

Olivet Presbyterian Church

159 Church Street, McConnells, South Carolina (803) 693-4040

Email: olivet_pca@bellsouth.net On the web: www.olivetpca.org

John M. "Chip" McArthur, Jr., *Pastor*

Austin R. Simpson, *Assistant Pastor*

Thomas Hardison, *Ministerial Intern*

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
John M. McArthur, Jr. *Moderator*
William Lee Summerville, Jr., *Clerk*

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*
Larry M. Plyler, *Emeritus*

Lee K. Guempel, *Safety*
Brent M. Christenberry, *Buildings & Grounds*
David W. Kelley

Malcolm Harshaw, *Treasurer*
Don L. Johnson
Michael A. Laws, *Secretary*

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 Global-Latin America*)

Brian Howard (*RUF1-Clemson Univ.*)
Sara Driggers (*Wycliffe*)
Debbie Richards (*MTW-Japan*)

Ministry Committees, 2024

Discipleship Ministries Committee

Chris Arnold (2024), *Chairman*
Jill Christenberry (2024)
Rick Summerville (2026)

Donna McArthur (2025)
Kathy Fairfax (2025)
Susan Petty (2026)

Missions Committee

Bobby Mendenhall (2024), *Chairman*
Brian Carlisle (2024)
Jason Petty (2026)

Thomas Hardison (2025)
Lorie Rohrer (2025)
Dennis Krueger (2026)

Witness Committee

Daniel Harshaw (2026), *Chairman*
Katie Summerville (2024)
Scharlie Carlisle (2025)

Barbara Lawson (2028)
Marsha Plyler (2025)
Austin Simpson (2028)



Olivet Presbyterian Church

McConnells, South Carolina

A member congregation of
The Presbyterian Church in America



Olivet Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day, December 22, 2024

Prelude Preparation for Worship
Welcome and Announcements Pastor Chip McArthur
*Call to Worship

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, Good will toward men.

(Luke 2:10–14, KJV 1900)

*Hymn 203 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* All

*Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 214 *Angels We Have Heard on High* All

Scripture Meditation Pastor Austin Simpson

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that

it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.

(John 3:16–21, ESV)

Corporate Confession of Sin

Unison Reading

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature—prone to evil and slothful in good—and all our shortcomings and offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting Your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of Your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, send Your purifying grace into our hearts, that we may henceforth live in Your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

(1 John 2:1–2, ESV)

Pastoral Prayer

His Tithes & Our Offerings

*Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn 201 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* All

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

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:1-7

Sermon "Come, Lord Jesus!" – Part 4 Pastor McArthur

*Hymn 230 *Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor* 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

Note: Sunday evening ministries will resume on January 5th.

This Week at Olivet:

Tuesday Christmas Eve Communion Service, 5 pm

We're Invited

Dear Olivites,
If you're not finished celebrating on Christmas night, join us for dinner at 6:00 PM. We will have ham and sweet potato casserole. Plan to bring another side or a dessert. Please RSVP to Brian (803)379-1216 or Scharlie (803)322-4297, and let us know if you need a ride. 😊
The Carlisle's

Looking Ahead (Please Mark Your Calendars!)

January 5	Communion Service, 10 am
January 25	91 st Stated Meeting of Fellowship Presbytery, 9 am at Redeeming Grace PCA, Lake Wylie
February 23	Communion Service
March 1-2	Missions Conference with the Rev. Sam McDonald

Words of Thanks

Dear Olivet Family,
Thank you for your faithful prayers, love and support during our mother Faye's last months. The visits, calls, and cards were very appreciated. Her love of God, family, this church, and deep friendships sustained her. She so loved being able to come and worship at Olivet. Please continue to pray for our family going forward.
Love to each of you,
The Faye Parsons Family

More Words of Thanks

Chip and Donna McArthur along with Austin and Carson Simpson also express their love and sincere gratitude to the Olivet Church family for the support and encouragement expressed in countless ways over the course of the past year, and most recently in the gifts received during the Olivet Christmas Pageant.

Faith Promise for World Missions

2024 Faith Promise Pledged, April 30, 2024	\$ 20,960.00
2024 Faith Promise Received to date	\$ 12,548.74

Church Budget Matters

Receipts to Date	\$ 223,548.74
Budget requirements to Date	\$ 225,976.00
Difference	-\$2,734.71

Collection Duty

December	John Hawley, Michael Laws, Brent Christenberry
January	Brian Carlisle, John Hawley, Michael Laws

Nursery Team

Today (12/22)	Addisyn Sikes, Laura Frame
Next Sunday (12/29)	Grace Horton, Gwen Carlisle

Children's Church Team

Today (12/22)	Amanda Lenker (T), Richard Sikes
Next Sunday (12/29)	Scharlie Carlisle (T), Toni Clinton

Devotional Guides

The latest editions of *Our Daily Bread* and *Tabletalk* are available today in the vestibule.