

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

Roy G. Clinton, *Emeritus*

David R. Currence, *Emeritus*

Jeffery E. Fairfax, *Emeritus*

Daniel H. Harshaw, *Clerk*

James M. Hawley, *Emeritus*

Robert B. Mendenhall

John M. McArthur, Jr. *Moderator*

Jason M. Petty

Richard B. Summerville, Jr., *Emeritus* W. Lee Summerville, Jr.

The Diaconate

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

Lee K. Guempel, *Safety*

Malcolm Harshaw

James R. Clinton

Michael A. Laws, *Secretary*

Don L. Johnson

John F. Hawley, *Chairman*

Larry M. Plyler, *Emeritus*

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

The Women in the Church

Sandra Currence, *President*

Kathy Fairfax, *Nursery/Children's Church*

Susan Petty, *Secretary*

Ina Ruth Johnson, *Historian*

Marsha Plyler, *Treasurer/Pastor's Aide*

Lorie Hawley, *Missions*

Frankie Guempel, *Circle Chair*

Our Missionaries

Peter and Diane Bakelaar (*MTW-Japan*)

Brian Howard (*RUFJ-Clemson Univ.*)

Garry and Anita Chambers (*MTW-Caribbean*)

Sara Driggers (*Wycliffe*)

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

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 Hawley (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, December 14, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Preparation for Worship

Pastor Chip McArthur

The LORD has established his throne in
the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

Bless the LORD, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word!

Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers,
who do his will!

Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

(Psalm 103:19-22, ESV)

*Hymn 203

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Congregation

*Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 218

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Congregation

Reception of New Members

Jim and Lynn Lundin

Scripture Meditation

Pastor Austin Simpson

Since then we have a great high priest who has
passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God,
let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a
high priest who is unable to sympathize with our
weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been
tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with
confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we
may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of
need.

(Hebrews 4:14-16, ESV)

Corporate Confession of Sin

Unison Reading

**Remember, O Lord, Your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old. Remember not the sins
of my youth, and my rebellious ways: according
to Your love remember me, for You are good, O
Lord. For the sake of Your name, O Lord, forgive**

**my iniquity, though it is great. Turn to me and be
gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The
troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me
from my anguish. Look upon my affliction and
my distress and take away all my sins.**

From Psalm 25

Pastoral Prayer

His Tithes & Our Offerings

*Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn 213

What Child Is This?

Congregation

Children's Message

M

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

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Sermon

"Constrained by Love"

Pastor McArthur

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Convening of the Session

The Biblical Warrant and Nature of the Offices

Constitutional Questions

Ordination

Pronouncement of Ordination and Installation

Charge to the New Officers - Ruling Elder Jason Petty

Charge to the Congregation - Ruling Elder Daniel Harshaw

*Hymn 254

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

All

*Benediction

*Offering of Praise 735

The Gloria Patri

Congregation

*Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.

Today's Schedule

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

Annual Christmas Pageant (see note on insert)

This Week at Olivet

Wednesday Youth Group Meets, 6 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Prayer Meeting, 7 pm (Conference Room)

Looking Ahead (Please Mark Your Calendars!)

December 24 Christmas Eve Communion Service, 5 pm
January 4 Communion Service
January 12 Ladies’ Circle, 7 pm
January 18 Joint Officers Meeting, 2 pm
January 24 Fellowship Presbytery Meets a Trinity PCA in Van Wyck

Annual Christmas Pageant

Olivet’s Christmas Pageant is tonight at 6:00 pm. Everyone’s invited. Refreshments will be served afterward in the fellowship hall. Please bring snack food, either savory or sweet. Beverages will be provided.

Special Offering Tonight

Our annual Christmas offering for the PCA’s Relief Fund will be received during the Pageant tonight (see insert for more information on this ministry to support needy and retired ministers and their families).

New Members

Last Sunday evening the Session was pleased to receive Jim and Lynn Lundin as communing members of Olivet. Jim and Lynn come to us by transfer of letter from Christ Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Winterville, NC. Please welcome them as they take their place among us.

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

This morning’s worship service will include the ordination and installation of Brian Carlisle and Lee Guempel to the office of Ruling Elder, and Pete Lawson and Richard Sikes to the office of Deacon. Please pray for these men as they take their place among the officers of the church.

Elder Emeritus

According to our *PCA Book of Church Order*, deacons and ruling elders may for “reason of age or infirmity” at their own request be released from the active duties of their office, and with the approval of the Session, be designated deacon or elder emeritus. This past Sunday Ruling Elder Rick Summerville requested and was granted emeritus status. Rick was ordained as a Ruling Elder in 1999. We are grateful for his 26 years of faithful service in that role.

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>	\$ 9,910.00

Church Budget Matters

Receipts to Date	\$ 217,514.31
Budget requirements to Date	\$ 220,983.29
Difference	-\$ 3,468.98

Collection Duty

December John Hawley, Michael Laws, Brent Christenberry

Nursery Team

Today (12/14) Carson Simpson, Nora Kaye Summerville
Next Sunday (12/21) Kathy Fairfax, Maddie Sikes

Children’s Church Team

Today (12/14) Michael Laws, Marsha Plyler
Next Sunday (12/21) Lorie Hawley, Toni Clinton

Devotional Guides

The latest editions of *Our Daily Bread* and *Tabletalk* are now available in the vestibule. Pick up your copy today.

Missions Prayer Requests For December

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you, Psalm 22:7

Peter and Diane Bakelaar (MTW Japan)-Pray that God will be glorified and that lives will be transformed in Japan through the ministry of Nani art gallery.

Mission to the World- MTW asks us to pray for peace within the PCA.

Brian Howard (RUF-I Clemson) -The end of the semester is Dec. 12. Pray that the Lord will bring many to the Christmas party that haven’t attended an RUF-I event so that there will be new opportunities for ministry, conversation, and sharing the gospel.

Sara Driggers (Wycliffe) - Sara asks us to pray for her daughter Taylor who just became engaged and is planning her wedding. Pray for Marty who had a fall at work and will be having rotator cuff surgery on Dec. 12. Also pray for the change in leadership in Sara’s department at Wycliffe. This change brings many adjustments foreveryone. Pray for a smooth transition.

Please remember **to pray for all our missionaries** and to continue our financial support through giving.

Peter and Diane Bakelaar (MTW-Japan)
Brian Howard (RUF-I Clemson Univ.)
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Sara Driggers (Wycliffe)

