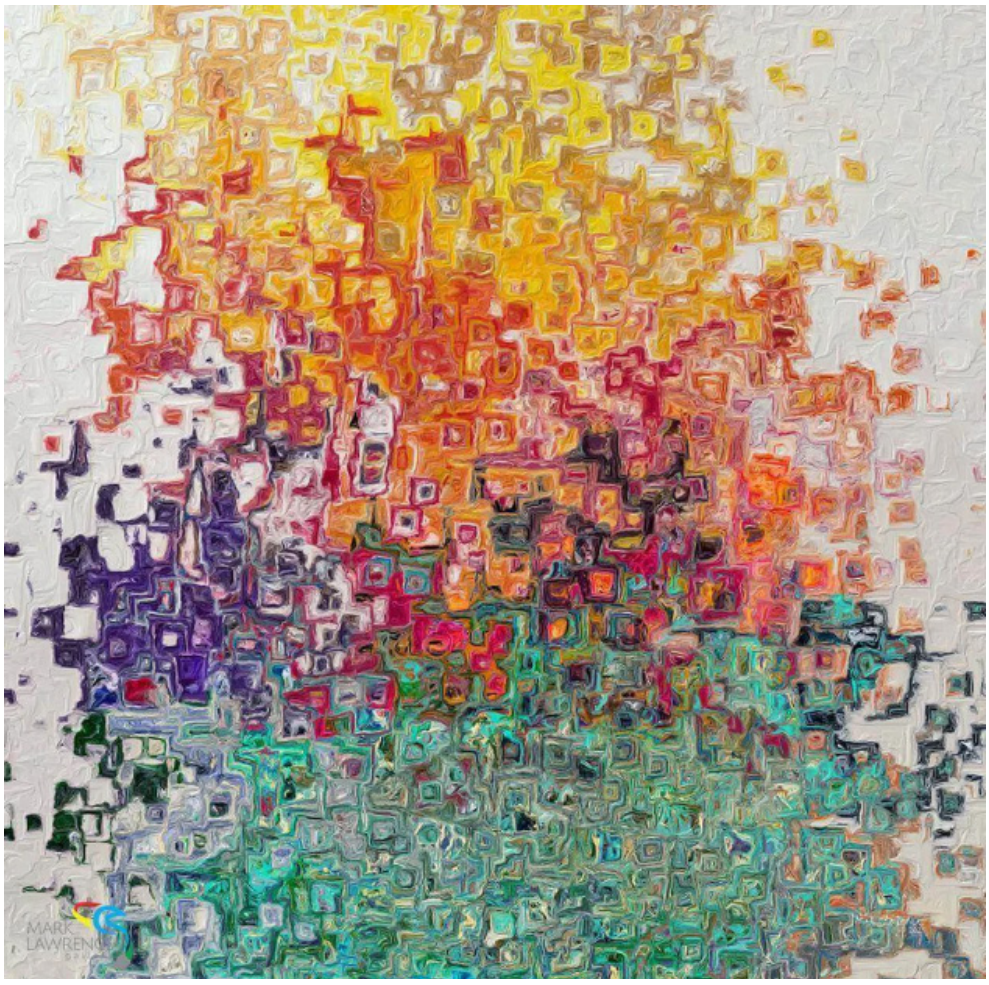
First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



April 27, 2025

Service for the Lord's Day

Confirmation Sunday

8:30am Early

9:00am Contemporary

11:00am Traditional

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg – we are delighted that you are joining us for worship today! First Presbyterian is a community of believers in the heart of Spartanburg seeking to know and share the transformative love of Jesus Christ with others. Here you will encounter people who come from all walks of life representing diverse beliefs and faith experiences. What binds us together is our common hope in Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship, and mission we seek to root our lives in scripture, nurture our unity in Christ, and serve our neighbors in faith! No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here.

Peace,

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out of town, we are delighted that you are worshiping with us today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of our congregation, please be sure to speak with a pastor before or after today's worship or fill out the friendship register. We would love to get to know you better!

