



The Light

Winter 2025

SEE THE BACK COVER FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVENTS!

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Wednesday, December 3
6-8 p.m. in Thomas Hall

The Membership Ministry invites you to our annual Christmas Potluck. A main course of spiral ham and rolls will be provided by the Membership Ministry with side dishes, salads, and desserts provided by you.

Choir members will lead us in singing your favorite Christmas carols after dinner. Sign-up in the Narthex or online by Monday, December 1st at noon.

lowcountrypres.org/news-events



Do you recognize these men by their "Nutritional Label"?!

- Possess 1,000% dedication, caring and patience
- Spirit-led with added trustworthiness, salt and humor
- Contain triple the RDA of dependability, wisdom and faith
- Typically 135% caffeinated with minimal traces of sleep
- Daily calories offset through their hard work, determination and strong passion for LPC
- Serving size - 2 well loved Pastors

Rev. de Beer and Rev. Johnson were celebrated on Pastor Appreciation Day for the many spiritual gifts they offer our congregation.

Welcome New Members!

We had several new members join the LPC family in October. We look forward to worshipping and serving together with them.



Dottie Collins and Ted Hansen moved from Mountainside, NJ to Sun City, SC. Ted, a Navy veteran, retired as an electrical inspector/sub code official in New Jersey counties, while Dottie retired as secretary to the Chief Justice of the NJ Supreme Court. They enjoy travel, dining, live theatre, and look forward to joining the LPC family.



Anita McLees moved to Bluffton from Atlanta in 2022 after regularly visiting since her parents retired here in 1999. She recently retired early from over 20 years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is eager to start a new career. Living in Sawmill Forest with her rescue dog, Jackson, Anita enjoys gardening, yoga, outdoor activities, and time with friends. Her daughter Adele is attending graduate school at Emory University in Atlanta. Anita is pleased to join LPC and appreciates the warm welcome.



Kevin Murray and his wife Nina recently moved from Connecticut to the Lowcountry and have settled into their new home in Margaritaville. Kevin has been a UCC Wilton Congregational Church member since being baptized there in 1966. While at WCC, he participated in the Choir and Worship Band and led the Music and Mission Boards. He joined several mission trips for disaster relief in Honduras, Taos, and New Orleans. He is excited to get to know everyone here and be part of the Church Choir at LPC.



Dari and Bill Pillagalli moved to Bluffton in May 2025 from West Chester, PA. They have three children and four grandchildren. Bill happily retired from the structural steel industry and Dari worked as a mental health and drug and alcohol counselor. They feel fortunate to have visited LPC and to have met so many wonderful people.



Emear Smith has been visiting LPC for some time and can't wait to officially become a member. He is a senior at Hilton Head Prep and is doing an internship with the Bluffton Chamber of Commerce. During his time at the church, he has worked on livestreaming the services and appreciates all the kind people he has met. Emear enjoys nature, fitness, personal growth, and guitar.

Faith Formation

S.T.E.P.S. – (Study, Equip, Pray and Serve)

Each year this one-day worship and workshop is offered by Charleston Atlantic Presbytery, usually at the end of August. For over 10 years we have had members from LPC faithfully attend. There are workshops on a variety of subjects, and each attendee gets to choose 2 of interest to them. Many of us have attended several times, always finding new classes to choose from. This past August Carol Hissom was among those who attended, and she said "The main reason I attend is the worship service. It is always very inspiring. This year CeCe Armstrong Co-moderator of PCUSA General Assembly gave the sermon. The mixture of cultures created an upbeat and uplifting atmosphere." So, whether you are attracted by the learning opportunities and/or an inspiring worship service, there is something for everyone. Hopefully, you will consider joining the group from LPC this coming August. More information will be provided in early summer.



Double Baptism

On October 5th the LPC congregation had the opportunity to witness and participate in a double baptism. The children of Ellie and Matt Quick, Asher (age 5) and his younger sister Madeline (7 weeks) were baptized by Rev. Johnson. Our congregation agreed to nurture them in the faith as they grow. It was a special moment for all.

