



LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Surrounded by God's grace, we are a family of faith
joined together through Christ, offering meaning and
hope to all by the way we worship, serve and live.**

**10 Simmonsville Rd
Bluffton, SC 29910**

**Sunday, January 18, 2026
10:30am**

LOWCOUNTRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**10 Simmonsville Road
Bluffton, SC 29910**

Church Office: (843) 815-6570

E-Mail: office@lowcountrypres.org

Web Page: www.lowcountrypres.org

***Office hours: Mon-Thu: 8:30am-4:00pm;
Friday: 8:30am-Noon***

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Daniel de Beer, Transitional Pastor: daniel@lowcountrypres.org

Rev. David Johnson, Associate Pastor: revjohnson@lowcountrypres.org

Office/Christy James: office@lowcountrypres.org

Dr. Robin Lind, Music Director: rlind@lowcountrypres.org

Dr. Karen Ball, Organist—kball@olivet.edu

The Session

Class of 2026

Elaine Branda
(843-816-2240)
Anne Redlus
(843-705-6373)
Bill Walker
(843-816-0884)
Pam Davis-Webb
(607-215-2289)

Class of 2027

Jan Alpert
(843- 837-2177)
Sandy Iams
(843-814-9078)
Eugenia Johnston
(770-540-9488)
Michael Koch
(434-738-7835)

Class of 2028

Kathleen Casey
(732-740-7496)
Don Hamburger
(843-729-7136)
Vicki Melton
(843-338-8735)
Patti Rozonkiewicz
(630-841-1935)

Janit Maguire, Clerk
(845-527-6409)

Celebration of Worship
January 18, 2026 ~ 10:30am

Silent Meditation

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Prelude

He Hideth My Soul

arr. Karen Ball

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Daniel de Beer

Introit

Open the Eyes of My Heart

arr. Jan Sanborn

Call to Worship

Vicki Melton

One: Jesus asks, “What are you looking for?”

All: We are looking for faith—something we can hold onto.

One: Follow me, Jesus says. Though the road is difficult, it leads to life.

All: We are looking for hope—a vision of what life can be.

One: Come and see, Jesus says, I will show you God’s new creation.

All: We are looking for love—healthy relationships that will sustain us.

One: Love the Lord your God, Jesus says, and your neighbor as well.

All: We are looking for direction—a way to navigate these chaotic times.

One: Follow me, Jesus says, for I am the way.

***Hymn #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

***Invocation**

Rev. David Johnson

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy One, when you ask us what we are looking for, we confess that sometimes our answer is blessing for ourselves--like security, or comfort, or privilege--rather than what is best for all. We confess that we aren’t always looking to serve others or love our enemies, or even our neighbor. And we confess that there are times that we are just looking to mind our own business and let others fend for ourselves. Forgive us God, and renew our spirits, that we might be faithful followers of Jesus. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Response *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* (v. 1) **Hymn #286**
**Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

Affirmation of Faith from A Brief Statement of Faith
**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life...
who inspired the prophets and apostles, rules our faith and life in Christ
through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the
waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and
fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness
among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in
Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work
with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen**

***Gloria Patri # 581**
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the
beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen*

Children's Moment **Rev. Johnson**
(Children may leave for Kid's Space)

Minute for Mission

Scripture Reading Isaiah 61: 1-3 (pg. 650)
 John 1:35-41 (pg. 87)
 Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
 People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon **"An acceptable year..."** **Rev. David Johnson**

***Hymn #346** *For the Healing of the Nations*

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer **Rev. de Beer**
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Let There Be Peace on Earth

arr. Keith Christopher

***Doxology**

*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*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. de Beer

***Hymn #315**

In the Midst of New Dimensions (vv. 1, 3, 5)

***Benediction**

Rev. Johnson

***Postlude**

Narenza

by Colin Mawby

*** Those who are able, please stand.**

Welcome to worship. All visitors are welcome to LPC where we seek to love and serve Christ. Let us know of your visit using the visitor card in the pew rack and dropping it in the offering basket. Care for infants through 6 years old during worship is provided in the nursery. Activity bags for elementary age children are available in the Narthex.

Our Minute for Mission Speaker today is Ginny Underwood, the Brand & Marketing Specialist at Memory Matters and a Community Educator for Brain Boosters in Okatie. Her connection to the work is personal: her husband, Rob, lived with Parkinson's Dementia and attended the Memory Matters program while she sharpened her caregiving skills (and her sense of humor) in the support group.

There are many opportunities to volunteer with Memory Matters. Volunteer Orientation takes place the Last Tuesday of every month at their Bluffton Location (2 Westbury Park, Suite 101) and also the 1st Tuesday every month at the Hilton Head Location (117 William Hilton Pkwy on Hilton Head). Both times are 10 - 11am. Pick up a Volunteer Opportunities brochure in the Narthex following the service.

The church office will be closed Monday, January 19th in observance of MLK Day.

Please remember with your prayers:
Dennis Eubanks Jerri Hanna Bud Woodard Jim Wildt

**The flowers today are to the Glory of God, given by
Laura Phillips in loving memory of Carl Smith.**

Completed Mission Study Questionnaires can be placed in the basket provided in the Narthex. Additional forms are available on the counter if you need one. Please complete them before leaving today.

