

TOPSAIL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Topsail Presbyterian Church
HAMPSTEAD, NORTH CAROLINA

Homecoming
AUGUST 24, 2025 | ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OUR MISSION

The beautiful story of Topsail Presbyterian is comprised completely in the unique make-up of the individuals who call Topsail Presbyterian their home. Although vastly different in their journeys, there are 3 cords that bind each of us together.

We Are...

We are real people infused with dynamic faith, committed to a common vision, joined together in the covenant love of our Creator.

We Used to Be...

We used to be completely broken but are now grateful for undeserved redemption, astonished by amazing grace, healed by forgiveness and humbled by the divine invitation to be included in the greatest cause on earth.

We Serve...

We serve a good and perfect God. The nations are His dwelling and our lives are His vessels. We have compassion for the poor, and our hearts are open to the rich.

Welcome

May you truly sense God's Spirit at work in this place and in your life.

Greetings to everyone! We extend a warm welcome to those joining us in-person or for our live stream worship service this morning. As we celebrate together, we hope you will sense God's presence as we gather.

If you are a guest this morning, please fill out one of the visitor information cards located in the pew pockets so we can get to know each other better. Simply, hand your completed card to an usher or place it in the offering plate. In addition, we invite you to take a Guest Bag from the table in the narthex as you leave today. If you need assistance at any time, please feel free to ask someone seated next to you or one of the ushers.

Children are welcome to sit with their families during worship or attend Sunday School following the Children's Sermon. We have a nursery available for infants and our parlor is available for nursing mothers & parents in need of a quiet space with their children during worship. Restrooms are located through the door to the right of the chancel.

Sunday School Opportunities

Children's Sunday School

This child centered Sunday school (ages 3 years to 5th grade) is held every Sunday during the 10:30am worship service down our Preschool hallway. Participants will be excused from the worship service following the Children's Sermon and will reconnect with their parents at the conclusion of the service. **First time visitors are asked to walk their child to their first session for instruction & to complete registration.**

Youth Sunday School

This middle/high school centered Sunday school class is held every Sunday during the 10:30am worship service in the Youth Building. Participants will be excused from the worship service following the Children's Sermon and will reconnect with their parents at the conclusion of the service. **The first Sunday of every month is Youth Sunday. There is no Youth Sunday School on these days.** Youth will assist in providing liturgy, ushering, & greeting guests and will remain seated with their families for worship. **This group is currently on hold for the summer season.**

The Present Word (Adult) Sunday School

This Adult Sunday School class regularly meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Parlor or Fellowship Hall. However, **this group will be on hiatus for the summer quarter.** For those who would like to continue their studies independantly, we have summer quarter study guides available in the Admin office.

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Steuart Link, Interim Pastor

Jay Bender, Guest Speaker

Tom Sidbury, 10:30 Liturgist

Shelly Aebi, Organist

Dr. Rebecka Rose, Music Director

Andrew & Ann Simpson,

Bagpipers

Russ Layman,

Elder of the Month

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers for the chancel are given in loving memory of Barbara and E.H. "Sally" Rand by Bill and Diane Rand.

Homecoming Worship

We hope you will sense our vision for Greater Faith, Deeper Relationships, and Stronger Community as you worship with us.

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Opening Prayer

Bagpipe Procession

Andrew & Ann Simpson

Call to Worship (Call & *Response*)

O Consuming Fire,
you spark awe and joy
with the work of your hands
and the power of your deeds.

***You give us an unshakable kin-dom,
in this ever-shaking world.***

So we give thanks and worship you
with reverence and awe.

Let us worship God!

†Gathering Hymn #12 "Immortal, Invisible God, Only Wise"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

***O God of mercy,
we confess that we live self-centered lives.
We tolerate injustice and cruelty,
complacent in our corner of the world.
We neglect the needs of others.
In your righteousness,
deliver us and rescue us.
Turn us to your way
and lead us in your light,
that we might serve you
and care for all of creation.***

Silent Confession

Promise of Forgiveness

†Response Hymn #582 "Glory to God"

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

†Passing the Peace

Children's Sermon

Anthem "Deep is the Love of the Lord"

J. M. Martin



About Our Guest Pastor

Jay Bender is the Clerk of Session at the Pollocksville Presbyterian Church and QRE (Qualified Ruling Elder) in the Presbytery. Currently the Chair of the FULL Commission on Ministry, he has served for many years on the COM, most recently as Chair of the EAST COM. The Presbytery elected Jay as Moderator of Presbytery in 2012, and he served as interim Stated Clerk of the Presbytery September-December 2012. He was elected as a commissioner to the PCUSA General Assembly in 2010, where he served as the Moderator of the Social Justice Committee. Retired from his wholesale/retail grocery business after 40 years, he occupies his time with service to the church at local and regional levels, as well as his job as the Mayor of Pollacksville—a position he has held for over 42 years. He and his wife, Sheron—a retired elementary school counselor and current Weight Watchers leader—have two married children and one grandson.

