

Stained Glass Gazette

First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, GA

March 25, 2026

Lent in a Time of Chaos

A couple weeks ago I attended the Luminosity Conference hosted by the PCUSA—a gathering meant to renew pastors and ministers for the work of ministry. I can honestly say it did just that. I left re-energized, surrounded by people whose love for God overflowed into a deep compassion for others. That kind of love is infectious, and it has stayed with me as I've reflected during this season of Lent.

As many of you know, we are approaching Easter. The ugliness of the cross awaits us, and the hope of resurrection is hidden behind death's shadow. As I sit and reflect on God stepping into the chaotic sea of our humanity—wading through the waters of our brokenness and ultimately succumbing to the waves of sin and death—I can't help but wonder what that means for us right now.

The truth is, we are all fatigued and burned out by life. We are all battling hopelessness, loss, grief, anger, and maybe even a sense of purposelessness. Sometimes it feels like life is beating you up, and you don't know how you are going to get through. I have mentioned before that Lent is a season of resisting the chaos in our world and in our lives—but that can be very hard when you feel like you don't have much fight left in you.

Yet the cross reminds us that we do not fight this battle alone. Our God is not far off, but has stepped into these same waters. God has known our grief, our anger at injustice, our fear, and even the pain of loss and death itself. The hope of Lent is that we journey with Jesus through the tides of human brokenness, hand in hand. And along the way, we begin to see glimpses of something more: the sick are healed, the hungry are fed, the last are made first, the sinner is redeemed, and even the dead are raised—because the waves do not get the final word.

The point of Lent is that God takes that chaotic journey with us. So let us run boldly to the throne of grace in our time of need. God is already there—with a knowing nod and arms ready to wrap us in love.



And that is the kind of love I want to emulate: the kind that asks, "Can I journey with you in the darkness?"

Austin Pounds



SPECIAL OFFERING

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Now through Easter Sunday, we will be collecting special offering donations for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), as Presbyterians worldwide respond to Christ's call for compassion for most vulnerable people around the globe through development projects and disaster relief. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! You can give by texting OGHS to 91999 or through pcusa.org/give-oghs. Or you can put a separate check or envelope in the collection plate. Make it out to First Presbyterian and put OGHS in the memo line.

Join Us for **HOLY WEEK** at First Presbyterian Church

501 First Street S.E., Moultrie GA 31768 229-985-3158 www.moultriefirstpres.com

PALM SUNDAY March 29

11 a.m. Worship Service

4 p.m. EGGVENT: food, crafts & games for all ages,

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 2

Supper at 5:30 p.m. & Worship Service at 6:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY April 3 at Noon on the front lawn

EASTER SUNDAY April 5

7 a.m. Sunrise Service on the back lawn, followed by breakfast

9 a.m. Flowering of the Cross on the front lawn

11 a.m. Worship Service in the sanctuary

Cantata with members of Chancel Choir & Albany Symphony Orchestra

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

501 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia 31768 Email us at firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-5 and Friday 9-4

To all who are weary and need rest, to all who mourn and need comfort, to all who are lonely and need friendship, to all who are glad and would serve others, to all who are complacent and need disturbing, to all who sin and need a Savior, this Church opens wide its door in the name of Christ, and bids you welcome.

Announcements

Friday, March 27 at 10 a.m. Remembrance Reception for Tiny McClung in the fellowship hall

Friday, March 27 at 2 p.m. Rosalind Jeter's funeral service in the sanctuary, reception at the Arts Center

Sunday, March 29 from 4-6 p.m. EGGVENT food, crafts, games for all ages

Tuesday, March 31 at 9 a.m. LENT STUDY (end of study)

Wednesday, April 1 – NO MEAL (*join us Thursday instead*)

Thursday, April 2 at 4 p.m. PRAYER SHAWL

Thursday, April 2 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH MEAL

Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 3 at NOON Meet at the Cross

Sunday, April 5 at 7 a.m. SUNRISE EASTER SERVICE followed by breakfast

Sunday, April 5 at 11 a.m. EASTER CANTATA SERVICE

SPRING BREAK April 6-10, Monday, April 6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, April 6 at 10 a.m. PW Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 8 - NO WATCH DURING SPRING BREAK

Sunday, April 12 at 3:30 p.m. RESONANCE ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Monday, April 13 at 7 a.m. Biscuits & Blessings (youth breakfast/study)

Monday, April 13 at 10 a.m. Christian Service

Monday, April 13 at 11 a.m. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, April 13 at 7 p.m. PW Evening Circle

Tuesday, April 14 at 10 a.m. PW Morning Circle

Wednesday, April 15 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH MEAL

Sunday, April 19 at 12:30 p.m. Cornerstones theatre trip

Sunday, April 19 OUR TIME (youth & kids movie time... TBA)

