend, I introduced a book to the congregation on the opening sentence of the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence. The book's title describes the nature of this iconic sentence as ***The Greatest Sentence Ever Written***. The author delves into the meaning and significance of each word and phrase. It is a wonderful reminder that as a country, we are defined by the incredible ideas and spirit contained in that single sentence that begins with, *We hold these truths to be self-evident . . .*

June into July will be a celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On Saturday, June 20th, we are hosting a special concert in our sanctuary. The Sullivan's Island Club Presents, *Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness* in music and stories from the African-American, Native-American and Appalachian cultures during the Revolutionary War. There will be two performances, 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. This is a free event open to everyone.

As we recognize this milestone in our country's history, it is important for us to remember what has set us apart as a nation from other countries. The *greatest sentence ever written* defined our founding with a unique idea that inspires us to find common ground in our common humanity. I invite you to honor this important anniversary with a deep appreciation for our national heritage.

In God's grace,





Thank you for your generous contribution to the Remembrance Garden...

- In memory of Bob Draughn, Peggy Wolford, and Madge Walther given by Betty Jane Dillon
 - In memory of Bobbie Mariam given by Neila Cary
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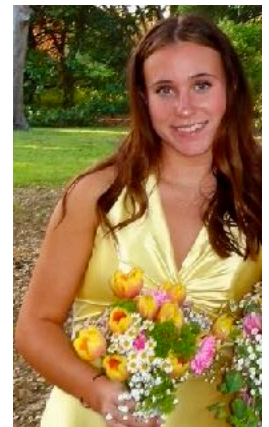
Confirmation

Congratulations to Noah & Graham Parker and Blake Belicka, who were confirmed on Sunday May 17.



Meet Ava: Sunrise's new nursery & children's ministry helper

My name is Ava Williams and I attend Academic Magnet High School. I plan to major in education when I graduate. I love surfing, soccer, reading, and creating fun learning environments for kids.



Sunrise Columbarium & Memorial Garden



Preplanning for your final resting place can help give you peace of mind knowing that your wishes will be fulfilled, and that it will be less stressful and easier for your family at the time of need. If you are interested in purchasing a niche or memorial plaque, information is available on the church website at www.oursunrise.org, at the church office or by contacting Ralph Byers, Columbarium Committee Chair, at iavelka@comcast.net or (917) 273-6173 .

Memorial gifts and donations may be made to the Columbarium Fund for the perpetual care of the columbarium and garden. Contributions given *in memory of* or *in honor of* someone will be included in the Beacon.

Congratulations Graduates!



Adlai Allard grew up attending Sullivans Island, Moultrie, Oceanside, and Lucy Beckham. She graduated early from high school and continued her path to the College of Charleston. She worked hard and in 3 years is graduating with a B.A. in Communication, with Honors. Her family is so proud of her and can't wait to see where she goes from here!



Congratulations to **Olivia Leigh Hauff** for graduating from Wando High School. Olivia is Boulder bound and we are so proud of her!



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out with parking, hospitality, food prep, and cleanup for our hosting of the quarterly Presbytery meeting at Sunrise. The event would not have been a success without you!

June at Sunrise

Growing Faith's next meeting will be on June 21st at 9 am in the Middle School Youth Group room. Any older elementary & middle school students (4th - 8th grade) are invited to join us!

The Adult Sunday School class will begin a new Bible study in June using the book *Out of the Depths: The Psalms Speak for us Today*. This book offers a fresh reading of the Psalms and examines their enduring relevance to today's theological issues. The class meets weekly in the library at 9:00 a.m. There is a video conference option via google meet. ~ Vance

Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grade) meets Sundays at 10:30 am and will also meet June 14 & 28 from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at Sunrise Church. This month's meetings will include dinner, games, and a group devotional. If you have any questions, please reach out to Breezy at breezy@oursunrise.org or (843) 860-9581.

Our college-age group meets on Thursday evenings at Sunrise through the summer at 7:00 p.m. for Bible study, a meal, and then finishing the evening with a game like Uno. This youth group is a continuation of our Senior High group from last year under the leadership of Harrison & Ritchie.