Nursery Workers Needed

We are in need of a few people to be substitutes in our nursery. Our numbers are small, and I know you will get a very special blessing from spending time with our little ones. We always have 2 adults in the Nursery so you will not be on your own. Getting to know each one of our children has been quite a joy for me. I hope you will prayerfully consider filling this need. Please give me a call and I can answer any questions you may have. Elaine Branda, Faith Formation Elder 843 816-2240

Faith Formation

Lego Church

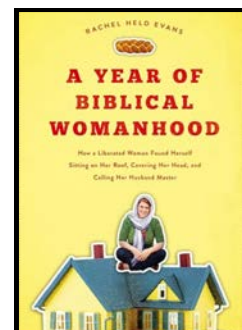
In October we had our second Lego Church of 2025. Rev. de Beer gave the lesson on God parting the Red Sea. The families had fun creating what they heard. It was surprising that none of the children made the sea red! Fun was had by all. Naturally, a dinner and ice cream followed. Also lots of squeals and laughter. We try to offer this event twice a year to minister to our young families and their guests.



Women of Faith

Women of Faith are in the midst of a study of [A Year of Biblical Womanhood](#) by Rachel Held Evans and it's not too late to join the conversation! The group meets every second Tuesday at 11:00am in the Choir Room (note location change) and is open to all LPC women, friends and visitors.

The group enjoyed discovering the many things we have in common with each other during a round of "Me Too!" at their opening session.



Our reading and discussions through May, 2026 will take us on an exploration of the authors radical life experiment - vowing to take all of the Bible's instructions for women as literally as possible for a full year. Along the way, we will explore the rich heritage of scriptural heroines, models of grace, and all-around women of valor that we come to know in the Bible.

A peek at what's ahead!

- December 9th - Obedience, pages 47-73
- January 13th - Valor, pages 74-98
- February 10th - Beauty, pages 99-119
- March 10th - Modesty, pages 120-145
- April 14th - Purity, pages 146-173
- May 12th - Fertility, pages 174-200



Each chapter functions as a stand alone topic, so you can easily join us at any time during the study! Contact Pam Davis-Webb (psdw44@gmail.com) or Venus Holland (reidallenholland@gmail.com) for more info.

Membership Ministry

LPC's Got Talent!

So much talent! A fun night was enjoyed by ninety of our LPC members on Wednesday, Sept 10 in Thomas Hall. The evening started with an art show featuring paintings, photography, quilting, and woodworking. After a bountiful potluck, fourteen performers entertained with vocals, piano, accordion, poetry, and even a little baton twirling! Many thanks to the LPC Membership Ministry for hosting this event, to the performers/artists for sharing their talents, and to all the wonderful cooks who shared their culinary delights.



Missions



LPC Missions Ministry

Change-Can-Make-A-Change

November 2025 - Angel Tree

Change Can Make a Change for November will be used for our annual Angel Tree for the children of Agape in Hardeeville and the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) children in Bluffton. NOC meets during the week in Thomas Hall.

We will be providing \$25 Walmart gift cards for both Agape children and NOC children and will use the CCMAC for those and also for food for their families. In addition, we will be setting up an Angel Tree in the Narthex with books for the children of NOC. Both organizations will be distributing the items before the Christmas school break once again this year.

Thank you for your amazing generosity over the many years of our Angel Tree.

The Angel Tree


The annual Angel Tree is in the narthex November 16 & 23 with Angels showing books & games for 60 children in NOC (Neighborhood Outreach Connection) who meet during the week in our Al and Marian Thomas building. Since NOC is gifting the children their books on December 8 before Christmas break and Agape their gift cards on December 6 it is very important that we receive gifts by November 30 to give us time to organize. Please pray for these families and children.

A Note from Neighborhood Outreach Connection


Thank you so much for thinking of our NOC children again this year through your Angel Tree project, what a beautiful and meaningful initiative. Each selection of books and games was chosen by the teachers to encourage literacy, creativity, and teamwork in a fun and age-appropriate way. We are deeply grateful for the continued generosity and support of the LPC Mission Team. Your kindness makes a wonderful difference in the lives of our children and families.

