

The Columns

Georgetown Presbyterian Church

Fall, 2026



In This Issue

Recent Events

Coming Soon

Weekly Events

Resume

Financial
Snapshot

2026-2028
Session

Contact Info

The Columns is Back!

The Columns newsletter is back and will now be published quarterly!

In each issue we will highlight what has been happening in the life of Georgetown Presbyterian Church and look forward to what is coming. You will find news about Presbyterian Women, Youth Ministry, Music, worship themes for Advent and Lent, and all of the activities going on in the life of our church.

The Columns is one way for our members to stay connected to the church and it is a great way to share the life of GPC with friends.



The Sanctuary ceiling and walls are being painted, along with replacing the air distributors. We are worshipping in the Fellowship Hall until the work is completed. Stay tuned to find out when we can return!

Recent Events



On April 26th we had over 75 intergenerational volunteers for a start-to-finish meal assembly experience with Rise Against Hunger. We packed 10,000 meals that were sent to the Philippines.

Would you go on a trip not knowing the destination?

Well, our Children and Youth did just that! Debbie Jenkins planned three "Mystery Trips" for the kids and here is where they ended up going!



June 24th

Our 3rd - 5th graders went to Whirlin Waters in North Charleston

June 25th

K-2nd graders went to Splash Island in Mt. Pleasant, then on to Big Mike's for ice cream.



June 26th

Middle School Youth went to Shark Park in North Myrtle Beach, on to Chick Fil A, and then drove home through a terrible thunder storm!



We also had our Children and Youth Sunday on May 17th!
A HUGE thank you to all of the Youth who participated and led us
in worship!



In the month of May we collected a total of 225 books for the local mission of Miss Ruby's Kids. Thank you so much for your support of this important ministry!!

VBS: Rome Comes to GPC

In June we traveled to Rome with our Vacation Bible School participants!

The children learned about life in 1st Century Rome, how difficult it was for Christians to live out their faith; and how important it is for us to share our faith with others so that they can also enjoy the peace and comfort that comes from accepting Jesus. We had over 100 children and 40 volunteers!





Coming Soon

Blessing of the Backpacks

Be sure and bring your new school year backpacks to church with you on Sunday, August 2nd. We want to pray over them AND YOU!!

Blessings abound in our Father's house, and we want special blessings as you return to school.

Back to School Bash

Join us on Sunday, August 9th for the Back to School Bash!

You've had a week of school by now, so I'm sure you're ready for a break. Be sure to join us.....FUN and FOOD for everyone!





Operation Christmas Child

Sunday, September 13th we will have an Operation Christmas Child -Shoe Box Recipient, Ms. Ekaterina, speaking during the service. This will kick off the shoe box drive!



Join us as we host with Helping Hands, their Annual Community Fundraising Event on Friday, September 18th 11am - 1pm.

GREAT Food (chicken pileau), GREAT fellowship, GREAT opportunity to help raise money for one of our neighbors in ministry!

Missions Fair

Mission Fair - Sunday, October 4th This event is immediately following the worship service. Make plans to attend our "First in a LONG TIME" Mission Fair! Learn more about who we support, speak to representatives, watch short films, take home some brochures and maybe eat some authentic food from faraway places.





2026 Fall Festival

Join us on Wednesday,
October 28th from 5:30-
7:30pm for carnival games &
food!



When will Fall Activities Resume?

- Middle School Youth on Sunday,
August 16th, 4:30 - 6:30 pm
- Senior High Youth on Tuesday,
August 18th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- Elementary School Children on
Wednesday, August 19th, 5:15 -
7:00 pm



Weekly Events Resume



Monthly Congregational Care Lunches

Once a month, the first Tuesday of the months October - December, and February - April. All are welcome to attend - no charge. This is a time for food and fellowship. If you are interested in volunteering to prepare or serve food, please contact Karen Kahn.



Bridges

Wednesday evenings in Fellowship Hall.
Join us in September at 5:15pm for dinner (\$10 per person or \$20 per family). After dinner, children will be dismissed to attend their activities, while Adults join together for educational programming.



Women's Circles

We will start up again in September and continue to meet the second Monday or Tuesday, September - May.



Men's Breakfast

Beginning Sept. 9th, join us every Wednesday morning at 8am in Fellowship Hall.



Georgetown Presbyterian Women (GPW)

coordinating group meets the 1st Monday of every month.

150 years ago, Dr. William Plumer Jacobs, a young minister of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, South Carolina, grieved for children and families devastated by the Civil War. A simple dream bloomed—a safe-haven where children and families could grow, heal, and thrive. Today Thornwell continues to minister to children and families. Georgetown Presbyterian Church has supported Thornwell for many years.

In honor of their 150th anniversary, the session and mission committee approved a matching fundraiser. The mission committee will match up to \$1,500 given by the congregation to celebrate and support Thornwell's ongoing mission. Make sure you designate your gift by marking your envelope or check memo with "Thornwell." Gifts will be received until September 15. You can learn more about their amazing work at www.thornwell.org

Financial Snapshot

June 2026 Year to Date						
				<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget Difference</u>
	<u>Actual Last Year</u>	<u>Actual This Year</u>	<u>2025 Budget</u>		<u>Difference</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>
					<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	
Contributions	437,985	433,458	432,500		(4,527)	958
Other Receipts	164,294	90,104	118,660		(74,189)	(28,556)
Total Revenues	602,279	523,562	551,160		(78,716)	(27,598)
Cost of Church Operations	489,127	442,242	460,540		(46,884)	18,298
Outreach	86,554	91,142	90,620		4,589	(522)
Total Expenses	575,681	533,385	551,160		(42,296)	17,775
Net Total	26,598	(9,823)	0		(36,420)	(9,823)

Music Notes

“When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!” Fred Pratt Green, 1972, text to hymn # 641.