The Caregiver Support Group led by Debbie Hager will meet following worship today in the children's classroom by the nursery.

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship on January 25th to receive the Annual Report and conduct official business. The Annual Report includes reports from each Ministry, the financial results for 2025, and the 2026 budget. The Congregation will also approve the 2026 Terms of Call for Rev. David Johnson; the Mission Study, and the election of at-large members of the Congregational Officer Nominating Committee for 2026 (PNC). Members of the church will vote. All are welcome to attend and learn how a Presbyterian Congregation conducts the business of the church. The meeting should take approximately thirty minutes.

Our LPC Social Witness Ministry invites you to join us TOMORROW, January 19th at 2pm to walk with others in our community to remember the ministry and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sponsored by Bluffton's MLK Observance Committee, the walk will begin on Pritchard Street in front of May River Theater around 2:15pm and conclude with a picnic at Ma Daisy's Porch on May River Road. Look for LPC friends outside and bring a sign or carry one of ours. Hope to have you join us to remember MLK's commitment to non-violence and the equality of all people before God.

"The Sermon On The Mount" Bible Study Tuesdays at 2:15pm. In this week's session, Jesus addresses our anxiety and worry about matters of this world.

Adult Sunday Class meets in the parlor at 9:15am. January 25th the topic will be "Praying with the Psalms" - we will read the lectionary Psalm 27:1, 4-9, and discuss ways to use this and other psalms in our personal prayer life.

Children's Sunday School will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month.

Men of Purpose (MOP) meets Saturdays at 9:00am in the parlor. They are starting a new book, *Matthew for Everyone* by N.T. Wright on January 24th. Books are available in the church office for \$14 each. Please contact Bill Walker – kamwheeling@gmail.com with questions.

The Change Can Make a Change collection for January will support the work of Memory Matters which has locations on Hilton Head and Bluffton. This non-profit sponsors professional memory care programs, support and services for caregivers and individuals living with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia while providing brain health education to the community.

The Souper Bowl of Caring Offering will take place on Sunday, February 1st (the week before the actual Super Bowl) as you leave church. All the money raised will be donated to the Bluffton Community Kitchen. At each of the church exits, there will be members of the Mission team with large soup pots marked with the name of the two football teams playing in the Super Bowl. Vote for your favorite team by dropping cash or checks made out to LPC. Whether or not you care about football at all, let's make this a big day to help tackle hunger.

Following the service February 1st, the Membership Ministry is inviting you to come and celebrate the Super Bowl (a week early) with a **Souper Bowl luncheon** in Thomas Hall. Sign up in the narthex by noon on January 28 to bring soup/chili, salad, bread, or dessert. Please feel free to wear your favorite team jersey on that day.

First Presbyterian Church of Hilton Head has invited any who are interested to read and study the book "Descended: Searching for my Gullah-Geechee Roots" by Keith Rushing. The study, moderated by David Lauderdale, begins this Tuesday at 2pm. More information is available on the Social Witness bulletin board.

Welcome LPC Member Susan Taylor-Belli who has accepted the position of LPC part-time bookkeeper. We are not ready yet to announce which days she will be working.

The Worship Ministry and the Building and Grounds Ministry will be leading a clean up of the church's interior on Saturday, January 31st from 9:00-12:00. Many hands make light work so please consider spending a few hours of your time to help make our beautiful church shine. For more information contact Pam Davis-Webb at psdw44@gmail.com or Sandy Benninger at sbenninger@sc.rr.com

The next book club meeting will be Thursday, February 12th at 2:00pm. We will be discussing *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Theo of Golden is a beautiful story about the power of creative generosity and the far-reaching possibilities of anonymous kindness. We hope you will join us.

The New Member Class will meet March 12th and 19th at 4pm. Have you been visiting for a while and are now ready to join the LPC family OR would you just like to know more about what membership means? If so, please sign up on our website's Events page or contact the church office at office@lowcountrypres.org or 843 815-6570. Scheduled from 4-6 pm but may be adjusted based on participant's schedules. If you are interested, but this time does not work for you, contact the office.

The Mary Green Chorale will have a concert, "Mozart á la Carte" here at LPC on January 25th at 4pm. Our own Karen Ball will play the organ along with gifted soloists and String Quintet. Tickets are \$30 (open seating) cash or check at the door. Visit marygreenchorale.org for more details.

There is an opening on the livestream team. If you are interested in helping to run the livestream during worship, please contact Lila Wright, wrightlc268@yahoo.com.

Second Saturday for Men is now the Third Saturday (still for men). We will share a cup of coffee, some scripture, and share our own stories of faith. Men are invited to join us at 9am in the Parlor.

Sunday Memorial Flower sign-up - With the exception of Christmas and Easter, the chancel flowers are provided by members and friends of the church at a charge of \$60. The sign-up sheet is located at the office end of the Narthex. You may sign up for any Sunday and will be contacted nearer the time for your flower preference. You may donate the flowers (usually given to a member for cheer) and they will be rearranged and then delivered by a member of the Flower Ministry (volunteers always welcome) or take them home to do with as you wish. Contact Fran Parker with questions, (843) 757-8181.

Monthly giving envelopes are available in the Narthex. As an alternative to writing checks, automatic giving is available on the church website. The sign up is easy and you control the amounts and withdrawal dates using either a checking account or a credit card.