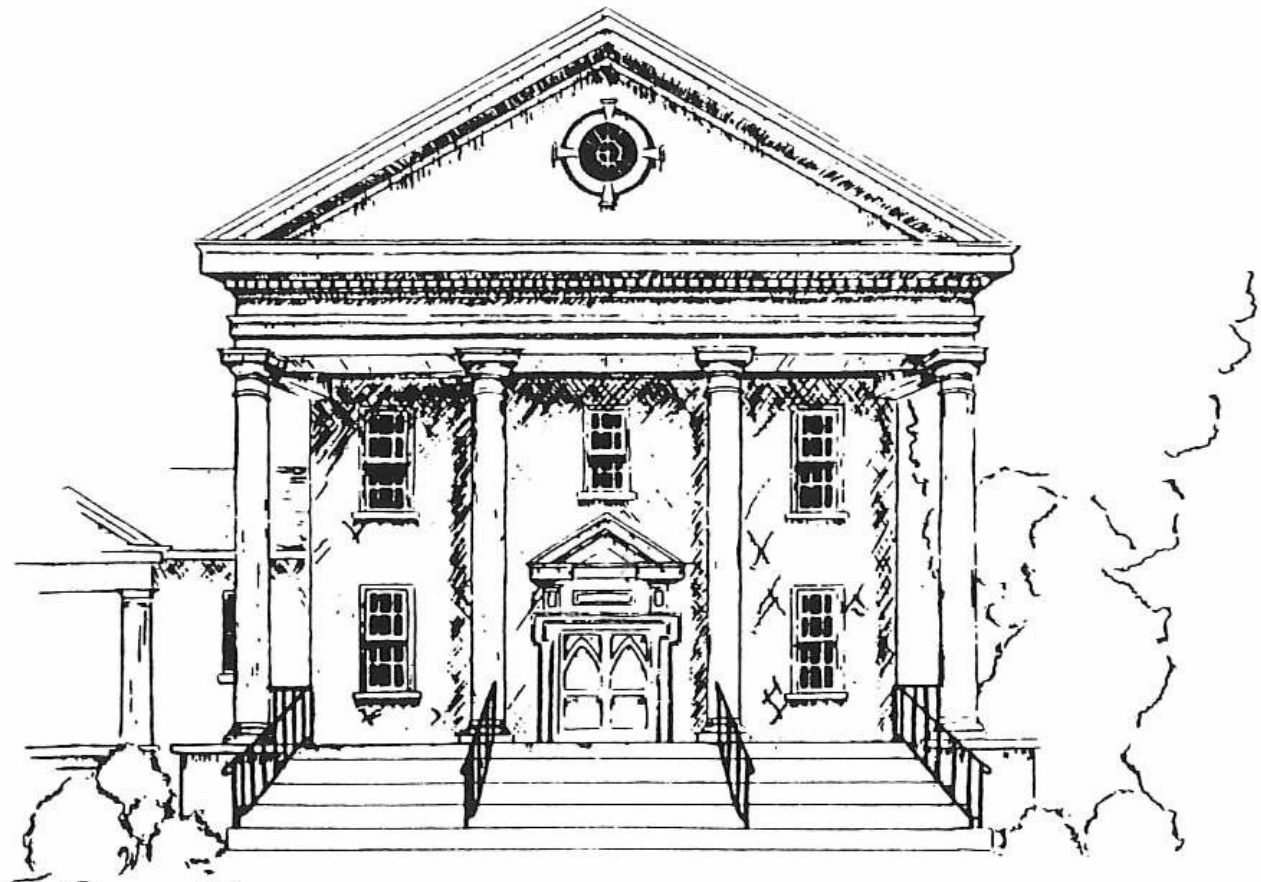


Pickens Presbyterian Church



Pickens Presbyterian Church

Pickens, SC 29671

**311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671**

*“To the Glory of God, and
the Service of People”*

The Church Gathers

The Session invites members to wear masks to worship and other gatherings, if you are more comfortable doing so in a group situation, and of course if you are sick to please stay home.

Chiming of the Hour**Concerns of the Church****Preparation for Worship**

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship, first in silence, then as we listen to the prelude.

Prelude

“My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff”

Setting, J. Wayne Kerr

***Call to Worship**

We gather here as the body of Christ,

God's servants working together.

