



SUMMERVILLE Presbyterian Church

Share Christ, Serve Others, Grow Together in Faith

3RD CHRONICLES NEWSLETTER

September 2026 | Vol. XXVIII | No. 8



IN THIS ISSUE

General Assembly Highlights pgs. 2-3
September Sermon Series pg. 3
Nursery Move pg. 5
Spiritual Growth Opportunities pgs. 6-7
MMO Update pg. 7
Adult Discipleship pgs. 8-9
Wednesday Night Live pg. 13
Stewardship 2027 pg. 14
Ministry Discernment Committee pg. 15

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday in the Word—Sept 2
- Labor Day (Church Office Closed)—Sept 7
- PW Circle Meetings—Sept 8
- Adult Discipleship Collective—Sept 9
- GriefShare Cycle begins—Sept 10
- MMO Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction—Sept 12
- Youth Group Kickoff—Sept 13
- Joy Kids Kickoff—Sept 14
- Wednesday Night Live Begins—Sept 16
- CAP PW Fall Gathering—Sept 19
- Lunch Bunch Outing—Sept 24
- Red Cross Blood Drive—Sept 25
- Grace Table Ministry Community Meal—Sept 27

GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS



Session met on August 17 to begin talking about the decisions and statements from this year's General Assembly (GA), including how they affect SPC and how we want to respond. Several of us expressed concerns about some of the topics covered and recognized they warrant further research and discussion.

At that meeting, we also had the opportunity to hear from our own Ethan Van Deventer who served as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate to GA representing our presbytery. It is from his report I drew some of the content below.

In case you don't know, the GA, which meets every two years (this year GA227 met June 22-July 2 in Milwaukee, WI), "addresses constitutional governance, racial justice, gender justice, denominational finances and the direction of the church, laying groundwork for work continuing through the next assembly."

Items of business (IOBs) originate from overtures made by presbyteries or synods, reports from agencies of the Church and committees of the GA, or from Commissioners Resolutions (effectively an overture made *at* the Assembly, sponsored by a minimum of two commissioners). IOBs are assigned to committees, where members of the committees work on the recommendations in the IOB, possibly amending it before recommending that the GA approve or disapprove it.

Often the topics that draw attention (and drew ours) can be referred to as Social Witness Policy, which is actually a body in the PC(USA) that studies, writes and recommends social witness policy to the GA: The Advisory Committee on Social

Witness Policy (ACSWP).

PC(USA) defines Social Witness as "the alignment of our words and deeds with the teachings of Christ when out in society beyond the sanctuary. Social Witness Policy, when adopted by the GA, is a framework and guide for how we as a church of disciples can faithfully respond to social concerns in the world around us."

This is why GA regularly addresses what we often describe as "political" issues, operating with the belief that "no part of human life, history, or interaction with nature is exempt from the claims of God...or beyond the love or justice of God," *Why and How the Church Makes Social Policy Witness* (Adopted GA205, 1993).

In an effort to be transparent and timely, and in response to concerns shared with some of us, in this article we are attempting to give a very basic summary of some of the main topics covered at GA. In the chart below, we attempt to simplify a jargon-laden synopsis published by the Presbyterian Outlook that we found to be less than helpful.

One elder expressed the desire that our denomination stay focused on making disciples for Christ. That is my desire for our church as well even as we discuss important topics.

Additionally, we are praying this verse from Philippians 1:9-10: "And this I pray, that your love may overflow still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may discover the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and blameless for the day of Christ."

In Christ's service,

Pastor Anita

Topic	What GA227 did.	Does SPC have to do something?
Money	Set the denomination's budget and per-member contribution.	Yes; affects our budget. Per capita rates (what we give to PC(USA) per member) were set at \$13.04 in 2027 and \$12.72 in 2028.
Israel and Gaza	Took a strong position on Israel's actions in Gaza (classified as genocide) and directed advocacy against some U.S. support for Israel.	No immediate action.
World Mission	Called for a review of how mission co-workers and World Mission were ended and asked for a new approach to global mission.	No immediate action. Report comes back to GA in 2028.
LGBTQIA+ Pastors	Created a way for churches to say whether they are open to any candidate as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.	Optional for churches.
Sexuality and Gender	Began a church-wide study of sexuality, gender and changing families.	No immediate action. Study will be shared at 2028 GA.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS & WORSHIP

Topic	What GA227 did.	Does SPC have to do something?
Gender-affirming Healthcare	Reaffirmed support for access to medically-necessary gender-affirming healthcare "for all ages."	No requirement for SPC to provide healthcare to staff. Could apply to Board of Pensions benefits.
Climate: Fossil Fuels	Directed the denomination to stop investing in more than 50 companies by 2030.	Primarily affects denomination's investments.
Christian Nationalism	Declared White Christian nationalism incompatible with Christian teaching. Some related changes still require Presbytery approval to include in the Book of Order as a "theological error."	To be voted on by Presbytery in February 2027.
Racial Justice	Continued the denomination's work addressing racism and examining its own history.	No immediate action. SPC reviews own anti-racism policy annually
Pastors	Required pastors to complete abuse-prevention/boundary training every three years, and made other ministry-training changes.	Some changes happen through Presbytery.
New Confession	Continued work on a possible new confession for the Book of Confessions addressing contemporary issues.	Nothing yet; the topic is still being developed and was referred for further study.

September Sermon Series

On September 6 we will conclude our 3 Kings series with the high point of Solomon's reign—the building and dedication of the temple of the Lord. We'll also contemplate what makes our worship acceptable to God.

