

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 6, 2026

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude "Go Down, Moses" – arr. Larry Shackley Emily Wallace

Call to Worship Psalm 23 (UMH #754) Don Hocker

Welcome and Announcements Don Hocker

*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881 Don Hocker

*Gloria Patri UMH #70

*Opening Hymn "How Can We Name a Love" UMH #111

Call to Prayer

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Rev. John P. Bolin

*Hymn of Worship "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" UMH #430

Prayer of Dedication Rev. John P. Bolin

Giving Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "O Word of God Incarnate" – arr. David Hegarty Emily Wallace

*Doxology UMH #95

Prayer for Illumination Rev. John P. Bolin

Scripture Luke 10: 25-37 (MEV) Rev. John P. Bolin

*The Holy Bible, Modern English Version. Copyright © 2014
by Military Bible Association.*

Congregational Response

Leader: This is the Word of God

People: For the People of God

All: Thanks be to God, Amen.

Sermon "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" Rev. John P. Bolin

*Hymn of Discipleship TFWS #2223

"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

* Benediction

*Congregational Response (vs. 1, No Refrain) UMH #672

"God Be With You till We Meet Again"

God be with you till we meet again,
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

*Postlude "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" – arr. Zack Unke Emily Wallace

*Please stand if you are able.

Prayer Concerns

Please pray for the world, the church, the UMC, First UMC, all who hold leadership positions, and the following persons:



Jane Stroud

Shot Taylor

Joe Swofford

Johnny Mack Swofford

Scott Tollison

Mrs. JoAnn McMillan

Donald Martin

Jane Ann Cassell

Nedra Walker

Shannon Stroud

MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Betty Burnside – c/o Timothy Burnside, 569 Saddle Ridge Dr., Bethlehem, GA 30620-2042

Bruce Sumerel, M.D. – NHC of Laurens, 379 Pinehaven St. Ext., Rm. 112, Laurens, SC 29360

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ashley & Ben Patterson on the birth of their daughter, Genevieve Louise (Genie Lou) Patterson, born on August 27, 2026 weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz. and 19 ¾ long. Her big sister is Amelia, and she is the granddaughter of Walter Patterson.

A rose will be placed on the Altar this Sunday in her honor.



Staff Members

Pastor: Rev. John P. Bolin

Administrative Assistant: Karen Reeder

Financial Secretary: Lucy Crowder

Accompanist: Emily Wallace

Custodian: Lillie Philson

Ministers: All Members

Lay Liturgist: Don Hocker

Ushers: Buck Crabtree, Randy Hillmann

Nursery Helpers for September: Vicky Culbertson, Sissy Taylor

Flowers: The flowers placed in the Sanctuary this morning are given in honor of Rev. John P. Bolin and his wife, Kristi.

The Rose on Altar this morning is given in honor of the birth of Genevieve Louise (Genie Lou) Patterson.

Staff Emails

jpbolin@umcsc.org

contact@firstmethodistlaurens.org

finance@firstmethodistlaurens.org

pedalstomper1685@gmail.com

FOOD BANK

Tues. & Thurs. Noon-2PM
Please Consider Supporting by
Marking Your Donation "Food Bank"



FOOD DONATIONS

Please bring food donations for the Food Bank every 1st Sunday of the month. For September, we will have Communion on the second Sunday (**Sept. 13th**).



DEVOTIONS FOR FOOD BANK: We will be placing a monthly devotion, "*The Bread of Life: Devotions for Everyday Strength*", in the bags that we give out in the Food Bank. If you would like to write a devotion for one month, please let Susan Roberts or Karen Reeder know.



FRI. LUNCH BUNCH

** Meet at local restaurants at **11:30am**.
For out-of-town restaurants, please call Jane Stroud or Sissy Taylor to carpool.



September 2026

September 4	Wilson's Curb Market, Clinton
September 11	Lazy Ponds (14507 Hwy. 221 S, Waterloo)
September 18	Dempsey's, Clinton
September 25	Jarvis River, Laurens

Offering Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Place in offering plates as they come by,

Mail to: P.O. Box 203, Laurens, SC 29360
Or Text "BOLD" to 73256



CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed on **Monday, September 7, 2026** in observance of the Labor Day holiday.