Welcome to Jay Bender!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings OT: Numbers 14:1-10

Sermon I Jay Bender

“Remembering the Good Old Days”

†Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

*The life, death, resurrection,
and promised coming of Jesus Christ
has set the pattern for the church’s mission.
His human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.
His service to men and women commits the church
to work for every form of human well-being.
His suffering makes the church sensitive
to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ
in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
His crucifixion discloses to the church
God’s judgment on the inhumanity
that marks human relations,
and the awful consequences
of the church’s own complicity in injustice.
In the power of the risen Christ
and the hope of his coming,
the church sees the promise
of God’s renewal of human life in society
and of God’s victory over all wrong.
The church follows this pattern
in the form of its life
and in the method of its action.
So to live and serve
is to confess Christ as Lord.*

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33

Call for Offering

Offertory Hymn #435 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

†Doxology #609 “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

†Closing Hymn #192 “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

†Benediction

Recessional

Announcements

New Member Orientation

Sept 14 after 10:30 worship.

Lunch provided.

Contact Cheri Haight (203) 394-8304
or Pastor Steuart Link (910)685-2076



In observance of Labor Day, the Admin Office will be closed on Monday, September 1st. Both the Pastor and the Administrative Assistant will be out of the office. The office will re-open on Tuesday, September 2nd. Please plan accordingly when scheduling or making requests.

Super Tuesdays Kids Club (STKC) - Fall Registration Now Open!

We're excited to announce that Super Tuesdays Kids Club's Fall registration is currently open to TPC church families and returning participants. STKC kicks off Tuesday, September 16 for ages Pre-K through 5th Grade, meeting Tuesday evenings from 5:30 - 7 pm. Each week includes a yummy, kid- friendly meal, weekly Bible lessons, crafts, games and automatic participation in the Joyful Noise Children's Choir.

We also have a variety of volunteer opportunities for adults and youth who want to be part of this exciting ministry! You may get involved by: leading or supporting in a classroom, helping in the kitchen or with special events, donating supplies and more!

To sign your child up or to become a part of our amazing STKC team, reach out to Dawn Frazier at christianed@topsailpres.org or 910-270-2312. Let's work together to make this year's STKC an incredibly fun and faith-filled experience for our STKC children!

Choir & Handbells

Rehearsals for choir and handbells will resume on Monday, September 8th. Rehearsals will be scheduled for every Monday, handbells at 6:00pm and choir at 7:00pm. If you would like to participate, please contact Dr. Rebecka Rose & Shelly Aebi at music@topsailpres.org.

Prayer Requests

Do you have a special prayer request that you would like the pastor to lift up during worship?

You can complete a prayer request card located in the pew pockets and give to the pastor prior to service or hand to an usher.

You can also add your prayer requests or praises to the prayer wall on our website at: topsailpresbyterian.org

Prayer List: Bobbie Ruegner, Bruce Filer, Bonnie Miller, Nancy Lockamy, Janice Thomas, Donna Kraynick, Ann Henry, Charlotte Kelly, Mary Anne Matherly, Sally Ferrante, Ken Rice, John Stillgebauer, Brian Jones, Mary Rogers-Ellsworth, Carolyn Rice, Sharon Egan, Theresa Allen, Deliah Sitorus, Marcia Caison, Tom & Sue Feller, Linda Blount, Marjorie Gulliksen, the family of Charlie & Ginger Hardee, Jacqueline Kirksey, the family of Luke Hanson, the family of Marie Hufham, Wiley Lewis, Carol Campbell, Lee Porrazzo, Jerrod Lowry, Reynolds Johnson, Martin Padgett, the family of Michael Daniel, Vicki Hufham, Ronnie Edens, June Crosby, Jeanne Rick.