On September 13 and 20 we'll have a two-part series on wisdom and foolishness based on 1 Corinthians 2:18-31. Paul contrasts the "wisdom" of the world with the "foolishness" of the cross. It should be no surprise that Paul turns these concepts on their heads!

On September 27 we'll have a one-off sermon considering how the psalmist can help us lift up our souls, lifting up our lives as we begin the journey each day—the day that opens to eternity.



Date	Series	Title	Scripture (s)	Overview
Sept. 6	3 Kings Finale	Solomon: Worship	1 Kings 8:22-30 Hebrews 12:28-29	Solomon dedicates the temple, offering acceptable worship to God.
Sept. 13	Two-Part Series on Wisdom & Foolishness	What a Fool Believes	1 Corinthians 2:18-23 Psalm 59	The Wisdom of the World "The fool says in his heart there is no God," and it gets worse from there.
Sept. 20		Word to the Wise	1 Corinthians 2:23-31 Proverbs 1:1-7	The Foolishness of the Cross "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."
Sept. 27		Your Ways	Psalm 25:1-9 Matthew 21:23-32	The Psalmist opens to God with "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul."

WORSHIP MUSIC



Traditional Worship

There is a lot happening in the world of music at SPC! Our Chancel Choir is back up and running, and the Jewel Tones and Handbell Ensemble are getting back into the swing for fall.

Our handbells were sent out for refurbishment this summer. This important maintenance procedure is completed every few years to keep our bells in top shape and sounding great! As a part of that process the bells are thoroughly looked over, polished and refurbished to make them “like new.” Through this process it was discovered that three of our bells were damaged, and it was recommended that we replace them. Handbell replacement can be very expensive (from \$750-\$2,500) depending on the size of the bell. Our cost to replace these three bells is almost \$4,000. One member has already stepped up to cover the cost of one of the bells, but we need your help to offset the cost of replacing the other two. We are asking you to prayerfully consider making a special offering to the program to help purchase these bells and to build up a fund that we can use for this purpose in the future. If you would like more information, reach out to me, and THANK YOU for considering this offering to the music ministry of SPC. We are excited to get our bells back and be ringing again soon!

I am working with Sara Kaczmarek to bring back the Children’s Christmas Pageant! This hasn’t happened since before COVID, and we are excited to bring this to life. Be on the lookout for more information!

Fall is a great time to get involved in our music ministry. We are turning our attention to the Christmas Cantata and learning new repertoire for worship services. We would love to speak with you about joining any of our ensembles! Please reach out to me at summervillepresmusic@gmail.com.



William Bennett
Director of Music

Contemporary Worship

Hello, church family!

What a wonderful time we had at Fall Kickoff! It was such a joy to gather together, enjoy some great fellowship and kick off a new season in the life of our church. One of the best parts of the day was having the opportunity to connect with one another and introduce more people to the different ways they can be involved in our church’s ministry teams. Worship is so much more than what happens on Sunday morning! It is a ministry built through the gifts, time and hearts of so many people working together.



As we move into the fall, we are looking forward to another great season of worship together. We are so thankful for each person who gives their time and talents each week—from the musicians to everyone who helps make Sunday mornings possible.

If you haven’t joined us for the Contemporary Worship service, we would love to see you! It is held every Sunday at 10:00 am in the Gym. Come as you are, bring a friend, and join us for a time of music, worship, fellowship and a message as we begin this new season together. See you Sunday!

SPC Praise Band



HOW’S YOUR CHALLENGE GOING?

Week 36: Aug 29-Sept 4

Phil 2—Col 2

Week 37: Sept 5-11

Col 3—1 Thess 3

Week 38: Sept 12-18

1 Thess 4—2 Thess 3

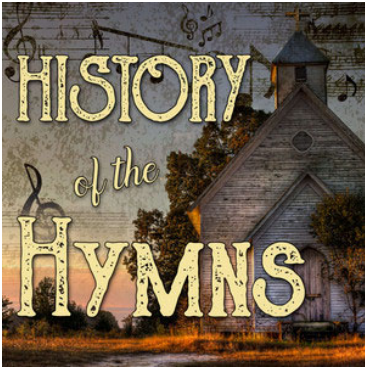
Week 39: Sept 19-25

1 Tim 1-5

Week 40: Sept 26-Oct 2

1 Tim 6—2 Tim 4

HISTORY OF HYMNS



IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

Hymn 12 is well known by our congregation. It is based on 1 Timothy 1:17:

“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever,” and that is exactly what this hymn imparts.

The author of this hymn was a minister in the Free Church of Scotland, Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), who wrote it in 1867. Smith was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, the son of a cabinet-maker. He entered college at the age of 13, intending to enter the practice of law. Instead he was influenced to enter the ministry.

Smith was a thoughtful preacher, catholic in his sympathies with rather advanced opinions. He wrote novels, religious works and poems. We are musically indebted to him for writing such a strong expression of faith. This poem is typically sung to “St. Denio,” a Welsh folk melody arranged by John Roberts in 1839.

This hymn emphasizes the majesty and mystery of God, and the awe His glory inspires. It was sung at Queen Elizabeth’s 60th birthday celebration and at Princess Diana’s funeral.



**Come join Pastor Ralph for
Wednesday in the Word
on September 2 at 1:00 pm
in Lanneau Hall.**



NURSERY

HAS MOVED!