Warm regards, Gaby Sandoval, Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC)

Missions



American Red Cross




GIVE SOMETHING
That Means
Something®

BLOOD DRIVE **Monday, Dec. 15**
1-6 p.m.

Lowcountry Presbyterian Church

Thomas Hall
10 Simmonsville Rd
Bluffton, SC 29910

Give a gift, get a gift! Give blood
12/8-18 & get a \$15 Amazon Gift
Card by email! rcblood.org/gifts



visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: **LOWCOUNTRYPRES or**
call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule your appointment today!

Blood Drive

The Mission Ministry will be sponsoring LPC's Second Blood Drive with the American Red Cross. It will take place at Thomas Hall on Monday, December 15th from 1:00 - 6:00 pm. There will be sign ups to donate in the Narthex starting Sunday, November 16. There is also a need for at least 4 volunteers to help on the day of the drive with check in and serving snacks. If you can help with this ask, contact Anne Redlus at 843-705-6373 or email anneredlus@gmail.com.

Missions Donations

The Mission Ministry team voted to donate \$500 to All Hands and Hearts and \$500 to World Central Kitchen. These two organizations were immediately on the ground in Jamaica following the terrible destruction by Hurricane Melissa. The donation was made from the Missions Budget for Missions Beyond. Through your annual giving, we are able to make these emergency donations. Thank you for your support.

Missions

Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Agape Thanksgiving food drive! We collected 1,639 food items including 126 bags of fresh fruits and vegetables; 560 cans of vegetables, 152 cans of chicken and tuna and 89 boxes of cereal. We also collected many Thanksgiving food items. This was our biggest food drive thanks to your generosity.

Thanks to Sandy Iams and Tom Catanese for sorting, packing and loading. Thanks to Pastor Dave and Robert Shumate for jumping in and lending a helping hand that was greatly appreciated!

Ponchitta and Viola were very grateful for the food donation and said they had been seeing more people looking for help during the government shutdown.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Mission Committee!



Missions



News from Rev Gamble and Oli

They wish to extend their gratitude to all at LPC for the check totaling \$4,592 that we will be sending to This Child Here. Robert asked us to earmark the donation towards scholarships for the Ukrainian students studying in this country starting next Fall.

The Gambles did arrive back home last Thursday night (November 6th). Some flights were delayed and that kept them an extra day. Drones have been coming their way, but not to their city. Yet. 30 drones were in the Odessa Oblast region, but they hit the city north of Izmail about 30 miles away. There is a solar panel field in that area and they thought that was the target. Still, there were a series of air raids that kept them up till 2am. On Monday, Oli and Robert will drive into Romania to buy two Battery backups for their center. After 3 years, our current batteries only give us 15 minutes of light. They used to last 2 hours.

Missions Financial Update

Again, thank you to our members for your generosity in supporting the Change Can Make A Change donations for the last 4 months.

- August Change Can Make a Change – Donations were \$4,86.50 for Walk for Water
- September Change Can Make a Change – Donations were \$2,861. For Family Promise
- October Change Can Make a Change – Donations were \$3,592. For This Child Here

Rev. Robert Gamble's Visit

The members of LPC welcomed Rev Gamble and his wife Oli to our church on Sunday, October 26th. They were finishing up their tour of churches before their return to Ukraine on November 3rd. Rev. Gamble preached on that Sunday and then following the service shared about their work with This Child Here in Izmail, Ukraine, update about the 5 Ukranian students who are studying in the United States and the continuing situation with the war in Ukraine. The final donation total from the October Change Can Make a Change was \$3,592. plus \$1,000. that was donated from the Mission Budget for Missions Beyond. Thank you for your generous support of This Child Here and the work of the Gambles.



Family Promise

In September our CCMAC was for Family Promise of Beaufort County and we collected \$3,071.00 to benefit families with children who are temporarily homeless. In addition during that month we collected items that were needed for their use at the Freedom House while they are living there. During that drive you donated 95 items worth approximately \$481.00 to help stock their shelves. Once again the congregation's generosity was heartwarming and much appreciated.

