

September 27, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
18th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather in God’s Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude Come to Praise Ingram
Fun Program chimes

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

*Call to Worship Mari Burch
Why do you come to this place?
We seek the path of righteousness and truth.
Do you come ready to hear and learn giving attention to God’s Word?
We come with open hearts and minds seeking to learn from the one whose authority is founded on God’s love.
Friends, lend your ears and open your hearts because this is God’s house, built by love and sustained by hope, where God seeks to align our work and witness.

*Hymn 26 Earth and All Stars, EARTH AND ALL STARS

Invitation to Confession
What burdens your spirit? What regret or hurt do you carry today? Together, let us confess that which does not give us life and take up, instead, the love and grace of God.

Prayer of Confession
Eternal God, we come before you aware that you know the truth of our hearts before we can utter a word. You know when our good intentions exceed our capacity for gospel living. You know when we embrace the good news of liberation with our lips but don’t change our actions. We imprison ourselves with the assumption that you will judge us as mercilessly as we often judge ourselves and one another. Forgive our shortcomings and the times we have failed to live the words we say. Restore us in the confidence of people who have heard good news and remind us that even when we arrive late, there is still work to be done. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Friends, believe this good news, in Christ we are new creations. We are forgiven; we are set free; and we are made ready to live the living Word.

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

We Receive God’s Word

Scripture Alphabet Fun Program
Jem Morgan, introduction

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading: Philippians 2:1-13
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “A Change Would Do You Good” Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Affirmation of Faith (from The Apostles’ Creed)
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Minutes for Mission Tracie Phillips

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 Anthem Clap Your Hands Nancy Roberts
Fun Program: Anna Gavin & Layla Cole, soloists

*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 310 I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord ST. THOMAS

*Benediction

Benediction Response Go Now in Peace Natalie Sleeth
Brylee Denham & Charlotte Folger, xylophone;
Taedyn DeFord, Julia Fenters, & Evie Cox, chimes; Annie McDiarmid, piano

*Postlude Simple Prayer Thompson
Fun Program Bells

*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 Kane & Blair Driggers

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God & in loving memory of Joe Witherspoon by Beth Witherspoon and family.

The Church This Week (9/27/2026)

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice
5:30 p.m. Youth
Mon. 8:30 a.m. MMO
Tue. 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
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 27, 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 Gullledge
Kathy Bradshaw
Betty Davis
Sue Funderburk
Robbie McCombs
Gene & Rosalind Brymer
Lottie Brabham

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.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for September

Sept. 20	Maggie Barton
Sept. 27	Heather Tucker

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!

Community Women’s Bible Study

The Community Women’s Bible study will be offering a new study from October 14th-November 18th at 9:00 am in the Ladies Parlor.

Magrey DeVega’s book, *Questions Jesus Asked*, can be purchased on Amazon.

The book explores the most provocative questions posed by Jesus and will lead us in answering them for ourselves.

Reach out to Tracie Phillips with any questions or help with ordering the book.

Session of First Presbyterian Church

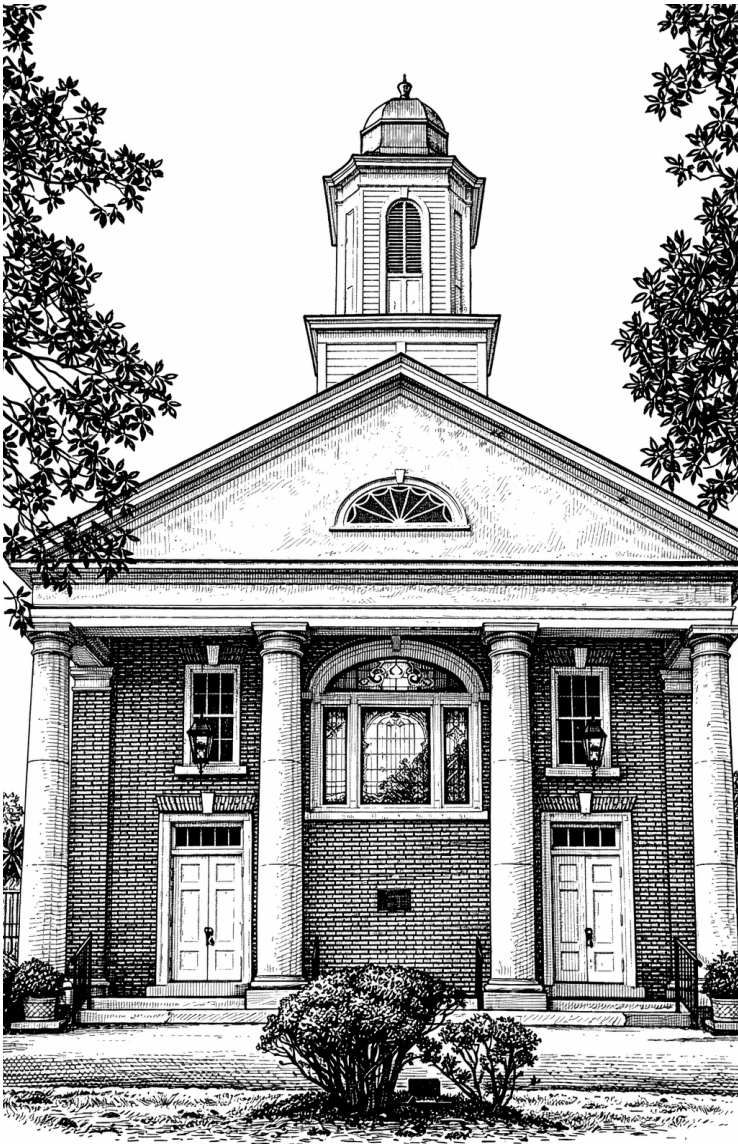
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

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 27, 2026

First Presbyterian Church
300 Market Street
PO Box 552
Cheraw, SC 29520
(843) 537-7474

Email: info@cherawfpc.org