

Olivet Presbyterian Church

159 Church Street, McConnells, South Carolina (803) 693-4040

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John M. "Chip" McArthur, Jr., *Pastor*

Austin R. Simpson, *Assistant Pastor*

Christopher McCartney, *Choir Director/Accompanist*

Robert B. Mendenhall, *Sunday School Superintendent*

The Session

Christopher W. Arnold

Jeffery E. Fairfax, *Emeritus*

Robert B. Mendenhall

Richard B. Summerville, Jr.

Roy G. Clinton, *Emeritus*

Daniel H. Harshaw, *Clerk*

John M. McArthur, Jr. *Moderator*

William Lee Summerville, Jr.

David R. Currence, *Emeritus*

James M. Hawley, *Emeritus*

Jason M. Petty

The Diaconate

Brian J. Carlisle, *Widows & Shut-ins*

James R. Clinton

John F. Hawley, *Chairman*

Lee K. Guempel, *Safety*

Michael A. Laws, *Secretary*

Larry M. Plyler, *Emeritus*

Brent M. Christenberry, *Buildings & Grounds, Treasurer*

Malcolm Harshaw

Don L. Johnson

The Women in the Church

Sandra Currence, *President*

Ina Ruth Johnson, *Historian*

Frankie Guempel, *Circle Chair*

Kathy Fairfax, *Nursery/Children's Church*

Marsha Plyler, *Treasurer/Pastor's Aide*

Susan Petty, *Secretary*

Lorie Rohrer, *Missions*

Our Missionaries

Peter and Diane Bakelaar (MTW-Japan)

Garry and Anita Chambers (MTW-Caribbean)

Roger and Laura Dye (Family Life – U.S. Latino)

Brian Howard (RUFJ-Clemson Univ.)

Sara Driggers (Wycliffe)

Ministry Committees, 2025

Discipleship Ministries Committee

Rick Summerville, *Chairman* (2026)

Kathy Fairfax (2025)

Lee Summerville (2029)

Donna McArthur (2025)

Susan Petty (2026)

Megan Covington (2028)

Missions Committee

Jason Petty, *Chairman* (2026)

Lorie Rohrer (2025)

Chris Arnold (2029)

Thomas Hardison (2025)

Dennis Krueger (2026)

Bryce Laws (2028)

Witness Committee

Austin Simpson, *Chairman* (2028)

Barbara Lawson (2026)

Bobby Mendenhall (2029)

Marsha Plyler (2025)

Scharlie Carlisle (2025)

Gwen Carlisle (2028)



Olivet Presbyterian Church

McConnells, South Carolina

A member congregation of
The Presbyterian Church in America



Olivet Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, September 21, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

(Psalm 67:1-5, ESV)

*Hymn 437 *O God, to Us Show Mercy*

All

*Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 455 *And Can It Be That I Should Gain*

All

Scripture Meditation

Pastor Chip McArthur

For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I
want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not
want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer
I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that
nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the
desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For
I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I
keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I
who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law
that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.

(Romans 7:15-21, ESV)

Corporate Confession of Sin

**Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are
from of old. Remember not the sins of our youth and our
rebellious ways. According to your love remember us, for you
are good. For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive our**

Preparation for Worship

Pastor Austin Simpson

Assurance of Pardon

**iniquity, though it is great. Turn to us and be gracious to us,
for we are lonely and afflicted. The troubles of our hearts have
multiplied; free us from our anguish. Look upon our affliction
and distress and take away all our sins. We pray in the name
of the one who loved us and gave himself for us, our Lord
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you
may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with
the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation
for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the
whole world.

(1 John 2:1-2, ESV)

Prayer of Confession and Intercession

His Tithes & Our Offerings

*Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn 345 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

All

Children's Message

Pastor Simpson

(Children aged 3 to 5 years dismissed to Children's Church Program)

Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Sermon

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Pastor Simpson

*Hymn 224

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

All

*Benediction

*Offering of Praise 735

The Gloria Patri

All

*Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.

Today at Olivet

8:50 am	Early Prayer (Pastor's Study)
9:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Morning Worship Service
5:00 pm	Choir Practice
6:00 pm	Children's Groups and Adult Bible Study

This Week at Olivet

Tuesday	Officer Training, 7 pm (Conference Room)
Wednesday	Youth Group Meets, 6 pm

	Prayer Meeting, 7 pm (Conference Room)
Thursday	Fellowship Presbytery Meets, 9 am, at Trinity PCA in Chester

Looking Ahead (Please Mark Your Calendars!)

