



# First Presbyterian

FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA



## CHURCH INFORMATION FORM



# 2019

700 Park Ave. ❖ Florence, South Carolina ❖ 843-662-2583 ❖ [www.florencefirst.org](http://www.florencefirst.org)

First Presbyterian Church of Florence, South Carolina, is seeking a new Lead Pastor/Head of Staff. We trust God to lead us to the person He has called, and we believe in faith that the person whom God has called will embrace our Core Values, our Mission, and our Vision.

## CORE VALUES

Our Core Values answer the question “What do we believe?”

Guided by the Gospel, true to the Reformed and Evangelical traditions of the Church, and committed to discerning and fulfilling God’s purpose for us, we base our ministry on these core values:



**Christ Centered:** We believe that Jesus Christ alone is Lord of all and the only way to salvation (John 14:6). Therefore, all that we do will be in joyful response to what God the Father has done in sending Him to be our Lord and Savior.



**Authority of Scripture:** We believe that all Scripture is divinely inspired and serves as the final authority in all matters of belief and behavior (2 Timothy 3:16). Therefore, Bible-based preaching and teaching will be the foundation of all our ministries.



**Worship:** We believe that we are created by God to worship Him and that glorifying God is the ultimate reason for our existence (John 4:23,24). Therefore, we will praise and worship Him passionately — as individuals, as families, and as a church.



**Evangelism:** We believe that God has called believers to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19,20). Therefore, we will reach out in word and deed to those near and far so that others will know the transforming love of Christ.



**Discipleship:** We believe that all Christians are called to pursue a growing personal relationship with Christ and to become more Christ-like in their beliefs and conduct (Ephesians 4:13). Therefore, we will provide opportunities for our members to mature in their faith through worship, prayer, study, and fellowship.



**Service:** We believe that God cares about the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of every person and that all Christians are called to minister to others (Ephesians 2:10). Therefore, we will equip our members to serve rather than to be served.



**Fellowship:** We believe that God instructs Christians to cultivate loving relationships as a covenant community of believers (Romans 12:10). Therefore, we will reach out to, invest in, and enjoy each other so we can grow together as part of God’s family.

# MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission Statement answers the question “Why are we here?”  
First Presbyterian Church is a Christ-centered church committed to proclaiming the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ so that people may come to a personal faith in Him, through the power of the Holy Spirit, discipling one another in that faith, and reaching out with God’s love to all.

# VISION STATEMENT

Our Vision Statement helps answer the question “Where are we going?”  
To be a community of believers... **Growing Upward**...worshipping and praising God,  
**Growing Inward**...becoming more like Christ, **Growing Outward**...sharing the good news.



**Growing UPWARD**  
worshipping and praising

**Growing INWARD**  
becoming more like Christ

**Growing OUTWARD**  
sharing the good news

# Growing UPWARD

worshipping and praising

## WE GLORIFY GOD ...

- ❖ As a church of more than 850 Covenant Partners (members) encompassing all ages, united in our faith to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- ❖ Through biblically based preaching and teaching leading us toward a closer walk with God.
- ❖ In both traditional and contemporary styles, coming together as a congregation to lift our voices and music in thanksgiving and praise.
- ❖ Through fellowship opportunities and engaging our worshipers as they grow as a community of believers.
- ❖ Through a vibrant music ministry that includes a chancel choir, a contemporary praise team, a children's choir, a hand bell choir, and frequent guest musicians.



## WE SEEK GOD ...

- ❖ In Christ-centered Christian Education classes for Bible study, fellowship, and accountability for deeper spiritual growth.
- ❖ In a Wednesday night ministry that brings families together for a meal and provides spiritually challenging electives and studies for disciples of all ages.
- ❖ In an energetic Children's Ministry that includes a Children's Discipleship Team that seeks to create a Christ-centered environment of experiences which encourage the Holy Spirit's transformation and growth in our children and their families.
- ❖ In a flourishing Youth Ministry that teaches and encourages 7th- through 12th-graders to live worthy of the gospel of Christ through Sunday morning Sunday School, Sunday night MOVE, Tuesday East Florence Mission, Wednesday night 412 Bible studies, P3 Breakfast Club, summer camps, and fellowship activities.



# Growing INWARD

becoming more like Christ

## WE GROW AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS ...

- ❖ Through our grace-filled decision as a congregation to join A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) as it formed as a new denomination in 2013, committed to ECO's mission to build flourishing churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Through a burgeoning Women In Ministry that meets monthly to pray and study God's Word, serve and encourage each other, provide support for grieving families and new babies and coordinate activities throughout the year to draw in women from the congregation and the community.
- ❖ Through an emergent Men's Ministry that seeks to connect men in our community to God, His Word and each other, teaching men how to apply God's Word to every aspect of life and how to grow as leaders and disciples.
- ❖ Through a small group ministry that encourages covenant partners to worship and study God's Word together, develop into deeper spiritual maturity and productively serve the Kingdom purpose.
- ❖ Through the formation of discipleship groups within the church following the vision of a missional community.
- ❖ Through a "retired" ministry, Keenagers, that meets monthly to pray, have lunch together, and enjoy a program.
- ❖ Through the leadership of elders and deacons committed to shepherding our covenant partners and families, creating a culture of discipleship, and strengthening the faith and life of the congregation.

