

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We invite children ages 4k - 4th grade to sit in the Children's Corner after the Children's Message. A designated adult will be sitting with the children, and age appropriate activities will be provided that go along with worship. Parents will pick up their children after the service.

Elder Bruce C Hurley

MUSICAL SELECTION

*Awake, Awake to Love and Work*  
Chancel Choir

Christopher Gale

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jim Rowell

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:1-14, Ephesians 6:18-24

One: The Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

*How To Finish Well*

RESPONDING IN FAITH

OFFERING: Tithes & offerings may be placed in the boxes with crosses at the main exit of the Narthex or given via [sopc.net](http://sopc.net).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Bruce C Hurley

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*HYMN #300

*We Are One In The Spirit*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Jim Rowell

\*POSTLUDE

*Fugue in C Major*

J.S. Bach

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**SEVEN OAKS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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803-772-1761; [www.sopc.net](http://www.sopc.net);  
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**September 1, 2024  
15th Sunday After Pentecost**

**WELCOME!**

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Bruce C Hurley

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

Gerald Krapf

\*GATHERING OF OUR HEARTS

One: One day with God is better than a thousand days without God.

All: **Those who live in God's household are truly happy. Let us praise God always!**

Elder Bruce C Hurley

\*HYMN #32

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Patient and all merciful God, you love us, but we complain about how slow you are to answer our prayers. You suffered all things for us, but we refuse to be inconvenienced for you. You begged your disciples to stay awake with you to pray, but we can barely stay awake for worship once a week. You received anger, hostility, and false accusations and transformed that evil into the love that saves us. By your grace we are forgiven, and by your love we are saved. Now we also pray that you will cause that grace and love to transform us. Change us into those who accept and then reflect your grace and love. Amen.**

\*MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: from 1 John 4:9-10 (CEB)

One: This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him.

All: **This is love: it is not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins. God's love saves us.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

\*Please stand in body or in spirit. **When items are in bold, you are invited to join aloud.**

## Worship Elements

**Music Notes:** The choir's anthem is based on an Irish folk tune, with the lyrics written by Geoffrey Anketell Studdert-Kennedy, who grew up in poverty, but spent his life ministering to the poor and those serving in the military. He is especially known for his selfless and sacrificial generosity, which is reflected in the last verse of this hymn: "To give and give, and give again, what God hath given thee, To spend thyself nor count the cost; To serve right gloriously the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be."

**Assurance of Pardon:** An assurance of pardon is our way of claiming God's forgiveness, and seeking again to live in ways to honor God and reflect God's love onto the world.

## Worship Assistants

### Sunday, September 1st:

Liturgist: Bruce Hurley  
 Counters: Banks & Polly Robinson  
 Usher: Mary Johnson  
 Greeters: Robert & Kitsie Miller  
 Acolyte: Abby Dempster  
 Children's Message: Bruce Hurley  
 Children's Corner: Emalee Dillard  
 Prayer Ad Volunteer: Ed Keelen

### Sunday, September 8th: RALLY DAY!

Liturgist: Pastor Jim Rowell  
 Counters: Jim & Elizabeth Taylor  
 Usher: Ron Kesterson  
 Greeters: Jim Wilhide, John Carter  
 Acolyte: N/A Communion  
 Children's Message: Mary Dempster  
 Children's Corner: Mary Dempster  
 Communion Preparation: Sharon Watkins  
 Communion Servers: Liz Harris, John Carter, Bruce Hurley  
 Prayer Ad Volunteer: Bruce Hurley

## Church Staff

**Interim Minister:** Pastor Jim Rowell; jim@sopc.net  
**Director of Music Ministry:** Dr. Lloyd Pilkington  
**Office Administrator:** Mrs. Annah G. Hiers; sopc@sopc.net  
**Accompanist:** Elder Sharon Watkins  
**Building Superintendent:** Mr. Karl Thompson  
**Volunteer Financial Administrator:** Elder Sharon Staton; sharon@sopc.net  
**Nursery Coordinator:** Mrs. Amy Schwartz

## 4 WAYS TO GIVE!



IN PERSON



BY MAIL



ONLINE



BY TEXT

## OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm



### Sunday, September 1:

9:45 am - 10:45 am - Sunday School for Adults  
 10:30 am - Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 am - Worship  
 11:00 am - 3:00 pm - Liberty Life Church  
 11:00 am - 4:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.  
 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Love Revolution



### Monday, September 2: LABOR DAY - Office Closed

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Troop 91  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA  
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.



### Tuesday, September 3:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Staff Meeting  
 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm - PWCT  
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Admin. Ministry Meeting  
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Missions Ministry Meeting  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Yoga  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA  
 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.