Pastoral Concern? Please let us know how we can be praying for you by visiting with a pastor before or after worship. If you need to contact a Minister, call 864-208-2142 day or night.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship!

Activity Bags located in the welcoming areas of each worship venue are available for your child to use during worship. After worship, please return the crayons and bags to the baskets. The activity sheet is for your child to keep.

Nursery is available for infants through age 3 in the Clark Building in Room 105.

After *The Word for Children* in the 11:00am Traditional Service, children 3K-1st grade may attend Children's Worship with Ms. Kara. After the service, families are asked to pick their children up from Room 202 of the Clark Building.

To Aid in Worship Advanced listening technology, large-print hymnals, and large-print bulletins are available upon request for the Chapel and Sanctuary. Please locate an usher for assistance.

Worship Online Livestreaming of the Contemporary and Traditional Worship Services is available at fpcspartanburg.org/worship. Additionally, sermons are on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, or wherever you find your podcasts!

Ways to Give There are many ways you can support the missions and ministries of First Presbyterian. During worship, you may place your gift in the Offering Plate or you can scan the QR Codes. The ShelbyNext QR code will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you may give via Venmo or mail a check to the church office (address on back of bulletin). Thank you for your gifts. *Questions? Contact Church Financial Officer Lynise Clarke; 864-208-2130/lclarke@fpcspartanburg.org.*

ShelbyNext Venmo

Early Worship
8:30am
Chapel

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Voluntary — *That Easter Day with Joy was Bright* — Dale Wood

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

We gather as people on a journey.
We believe and we have doubts, we do good and we sin.
We are imperfect humans, and still beloved by God.
Love and grace. Hope and faith.
These are the essence of the one we call God.
We seek forgiveness and grace from God and from those we've harmed.
Assured of that grace, we are ready to grow again.
We yearn for a new way, a new perspective, and a clear path.
Though we are full of trust and full of doubt, we are here.
Speak to us, God! Continue creating us!
Inspire our hearts. Enlighten our minds. Guide our actions. Amen.

✞Hymn 246 — *Christ is Alive!* — Truro

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess our doubts.
When our childhood understandings fall away, we feel naked.
When our long-held beliefs seem to crumble, we feel lost.
When our convictions are questioned, we feel ashamed.
Guide us into right paths, O God.
Guide our feet into the way of peace; guide our hands to care for others;
guide our hearts to love our neighbors.
Call us back to you, O Christ, and renew our faith.
When the ground is unsteady, loving God, put us back on right paths
by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you.

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup.
God binds us in, counsels our minds and instructs our hearts.
God helps us to stand firm for justice, mercy and peace.
When we fall, God lifts us up, forgives us, and remembers our sins no more. Amen.

✞Response: Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✠Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Life of the Church

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — Acts 5:25-32

Sermon — *Tell Me About Your Faith* — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed — Hymnal Page 35

This creed is called the Apostles' Creed not because it was produced by the apostles themselves but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It sets forth their doctrine "in sublime simplicity, in unsurpassable brevity, in beautiful order, and with liturgical solemnity." In its present form it is dated no later than the fourth century. More than any other Christian creed, it may justly be called an ecumenical symbol of faith.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Lord Jesus, My Savior* — Dale Wood

✠Doxology — Lasst Uns Er Freun

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 761 — *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* — Beecher

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response

Hymn 175, verse 1 — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* — Wilber Held

Following the service, you are invited to a time of coffee and fellowship in The Perrin Room.

Contemporary Worship
9:00am
Fogartie Hall

Welcome		Rev. L. Craig Foster
Instrumental Prelude		
✞Call to Worship		Rev. Leslie A. Lang
✞Song of Praise		*The Solid Rock*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*Living Hope*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*Look Up Child*
Scripture Reading	Acts 5:25-32	
Sermon	*Tell Me About Your Faith*	Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise
✞Affirmation of Faith		
The Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of the People		
The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*As for Me and My House*
✞Benediction		

The word worship comes from an old English term that was not originally religious in connotation. Worship simply meant "to ascribe honor to something or someone because of its/their ultimate importance." This is what we do when we worship God.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Traditional Worship
11:00am
Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Voluntary — *That Easter Day with Joy was Bright* — Dale Wood

