

September 13, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
16th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude Trumpet Tune Richard Frey

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 103:1-4) Karen Tillman
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me.
Bless God’s holy name.
God forgives. God heals. Gods transforms with steadfast love.
Bless God’s holy name.

*Hymn #403 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty UNSER HERRSCHER

Invitation to Confession
Before we can hear God’s truth spoken in love, we must free ourselves from all that obstructs us from honestly acknowledging our wrongdoing. Let us examine our hearts and confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession
Nurturing God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you desire to gather your children. But division and disagreement plague us. We cling to rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We walk away from conflict, rather than working through it. Forgive us, Holy God. Help us grow in faith, mature in relationship, and be transformed through your steadfast love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (James 5:15-16)
The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed and restored to God’s path of righteousness. 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 With Songs of Rejoicing J.S. Bach
Chancel Choir

We Receive God’s Word

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 50:15-21
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “ Forgiving You ” Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith (from The Book of Common Worship)
We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn #451 Open My Eyes That I May See OPEN MY EYES

Announcements

Pastoral Prayers & 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory All Creatures of our God and King Dino Kartsonakis

*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.

Prayer of Dedication
Holy God, bless these gifts for your good use. May these tokens of our gratitude be of service in blessing the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing and sheltering those struggling to survive. Use these gifts to further Christ’s mission and ministry in a hurting world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

*Hymn 702 Christ Be Beside Me BUNESSAN

*Benediction

Benediction Response Let There be Peace on Earth Jackson/Webb
Chancel Choir

*Postlude The Church’s One Foundation Don Hustad

*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 Adeline Barton and Charlotte Folger

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God by Debra and Dal Luke.

The Church This Week (9/13/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Congressional Meeting
Mon. 8:30 a.m. MMO resumes
Tue.
Wed. 8:30 a.m. MMO
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

Prayer List as of September 13, 2026

Gerry Rogers
Benny Moore
For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
Louise Carpenter
Shirley Brock
Ruth Jackson
Nadia Harris
Lynn Smith
Susan Malloy
Tommy Gulledge
Kathy Bradshaw
Betty Davis
Sue Funderburk
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 Resumes Monday, September 14 at 8:30 am

The Men of the Church Fish fry

Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of good food, fun, and fellowship!

The Men of the Church Fish Fry is a long-standing tradition that was started many years ago by Stuart Nickles and Brother Davis.

Enjoy freshwater bream, slaw, hushpuppies, and fries!

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board near the Church office to help us get an accurate headcount. Please sign up if you plan to attend.

Please Contact Steve Cook with any questions.

Please make plans to attend this event for an evening of good fun, fellowship and fine food!

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for September

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

Session of First Presbyterian Church

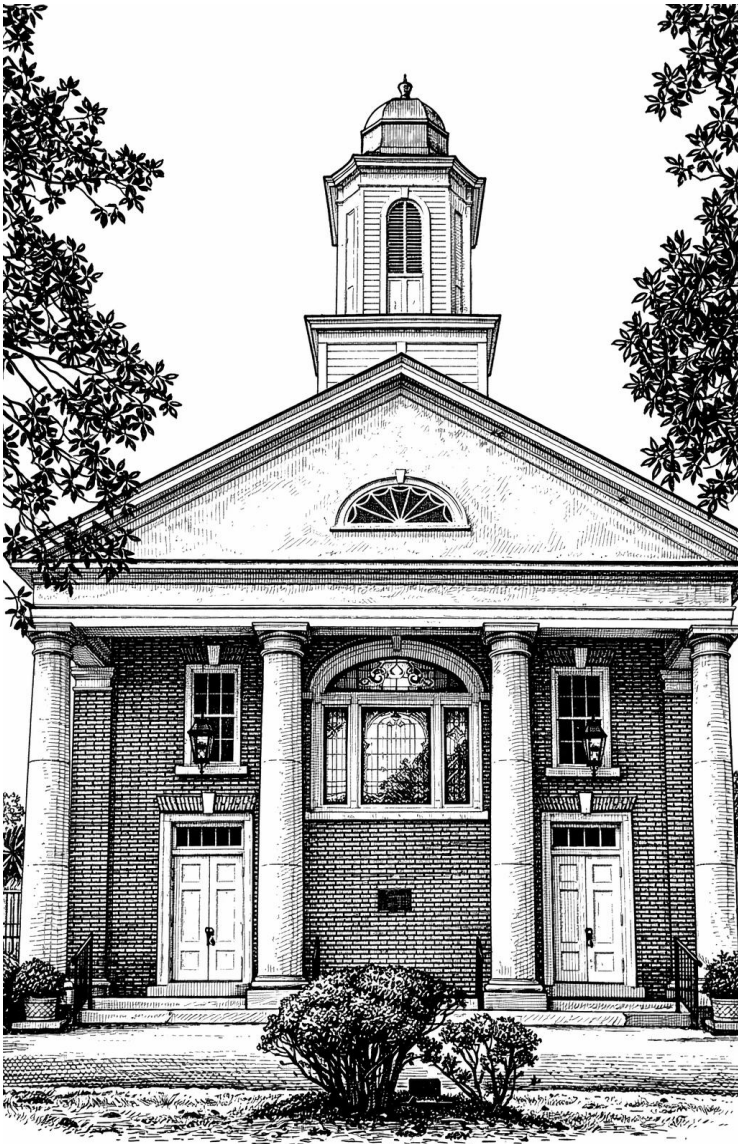
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

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 13, 2026

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