

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
16th Sunday after Pentecost and Holy Communion
September 13, 2026
11 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

Welcome, Announcements, Joys, and Concerns
(Members and visitors are encouraged to sign the blue Friendship book in pew)

Special Meeting of the Congregation

Prelude: “Trio, Opus 49, Number IV” Rheinberger
Carolyn Burns, pianist

*Call to Worship

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and bless all that is within me.

People: Bless God’s holy name.

Leader: God forgives. God heals. God transforms with steadfast love.

People: Bless God’s holy name.

Leader: Let us worship God!

*Hymn: “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” # 446

Prayer of Praise (be seated)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you nurture us and protect us as your children. However, division and disagreement plague us. We cling to our rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We keep lists of wrongs and fail to forgive. We walk away from conflict rather than working through it. Forgive us. Help us to grow in faith, mature in relationship, and be transformed through your steadfast love.

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri.....# 579

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS: The flowers are placed by Bucky and Gail McCormack to the Glory of God and in celebration of Gail’s father’s 92nd birthday on September 17.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: The PW Circle will meet for Bible study Monday, September 14, at 4 p.m. Barbara Meetze will present the study on the letter D; Nancy Thomas will give the *Horizons* emphasis; Brooke Parker will provide refreshments.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE: Co-chairs Barbara Meetze and Nancy Thomas have set a meeting of the committee for Monday, September 14, at 5:15 p.m., following the PW meeting.

CHOIR PRACTICE: The choir will practice Wednesday at 4 p.m.

SESSION: The stated meeting will be Wednesday, September 16, at 5:15 p.m.

MONTHLY MISSION EMPHASIS: In His Name—Colleton is one of the community mission causes supported by Bethel and other churches in the community. Meals, clothes, shelter, etc., are provided for the homeless as well as to others in need. The Good Shepherd Food Bank provides food to the needy and appreciates staple goods as well as monetary support. Make checks payable to Bethel and earmarked for the particular mission.



Sept 20	Bazzle
Sept 27	Carter

Gladys Murray Flowers provides the arrangements at a cost of \$45, payable to Bethel.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

STAFF

Pastor	Henry Meeuwse
Clerical Secretary	Gail McCormack
Financial Secretary	Melodie Ellis
Sexton	Willie Lawery
Pianist/Organist	Gail McCormack, Carolyn Burns, Ellen Murray

CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator	Henry Meeuwse
Clerk of Session	Janis Blocker
Co-treasurers	Calvin Bailey & Billie Clark

SESSION COUNCIL

Moderator: Henry Meeuwse **Clerk of Session:** Janis Blocker

Class of 2026

Calvin Bailey
Brooke Parker
Nancy Thomas

Class of 2027

Martha Johnson
Barbara Meetze

Class of 2028

Steve Bazzle
Libby Steadman

STANDING COMMITTEES

Discipleship	Brooke Parker, chair
Congregational Care	Libby Steadman, chair
Fellowship	Martha Johnson, chair
Property	Steve Bazzle, chair
Stewardship/Finance	Barbara Meetze, chair
Personnel	Nancy Thomas, chair
Nominating	Martha Johnson, chair

PRESBYTERY

Commissioner to 227th PCUSA General Assembly (2026): Henry Meeuwse
Recording Clerk: Janis Blocker

Pastor Henry: 843-830-8078; henrymeeuwse@gmail.com
3025 Dewitt Court, Hollywood, SC 29449

Website: <https://www.bethelpreswalterboro.org>
Facebook: Bethel Presbyterian Church
YouTube: Sunday services



Bethel Presbyterian Church

ORGANIZED 1728

Walterboro, South Carolina

Henry Meeuwse, Commissioned Pastor

BETHEL FAMILY

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” – Romans 12:15
If anyone needs to be added to the prayer list, contact Janis Blocker (janisblocker@gmail.com)

MEMBERS and ATTENDEES

Janet Carter (843-908-3441)
Joyce Chaplin (843-898-1126)Y
Joan Girardeau (843-908-9285)
Bobbi Hiott (843-549-5845)
John Koger (843-635-5850)
Heather Marshall (843-542-4389)
Mary Catherine Plowden (843-616-2087)
Bill Rogers (843-562-6987)
Elfi vonLehe (131 Hidden Fawn Circle, Goose Creek 29445)