ENJOY OUR EVENTS & WORSHIP SERVICES WHILE WE WATCH YOUR LITTLE ANGELS!

the Nursery will be in

ROOM 103

(next to the Genesis room)

PARENTS, please make note of the room change.

We look forward to seeing you and the children in the new room in a few weeks!

Thank you to Kelly Murphy for serving as Nursery Coordinator this past year. Kelly is stepping away from the coordinating role in order to focus on completing her doctorate!



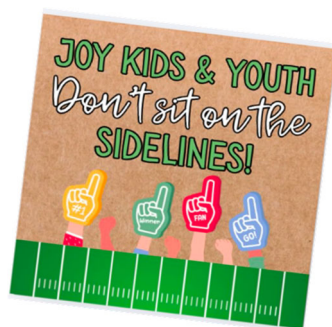
GREETINGS FROM HANNAH MEYER, NEW NURSERY COORDINATOR

Hello, everyone! I've been a member at SPC since October 2025, but I've been attending since July 2023. I have three boys that you may have seen running through the halls: Theodore (6), Eugene (4), and Nathaniel (1). I've been a member of the Chancel Choir, Handbell Ensemble and Jewel Tones since July 2023. I've also been a teacher at our MMO program since we opened in January 2024. I am very excited to be joining the staff of SPC and look forward to what the future holds for me here!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH



Sara Kaczmarški
Spiritual Growth Assistant



Joy Kids: New meeting day!

Starting September 14, Joy Kids will meet on Mondays from 5:30-7:00 pm. Dinner will be served each week, and we will meet in Lanneau Hall. Joy Kids is for kiddos from kindergarten through 4th grade. We will meet each week that DD2 is in session. Joy Kids will run through mid-November when we will transition to special events for the holidays! Be sure to check your Thursday Spiritual Growth e-blasts as well as future 3rd Chronicles. **The first dinner on September 14 will be a tailgate party in Lanneau Hall!**

Youth: New meeting time and schedule!

Kickoff activity, September 13, 6:00 pm, Jeff Queen's house. This year Youth will alternate between the church and various locations. Ana Hill and Jeff Queen are this year's Youth Advisors, along with coordination help from Hunter Harris. We are excited to be able to include 5th graders in Youth this year, which spans from 5th grade through middle and high school. Be sure to check the Thursday Spiritual Growth e-blasts, as well as 3rd Chronicles. Also, be on the lookout for special permission slips for periodic off-site events and gatherings!

New High School Sunday School Class Begins September 6!

This fall SPC is excited to launch Branches, a new Sunday school class for high school students. The name reflects the picture of a growing tree. As our students grow in their faith, they are called to grow deep in Christ while also reaching outward into the world around them. Branches will be a place where high school students can deepen their relationship with Jesus, explore what it means to live out their faith, ask honest questions, and grow alongside one another. The class will meet in Room 301, and we invite all high school students to come grow with us!



Lots of great Small Groups to join!

See page 8 for a complete list of our existing and new small groups!

Volunteers Still Needed!

We're still looking for some Sunday School volunteers! A couple spots are still open for September through December, and we would love to hear from someone whom God is calling to step in and help. The lessons are planned and copied ahead of time for you. You're welcome to add additional crafts or new ideas, make it your own, or not. Up to you!



The kiddos LOVE coming to Sunday School and would love to continue their classes through the rest of the year. Our needs are in the pre-readers class which is pre-K and kindergarten. Depending on whether you are willing to teach one or two Sundays per month, we have between three to six openings. You are never alone in class, as there is always a partner teacher. Please reach out if you are able to step in!



SPIRITUAL GROWTH

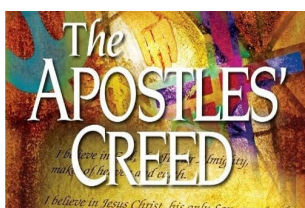
Wednesday Night Live Classes

Two choices beginning September 16!

The Apostles' Creed

We say it every Sunday, but what does it mean? The Apostles' Creed is an ancient Christian statement of faith that outlines the core beliefs of the faith, structured in Trinitarian fashion. Join us for a deeper dive into the meaning and biblical support behind each statement.

Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Ralph R. Herbert



"To Be or Not to Be."

The Vital Link Between Suffering and Personal Salvation

Suffering is a shared human experience that none of us will be able to avoid. In this class, we will explore the very origins and nature of human suffering, and learn specific skills to use when encountering suffering in our own lives, those of our family or friends, and in our public ministry.

The existence of suffering in the world can be reconciled with the Christian concept of an all-powerful, sovereign and loving God.

Facilitated by Dr. Andy Shaver

MOTHERS MORNING OUT



Welcome to September!

We just finished the first month of the new school year, and it was such a blessing to welcome students back after summer break. Our Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction Fundraiser is coming up on September 12. I want to thank everyone for their donations towards the auction. MMO is so blessed by your generosity. There's still time to purchase tickets. (See the menu and contact information at right.) I hope to see you all there.

Donations and volunteers needed. We are back in session, so we need snacks! We provide two snacks every day for each of our 80+ students. The children enjoy pretzels, Goldfish crackers, applesauce pouches, animal crackers, fruit snacks, crackers, fruit cups and chips. We encourage the children to try new things, so any nut-free snack is welcome!

I am still looking for volunteers interested in giving a chapel lesson. You may choose any theme you wish to teach on, or pick a rotating calendar slot. Additionally, the children enjoy hearing special guest readers. For more information or to sign up for one of these opportunities, please reach out.

