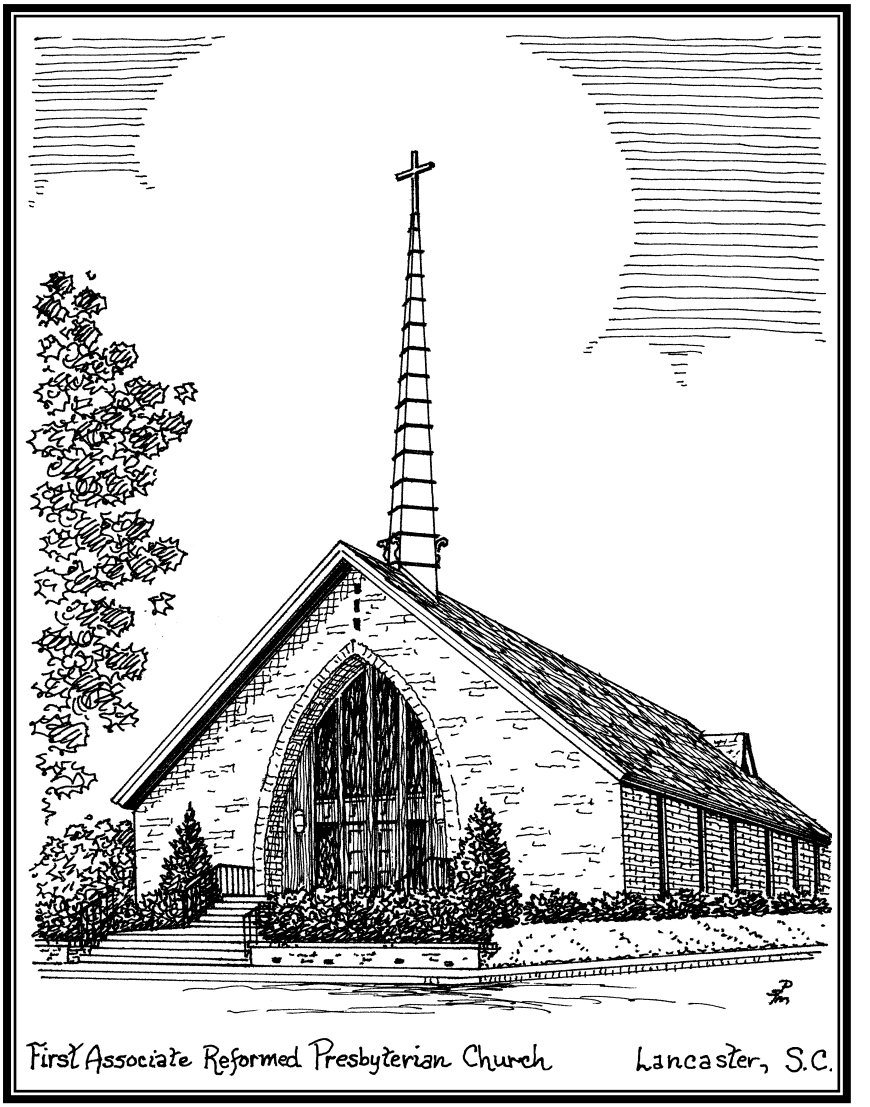

First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

August 23, 2026

Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude Mrs. Suzanne Brown

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Jonathan Williams

ENTERING WORSHIP

Call to Worship Psalm 96:7-10

7Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
8Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!
9Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! 10Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

***Song of Praise** Blue ARP Psalter #95A

"Come To the LORD and Sing For Joy"

APROACHING GOD

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession with The Lord's Prayer**

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, for ever. *Amen*.

***Assurance of Pardon** Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

*stand as you are able

***Confession of Faith** The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic** and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology** Red Trinity Hymnal #731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

**universal

MEANS OF GRACE

***Psalm** Blue ARP Psalter #119J

"Your Hands Created and Established Me"

***Prayer for Illumination**

***Scripture Reading** Pew Bible page 394

Ezra 8:1-20

Sermon

"Who's Coming With Me?"

Prayer of Application

RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

***Hymn of Response** Red Trinity Hymnal #521

"My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less"

***Free Offer of the Gospel**

***Benediction** 2 Corinthians 13:14

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

LEAVING WORSHIP

Congregational Response

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father, and the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit keep our hearts and minds within His love,
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign. From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain, Christ Eternal, the King of Kings.

"Benediction" / Stuart Townend and Keith Getty / © 2005 Thank You Music
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Sermon Notes

Ezra 8:1-20 “Who’s Coming With Me?”

