



May 2026

Dear First Pres Friends,

What a wonderful season this has been for our church! We celebrated a wonderful Easter and Holy Week, a baptism, the Board of Deacons has been reinstalled in this wonderful church and have begun their ministry of care for the congregation once again! With all of these wonderful things happening, we also have so much to look forward to right around the corner!

First, there are a few special services in the life of our church. This month, we will have our Youth Sunday *service on May 3rd at 11:00 AM* in the Sanctuary and have four Seniors preaching and around 15 to 16 Youth participating and many more children ringing and singing throughout. We have some special celebrations and festivities planned for Mother's Day the following week and lastly, we will have a special celebration during service on May 17th to recognize our **9 graduates** this year! We have 5 graduating high school students, 3 college undergraduates, and one graduate school student to celebrate! So many great things are happening; make sure to mark your calendars to come out and celebrate with us!

Also, soon, if you haven't already, you will hear from our Board of Deacons as they are establishing their Care Circles once again. They will be reaching out to touch base, reconnect, help build bridges, and, soon, assist me as we take Communion to homebound members who cannot attend service to celebrate this sacrament with us, but still wish to participate. We will be visiting and getting in touch soon, so keep an eye out for a phone call, email, or text from them!

Lastly, while this is a special time in the life of our church, let us also remember those on our prayer list as it continues to grow. This season can be difficult for many of us, so if you ever need anything, please feel free to reach out to me! My door is always open, and I am more than happy to talk with you!

Blessings,

Rev. Maxwell Michaels



## Sunday School Classes

### **Parlor Class**

The Parlor Class will study the 5-week series, *Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love*, by William Willimon. This study invites consideration to the Gospel command to love (and not merely tolerate) those considered to be "Other" or outside mainstream Christian culture. This study helps small groups understand why some people in their communities are considered to be 'other' and how to regard these others from the perspective of God's call to love in Jesus. The Parlor class ends for the season on Sunday, May 17 and will resume August 16.

### **Fellowship Class**

Join the Fellowship class as they continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. Adults will explore what God means in their daily lives, examine how Paul addressed the religious aspects of Greek culture, practice ways to tell others about their Christian faith, and listen as Jesus prays for the unity of his followers. On Pentecost Sunday, adults will confront the creative power of the Spirit and respond to that gift. The Fellowship Class meets each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. It is a relaxed class with lots of discussion. Please think about joining us for coffee & fellowship!

### **Youth Class**

Our Youth Class will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. This month they will recognize how Jesus' words & actions can help them do the work of Christ, affirm through Paul that God is the one we live for, and hear Jesus' farewell prayer for his disciples to provide hope & strength. On Pentecost Sunday, they will celebrate ways the Holy Spirit empowers them. Join us! All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome!

### **Children's Class**

Our Children's class, ages K-5th grade, will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. They will hear how Jesus explains knowing God, look for signs of God's presence around them, learn Jesus' prayer for His followers, and compose prayers for the church. On Pentecost Sunday, they will celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. The children's class meets upstairs and has lots of fun!

### **Preschool Class—(ages 3-4)**

(ages 3-4) meets downstairs in the Louise Carpenter room and will also be studying *Feasting on the Word*. Children will discover that Jesus shows us what God is like, explore ways to joyfully praise God, listen to Jesus' prayer for his followers, and celebrate that God's Spirit is also with them.

**Nursery always available (downstairs)**



# Christian Education & Music Ministry Schedule

**May 3**—Children & Youth Sunday at 11 a.m. This very meaningful service is led entirely by our children & youth. Join us for this incredibly special time!



**May 17**—Graduation Sunday

**May 31**—VBS Meeting at 5 p.m. (2nd meeting)

**May 10 & June 21 - Mothers Day and Fathers Day**

I would like to invite you and your children to celebrate with a photo booth & props in the downstairs hallway for you and your families to enjoy on your own for these special days!



