

Elders

Class of 2026

Cindy Cooke, Administration
Sherry Cox, Worship
Martha Tillen, Clerk

Class of 2027

Eddie Homes, Congregational Life
Sharon Wilson, Mission & Outreach

Class of 2028

Donna Goble, Mission & Outreach
Robin Knott, Congregational Life
Mary Meade, Worship

Clerk

Martha Tillen

Treasurers

Scott Wilson
Amanda Avery

Staff

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder, Pastor
Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager

Buildings & Grounds

John & Teresa Sheaves

Sound & Video

Sam Clem

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 E. Frederick Street, Staunton, VA 24401
540-886-0704; stauntonfirst@gmail.com
www.1stpres-staunton.org
Facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchStaunton

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First Presbyterian Church, Staunton, VA

Mission & Vision Statement

Adopted on September 10, 2024

We open our hearts and our doors to worshipping Christ in downtown Staunton as a visible witness to the Gospel.

We are called to be a congregation that...

1. Invites all people to faith in Christ.
2. Worships God in a vibrant community through discipleship, music, and fellowship.
3. Uses our resources, time, and talents in the service of the least of these.
4. Nurtures and strengthens those within and outside of our community.
5. Makes the best use of our historic downtown property to benefit others.



July 26, 2026 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Stradavari Quartet:

Olivia Zhang (16--Sanhe, Hebei, China)

Zihao Tang (19--Shanghai, China)

Wednesday Hsu (25--Taipei, Taiwan)

Rachel Lin (25--San Jose, CA)

PRELUDE "I. Allegro assai appassionato" (no repeat) *Stradavari Quartet*
Composition: Felix Mendelssohn - String Quartet No. 4 in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT "In the New Jerusalem"
CB Widmeyer, 1911

WORDS OF PRAISE Psalm 105 selected verses *Dick Cox*

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known God's deeds among the peoples.
Sing to the LORD, sing praises to him;
tell of all God's wonderful works.
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek God's presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works the LORD has done,
God's miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,
He is the LORD our God;
God's judgments are in all the earth.
The LORD is mindful of his covenant forever,
of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

***OPENING HYMN #418** "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

***OPENING PRAYER** based on Psalm 139 *Unison*
Lord, you have searched us and known us. You discern our thoughts from far away, and are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that we have acted in our own interests, without concern for others. Loving God, forgive our selfishness and deliver us from evil. Ground us in your mercy and grace, and lead us in your way everlasting.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE**
If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,” even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.
The good news: God’s love and mercy extends to the ends of the universe.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and redeemed.
Thanks be to God!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #444** “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” *vv. 1 & 4*
SCRIPTURE READING Revelation 21-22 selected verses
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM “When the Lamb Becomes the Light”
by Joel Lindsey and Regie Hamm © 1993 McSpadden-Smith Pub., LLC

SERMON “A New Beginning” *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #70** “What Does the Lord Require of You?”
(in a round with Dr. Huff, Chancel Choir, Heifetz, and Congregation)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Confession of Belhar (1986)* *Unison*
The unity of the Church must become visible so that the people around us can see how separation and hatred are overcome in Christ. We believe that genuine faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership in this Christian church. We praise God that race, class, gender, or culture does not determine who belongs to this Church. We believe that God has entrusted to the Church the message of reconciliation; and that the Church is called to proclaim and embody this reconciliation, to be peacemakers, and to believe and to witness that God conquers all powers of sin and death, of hate, bitterness and enmity, through his life-giving Word and Spirit.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER *Hymnal pg. 35*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “III. Andante” *Stradavari Quartet*
Composition: Felix Mendelssohn - String Quartet No. 4 in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2

***DOXOLOGY #606** “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”
***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**
***CLOSING HYMN #726** “Will You Come and Follow Me”
***BLESSING & SENDING** Teresa of Avila
Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Ours are the eyes with which he looks with compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good.
Our are the hands with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet.
Ours are the eyes, we are Christ’s body.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE “II. Scherzo. Allegro di molto” *Stradavari Quartet*
Composition: Felix Mendelssohn - String Quartet No. 4 in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2
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ANNOUNCEMENTS
PLEASE WELCOME HEIFETZ TO WORSHIP TODAY! We are thrilled that Heifetz will be performing during worship today. Welcome Heifetz!

HOME GOODS PANTRY Our Home Goods Pantry will be open on Wednesday, August 19. Financial and product donations are always welcomed. We are in need of the following items: Baby diapers (any size), toddler pull-ups (any size), baby wipes, baby lotion, and baby shampoo. Please bring any donated items to the church office or place in the donations basket outside of the sanctuary.

On July 15, we handed out 147 full bags and 15 partial bags, totaling 162 bags handed out. 383 individuals were assisted. Many thanks for your continued support!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SANCTUARY DOORS Session has approved a Capital Campaign concluding Labor Day weekend. We ask that you prayerfully consider a contribution toward restoring the sanctuary doors. Gifts can be made by check to First Presbyterian Church, with “Sanctuary Door Campaign” written in the memo section. Thank you!

Prayer List
Please send out prayers for: Fay Knicley; Molly Cox; Mona Tate; Kim Young; Timmy Plummer; Floyd Buran; Mary-Faye Sproul Browning; Ben Rice; Frank Villafana; family of Ruby Dowdy; Betty Patton

Please contact Heidi in the church office or Pastor Jeff to have names added or removed from the prayer list.

Names will be removed after 6 weeks unless otherwise requested.