October 5	Homecoming at Olivet with guest preacher, Rev. Mark Ashbaugh, RUF Campus Minister, Winthrop University
October 26	Congregational Meeting (See note below), following Morning Worship Service.
November 23	Annual Thanksgiving Service, 6 pm - At Olivet

Called Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, October 26, 2025, following the Morning Worship Service, for the purpose of electing a pulpit committee to begin the search for a new pastor. As most know, Pastor Chip has announced his intention to retire next May. Relevant rules for the process of congregational selection of a new pastor in the PCA are specified in our *Book of Church Order*, paragraphs **20-2** and **23-1(c)**:

20-2 Every church should be under the pastoral oversight of a minister, and when a church has no pastor it should seek to secure one without delay. A church shall proceed to elect a pastor in the following manner: The Session shall call a congregational meeting to elect a pulpit committee which may be composed of members from the congregation at large or the Session, as designated by the congregation (see *BCO* 25). The pulpit committee shall, after consultation and deliberation, recommend to the congregation a pastoral candidate who, in its judgment, fulfills the Constitutional requirements of that office (e.g., *BCO* 8, 13-6 and 21) and is most suited to be profitable to the spiritual interests of the congregation (cf. *BCO* 20-6). The Session shall order a congregational meeting to convene at the regular place of worship. Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of this meeting shall be given at least one week prior to the time of the meeting.

23-1(c) The associate or assistant pastors may continue to serve a congregation when the pastoral relation of the senior pastor is dissolved, but they may not normally succeed the senior pastor without an intervening term of service in a different field of labor. However a congregation by a secret ballot with four-fifths (4/5) majority vote may petition Presbytery for an exception which by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote Presbytery may grant. Presbytery needs to determine if the dissolution of the pastoral relationship with the senior pastor was brought about in Christian love and good order on the part of the parties concerned.

Faith Promise for World Missions

2025 Faith Promise <i>Pledged</i> , April 30, 2025	\$ 14,460.00
2025 Faith Promise <i>Received to date</i>	\$ 7,255.00

Church Budget Matters

Receipts to Date	\$ 159,160.63
Budget requirements to Date	\$ 162,355.07
Difference	-\$ 3,194.44

Collection Duty

September	Brian Carlisle, John Hawley, Michael Laws
October	Brent Christenberry, Jamie Clinton

Nursery Team

Today (9/14)	Gracie Horton, Laura Frame
Next Sunday (9/21)	Carson Simpson, Nora Kaye Summerville

Children’s Church Team

Today (9/14)	Barb Lawson, Toni Clinton
Next Sunday (9/21)	Michael Laws, Jill Christenberry

Missions Prayer Requests For September

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people... (1 Timothy 2:1)

Sara Driggers (Wycliffe) - Pray for Sara’s family as they grieve the loss of their first grandchild, Samuel, born to her daughter Miriam and her husband Andrew. Sara will be in Thailand for a leadership seminar in October. Pray for safety in travel and that the seminar will be successful. Pray for the work of Wycliffe. There are still approximately 686 language groups that have not been reached with a Bible in their own language.

Brian Howard (RUF-I Clemson) - Pray for Brian and all the RUF-I team. The beginning of the year is a busy and important time. Pray for the international students from Iran. Their stress is high as they watch the unrest in their home country. Pray for Anna and Izak, a couple from South Africa who are beginning their work with RUF-I at Clemson. Join the Howard’s in praise as they have welcomed a new granddaughter.

Roger and Laura Dye (Family Life US Latino) - The Dyes are involved in some new endeavors and ask for prayer as they begin a printing on demand project that will provide families with Christian content. They are also beginning a five day/week radio broadcast for Spanish speaking families and they are launching a new website in both English and Spanish to reach Latino families. Pray that Latino families will be reached with the Gospel and that their families will be strengthened. Laura is also writing devotional material for Latino women. We can also rejoice with them as they have welcomed a new grandson into the family.

Our Other Missionaries:

Garry and Anita Chambers (MTW Caribbean)

Peter and Diane Bakelaar (MTW Japan)