<https://www.prescommunities.org/mother-s-day-offering>



**RAINFOREST  
FALLS**

Exploring The Nature of God

**VBS Rainforest Falls June 9-11**  
Save the Date!



**RAINFOREST  
FALLS**

**Exploring The Nature of God**



**Scholarship Recipients for 2026– 2027**

**The William Manning Malloy Scholarship Fund**

Jessie Baker

Sam Baker

Jalaya Hudley

Allie Huggins

Jakarr Spivey

**The Edwin Malloy Memorial Scholarship Fund, McArn  
Scholarship, Matheson, Poston, Bohannon Scholarship**

Nathan Ainsworth

Duward Angle

Penelope Angle

Mary Claire Holter

Daniel Rhodes

**The D.W. Moore, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Jackson Alexander



# Presbyterian Women News

## Duties:

### Communion

**May 10**– Mary and Douglas Anderson

**June 7**– Sadie Smith and Charlene Tillman

**July 5**– Mary Jane Evans and Nancy Newsom

**August 2**– Marion Anderson and Miriam Stricklin

**Sept. 6**– Kim Brabham and Christie McLeod

### Youth Supper

**May 17**– Mary Jane and David Evans

### Circle Meeting

**May 6**– Salad Luncheon and Bible Study at 11:00 am.

This will be our last meeting until September.

If you haven't been able to come to Circle in the past but have the time now.

Please join us!



# **Faith Formation-Fellowship**

The Faith Formation Fellowship is planning a cover dish lunch after church on May 31.

So, bring your favorite cover dish to church on May 31 and enjoy the fellowship with your church family.

The next cover dish lunch will be August 30.

## Session Highlights

### **March Session Highlights:**

- ♦ Examined and approved installation/ordination of new Deacons-elect.
- ♦ Approved 2026 church budget, including a 2.5% pay increase for all staff and reduction of the church's Presbytery of New Harmony Pledge for this year.
- ♦ Approved new Parlor Sunday School Class materials for study.
- ♦ Approved reactivating a Church Men's Group to meet monthly.
- ♦ Approved changes to Church Scholarship Guidelines regarding eligibility requirements.
- ♦ Approved creating the Building & Grounds Subcommittee under the Administrative Committee to include the chairperson, one member from each Session class and one member from the Finance Subcommittee. Richard Pierce is the current Chairperson of the Building & Grounds Subcommittee.
- ♦ Approved the Cheraw Arts Commission's use of the Fellowship Building for the upcoming musical production rehearsals and performance of "The American Revolution - 1763 - 1789" on April 24-25.
- ♦ Approved the request of Brittany & Ben Tillman for the baptism of their son, Luke Jones Tillman, on Sunday, March 15th.
- ♦ Approved the following items from the Deacons-elect: change the former Membership Committee to the Communication Subcommittee with Karen Tillman as its Liaison/ Chairperson, Buddy Brooks as Head of the Diaconate, Marion Anderson as Recorder, and Updated By-Laws. The Board of Deacons will meet the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
- ♦ Received a report from Andrew McLeod as Elder Commissioner for the 120th Gathering of the Presbytery of New Harmony on February 21st at Georgetown Presbyterian Church.

## Session Highlights Continued

### **April Session Highlights:**

- ♦ Approved the request of Faith Christian Academy to take class pictures on church grounds on May 5th and 6th.
- ♦ Received information regarding the Asheville Youth Mission's service project for donated items needed to prepare "Welcome Home Kits" to give to families as part of the mission program when the youth attend the mission trip there this summer.
- ♦ Approved the recommendation from the Administrative Committee to proceed with the bid of David Brabham for \$4,200.00 to mitigate the mold problem in the manse.
- ♦ Received a report from the Scholarship Committee of the 2026-2027 scholarship recipients.
- ♦ Youth Sunday is May 3rd. Graduation Sunday is May 17th with a reception to follow.

*Session Meeting Minutes are available upon request in the church office for review.*

## McArn Food Bank Backpack Ministry

McArn Food Bank Partners with Cheraw Primary school, to provide weekend food for 35 of their students most in need. Each week during the school year, nutritious food items are bagged and placed in children's backpacks for them to carry home for the weekend.

Food items may include (No peanut butter or nuts):

- \*Ravioli cups
- \*Mac-n-cheese cups
- \*Ramen noodles cup
- \*Pudding cups
- \*Jello cups
- \*Fruit cups,
- \*Applesauce cups
- \*Vegetable cups
- \*Pop Tarts
- \*Granola bars
- \*Individual cereal bowls
- \*Instant grits
- \*Instant oatmeal
- \*Lance sandwich crackers

If you would like to contribute any of these items to this ministry, please place them in the designated box outside the church office door or the little red wagon in the Narthex.



