

OPTIONS TO GIVE EASILY AND SECURELY

- 1) Offering envelopes during service or by mail.
- 2) Set up *Bill Pay* straight from your bank.
- 3) On our website www.fernwoodchurch.org
- 4) Directly through our online giving
<http://onrealm.org/FernwoodBaptist/give/now>
- 5) Text from your phone: 73256 then keyword "fernwood" and dollar amount and follow the instructions.

WELCOME!

We are honored to worship God with you today! If you would like to become a member of Fernwood Baptist Church or if you need pastoral care, we invite you to speak with the pastor following the Worship service, email office@fernwoodchurch.org or call the office at 864-582-7467.

IF YOU'RE A GUEST

We invite you to visit our Welcome Center for a free gift. You may also **scan the QR code** with your mobile device or text "hello" to 864-501-0585 for more information.



WEDNESDAYS

Join us for supper and Bible study each week. Supper starts at **5:30 pm** followed by prayer time and Bible study at **6:15 pm**. **Fill out the registration form** on the information table and place it in the basket to **reserve your Wednesday night meals**. You can also call 864-582-7467 or email office@fernwoodchurch.org by **noon on Mondays**. \$9.00 for 12 yr. old and older, \$5.00 for 4 yr. – 11 yr. old, 3 & under FREE. **Please remember, if you sign up for a meal and don't notify the office that you will be out, you're responsible for payment.**

Our Vision is to be Christ to each other and our community - doing justice, loving mercy and walking humbly with our God.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday
9:00am – Fernwood Ringers
9:45am – Sunday School (*in-person and online*)
10:55am – Worship (*in-person and online*)

Wednesday
5:30pm – Wednesday Night Supper
6:15pm – Prayer & Bible Study for Adults
7:00pm – 8pm – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

200 Fernwood Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29307
 Mailing Address: P. O. Box 7058, Spartanburg, SC 29304
 Office: 864-582-7467

Website: fernwoodchurch.org / Email: office@fernwoodchurch.org
 Facebook: [@fernwoodbaptistchurchspartanburg](https://www.facebook.com/fernwoodbaptistchurchspartanburg) / Instagram: [@fernwoodbaptist](https://www.instagram.com/fernwoodbaptist)

All Members of Fernwood Baptist Church, Ministers

Mrs. Lee Anne Bailie.....Director of Communication Ministries
 Ms. Caroline Creel.....Nursery Attendant
 Mrs. Sunny Hall.....Administrative Assistant
 Mrs. Marcia Harris.....Assistant Music Associate
 Mr. Seth Johnson.....Nursery Attendant
 Mr. Tom Tarkington.....Custodian
 Mrs. Rebecca Turner.....Music Associate
 Dr. Stafford Turner.....Director of Music Ministries
 Mrs. Mary Helen Wessinger.....Financial Administrator
 Rev. Dr. P. Randall Wright.....Pastor Emeritus

CHILDREN'S EXTENDED SESSION

February 1 – Jennifer Bogan
February 8 – Meghanne McDaniels

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Speakers for Bible Study are from our Mission Ministry Partners.
January 28 – Hope Center for Children

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on the last **Tuesday, January 27th**. We will discuss "Christy" by Catherine Marshall. This year is the 50th anniversary of this national bestseller. It is an historical fiction and a testament to Catherine Marshall's mother's faith journey as she teaches children of the Appalachian Mountains.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The boxes of 2026 Offering Envelopes are located on a table under the TV in the concourse. Please note that some of the boxes are already designated. If you'd like to use these envelopes, please add your name to the corresponding number.



The Lord's Day | Sunday, January 25, 2026
Third Sunday after Epiphany

The Welcome & Announcements Lee Anne Bailie

The Passing of the Peace Lee Anne Bailie
 May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

The Preparation for Worship George J. Elvey
arr. Melody Bober
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
 Rebecca Turner, piano

The Call to Worship Stafford Turner
 The Lord is the sower of the seeds of love and redemption.
But we have not always been ready to receive these seeds.
 Today we hear again the scriptures that remind us of the awesome generosity of God.
Help us be good soil, O God, prepared to receive your love and to grow in that love. Amen.

†The Hymn of Praise, No. 372 ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

1. Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home!
 All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
 God our Maker; doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
 come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

2. We ourselves are God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;
 wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown;
 first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
 Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

4. Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring thy final harvest home;
 gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
 there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide;
 come, with all thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13 NRSV
(Pew Bible, page 598)

Karen Parker

†The Hymn of Promise, No. 545

PROMISE

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

The Hymn of Epiphany, No. 42

The Sower

AZMON

2. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future, what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

1. O child of earth prepare the plough, break up your fallow ground!
The Sower is come forth to sow, and scatter blessings round.

2. The seed that falls on stony soil, sends forth a hasty blade;
But soon, despite the sower's toil, it's withered, scorched, and dead.

3. The beaten path and highway side receive the seed in vain:
the birds observe and then decide to pick up all the grain.

4. O God of mercies, we have need of Your exceeding grace;
let Your strong hand that gives the seed provide a fruitful place.

5. And when we, Lord, Your grace implore to bless our tended field;
You give us then a healthy store and such a mighty yield!

3. In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Suzanne Brown

†The Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God, above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Josh Hunt

The Pastoral Benediction

Josh Hunt

The Anthem

Handt Hanson

The Reflection of Worship

Carl G. Glaser
arr. Victor Labenske

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil
Kari Mason, mezzo-soprano
Sanctuary Choir; Rebecca Turner, piano

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Rebecca Turner, piano

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of Your Word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on Your way.
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

†Please stand, as you are able.

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Come, Ye Thankful People, Come; Words 1844 Henry Alford; Music 1858 George J. Elvey
The Sower; Words 1779 William Cowper, para. 2026 Stafford Turner; Music, Carl G. Glaser, arr. 1839 Lowell Mason
Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing
In the Bulb There is a Flower; Words and Music 1986 Natalie Sleeth © 1986 Hope Publishing Co.
Old 100th 1551 Genevan Psalter
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing © 2012 Alfred Music
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The Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23, 31-33; Luke 17:20-21 NRSV
(Pew Bible, page 794; 852)

Josh Hunt

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Good Soil for a New Season

Josh Hunt

We are blessed to have Rev. Dr. Josh Hunt as our proclaimer this morning. Josh serves as Associate Coordinator of CBF South Carolina and Regional Church Development Officer for CBF Global. With over two decades of experience in pastoral ministry, he is deeply committed to collaborative ministry and strengthening networks of churches and leaders. A Virginia native, Josh holds degrees from Carson-Newman University (B.A.), Gardner-Webb University (M.Div.), and Emory University's Candler School of Theology (D.Min.). Josh and his wife, Sacha, a public school teacher, enjoy traveling with their two children and sharing a family passion for theatre and the arts. Welcome to Fernwood, Josh!