1. Covenantly Faithful

2. Committed To Work

3. Guided By God

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
26 MISSIONS	27	28 7:00 Session	29 6:00 Snack Supper and Board Games
2 COMMUNION	3	4	5
9 12:15 Diaconate	10	11 6:30 GIG	12
16 5:00 Fall Kickoff	17	18 7:00 Session	19 6:00 WFN begins 7:30 Choir kick-off
23 MISSIONS Evening activities begin	24	25 12:00 FARPWM quarterly meeting	26 6:00 WFN
30 CARE	31	1	2 6:00 WFN

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	**1** **9:00 WM Walk**
6 **8:30 HSCO orientation** **3:00 JL Circle**	**7** Office Closed	**8**
13 **8:30 HSCO Game Day**	**14** Office Closed	**15** **8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast**
20 **8:30 HSCO**	**21**	**22** **9:00 AE Circle** **3:00 Ladies Tea**
27 **8:30 HSCO**	**28**	**29**
3 **8:30 HSCO** **3:00 JL Circle**	**4**	**5** **9:00 WM Walk**

ANNIVERSARIES

12– Glenn & Anna Rhyne
25– Brant & Katie Avant
29– Stewart & Mallory Screpetis

BIRTHDAYS

2– Sam Ogburn
3– Anna Rhyne
7– Madelyn Rhyne
7– Walter Screpetis
11– Alaina Patterson
16– Benny Brazell
17– Susan Prete
17– Richard Robinson
21– Myra Sims

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 Officer meeting
10:00 Morning Worship
11:15 Sunday School

Beginning Aug. 23:
5:00 Evening Worship
6:00 Fellowship/ Snacks
6:30 Youth

Announcements

PRAYER REQUESTS The reverse side of our attendance card is for all prayer requests. You are encouraged to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate as you exit Worship.

SUNDAY EVENING CALENDAR Sunday evening activities resume tonight: Worship at 5PM, Fellowship/Snacks at 6PM, and Youth at 6:30PM.

MEETINGS First ARP Women's Ministries will have its next quarterly meeting on Tuesday, August 25 at 12PM. All ladies are welcome to attend.

GIG will meet September 8 at 6:30 at the home of Suzanne Lever. Stay tuned for information on the discussion question.

COOKS NEEDED Thank you to all who have considered and signed up to cook for our Wednesday Family Night meals. We are still in need of a cook on September 2. Please sign up this week if you are able to fill this need.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN The Fall retreat to Bonclarken for Senior High youth will be September 25-27. Packets are available in the youth room. Money and forms are due in the church office by Sunday, September 6.

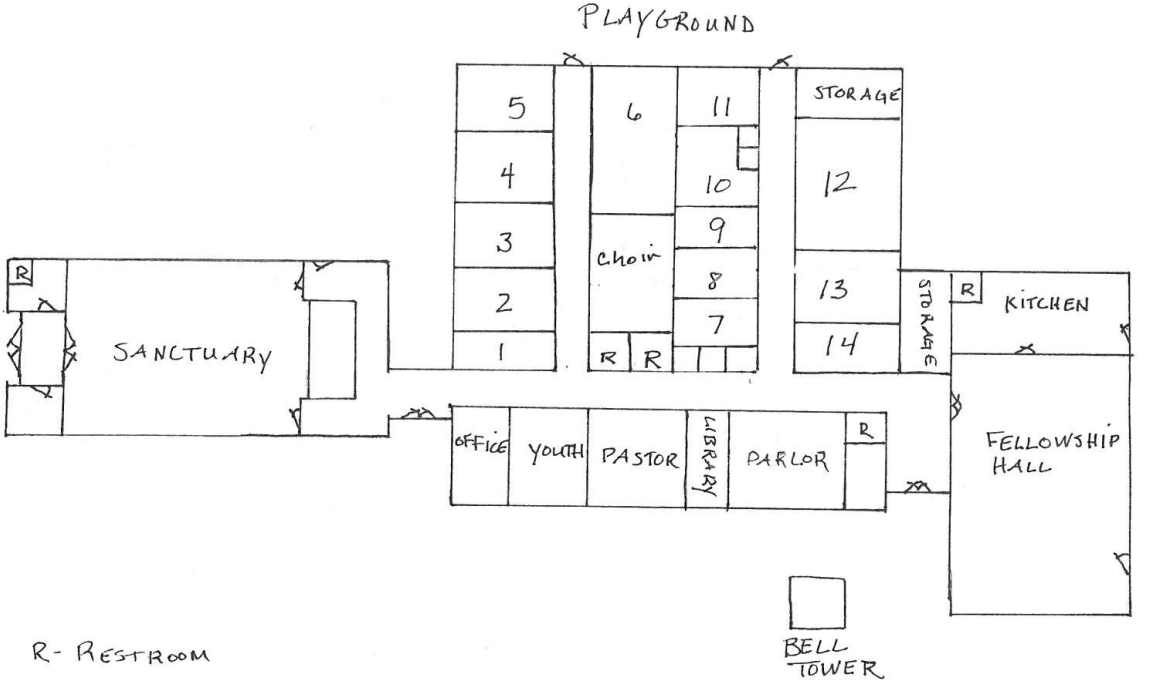
The Middle School retreat for grades 6-8 is scheduled for November 13-15 and registration will open on October 13.

