

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 15, 2024

Prelude Preparation for Worship
Welcome and Announcements Pastor Austin Simpson
*Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!
Sing to him, sign praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!
Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
Remember the wondrous works that he has done;
his miracles and the judgements he has uttered,
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!

(1 Chronicles 16:8-12, 36, ESV)

*Hymn 208 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* All

*Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 218 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* All

Scripture Meditation Pastor Chip McArthur

And when Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, he said to them, "Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by the word you shall live long upon the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.

(Deuteronomy 32:45-47, ESV)

Corporate Confession of Sin Unison Reading

Have mercy on me, O God,

**according to your steadfast love
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!**

**For I know my transgressions,
and my sins are ever before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgement.**

(Psalm 51:1-4, ESV)

Assurance of Pardon

¹⁸Who is a god like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
¹⁹He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.

(Micah 7:18-19, ESV)

Pastoral Prayer

His Tithes & Our Offerings

*Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn 200 *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* All

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

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-19

Sermon Pastor Simpson

*Hymn 213 *What Child Is This* 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:

Wednesday Youth Group Meets
Prayer Meeting at 7 pm (Conference Room)

Looking Ahead (Please Mark Your Calendars!)

December 24 Christmas Eve Communion Service, 5 pm.

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	\$ 218,253.28
Budget requirements to Date	\$ 221,456.48
Difference	-\$3,203.20

Collection Duty

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

Nursery Team

Today (12/15)	Abbey Sikes, Bryce Laws
Next Sunday (12/22)	Addisyn Sikes, Laura Frame

Children's Church Team

Today (12/15)	Brenda Nance (T), Marsha Plyler
Next Sunday (12/22)	Amanda Lenker (T), Richard Sikes

Devotional Guides

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

Missions Prayer Requests For December

And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all the nations...

Matthew 24:14

December is a time to reflect on God's many blessings throughout the year. Join our missionaries in giving God praise for the advance of the gospel in 2024.

Brian Howard- Reports that he is seeing God at work as worship services are filled with people from Iran, India, Nepal, China, Ghana, Cameroon, Brazil, Germany, and the Netherlands. He asks for prayers so that he will continue to have the opportunity to declare the gospel truth to the nations.

Peter and Diane Bakelaar -Rejoice in seeing God's hand in equipping the church in Japan to reach the culture in creative and impactful ways. They ask for prayers to continue to bring light into dark places through their partnership with Evangelism Explosion, a program that trains believers to share their faith.

Garry and Anita Chambers-Thank the Lord that MTW was able to partner in starting 2 new church plants (Cuba and Belize), and that plans are in place for future ministry in the Bahamas. They ask for prayers as they minister in Haiti. This country is experiencing a severe downward spiral due to gang activity that is disrupting the nation.

Olivet's Missionaries:

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Roger and Laura Dye (Family Life Global-Latin America)
Brian Howard/ RUF1-Clemson
Garry and Anita Chambers (MTW – Caribbean)
Sara Driggers (Wycliffe)
Debbie Richards (MTW – Japan)