The Women's Morning Bible Study is on summer break and will resume in September. Have a wonderful summer and we'll see you in the Fall!

The Women's Evening Bible Study will meet June 19th at 5:30 pm using the book *Esther: Daring Faith for Such a Time as This*. In this 7-session study, author Kelly Minter invites you into the daring faith modeled by Esther and her cousin Mordecai—a faith developed over time, rooted in the goodness of God, lived out through extraordinary circumstances, and used to change the world. New members are always welcome. ~ Caroline

Cents-Ability is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to Neighbors Together, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.

Start off your Tuesdays with the **Jerry Dillon Men's Prayer Breakfast** at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy great food, fellowship, and a devotion.

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth	1 8am - Men's Breakfast	2 8am - Men's Breakfast	3 10am - AA Meeting	4 2pm - Heidenreich Memorial 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 7pm - College Youth Group	5 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	6
7 Communion & Family Service 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth	8 Polling Station 8am - Men's Breakfast 9am - Mt Pleasant Presbyterian	9 8am - Men's Breakfast 9am - Mt Pleasant Presbyterian	10 10am - AA Meeting	11 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 7pm - College Youth Group	12 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	13
14 Cenitis Ability 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth 4:30pm - Middle School Youth	15 8am - Men's Breakfast 5:30pm - Women's Evening Bible	16 8am - Men's Breakfast 5:30pm - Women's Evening Bible	17 10am - AA Meeting 1pm - Stephen Ministry Meeting	18 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 7pm - College Youth Group	19 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	20 4pm - Battery Gadsden Concert 7:30pm - Battery Gadsden Concert
21 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 9am - Growing Faith - Family 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth	22 Polling Station - Runoff 8am - Men's Breakfast	23 Polling Station - Runoff 8am - Men's Breakfast	24 10am - AA Meeting	25 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 7pm - College Youth Group	26 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	27
28 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth 4:30pm - Middle School Youth	29 8am - Men's Breakfast	30 8am - Men's Breakfast	1 10am - AA Meeting	2 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 7pm - College Youth Group	3 Independence Day (substitute) 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	4 Independence Day 8am - Golf Cart Parade

June Birthdays

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|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Al Dawson | 18 Dan Severns |
| 2 Susan Dickinson | 19 Lindsey Bennett |
| 3 Theresa Hipps | 19 June Dawson |
| 5 Jayne Nendorf | 20 Jay Holliday |
| 6 Barbara Smith | 20 Bettie Norton |
| 7 Leesa Phipps | 21 Piper Johnson |
| 7 Connor Kern | 21 Carolyn Goforth |
| 8 Victoria Frink | 22 Kip Nettles |
| 10 Connor McKee | 25 Patrick McDavid |
| 13 Sharon Rogers | 25 JB Belicka |
| 13 Joseph Jones | 26 Bill Major |
| 13 Anna Lee Lynch | 26 Ann Reaser |
| 13 Ameline Stewart | 28 Pam Kane |
| 14 Mary Hill | 28 Amy Jackson |
| 16 Lauren Neese | 28 Lin Schaffer |
| 16 Piper Barnhart | 28 Lauren Milly |
| 18 Dylan Wermuth | 29 Stephanie Heckart |
| 18 Carter Wermuth | |

Church Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Phone: (843) 883-3888

www.oursunrise.org

Sunrise Staff

Matthew Parker, M.M

Director of Music Ministries

mthwprkr5617@icloud.com

Hannah Webster, MBA

Church Administrator

hannah@oursunrise.org

The Rev. Dr. Vance E. Polley, D. Min.

Pastor

VancePolley@me.com

Breezy Baxley

Middle School Youth Leader

breezy@oursunrise.org

Michele Smith

Stephen Ministry Leader

mlsmith755@gmail.com



Sunrise Presbyterian Church
3222 Middle Street
PO Box 517
Sullivan's Island, SC 29482