EXTENDED FAMILY

Billie Clark (sister Virginia)
Katie Crosby (father Art Lindsay, brother Duncan Lindsay)
Joyce Grimes (sister and 12-year-old granddaughter Abigail Grimes)
Lenore Hickman (son Bill)
Gail McCormack (father Dan Reeves)
Bill Rogers (nephew Scott Bell)



HOMEBOUND

Gary Hutchison (843-460-7191) Veterans’ Victory House
Duncan Lindsay Columbia Pres. Community, 700 DaVega Dr., Lexington 29073
Mildred Smoak (843-782-4075)

September birthdays: Jennifer Meshach, September 1; Bill Young, September 8; Lenore Hickman, September 14; Steve Bazzle, September 15; Katie Crosby, September 16; Cindy Belknap, September 17; Spike Simmons, September 19; John Parker, September 20; Bernie Bazzle, September 24; Bobbi Hiott, September 27; John Koger, September 28

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “Broken for Me”..... Lunt/Maries
Scripture Lessons:
Psalm 103:1-13, Old Testament page 554 Nancy Thomas
Matthew 18:21-35, New Testament page 20 Henry Meeuwse
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
Prayer for Illumination
Sermon “Learning to Forgive”

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Call to Offering
(Offerings may be placed in the plates at the double doors upon entering or leaving the sanctuary)
Offertory: “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” Smith/Sanborn
*The Doxology # 592
*Offertory Prayer
*Affirmation of Faith bulletin, page 4
*Hymn: “Help Us Accept Each Other” # 358
(v. 1, 2, & 4)
The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper bulletin, page 5

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*Hymn: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”# 383
(v. 1, 2, & 4)
*Charge and Benediction
*Congregational Response: “God Be with You Till We Meet Again” Rankin
**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd’s care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**
Postlude: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” Richards/Peterson
*Those who are able, please stand.

A DECLARATION OF FAITH

THE NICENE CREED (Ecumenical)

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

*Leader: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God.
They will come from East and West and North and South and sit at the Table in the
Kingdom of God.
The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Leader: Eternal and Everlasting God, it is right to bless you, and give thanks to you.
AMEN.*



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad.

*We bless you for creating the whole world, for your promises to your people Israel, and
for the life we know in Jesus Christ your Son.*

Born of Mary, he shares our life.

Eating with sinners, he welcomes us.

Leading his followers, he guides us.

Dying on the cross, he rescues us.

Risen from the dead, he gives new life.

*With thanksgiving, we take this bread and this cup and proclaim his death and
resurrection. Receive our sacrifice of praise.*

**All: We give you thanks, O God, to whom be glory and honor and whose son taught us
to pray, saying ...**

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be
done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now
and forever. Amen.**

**Ecumenical Version*

SERVING OF BREAD AND WINE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

September 13, 2026 Special Meeting of the Congregation

Session has called for a special meeting of the congregation today for the following two-fold purpose:

(1) REPORT FROM ELDER MARTHA JOHNSON, CHAIR OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee will present the following nominees:

Class of 2027: **Bucky McCormack** to fill the one-year unexpired term of Martha Johnson.

Class of 2028: **Brooke Parker** to fill the two-year unexpired term of Libby Steadman

Class of 2029: **Nancy Thomas** and **Joyce Grimes** to serve a three-year term

Elders elected shall be ordained and/or installed in January 2027.

(2) REPORT FROM JANIS BLOCKER, CLERK OF SESSION

Session recommends that *Article XI: Nominating Committee* in the Bylaws of Bethel Presbyterian Church, which now reads in part:

“ . . . The Nominating Committee shall consist of five active members, which shall include two ruling elders serving in the current class of Session Council and three members-at-large from the congregation. One of the two serving ruling elders shall be named chair of the committee”

be amended to read:

“ . . . The Nominating Committee shall consist of THREE active members, which shall include ONE ruling elder serving in the current class of Session Council and TWO members-at-large from the congregation. The serving ruling elder shall be named chair of the committee”

Rationale:

According to the PC(USA) *Book of Order* (G-2.0401), the required minimum size for a congregational nominating committee is 3 - 5 persons. Because about 2/3s of PC(USA) congregations have fewer than 100 members, those churches typically keep the committee at the minimum of 3. Bethel has 55 members on the active roll of the church.

If amended, the bylaw will be in effect with the election of the 2027 Nominating Committee at the annual meeting of the congregation in January.