



Welcome

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

~ Gathering before the Word ~**Welcome**

Eddie Spencer

Prelude and Preparation*At Calvary*

Towner

Lighting of the Candles

Noah Walker

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 118: 19-24

Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

All: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

All: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn of Praise No. 604To God Be The Glory*

Crosby

Prayer of Adoration*Prayer of Confession**

“O Holy Jesus, You made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You. Forgive us for the ways that we worship and serve other things rather than You. Pardon us for not honoring You as God and for not giving You the thanks that is rightfully due Your name. Grind to dust our idolatrous hearts that long for power, control, approval, comfort, and pleasure apart from You. Satisfy us anew with Your unfailing love so that we rejoice and delight in You. For we pray in Your strong and matchless name.”

Silent Prayers of Confession**Assurance of the Gospel No. 693**

traditional, Tomlin/Giglio

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)***Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family****~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~****Word with our Children**

Michelle Walker

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Offering and Special Music | <i>Dig a Little Deeper in God's Love</i> Men's Ensemble | Morris |
| *Scripture Reading | Acts 11:19-26 | page 1090 |
| Sermon | A Great Church | Eddie Spencer |
| *Hymn of Grace No. 175 | <i>Here is Love</i> | Lowry |
| *Prayer and Benediction | | |
| *Postlude | <i>I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord</i> | Filmore |

*All who are able please stand
CCLI# 2221136

To Our Guests

Welcome! We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and hope you find today meaningful and refreshing. Visitors are asked to fill out a Visitor Information Card, located in the pew, and place it in the offering plate. Prayer Requests may be noted on the reverse side of the same card.

Children's Activity Bags are available for children age 3 to grade 5. They include a children's bulletin related to the Sunday sermon, crayons, and scrap paper. **Children's Church** is available for children 4 years through 2nd grade. After the "Word with our Children," they will be escorted to their classroom on the choir hallway. Parents should report to the classroom immediately following worship to pick up their children.

A Nursery is available for newborns through age 4. It is located in the Educational Building. If you need assistance or directions, an usher would be happy to help you!



UPCOMING

Our new Sunday School year kicked off today with Genesis Sunday!

Sunday School classes are available for all ages, so find your place:

"Journey" Youth

Explorers – preschool

Seekers - early elementary

Navigators - older elementary/middle school

Voyagers - high school

Adults

Disciples - 2nd floor

Drummond - 2nd floor

Fellowship - in Fellowship Hall

Guardians - in Session Room



Dig Deeper into God's Word this fall with Wednesdays in the Word!

Our mid-week studies will begin on Wednesday, September 21 with small groups examining The Gospel of John. Pastor Eddie's Sunday sermons will introduce each week's study. Youth activities will also kick-off with PraiseMakers Kids' Choir and classes for children and youth. Dinner will be provided nightly on a donation basis. Please sign up in the Narthex if you would like to participate in the small group study!!!

The schedule is as follows:

5:45pm - Fellowship Meal in Fellowship Hall

6:00pm - PraiseMakers in Choir Room

6:30pm - Small Groups and Children/Youth Groups



Saltshakers Too Bible Study will begin Tuesdays on September 13th at 6pm on Zoom!!! The Study will be entitled "The Divided Kingdom," focusing on 15 Old Testament books, through Bible Study Fellowship. Church Members and friends who are interested should contact Sharon Cranford - skcranford@yahoo.com or (704) 796-5781.



Provide a meal for Salvation Army Night Shelter residents!

First Presbyterian will serve dinner at 7pm each night from Sunday, Sept. 25 through Saturday, Oct. 1. Items needed include an entree, side(s), and dessert for approximately 30 people. Meals must be dropped off by 6pm, but you are welcome to stay and serve. Sign-up in the Narthex or see Debbie McDaniel for more information.

Our Care Team is Growing! Do you enjoy sharing God's love and encouragement with those who are suffering or going through a hard time? Do you want to celebrate with those who have happy life events? The First Pres Care Team's mission is simply to love on our members and community by sending cards, texts, or emails or giving them a call, letting them know that members of First Presbyterian care about them. If you would like to know more about this ministry and be a part of our team, contact Renee Goodnight - reneegoodnight@gmail.com - or Roxanne Spencer - roxanne.spencer62@yahoo.com.



The JOY Group will have its first fall gathering on Friday, September 30 at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall! The Argabrites will provide baked ham, and others are asked to bring drinks, sides, and desserts. Please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall, and come ready with ideas for future activities!

The Missions Team Operation Christmas Child Shoebox collection continues!

We will pack 200 boxes for boys ages 2-4, and 200 boxes for boys ages 10-14.