Monday, April 20 at 7 a.m. Biscuits & Blessings (youth breakfast/study)

Monday, April 20 at 10 a.m. Preschool Chapel

Monday, April 20 at 12:30 p.m. CORNERSTONES MEETING

Tuesday, April 21 at 5:15 p.m. SESSION

Wednesday, April 22 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH MEAL

Sunday, April 26 Confirmation Class

Monday, April 27-29 Cornerstones trip to St. Simons

Wednesday, April 29 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH MEAL

Thursday, April 30 at 11 a.m. Cornerstones Lunch on the Road

Patty June Update

Patty will fly home from Bangladesh at the end of the month via Malaysian/Korean flights, arriving in Atlanta March 31. She hopes to see us Maundy Thursday.

MISSION COLLECTIONS for MEDICAL CLINIC

We are collecting recyclable **aluminum cans, toothbrushes and travel-size toothpaste** to raise money & supplies for an annual medical clinic in the Dominican Republic. The toothbrushes will be given out with medicines in plastic bags to the people who come to the clinic.

All of our sister congregations are collecting recyclable aluminum cans at \$1/lb. And we will continue the collection throughout 2026. You'll see the collection bin in the fellowship hall by the kitchen. The tooth brush collection box will also be in the fellowship hall. In 2025, this mission partnership with our sister churches raised \$1000 to purchase pre-natal vitamins, vitamins for women & children as well as medicine to treat the abundant parasite problems in the Dominican Republic. Help meet the medical & dentistry needs of these people who come to the annual clinic!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EGGVENT FESTIVAL
SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH
TIME 4:00-6 P.M.
FOOD, GAMES, AND CRAFTS FOR ALL AGES
A LOVE OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN TO HELP WITH
FOOD
501 FIRST STREET SE, MOULTRIE, GA, 31768
PLEASE RSVP BY CONTACTING AUSTIN POUNDS
AT DCEFIRSTPRESMOULTRIE@GMAIL.COM

The church will provide fried chicken, slaw and baked beans. Members are encouraged to bring side dishes and desserts. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of the chicken.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL
— Growing hearts, minds, and faith —

Now Enrolling - Limited Availability
Spots available in our Four-Year-Old Class.
 Pick up registration forms in the front office.

We're Hiring!
Paraprofessional Needed for our One-Year-Old Classroom
 Join our team to care for our littlest learners!

Volunteers Needed
Help with Preschool Crafts!
 Laminating • Cutting • Craft Prep

... Get Involved / Learn More ...
 Contact the church office at 229-985-3158



First Presbyterian
YOUTH GROUP
April Calendar

Romans 12:12
Rejoice in hope,
be patient in
tribulation, be
constant in
prayer

- April 18th: Youth Dinner and Skating Trip from 4:30-7 P.M.
- April 19th: Our Time with youth and children to see the new Super Mario Movie (Time TBA)
- April 26th: Confirmation Class from 4-6 P.M.

BISCUITS AND BLESSINGS EVERY
MONDAY MORNING AT 7 A.M

Youth are encouraged to bring friends to Any Events

Mommy Mall
Deadline Mar. 31

This quarter, we are collecting baby goods for the Hope House Mommy Mall. Not only does Hope House do pregnancy testing/limited ultrasounds (read by a local **obstetrician**) and counselling, but they offer online parenting classes from prenatal through the child's first birthday where parents can earn points to redeem for new baby items at the Mommy Mall by attending classes, prenatal visits, and attending church. Parents can continue online lessons without earning points from ages 1-3. Some in-person classes are starting back. **Items most needed:** Newborn up to 2T boys clothes, breastfeeding supplies (breast pumps both manual & electric, bags for breast milk, nursing pads); Dr. Brown or Philips Avent bottles and bottle brushes, play mats, mesh or plastic baby tubs, tummy time pillows, thermometers/healthcare kits, diaper bags, bouncers, baby carriers for carrying baby close to mom, baby shampoo, diaper bags and size 5-7 diapers. See the board above the Helping Hands box for other needs. Hope House also needs volunteers to work with women in online parenting classes.



First Presbyterian Church

501 First Street SE

Moultrie, Georgia 31768

229-985-3158

Email: firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

www.moultriefirstpres.com

Return Services Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MOULTRIE, GA
PERMIT NO. 162

W.A.T.C.H. SUPPER

Wednesday Nights at the Church

5:30 P.M.

NO WATCH MEAL ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 Instead, join us THURSDAY, APRIL 2nd

THURSDAY, APRIL 2—MAUNDY THURSDAY, supper at 5:30 p.m., worship at 6:30 p.m.

Everyone: Soup & Sandwiches **Dessert:** Cookies & Ice Cream

Make your reservation: Email firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

Call 229-985-3158