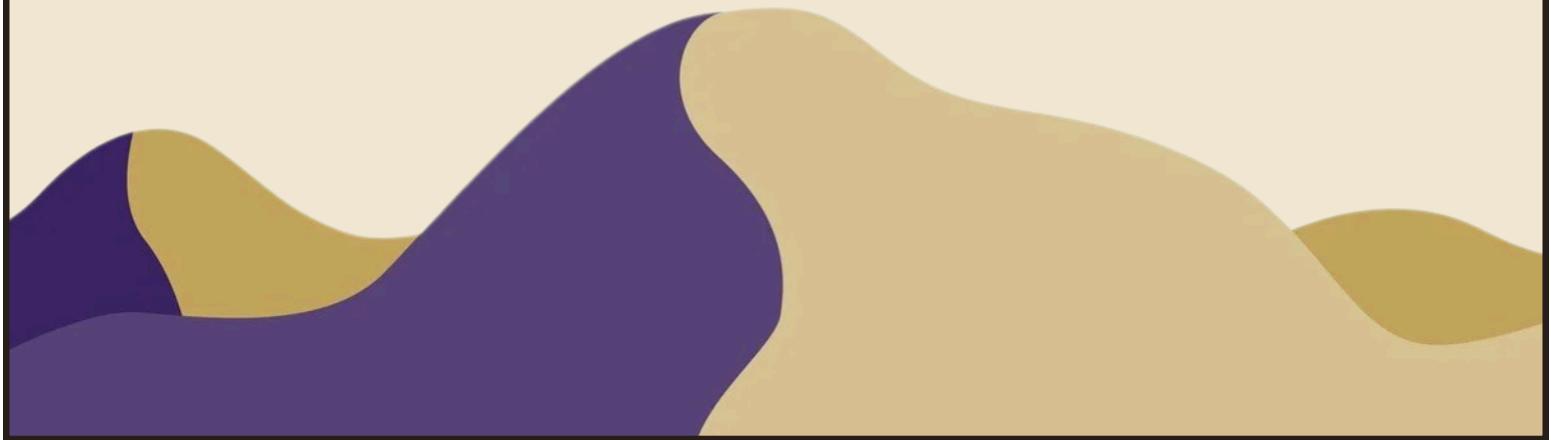
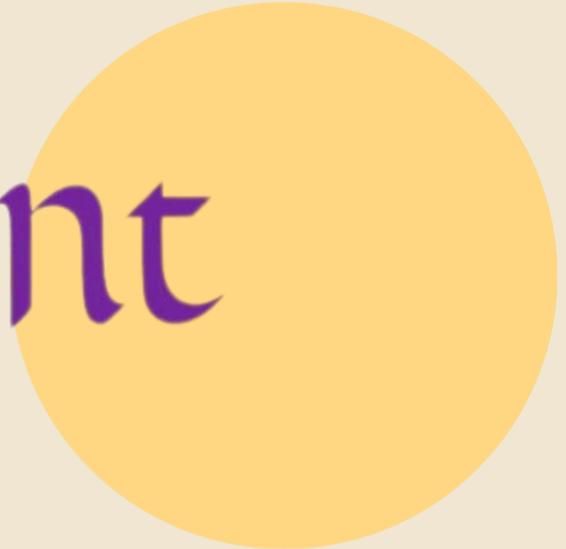




The First Sunday in

Lent



Topsail Presbyterian Church
HAMPSTEAD, NORTH CAROLINA

Boy Scouts Sunday
FEBRUARY 22, 2026 | 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

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

The children's 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

The middle and high school Sunday school class is held every Sunday during the 10:30 am worship service in the Youth Building. Participants will be excused from worship service following the Children's Sermon and will reconnect with their parents at the conclusion of the service. Our current Bible Study is God, Heroes, and Everyday Dragons: Finding Your Story in God's Story. In addition to studying the Bible, we also enjoy snacks & refreshments, fellowship, and games during Youth Sunday School. **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.

The Present Word (Adult) Sunday School

This Fellowship Class meets on Sunday morning, 9:30-10:15 between the two services in the Parlor - across from the Pastor's office.

The Spring series of lessons entitled "Social Teachings of the Church" will ask us to consider, as faithful Christians, what are our obligations- ranging from personal relationships to business relationships to global relationships. Join us as we look for answers in Scripture to make us better disciples.

Study guides are available in Aly's office.

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Steuart Link, Interim Pastor
Betsy Fischer, 8:15 Liturgist
Boy Scouts, 10:30 Liturgist
Shelly Aebi, Organist
Dr. Rebecka Rose, Music Director

Nicole Demchock,
Elder of the Month

Flowers for the Chancel

The flowers for the chancel today have been given in memory of my mother, Darel Wooten, by Jean Talbert.

8:15am 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

Prelude "Scriptural Reflection: Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Fenton Groden

Call to Worship (Call & Response)

We are the body of Christ,
and we depend on God's grace.