Acolyte — Hudson Huang

Introit — *Now the Green Blade Rises* — Noël Nouvelet

✞Call to Worship — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

We gather as people on a journey.
We believe and we have doubts, we do good and we sin.
We are imperfect humans, and still beloved by God.
Love and grace. Hope and faith.
These are the essence of the one we call God.
We seek forgiveness and grace from God and from those we've harmed.
Assured of that grace, we are ready to grow again.
We yearn for a new way, a new perspective, and a clear path.
Though we are full of trust and full of doubt, we are here.
Speak to us, God! Continue creating us!
Inspire our hearts. Enlighten our minds. Guide our actions. Amen.

✞Hymn 246 — *Christ is Alive!* — Truro

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

Holy God, we confess our doubts.
When our childhood understandings fall away, we feel naked.
When our long-held beliefs seem to crumble, we feel lost.
When our convictions are questioned, we feel ashamed.
Guide us into right paths, O God.
Guide our feet into the way of peace; guide our hands to care for others;
guide our hearts to love our neighbors.
Call us back to you, O Christ, and renew our faith.
When the ground is unsteady, loving God, put us back on right paths
by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup.
God binds us in, counsels our minds and instructs our hearts.
God helps us to stand firm for justice, mercy and peace.
When we fall, God lifts us up, forgives us, and remembers our sins no more. Amen.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✞Response

Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

✞Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Life of the Church

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Sacrament of Baptism — *Alfred Wagoner Chaffee*
Son of Allie and Alfred Chaffee

Response — *Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.* — Jesus Loves Me
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Children ages 3 years to 1st grade are invited to dismiss to Children's Worship; those 2nd grade and older will return to the pews.

Prayer for Illumination — *At the Name of Jesus* — King's Weston

First Reading — Psalm 150

Second Reading — Acts 5:25-32

Sermon — *Tell Me About Your Faith* — Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise

Confirmation

Words of Introduction

Confirmands

AC Adair
Mackie Clayton
Kennedy DeMark
Eliza Rose Hyde
Lillie Kimbrell
Olivia Marsh
Rose Wall
Dixon Barre
Jane Close
David Feig
Caison Jaynes*
Lilla Langley
Cannon Mitchell
Resce Youngblood
Henry Blanton
Jane Colbath
Mac Hanna
Bennett Johnson
Wallace Lynch
Ella Rabb

Confirmation is a journey and process which builds upon the faith formation of childhood. Our youth are invited into a sacred space of question and curiosity. The 2025 class focused on what it means for our lives themselves to be a form of worship, using the reformed order of worship as a framework. Confirmation isn't the finish line. Rather, it is the catalyzer of a new beginning, where the Confirmands take responsibility of their faith in Christ.

Confirmation of Baptismal Covenant and Baptism*

Sacrament of Baptism — *Caison Elizabeth Jaynes*

This creed is called the Apostles' Creed not because it was produced by the apostles themselves but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It sets forth their doctrine "in sublime simplicity, in unsurpassable brevity, in beautiful order, and with liturgical solemnity." In its present form it is dated no later than the fourth century. More than any other Christian creed, it may justly be called an ecumenical symbol of faith.

✠Affirmation of Faith — Mrs. Martha Bean

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty;
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth
on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Stoles — Rev. Eliza S. DeBevoise

Congregational Prayer for Confirmands — Mrs. Susan Oldham

O Lord, uphold these your children by your Holy Spirit.
Daily increase in them your gifts of grace:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. Amen.

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People

The 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *My Song in the Night* — arr. Mack Wilberg

Offertory text can be found on the last page of the bulletin.

✞Doxology — Lasst Uns Er Freun

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

✞Prayer of Thanksgiving

As we offer our gifts, we praise God for the resources the Lord has provided and the opportunity to serve others on God's behalf. The Doxology is an ancient chorus of praise; with a vision of heaven – all the created beings of all times and places joining together and forever singing praise to God.

