



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, September 14, 2025
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 2025

Jan Alpert
(843- 837-2177)
Kevin MacCarthy
(609-462-3903)
Pam Davis-Webb
(607-215-2289)
Dale Wilkes
(207-299-6693)

Class of 2026

Elaine Branda
(843-816-2240)
Anne Redlus
(843-705-6373)

Class of 2027

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

Celebration of Worship
Sunday, September 14, 2025 ~ 10:30am

Silent Meditation

Robert Capon in Parables of Grace

Regarding the parable of the lost sheep and lost coin: “Neither the lost sheep nor the lost coin does a blessed thing except hang around in its lostness. On the strength of this parable, therefore, it is precisely our sins, and not our goodness, that most commend us to the grace of God...God alone gives life, and he gives it freely and fully on no conditions whatsoever.”

Prelude

How Great Thou Art

arr. Karen Ball

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. David Johnson

Introit

We Are One in the Spirit

Hymn 300

Call to Worship

Derek Hardin

One: Jesus told that God searches relentlessly for those who are lost,

All: and is filled with joy when they are found.

One: Jesus promised that God waits patiently for lost children to return home,

All: and welcomes them in without reservation.

One: Jesus says that even the righteous can distance themselves and become lost,

All: and they too are sought out and invited to join God’s celebration.

We worship God who seeks and finds us when we are lost!

***Hymn #415**

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy (vv. 1, 3, 4)

***Invocation**

Rev. Johnson

Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we sometimes turn away from Your love, preferring life on our own instead of life with You. Forgive us, we pray, and don’t give up on us. Welcoming God, when we come to our senses and return home to You, Your embrace reassures us and invites us in. We give thanks for Your overwhelming grace. Celebrating God, we confess that our resentment builds when You welcome some that we think are undeserving. Forgive us and open our hearts to share in Your joy. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Response #695 *Change My Heart, O God* (first 2 lines then repeat)
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

***Affirmation of Faith** A Brief Statement of Faith 11.1 & 11.4
In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve...

...We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.

***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 Sunday School. They will be escorted from the Narthex)

Scripture Reading Luke 15:1-10 (pg. 73)
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Losing our way" Rev. David Johnson

***Hymn #418** *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer
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 and Change Can Make a Change

Offertory *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. Michael Larkin

***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. Johnson

***Hymn #649**

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (vv. 1, 2, 3, 5)

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Grand Chorus in B Flat

by Theodore Dubois

*** 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.

Infant Comforting Area - Like many adults, some infants struggle to make it through the entire service. An area has been set aside outside the nursery with sound and a view into the sanctuary. You are welcome to visit the area if the need arises.

Please join us for a reception in the Narthex immediately following worship today to honor and celebrate Robin Lind's 10 years of music ministry at LPC. We are grateful for the beauty that Robin has brought to our congregation, not only through her gift of music, but also through her spirit of generosity and dedication. We thank Robin for the harmony she has created over the past decade and look forward to many more years of song, service and faith under her leadership! Cards and notes of appreciation from the congregation may be placed in the basket located in the narthex.

New Member Classes Mondays, September 15th and 22nd from 4-6 pm in Thomas Hall — 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, join our next New Member Classes. Please sign up on our website's Events page or contact the church office at 843-815-6570 or office@lowcountrypres.org. Childcare can be arranged upon request.

Please remember with your prayers:
Naomi Davis Nancy Johnson Carol Simpson

The flowers today are presented in loving appreciation and honor of Robin Lind, celebrating her 10 years of faithful musical service to LPC. Robin's unwavering commitment and inspiring talent have enriched our worship and touched the hearts of all who have been blessed by her music, service and faith.

Rev. de Beer is away for the month of September on a vacation agreed upon prior to his start at LPC. He will return October 1st.

The Caregiver Support Group led by Rev. Johnson and Debbie Hager will meet following worship **Sunday, September 21** in the children's classroom by the nursery.

Calling all Musicians!!! NEW SINGERS are encouraged to join the choir. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. The choir will be singing selections from Handel's Messiah for the Advent Cantata, which will be performed the 2nd Sunday in December. Contact Robin Lind or Judy Barry for more information.

Adult Sunday School class meets at 9:15am in the parlor. September 21st discussion will be Genesis 27 and 28:1-5, Esau and Jacob.

Children's Sunday School will have 2 classes on the second and fourth Sunday each month. The younger group, led by Phyllis Willever, will be for ages 4—K and will meet in the children's classroom. The second class, led by Nancy Doran, will be for 1st grade thru 5th grade and meet in the office area. Nancy was a helper to Phyllis last year and was an elementary school teacher in her career. It is exciting to see our Children's Sunday School expand.

Change Can Make a Change offering for September is for Family Promise of Beaufort County. LPC has been a host congregation since its beginning and remains a supporter of their program by providing funds, meals and volunteers now that they are housed in Freedom House.