4C's Food Pantry Needs Your Help

4-C's Food Pantry is in need of these items:

condiments
diced tomatoes
plain potato chips
13 gallon trash bags
all purpose cleaner
toiletries
and pet food.

Donations may be placed in the Shepherd Boxes in the Narthex and Gathering Room.

Mark Your Calendars - You Don't Want to Miss This!

Sunday School Move Up & Kickoff

Sunday, August 31st, 10:30 am Worship. Join us as our TPC kids move up and welcome each other to their new Sunday School classrooms. We will celebrate the kick off of a new year of growing together in their walk with Christ.

Online Giving Platform

If you would like to donate to TPC, please scan the QR code to use our online giving platform.

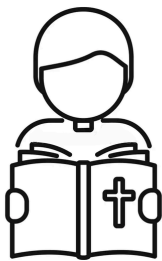
You can also visit our website at topsailpresbyterian.org and click on "DONATE" in the dropdown menu at the top of the page.



Interested in Joining Our Church Family?

If you are not a member and would like more information or are ready to join, please contact Cheri Haight at (203)394-8304 or membership@topsailpres.org, Amy Coleman at 910 520-0446, or Pastor Steuart Link.

2025 Liturgist Calendar



We are in need of Liturgists to sign-up and fill the calendar for 2025.

Not sure if this is something you want to do?

Any questions, you can reach out to Nicole Demchuck at (910)262-6992 or via email at ndemchuck@outlook.com. We will offer liturgy training if needed.

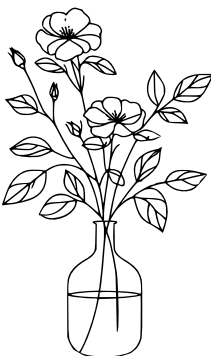
Sign-up calendar can be found on our website at: topsailpresbyterian.org

Click on the Liturgist Sign-up button to choose your date and service time.

SCAN HERE



2025 Flower Calendar



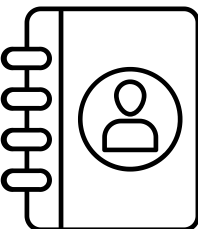
The 2025 TPC Flowers for the Chancel is available on our website. Please sign up and donate flowers for our chancel each Sunday during worship. Please call or email Aly with your dedications: (910)270-2312 or aly@topsailpres.org. Sign-up calendar can also be found on our website at: topsailpresbyterian.org. Click on the Flower Donations Sign up button to choose your date & be sure to add your dedication in the comments.

IMPORTANT! YOU MUST NOTE if you will be bringing your own flowers or if you will be purchasing from our florist.

SCAN HERE



TPC Directory: Photos Needed



Have you ever visited our digital directory? Tried to match a name with the face? We need a photo of everyone to make this a reality! If you are a member and your photo is not in the directory, please choose a photo of yourself or your family and email it to Tom Sidbury, Digital Ministry Elder, at: adminetopsailpres.org.

Access the TPC Directory by scanning this QR code with your phone. If prompted for the password, please call the church office at 910-270-2312.

SCAN HERE



Stay in Touch

Staying connected to faith is more important than ever. At Topsail Presbyterian Church, we strive to make sharing, and worshipping with us easy. We gather to encourage each other, connect with friends, & learn From God's Word through our website, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, email, newsletter and of course in-person. Connect with us, we're here for you!

Can't Worship in Person?

That's okay! We live stream our 10:30am worship service every Sunday. You can find us streaming on Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo, and of course, our website. So whether you're out of town or otherwise unable to be here in person, you can be with us in spirit while watching from the comfort of wherever you are.

