



August 2026

Dear First Pres Friends,

I hope that everyone is staying cool as the hot months roll on around for our church! We've done so much good work this summer, from helping the people of Asheville through our Asheville Youth Mission to celebrating our Vacation Bible School to taking our High School Youth up to Montreat for their annual Montreat Youth Conference and so much more! As we start to kick off the year, I wanted to bring a few exciting things to your attention.

First, there are many wonderful and important events coming up this month. This month, Rally Day & Backpack Sunday are on August 9th, with a covered-dish lunch immediately afterward in the Fellowship Building. Following this, on August 16th, we will have our 3rd Annual Bluegrass Sunday, which is always a fun time we get to share together in worship with music accompanied by Bluegrass instruments and musicians, so make sure to mark your calendars!

Looking ahead, we will have many exciting opportunities in the church for Fellowship and getting to know one another! We have At Ease on the first Tuesday of each month (unless otherwise posted), Prayer Meeting on Wednesday evenings in the Session House with a special lesson series in collaboration with other Ministers in town being planned for October, Youth has kicked off and we meet every Sunday at 5:30 PM (unless otherwise posted), and some other fun pop up events that you won't want to miss!

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! Also, if you ever need to meet or talk, my door is always open, and I am more than happy to talk with you, visit, take you out to lunch, and meet you where you are in life! You all are always in my prayers.

Blessings,

Rev. Maxwell Michaels



Sunday School Classes

Parlor Class

The Parlor Class will study the 6-week series, *Tame Your Thoughts*, by Max Lucado. This study focuses on how our thought life shapes our spiritual life, drawing heavily from passages from Philippians 4:8, Romans 12:2, and 2 Corinthians 10:5. Join us for this wonderful time together in the Parlor!

Fellowship Class

Join the Fellowship class as they continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. Adults will identify situations of conflict where God was at work to sustain them and identify steps toward reconciliation. Through meeting Moses' unlikely saviors, adults will respond creatively to God's saving and blessing acts. 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*. Youth will explore Joseph's reconciliation with his brothers, work to become agents of reconciliation, and study the ways God worked through the lives of women. Join us! All 6th-12th graders are welcome!

Children's Class

Our Children's class, ages K-5th grade, will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. Based on the reconciliation between Joseph and his brothers, children will look for signs of God at work in the world. They will also enjoy the story of baby Moses and give thanks for those who practice caring love. The children's class meets upstairs and has lots of fun!

Preschool Class—(ages 3-4)

meets downstairs in the Nursery this year and will also be studying *Feasting on the Word*.



Nursery always available (downstairs)

Christian Education & Music Ministry Schedule

Sunday, August 2

Fun Program Registration Opens online at cherawfpc.org

Sunday, August 9

Rally Day & Blessing of the Backpacks with Covered Dish lunch; Acolyte Training at 10 a.m., Children's Sunday School Teacher Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the library.

Sunday, August 16

All Sunday School Classes resume! Bluegrass Sunday with the Longleaf Social Club!

Wednesday, August 26

Chancel Choir Resumes at 6 p.m.

September 2

Fun Program begins! 3:15-4:45 p.m. with Mrs. Weiz, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Kathie, Mrs. Susie, & Mrs. Tammy.

Sunday, September 27

Fun Program to sing & ring in the sanctuary for the 11 a.m. service.

Wednesday, October 7

No Fun Program (Happy Fall Break!)

Wednesday, November 4

Fun Program to Make Veteran's Day Cards

Sunday, November 22

5-6 p.m. Christmas Pageant Costume Fitting;
6p.m Chancel Choir Cantata Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 25

No Fun Program or Chancel Choir
(Happy Thanksgiving!)

Christian Education & Music Ministry Schedule Cont.

Saturday, December 5

10-11:30 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal with Pizza lunch!

Sunday, December 6

11 a.m. Christmas Pageant (children to ring & sing)

Sunday, December 13

Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata at 2:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

Wednesday 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30, 1/6

No Fun Program (Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!)

Wednesday, January 13

Fun Program resumes

Wednesday, February 10

No Fun Program (Winter Break)

Sunday, February 28

Children to ring & sing during the 11 a.m. service

Wednesday, March 31st

No Fun Program (Spring Break)

Sunday, May 2

Youth & Children's Sunday

Wednesday, May 5

Last Fun Program Celebration

*Stay tuned for additional Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata rehearsals!