Sheila Wilson
MMO Director



SUMMERVILLE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Mother's Morning Out Program

Spaghetti Dinner & SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

MENU

SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2026 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS
Classic spaghetti topped with savory marinara sauce and meatballs.

GARDEN SALAD
Fresh greens with a variety of crisp vegetables and your choice of dressing.

GARLIC BREAD
Warm, buttery garlic bread baked to perfection.

CHEESECAKE
Creamy cheesecake with a delicious topping.

\$20 PER FAMILY

Sign up today!
Scan the QR code
OR
visit
<https://square.link/u/ITxyXJzn>

Thank you for supporting our program! ❤️
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MOTHER'S MORNING OUT PROGRAM

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Adult Discipleship

— *at* **SPC** —

SUNDAY SCHOOL | SMALL GROUPS | PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN | CLASSES

Sunday School at 10:00 am

Seekers (Room 202)

Sermon on the Mount
facilitated by Hunter Harris, Colin Martin
Sharlene Douthit-Schneidmuller,
Andy Shaver, Claudette Young

Genesis (Room 101)

The Wired Word
facilitated by Kristi Selander, Jim Bailey,
Henk van der Meyden, Snapper Jasso

Under the Hill (Room 107)

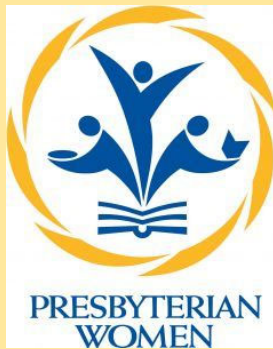
"The Chosen" Bible Study
facilitated by Ana Hill

Small Groups

Group	Type	Meeting Time & Location	Leader(s)	Frequency	Study (if applicable)
29486 Group	Book study	1st & 3rd Weds. Members' homes	Michael & Candace Hayes	Bi-monthly	"Following Jesus without Embarrassing God" (Tony Campolo)
Saturday Morning Men's Group	Bible study	Sat., 8:30 am SPC Room 107	Ralph Herbert	Weekly	Luke
Share, Word, Prayer Group	Bible study	Mon., 5:00 pm SPC Room 101	Julie McCormick	Weekly	Sermon-based
Contemporary Small Group	Bible study	Sun., 11:00 am SPC Room 304	Michael & Candace Hayes	Weekly	Sermon-based
Knitting Small Group	Activity-based	2nd & 4th Thurs., 1:00 pm, Pat's home	Pat Tolbert	Bi-monthly	Devotional
Made by Hand Fellowship	Activity-based	3rd Tues., 10:00 am SPC Room 304	Diane Dunham	Monthly	Devotional
Women of Worth	Book study	2nd Thurs., 6:00 pm Members' homes	Sharlene Douthit-Schneidmuller	Monthly	"Becoming a Woman of Worth" (Becky Drace)
Men's Group	Bible study	Wed., 6:30 am Zoom	Scott Wilson	Weekly	Acts
Women's Group	Bible Study	TBD	Amy Price		James
New! Young Adults Group	Book study	TBD	Zach Storti & Julia Miller		TBD
New! Couples Group	Bible Study	Every other Thurs. The Quinns' home	Bob & Cathy Quinn	Bi-monthly	Acts
New! Women's Group	Book study	Thurs., 10:00 am Dorchester Room	Suzie Ryan	Begins Nov. 12, 7 weeks	"Three Wise Women" (Dandi Daley Mackall)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

All Adult Discipleship leaders are invited to an “Adult Discipleship Collective” on Wed., Sept. 9, at 6:00 pm for a dinner meeting to share best practices and ideas and encourage one another in making and growing disciples of Jesus here at SPC.



PW Women is excited to start studying together this fall. Circles are small groups that gather regularly for Bible study and mission projects. They provide an inclusive, caring community of women at the Congregational level.

The following Circles will meet on the second Tuesday of the month beginning September 8.

The **Miriam Circle**, moderated by Cindy Van Horn, will continue reading Max Lucado's *Before the Amen: The Power of Simple Prayer*, which discusses ways to improve our prayer life. This group meets at 10:00 am at the home of a different group member each month. The September meeting and discussion of chapter 6 will be at the home of Mary Lou Semones, 117 Guilford Drive in Summerville.

The **Lydia Circle**, moderated by Betty Cowen, meets at 1:00 pm in Lanneau Hall. They will be trying to gain insights from the book *Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can Learn from Them*, which focuses on how we can learn to avoid some of the pitfalls of life.

This past year, Claudette Young began leading the **Ruth Circle** focused on members living at The Village. They meet the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 am at The Presbyterian Village. They will be studying *Ten Women of the Bible* by Max Lucado. Talk to Claudette if you are interested in joining.

Again, but Deeper.

There is something about discipleship that becomes more meaningful as we grow.

The Christian life isn't about reaching a point where we've finally figured everything out. We keep coming back.

Again and again.

I love the image of a **spiral**. It can look like we're returning to the same place, but we're not exactly where we were before. We've moved. We've gone deeper.

It's a little like lifting weights.

You may do the same exercise over and over. The movement is familiar. But as you grow stronger, you add weight.

The exercise hasn't changed. You have.

Discipleship can be like that. We return to Scripture. We return to prayer. We return to worship. We return to serving. We return to Christ.

Again.

But we encounter those same things in new seasons. Something we've prayed about before needs to be prayed about again. Something we've learned before suddenly has another layer.

And that's where **Next Play** comes in.

Next Play isn't about constantly finding something new to accomplish for Christ or for our church. It begins with abiding—staying close to Christ so we can listen for where he is leading us.

