



**FIRST**  

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**PRESBYTERIAN**  

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**CHURCH**

*Welcome*

Our mission is to know Christ, serve Him,  
and make Him known.

**~ Gathering before the Word ~****Welcome**

Dr. Stuart Bond

**Time of Meditation***Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Runyon

**Chimes of the Trinity****\*Call to Worship**

By faith, we trust that we were created in the image of God.

**By faith, we hope and dream and make plans.**

By faith, we face our fears and insecurities.

**By faith, we till the soil of our lives and plant seeds of love.**

By faith, we follow where God leads.

**By faith, we trust that God is present in our midst.**

**All: By faith, we gather in this place to worship God together.**

**Hymn of Praise***My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

OLIVET

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!

Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away.

O let me from this day be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire.

As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee,  
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide.

Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

When life's swift race is run, death's cold work almost done, be near to me.

Blest Savior, then in love fear and distrust remove.

O bear me safe above, redeemed and free!

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, We are not always people who live by faith. We know that we were created in your image, but we treat ourselves and each other in ways that do not honor your presence within us. We know your laws and your commandments, but we choose to disobey you and to act in ways that harm our neighbors. We hear your call to reach out to those most in need, but instead we turn our backs on them and on you. Forgive us, O God, and help us day by day to become more faithful followers and the people you created us to be. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray.**

(Time of silent prayer and reflection)

In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

What we have hoped for is true.

**What we cannot see has been made known.**

God's forgiveness is certain and sure.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

(Liturgy taken from *By Faith – A Youth Led Worship Service Lectionary Text* – August 18, 2013 Proper 15)

**Prayers of the People and 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, forever. Amen.**

**~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~**

**Word with our Children**

Michelle Walker

**Hymn of Preparation** *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

Bode/Mann

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*O sing hallelujah!*

*Our hope springs eternal;*

*O sing hallelujah!*

*Now and ever we confess*

*Christ our hope in life and death.*

What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, shall we sing?

"Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"

And what reward will heaven bring?

Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
Then sin and death will be destroyed,

And we will feast in endless joy,

When Christ is our forevermore.

**Sermon**

What is Faith?

Dr. Stuart Bond

**Scripture Reading**

Hebrews 11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**~ Responding to the Word of God ~**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

Apostle's 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.**

**Hymn of Commitment** *By Grace We Have Been Saved* OH, HOW I LOVE JESUS

By grace we have been saved through faith  
and not by keeping law  
God's saints believed by what they heard  
and not by what they saw.

*Oh, how I love Jesus!  
Oh, how I love Jesus!  
Oh, how I love Jesus,  
because he first loved me.*

For all have sinned and fallen short,  
God's plan not one obeyed.  
Christ has for all fulfilled the law.  
Believe, confess, be saved.  
God gave to earth a perfect love  
through Jesus on the cross.  
While we were foes, Christ died for us.  
We gained by God's own loss.

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Faith Is The Victory*

Sankey

**\*All who are able please stand.**

CCLI# 221136

## August Financial Update

Year to Date Budget - \$184,196

Year to Date Income - \$171,058

Year to Date Expenses - \$169,684

## Announcements

**You are invited to a combined adult Sunday School class** in the Sanctuary each Sunday at 10:00 am! Join us for socially-distanced learning and fellowship. If you can't make it in person, join us as we go live on YouTube.

- 9/13 - Vickie Dickerson, Volunteer Church Relations Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child
- 9/20 - TBD
- 9/27 - Renee Goodnight

**Wednesday Night Life** will look a little different this year, but there will be opportunities for all ages to continue their spiritual growth!

- **Preschoolers and Kindergarteners** will follow Kids Quest Catechism at home, with Alpha Barger facilitating. Each week, your child will receive a mailing with the materials they need, as they learn the essential tenets of our faith.
- **Elementary-aged children** will join Michelle Walker each week online.
- **Middle and Senior High Youth** will be led by Raegan Swaringen. They will meet virtually once a week
- **Adults wishing to participate in a live bible study** can join Pastor Stuart each Wednesday Night beginning on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm in the sanctuary. The class, "Becoming a Healthy Disciple," will be live-streamed for those wishing to follow on YouTube.

Please contact Michelle Walker if you have questions or need additional information on any of these classes.

**Saltshakers Ladies' Bible Study registration is now in progress!** We will be studying "The Unchanging God" – a study of Minor Prophets. In this time of so much change in our world, it is our goal to safely provide a serious Bible study about our God who never changes! We will meet virtually on Monday evenings at 6:00pm from September 28, 2020 to April 2021. To register, please contact Judy Goodnight at (704) 938-4623 or register online by clicking the link in the weekly emails.