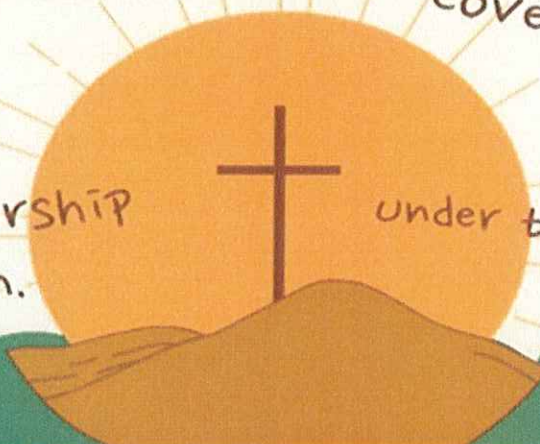
RALLY DAY!

Sunday,
August 9

covered Dish Lunch!

Join us for worship
at 11:00 a.m.

under the new shelter!



Blessing of the Backpack

Sunday

AUGUST 9

Bring your book bag
and a school supply
donation

www.cherawfpc.org

First Presbyterian Church
hosts a 3rd annual

BLUEGRASS SUNDAY

OLD FASHIONED HYMNS THAT YOU GREW UP SINGING
AMAZING GRACE* I'LL FLY AWAY * SWEET BY AND BY*
AND MORE!

FEATURING THE LONGLEAF SOCIAL CLUB

AUGUST 16
SUNDAY

11:00 A.M.
IN THE
SANCTUARY

JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP!

300 MARKET ST. CHERAW, SC
CHERAWFPC.ORG

Chancel Choir

Join us for a new season
of music making!
Chancel Choir Practice
begins on Wednesday,
August 26th in the choir
room from 6-7 p.m.! All
are welcome! Hope to
see you there!



FUN PROGRAM

Starting
September 2
1st-5th
Grades

**EVERY
WEDNESDAY
3:15-4:45PM**

**SNACKS, GAMES,
CRAFTS,
HANDBELLS,
CHOIR, & BIBLE
STUDY!
BRING A FRIEND!**

300 Market St
Cheraw, SC

Presbyterian Women News

Duties:

Communion

August 2— Marion Anderson and Miriam Stricklin

Sept. 6— Kim Brabham and Christie McLeod

Circle Meeting

Sept. 2— Circle and Bible Study will start our new year!

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

Please join us!



Faith Formation-Fellowship

Sunday, August 9th-

Following our **Rally Day Worship Service** we will gather for a **Covered Dish Luncheon** in the Fellowship Hall.

The committee will be providing **fried chicken**, and we invite everyone planning to attend to bring a **side dish or dessert** to share.

We hope you will join us for a wonderful time of fellowship as we celebrate the beginning of our new church season.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!



Session Highlights

May Session Highlights:

- ♦ Received the Treasurer's Report for April 30th and year-to-date;
- ♦ Approved the purchase of choir robes for the chancel choir as requested by the Music Director with input from the chancel choir for a total cost of \$4,000 from the Poston-Matheson-Bohannon Fund;
- ♦ Approved the recommendation from the Mothers' Morning Out Board to increase tuition for Mothers' Morning Out from \$90 to \$100 per month and to increase the registration fee from \$20 to \$25;
- ♦ Approved the recommendation from the Mothers' Morning Out Board to hire Jenny Michaels as an MMO Assistant beginning in September;
- ♦ Received an update from Building & Grounds Sub-Committee that the work at the manse to remedy the mold issue was completed and passed inspection. The attic fan will be replaced soon.
- ♦ Approved the recommendation from the Administrative Committee to increase office hours for Danielle Self, Office Administrator, from 20 hours per week to 25 hours per week. The new church office hours will be Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. starting Monday, June 1st.
- ♦ Approved the recommendation from the Administrative Committee to hire a second nursery attendant for Sunday mornings during Sunday School and worship service starting in September to ensure compliance of our Child Protection Policy requirement to have two adults present;
- ♦ Approved the request of Weiz Baker to hold senior recitals for her two music students Jackson Alexander (organ) and Watson Price (piano) on Sunday, July 26th at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary followed by a reception in the Fellowship Building;
- ♦ Approved the request of Rev. Max Michaels for a change in his terms of call to include an additional 2 weeks of Continuing Education for a total of four weeks per year for the duration of his Doctor of Ministry studies beginning in 2027, with the stipulation that once the degree is completed, this will revert to two weeks of Continuing Education time per year;
- ♦ A congregational meeting was approved for Sunday, June 14th for the purpose of considering changes to the Pastor's terms of call, which include his 2.5% salary increase as previously approved in this year's budget and the additional two weeks of Continuing Education as described above.
- ♦

Session Highlights Continued

June Session Highlights:

- ♦ Received the Treasurer's Report for May 31st and year-to-date;
- ♦ Received a report from the Mothers' Morning Out Board regarding furniture and toys for the nursery and preschool rooms given by First United Methodist Church of Cheraw following their decision to not reopen their day care;
- ♦ Approved the recommendation from the Mission Committee to share information about ABBA House's School Supply Drive through July 5th to collect school supplies for their upcoming Back-to-School event on July 18th from 4 – 6 p.m. A box will be placed in the hall to collect book bags and school supplies for donations.
- ♦ Received an update from Building & Grounds Sub-Committee that the installation of the attic fan in the manse is complete;
- ♦ Approved the use of the Fellowship Building for the family of Jim Funderburk for a meal following his funeral service at Kiser Funeral Home when arrangements are finalized;
- ♦ Approved the request from the family of Danny Bradshaw to donate a picnic table for the picnic shelter in his memory. An engraved plaque will be ordered for the table.

***Note: There was no July Stated Session Meeting.
Minutes of all Session Meetings are available for review in the church
office upon request.***

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

Jessie Baker

Kathy Bradshaw

Shirley Brock

Louise Carpenter

Summer Cathey

Pam Cook (Alison Chapman's mother)

Betty Davis

Sue Funderburk

Mary Gullledge

Nadia Harris

Ruth Jackson

Gerry Rogers

Susan Malloy

Benny Moore

B.J. Moore

Marion Murphy

April Quick

Clytie Roddy

Patti Rollings

Sherryl Shaw (Friend of Susie Pace)

Lynn Smith

Wyatt Smith

Jessi Tillman

Edward Tinsley

Harold Watson

Lesley Jean Watson

For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses



CALENDAR of EVENTS:

- 2 10:00 am Church School
 11:00 am Worship –Communion
 12:00 pm Faith Formation Meeting
- 4 12:00 pm At Ease
- 9 10:00 am Church School
 11:00 am Worship (Rally Day & Backpack Sunday)
 12:00 pm Covered Dish Luncheon
- 10 Church Office Closed
- 16 10:00 am Church School
 11:00 am Worship (Blue Grass Sunday)
- 20 6:00 pm Session Meeting
- 21 Church Office Closed
- 23 10:00 am Church School
 11:00 am Worship
- 26 6:00 pm Chancel Choir Starts back
- 30 10:00 am Church School
 11:00 am Worship



8/1 Kevin Miller

8/4 Madelyn Tinsley

8/5 Bill Tillman

8/7 Caroline Streater

8/9 Duke Barton

8/13 Tony Griggs, Cloie Tillman

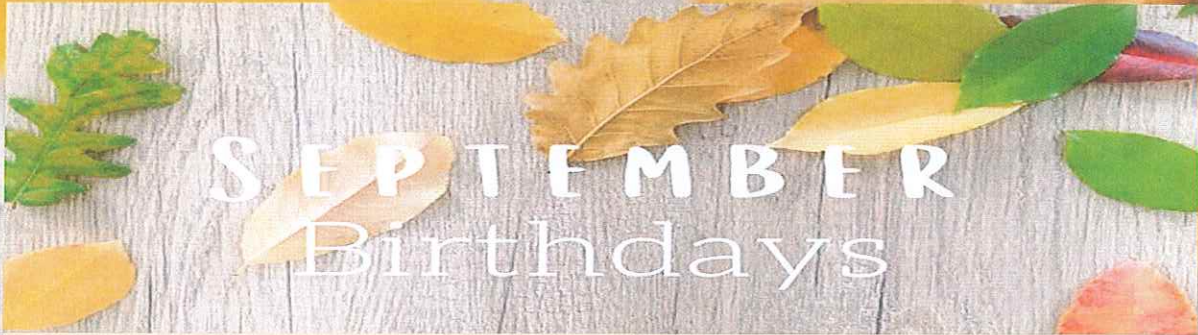
8/15 Rosalind Brymer, Grayson Cauthen

8/24 Billie Polson

8/25 Shirley Brock

8/26 Bron Long, Calvin Phillips

8/28 Warren Wetternek



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

9/1 Charlie Phillips

9/2 Marion Anderson

9/3 Eliza Chapman

9/5 Billy Smith

9/7 Rev. Maxwell Michaels

9/9 Mason Leviner

9/11 John Anderson, Dal Luke

9/13 Ginny Nickles

9/15 Eva Goddard

9/16 Tracie Phillips

9/17 Bennett Evans

9/22 John Folger

9/23 Ella Morgan

9/25 Miriam Stricklin

9/26 Nancy Griggs, Penny Angle