God calls us to worship, to hear the good news and sing our praise,

for we are the hands and feet of Jesus here and now.

ALL: *Come, let us worship God.*

Prayer of Praise**Hymn #420**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

The Church Confesses***Invitation to Confession*****Unison Prayer of Confession:**

Almighty God, you set before us life and prosperity, but we turn towards death and adversity. We do not listen to your commandments, we bow down to other gods: convenience, self-reliance, greed, bitterness. Break us of our longing for gods we can see and touch. Turn us back to you, mysterious and mighty God, that we may observe your commandments, and walk in your ways. . . . (silent, personal confession) Amen.

***Kyrie**

You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy.

You are the Christ, Giver of Mercy.

You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy.

***Assurance of Pardon**

. . . in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. *Thanks be to God.*

***Gloria Patri #579**

*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.*

The Church Proclaims God's Word**Prayer for Illumination**

*Pew Bible Page
Mark Taylor*

1st Scripture Reading:

Deuteronomy 30.15-20

(OT 179)

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

*Hymn #326

“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

2nd Scripture Reading:

Matthew 5.21-37

(NT 4)

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

“Choices”

The Reverend Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

(Traditional, p. 14)

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.

Anthem

“Peace Like a River/ Amen”

arr. Wagner

PPC Adult Choir

Offering

Offertory

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Thomas Keesecker

*Doxology #592 *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (debts/Debtors)

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.

*Hymn #145

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Ye Servants of God”

Douglas E. Wagner

(Please remain seated until worship ends with the end of the Postlude)

Worship Has Ended – Service Begins

**Those who are able please stand in body or spirit.*

PRAYER REQUESTS: You are encouraged to share prayer concerns in worship, or on the pew rack cards placing them in the offering plates, or email the church office – pickenspres@bellsouth.net.

Prayer Concern List

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. -- Philippians 4:6 (NRSV)

(Prayer concern list policy: Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks, after which they may be either renewed for another 4 weeks, or moved to the Long-Term Prayer Concern List)

<u>Name (relationship)</u>	<u>Concern</u>
*Barry Moorer (co-worker of David McCormick)	health concerns
*Sam Trotter (Betsey Chalmers' brother).....	health concerns
Chris Nicholson	health concerns
<u>Torin Nichols (Nancy Goldsmith's relative).....</u>	<u>health concerns</u>

**new this week*

Peace in Ukraine. PDA support: gifts to [DR000156](#) or text PDAUKR to 41444

Earthquake in Syria/Turkey. PDA support: gifts to [DR999999-ST Earthquake](#).

Make checks payable to Presbyterian Church USA and put the gift number in the memo line.

Long Term Prayer Concern List

“Gig” Alexander, Mary Sue Day, Doug Finney, Jane Gillespie, Scott Kelly, Butch Morris, Faye Padgett, Jay Pence, Jo Ann Taylor, Melvin Tolliver (Deb Holtel’s uncle), John & Tiffanie Torrey (David’s brother and sister-in-law), Carole Torrey (David’s mother)

The Christian love and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Ann Nicholson, sister of Joe Christopher, on her dying to this life on Sunday, February 5, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 12, 2023

Blessings and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day! *If you are visiting, we offer a special word of welcome and invite you to participate with us in mission and ministry. Please use the Visitor Card in the Pew rack to register your presence with us. If you want the church newsletter, contact the church office to add your email address.*

COMMITTEE MEETINGS TODAY: All Session committees will begin meeting on the 2nd Sunday of each month for more consistency and to allow all who are interested to be involved in the life of the church. All will meet today at 12:30pm following the service at the following locations: **Administration** – Church Office, **Building & Grounds** – All Saints’ Hall (street side), **Christian Education** – Carmical Room, **Fellowship & Care** – All Saints’ Hall (cemetery side), **Missions** – Nursery, **Worship** – Church Parlor.

CE BUILDING COMMITTEE: The Session has established an Ad Hoc committee to gather and evaluate suggestions of new/additional uses for the CE Building. Please use your phone camera to read the QR code to complete the survey of suggestions. Or, if you are on a computer, you can click on the QR code.



