



The Light

February 2026

FEB. 18

Ash Wednesday Service including the
Imposition of Ashes at Noon

Beginning of Tuesday Lenten Bible Study
See page 3

FEB. 24

FEB. 26

Beginning of Spring Bible Study on 4th Thursdays
See page 4

Lenten Cantata During the morning
Worship at 10:30 a.m.
See page 8

MAR. 15

MAR. 29

Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday - A passion narrative is read
and music is shared, the light of Jesus life is
slowly extinguished.

APR. 2

APR. 5

Easter Sunday - Two Worship Services at 8:30 &
10:30 a.m. One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
will be collected.

Lenten Devotionals are available on the counter in the Narthex.
Faith Formation ministry encourages you to take one and use it for
reflection in the season of Lent.

Kirkin' o' the Tartan



Kirkin o' the Tartan on February 15th

LPC will be celebrating its Scottish heritage with a Kirkin' o' the Tartan during a special service of worship on February 15th at 10:30 am.

Kirk is the term in Scotland for church and kirking is considered a blessing. The tartan is a symbol of love and togetherness, no matter what our heritage.

The Kirkin' O' the Tartan service at LPC will include a ceremonial procession of tartans, hymns and bagpipe music as we remember ancient times while asking God's help and blessings in the future. Following the service, enjoy Scottish shortbread and tea during hospitality time.

Be sure to mark your calendar and wear your tartan on February 15th!



KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AT 10:30 AM

Wear your tartan and join us for worship as we celebrate our Scottish Presbyterian heritage.

10 Simmonsville Rd., Bluffton SC 29910
(843) 815-6570

Livestream available at
lowcountrypres.org

Faith Formation

An Unlikely Lent - Notice the unexpected in Easter

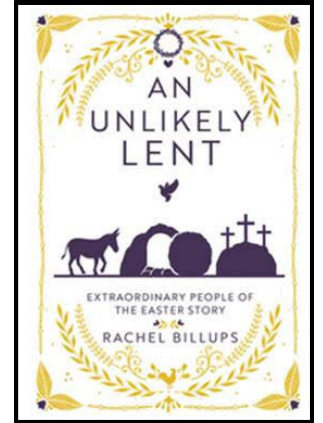
Has Easter become as routine for you as Christmas?

We know the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are at the heart of the story of Easter. However, the lessons we can learn from the women and men in the stories of these events can easily pass us by. How might their stories guide us in understanding the message of Easter?

By seeing the Easter story through their eyes, we discover that the resurrection is not just a past event, but an invitation to walk through this season with eyes wide open, ready to see where God is in the margins, doing something new and unexpected. The cross is not the end of the story, but rather an opportunity to embrace every unlikely moment along the way.

Join Pastors Danie and David in 6 studies on Tuesdays at **1:30pm in the Parlor, beginning February 24, 2026.**

Contact the church office to get a copy of *An Unlikely Lent. Extraordinary People of the Easter Story* by Rachel Billups, that we will use as our guide.



Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School meets on the second and fourth Sundays of each month in the room down the hallway past the left entrance to the sanctuary.

Women of Faith

Women of Faith are currently enjoying a thoughtful study of *A Year of Biblical Womanhood* by Rachel Held Evans—and there's still plenty of time to join us! We gather every second Tuesday at 11:00am in the Choir Room and all LPC women, along with friends and visitors, are warmly welcome.

From now through May 2026, our readings and conversations will guide us through the author's bold year-long experiment of living out every biblical instruction for women as literally as possible. Along the way, we'll discover the rich stories of scriptural heroines, women of grace, and inspiring figures of faith found throughout the Bible.

We'd love to have you be part of the conversation!

A peek at what's ahead:

- February 10th - Beauty, pages 99-119
- March 10th - Modesty, pages 120-145
- April 14th - Purity, pages 146-173
- May 12th - Fertility, pages 174-200

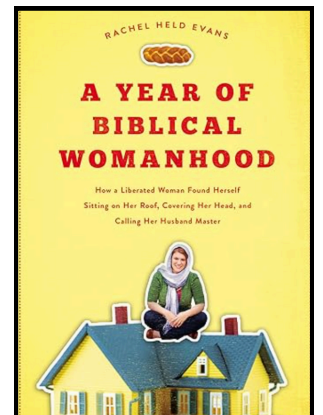
Contact Pam Davis-Webb (psdw44@gmail.com) or Venus Holland (reidallenholland@gmail.com) for more information.