**Hello Everyone, I wanted to take a moment and encourage those that may be on the fence about this study; Living Free, Learning to Pray God's Word by Beth Moore.** I've had an opportunity to work thru the details of the first week and I am still amazed and renewed in seeing God's love for me and his protection that he gives. We all have periods of time when strongholds grip us and can even paralyze us in our journey to a peaceful and productive relationship with Christ. God put so much effort into writing his word thru feeble and imperfect creatures as ourselves so that we can live victoriously. Thru knowledge and Prayer we can recognize these strongholds and then learn simple steps for confession and renewal. Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever right? Please join us as we dip into this precious time of learning

that He is our One Stronghold and how to pray God's word over our lives and those we love. If you would like to call me, Vickie Ellington, my cell # is 704-706-4395. It appears our study is taking shape for Tuesdays @ 6:00 at the Church. The study will begin on September 15. If this changes, I will advise. I need to get books ordered so please let me know of your interest. The cost is about \$13.00 + shipping. *Vickie Ellington*

**Law Enforcement Appreciation Event!** Join the Missions Team in honoring the 85 officers and 17 dispatchers of the Kannapolis Police Department with gift bags and a car parade on Wednesday, September 23 at 5:00pm. Each family is asked to make up 3-5 small gift bags and place them on the designated table in the Church Fellowship Hall by Monday, September 21. Please sign up at the link provided in the weekly email for the number and type of bag you will provide. All members are then invited to decorate their vehicles and line up in the church parking lot on September 23 at 4:45 for a parade past the Kannapolis Police Department. Bags for officers should include: black or blue ink pens, small memo pad, travel size Kleenex, small hand sanitizer, chap stick, auto air freshener(s), hand wipes, small bottles of car upholstery and/or or glass cleaner, and individually-wrapped gum and hard candies. Dispatcher bags should include: black or blue ink pens, travel size Kleenex, small hand sanitizer, chap stick, hand wipes, tea bags, honey sticks, gum, and candy. Thank you for your support!

**FPC will be providing and serving evening meals at the Salvation Army Homeless Shelter in Concord** the week of September 27, 2020 through October 3, 2020. We are asking for volunteers to help us provide food and serve. We need food preparers for each item and two servers for each evening. You may sign up for one thing for a night or everything for a night. The shelter is located at 216 Patterson Avenue, Concord 28025, 704-782-7710. Signup online at: <https://forms.gle/abSEmbrTK8kyHtVJA>

**It's SHOEBOX TIME!!!** In light of current conditions, the Missions Team is introducing the Frances Milem Memorial Shoebox Challenge! In honor and memory of Frances Milem's love for children, we're challenging our church members to provide for at least 200 boxes, if not the 400 we usually pack. There are three ways to participate:

1. Pack a box and bring to church by Sunday, November 15. Please include a \$9.00 check made to Samaritan's Purse for shipping.
2. Build a box online through our Church Goal page (details coming soon). OR
3. Donate money to our fund. Please send your donation, marked for OCC Shoeboxes, to the church office by October 31.

All contributions will be given to build shoeboxes online, at a cost of \$25.00 per box (including shipping). Boxes will be put together by Samaritan's Purse with high-quality items that are easy to distribute. Children around the world still need to know the love of God, even if our gifts look a little different this year!

**If you would like to contribute flowers for worship**, please see the sign-up poster on the bulletin board just outside the church office. The cost for an arrangement is \$56.



[www.firstpresb.org](http://www.firstpresb.org)

201 Vance Street  
Kannapolis NC 28081-4383  
Phone - 704-938-4623

### The Session

Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk of Session

Class of 2021

Jeff Barnhardt  
Frank Gibson  
Phil McLain

Class of 2022

Debbie McDaniel  
Gip Rumpel  
Bill Stricker

Class of 2023

Dave Argabrite  
Renee Goodnight  
Ryan Walker

### Church Staff

Dr. Stuart Bond  
Transitional Pastor

David Hamilton  
Director of Music

Michelle Walker  
Director of Children's Ministries

Terri Pruett  
Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Kay Yates  
Organist

Irene Davis  
Nursery Director

## Prayer Concerns

*New Prayer requests will be placed  
in the bulletin for two weeks.*

*Please help us keep Prayer Concerns current with  
weekly updates emailed to [firstpresb@firstpresb.org](mailto:firstpresb@firstpresb.org).*

### HOMEBOUND

**Peggy Barnhardt** - at  
Morningside

**Iris Efir**

**Juanita Holt**

**Betty Overcash** - at  
Elmcroft in Salisbury

**Barbara Wise**

**Loretta Young** - at  
Five Oaks

### MEMBERS

**Judy Goodnight** -  
Cancer

**Bill Hammond** - Health concerns

**Connie Rary** - Cancer, radiation treatments

**Paul Barnhardt** - Health concerns

**Debby Baker** - Cancer

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS

**Amy Ritchie** - friend of Jane Jacobs (Breast Cancer,  
completed radiation and considering a new clinical trial for  
chemo)

**Mother of Tony Hunter** - in hospital following a fall

**Krystle Tacia** - friend of Chariti Lowder (Breast Cancer,  
chemo)

**Roxanne Debord** - daughter of Tony & Judy Hunter  
(chemo)

**Wade Nunnery** - father of Karen Pless

**Bob Smith** - Judy Hammond's brother (Stage 3 Lung  
Cancer)

**Barbara Coffey** - friend of Judy Hunter (Cancer treatment)

**Lori Holder** - daughter of Sam McAllister (MS)

**Hope Community & Pastor Nate Stratman** (church plant  
in Wilmington, NC)

**Prayer request?** Please write it down on the blue pew  
prayer card, & place in the offering plate.

### Special Church Member of the Week

**Iris Efir**

407 Iris Ave  
Kannapolis NC 28083-3940

Send a card, make a visit or a call, or  
offer a prayer. All to say, "God loves  
you and the church cares about you."



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