What is Christ inviting me to do next?

Maybe it's something new. Maybe it's something familiar that he is asking us to take deeper.

So before we decide what our next plays are, **let's pray.**

In 2 Chronicles 7, God tells his people that when they humble themselves, pray, and seek him, **He will hear from heaven and respond.**

So let's pray as a church about our next play.

Abide. Listen. Make the next play.

Again, but deeper.

Amy Price, Spiritual Growth Elder

The 3 Cs of CHRISTIAN LIVING

LIVING AS THE BODY OF CHRST

JOHN 15:5



PW FALL GATHERING 2026



SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19, 2026



BEGINNING AT
9:00 A.M.



ENDING WITH LUNCH AT
12:30 P.M.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON EDISTO ISLAND, SC
2164 S.C. HWY 174, EDISTO ISLAND, SC



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-27

If interested in attending, please contact your Circle leader or Julie McCormick in the church office.

NURTURE

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

Keep 'em rolling, rolling, rolling...

Four years ago, in response to a perceived need, SPC's Nurture Team formed the Transportation Ministry. This ministry is a group of volunteer drivers whose mission is to provide dependable, safe and cost-free transportation to members of SPC who are no longer able to drive or need outside transportation to a doctor's visit, therapy or similar appointments.

On July 14 the Transportation Ministry received its 200th request for a ride, more than 100 of which have come in the past year. While extenuating circumstances have prevented the team from being able to respond to a handful of these requests, thankfully our drivers have been willing and able to provide transportation for all of the other calls. The majority of the requests are for medical providers in the Summerville area, but a large percentage require trips to West Ashley, Mount Pleasant or downtown Charleston.

This ministry could not be possible without a compassionate, dedicated team of drivers who are willing to offer the service of their time and personal vehicles to ensure that the rider can make his or her appointment. Among those who have provided rides are Betty Cowan and Elaine Segelken as well as Barb Grube, Bill Demerest and Christy Glymph who have each driven on more than a half dozen occasions. And a special tip of the chauffeur's cap to the following drivers who have each responded a dozen or more (and up to 60) times: Carol Wilkins, Charlie Harris, Claude Burns, Perry Harris, Sharon Klein and Vera DeVito. We are truly blessed and grateful for their dedication.

If you need a ride, or if you would like to be added to this team of drivers, please contact Charlie Harris (571-492-2407). If you are requesting a ride, please call a minimum of seven days prior to the day that you need the ride so we can schedule the ride and coordinate the details. For anyone wanting to volunteer as a driver, we would love to add you to our team. We are especially interested in adding men as we often have riders who require assistance with appliances or in getting in or out of the vehicle.



GriefShare®

NEW GRIEFSHARE CYCLE STARTS SEPTEMBER 10 THROUGH DECEMBER 3!

There is much information out there, and personal stories abound, about grief as a studied phenomena. We cannot forget however that it is a very real, human, normal, natural and universal response and reaction to the loss of one dear and beloved to us. Grief asks more of one's heart than most people realize. It is often more than sadness and can take emotional and even physical energy to make it through one's day and night. While the memories and images of the loved one lost may fade, they will not completely disappear. It may be for some a lifelong process. There is no one way to grieve. The experience is unique to each one of us.

GriefShare as a program is more than just video testimonies from fellow grievers, insights from experts and practical coping strategies. We believe it offers hope. Hope that one can feel better and that you can thrive again even in the midst of struggle and change. Its goal and ours as facilitators is to find a gentle way for you to care for yourself as you take one step at a time on this journey. It is about sharing and offering and receiving support in a safe group space. It can be a spiritual journey for some as well, and while we believe strongly in the practical everyday coping skills and responses, we do begin and end with prayer and do not shy away from difficult questions. While we surely are not experts or counselors (they are in the videos), we have been hosting these conversations for some time now and remain accountable to our pastor, the Session and SPC.

**All are welcome. If you have questions, please
contact GriefShare Leader Bill Demerest
at 843-704-7130 or billdemerest@gmail.com.**

Recently, SPC was given a gift in honor of Betty Jane Donohoe by her daughter, Mari Peterson. Mari is the sister-in-law of SPC member Gotz von Westernhagen. Mari wrote the following tribute to be a blessing and thank you to SPC for holding the memorial service for Betty, who spent her final seven years at The Village in Summerville.

IN MEMORY OF BETTY JANE DONOHOE

"Mari, there's always something to be thankful for." Those were my mother's last words to me. They came from a woman who lived her final seven years in one room—no television, no phone, no internet, five or six outfits, and two pairs of shoes. From the outside it might sound like a spare life. She was the most content person I have ever known. She read her Bible every single day, starting over each time she finished, and she blessed everyone who walked into her room. In her last weeks, the staff who cared for her returned those blessings and told us ...

(continued on next page)

THANK YOUS & MILITARY LIST

(continued from p. 10)

she had taught them the art of blessing others.

Betty was born in 1937 in Andalusia, Alabama, in a former railroad house without indoor plumbing, and she became the only one of her family to finish high school and college—because her Presbyterian church raised the funds to send her. She served in the U.S. Foreign Service at the embassy in Bonn, Germany. Widowed at 42 with four children, she earned a master's degree in special education and spent the rest of her working life teaching children others had given up on. She gave away nearly everything she earned—a roof here, books there, quilts for families who needed them—and never wanted a word of thanks.

She never sought attention. She never boasted. So I will do it for her, just this once: If anyone lived up to Proverbs 31, it was my mother.