***We pray to God in times of distress,
knowing that we are freed from sin
and preserved from trouble.***

Steadfast love surrounds those
who trust in the Lord.

We will be glad in the Lord and shout for joy!

†Gathering Hymn #166 "Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days"

vs. 1 & 4

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

***Merciful One,
we are so easily tempted.
We turn away from your word so quickly.
We seek anything that claims to save us from
discomfort, inconvenience, pain,
fear, and emptiness.
But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind.
You are our true hope and salvation,
our hiding place, our guide, our guardian.
We confess our transgressions to you:
forgive our sins.***

†Response Hymn #578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"

***O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy,
have mercy on us.***

***O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy,
have mercy on us.***

Silent Confession

Promise of Forgiveness

†Passing the Peace

†Please stand if able.

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 for Illumination

Scripture Readings OT: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 NT: Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon I Rev. Steuart Link

“Temptation”

†Affirmation of Faith(*Unison*)

*The reconciling work of Jesus
was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.
His cross and resurrection become personal crisis
and present hope for women and men
when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.
In this experience,
the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,
moves people to respond in faith,
repentance, and obedience,
and initiates the new life in Christ.*

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

Call for Offering

Offertory Music “Amazing Grace”

†Doxology #606 “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

†Closing Hymn #826 “Lift High the Cross” vs. 1 & 4

†Benediction

Postlude

Boy Scout & Cub Scout Participants

Presentation of Colors:

James Robertson
Soren Obelenus-Myatt
Colin Williamson
Will Robertson

Opening Prayer:

Soren Obelenus-Myatt

Call to Worship:

Morgan Madden

Reading of Scripture:

James Robertson
Will Robertson

Retiring of Colors:

Will Robertson
Colin Williamson
James Robertson
Soren Obelenus-Myatt

Cub Scout Participants:

Greeters:

Connor White
Jeremiah Stoops

Offering:

Daniel Holdegraver
Annmarie Donaho
Beaux Donaho
Ashton Williamson

10:30am 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

Presentation of Colors

Opening Prayer

Prelude "My Life Flows On" TPC Handbell Choir Lowry/Fritchie

Call to Worship (Call & Response)

We are the body of Christ,
and we depend on God's grace.

***We pray to God in times of distress,
knowing that we are freed from sin
and preserved from trouble.***

Steadfast love surrounds those
who trust in the Lord.

We will be glad in the Lord and shout for joy!

†Gathering Hymn #166 "Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

***Merciful One,
we are so easily tempted.
We turn away from your word so quickly.
We seek anything that claims to save us from
discomfort, inconvenience, pain,
fear, and emptiness.
But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind.
You are our true hope and salvation,
our hiding place, our guide, our guardian.
We confess our transgressions to you:
forgive our sins.***

†Response Hymn #578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"

***O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy,
have mercy on us.***

***O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy,
have mercy on us.***

Silent Confession

Promise of Forgiveness

†Passing the Peace

Children's Sermon

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.

SCAN HERE



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.

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!

Anthem "In the Cross of Christ" TPC Choir

Bowring/Fritchie

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings OT: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 NT: Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon I Rev. Steuart Link

"Temptation"

†Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

The reconciling work of Jesus

was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.

His cross and resurrection become personal crisis

and present hope for women and men

when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.

In this experience,

the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,

moves people to respond in faith,

repentance, and obedience,

and initiates the new life in Christ.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

Call for Offering

Offertory Hymn #649 "Amazing Grace"

†Doxology #606 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

†Closing Hymn #826 "Lift High the Cross" vs. 1, 3, & 4

†Benediction

Retiring of Colors

Postlude

Announcements

Upcoming Congregational Meeting

We will have a called Congregation Meeting following the 10:30 worship service on March 1st to hear and act upon the report of the Nominating Committee with regard to electing a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

Prayer Requests

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, Linda Blount, Marjorie Gulliksen, Wiley Lewis, Vicki Hufham, June Crosby, Jeanne Rick, Jeffrey Smith, Mary Gist, Brian Padgett, Martin Padgett, John Flowers, Joey Scavone, Alexander Marechal, Bonnie Carpenter, Carol Wilson, Bryant Smith, Jeffrey Smith, Don Howard, Brenda Lee, Kathy McCusker, the family of Michael Warren, Blair Mitchell, the family of Hugh Howard, the family of Ethan Stone, Shannon Padgett, Selma Jones, Chuck Hardee, Jessie Logue, Lani Abraham, Joey Lamb, Eddie Brown, Vickie Jackson, Carol Campbell, the family of David Askins, the family of Albert Micheli, the Noe family.

TPC YOUTH TO HOST ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

BRING THE HEAT!

SUNDAY, MARCH 15
FOLLOWING SERVICE IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL

PLEASE BRING CASH FOR THE ENTRY FEE, BAKE SALE, AND TO CAST
VOTES FOR YOUR FAVORITE CHILI RECIPE!

