

**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.



**September 27, 2026 @ 11:00am/Mischief & Magic**

**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**PRELUDE #74**

**“When God Restored Our Common Life”**

*Dr. Renee Huff*

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

**INTROIT #47**

**“Bless All Who Trust in God”**

**WORDS OF PRAISE**

*Iona Abbey Worship Book*

*Robin Knott*

O God, who called all life into being,  
**the earth, sea and sky are yours.**  
Your presence is all around us,  
**every atom is full of your energy.**  
Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth,  
**with her we yearn for justice to be done,**  
for creation to be freed from bondage,  
**for the hungry to be fed,**  
for captives to be released,  
**for your kingdom of peace to come on earth.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #65** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

*Unison*

**Almighty and gracious God, what a joy it is to worship you this day among so great a cloud of witnesses. May our praise be joyful, may our hearts be turned toward you, and may our souls be filled with the nourishment that only you provide. Speak to us once more your words of life, that we may be forgiven for our broken ways, and transformed into your image.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE** 2 Corinthians 5:17

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #581**      “Glory Be to the Father”

**SCRIPTURE READING**                  Genesis 46-50 selected verses  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM**                                  “Blessed”  
*by Reuben Morgan & Darlene Zschech © 2002 Hillsong Pub.*

**SERMON**                                  “Blessing”                                  *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #444**      “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**          from *A Brief Statement of Faith*                                  *Unison*  
**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY #100**                  “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

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

**\*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #169**      “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

**\*BLESSING & SENDING**  
And, now may we go from this place in peace, knowing we are all new creations in Christ.  
**May we go from this place in joy, knowing we are free to serve the kingdom of God and not the conformity of the world.**  
May we go from this place in love, reminded that nothing we have done or will ever do will ever separate us from the love of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Alleluia! Amen.**

**POSTLUDE #475**                  “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**YOU’RE INVITED** to a picnic with Third and Second Presbyterian Churches on Saturday, October 3, at 3pm at Third’s fellowship hall and/or outdoor area. Third will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, tea, and lemonade. They ask that folks kindly bring a covered dish, salad, or dessert to share. **Please RSVP to [stauntonfirst@gmail.com](mailto:stauntonfirst@gmail.com) by tomorrow, September 28.** Thank you!

**THE QUEEN CITY MISCHIEF & MAGIC FESTIVAL** continues in downtown Staunton today, Sunday, September 27, ending at 7:00pm.

**KEEP A FOSTER CHILD WARM THIS WINTER** Many foster children who pass through and reside at the Presbyterian Home for the Highlands (PCHH) leave home without any belongings. As winter approaches, foster care facilities and new foster families see a rise in the need for warm winter clothing — especially coats. Our church is collecting new or gently used coats as well as hats/scarves and gloves in sizes ranging from infant to men’s 4XL for these children. Please place donated items in the collection bins in the Sanctuary narthex or just outside the chapel in Fraser Building. To give funding for this project, please put PCHH in the memo line of your check or put cash in an envelope marked PCHH. Thank you for your love and generosity!  
- The Missions and Outreach Committee

**THE HOME GOODS COMMUNITY PANTRY** On Wednesday, September 16, the Home Goods Community Pantry handed out 167 bags, which assisted 397 individuals. For the third quarter, 494 bags were handed out, and 1161 individuals were assisted!  
Many thanks for your continued support!

**BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY AT 10:00AM!** Please join us for Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:00am in the library. Discussions are lively and refreshments are provided. All are welcome. Please join us!

**Prayer List**

Please send out prayers for: Denise Lowman; Hugh Sproul; Molly Cox; Mona Tate; Kim Young; Timmy Plummer; Betty Patton; Teresa Anson  
*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.*