Missions

Presbyterian Giving Catalog

When you give to this program you are giving with a Purpose. Pursue your passions by supporting the causes closest to your heart. The new Giving Catalog Causes are Provide Clean Water, End Hunger, Sustain Communities and Support Education. Under each of these causes are a variety of gifts that you can select. Catalogs will be handed out on Sunday, November 23rd as you leave church so that you can review the gifts available to purchase at home. There will be a table in the Narthex beginning on November 30th through December 26th to accept your selections and donations or answer any questions that you may have. Orders and checks can also be placed in the offering basket, mailed back to the church or turned into the office. Checks should be made out to LPC. Last year, members of the church donated \$3,868 to this program.



Backpack Buddies

We packed bags on November 5th for the 70 students who will receive food during the month. We will be packing the food bags in the Red Cedar Elementary cafeteria beginning at 3:00pm on Wednesday, January 6th. Please contact Sandy at sbenninger@sc.rr.com or 248-756-6666 if you plan to volunteer. Our packing dates for the 2026 year are: January 6th, March 3rd, and May 5th.

Christmas Joy Offering

Each year at this time, our church supports the PCUSA Joy Offering which honors God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing 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. On Sunday, December 21st, an envelope will be in the bulletin for your use. Envelopes can be placed in the offering basket in subsequent weeks. Checks should be made payable to LPC with a notation "Joy Offering." Thank you for your support.



Mission Trip to North Carolina

Dave Johnson, Bob Shumate and Sandy Benninger accompanied members from the First Presbyterian Church on HHI to Montreat, NC in October. They went there to work on homes damaged by Hurricane Helene. The group worked on the 3 houses in Old Fort, NC during the trip. The one receiving most of our attention was a wonderful old home built around 1890. We mudded, sanded, caulked, painted and Dave even replaced a window. The home belongs to a lovely young couple. He is a pastor and she owns a coffee shop there in Old Fort.



During our trip we had wonderful accommodations in a lodge at Montreat and really enjoyed the beautiful mountain scenery. We worked hard and made some new friends. The real treat was getting to see the bears, who visited our lodge parking lot on two occasions.

Missions



Walk for Water Surges to New Record

Lowcountry Presbyterian Church joined 700-plus participants in Port Royal and Bluffton for this year's Walk for Water in another record-breaking year. Thanks to you, a historic high of nearly \$89,000 was raised, providing safe water to over 1,800 people - creating a generational change in lives and communities in desperate need of a most basic resource.

Walkers and volunteers met Sept. 20th at Wright Family Park in Bluffton for a three-mile walk to symbolize the burden millions of women and children in developing countries carry daily to collect water that's often contaminated or in dangerous areas. The walks promote awareness of the desperate need for access to safe water and raises money for Water Mission International, a nonprofit Christian engineering organization based in Charleston that builds sustainable, safe water solutions in developing countries and disaster areas.

Visit the Walk for Water website at walkforwater.com/beaufort to learn more about the Beaufort County Walk for Water. Follow Beaufort County Walk for Water on Facebook and Instagram @BeaufortWalkforWater, and on Twitter #bftwalkforwater.

Worship Ministry

The fall was a busy time for CELEBRATIONS at LPC!

Congratulations and bravo to Dr. Robin Lind for her 10 years of dedicated music ministry to our church. LPC celebrated this milestone with a reception in Robin's honor on September 14th.



All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day is a special time for us to pause and remember all the faithful people—past and present—who have helped shape our faith.

On November 2nd, we remembered loved ones who have gone before us, celebrating that, in Christ, we're all part of one great family of faith that stretches across generations. May we be inspired to keep living out our faith with the same love, grace, and courage they showed.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

Our annual Hanging of the Greens will be **Sunday, Nov. 30** following worship. We need **YOU** to help decorate our beautiful sanctuary for the Christmas season and will reward your efforts with a light pizza lunch afterward!

**Please plan to meet in the rear right pews immediately following the service for instructions.*

Earth Care



Seasons of the earth, seasons of our lives.

