



# THE CHURCH VOICE

A Publication of Shallotte Presbyterian Church



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As part of a major academic overhaul, my alma mater, Union Presbyterian Seminary, recently announced that, starting in 2026, the Richmond Campus would be switching a hybrid educational model – that is to say, it will effectively end full-time student enrollment to instead focus on remote learning. Classes will now meet largely online, supplemented by periodic visits to campus throughout the academic year. The idea behind the switch is to make a theological education more accessible to people with existing work and family obligations, or who live in areas not convenient to seminary facilities. The model itself is nothing new. The UPS campus in Charlotte has been engaged in hybrid education since its founding in 2002. But such a shift in academic focus for the Richmond campus has naturally been the source of much angst among pastors who, like me, entered into and graduated from seminary as full-time students.

Personally, I support the seminary's decision to make this switch. It makes sense, and it couldn't have been an easy decision to end 214 years of academic tradition. The decision addresses the needs of a changing church driven by technological advances impacting wider society. But more than this, it reflects the reality in which the church finds itself, and I'm encouraged that there's enough maturity to recognize this. As church membership and participation in mainline Protestantism continues to decline in our nation, there simply aren't enough congregations who can offer full-time installed positions to seminary graduates. Thus, the church finds itself increasingly reliant on "bi-vocational" (or, part-time) pastors who can supplement their ministries with income from the private sector.

What we are seeing, however, is not the end of theological education, but the next evolution of it. Like most changes, it's neither good nor bad, it's just different. Indeed, when I was in seminary, one could already see the long-term effect of institutional change taking place, as enrollment was merely a fraction of its former size. Even so, the seminary maintained a vibrant student body through which I met many lifelong friends and colleagues (not to mention my wife!), so naturally, for those of us who were blessed to experience such, there will be a period of mourning as we lament the loss of that community.

My hope is that seminary leaders have anticipated these challenges and are presently taking steps to forge the same sense of connectedness among their students under the new model. If there are no more than "six degrees of separation" from anyone else in the nation, among Presbyterians it is even less so, with the majority of those connections formed through the denomination's 17,000+ ordained pastors – connections that are difficult to replicate online. Just as the church always has, the PC (USA) and its seminaries will continue to adapt their ministries according to the needs of a changing world. But the preservation of community will be a crucial test as the church seeks to remain a relevant institution in the 21st century and beyond.

*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." – I Corinthians 12:12*

Grace & Peace,

George

# Looking Ahead for Worship



*13th Sunday after Pentecost*

September 7, 2025

Rally Day

One Worship Service at 11:00am

*Jeremiah 18:1-11; Philemon 1:1-21*

*14th Sunday after Pentecost*

September 14, 2025

8:30 am Worship

11:00am Worship

*Luke 15:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17*

*15th Sunday after Pentecost*

September 21, 2025

8:30 am Worship

11:00am Worship

\*Congregational Meeting

Following the 11am Service

*1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13*

*16th Sunday after Pentecost*

September 28, 2025

8:30 am Worship

11:00am Worship

TBD



We are collecting monthly for

Operation Christmas Child

*There is a collection box in the*

*Narthex for your donations.*

For September, we are collecting Coloring Books  
with small boxes of crayons and wash clothes

The Brunswick Quilters will hold a Craft Boutique and Quilter's Tag Sale on **Saturday, September 13**, from 9am to 1pm at the Shallotte Presbyterian Church in the Fellowship Hall and classrooms. Over twenty vendors will participate and will sell new, hand crafted items such as quilts, placemats, Christmas ornaments, wall hangings and much, much more. Proceeds will benefit the Brunswick Quilters charities including the Rose House, Brunswick Family Assistance, Novant Hospital and Habitat for Humanity. **All are welcome!**

Shallotte Presbyterian Church  
Rev. George Chapman III, Pastor

## The Session (Elders)

### Class of 2025

Kitty Green  
Sarah Henry  
Rusty Russ  
Linda Stackhouse

### Class of 2026

John Cardwell  
Kim Smithwick  
Steve Wingfield  
Lynne Young

### Class of 2027

Patsy Calhoun  
Mike Clawson  
Eric Lehmann  
Mac Warner

Kitty Green, Clerk of Session

## The Board of Deacons

### Class of 2025

Barbara English  
Carol Kauffman  
Brenda Lewis  
Rosalee Rockafellow

### Class of 2026

Lurae Albert  
Leslie Claiborne  
Tobin Henry  
Susan Lehmann

### Class of 2027

Linda Black  
Sarah Braddock  
Sarah Cook  
Bart Norwood

Tobin Henry, Moderator    Susan Lehmann, Clerk of Deacons



## Sunday Worship Services

**Sept 7 - Rally Day - One Worship Service at 11am.**

**Sept 14 - Regular Worship Services Begin at the church**

*The 11am service is streamed live on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel.*

The **Nursery** is available during the 11am service.