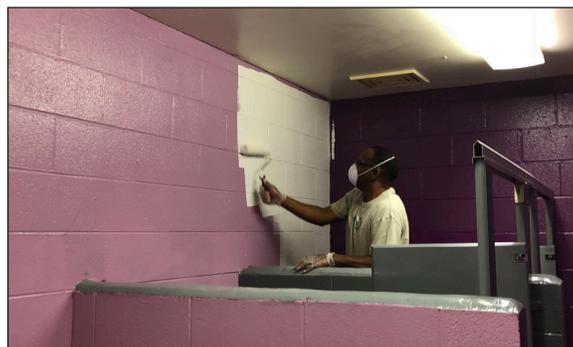


# Growing OUTWARD

sharing the good news

## WE WITNESS FOR JESUS AT HOME AND AROUND THE WORLD ...

- ❖ By establishing ties to Kingdom Community in Florence by support of the Helping Florence Flourish initiative and related events.
- ❖ By serving as volunteers both as board members and laborers in local ministries, including East Florence Mission, A Choice 2 M8K, Greater Florence Habitat for Humanity, Lighthouse Ministries, Manna House, Mercy Medicine, House of Hope of the Pee Dee, Presbyterian Agency for the Developmentally Disabled, Parking Lot Mission, GriefShare, Presbyterian Community, and Thornwell Home.
- ❖ By participating as a host congregation for Respite Night, to give caregivers for special needs individuals “a night off” from their responsibilities.
- ❖ By sponsoring a Good News afterschool program at a local elementary school.
- ❖ By sponsoring both Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs.
- ❖ By providing The Tabernacle Experience to churches throughout the East Coast, offering a glimpse of Israel’s history and revealing God’s ageless plan for redemption for his people through his Son and our Messiah, Jesus Christ [florencefirst.org/the-tabernacle-experience-east-coast/](http://florencefirst.org/the-tabernacle-experience-east-coast/)
- ❖ By responding to the call of evangelism through a number of global mission trips, including Haiti, India, Ghana, Peru.
- ❖ By supporting the work of building the Kingdom of God with numerous missionaries around the world.
- ❖ By creating a Child Development Center as a ministry of the church for young children to grow and develop regardless of race, ethnic or economic background.





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FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

## AT A GLANCE

- ❖ Founded in 1861; celebrated 150th anniversary in 2011
- ❖ United and thriving congregation
- ❖ Located in Florence, South Carolina, a growing community in the Pee Dee region of South Carolina
- ❖ Member of ECO – A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians since 2013. [eco-pres.org](http://eco-pres.org)
- ❖ Lead Pastor retired in 2017 after 12 years
- ❖ Elected leadership: Elders and Deacons
- ❖ Two Sunday worship services: 9:00 AM contemporary and 11:00 AM traditional
- ❖ 853 Covenant Partners (members, average age 50)
- ❖ Multi-generational congregation
- ❖ Average worship attendance is 344
- ❖ Average Sunday School attendance is 195
- ❖ Budget \$1.62 million; 21% to benevolences.
- ❖ Church Staff: Associate Pastor, Congregational Care Pastor, Director of Youth Ministries, Director of Children's Ministries, Director of Child Development Center, Business Administrator, Secretary, Administrative Assistant, Financial Secretary, Custodial Staff
- ❖ Newly renovated sanctuary
- ❖ New Christian Education Building and Welcome Center opened in September 2014
- ❖ Opened the First Presbyterian Child Development Center in August 2016, a ministry within our church that provides a safe Christian environment where young children are encouraged to grow and develop spiritually, emotionally, cognitively, socially, and physically; this ministry desires to minister to the needs of the whole child, regardless of race, ethnic or economic background. Center currently has enrollment of 84 children.





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## LEAD PASTOR / HEAD OF STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

- ❖ Has a mature and personal relationship with the Triune God
- ❖ Is an inspiring and challenging Bible-based preacher and teacher
- ❖ Has authentic personal humility in relationships with others and demonstrates a willingness to learn and to grow
- ❖ Values both traditional and contemporary worship styles
- ❖ Is approachable and friendly and attracts and draws in new Covenant Partners
- ❖ Mentors and intentionally disciples others
- ❖ Builds relationships to connect people to one another
- ❖ Leads and encourages those with a variety of gifts, personalities, and experiences to discover their gifts and skills for ministry
- ❖ Provides compassionate and thoughtful pastoral counseling and care
- ❖ Inspires generous giving of covenant partners' time, money, and talents
- ❖ Exhibits a leadership vision that will lead to formation of a compelling plan for the future of our church
- ❖ Adheres to the Essential Tenets of ECO and is active in the denomination
- ❖ Possesses strong administrative skills to supervise staff and moderate Session meetings
- ❖ Has a Master of Divinity with a Doctorate of Ministry preferred
- ❖ Has at least 6 years ministerial experience



## CONTACT US

Interested applicants should submit a résumé and faith statement in confidence via e-mail to [pnc@florencefirst.org](mailto:pnc@florencefirst.org).

For additional information about First Presbyterian, Florence, please visit our website at [www.florencefirst.org](http://www.florencefirst.org) where you will also find PNC link to take you to information posted on the web site by the PNC.

Please contact the PNC co-chairs with any questions:  
Jayne Boswell ([boswell.jayne@gmail.com](mailto:boswell.jayne@gmail.com))  
or Mike Nunn ([munn@fcso.org](mailto:munn@fcso.org)).