Bearing the Word to the World

✞Hymn 761 — *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* — Beecher

✞Charge and Benediction

✞Benediction Response

Hymn 175, verse 1 — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* — Wilber Held

We want to thank each individual who took on the faithful responsibility of serving as a Confirmation Mentor and Confirmation Leader.

Mentors:
Jennifer Biber, Page Caggiano, Suzy Cole, Linda Cooper, Anne Craft, Ann Marie Edwards, Rob Elliott, Dr. Michael Holmes, Jeff Kuntz, Julia Manello, Thomas McMeekin, Ashley Millinor, Scott Neely, Charlotte Neidenbach, Karen Parrott, Norman Pulliam Jr., Lynze Roos, Ed Story, Amy Usry, Toby Wood

Confirmation Leaders:
Rev. Eliza DeBevoise, Susan Oldham, Tanner Oldham

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Elizabeth Chapman Quantz McMeekin
by Thomas, Winn, Tom, Sarah, Mae, Evans, Ann Tolly and Henry.

Life of the Church

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation is an opportunity where youth and mentors embrace questions and explore the depths of spiritual wonderings, cultivating a mindset of imagination and resilience as they grow in faith and understanding. Today, we celebrate with 20 Confirmands who will take their vows for membership in the church at the 11:00am Traditional Worship service.

Wednesdays at First - April 30

Full Schedule

5:00pm Outdoor Dinner & Games
6:30pm Youth Fellowship
7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Join us for the last WAF until fall! Pre-register for dinner by 4:00pm on Monday. Visit fpcspartanburg.org/waf or scan the QR code. All are welcome to join us on Wednesday for outdoor dinner and games.

Used Bikes Needed for Thornwell

The older children living on Thornwell's campus are in need of gently used small to medium adult bikes. Eight female 24-inch bikes and four male 26-inch bikes have been requested. Please only donate the sizes requested. Drop off at the recreation desk (near the gym) during gym hours by **May 11.**

Mini Health Clinic - April 30

The Health Committee will provide a Mini Clinic on Wednesday, **April 30** that includes skin, bone, and hearing screenings with Dr. Peter Neidenbach, Dr. Greg Colbath, Nurse Practitioner Emily Pack, and Davis Audiology. All screenings will be held during Wednesdays at First (5:00-7:00pm). For more information and to sign up, please visit fpcspartanburg.org/health.

Baccalaureate Sunday

On Sunday, **May 18**, we will celebrate all graduates. If you are a member of First Presbyterian Church and will graduate **college or will receive a graduate level degree in 2025,** please fill out the form at fpcspartanburg.org/baccalaureate or scan the QR code by May 12.

Young Adult Fiesta

All adults ages 22-40ish are invited celebrate Cinco de Mayo (a day early) with a kid-free evening of festive food and drinks. We'd love to see you on **May 4** at 5:30pm! Scan the QR code for details and to RSVP.

JOY Fellowship Trip

It's time for our next JOY (Just Older Youth) Fellowship Day Trip! Join us Thursday, **May 8** for a trip of the historic Cowpens National Battlefield. Following the tour, we'll enjoy a meal together at Strawberry Hill. Bring money for lunch! Sign up by May 5 at fpcspartanburg.org/joy.

Women's Connection

Pull up a chair and join other women for a time of renewal and discernment, with powerful worship and rich engagement with the Bible on **August 8-10** in Montreat, NC. Well-known New Testament scholar Dr. Amy-Jill Levine will be the keynote speaker. Register at fpcspartanburg.org/womensconnection.

A Way Home Training

First Presbyterian Church will host homeless families throuh A Way Home in July. All volunteers must complete a background check and attend training. A Way Home will offer a training on May 3, 9am–12pm at Northwest Community Center. RSVP to Scott Neely (scott@faithinitiativespartanburg.org). If you can't attend, another training will be held at FPC on June 8. RSVP to Rhonda Dickerson.