Lowcountry
Presbyterian
Church

LEGO CHURCH

SUNDAY, MAR. 15 AT 4 PM THOMAS HALL

Families with children through grade 5 are invited! After an interactive faith building time, the families will also enjoy dinner together.



Faith Formation

Adult Sunday School

Each Sunday morning, approximately 15 people gather in the parlor from 9:15 to 10:00 to enjoy a learning experience. Subjects vary from Bible verses to contemporary subjects. You are welcome to visit anytime.

For more information contact Joe Franklin – jfrankli@georgiasouthern.edu or Bill Walker – kamwheeling@gmail.com

Winter/Spring Bible Study

"The Sermon On The Mount" Bible Study, Tuesdays at 2:15pm, will conclude on February 10th and the study topic will be "life and death choices".

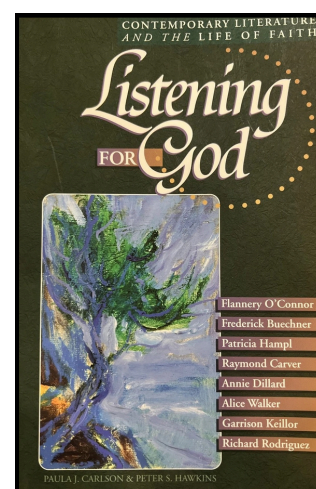
"Short Stories of God's Presence"

Rev. David Johnson will be leading this study beginning Thursday Feb. 26 and the 4th Thursday each month at 4 pm in the parlor at the main church.

This book is out of print but Rev. Johnson has six copies.

If you wish to look for it on your own, the book is

"Listening For God: Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith, Vol. 1"



3rd Saturday Men's Group Conversation Study for Men

The third Saturday of each month starting January 17th at 9:00am in the Parlor at the main church. Rev. De Beer and/or Rev. Johnson will lead a casual conversation study for men.

Men of Purpose

"MATTHEW FOR EVERYONE" by N.T. Wright

This expanded edition includes Wright's updated translation of the biblical text, supplemented by a new introduction and a dynamic study guide tailored for group study sessions. The inclusion of helpful summaries and thought-provoking questions makes Matthew for Everyone, Part 1 an ideal companion for those seeking to explore the New Testament with fresh enthusiasm and profound insights.

Bible verse is given, then Wright gives several paragraphs of his commentary on that scripture.

This discussion will begin on Saturday January 24 and continue for several months on Saturday morning except the 3rd Saturday of each month and Saturday March 28 and Saturday April 4.

Men of Purpose is a small discussion group of 10 to 12 fellows who meet each Saturday morning at 9:00 am in the Parlor at the main church. All men are welcome.

For questions, please contact Bill Walker – kamwheeling@gmail.com.



Missions

NOC Christmas Party

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed CCMAC money, books, games and gift cards to our ANGEL TREE this year. You were absolutely amazing! We were able to donate to Agape enough to provide the parents of 156 children and 60 NOC children a \$25 gift card per child to use for gifts or food if needed. We also provided each Agape family with a bag of oranges and each NOC child with a book and educational game. See pictures and thank you's below:

"Thank you so much for your generosity and for the love you continue to show our NOC children. The gifts you provided brought so much joy, and we are truly grateful for your kindness. Thank you for being such a blessing to our families and for supporting our mission with so much heart."



Agape

"Wow!! Another great year of serving Jasper County SC to ensure food insecurity is addressed with passion and dignity during 2 of our annual events-- "Feed the Hungry" November 15th food distribution impact: more than 800 individuals; December 6th food distribution impact: more than 400 individuals, along with holiday gifts/toys, household items, and gift cards for children. Our champion supporter: Lowcountry Presbyterian Church , your support is paramount and we can't thank you enough. So many children and families walked away with huge smiles, knowing someone thought of them during this season to provide holiday gift cards and for including a healthy bag of oranges for each family."
- Dr. Ponchitta Young, Executive Director



Missions

Blood Drive

LPC held their 2nd Blood Drive in 2025 on December 15th in Thomas Hall with the American Red Cross. There were 25 appointments with 22 units of blood donated. The goal was 17 units so the goal was exceeded again. Thank you to our Church Volunteers, Carol Hissom, Nancy Hill and Patti Ronzonkiewicz for registering the blood donors and providing snacks. A huge thank you to our blood donors.