This fall our earthcare worship used music, poetry, scripture, and pictures to recognize the many ways that the changing seasons of the earth impact our lives. From the early darkness of winter to the long days of summer, from the new life of spring to the fading colors of fall, our lives are shaped by rhythms of the earth. Our lives go through seasons, as well. Seasons of growth in our families or careers along with seasons of decline in our health and the loss of significant people. Each of these seasons offers new opportunities to praise God, and serve God's people.

Following earthcare worship on November 16, our social witness/earthcare ministry provided refreshments before welcoming Dr. Katharine Seeber from Carolina Community Archaeology, who taught us about the indigenous peoples who lived here in the lowcountry long before it was colonized by Europeans. Here are some interesting facts we learned:

- The Coosaw people lived here at least 10,000 years ago, and likely much longer.
- Their closest relatives were people of the Caribbean Islands rather than other tribes who settled much closer.
- They maintained small families and lived in smaller communities because that was what the land could sustain.
- They are the builders of the shell rings found on Hilton Head Island. These rings were likely used for ritual and ceremonial purposes.

As residents here, it is important to understand the people and cultures that stewarded this land before us, and to learn from them and leave it intact for future generations.

Music Ministry

Music Updates

The Advent Cantata will be performed by the Chancel Choir on Sunday, December 14th. This year it will consist of scripture readings, a bass solo sung by Tom Smith, and choruses from the first part of Handel's "Messiah." Both the choir and congregation will sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" for the closing hymn that Sunday. Dr. Karen Ball will be accompanying the choir.

On Saturday, December 13th, a final rehearsal will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The Jubilate Ringers will play 2 pieces, Prelude and Offertory, on that Sunday. "Advent Majesty" arranged by Karen L. Buckwalter and "Echoes of Christmas" arranged by Karissa Dennis.

At the Christmas Eve service at 4 p.m., 6 Bell Ringers will play. At the 7 p.m. service the choir will sing a Christmas Anthem.

In 2026, the Jubilate Ringers will begin rehearsing on Tuesday, January 6th at 12:30. They will be playing on Sunday, February 18th.

The Chancel Choir will not be singing on December 28th. The choir will start up again on Sunday, January 4th. They will meet at 9:45 a.m., prior to the service and will sing Hymn 150, As with gladness men of old. There will be no choir rehearsals on December 25th or January 1st.

Rummage Sale

Enjoy some pictures from the Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 25th sponsored by Music and Worship Ministry. Thank you to everyone who helped to organize the event, donated items, set up and priced the items and helped out on the day of the sale. We raised \$3,564 and donated the money to Meals on Wheels.



Member Spotlight



Ralph Peters has been a member at LPC for 11 years, along with his wife, Robin Lind. He has served as a member of the finance committee and an avid supporter of the choir and bells. Ralph says he “hit a home run” when he met and later married Robin Lind – head of the music ministry here at Lowcountry. In December, they will be married 27 years. Ralph is father to two daughters – Sheri Lyn who is married with two daughters, Klarissa and Elizabeth, living in Albuquerque, NM and Susan who resides in Grants Pass OR with her daughter Sarah. Ralph’s son, Scott, who resided in South Lake Tahoe, CA, passed away earlier this year.

Born in London, Ontario, Canada on August 13, 1935, Ralph was adopted as a one-day old infant by Oliver & Ada Peters. He was raised on their family farm that was owned and operated by his father and uncle. Their main crops were tomatoes, sugar beets and tobacco. At 15 years old, Ralph’s father decided he was not “farm hand gifted” so he found Ralph a job as a messenger for the Bank of Montreal in Merlin, near their farm. His salary was so low he was exempt from paying income taxes. During the next 15 years, he was moved to eight different branches throughout Ontario. During those years, he was invited to pitch on various softball teams (fast pitch) in the towns he worked in.

Ralph was then recruited and hired by a bank in Oakland, California, as a clerk. His move to the US led him to live in 10 different cities where he worked in various banks. After working in Oakland for 3 years, he accepted a position at Wells Fargo Bank working at the head office in San Francisco. After that, he became a loan supervisor over loans being made in California Branches. Eventually, he was promoted to President and CEO of Wells Fargo’s Agriculture Company located in Colorado. Following that, he moved to Fresno, taking the position of President and CEO at a different banking institution.