Visitor Information

Welcome to First ARP Church. If you are a first time visitor, we would like to have a record of your visit with us. Please fill out an attendance card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

Childcare is available in room #1 for children age 2 and under at the start of morning Worship. Children ages 3-4 are dismissed to Sunday School following the Children's Sermon. Busy Bags are available at the side entrance of the church during morning Worship. We enjoy the sound of children in Worship, but if you have need of it, a quiet room is available at the rear of the sanctuary. Sunday School for all ages begins at 11:15.

CHURCH MAP



Prayer Guide

August 23

The Family of Stacey Pegram- Comfort and peace, Susan Prete– Upcoming surgery, Jonathan Williams– Praise for successful thesis defense

August 16

Nancy Ogburn– Recovery from surgery, Jonathan Williams– Thesis defense, Mark Caskey– Recovery from procedure, Returning teachers and students

August 9

Crystal Hardman– Surgery rescheduled

August 2

David Pokopac– Recovery from carpal tunnel surgery, Back to school: Students, parents, teachers, bus drivers, and support staff

July 26

JB Powell– Feeding tube removed

Nursing Home/ Shut Ins

Betty Arant, Pat McEachern, Charles Montgomery, Richard Robinson, Clovis Steele

Missionaries

Phil Baer, Rebekah Carson, Justin & Gillian Brickey

Church Planters

King's Church (Columbia), Arsenal Hill (Columbia)

COMMITTEES and CHAIRMEN

Fellowship– Sam Prete	Outreach– Richard Crawford	Discipleship– Stewart Screpetis
Missions– Ed Ogburn	Worship– David Pokopac	Building– Mark Caskey
Grounds– Doug Patterson	Safety– Walt Watford	Internal Needs– Debbie Dickson

Financials

August 16, 2026	
Attendance	76/8
General Fund	$2,331
Total GF contributions this month	$11,017
Missions Fund	$45

General Fund	**July**	**YTD**
Contributions	$21,760	$149,719
Expenditures	$21645	$134,510
Difference	**$115**	**$15,209**
Congregational Care Fund		
Contributions	$25	$933
Expenditures	$73	$2,673
Missions Support		
Contributions	$2,656	$5,258
Expenditures	$1,049	$7,352
Memorial Fund		
Contributions	$0	$936
Expenditures	$0	$0

ONLINE GIVING If you would like to make contributions online, visit our website at **FirstARPLancaster.org/Giving** to make a one time or repeating contribution. Contact the church office with any questions. If you prefer to download the VancoMobile app, search for "First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church" and use the invite code TPVK5P.

HOPE FOOD PANTRY Current food needs: grits, beef stew, Jiffy mix, spaghetti pasta, jelly, & spaghetti sauce. Please bring pantry items and place them on the shelves near the Fellowship Hall. Remember to avoid glass containers and oversized family portions.

Volunteers

Childcare	**August 23**	**August 30**
10:00	**Nursery**	**Nursery**
	Anna Rhyne	Debby Hegler
	Toddlers	**Toddlers**
	Mallory Screpetis/ Taylor Prete	Debbie Hardin/ Greta Cureton
11:00	**Nursery**	**Nursery**
	Available	Available
	Toddler Sunday School	**Toddler Sunday School**
	Susan Cauthen/ Susan Prete	Susan Cauthen/ Miranda Bohler
	Elementary Sunday School	**Elementary Sunday School**
	Gene Hunter/ Corinne Brackett	Katey's Mission Lesson

Officers	**August**	**September**
Elder	David Pokopac	Mike Cauthen
Elder	Stewart Screpetis	Ed Ogburn
Captain	Debbie Dickson	Mark Caskey
Co– Captain	Doug Patterson	Walt Watford
Usher	Aaron Melton	John Mark Caskey
Usher	David Pokopac	Mike Cauthen
Usher	Stewart Screpetis	

Staff

Pastor- Rev. Jonathan Williams
Secretary- Mrs. Stacy Pokopac
Organist– Mrs. Suzanne Brown

Elders

2026	Richard Crawford
	Sam Prete
2027	David Pokopac
	Stewart Screpetis- VM
2028	Mike Cauthen- C
	Ed Ogburn

Deacons

Debbie Dickson
Doug Patterson
Jim Davis- S
Glenn Rhyne
Mark Caskey-C
Walt Watford- VC

Website: FirstARPLancaster.org Email: OnAHill@comporium.net