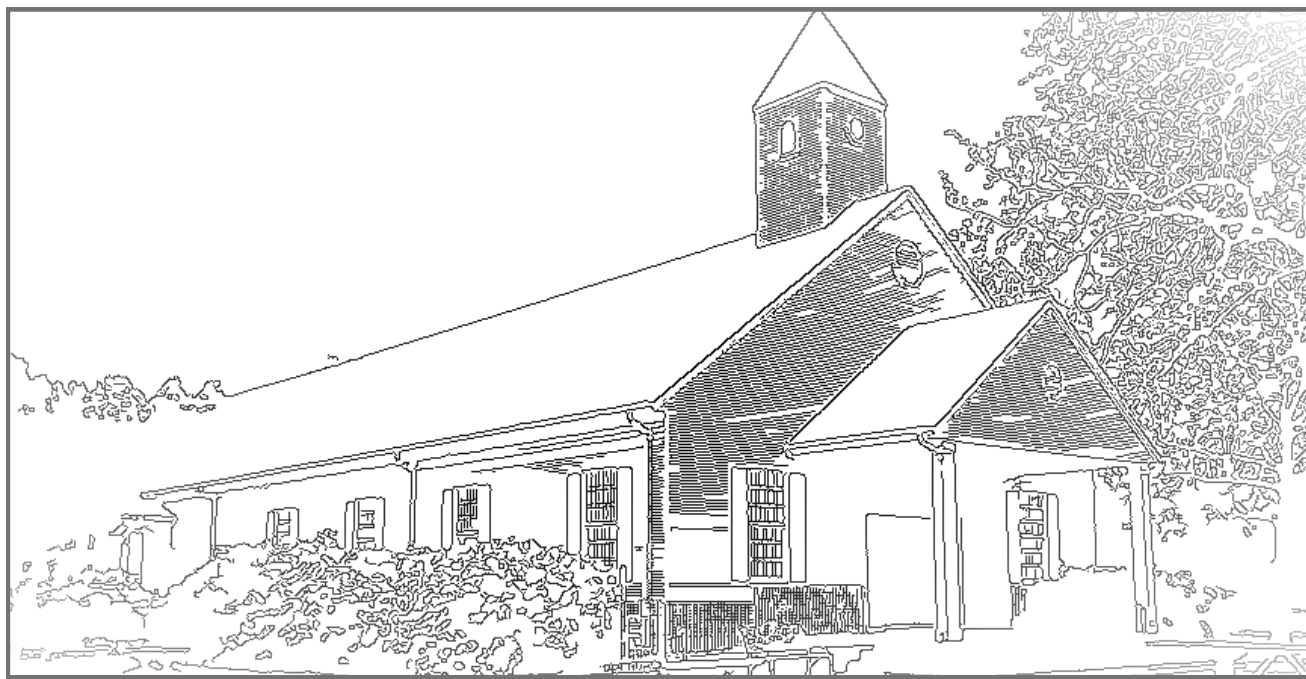


SESSION HIGHLIGHTS - August 18

- Approved Bereavement Policy and Procedures
- Approved Columbarium Guidelines
- Approved Facilities Request Forms
- Approved extending Deputy Contract through 2025
- Approved formation of Safety Committee
- Approved Crumpler Wedding
- Approved new members Alma and Dale Osborn
- Accepted Resignation of Treasurer

The next Session meeting will be held on September 15th at 6:00pm.





*“For where two or three are
gathered in my name, I am
there among them.”*

Matthew 18:20



Topsail Presbyterian Church - 16249 Highway 17 North, Hampstead, NC 28443

www.topsailpresbyterian.org

Presbytery of Coastal Carolina - www.presbycc.org

Church Office (910) 270-2312 Preschool Office (910) 270-2315

Contacts

Rev. Steuart Link

Interim Pastor

Contact # 910-685-2076
pastore@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Marissa Watson

Preschool Director

Contact #: 910-270-2315
preschooletopsailpres.org

Mrs. Dawn Frazier

Childrens Ministry Director

Contact #: 910-270-2312 (option 3)
christianed@topsailpres.org

Ms. Aly Moody

Administrative Assistant

Contact #: 910-270-2312
aly@topsailpres.org

Dr. Rebecka Rose

Music Director

music@topsailpres.org

Ms. Shelly Aebi

Organist/Pianist

music@topsailpres.org

Mr. Elmer Hewett

Custodian

elmerhewett@gmail.com

Members of Session

2026

Russ Layman - **Stewardship**

Jennifer Schwarz - **Christian Education**

Shona Talbert - **Personnel**

2027

Laurie Rucks - **Session Clerk & Preschool**

Nicole Demchock - **Worship**

2028

Stephen Polk - **Buildings & Grounds**

Cheri Haight - **Membership**

Tom Sidbury - **Digital Ministry-IT**

David Howard - **Finance**

Marcia Kissire - **Missions**

Deacons

Jay Heidel - **Chair**

Bryna Fair - **Secretary**

Jimmy Smith

Patty Bowdoin

Beth Garland

Dickie Grace

Rick Lamb

Kitty Lamb