

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.



October 11, 2026 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

“Nearer, My God to Thee”

Dr. Renee Huff

by Sarah Fuller Adams and Lowell Mason, 1840

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT #695

“Change My Heart, O God”

WORDS OF PRAISE

Psalms 106:1-6

Sherry Cox

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

for God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord or declare all his praise?

Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

Remember us, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help us when you deliver them,

that we may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,

that we may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,

that we may glory in your heritage.

***OPENING HYMN #451** “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

***OPENING PRAYER**

Unison

Gather our hearts, O God, bringing us together across difference and division to live with your compassion. Gather our minds, O God, from distractions and distance to focus on you and your word. Gather our spirits, O God, to be strong and courageous in pursuit of your justice. By the power of your Holy Spirit, make us one in heart, mind, and spirit as we worship you on this sabbath day.

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

Friends, by the grace of God made known in Jesus Christ we are forever loved.

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 #443** “There Is a Redeemer” *vv. 1 & 3*

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:21-48
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM “I Live”
by Reggie, Hamm and Jessie Butterworth, © 2002 Designer Music Co

SERMON “You have heard...” *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #738** “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Confession of Belhar (1986)* *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

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Donna Goble*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Watch and Pray”
by Twila Paris © 1993 Arios Music/Mtn Spring Music

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

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #263** “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

***BLESSING & SENDING**
Rejoice! And may God’s blessings enrich our lives as we reflect the love of Jesus.
We will rejoice, for we are saved by God’s loving grace.
We are washed anew in Christ’s light and mercy.
We are given new life in our savior.
Go out into the world to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

“We Shall Behold Him”
by Dottie Rambo © 1980 John T Benson Pub.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to work First Presbyterian Church’s table at the Staunton Pride Festival on Saturday, October 17 at Gypsy Hill Park. If interested, please contact Mary Meade. Thank you!

PW CIRCLE WILL MEET Tuesday, October 13, at 12:30pm in the library. We would appreciate a head count, so please let Alice Herbst know if you can make it. And feel free to bring guests — all are welcome!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE The deadline for submissions for the November issue of First Impressions is Thursday, October 15. Please submit any info you would like to include by then. Thank you!

SACKS OF LOVE MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH On Monday, October 19, Sacks of Love will be packing school bags for area students. They will meet at 6:00pm at First Baptist Church in Staunton in their fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed to help with the packing. Please join us!

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Alice Herbst; Denise Lowman; Hugh Sproul; Molly Cox; Ann Weiland; Simon Marsh; 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.