CONNECT WITH US

Worship: Sundays at 10:30am
Office Hrs.: M-Th. 8:30am-3pm
Phone #: 864-984-7696

ONLINE

firstmethodistlaurens.org
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

First United Methodist Church

West Main Street
Laurens, South Carolina

Sunday, September 6, 2026



Welcome!

At First United Methodist Church
we challenge each other to be BOLD,
to step out in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.

BOLD
BECOMING • OBEDIENT • LOVING • DISCIPLES

Rev. John P. Bolin
Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS – SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

HANDBELL PRACTICE RESUMES SOON

The Jimmy Townsend Handbell Ringers will resume practice for the fall beginning next **Wed., September 9th at 5:00 p.m.** in the Handbell Room (room next to the Conference Room). All current JTHR members and anyone who would be interested in joining the handbell choir are asked to join us for our first meeting on **Sept. 9th**.



EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME WORK DAY OFFERING

Next Sunday (Sept. 13th), our congregation will receive the Annual Epworth Work Day Offering. This long-standing tradition began when Methodists were challenged to give a day's wages to support the children at Epworth. Today, that same spirit of generosity continues as we support children, youth, and families served through Epworth's ministries across South Carolina.

As you prayerfully consider your gift, remember Christ's command to let the little children come to him. Through your generosity, you become part of a ministry that offers hope, healing, and brighter future to those who need it most. Thank you for partnering with Epworth to bring hope and healing to children, youth and families across our state. To learn more about Epworth, visit www.epworthsc.org.



CHICKEN STEW FUNDRAISER

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 24th** for a Chicken Stew fundraiser. We will need volunteers to help make the stew. If you can help make the stew, please sign-up on the sheet located on the bulletin board outside the church office.

We are taking donations to help purchase the supplies needed to make the stew. If you would like to make a donation, please mark your envelope "**chicken stew supplies**".

PRE-ORDER AVAILABLE: A sign-up sheet is also on the bulletin board if you would like to pre-order your quart(s). The cost per quart is **\$12.00**.



2026 FALL LAY SERVANT MINISTRY SCHOOL

The Greenwood District Spring Lay Servant Ministry School is scheduled:

- September 18th - 6:30-8:30 pm via ZOOM
- September 19th- 8:30-1:30pm with box lunch provided - in person
- September 20th- 2:00-5:00 pm. In person

These sessions will be held at Main Street UMC located at 211 Main Street N, Greenwood, S.C. 29646

We will be offering four courses: Registration fee for all courses is \$10.00.

- Basic with Youth Addendum
- Heritage
- Polity
- Justice in Everyday Life

Students are responsible for providing and reading their textbooks before the class. The guidelines in the 2024 Book of Discipline indicate that individuals seeking recognition as Certified Lay Servants or Lay Speakers should take at least one advanced course every three years. If an advanced course is not taken in that time period, then the individual will be required to re-take the Basic Course for continued certification. The registration form is included with this letter. Please note that the registration deadline is September 11, 2026.

The registration information and form will ALSO be available online at the District web page: <http://www.umcsc.org/greenwood..> Please complete the registration form and mail it with your registration fee to the Greenwood District Office, 1633 Rivers Street, Greenwood, SC 29649 . Please order your books in advance so you will have them for the class. Order information for these Course books is included with this letter and will also be available online: <http://www.umcsc.org/greenwood>. (Please note that registration will also be online on the Conference Website. Information on how to register will go out some time in the next week or so) If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susan Roberts, District Director of Lay Servant Ministries at (864-992-8067 or gwdlsmdir@gmail.com) or the district office (gwdist@umcsc.org or 864-223-2650).

Reminder: Once you have taken a Lay Servant course and have become either a Local Lay Servant or a Certified Lay Servant, you are to submit the annual report of the Lay Servant to your 2026 Charge Conference and all subsequent Charge Conferences in order to remain Certified. Anyone seeking to become a Lay Servant must submit his/her application to his/her pastor to be approved by the Charge Conference. All reports and applications must be signed by the pastor and by the District Superintendent. The Lay Servant annual report and application is available on the Greenwood District web page <http://www.umcsc.org/greenwood> the Report to the Charge Conference.