Family Promise of Beaufort County's mission is to provide temporary shelter, family stability and permanent housing solutions for homeless families with children by mobilizing resources from interfaith and secular communities. The Family Promise model is successful, unique, and cost effective. They are the only shelter in both Beaufort and Jasper Counties. Over 90% of families graduating their program are still in permanent housing after one year. Since opening their doors in July 2008, they have assisted over 3,000 individuals, 70% of which were children.

In addition to CCMAC the Mission Ministry will be providing a cookout with the Family Promise families on September 20. If anyone is interested in providing food for the cookout please contact Diane Mikkelson at (843) 368-6865 or DianeMikke@aol.com.

Also, Missions will have a collection box in the Narthex during the month of September to provide needed supplies at Freedom House. Items requested are: Paper towels, toilet tissue, dish detergent, laundry detergent / fabric softener/ Bleach, liquid hand soap, soap / body wash for men and women, paper plates, plastic cups / plastic cutlery, trash bags (large and small).

Water Mission's Walk for Water. Please join our Team September 20th at 9am at Wright Family Park in Bluffton. Help us raise awareness and money to provide sustainable water systems for those in need. We'll join others in our community to walk about 2 miles to symbolize the sometimes-dangerous walk millions of women and children make every day for water that's often contaminated. To join our walk visit walkforwater.com/beaufort. Click "Register" on the home page, fill in your info, then click "Join a Team" at the bottom of the page and select LPC. Contact Don Hamburger at 842-729-7136 with questions or visit watermission.org to learn more.

Volunteer Opportunity -Bluffton Community Kitchen needs volunteers to help with their Hot Meals Program on Monday and Wednesday and their Outdoor Food Pantry on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Kitchen is located at 25 Boundary Street in Bluffton. To learn more, email info@blufftoncommunitykitchen.org or call 843-707-6785.

The next Highway Clean-up Day is Friday, September 26th at 9:00am. Join LPC members to collect trash along Simmonsville Rd. Necessary supplies, coffee and donuts will be provided. Contact Dave Casperson with questions, 843-338-6909.

Volunteer Opportunity -Family Promise is looking for volunteers for overnight and weekends. Currently there are 4 families living at their new home, Freedom House. Changes have recently been made to the Volunteer Overnight Room. Those staying overnight will be roomed in the Master Bedroom area. This area has 2 beds, a sofa to relax, a TV and private bathroom. If you are interested in volunteering for overnight or weekends, contact info@familypromisebeaufortcounty.org or call 843-540-8650.

Thank you for the calls, emails, texts, sanctuary flowers and pastoral visit during my recovery time. All of these things were very encouraging and greatly appreciated.

Frank Branda

Habitat for Humanity of the Lowcountry is sponsoring their 28th Annual Golf Tournament on September 29, 2025 at the Oldfield Club in Okatie. Our Church will be sponsoring a hole at the Tournament. There also will be an online auction which opens September 2nd with more than 25 items up for bids. Go to www.lowcountryhabitat.org/2025golftournament to sign up.

Family Promise fundraiser: Tickets are available now for “Gather & Give: A Family Promise Barn Bash” to be held on October 3rd from 6 – 9 pm at The Barn at Hampton Lake, 7457 Hampton Lake Drive, Bluffton. \$150.00 per ticket



Lego Church - October 5th at 4pm in Thomas Hall

Families with children through grade 5 are invited! After an interactive faith building time, the families will also enjoy dinner together. Please contact Elaine Branda with questions: hhgolfer@gmail.com. Sign-up in the Narthex or on our website lowcountrypres.org.

Breakfast on the Patio - October 12th at 9:00am - Congregational Care will provide the food and all you need to bring is a chair. Sign-up by October 6th on our website or in the Narthex.

Communications Ministry - We are requesting that members notify the church office if they have any changes to their phone number, email, or address. The church directory is updated monthly and is available on request.

Men of Purpose (MOP) meets Saturdays at 9:00am in the parlor. They are reading *A House United* by Allen R. Hilton. “Through God's transforming work,” he writes, “we can create a house united that will help our nation come back together.” Books can be purchased for \$16 in the church office but are not required to attend. For questions, please contact Bill Walker –kamwheeling@gmail.com.

National Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, September 16. Here are some tips from our local, non-partisan League of Women Voters to ensure that you can make your voice heard both in 2025 local elections and 2026 Mid Term Elections in Beaufort County. First, go to the website vote411.org and easily register to vote online by following the prompts (you may also register at the DMV). If you have already registered, you can also use vote411.org to make sure your voter registration status hasn't changed. Also, you can visit vote411.org to check on your particular voting location, and get information about various candidates who have responded to questions about their positions. Make your voice heard - be prepared to vote in Beaufort and Jasper Counties and South Carolina!