

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 14, 2025

Prelude	Preparation for Worship
Welcome and Announcements	Pastor Chip McArthur
*Call to Worship	Psalm 146
	Responsive Reading

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

***Congregation:* I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

Leader: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

***Congregation:* When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

***Congregation:* who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.**

Leader: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

***Congregation:* The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

Leader: The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

***All:* The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!" (Psalm 146, ESV)**

*Hymn 78 *O Bless the Lord, My Soul* All

*Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 111 *This Is My Father's World* All

Scripture Meditation Pastor Austin Simpson

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to

which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey. "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

(Deuteronomy 6:1-9, ESV)

Prayer of Confession and Intercession

His Tithes & Our Offerings

*Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn 529 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (Tune: HYFRYDOL) All

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

Scripture Reading Isaiah 41:21-42:9

Sermon "Behold My Servant!" Pastor McArthur

*Hymn 521 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* 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)
Saturday	Wedding: Lorie Rohrer to Jimmy Hawley (We're invited)

Looking Ahead (Please Mark Your Calendars!)

September 25	Fellowship Presbytery Meets, 9 am at Trinity PCA in Chester.
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.

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
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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)