



SOPC Leaflet, Wednesday, February 18, 2026



- **The Christian season of Lent starts today, Ash Wednesday!** Because we are in the process of searching for our new pastor at SOPC, we will not have an Ash Wednesday service here this year. However, we have been invited to participate with Redeemer Lutheran (across the street from our church) and/or McGregor PC toward Irmo on St. Andrews. Annah has also included Union UMC's options in case it might be more convenient for any of you. You are encouraged to attend any or all! 😊
 - Redeemer Lutheran will have a drive-thru imposition of ashes and communion from 7:30 – 8:30 am, a 12:15 pm service, and a 7:00 pm service.
 - McGregor PC will have a service at 6:00 pm.
 - Union UMC will offer “Ashes to Go” at Loveland Coffee from 7:00-10:00 am and a service at the church at 7:00 pm.

- Here are some pictures from the 2/14th Hearts of Love Ladies' Luncheon with Dawn Smith Jordan, sponsored by SOPW. A fun, meaningful time was had by all in attendance.



- “My sincere thanks to neighbors, friends and family who have encouraged me, prayed for me, offered and provided food and rides during my recovery from a serious Dec. fall. Your love and care help healing. Gratefully, Molly [Jackson]”



- Additional February Birthday: JoAnne Merritt's birthday was yesterday, 2/17th! Thanks to Sharon Staton for letting us know. Happy birthday, JoAnne!



- Our Discipleship Bible Study will resume on Thursday, March 12th, at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Classroom, led by Lloyd Pilkington. More information will be coming soon about this and other Spring Small Groups!



- Our next churchwide Fellowship Luncheon is Sunday, 3/15/26, after worship in the Fellowship Hall. The program will be about the Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews, and the menu is a St. Patty's Irish tribute: Irish flag salad, Corned Beef & Cabbage, Fingerling Potatoes, Lucky Golden Corn Muffins, & Bourbon Bread Pudding! *Erin go bragh!*



- Are you like many who are cleaning out their house for the new year? When you get to your linen closets, please keep in mind that the Hannah Circle is collecting new or gently used linens for Rapid Shelter. They can use twin/full sheets, blankets, pillowcases, towels, etc. There is a box in the narthex for donations. Thank you!!
- If you would like to volunteer in the sanctuary's sound booth occasionally, please contact the church office. Training provided!



- If anyone in our church family would benefit from wheelchair service from the car into worship, we would be happy to assist you! When you arrive Sunday morning, have whoever is driving you enter the narthex and inform the usher that you are in the parking lot. The usher will then bring a wheelchair out to your car to get you. The usher will also take you out to your car after worship. It is our pleasure to do this!



Confirmation

- Our 2026 Confirmation Class has begun and is off to a great start! *Confirmation* is a time for young people to learn about what being a Christian and being a member of a PC(USA) congregation means. Then, they decide for themselves whether they want to publicly declare and demonstrate their personal commitment to Christ and to SOPC by being Confirmed in the Holy Spirit & by officially joining the church. Any adult members who would consider being a mentor to one of our confirmands or who would like to know more about it, please call Julie/Ernie Bussells or Kathy Keane.



- ATTENTION ALL BOOK LOVERS! We have a new list of books to read. Come to our first meeting at Loveland Coffee on the last Thursday in February, 2/26/26, at 3:00 pm. In addition to getting your own list of what we will be reading in 2026-2027, we will discuss The Frozen River by Ariel Lawton. We'd love to see you just to catch up on what you've been doing! Questions? Call or Text Kitsie Miller. 803-463-6958.
- Our youth are beginning a series of study for Lent on **Spiritual Renewal**.
- Our Fellowship and Roads to Faith Adult Sunday School Classes, who are currently meeting together, are studying a series of lessons by Max Lucado. The title is *They Walked with God: 40 Bible Characters Who Inspire Us*. All adults are invited to join us each Sunday morning at 9:45 in the Fellowship Classroom! We would love to have you!