MEN'S CHORUS: On Sunday, February 5th, the Men's Chorus, directed by Robert Wood, presented the music for Vespers at the Foothills Community in Easley. Thanks for sharing your talents with the residents in the Foothills Chapel. It was a pleasure to greet our longtime friends there, including James and Barbara Stuckey.

SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL: All are welcome to join or drop in on Seekers Adult Sunday school each week at 9:30am in the Parlor. It's a discussion class.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: Our Youth will meet this evening, at 5:30pm in All Saints' Hall for dinner, fellowship, and activities. For any questions, please contact Anna Chastain, Carole Thomas or Cindy Townsend.

YOUTH MEALS: If you are willing to help our Youth by providing a Sunday evening meal for their Fellowship time, please email Cindy Townsend at ctownsend65@gmail.com with the date that you have available. Thank you!

SAILBOAT CHURCH DISCUSSION GROUP: Our discussion group will continue this Thursday, February 16th at 4:00pm in All Saints Hall or you may Zoom in with the link Dr Torrey sent out last Tuesday for those who have signed up to participate. We have a few books that have not been picked up and couple of extra copies.

CENTERING PRAYER: All are welcome every Monday morning from 11:00am – 12:00 noon in the church parlor. There is a 20-minute silent centering prayer time.

GENERAL FUND UPDATE:

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$7,814.**, Building Fund: **\$20.**

Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$27,720.52, includes \$1,910 online.**

Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$30,017.98.**

Contributions Needed Weekly to Maintain 2023 Budget: \$5,316.60.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Pickens County Meal on Wheels needs volunteers to deliver meals to Pickens Co residents. See Thursday's Cliffnotes for more information. Contact Marsha Robertson at 864.855.3770 or marsha.robertson@pcmow.org

FAMILY PROMISE: Gift cards and other items are needed by Family Promise to help homeless families in our community. Please see Thursday's Cliffnotes for more information and a list of items, or contact Jo Anne Gessell.

FOOD PANTRY: Ongoing need: *fruit juices, shelf-stable milk, canned meats/entrees, cereal bars, or any other non-perishables* to fill the boxes for the hungry in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

DR. TORREY'S SCHEDULE AND OFFICE HOURS:

Office hours: Tues - Thurs 10:00am - 1:00pm, unless something takes him out of the office. You can reach him anytime at:

Email: dtorrey219@gmail.com **Phone:** 864.878.9422 ext. 2, 803.317.3331 (cell)

<u>Servicing:</u>	<u>February 12, 2023</u>	<u>February 19, 2023</u>
Pulpit Elder:	Starla Taylor	Cindy Townsend
Sanctuary Guild:	Mary Gaillard	Mary Gaillard
Ushers:	Austin & Cindy Townsend	Austin & Cindy Townsend

<u>Lectionary readings for today:</u>	<u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u>
Pulpit Elder: Starla Taylor	Pulpit Elder: Cindy Townsend
Deuteronomy 30.15 – 20	Exodus 24.12 – 18
Psalm 119.1 – 8	Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
1 Corinthians 3.1 – 9	2 Peter 1.16 – 21
Matthew 5.21 – 37	Matthew 17.1 – 9

Church Activities and Events This Week:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, Feb 12	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints' Hall
	10:20am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Worship Service – 6 th Sunday after Epiphany	(See Note Above)
	12:30pm	All Committee Meetings	All Saints' Hall
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	
Monday, Feb 13	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	Parlor
Tuesday, Feb 14	9:00am	Morris Service & Kerosene Fund	Church Office
Wednesday, Feb 15	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	9:45am	Children's Chapel	Sanctuary
	10:30am	Bible Study	All Saints' Hall
	4:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	5:30pm	LPP Team Meeting	All Saints' Hall
Thursday, Feb 16	12:00pm	DEADLINE – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	
	4:00pm	Sailboat Church Discussion Group	All Saints' Hall
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts	All Saints' Hall
Friday, Feb 17		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, Feb 18			
Sunday, Feb 19	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints' Hall
	10:20am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Worship Service – Transfiguration Sunday	Session Room
	12:30pm	Session Meeting	All Saints' Hall
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	

Online calendar: <http://73970421.view-events.com>

The essential difference between rowboat and Sailboat churches may not be apparent on the surface. Both kinds of churches may be active and growing in numbers. Both may struggle and even die. Whether a church is liberal, conservative, or middle-of-the-road is no indication of whether it is a Sailboat or a rowboat. They both exist in urban, suburban, and rural areas. The difference is in the attitude of the members and leaders.