PCUSA Giving Catalog

Our Annual PCUSA Giving Catalog was a success with the generous donations from seventeen of our members for a total of \$3,551.00.

People around the world will receive 41 different gifts such as goats, rabbits, cows, chickens, piglets, sewing machines, cookstoves, irrigation pump and provide education scholarship, health program for mothers and newborns to name a few. Thank you for reaching out to all corners of our world.



PCUSA Joy Offering

The PCUSA Joy Offering- which provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Amount donated \$3,239.00.

Christmas Eve Offering

The Christmas Eve offering benefitting Save The Children received \$4,014.

Memory Matters

Memory Matters will be holding one of their Speaker Service programs at Thomas Hall on Wednesday, March 25 th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Dr. Hannah Harrison will speak on “Ask a Neurologist”. She is a new neurologist to the area joining Dr. Trumble’s practice. Coffee/Water and snacks will be served. Registration to attend will be done through Memory Matters website. More information will be forthcoming in Church Bulletins and Eblasts.

Change Can Make A Change

February - Child Abuse Prevention Association - CAPA

March - Tunnel to Towers

April - One Great Hour of Sharing

Missions

Backpack Buddies

Backpack Buddies is a volunteer organization that relies on grants and donations to provide food, for food challenged students in the Bluffton area. School social workers decide which of two programs (the Box Program or the Bag Program) they will participate in. The Box Program provides the student with food and staples for one month. The Bag Programs provides the student with a bag of food each Friday.

Currently there are 290 students participating in the Box Program and 250 students (1000 bags per month) in the Bag Programs. 70 of the Bag Students are at Red Cedar Elementary where LPC members bag and distribute the food.

A new program recently added is now providing the 540 students with a once a month bag of fresh produce. This program (ordering, packing and distribution) is being run by volunteers from Palmetto Bluff.

During the summer BPB's participates in the Bluffton Farmer's Market. Participating families receive wooden coins which they then use to buy fresh produce from the local farmers and vendors. Last summer the families also received a themed bag each week (a pizza bag, breakfast bag, and taco bag to name a few) along with vouchers for such things as milk, eggs and ground beef.

LPC packed and distributed bags in September and November and are currently doing so in January. We alternate months with Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Our future packing dates are March 3rd and May 5th. We welcome anyone who would like to volunteer. Contact Sandy Benninger sbenninger@sc.rr.com or (248) 756-6666 for more information.



Pastor Nominating Committee

The Pastor Nominating Committee was elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 25th. Members are Patti Rozonkiewicz, chair, Paul Sell, Lori Higgins, Stephen Ball, Alane Peragallo, Debbie Hager and Anne Ehrhart. They have the Mission Study and have begun meeting each week. Please remember them in prayer as they begin the search for our next senior pastor.

Music Ministry

Music Updates

Happy New Year from Robin, Karen, the Chancel Choir and Jubilate Ringers!

December was a busy month for Music Ministry. The Cantata, performed on December 14th, included selections from Handel's Messiah. We are so thankful for Dr. Karen Ball who brought the music of Handel to life and was incredible at the keyboard and for Tom Smith, who sang the bass solo so beautifully. The Messiah was preceded by two stunning selections performed by the Jubilate Ringers. Members of both ensembles participated in the Christmas Eve services, which included solos by Burton Rich on cello at 4 p.m. and Tom Smith, bass soloist at the 7 p.m. service. Special thanks to Dale Nordby who provided special music on December 28th, the last Sunday of the year.