### Wednesday, September 4:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 5:45 pm - 7:45 pm - NAMI  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - NANA

### Thursday, September 5:

8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 10:30 am - 1st Thessalonians Bible Study  
 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Christian Ed. Ministry Meeting  
 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Liberty Life Church



### Friday, September 6: OFFICE CLOSED

6:45 am - 7:45 am - Men's Lanterns Prayer Group  
 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - Peaceful Gatherings Nature School  
 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Mision Cristiana Elim Int'l.

### Saturday, September 7:

9:30 am - 1:00 pm - Upper Room Church



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 5 - December 5:** 1st Thessalonians Bible Study led by Pastor Jim at 10:30 am; pre-registration open!

**September 8:** Rally Day & The Pastor & an elder from our sister church in Cuba, Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, will be visiting, worshipping with us, and sharing Communion with us. (No Communion September 1st.)

**October 6:** World Communion Sunday / Peace & Global Witness Offering

**October 27:** Reformation Sunday AND a Blessing of the Badges to honor and thank community 1st Responders.

**November 1-2:** All Saints' & All Souls' Days

**November 9:** Harvest Family Festival

**November 10:** Stewardship Sunday

A **nursery** is available in Building A during worship for children ages: 0 - 4. If you have any questions, please see an usher for help.



Guests are invited to stop by the **welcome table in the narthex/lobby**. Please take a goody bag with you as a reminder of God's love. Also, please leave your information for us on the yellow card and place it in the offering baskets. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

If you would like to place **fresh flowers** in the sanctuary for worship on a specific Sunday, please call the church office at 803-772-1761.



## Next Sunday is...



## SESSION MEMBERS (\*indicates chair)

**Clerk of Session:** Polly Robinson

### Class of 2025:

John Carter - Buildings & Grounds\*  
 Ed Keelen - Good News\*  
 Sharon Staton - Missions\*  
 Sharon Watkins - Worship\*

### Class of 2026:

Liz Harris - Fellowship  
 Kathy Keane - Christian Ed\*  
 Banks Robinson - Fellowship\*

### Class of 2027:

Bruce Hurley - Congregational Care\*  
 Jeanne LeBoeuf - Missions  
 Kitsie Miller - Fellowship  
 Elizabeth Taylor - Administration\*

### Trustees:

Frank Sheppard (Administration\*), Carol Griffith (Fellowship), Hal Bowman (Administration)

**Treasurer:** Kathy Locklair

**Presbyterian Women Moderator (SOPW):** Julie Bussells\*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SOPC wishes to thank Mr. Hal Bowman for his many years of service as Church Treasurer and to welcome Mrs. Kathy Locklair into the role. May God bless both of you!

Please join us for **Love Revolution** in the Pavilion today from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm and help Ashland UMC serve food to our neighbors in need!

**Don't forget to bring your used crayons** to the donation boxes in the Narthex & church office! They will be shipped to a charity who melts them down to make free, new crayons for pediatric hospital patients.

Our **BOOK GROUP** is reading *You Dreamed of Empires* by Alvaro Enrique in September. We will meet at Steve's Hamburgers on Thursday, September 26, at 1:30 for an optional lunch followed by a book discussion and fellowship. RSVP to Kitsie Miller at 803-463-6958.

If you would like to volunteer in the sanctuary's **sound booth** occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!

**The Pastor and an elder from our sister church in Cuba, Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz, will be visiting NEXT SUNDAY--our RALLY DAY!!** Please lift them in prayers during their travels!

The **PWCT** will meet this Tuesday at 4:30 pm in the Session Room. **Rachel Circle** will meet September 10th at 2 pm.

**Hannah Circle** will meet September 12th at 6:30 pm at the home of Julie Bussells: 19 Sunrise Point, Irmo, SC 29063.

**SOPC Youth** will meet for lunch after worship next Sunday, September 8th / Rally Day! Location TBA. September 15th, we will have a joint meeting with Westminster PC in our SOPC Youth Room at 5:30 pm.

## In our Prayers:

Those reaching out through our Facebook Prayer Ad.  
 Sharon Watkins' sister, Susan

Sandra Johnson's mother, Mary

Brenda Turner

Tricia Dillon Thomas

John Carter

Alene Rogers

Janet Jordan & Daughter

Jane Blackwell

Al & Margaret Charles

Fran & Jeffrey Brannon  
 Ira Leon

Kirk Wirth

Barry Shatzer

Kynslee Davis

SOPC's Homebound Members

Our Christian Friends in Ukraine

Iglesia Presbiteriana de Nueva Paz in Cuba

Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Missionaries)

### Long Term Care:

Dave, Rich & Sam Allen

Edith Blanchett

Kathie Cashion

Barbara Fowler

Bobby Sellars (Father of John Paul Sellars)

Patricia Williams