Rowing the Church: The bedrock reality of life in the rowboat church is that “God has given us a basic agenda (for example, to make the world a better place, save souls, help the poor, spread Christian truth, and uphold justice) and then left it up to us to get on with it. The dominant attitude in this congregation is either “*We can do this,*” or “*We can’t do this.*” The church focuses on circumstances, such as the money it has or can raise, the available volunteers, the charisma and skill of the leaders, and the demographics of its community. The rowboat congregation believes and acts as if its progress depends on its own strength, wisdom, and resources.

Sailing the Church: In contrast, the bedrock reality of life in the Sailboat church is that God “through the power at work within us can do abundantly far more than we could ever ask or imagine” (Eph. 3:21). Sailboat churches tend to focus not on their own situation, resources, or limitations but rather on discerning God’s unfolding will. They engage in intimate partnership with God, trusting God to provide and do what only God can do.

Sailboat churches know that when God becomes the chief guide and power source in their lives and ministries, the unthinkable moves into the realm of the possible.

Rowers are confined to the power they can generate themselves; sailors learn to let the boundless power of the wind move them where they need to go.

Team observations and thoughts

God’s grace is given and that is the reason that it is not workers but rather live with the Holy Spirit. It is about being intentional through prayer and the members must know who is in charge through prayer and through Scripture. We still have a role to play and need to work on how to work together better. To do that we must wait and listen for the Holy Spirit to guide us.

Discernment is a ‘big’ word. We need to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us, but how do we separate guidance and discernment? Are there ways that we can help the congregation put God first? How can we help them learn to discern God’s presence and action?

Raises the question of whether anything we do is neutral? Our actions either draw us closer to God or lead us away from God. When we are faithfully serving others, the purpose is not to see any benefits for the congregation, but to make an impact in the world for the kingdom of heaven.

A reminder of the importance of Jesus’ statement that “Without him, we can do nothing.”

Sermon Notes:

PICKENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ministers – All Members
Transitional Pastor – The Reverend Dr. David Torrey
Parish Associate – The Reverend Beverly Kelly
Church Administrator/Treasurer – Mrs. Cyndi Banks
Interim Choir Director – Dr. Marianne Holland
Interim Organist – Mr. Steve Ellison
Director of Child Development Center – Mrs. Chasity Lesley
Church Administrative Assistant – Ms. Linda Banks

SESSION & COMMITTEES

Class of 2023

Ken Acker
Roger Gettys
Rocky Harden
Roy Stoddard
Ken Townsend

Class of 2024

Tina LaFoy
Donna Owen
Debbie Teeple
Cindy Townsend

Class of 2025

Nancy Goldsmith
David McCormick
Robert Simms
Starla Taylor

Trustee: Allison Ranson Trustee: Debbie Carmical Trustee: Tim Crocker

Moderator: Rev. Dr. David A. Torrey

dtorrey219@gmail.com

Phone: 864.878.9422 ext. 2, 803.317.3331 (cell)

Clerk of Session:

Deacons: Betsey Chalmers and Austin Townsend

Building and Grounds: Roy Stoddard and David McCormick (Co-Moderators)

Child Development Center: Jim Mahanes

Christian Education: Cindy Townsend and Robert Simms (Co-Moderators)

Administration: Budget: Ken Acker,

Administration: Donna Owen,

Finance: Ken Townsend

Fellowship and Care: Tina LaFoy and Nancy Goldsmith (Co-Moderators)

Missions: Roger Gettys and Rocky Harden (Co-Moderators)

Worship: Debbie Teeple and Starla Taylor (Co-Moderators)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women Moderator – Nancy Goldsmith
Sarah/Emily Circle Co-Moderators – Christa Schwab and Kay Tilley
Eve Circle Co-Moderators – Sherry Schell and Debbie Carmical

THE GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH

(Book of Order) F-1.0304

The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind
The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God
The maintenance of divine worship
The preservation of the truth
The promotion of social righteousness
The exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world

Pickens Presbyterian Church • 311 W Main Street • Pickens, SC 29671

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