

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

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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.



August 2, 2026 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”
by Helen Lemmel © 1922 Singpiration Music

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Meade

INTROIT #833

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

WORDS OF PRAISE

L: We know we can call upon you O, God

P: Because you will answer us.

L: Turn your ears towards us and hear our words.

P: O God, you wondrously show your steadfast love.

***OPENING HYMN #692**

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

***OPENING PRAYER**

Unison

We have sat and listened to your stories, and we really don’t understand them. We hear the words you say, yet they never reach our hearts. Your call is for us to Love the world, and we eagerly say we want to do it. Yet when we are asked to love someone who we don’t know, we create excuses and act as if we tried. Help us, God, to challenge our own thoughts, to step outside what we believe we know, and let you guide our actions. Help us to remember that your grace is encouragement to love, not an excuse to ignore...(silent confession). Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE**

God’s mercy knows no bounds.

Be Blest by God’s Love.

We have confessed.

We are forgiven.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #649** “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” *vv. 1 & 2*

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 32:22-31
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM “Put Thine Arms Around Me”
by A. H. Buckley © 1956 Rodeheaver Co.

SERMON “Is Seeing Believing?” *Rev. Melissa Harmon*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #846** “Fight the Good Fight”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Confession of Belhar* *Unison*
We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

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

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Today”
by A. H. & B. D. Auckley © 1943 Rodeheaver Co.

***DOXOLOGY #606** “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #313** “Lord, Make Us More Holy”

***BLESSING & SENDING**
As God’s own, clothe yourselves with
compassion, kindness, and patience,
forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you,
and let everything that we do be done in Love.
Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

“My Burden Is Gone”
by Haldor Lillenas © 1923, renewed 1951 Lillenas Pub.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE WELCOME REV. MELISSA HARMON TO WORSHIP TODAY! Rev. Melissa Leigh Harmon is a native of Richmond VA. She came to the Valley in 2008 to pastor 3 churches in Highland County. She became a member at large in the Presbytery in 2015. Melissa serves the church by doing pulpit supply and enjoys being able to worship with the churches of the Presbytery. Rev. Melissa and her wife live in Harrisonburg, along with their 3 children. She works as a certified pharmacy technician for Sentara RMH. Melissa's hobbies include more crafts than should be listed unless this is a resume. She mainly does stained glass, embossed cards and, when the garden produces, canning the harvest.

PASTOR JEFF’S UPCOMING SCHEDULE Pastor Jeff will be out Sunday, August 2-Thursday, August 6.

POWER UP OUR COMMUNITY: JOIN THE AUGUST FOOD PROTEIN DRIVE You can help! A Food Protein Drive in support of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is taking place all of this month. Protein is an essential, but often, expensive, part of a healthy diet. Collection bins for shelf-stable items (peanut butter, canned meats/fish, beans, stews) are in the sanctuary narthex and in the lobby of the Fraser building. Thank you for your support and generosity! (NO GLASS CONTAINERS, PLEASE)
- The Mission & Outreach Committee

STUFF THE BUS: DONATE SCHOOL SUPPLIES **When:** August 7, 8, & 9/10:00am-6:00pm
Where: Walmart in Staunton & Waynesboro. Most needed supplies include: Backpacks, #2 pencils, colored pencils, crayons, loose-leaf paper, ballpoint pens, erasers, pencil cases, highlighters, pocket folders, pencil sharpeners, safety scissors, three-ring binders, tissues, spiral notebooks, ziplock bags, cleaning wipes, washable markers, composition books, dry-erase markers, glue sticks, hand sanitizer, white glue, and ear buds/headphones.

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Fay Knicley; Molly Cox; Mona Tate; Kim Young; Timmy Plummer; 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.