Sunday School - 10am
(Gathering Time - 9:45am)

Children and Youth

Nursery – Room C105 (Clark Building)
Preschool (3K-5K) – Room C110 (Clark Building)
1st & 2nd Grade - Room C202
3rd & 4th Grade - Room C203
5th Grade - Room C206
Youth - Second Floor of the Family Life Center

Adult Sunday School

Bible Alive – Room 2215
An extensive book-by-book study of the Bible

Emmaus – Room 2217
A journey with eyes open towards Jesus, with fellowship and a fresh new scripture-based lesson each week.

Abide - Room 2207
For younger adults and parents of preschool/elementary children to gather for a time of fellowship and learning.

L.I.F.T. - Room 2208
Faithful and energetic disciples who love growing deeper in faith through Bible study and trusting Jesus.

Glory Days - Purnell Room
Parents of youth & collegiates, come strengthen your faith and friendship with condensed stand-alone Bible lessons from dynamic teachers.

Today's Musicians

Early Worship
Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews

Contemporary Worship
Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals;
Kolby Carrouth, drums;
Elise Deberry, vocals;
Landon Hammett, keyboard/vocals;
Anna Harkey, violin;
Jeff Key, electric guitar;
Corey McDaniel, bass guitar

Traditional Worship
Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews;
Chancel Choir

Front Cover: Acts 2:38. Receive The Gift! by Mark Lawrence
Parts of today's liturgy are from Worship Resources for Easter

Offertory

My Song in the Night
arr. Mack Wilberg

O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night,
Come to us with Thy tender love, my soul's delight,
Unto Thee O Lord in affliction I call,
My comfort by day and my song in the night.

O why should I wander an alien from Thee,
Or cry in the desert Thy face so see,
My comfort and joy, my soul's delight,
O Jesus my Savior, my song in the night.

Calendar

April 27
Confirmation Sunday

May 18
Baccalaureate Sunday

May 21
Scotland Bon Voyage Concert

May 25
Worship as One (through July 27)

Looking Forward

June 1
Lemonade on the Lawn

June 2-5
Vacation Bible School

July 6-13
Host Church for A Way Home (formerly SPIHN)

June 8
Ordination/Installation of New Church Officers

June 14/July 19
Montreat Play Dates

July 27
Lemonade on the Lawn

August 8-10
Women's Connection at Montreat

August 24
Rally Day

For details on all church events,
visit fpcspartanburg.org/calendar

To Ponder Prayerfully

"Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is.
In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness:
touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it,
because in the last analysis all moments are key moments,
and life itself is grace."

- Rev. Frederick Buechner

Ministers: All Members of the Church

We are a community of believers committed to "Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together through Word and Deed."

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise
Associate Pastor
Youth and Campus Ministries

Rev. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor
Discipleship

Rev. Rachel N. Klompmaker
Associate Pastor
Congregational Care

Rev. Leslie A. Lang
Associate Pastor
Young Adults and Missions

Rev. Ansley B. Page
Pastoral Associate for Engagement

Holt Andrews
Pastoral Musician

Marcia Andrews
Associate Director of Music;
Organist

Kara Clark
Director of Children's Ministries

Carrie Coleman
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Grace deMaine
Associate Director, Youth Ministry

Beth Cecil
Parish Nurse

Colleen Darrall
Director of Recreation

Jane Mullins
Director of Hospitality

Pano Stathakis
Kitchen Assistant

Kris Graham
Director of the Weekday School

Lisa Cunningham
Contemporary Worship Music Leader

Lee Raines
Facilities Administrator

Jim Pitts
Campus Safety and Services Manager

Lynise Clarke
Director of Finance

Joanie Shackleton
Assistant Director of Finance

Monteigne Campbell
Office Manager and
Admin to the Senior Pastor

Cathy Bagwell
Visitor and New Member Coordinator

Caroline Goodman
Communications Director

Ian Ritchings
Communications Coordinator

Shannon Hutcheson
Administrative Assistant
Children's and Adult Discipleship

Cathy Rush
Receptionist and Admin
to Music and Mission

Kerri Bell
Administrative Assistant
Congregational Care and Deacons

Andy Mayfield
Grounds Manager

Judith Holbert
Tiffany Long
William Massey
Custodians

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