**Adult/Children Sunday School** begins on Sept 14 from 9:45 - 10:30.

### Calendar Notes:

#### Food Pantry Sunday is

**September 14th.** If you wish to make a monetary donation, you may drop it off at the church or mail your check to the church office.



**SPCYOUTH** Wednesdays,  
September 3,10,17, 24 at 3:30pm



**Rally Day** - September 7th with a 10am Biscuit Breakfast.

**Craft Boutique** - September 13th 9am-1pm

**Congregational Meeting**-September 21st following 11am Worship

**PORCH** - will be collecting food donations at 3610 Express Dr. on September **17th & 18th** from 12-4pm.

**Sisters of Strength** will meet on September 26nd at Lucas in Shallotte at 11:30am

### Highlights From Session

- Received George Comstock into active membership by letter of transfer from First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, VA
- Approved one worship service at 11:00 for Rally Day, September 7
- Approved a Meeting of the Congregation to be held at the close of the 11:00 worship service on September 21 for the purpose of electing officers for the Class of 2028
- Approved motion from the Missions and Benevolences Committee to participate in the 2nd annual Bank Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity
- Approved Sunday School curriculum and teachers for the upcoming year: Adults - Curriculum *Feasting on the Word* Myra Chapman, Lynne Young

Tweens - Curriculum selected books from the *Faith Questions* series - Sarah Cook, Ryan Smithwick, Davis Milgan

Children - Curriculum *Growing in Grace and Gratitude* - Kitty Green, Jeannie McLeod, Janet Norwood



*On Wednesday, August 20th the congregation gathered at Town Center Park, Ocean Isle for a Sunset Slush Social to Celebrate the end of summer and of Pastor George and Myra's third year with us!*



### Greeters and Ushers - September, 2025

Date	Ushers	Liturgist	Greeter	Welcome Table	Acolyte
9/7	Steve Wingfield & Mac McCall	Sarah Cook	Debbie McCall	Linda Stackhouse	Seamus Smithwick
9/14	Eric Lehmann & Debbie McCall	Rusty Russ	Mac McCall	Susan Lehmann	AJ Pendergrass
9/21	Mike Clawson & Kitty Green	Marvin Stackhouse	Joanne Prettyman	Bart Norwood	Steven Vattimo
9/28	Rusty Russ & Lynne Young	Betsy Braddock	Polly Russ	Mac Warner	Penny Nemrow

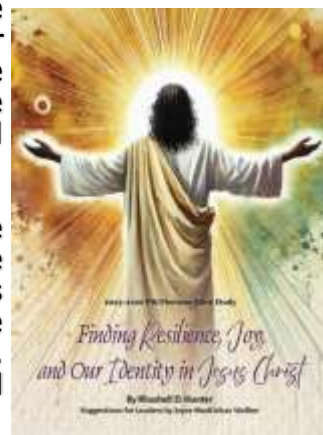




## Presbyterian Women Summer Project and Celebration Circle

The response to our Presbyterian Women's Summer Project has been tremendous! Thank you for your contribution to the huge, filled boxes and baskets in the office entrance. You've also contributed financially which will be shared with the recipients. We will conclude our Summer Project with the first Celebration Circle meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall @ 10:30 AM. You may continue to donate up through the Circle meeting as we plan to dedicate these donations during Circle and deliver them afterward to Shallotte Middle School and The Rose House.

Every woman coming to SPC is invited to attend our Circle meetings. The meetings consist of a Bible Study and business meeting with some refreshments at most of the meetings. We also have a couple of meetings during September through May when we share a meal together. Our Bible Study this year is: Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ. Focus on support of a mission is also a part of the meetings. Come and join the fellowship of this sisterhood!



**RALLY DAY  
SETTING SAIL FOR  
A NEW YEAR IN  
CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION  
COME ABOARD!  
SEPTEMBER 7,  
2025**

**BISCUIT  
BREAKFAST AT 10:00  
FELLOWSHIP HALL**



This will be followed  
by one joint worship  
service at 11:00 a.m.

*"And when he got  
into the boat, his  
disciples followed  
him." Matthew 8:23*



Shallotte Presbyterian Church Youth served in worship as Liturgists, Acolyte, and Greeters.