Now, on to 2026. The Chancel Choir began rehearsals on Thursday, January 8th at 6:30 p.m. They also gathered the following Saturday for an extra rehearsal to get acquainted with the selections for the upcoming Lenten Cantata. This was followed by a light lunch, provided by Karen Johnson and Maureen Kalmbach. It was a wonderful time to get to acquainted and reacquainted with both old and new members. The Jubilate Ringers began rehearsing on Tuesday, January 6th at 12:30. The Ringers play on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Their first performance will be on Sunday, February 8th. Both groups welcomed new members and we are looking forward to an exciting year of music making for the Sunday services.



The Lenten Cantata will be performed on March 15th, with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, March 14 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The title will be: What Wondrous Love. Rehearsals for the Cantata will begin on Thursday, January 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Jubilate Ringers will be playing Lenten selections for the service on March 8th.



The Music Ministry team, singers and ringers, continue to feel so blessed by the warmth and support we receive from the members, Elders, Pastors and staff at LPC. Thank you all for your kind words and encouragement over the past year. We look forward to adding our musical offerings and blessings to the Sunday Services and spiritual life of the church in 2026. Remember, there is also room for one more in the choir.

Thank You!

The Worship Ministry would like to thank all the members and friends who helped to decorate our beautiful sanctuary for Christmas!



Member Spotlight



Patricia Rozonkiewicz (Patti Roz) has been a member of the LPC family for over 2 years – serving as a recently elected elder, chair of the communications ministry, serving in the nursery, as a team member of the sound & audio ministry, and coordinating weddings and funerals for LPC.

She has been married to Mitch (her high school sweetheart) for 18 years. She is Mom to Shawn (37 years) and a co-parent of two 6-year-old Shih Tzu's – Harley and Davidson. They have lived in Bluffton for 5 years.

Patti was born in upstate New York – fun fact – on the kitchen table due to a severe snowstorm. Growing up in the city of Parish, she attended elementary, junior, and senior high school there. As a junior & senior in high school, Patti attended cosmetology school. Deciding that was not for her, she went to school for computer programming.

In 1990, Patti accepted employment at Royal Insurance Company, which was purchased by Travelers Insurance. After 17 years with them, her employment history includes a transfer to Illinois (with Travelers Insurance) to be close to Mitch. One year after Mitch and Patti were married, she resigned from Travelers and decided to return to college.

Choosing Interior Design, Patti received her associate's degree at the College of Dupage. She then enrolled at the Illinois Institute of Art, receiving a bachelor's degree in 2013. Mitch and Patti resided in Illinois for 16 years together before moving to Bluffton in Sun City. Once settled in Sun City, they began to get to know neighbors, meeting Jeri Hanna, who invited them to LPC. Patti immediately felt welcome and at home. She attended services with her mother, Bea, and eventually joined a new member class. Upon completion of the new members' class, Patti jumped right into active service at LPC, stepping into the many positions she holds, faithfully serving the church community.

Keeping a busy schedule is not new to Patti, as she serves as the President of the Sun City All About Art Club. She updates policies, computerizes all membership lists & classes – revamping the entire club with the help of a great team. Membership increased along with participation, adding the tag line "From fine arts to fun arts." She will serve as President until 2028.

Patti is very excited about her position as an elder. Her knowledge, leadership, and computer skills will serve to assist the Church and other ministries. Patti is looking forward to getting to know the elders with whom she serves and meeting the family at LPC. She is seeking to grow in her faith and knows that LPC is where she wants to be. Patti is very excited about her position as an elder and as chair of the PNC.

Membership Ministry

Christmas Potluck & Carol Sing-along

The Membership Ministry team kicked off the Christmas season with our annual Christmas Potluck and Carol Sing in Thomas Hall on Wednesday, Dec 3. Eighty LPC members enjoyed a delectable buffet of sides, salads, and desserts with the Membership Ministry providing baked ham and rolls. Dale Nordby, Jim Wright, and Robin Lind led the group in carol singing accompanied by Karen Ball.

Many thanks to the Membership Ministry for this festive annual event.



