

September 6, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
15th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Allegro*, from Concerto I in F Major Johann Walther

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship *(from Psalm 119:33-40)* Becky Childers
Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.
Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.
Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.
Turn my heart to your decrees;
in your righteousness be gracious to me.

*Hymn 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

Invitation to Confession

As we worship God, let us take time to honestly name the ways that we have fallen short, collectively and individually. Trusting in the gracious mercy of our Lord, let us confess, together.

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, we have judged others harshly, unfairly and casually. We tend to focus on the sin, brokenness and foibles of others, rather than on the growth and work we are called to. We’ve made assumptions about what others want and need, robbing them of the freedom to speak for themselves. We’ve tuned out the voices bold enough to express views that are different from ours. We’ve relied upon your grace, time and time again, while hastily denying that you are eager to give it not only to us, but to our enemies, also. Help us to see others as you see them; help us to see you with faith and trust.

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, calling all to turn from sin, and live. By the grace of God, our sins are forgiven. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace.

*Holy Interruption

*Gloria Patri

Choral Anthem *As the Deer* Nystrom
Chancel Choir arr. by Wagner

We Receive God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 119:33-40
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “*We Can Work It Out*” Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith *(from The Confession of 1967)*
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as a reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from one another. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to God’s call.

*Hymn 722 *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* CANONBURY

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *When We All Get to Heaven* Eliza Hewitt
arr. by Mark Hayes

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH
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.

Sacrament of Communion
Communion

Invitation to Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music *Andante*, from Concerto in F Major, BWV 971 J.S. Bach

Prayer After Communion

We Go Out to Serve

*Hymn 757 *Today We are Called to Be Disciples* KINGSFOLD

*Benediction

Benediction Response *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing*
Chancel Choir SICILIAN MARINERS

*Postlude *Giga* Carlo Menotti

*Please wait until the end of the Benediction Response before exiting.

*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

Acolytes Taedyn DeFord and Alexi DeFord

The Church This Week (9/6/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
Mon. Labor Day-Church Office Closed
Tue.
Wed. 9:30 a.m. MMO Open House
10:00 a.m. Deacons Meeting
3:15 p.m. Fun Program
5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Thurs.
Fri.
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Congressional Meeting

Prayer List as of September 6, 2026

Gerry Rogers
Benny Moore
For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
B.J. Moore
Louise Carpenter
Shirley Brock
Edward Tinsley
Ruth Jackson
Nadia Harris
Lynn Smith
Harold Watson
Susan Malloy
Mary Gulledge
Kathy Bradshaw
Betty Davis
Sue Funderburk
Jessi Tillman
Robbie McCombs

The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

If you would like to place flowers or a plant in the sanctuary for worship service, there is a sign-up sheet outside of the church office. You can also call, or email Cathy Chapman and she can sign you up for a date.

MMO Open House- Wednesday, September 9th
MMO Open House will be Wednesday, September 9th from 9:30 am – 10:50am.

Church Office is closed Monday, September 7th for Labor Day!

A note about our offertory music today--
The Christian hymn "When We All Get to Heaven" was written in 1898 with lyrics by Eliza Edmunds Hewitt. Eliza (1851–1920) was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and she worked as a public school teacher. While trying to discipline a student, she suffered a severe back injury from a heavy slate thrown at her. The injury left her bedridden in a heavy cast for months and caused chronic health struggles for the rest of her life. Confined to bed, she poured her faith into writing Sunday school hymns. Despite her physical pain and long confinement, Hewitt chose to focus on spiritual joy rather than despair. The hymn emphasizes looking past earthly trials to the joyful reward of eternal life and seeing Jesus face-to-face.

*Sing the wondrous love of Jesus;
sing His mercy and His grace.
In the mansions, bright and blessed,
He'll prepare for us a place.*
Refrain:
*When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!*

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for August – September

Sept. 6	Mary Jane Evans
Sept. 13	Jenny Michaels
Sept. 20	Maggie Barton
Sept. 27	Heather Tucker

Session of First Presbyterian Church

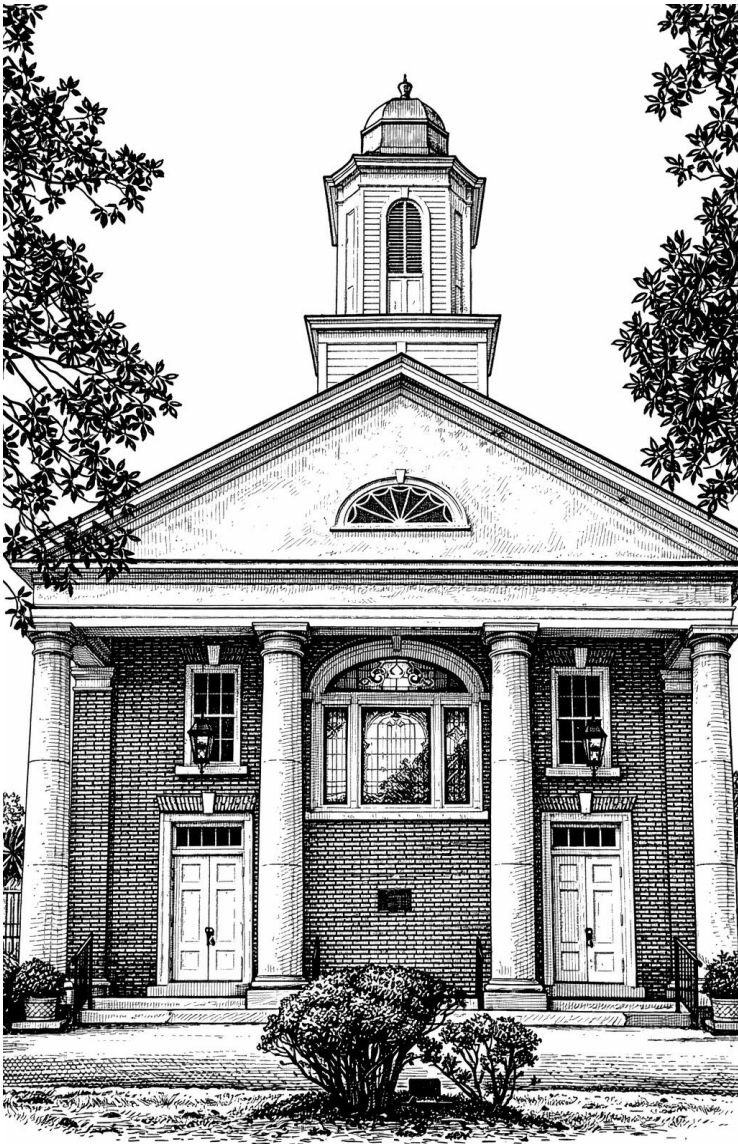
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

Board of Deacons of First Presbyterian Church

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Marion Anderson	Buddy Brooks	Karen Tillman
Becky Childers		Debra Luke
Bron Long		

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Danielle Self, Office Administrator	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Gini Eddins, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	
Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	



Our Vision

*Rooted by God's Grace,
Growing in the Spirit,
Reaching Out with Christ's Love!*

Sunday, September 6, 2026

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