Participants are: (Left to Right) Spencer Agner, Mary Payton and AJ Pendergrass, Penny Nemrow, Mary Grace Carter, Salem Jones, and Dylan Thomas. Our Youth are a blessing to all of us.

An Appreciation and Recognition Reception followed the worship service. Each family was gratefully recognized for their support, and Youth participants received a Certificate of Achievement presented by Worship Chair Sarah Henry and Reverend George Chapman III. Thank you for your support and service to Shallotte Presbyterian Church.



Spencer Agner



Mary Grace Carter



Penny Nemrow



Salem Jones



Dylan Thomas

Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for hosting the Reception. Families and members shared fellowship and community as we celebrate the vitality, energy and potential of the young people within our congregation.

*"Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14*



AJ and Mary Payton Pendergrass



## MISSION AND BENEVOLENCE: SPOTLIGHT ON MISSION Communities in Schools



Shallotte Presbyterian Church supports Brunswick County schools through donations from the Mission Committee budget to Communities in Schools Brunswick County (CIS). Our church mainly concentrates on assisting Shallotte Middle School and Union Elementary School through monetary donations and various voluntary opportunities. The Mission Committee asks for your prayers, time, and/or talents for all our community's schools' staff and students.

The CIS mission is: To surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

One of the Brunswick County CIS programs is called **Action for Success** which is an evidence-based drop-out prevention program in all Brunswick County middle schools, Lincoln Elementary, Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary, Supply Elementary, and Waccamaw School that works by building relationships that remove the barriers to learning and improve ways our community responds to needs of at-risk students and their families.

Here are a few ways you can help:

- Mentor a student
- Donate needed school supplies
- Donate financially to support the program
- Join a child for school lunch (Lunch Buddy program)
- Read to or listen to a reader
- Furnish clothing for children in need
- Tutor a student
- Participate in Career Day
- Volunteer to proctor during Testing

If you would like to volunteer with CIS, you must complete a volunteer application and background check form. If you're interested in volunteering for the Action for Success Program, call Mallory Wells at (910) 351-8007.

Do you love to shop and want to give back to schools? You can shop and/or donate to the CIS Thrift Stores. They are located in Boiling Spring Lakes, Southport, Shallotte, and Sunset Beach. The stores help raise funds to support CIS dropout prevention programs. Services provided include academic tutoring, mentoring, behavior interventions, attendance interventions, social skills/character development, basic need items, club activities, case management, and linkage with community resources to support student and family needs.

Call Sandra Salinas at 910-351-8007 or email [ssalinas@cisbrunswick.org](mailto:ssalinas@cisbrunswick.org) if you are interested in volunteering your time and talents to a CIS Thrift Store.

*To My dear friends of Shallotte Presbyterian Church,*

*Thank you so much for the many caring gifts given to me during my recent stroke. I appreciated each, call, prayer, card, visit, and every delicious meal. I will be eternally grateful for your loving kindness.*

*Your dishes will be put in the church kitchen on September 14th.*

Love & Prayers,  
Carol Partridge





If you have placed a name on the list below and it needs to be removed, please call or email the Church Office, 910-754-6929, church@atmc.net



Please Pray for the Individuals Below and Their Families

Katie Baskette, Pat Bell, Lillian Carlisle, Mike Claxton, Pat Dobbins, Shaundra Durham, Debra Freeman, Bob Gorman, Charles Greene, Marie Greene, Judith & Craig Huffman, Barry & Amy Hulsey, Wray King, Rev. Jerrod Lowry, Bob Mayhew, Chip & Jackie Montague, Maximus & Hendrix Montague, Chuck & Carol Partridge, Dian Robbins, Nessa Rouff, Harry Simpson, Kaitlyn Smith, Cindy Wilson & Bill Young.

### A Note from the Stewardship/Finance Committee

The following is a brief summary of our giving and related expenditures of the Operating Fund for the 7 months ended July 31, 2025 with comparative amounts for 2024 and 2023.

	<u>2025 Actual</u>	<u>2024 Actual</u>	<u>2023 Actual</u>
Pledges & Other Offerings received	<u>\$276,495.26</u>	<u>\$248,186.43</u>	<u>\$249,496.58</u>
Expenditures:			
Staff Ministry	119,108.68	112,459.25	109,871.37
Local Program Ministry	14,165.09	10,279.41	8,441.58
Property and Grounds	80,342.54	65,386.54	89,963.65
Administration	13,942.72	12,285.05	11,289.01
General / Sessional	810.39	102.06	0.00
Missions and Benevolences	<u>35,205.00</u>	<u>35,525.66</u>	<u>34,629.19</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>263,574.42</u>	<u>236,037.97</u>	<u>254,194.80</u>
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>\$ 12,920.84</u>	<u>\$ 12,148.46</u>	<u>\$ (4,698.22)</u>

#### A thought to consider....

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."  
Winston Churchill

*Fun!*



All Middle and High School Youth –

WE WANT YOU!

