



SUNRISE CHURCH | OCTOBER 2026

The Beacon

**Stewardship Sunday is
October 25**

A Ministry of Presence

Located on Sullivan's Island at Breach Inlet, we have one of the most beautiful places for a church. From our sanctuary windows, we see the Atlantic Ocean and the lowcountry salt marshes. It is a constant reminder of God's abundant goodness and grace.

Preserving our physical presence has been challenging. Each hurricane season, we are reminded of the devastation of Hurricane Hugo in 1989 and the amazing rebuilding of our church. Maintaining our presence on the tip of Sullivan's Island is an act of faith and confidence in God's call to us.

October is Stewardship Season. It is a month when we give special thanks for God's many blessings and dedicate our support for the continuing mission and ministry of Sunrise. Our service to God can be seen in these areas: our church building, our congregational ministry, and our mission outreach.

Our Church Building

Our church building is a gift we share with the community. We host many community-based groups. AA meets weekly at Sunrise. We have a Boy Scout charter and host Cub Scouts. The Seaside Singers practice weekly in our sanctuary. We host the hybrid homeschooling program, Veritas. Battery Gadsden Cultural Center has its monthly programs in our sanctuary. We are the polling site for Sullivan's Island voters. A Bridge Group meets in the Fellowship Hall each Friday. There are private music lessons taught in the choir room.

These are the ways we share our church building with the community. We use our beautiful building for worship, fellowship, and many activities. The addition of the columbarium has expanded the ministry of Sunrise. Situated next to the playground, there is the profound symbolism of the full circle of life. Visiting the final resting place of loved ones, the voices of young children can be heard through the fence.

Maintaining our facilities requires commitment. We live on a barrier island and the beautiful setting comes with the extra wear and tear of being located next to the ocean. Our church building is celebrating the 35th anniversary of its dedication! We have been reminded that living on the ocean more than doubles the *age* of a building. This year, we have continued to make much-needed repairs.

Ministry

We are present in each other's lives. Our Stephen Ministry is going strong and making a huge difference in people's lives. Our FEAST groups gather for meals and support each other in remarkable ways. We have active programs for all ages. There are two monthly Women Bible Studies (morning and evening), the Men's Prayer Breakfast meets weekly, the Family Service with Sunday school following nurtures our families with young children, there is *Growing Faith* for grades 4-8, Middle/High School Youth Group, and a Youth Group that is serving college-age young adults.

Mission

Our outreach mission is local, national, and global. Locally, we volunteer at Hands of Christ distributions. We financially support East Cooper Community Outreach with contributions as well as donating groceries. We financially support My Sister's House, Florence Crittenden Programs, and Meals on Wheels (including the annual Angel Tree). Nationally, we send financial assistance and collect needed items for disaster relief and when possible, volunteer our help. Globally, we contribute to outreach ministries and disaster assistance. This year, we have been provided the opportunity of funding a teacher in South Sudan. Annually, we fill and wrap boxes for Christmas-At-Sea.

In God's grace,





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

- In memory of Betty Jane Dillon given by Roberta Blanchard
 - In memory of John Petzold given by Roberta Blanchard
-

Save the Date: Live Nativity & Bethlehem Village

We have a special tradition at Sunrise to put on the Christmas Story for our community and beyond and it's never too early to start planning. There are many ways you can contribute to the Live Nativity and Bethlehem Village on Saturday, December 12th from 5-7 pm: assisting with parking, bringing in cookies, performing in the Live Nativity (you may take part in all or just some of the presentations), helping with the Bethlehem Village tables (crafts, bread making, and pottery making). We will have signup sheets in the months to come. Please be in thoughtful prayer for ways that you can use your time & talents to help share the birth of our Savior.

Sunrise Columbarium & Memorial Garden



The Sunrise Columbarium & Memorial Garden serves our members, our families and those with a long-standing relationship with the church as a safe, beautiful and permanent final resting place for deceased loved ones who have been cremated. To date, twenty-six 8x8 niches, two 12x12 niches, and eleven memorial plaques have been purchased.

If you would like to know more about purchasing a niche or memorial plaque, information is available on the church website

at www.oursunrise.org under Resources, at the church office or by contacting Ralph Byers at 917-273-6173 or at ralphbyers@gmail.com

Donations to the Columbarium Fund may be made in memory or honor of someone, or for the perpetual care of the columbarium and garden. These donations are always appreciated and will be recognized in the Beacon.

Sunrise Presbyterian Church ~ Legacy Society

- Your church Elders and Leadership are introducing a formal program to recognize a Legacy Gift to Sunrise Presbyterian Church.
- Members who make these gifts will be recognized as LEGACY SOCIETY members. A nameplate on a commemorative plaque will be placed in the narthex.
- A Legacy Gift is a substantial financial gift directed to Sunrise Presbyterian Church.
- If you wish to consider making a Legacy Gift to Sunrise Church, an Informational Folder is available in the church office, which can be picked up or mailed to you. The package will give you details of how to establish such a gift.

LEGACY SOCIETY

Sunrise Presbyterian Church



"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Corinthians 9:7

Sunday 25 October 2026 - Sax In The City

Our worship service will be inspired by the music of a saxophone quartet.

October 4th



A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to embrace God's reconciling message as active peacemakers. Giving envelopes will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, October 4th. Thank you in advance for giving generously.