## *Prayer Changes Things*

Gerry Rogers

Benny Moore

For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses

B.J. Moore

Louise Carpenter

Shirley Brock

Edward Tinsley

Ruth Jackson

Marion Murphy

Nadia Harris

Clytie Roddy

Rebecca Harris Ott

Lesley Jean Watson

Wyatt Smith

April Quick

Summer Cathey

Lynn Smith

Patti Rollings

Harold Watson

Susan Malloy

# MAY 2026

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3	10:00 am	Church School	17	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship		11:00 am	Worship
		(Youth & Children Sunday)		12:45 pm	Faith Formation Meeting
4	8:30 am	MMO	18	8:30 am	MMO
5	12:00 pm	At Ease	19	6:00 pm	CW Bible Study
	6:00 pm	CW Bible Study	20	8:30 am	MMO
6	8:30 am	MMO		9:00 am	CW Bible Study
	9:00 am	CW Bible Study		5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
	10:00 am	Circle Meeting (Last one)		6:00 pm	Chancel Choir
	3:15 pm	Fun Program (Last Day)	24	10:00 am	Church School
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir		11:00 am	Worship
10	10:00 am	Church School	25	Memorial Day—No MMO	
	11:00 am	Worship	26	6:00 pm	CW Bible Study
		Mother's Day	27	8:30 am	MMO
11	8:30 am	MMO		9:00 am	CW Bible Study
12	6:00 pm	CW Bible Study		5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
13	8:30 am	MMO		6:00 pm	Chancel Choir
	9:00 am	CW Bible Study	31	10:00 am	Church School
	5:30 pm	Prayer Meeting		11:00 am	Worship
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir		12:00 pm	Faith Formation Lunch
				5:00 pm	2nd VBS Meeting

## *Looking ahead to*



2 12:00 pm At Ease  
6:00 pm CW Bible Study

3 9:00 am CW Bible Study  
5:30 pm Prayer Meeting

7 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship

9 5:00 pm VBS

10 5:00 pm VBS

11 5:00 pm VBS

14 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship

16 6:00 pm CW Bible Study

17 9:00 am CW Bible Study  
5:30 pm Prayer Meeting

21 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship  
Happy Father's Day!

23 6:00 pm CW Bible Study

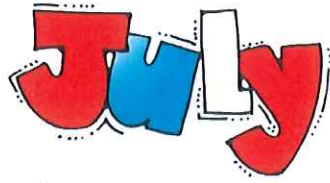
24 9:00 am CW Bible Study  
5:30 pm Prayer Meeting

28 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship

30 6:00 pm CW Bible Study

**June 14th—June 19th  
Asheville Youth Mission Trip**

# *Looking ahead to*



<b>5</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Church School</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Church School</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>12—18</b>	<b>Montreat Youth Conference</b>	
<b>19</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Church School</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Church School</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>



**1- Chip Ingram**

**10-Sallie McLeod**

**11-Edwin "Brother" Davis**

**14-Cody Barton**

**15-Sam Baker, Andy Ingram**

**17-Andrew McLeod**

**19-Sadie Smith, Trey Cauthen**

**20-Lindsay Bennett, Mari Burch**

**21- Adeline Barton**

**26-Caden Cauthen, Shelley Morgan**

**27-Elizabeth Cox**

**28-Benny Moore, Penelope Angle,  
Nicole Wetternek**

**29-Ben Tillman, Cooper Tillman**

**30-Glenn Anderson**



*june*  
**BIRTHDAYS**

**3-Kim Brabham**

**6-Gerry Rogers**

**11-Debra Luke**

**6/12 Louis Anderson**

**13-Miller Ingram**

**15-Jacob Evans**

**16-Kelli Beck, Nadia Harris, Will Tillman**

**20-Wade Evans**

**21-Robby Bennett, Harriet Conn**

**23-Jackson Goddard**

**25-Marietta M. Burch, Jessie Baker, Sam Baker, Jr.**

**27-Jack McLeod, Kaiden Miller**

**29-Lainey Baker**



# HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS!

**1-Mary Anderson, Layla Tinsley**

**3-Susie Pace**

**9-Sadie Baker**

**14-Libby Knight**

**15- Kenny Smith**

**19-Cathy Chapman**

**23-Meredith Creech**

**24-Harvey Anderson**

**29-Heather Tucker**