There is always something to be thankful for.

Thank you, on behalf of Betty Donohoe.

Mari Peterson (her adopted Korean daughter)



Dear Friends of SPC,
Bill and I would like to thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers that Shawn Blunt brought us last week. The 4th of July is very special to us, so it meant a lot.
Sincerely, **Gail Hausler**
P.S.—Plus the visit.

Dear Congregational Care Committee,
You have no idea how much those flowers meant to me on my 90th birthday. I go to bed early, so I found them on my porch the next day! I am so sorry I missed the Club 90—thinking it was on Friday, my son “Bill” had a celebration at his house that day. My church is so supportive for members. Thank you so much. Bless you!
Anne Bradsher

Dear SPC Church Family, I want to thank you all for the prayers, cards and visits following my recent fall. A special thanks to Sharon Klein and the Congregational Care Committee for the beautiful prayer shawl and to Suzanne Chastain for the gorgeous vase of flowers. You all mean so much to me, and I love you all. **Dorothy Douthit**

Dear SPC, Thank you so much for recognizing John and me in the church newsletter. We are grateful for your kindness and support. Although I have moved away, SPC has always held a special place in my heart. It means so much to know that y'all continue to look out and support me! Thank you for celebrating both our engagement and John's law school graduation/future plans. We are excited for this next chapter in our lives and appreciate all of your prayers, encouragement and love along the way! **Elizabeth Hamilton and John Markel**

Dear SPC Church Family, Many thanks to everyone that has been so kind and thoughtful to me since I received my cancer diagnosis last September. As a brand new church member, I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of your care and concern for me and my husband, Ron, when nobody even really knew us. Over the past 10 months I have felt your prayers, appreciated your visits, enjoyed your cards and flowers and was so grateful for some delicious meals. All these things made chemo, surgery and radiation more bearable. PRAISE GOD, my cancer is gone and many prayers were answered. SPC is truly an example of the love of Christ. Blessings, **Julie Pell**

Military Prayer List

- ◆ Michael Arnold (Nancy Piscatella's grandson) Army, Hunter Air Field, Savannah, GA
- ◆ Cade Carpenter, USAF, Italy, and Zoë Carpenter, USAF, Joint Base Charleston, SC (Kathy Whittle's nephew and niece)
- ◆ Derek Craver (son of Don and Patricia Craver) Navy, Jacksonville, FL
- ◆ Quincy D'Antonio (Linda Wigfield's grandson) Health Clinic, Navy Base, BHC Diego Garcia, Indian Ocean
- ◆ Elijah Kellar (Robert and Sue Wearn's nephew) US Navy, Gulfport Navy Base, Gulfport, MS
- ◆ Andre Maurice Moncrief (son of Sherry Roberts) Army Reserve, Modesto, CA
- ◆ Lt. Commander Parker Northrop (son-in-law of Hunter and Perry Harris) Navy, Baltimore, MD
- ◆ Wyatt Stahel, (Matt and Vicky Methot's grandson) Marines, Okinawa, Japan
- ◆ Capt. Charles Young, USNR, NAVWAR, CYBER EAST, Fort Orchard, WA (Tony and Claudette Young's son)
- ◆ HM1 (FMF) Nathan Herrington, Seebee Unit, Port Hueneme, CA (Tony and Claudette Young's grandson)

Please let the church office know when changes occur. Thank you.



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER**

SERVICE & OUTREACH



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Each year for World Communion Sunday our church participates in a special offering to support global missions of peace. Our offering

this year on October 4 will be to the Mackay Mission to help with their outreach in Oaxaca, Mexico. Many of you are familiar with the Mackay Mission, a 1001 New Worshipping Community that has basketball fellowship here in the SPC gym Friday nights and some Saturdays. Sandra Otero and Antonio Colón have worked very hard with this ministry to foster relationships with families here and in Oaxaca, Mexico.

The Ña Duku' Rumi Basketball Academy in Oaxaca is glorifying God by using basketball to strengthen families in Triqui communities. In their July newsletter, the Academy shared achievements including a coaching certification, practice of the native Triqui language, and preparation for upcoming tournaments. Sandra will be doing a Minute for Mission September 27 at all three services to give more insight into their mission.

We look forward to supporting them this Communion Sunday.



NEEDS FOR ANCHOR HOUSE & LIGHT HOUSE

- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softener sheets
- Body wash
- Paper towels, plastic utensils, disposable cups
- Bike lights
- Cable locks for bikes
- Twin-size comforters



OUR NEXT COMMUNITY MEAL WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 12:30 pm-1:30 pm IN THE SPC GYM

Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

6:00 – 8:00 pm

SPC Meal Packaging Event In the SPC Gym



To sign-up - scan the QR code above, contact the church office or fill out the back of your Connection Card.

Are you ready for your hunger relief experience?

Our Rise Against Hunger Experience event will provide a fun, educational way for SPC to literally lend a hand to people facing hunger across the globe. We will combine an assembly line process with an educational experience to not only make a huge impact worldwide, but to touch the lives of those in our group.

At Rise Against Hunger, It Starts with a Meal, and it leads to resilience, self-sufficiency, education, empowerment and bright futures in communities worldwide. Every day Rise Against Hunger meals are served around the globe in medical clinics, vocational training programs, elder care facilities and schools. Each meal is a moment to celebrate.



DISTRIBUTION RECAP

We had a wonderful distribution this year and were able to serve **84 families with 157 children**. We're taking September off to recover and will start taking inventory (when it hopefully cools down a bit) on Friday, October 3, at 9:00 am. Please come out and help us get everything counted.