The return of fall, though the temperatures may obfuscate, also returns us to regular routines- school, football games, autumn lawn maintenance, autumn festivals, AND resumption of music activities at GPC! We are grateful to

Summer Choir for showing up on Sunday mornings at 10AM to (re)read/(re)learn an anthem for the worship service at 10:30! Summer Choir will continue until Sept. 6, with regular 6:30 Wednesday night Chancel Choir rehearsals resuming for the fall on Sept. 9, the first Wednesday after the Labor Day Holiday. We are hoping to add to our ranks as we say goodbye to a few members who are moving away. Reading

music (though an asset) is not required to sing with us- only a desire to serve and make a joyful noise.

Because of the Labor Day Holiday, Bell Choir will resume rehearsals one week later at 5:30PM on Monday evenings. We are also looking to recruit a few more “ding-a lings” to help us cover all the parts. If you ever played piano, this is a piece of cake since you only have to mostly play 2 and sometimes 3 or 4 bells. We are a fun-loving supportive group that would like to share the fun! With the start of school comes the start of children and youth activities which include music that will be presented in worship services and Christmas Pageant later in the fall. Piano Classes will resume in October on Saturday mornings. Watch for details in the bulletin and daily emails as the date draws closer. Many of you have enjoyed the music of Mr. Cary Byrd, who is now our Choir/Organ Scholar as of April.

A native of South Carolina, he attended the South Carolina Governor's School of the Arts, USC – B. M. Ed, Horn Performance, LSU- Horn Performance. Cary has held positions in several orchestras including South Carolina Symphony, Augusta SO, Baton Rouge Symphony, Long Bay Symphony, Natchez Opera Orchestra and played with many orchestra, ballet, opera and musical theatre companies throughout the Southeast and Gulf Coast. Some church positions include University Presbyterian Church, Baton Rouge; First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh; Christ the King Lutheran Church and co-director of Triangle Alliance Chorus, Cary, NC. Cary's career as Director of Development in arts fundraising and

leadership has taken him to LSU, Houston Grand Opera, Da Camera, North Carolina Opera. We welcome Cary to our Music Ministries. Thanks to Mary Lu Norris for playing in our worship services in July and August and for our Impromptu Dueling Piano program. We will be saying a fond farewell to choir members Luan Vinson and Larry Roberts as they move to be closer to family this fall. We will miss their voices and contributions to Music Ministries. We hope they find another community of faith to lend their talent. The pianos and the organ will moved into the newly refurbished sanctuary in August but may not be able to be used until September. Other arrangements have been made.

In Christ, Rodney

2026-2028 Session Members

2026

- ❖ Terry Fry
- ❖ Jeff Pelham
- ❖ Jean Power
- ❖ Holley Rogers
- ❖ Pinckney Skinner
- ❖ Johnny Weaver

2027

- ❖ Dean Brown
- ❖ Paul Braynard
- ❖ Buzz Busby
- ❖ Nicole Lee
- ❖ Luann Mezzatesta
- ❖ Dick Rose
- ❖ Kaye Thomas

2028

- ❖ Ashley Baker
- ❖ Bob Derrick
- ❖ Nancy Everhart
- ❖ Molly McNeill
- ❖ Mark Nash
- ❖ Joy Talbot
- ❖ Madeline Young

Moderator- Rev. Chris Weichman, Clerk of Session- Heather Pelham



Nominations for new Session Members will be coming up this Fall. Please consider who you would like to nominate as a congregational representative - someone you know, or maybe yourself!



Our Mission

“Georgetown Presbyterian Church is a community of faith, bound and driven by the love of Jesus Christ, called to nurture discipleship and share God’s grace with all generations through worship and music, meaningful fellowship, mutual care for one another, and support for those in need who live in our community and beyond.”

Georgetown Presbyterian Church

558 Black River Road
Georgetown, SC. 29440

Office Phone: 843-546-5826

Office Email: gpc.office@gtpres.org

(Email the office if you would like to receive our daily emails with prayer requests and the latest news!)

Follow us on Facebook

Church Website: georgetownpresbyterianchurch.org

Staff

Rev. Chris Weichman

Pastor/Head of Staff

chris@gtpres.org

Ext. 111

Rodney Mason

Director of Music Ministries

rodney@gtpres.org

Ext. 117

Debbie Jenkins

Children and Youth Ministries Leader

debbjenkins09@gmail.com

Ext. 123

Ginger McNeill

Office Administrator

gpc.office@gtpres.org

Ext. 110

Elizabeth Fort Moore

GPCPreschool Director

preschool@gtpres.org

Ext. 138

Dan Boyle

Finance Director

finance.director@gtpres.org

Ext. 114

Thomasina Scott

Financial Assistant

financial.assistant@gtpres.org

Ext. 139

Sheree Lewis

Kitchen Hostess

Ext. 132