During the next several years he lived in Albuquerque, NM, then Santa Fe and eventually moved to Gunnison, CO, where he met and married Dr. Robin Lind (December 18, 1998), a music professor at Western State College. He retired in 2000. That same year, Robin accepted a teaching position at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA, as the director of Choral Music. They spent the next 14 years there. Ralph began volunteer work in Youngstown, Ohio, which included working with the non-profit company SCORE which consisted of retired senior management people counseling businesses who were having financial problems. He also volunteered with the Athletic Department at Westminster College, manning the clock at both football and basketball games. In addition, he was a member of the Finance Committee at Glen-Moore Presbyterian church in New Castle and was instrumental for assisting with the refinancing for the remodeling of the church sanctuary. In their free time, they spent summers golfing at the 20+ courses near their home in Neshannock, almost always walking.

Continued on next page.

Member Spotlight

Continued

During their marriage, Ralph and Robin travelled extensively with her college choirs to Europe, which included singing at St. Peter's in Rome, Italy, Spain, England, Wales, and St. Giles Cathedral in Scotland. Being a Scotsman, he especially enjoyed the trip to Scotland. A stateside tour took them to the Beaufort and Hilton Head area where her choir sang at the First Presbyterian Church on Hilton Head Island.

The Peters' decision to move to Bluffton was preceded by yearly December vacations spent in the Lowcountry and on Hilton Head. They enjoyed the area so much, that a realtor was found, a home in Sun City was purchased and the rest is history.

Ralph met his birth mother when he was 72 years old. His mother, Ada Peters, had saved information in an envelope that she said would help him find his birth parents if he ever wanted to contact them. Through Ancestry.com he discovered that his birth parents had married three years after he was born and that he had a younger brother, who now lives in New York City and just retired from teaching at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Ralph contacted his brother first. His brother was delighted to learn that he had a "big" brother. He and his wife drove over immediately and the 2 couples spent a week in Italy on vacation, staying at his wife's family residence in Venice on the Grand Canal. He and his brother remain in touch to this day. When Ralph's mother learned that he was looking for her, she agreed to meet with him. They talked for 6 hours solid and she was able to answer many of his questions. Both of Ralph's mothers lived to be almost 100 years old. He will always be grateful to his birth mother for the life she gave him and the wonderful family who adopted and raised him.

Finding LPC was a blessing for Ralph and Robin. They had driven by the church on their many vacations, so when they moved to Bluffton, they decided to stop in for the service. They were warmly welcomed from the first time they entered the building. People were very friendly, they loved the service and decided to make LPC their home.

You will find Ralph in the last pew, sanctuary right, on Sundays. He says, "please stop by and say Hello!" He's always good for a chat.

Pastoral Search Process and Timetable

In November, Transitional Pastor Danie DeBeer is conducting his second Congregational Workshop on Wednesdays where we are discussing Who are we? Where are we going? And who is God encouraging us to serve in mission.

From this and the previous workshop in October will come recommendations for the Mission Study. The Mission Study Team of Sandy Iames, Alane Peragallo, and Jan Alpert have already begun their work which will tell the history of Lowcountry Presbyterian Church, include area demographics, the LPC Mission Statement, and demonstrated Core Values. Their goal is to complete the Mission Study by early January so it can be provided to the PNC in their search for the next pastor.

Simultaneously, the Session is seeking nominations for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) which after approved by the congregation in January, will begin the search for LPC's next Senior Pastor, using the Mission Study and the work from the Congregational Workshops.

