

# Olivet Presbyterian Church

159 Church Street, McConnells, South Carolina *Office:* (803) 693-4040  
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John M. "Chip" McArthur, Pastor

Austin R. Simpson, Assistant Pastor

Christopher McCartney, Choir Director/Accompanist

Robert B. Mendenhall, Sunday School Superintendent

## The Session

Christopher W. Arnold  
David R. Currence, *Emeritus*  
Daniel H. Harshaw, *Clerk*  
Robert B. Mendenhall  
William Lee Summerville, Jr.

Brian J. Carlisle  
Jeffery E. Fairfax, *Emeritus*  
James M. Hawley, *Emeritus*  
Jason M. Petty

Roy G. Clinton, *Emeritus*  
Lee K. Guempel  
John M. McArthur, *Moderator*  
Richard B. Summerville, *Emeritus*

## The Diaconate

James R. Clinton  
Don L. Johnson  
Richard B. Sikes

Malcolm H. Harshaw  
Peter G. Lawson  
Larry B. Plyler, *Emeritus*  
Brent R. Christenberry, *Treasurer, Building and Grounds*

John F. Hawley, *Chairman*  
Michael A. Laws, *Secretary*

## The Women in the Church

Sandra Currence, *President*  
Marsha Plyler, *Treasurer/Pastor's Aide*  
Susan Petty, *Secretary*

Kathy Fairfax, *Nursery/Children's Church*  
Lorie Hawley, *Missions*  
Ina Ruth Johnson, *Historian*  
Frankie Guempel, *Circle Chair*

## Our Missionaries

Peter and Diane Bakelaar (*MTW-Japan*)

Brian Howard (*RUFI-Clemson University*)

Garry and Anita Chambers (*MTW-Caribbean Region*)

Sara Driggers (*Wycliffe*)

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

## Ministry Committees, 2026

### Discipleship Ministries Committee

Lee Summerville, *Chairman* (2026)  
Megan Covington (2027)  
Lee Guempel (2028)

Susan Petty (2026)  
Pete Lawson (2028)  
Lorie Hawley (2028)

### Missions Committee

Jason Petty, *Chairman* (2026)  
Bryce Laws (2027)  
Chris Arnold (2028)

Dennis Krueger (2026)  
Scharlie Carlisle (2027)  
Abby Sikes (2028)

### Witness Committee

Austin Simpson, *Chairman* (2026)  
Gwen Carlisle (2027)  
Bobby Mendenhall (2028)

Barbara Lawson (2026)  
Michael Laws (2027)  
Jimmy Hawley (2028)



# Olivet Presbyterian Church

McConnells, South Carolina

A member congregation of  
*The Presbyterian Church in America* (PCA)



# Olivet Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, December 28, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

**P**raise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
    praise him in the heights!  
Praise him, all his angels;  
    praise him, all his hosts!  
Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
    princes and all rulers of the earth!  
Young men and maidens together,  
    old men and children!  
  
Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
    for his name alone is exalted;  
    his majesty is above earth and heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people,  
    praise for all his saints,  
    for the people of Israel who are near to him.  
Praise the LORD!

(Psalm 148:1-2, 11-14, ESV)

\*Hymn 203

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Congregation

\*Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

\*Hymn 195

*Joy to the World!*

Congregation

Scripture Meditation

Pastor Austin Simpson

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He

Preparation for Worship

Pastor Chip McArthur

came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.' ") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

(John 1:1-18, ESV)

Pastoral Prayer (Confession and Intercession)

His Tithes & Our Offerings

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

Children's Message

Mr. Austin Simpson

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

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:21-38

Sermon

*Seeing the Lord's Salvation*

Pastor McArthur

\*Hymn 211

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

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

*Sunday Evening Ministries resume next Sunday, January 4, 2026*

***Looking Ahead (Please Mark Your Calendars!)***

Next Sunday	Communion Service, 10 am
January 12	Ladies' Circle, 7 pm
January 18	Joint Officers Meeting, 2 pm
January 24	Fellowship Presbytery Meets at <i>Trinity PCA</i> in Van Wyck

***What about Islam?***

Join us starting next Sunday evening at 6 pm for a study on the teachings of Islam  
led by Pete Lawson and Austin Simpson.

***Faith Promise for World Missions***

2025 Faith Promise Pledged, April 30, 2025	\$ 14,460.00
2025 Faith Promise Received to date	\$ 10,080.00

***Church Budget Matters***

Receipts to Date	\$ 225,465.31
Budget requirements to Date	\$ 230,003.02
Difference	-\$ 4,537.71

***Collection Duty***

December	John Hawley, Michael Laws, Brent Christenberry
January	Michael Laws, Richard Sikes

***Nursery Team***

Today (12/28)	Donna McArthur, Megan Covington
Next Sunday (1/4)	Abbey Sikes, Bryce Laws

***Children's Church Team***

Today (12/28)	Brenda Nance, Jill Christenberry
Next Sunday (1/4)	Amanda Lenker, Roy Clinton

***Devotional Guides***

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