SPC YOUTH GROUP

EVERY WEDNESDAY

BEGINNING AUGUST 27

3:30pm

Fellowship Hall

*Snacks!*

*Fellowship!*

Come and bring a friend!

For transportation needs, call the church office or Kitty Green (910-512-5489)



## The Shallotte Presbyterian Golf Committee



Wayne Tillman, from the Shallotte Presbyterian Golf Committee, had a busy week providing donations from this year's tournament to Brunswick Family Assistance (in memory of Nancy Gorman), Lower Cape Fear LifeCare (in memory of Dianne Baxley) and the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Animal Protection Services. Also, \$2,000 was donated to the SPC Scholarship Fund and Street Reach Homeless Shelter. We thank everyone who participated or sponsored our tournament. If anyone is interested in leading next year's committee, please contact Wayne Tillman.

### SAVE THE DATE:

**A special service of recognition for Dianne Baxley being held at the Lower Cape Fear LifeCare hospice in Bolivia (955 Mercy Lane).**

**The service takes place at 10:00 am on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**A glass tile with her name will be placed on their Memorial Wall for you to view as well.**



### Vicki A Blount Scholarship

It's that time of year and our young adult church members are back at school working hard to better themselves through education. They have their dreams and career plans, and we want to have their backs.

As the new school year begins, I ask each of you to do two things. First **PRAY** for a successful year for each of our Scholarship winners (Salem, Katie, Spencer, and Will). Second please take one of the Blue envelopes in the back of the pew and make a **FALL donation** to the SPC scholarship fund. Please remit to **Shallotte Presbyterian Church** with "**Scholarship**" noted in the memo line of the check and mail to PO Box 3256, Shallotte, NC 28459 or simply drop the envelope in the offering plate.

Thanks so much,  
Erskine Blount, SPC Scholarship Chairman

### PORCH South Brunswick Update Donated in July

Total Donations - 4,149

Children	468
Adults	808
Seniors	475
Total	1,751

*Food can be donated all month long at the church.*

*[www.thelordsfoodpantry.org](http://www.thelordsfoodpantry.org)  
September- Canned Fruit*

***CROP Walk for Hunger**  
November 2 from  
12:00- 3:30 at Mulberry Park*

## Shallotte Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

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Shallotte, NC 28459

Phone: 910-754-6929

E-mail: shallottepresbyterian@gmail.com

www.shallottechurch.org

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Shallotte, NC

Permit #140

**ADDRESS RETURN REQUESTED**  
**September, 2025**



Scan with your Smartphone to Access  
our NEW Online Giving Web Portal!



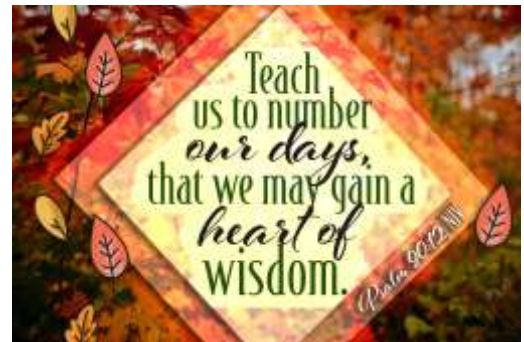
[www.facebook.com/shallottepresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/shallottepresbyterian)

### **INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT SPC?**

For anyone considering membership at Shallotte Presbyterian Church, **NEW MEMBER CLASSES** will be offered **October 19 & 26** following worship (around 12:15 or so). These classes are NOT required to join the church, nor is there an obligation to join should you choose to participate; these classes merely present an opportunity for folks to learn more about the history, polity and theology of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and explore the ways one can use their gifts to serve the mission of this congregation. Lunch will be provided.

If you're interested in learning more about membership or what's involved, please contact the church office. (The process is easier than you might think!)

**(910) 754-6929** or,  
**church@atmc.net**



*Consecration  
Sunday*

Please put Sunday, Nov. 9 on your calendar for the annual **Consecration Sunday luncheon** in the Fellowship Hall. After we ask the Lord to bless our financial pledges for 2026, we will gather after the 10a.m. service for a wonderful lunch provide by Jerome's restaurant. You won't want to miss this meal as we gather together as a congregation!