Give blood.
Help save lives.

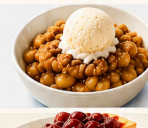


RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE FRIDAY, SEPT. 25 NOON—5:00 PM LANNEAU HALL

FELLOWSHIP



FALL 2026 WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE Menu

SEPTEMBER 16 WEEK 1	 Potluck Congregation is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. We will provide Fried Chicken as main dish.		GAME:  Tailgate Trivia
SEPTEMBER 23 WEEK 2	 Beef Pot Roast Garden Salad • Roasted Root Vegetables • Rice • Dinner Roll <i>Strawberry Shortcake</i>		GAME:  Minute to Win It
SEPTEMBER 30 WEEK 3	 Pork Loin Garden Salad • Sweet Potatoes • Green Beans • Dinner Roll <i>Hershey Bar Pie</i>		GAME:  Name that Tune
OCTOBER 7 WEEK 4	 Chicken Cordon Bleu Garden Salad • Vegetable Medley • Rice Pilaf • Dinner Roll <i>Caramel Cake</i>		GAME:  Bingo
OCTOBER 14 WEEK 5	 Spaghetti & Meatballs Garden Salad • Italian Sausage • Fresh Steamed Broccoli • Garlic Bread <i>Cannoli</i>		GAME:  Bible Pictionary
OCTOBER 21 WEEK 6	 Fried Chicken Garden Salad • Mashed Potatoes • Mac N' Cheese • Cheddar Biscuit <i>Apple Cobbler</i>		GAME:  Price is Right
OCTOBER 28 WEEK 7	 Pizza Garden Salad • Cheesecake		GAME:  Memory

Good Food. Great Fellowship. Growing Together.



FALL 2026 WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE Ticket Prices

SINGLE WEEK	
	PER PERSON \$12
	PER COUPLE \$24
	FAMILY CAP \$30 (Up to immediate family members)

FULL SEASON • ALL 7 WEEKS	
	PER PERSON \$60
	PER COUPLE \$120
	FAMILY CAP \$150 (Up to immediate family members)



FULL SEASON TICKET SALES END SEPTEMBER 16

Full season tickets will be available through the conclusion of the first Wednesday Night Live dinner.

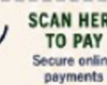



**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE
ONLINE OR THROUGH THE OFFICE
BY NOON EACH TUESDAY.**





SCAN TO PAY
Purchase single week or full season tickets online today!



SCAN HERE TO PAY
Secure online payments



PAYMENT OPTIONS:
CASH, CHECK, CARD



BRING A FRIEND.
Share the Fellowship!

Good Food. Great Fellowship. Growing Together.



SAVE THE DATE!
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY
DURING COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IN LANNEAU HALL

**PLEASE BRING CARDS TO JULIE MCCORMICK
 IN THE CHURCH OFFICE PRIOR TO OCTOBER 11.**



JOIN US!

The Lunch Bunch is a new group (formerly the Ladies Luncheon group) that meets monthly at a local restaurant.

11:30 am, Thursday, Sept. 24

Palmetto Flats

975 Bacons Bridge Road, Summerville

For questions and reservations, please contact Claudette Young at claudettemariyoung@yahoo.com or call her at 843-991-1057.

FINANCE & SESSION UPDATES



The offerings along with monies received for the use of facilities and the total expenses for the month of July and year to date are as follows:

	Monthly	Year to Date
Receipts	\$ 52,838.00	\$585,491.00
Expenses	\$ 54,723.00	\$481,728.00
Excess (deficit)	\$ (1,885.00)	\$103,763.00

Monthly receipts and expenses fluctuate, which has resulted in 2026 year-to-date excess revenues over expenses of \$103,763. The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone for financially supporting our church.



Greetings! Below are several items of interest from recent Session activity:

- To ensure children's safety, Session approved installation of a fence to separate the playground area from the Columbaria. When the fence is in place, the Columbaria will be accessible to visitors at all times.
- Session approved one marriage, two baptisms and a special offering to fund replacement of three handbells.
- There was significant discussion regarding various General Assembly overtures and denomination issues. Ethan Van Deventer met with Session and provided an update (Ethan attended the GA as our Presbytery Young Adult Advisory Delegate.) Pastor Anita provided background in her August 3rd Chronicles report as well as an update this month.
- Session is recommending that the congregation approve adding a third Elder to the Spiritual Growth Ministry Team. This will better enable Spiritual Growth to provide focus on all age groups (e.g., support for adult discipleship/small groups, Sunday School teachers, Youth/Children offerings, etc.)
- Personnel approved advertising at Charleston Southern University for a part-time Children's and Youth intern for the academic year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to see me or contact me at summervillepresclerk@gmail.com.

Blessings,
Oden Semones
Clerk of Session



THANK YOU

After 18 years of faithful service, our Financial Manager, Cecilia Bond, is stepping down from her role to be a full-time grandmother. She will remain in her position until we have found and trained her

replacement, at which point we will announce an opportunity to show your appreciation to Cecilia.

SPC's Financial Manager position is 20 hours a week with flexible hours. Should you or someone you know be interested, contact Finance Chair Jeff Bowers (jeff@jeffbowers.com) for a job description.

STEWARDSHIP 2027

Despite the discomfort we often have in talking about money in church, Jesus had no such problem. In fact, money was his most frequent topic. In a play on some of the investment lingo of our day, our stewardship sermon series this year is entitled "Wealth Management According to Jesus."