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE TPC YOUTH GROUP

TPC Lenten Calendar of Events for Kids

March 29 ~ PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL &
JOYFUL NOISE CHILDREN'S CHOIR SING 10:30 am Worship
All are encouraged to join in raising your palm
branches high singing Hosanna!
The children's choir will have a special performance.



March 31 ~ Super Tuesdays Kids Club 5:30-7pm
STKC Kids' "Easter Celebration."



April 5 ~ EASTER SUNDAY - HE IS RISEN!
EASTER EGG HUNT immediately following 10:30 am Worship
On the TPC Church Grounds - The Easter Bunny will be here!
Hunt for ages 2 and under through 5th Grade
Youth 6th Grade through High School will hide eggs and
support stations.



For more information contact christianed@topsailpres.org or 910-270-2312.

Session Highlights

- Approved congregational meeting minutes of Feb. 1
- Approved statistical report submitted Jan. 26.
- Approved Continuing Ed. for Rev. Link April 6-11.
- Approved vacation for Rev. Link April 27-May 3.
- Approved vacation for Rev. Link June 8-14.
- Approved discontinuation of Sheriff Deputy as of March 2026.
- Approved \$25,000 be placed in PNC budget from Memorial Fund.
- Approved March 1 congregational meeting for a report from Nominating Committee.

High School Seniors!

We have another scholarship for which you can apply! This time we have 2 \$500 awards which come directly from TPC. Please fill out the form by accessing this QR code or you may pick up an application in the church office beginning February 22. All applications must be returned to Cheri Haight, Christian Ed Elder, educationministry@topsailpres.org 203 394-8304, or the church office by April 20, 2026.

SCAN HERE





Seeking Hands and Hearts: Become a Buildings and Ground Elder

Our church building is more than just a brick, mortar and land; it is a sacred space where worship happens, friendships are formed, and the Gospel is shared. Just as we care for our spiritual lives, we are called to be good stewards of the physical property God has entrusted to us.

As we look toward the future, our nominating committee is looking for someone with a passion for caring for our "house" to serve as the Building and Ground Elder.

We are looking for an individual who demonstrates:

- *A member with leadership skills.
- *A member that can problem solve.
- *A member with some experience with building maintenance.

We ask that you prayerfully consider who among our members, or even yourself, might be called to this service at TPC.

If you feel called to this ministry or would like to learn more, please contact a member of the nominating committee, a member of session or Pastor Link.

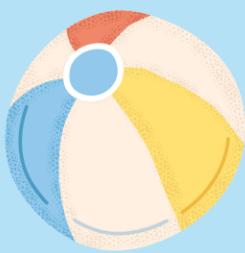
"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for the human master."
Colossians 3:23

TOPSAIL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S

'26 CHILDREN'S SUMMER CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS WEEKLY DURING 10:30 AM WORSHIP

JUNE



- 7th - 11th - Kirkwood Creation Camp
- 14th - Kirkwood Sunday - 10:30 am Worship
- 16th - Tuesday VBS Prep Days - 10 am - 12 pm
- 23rd - Tuesday VBS Prep Days - 10 am - 12 pm
- 30th - Tuesday VBS Prep Days - 10 am - 12 pm

JULY



- 7th - Tuesday VBS Prep Days - 10 am - 12 pm
- 14th - Tuesday VBS Prep Days - 10 am - 12 pm
- 21th - Tuesday VBS Prep Days - 10 am - 12 pm
- 23rd - 26th - VBS Decorating/Set Up - Times flexible as needed.
- 27th - 30th - Rainforest Falls VBS - 9 am - 12 pm Daily

AUGUST



- 2nd - VBS Sunday - 10:30 am Worship
- 3rd - Super Tuesday Kids Club '26 - '27 Registration Opens
- 9th - Blessing of the Backpacks - 10:30 am Worship
- 16th - Sunday School Move Up and Kick Off - 10:30 am Worship





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

pastor@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Marissa Watson

Preschool Director

Contact #: 910-270-2315

preschool@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Dawn Frazier

Childrens Ministry Director

Contact #: 910-270-2312 (option 3)

christianed@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Leslie Blair

Youth Director

Contact #: 910-612-6465

youth@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

2027

Laurie Rucks - **Session Clerk & Preschool**

Nicole Demchock - **Worship**

2028

Stephen Polk - **Buildings & Grounds**

Cheri Haight - **Christian Education**

Tom Sidbury - **Digital Ministry**

David Howard - **Finance**

Marcia Kissire - **Missions**

2029

Shona Talbert - **Personnel**

Leah Hemphill - **Fellowship**

Deacons

Jay Heidel - **Chair**

Bryna Fair - **Secretary**

Jimmy Smith

Beth Garland

Rick Lamb

Kitty Lamb

Jacqui Kirksey

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 or Pastor Steuart Link.