October at Sunrise

Growing Faith's meets monthly in the youth group room. This month's meeting will be October 18. Any older elementary & middle school students (4th - 8th grade) are invited to join us! - Breezy

The Adult Sunday School class is using the book *Out of the Depths: The Psalms Speak for us Today* for their current Bible study. 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

Youth Group (6th-12th grade) meets Sundays at 10:30 am and also twice a month in the evenings from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. This month's evening meet up dates are October 11 & 25 and 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 75 Society Street, Apt 8 in Charleston 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 under the leadership of Harrison & Ritchie.

The Women's Morning Bible Study will meet Tuesday, October 13th at 10 am in the library. This Bible study connects the many familiar stories and people of the Bible. New members are always welcome.

The Women's Evening Bible Study will meet Tuesday, October 20th at 5:30 pm beginning a new study using the book *The Gospel of John* by Melissa Spoelstra. If you are interested in joining as a new member, this would be a great time. 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.



Fall Fun Day

Join us for games, a craft,
candy & fun!

OCTOBER

SUNDAY

25

AFTER FAMILY
SERVICE

COME DRESSED IN
YOUR COSTUMES!





SUNRISE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Student Ministry

 *Sunday Morning Schedule & Everything Else You Need to Know* 

1ST SUNDAY

No morning meeting

Students will join the service in the sanctuary, where a children's message is shared. Take communion, serve in worship, or just enjoy the service with family and friends!

2ND SUNDAY

10:30 – 11:00 AM

Morning Meeting.

3RD SUNDAY

10:00 – 11:00 AM

Growing Faith / Service Sunday — Students are encouraged to serve! Help the praise team, volunteer in Family Chapel, the nursery, the kitchen, or wherever is needed. (see Growing Faith description/ preference below).

4TH SUNDAY

10:30 – 11:00 AM

Morning Meeting.

GROWING FAITH

Held once a month, ordinarily on the third Sunday. **Growing Faith** is a time to dive deep into devotions and faith-based conversation, paired with games related to the message. Students leave feeling empowered to serve and ready to step out into the world, renewed by the grace of Jesus.

Can't make it in person? Growing Faith is also accessible via Google Meet, so any student who wishes to take part but can't join us in the room is still welcome to log in and be part of the conversation.

This service is designed just for your students — we hope they can make it!

 *Dates & details are in the monthly newsletter emailed by Breezy Baxley.*

TAKEOVER

As our students get older, we want a space that serves them — filled with spiritual conversation, biblical truth, and of course, food! We'll meet twice a month for an hour, walking through the Alpha Youth curriculum together.

These meets give students the opportunity to talk amongst their peers about their experiences, figure out what they truly believe and find comfort in the fact that they aren't the only ones with questions about their faith, or their life.

 *Dates & details are in the monthly flyer emailed by Breezy Baxley.*

Family Night

Youth group wants to share the fun with their family and friends, so we will be introducing a Family Night once a month! Fueled by fellowship, food and games Family Night will ordinarily be held on the first Sunday of the month, from 4:30-6:30PM.

Can't Stay? That's okay, come grab a to-go box!

 *Dates & details are in the monthly flyer emailed by Breezy Baxley.*

Field Trips

This year we want to make more youth group outings! Field trips are a treat catered to the students, so they happen on an annual basis.

We've enjoyed the county fair the past two years thanks to our congregation, and we're adding a trip to Summit Trampoline Park! We hope to grow toward camps or mission trips!

 *You'll be notified of any field trips via email from Breezy Baxley.*

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 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 - Youth Group	28 6:45pm - Seaside Singers	29 8am - Men's Breakfast	30 10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice	1 7pm - College Youth Group	2 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	3
4 Communion & Family Service 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 10:40am - Middle School Youth	5 6:45pm - Seaside Singers	6 8am - Men's Breakfast	7 10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice	8 7pm - College Youth Group	9 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	10
11 Ceniz-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/High Youth Group	12 Columbus Day 6:45pm - Seaside Singers	13 8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Women's Morning Bible	14 10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice	15 7pm - College Youth Group	16 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	17 Ville to Ville - parking lot usage
18 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	19 6:45pm - Seaside Singers	20 8am - Men's Breakfast 5:30pm - Women's Evening Bible	21 10am - AA Meeting 1pm - Stephen Ministry Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice	22 7pm - College Youth Group	23 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	24
25 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/High Youth Group	26 6:45pm - Seaside Singers	27 8am - Men's Breakfast	28 10am - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Choir Practice	29 7pm - College Youth Group	30 10:30am - Bridge - Fellowship Hall	31

October Birthdays

1 Brennan McDavid
2 Lynn Riker
4 Ted McKnight
5 Peggy Denby
8 Jenny Harper
9 Carol Ann Liner
10 Joy Parker
10 Connor Lynch
11 Matthew Bell
12 Henry Fehon
12 Harrison Hayes
13 Zach Terry
14 Jimmy Hiers
14 Sherry Eppelsheimer
15 Bobbie Miller
17 Barbara Smith

18 Connie Drew
18 Annabelle Rosen
21 Patsy Hindman
22 Martine Hiers
22 Hallie Smith
23 Mac Neese
25 Donna Draughn
27 Tommy Bulwinkle
28 Mary Ann Heidenreich
28 Jane McDavid
28 Samuel Kitchin
28 Tom Schmidt
28 Nina Bell
29 Kate Wilson
29 Susannah Hipps
31 Marla Lockhart
31 Olivia Hauff

Church Office Hours:
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday & 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