The four-week stewardship sermon series will begin October 11, with Dedication Sunday on November 1.

You will be introduced to this year's Stewardship Committee on September 13. Members include Diana Barth, Ellen Burns, Ashley Heslop, Ana Hill, Robert Pratt, Jeff Queen and Daniel Selander.

SESSION NEWS, BIRTHDAYS, GUESS WHO?

Ministry Discernment Committee

SPC has formed a Ministry Discernment Committee to prayerfully assess the overall needs of our church as we plan for the future. The committee will consider the ministries, programs and staffing needs of the church, while also gathering input from members of our congregation. The committee will carefully consider this feedback and provide its findings and recommendations to the Personnel Committee and Session. The committee plans to meet this fall and complete its work by December. Be on the lookout for more information and opportunities to share your thoughts as the committee listens to our congregation and seeks God's guidance for the future of our church. Committee members are Kristi Selander, Joe Friday, Ana Hill, Emily Morgan, Janice Sharp, Jeff Queen and Kathryn Tupper. We are grateful to the members of the committee for their willingness to serve and for the time and thoughtful consideration they will give to this important work.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has begun working to find a slate of nominees to serve as elders and deacons for three-year terms beginning in February 2027. Look for nomination forms in the church office, at the welcome centers, and online to make nominations. This year's nominating committee members are Oden Semones, Sharlene Douthit-Schneidmuller, Zachary Storti, Barb Grube, Sharon Klein, Marilyn Long and Henk van der Meyden.



WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

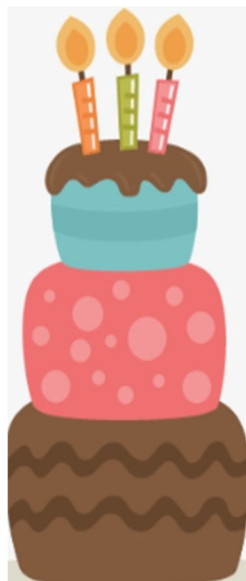
Congratulations to Elizabeth and John Markel on their August 24 wedding. Elizabeth is the daughter of Lisa and Jim Hamilton and a granddaughter of Candace and Robert Pratt.

Congratulations to Hayden and Laney

Jasso on their August 1 wedding. Hayden is the son of Snapper and Ramona Jasso.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Phil	Dwyer	2	Kenneth	Cesca	17
Eleanor	Woodbury	2	Patsy	Rose	20
Lynn	Davis	3	Mary	Skinner	20
Sally	Carlin	4	Annette	Meachum	21
Jim	Hamilton	4	Cookie	Bragg	22
Ronald	Kier	6	Robert	Wearn	22
Carol	Swisher	6	Chance	Crowley	25
Emma	Edwards	8	Jean	Davenport	25
Jo Anna	Eason	9	Joseph	Friday	27
Annee	Wade	9	Mildred	Kwist	28
Sheila	Hasenstab	15	Pamela	Lanford	28
Patrick	Scally	15	Barbara	Simmons	29
Shawn	Blunt	16	Christy	Glymph	30
Michael	Browder	16	Helen	Hamilton	30
Anna	Coffey	16	Robert	Higgins	30
Bill	Spearman	16			



GUESS WHO?

This church member joined in May 2023. She attends the 11 am service and sits in the zoo. She lives in Del Webb Cane Bay.



Submit your guess to the church office at summevillepres@gmail.com

First correct answer receives a gift card prize!

August's Guess Who was **Modena Debrosse!**



No one guessed correctly! Better luck next time!

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Anita Herbert—Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ralph Herbert—Discipleship Pastor
William Bennett—Director of Music
Jim Moore—Organist
Joe Swisher and Julia Miller—Co-Directors of Contemporary Worship
Sara Kaczmarek—Spiritual Growth Assistant
Julie McCormick—Administrative Office & Communications Coordinator
Sheila Wilson—Director of Mothers Morning Out
Cecelia Bond—Finance Manager
Hannah Meyer—Nursery Coordinator
Shirley Gay—Sexton
Bob Hirsch—Sexton

SESSION

Fellowship—Zachary Storti (Chair), Vicky Methot
Nurture—Charlie Harris (Chair), Sharlene Douthitt-Schneidmuller
Service—Kelli Kemmerer (Chair), Sherry Roberts
Spiritual Growth—Hunter Harris (Chair), Amy Price
Property—Jade Hill (Chair), Doug Hess
Finance—Jeff Bowers (Chair), Robert Pratt
Personnel—Jeff Bowers (Chair)
Worship—Kathryn Tupper (Chair), Colin Martin
Youth Elder—Lily Bennett
Clerk of Session—Oden Semones

3RD CHRONICLES

Proofreaders: Diane Burden, Frieda Hughey, Debbie Lindsay, Merrilyn Long, Janice Sharp, Elaine Segelken, Kim Shafer
Assemblers: Barbara Grube, Gail Hyatt, Carol Ploth, Patsy Rose, Judy Underwood, Rose Warrell, Sharon Klein
Send questions, comments and news to summervillepres@gmail.org. The 3rd Chronicles deadline is normally the second Friday of each month.



SUMMERVILLE
Presbyterian Church

Share Christ, Serve Others, Grow Together in Faith

407 S. Laurel Street
Summerville, SC 29483
www.summervillepres.org

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Summerville, SC 29483
Permit No. 43



Return Service Requested

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT US?
Visit our website at www.summervillepres.org
Facebook @SummervillePres