November Birthdays

2	Don Hamburger	12	John Woodruff
2	Lois Johnson	13	Marie Thompson
3	Don Keller	13	Carolyn Tripp
4	Chad Copenhaver	17	Betty Smith
5	Scott Johnson	19	Josh Fox
5	Hillary Meyer	19	Margaret Hartley
6	Nancy Graham	19	Faith Hull
6	Tina Rogers	19	Claire Rich
7	Steve Higgins	23	Joe Turino
8	Sandra Copenhaver	29	Rick Bogert
9	Harriet Senior	29	Bill Rozea
10	Bonnie Dove		
10	Lucy Herrin		
11	Tom Cordy		

January Birthdays

1	Jim Martin	16	Bebe Blount
2	Judy Barry	16	Donn Randall
4	Sue Dasson	16	Daniel Herrin
6	Ernest Bush	17	Bill Wilkey
6	Nancy Doran	18	Nancy Hill
7	Connie Copeland	18	Earline Nichols
7	Matt Hale	20	Debi Franklin
7	Vera Toulmin	21	Ronald Woolston
8	Evelyn Baker	23	LaNita Cloninger
8	Fran Casperson	25	Carol Hissom
8	Judy Placer	27	Tom Snowden
9	Lori Higgins	30	Debbie Hager
10	Beth Bleile	30	Mark Stauffer
12	Harriet Bender		
15	Edith Rea		

December Birthdays

1	Ron Bleile	19	Dale Nordby
4	Joan Walker	21	Karen Ball
6	Jan Alpert	22	Donald Bortz
6	Jane Deakin	27	Betsy Hamburger
8	Scott Kunkle	28	Susan Zeleznik
13	Sandy Iams	30	Alane Peragallo
13	Jane Lundblad	31	Barbara DiSauro
14	Patti Rozonkiewicz	31	Janis Lakin
14	Ann Warren	31	Howard Redlus
17	Tom Catanese		
17	Graham Painter		
17	Pam Panuline		

February Birthdays

1	Lois Lunardini	14	Rob Webb
4	Janet Lang	14	Tedi Zaryczny
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 Kreidler
14	John Rea	28	Maureen Kalmbach



Christian Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Nancy Johnson.
Nancy died Sept. 15, 2025

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Naomi Davis.
Naomi died Oct. 4, 2025

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Gail Boggs.
Gail died Nov. 20, 2025

Thank You Notes:

Thank you for all of the prayers, cards, and condolences for the loss of my father-in-law.
They were very much appreciated. - Patti Rozonkiewicz

Bill and Joan Walker wish to thank all who expressed condolences following the death of their sister-in-law, Naomi Davis. Naomi was married to Joan's brother, Nelson, who passed away on 1/1/1999.

Dear LPC Friends, thank you for all the cards, thoughts and prayers and meals during my recovery. It means so much and we appreciate the hope and encouragement your love and support has given us.
- Lila & Jim Wright

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

Thank you to my LPC friends and family for the love and support during my mother's decline and passing. Your cards and words of encouragement and comfort are heartfelt and welcome.
With love and gratitude, Lori Higgins

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.

Administration Ministry:

Part-time Bookkeeper Needed

LPC is recruiting a part-time Bookkeeper who would work approximately ten hours per week or forty hours per month. A job description is available upon request from Administration and Personnel Elder, Jan Alpert, who can be reached at janalpert@aol.com or 804-304-5874.

Lowcountry Presbyterian Merch:

Share Our Ministry with LPC Merchandise from Lands End

Get It Today!

We have one baseball cap left in the office - this would make a great Christmas gift for one of your friends at LPC.

Stop by the office to purchase today!



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.

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.



10 Simmonsville Rd., Bluffton SC 29910

Phone: 843-815-6570

E-mail: office@lowcountrypres.org



Advent & Christmas at LPC

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK
Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 6 pm

LONGEST NIGHT CHRISTMAS SERVICE
Sunday, Dec. 21 at 3 pm

CHRISTMAS CANTATA
Sunday, Dec. 14 at 10:30 am

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4 pm and 7 pm

Poinsettias

It is time to order Memorial Poinsettias for the Sanctuary. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket or send it to the church office by December 1st. Make checks payable to LPC with the notation "**Poinsettia**" on your check. 6" poinsettias are **\$15.00** each.

Please fill in your name and the honoree/memorial designation so we may include it in our Christmas bulletin. If you have questions, please call the church office, 843-815-6570.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

In Honor of: _____

Or

In Memory of: _____



I would like to: Take my poinsettia _____ Donate my poinsettia _____ (Will be delivered to members receiving congregational care to enjoy during the Advent and Christmas season.)