• **It's time to nominate a new class of Elders for SOPC:**



Our congregation votes on elders to serve on the Session--exercising leadership, government, and discipline, and having responsibility for the life of our church.

Elders should be "persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills of leadership and being compassionate in spirit." (Book of Order G-2.03)

Any active member of SOPC may be nominated unless he or she is currently serving a second consecutive term on the Session.

Suggested Names for Nomination:

Reaching out to your listed nominees to ensure that they wish to serve in this capacity before returning this form is optional. If you would like to comment on your reasons for nominating these persons, please feel free to do so on the back of this page. Your name is optional. Please place this form in one of the offering boxes in the narthex. You can also drop it by the church office or hand it to someone on the Nominating Committee. If you need contact information for any of the committee members listed below, please call the church office at 803-772-1761 or email the church office at sopc@sopc.net.

2026 Elder Nominating Committee:

Jeanne LeBoeuf (Chair)

Tish Lowe (Vice Chair)

Julie Bussells (Representing PW)

Ron Kesterson

Janice Reiser

Polly Robinson



Easter Lilies 2026

It is SOPC's tradition to adorn our Sanctuary with lilies for the Easter worship service.

You may purchase a lily to be given in celebration of the resurrection, to the glory of God, and/or in appreciation/memory/honor of a loved one, friend, or church family member.

Names of donors, (unless they wish to remain anonymous,) and those honored will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026. You may pick up your lily after worship on Easter Sunday.

Please complete this form and place it with payment in the offering basket or submit it to the church office. Please make checks payable to SOPC with "Easter Lily" in the memo line. If you pay online, please designate it as "Other," type in "Easter Lily," and select the option that covers the church's credit card processing fees.

The deadline to order is Sunday, March 15, 2026.

Please print clearly. Write names as you wish them to be listed in the bulletin.

_____ (Qty.) Easter Lilies x \$16 each = \$_____ Total Amount

Donor Name(s): _____

Do You Wish to Remain Anonymous? Yes / No (Circle one.)

Donor Phone # &/or Email: _____

In Appreciation of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

To the Glory of God

In Celebration of the Resurrection




You are invited to

78th Chin Nation Day

HOST BY
CHIN COMMUNITY OF COLUMBIA

Traditional dance &
Burmese cuisine



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026
4 PM

SEVEN OAK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
530 St. Andrews Rd Columbia, SC 29210

- Do you remember when the Chin Church met on our campus? This is the Chin Community group who has several of the same folks in it. This event is being held in our Fellowship Hall THIS Saturday, February 21st, and we are invited! Come experience Burmese culture and food, presented by our local, SC neighbors of Burmese descent! Chin Nation Day was described to Annah their version of the 4th of July. It's an optional fundraiser as well to help those devastated by war in their native country.
- We can train folks so that we can show videos with our Minutes for Missions before worship. This training with Karl will take several weeks before the desired event, and needs to be scheduled well in advance. Thanks!
- We're Collecting: These items may be placed in the large baskets in the narthex or brought to the church office.
- Pop-Tarts & packs of crackers for our Blessing Box food pantry. These are favorites of our neighbors in need.

- Please save your cans' pop tops and bring them to the church office. So far, we have donated 7 gallon-sized Ziploc bags FULL of pop tops to the Ronald McDonald House in Columbia.
- **Save the Date:**
 - February 22: First Sunday in Lent
 - February 23-27: Sanctuary Closed for Lighting Work
 - March 6: World Day of Prayer
 - March 8: Clocks Spring Forward an Hour
 - March 15: Deadline to Order Easter Lilies
 - March 21: Trinity Presbytery PW Annual Gathering with Rev. Brooklynn Smith at SOPC
 - March 29: Palm Sunday
 - April 2: Maundy Thursday
 - April 3: Good Friday
 - April 5: Easter Sunday
 - **If you have information to go out to our church family in the *Leaflet* and/or bulletin, please get it to Annah by the Tuesday before. Thanks!**