NEEDED FOR SUNDAY, September 11:

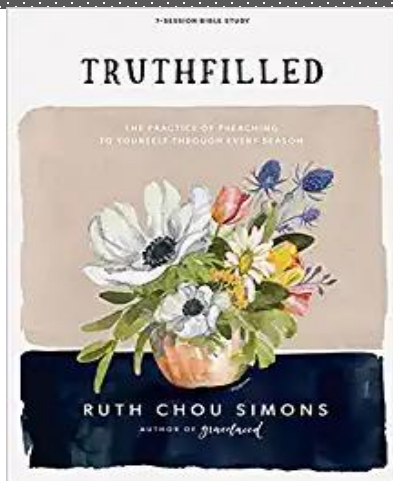
- 30 12-packs of colored pencils
- LOTS of #2 pencils to divide among boxes
- 390 manual pencil sharpeners
- 368 composition notebooks
- 400 pair kid-safe scissors

Once these supplies are secured, we'll move on to new items!

Thank you as always for your support of this ministry!



Upcoming Women's Events



Women Without Reservations

will resume monthly meetings beginning Sunday, September 11 at 4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our fall study will be *Truthfilled*, by Ruth Chou Simons. Each lady should purchase a copy of the Bible Study to use. This women's circle mainly consists of ladies raising younger children. Contact Michelle Walker - michellewalker@firstpresb.org or (704) 223-1778 - for more information.

There are TWO new Women's Circles forming!

One circle, consisting mostly of retired ladies, will meet on the last Monday of each month at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Their first gathering will be Monday, September 26. Contact Carol Lowder - clowder1415@gmail.com or (704) 642-9051 - for more information. The second circle, consisting mostly of ladies who work, will meet the last Tuesday of every month at 6:00p.m. Their first gathering will be Tuesday, September 27th. Contact Jill McLain - jillumclain@yahoo.com or (704) 796-7729 - or Vickie Ellington - mve52@outlook.com or (704) 706-4395 - for more information. Circles already in existence include Women Without Reservations and the "Bad Girls" Thursday morning Bible Study. All ladies are invited to be part of a women's circle. These groups are wonderful opportunities for growing in our relationships with one another and with God!



The Women's Council invites all ladies of the church to a "Parade of Tables" on Saturday, October 8th at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Members of the council will decorate themed tables, while guests will enjoy delicious food, beautiful music, and a special guest speaker. Please sign-up in the Narthex if you would like to attend!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please help us keep Prayer Concerns current with weekly updates.
Email the church or write down
on a prayer card & place in offering plate.

CHURCH FAMILY

Shirley Faust - Recovery from a stroke at Greens of Cabarrus (formerly Brian Center)
Linda Sampson - Recovery from Esophageal problems
Jean Bost - Recovering from Covid

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF Church Family

Mike Allen (Bargers' family) - Cancer diagnosis and chemo treatments
Lisa Threatt (Chariti Lowder's mom) - Testing for trigeminal neuralgia
Buddy Troutman (Judy Hammond family) - Returned to hospital
Becky Montgomery (Renee Goodnight's Friend) - Second Stem-cell treatment
Collene Hegler - Covid

HOMEBOUND

Cindy Fisher- Transitional
Peggy Barnhardt - Morningside
Barbara Hancock- Home
Iris Efird- Home
Barbara Wise - Oaks at Hampton, Cummings, Georgia
Loretta Young - Five Oaks

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Ryan Walker
Children's Message: Michelle Walker
Children's Message next week: Roxanne
Spencer
Children's Church: Chris & Chariti Lowder
Children's Church next week: Lynn & Shannon
Sechler
Acolytes: Noah Walker
Acolyte next week: Erica Efird
Nursery: Jane Argabrite
Nursery next week: Sharon Stricker & Jenna
Baker
Ushers: Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal
McDaniel, Todd Pless
Ushers next week: Jill McLain, Phil McLain,
Lynn Sechler, C.J. Semcho
Greeter: Tracy Caskey, Gip Rumble

FINANCIALS FOR AUGUST

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| YTD Income | \$175,441 |
| YTD Expenses | \$180,349 |
| YTD Budget | \$196,918 |

Last week's attendance: 9/5/22
Sunday School 51
Worship 90

THIS WEEK@FIRST PRESB

Sunday, September 11 GENESIS SUNDAY

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast by Fellowship Team

9:45am - Interpretive Dance Rehearsal in Sanctuary

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

Monday, September 12

10:00am - Women's Council

Tuesday, September 13

12:00pm - NA

Thursday, September 15

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

Sunday, September 18

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast

9:45am - Interpretive Dance Rehearsal in Sanctuary

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service



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