February Birthdays

1 Lois Lunardini	14 Rob Webb
4 Janet Lang	14 Tedi Zaryczyny
5 Kathy Crist	17 Becki Hale
7 Marilyn Miesner	18 Jerri Hanna
7 Lauren Robinson	20 Richard Giebelhaus
8 Carolyn Alexander	21 Larry Tremitiere
9 Dick Eberhart	25 Kim Hardin
9 Tim Ehrhart	25 Don Pierce
10 Micki Underwood	25 Dari Pillagalli
13 Kathleen Casey	27 Mick Mikkelson
13 Peter Sach	27 Chuck Kreitler
14 John Rea	28 Maureen Kalmbach

March Birthdays

1 Madeline Quick	19 Sharon Bogert
2 Gail Box	19 Hudson Johnson
3 Sandy Benninger	19 Carolyn Whitman
5 Anna Anderson	22 Robert Shumate
6 Bert Ruys	23 Shawn Panuline
6 Brenda Wildt	24 Susan Nehonsky
8 Bill Walker	25 Derek Hardin
10 Brittany Wilson	25 Bob Whitman
11 Mendel Spears	28 Alice Pierce
12 Mel Gates	30 Anita Juelch
13 Diane Mikkelson	30 Pam Norley
15 Kay Hedrick	31 Rosemary Bishop
15 Vicki Melton	
17 Jim Hale	

April Birthdays

1 Cameron Fox	11 Robyn Wilkey
2 Paige Lassen	15 Kelly Manning
3 Anita McLees	15 Judy Thorpe
4 Katherine Bleile	17 Elaine Dawley
4 Sarah Bleile	19 Dennis Eubanks
5 Dahlia Meyer	20 Annie Ehrhart
6 Amilcar Chavelas	20 Debbie Paulick
6 Lynn Norton	21 Janit Maguire
7 Sophie Stauffer	23 Dennis Dawley
8 Jerry Wells	25 Joann McElravy
9 Jean Willson	26 Cal Beltman
10 Jim Dove	29 Karen Smith
11 Jack Cloninger	
11 Marilyn Gearhart	
11 Ethel Anne Price	



Thank You Notes:

Dear LPC Friends,

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, visits, sanctuary flowers and holiday treats that you provided for us during Ron's back surgery and ongoing recovery. We especially appreciate the errands you have run for us and the encouragement you have extended to us. Additionally, we thank everyone who works to provide online worship - it has meant so much to us in the season of Advent.

With Love and Gratitude,
Venus and Ron

Live Stream Ministry:

Live Stream Team:

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.



Lowcountry Presbyterian Merch:

Share Our Ministry with LPC Merchandise from Lands End



LPC merchandise comes in different styles and colors, making it appropriate for any mission project or community event. Visit our website lowcountrypres.org and click on the homepage link, or scan the QR code here.

Session Highlights

The Session held stated session meetings on 9/24, 10/22, and 11/19. A special session meeting was held on 9/28 and a congregational meeting was held 10/26. Highlights are listed below.

- Reinstated serving traditional communion elements in the balcony.
- Approved the 2026 communion schedule.
- Approved the Kirkin' o' the Tartan service for 2/15/26.
- Continued discussions and plans for the mission study, and Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Approved a revised Wedding Policy.
- Elected Taylor Evans to serve as Treasure for a one-year term 5/1/26 – 4/30/27.
- Elected elders to serve on the 2026 session.
- Elected Elder Janit Maguire to serve as 2026 Clerk of Session
- Elected Elder Sandy Iams to serve as LPC Commissioner at the February Charleston Atlantic Presbytery meeting.
- Approved reservations for the April 2026 session retreat at New Ebenezer Retreat Center in Rincon, GA.
- Seven members were received into membership

The next two meetings are scheduled for 12/10 and 1/27.

If you have any questions or would like to see the minutes, please contact Janit Maguire, Clerk of Session at janitmaguire@gmail.com or 845-527-6409.



Easter Flowers for the Sanctuary

Our sanctuary will again be adorned with spring blooms on Easter Sunday. These spring plants are robust and suitable for planting in your garden. We have 2 varieties of spring flowers, Azaleas and Lilies this year.

Please place your order by March 29th. You may place your order form and payment in the Sunday offering or mail it to the church. Plants may be retrieved after worship on Easter Sunday.

Flower Cost/Quantity

Lily \$ 17.00 _____

Azalea \$ 20.00 _____

Name _____

In memory of _____

or

In honor of _____



Mission Statement:

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.



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Phone: 843-815-6570

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