



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

# ~ Gathering before the Word ~

Welcome Eddie Spencer

**Prelude and Preparation for Worship** 

McLin

Amazing Grace
David Hamilton, tenor

**Lighting of the Candles** 

Violet & Amias Hamilton

\*Call to Worship

Lamentations 3:22-24

Leader: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning;

All: Great is Your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him."

\*Hymn of Praise No. 348

RUNYAN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

#### \*Prayer of Adoration and 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."

### **Concerns and Celebrations of the Church Family**

### ~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

**Word with Our Children** 

Alpha Barger

Offering and Special Music

Green

O Lord, You're Beautiful David Hamilton, tenor

\*Scripture Reading

John 7:37-39

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Sermon

Religious Formality/Spiritual Reality

Eddie Spencer

#### **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

#### \*Hymn of Commitment No. 869

SCHUTTE

Here I Am, Lord

### \*Prayer and Benediction

\*Postlude

\*All who are able please stand CCLI# 2221136



*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!



# Today we join Christians around the world in observing the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.

When sisters and brothers, who face all manner of suffering because of their belief in Christ, are asked how we who worship freely can help them, their first response is, "Pray for us!"

- Pray for the estimated 260 million (some calculations are much higher) Christian partners who are actively being persecuted for their faith in countries like China, Afghanistan, North Korea, Somalia, Iran, and numerous others. (A "World Watch List" of many countries that persecute Christians may be found at www.opendoorsusa.org).
- Pray for courage, strength, and protection for those imprisoned for their faith.
- Pray for holy boldness and gracious witness of the persecuted, even to their persecutors.
- Pray also for the assurance of God's presence and provision for those who have lost homes, livelihoods, and family members.
- Pray that Christians in free nations will begin to understand "the fellowship of suffering" (Philippians 3:10) and choose to stand with and support our persecuted brothers and sisters.

# **UPCOMING**



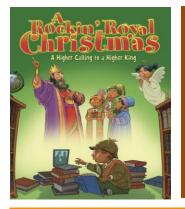
The church family and their friends are invited to Thanksgiving Dinner in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, November 24 at 1:00pm! Turkey,

dressing, gravy, cranberry sauce, coffee and bread will be provided. Others are asked to bring vegetable dishes, salads, tea, and desserts. Please sign up in the Narthex, or see Dave or Vickie Ellington.



All hands on deck! The church will be decorated for Advent on Saturday, November

**26 at 10:00am.** Assistance is also needed to "set the stage," including the altar extension, for our children's Christmas Musical. Your help is greatly appreciated!!!



Mark your calendars for "A Rockin' Royal Christmas with the King" on Sunday,

**December 4th!** The church family and friends are invited to dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm. Our children and youth will then present their Christmas Musical in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm. Come focus your hearts and minds on the real reason we celebrate Christmas!

The JOY Group's next meeting will be Friday, November 18 in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00pm. Menu will be soups, sandwiches, and desserts. Please sign up in the Narthex!

# Feeding Kannapolis Hunger will once again host a Health and Wellness Market at First Pres on

**Saturday, December 3.** The Market will begin at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall, and will include health and wellness presentations, blood pressure checks, healthy cooking samples, and a produce and egg giveaway. Volunteers are needed to help prep the market on Friday, December 2nd at 6:00pm, and to help staff the Market on Saturday, December 3 beginning at 8am. Please sign up in the Narthex, or see Jenna Baker or Irene Davis for more information.

# Wednesdays in the Word UPDATE!

This Wednesday, Small Groups will complete their Gospel of John Fall Study, Explorers Class will meet, and all other Journey Youth will decorate drawstring bags for our OCC Shoeboxes. Meal (at 5:30pm) will consist of chicken and vegetable stir-fry, rice, drinks and dessert. Come join us!



### **Hurricane Ian Relief**

New Hope Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers, Florida, has set up a disaster relief fund following the devastation of Hurricane Ian. If you would like to contribute, place your donation in the offering plate (checks made out to First Presbyterian) marked "Hurricane Ian Relief." The deadline to donate is Sunday, November 20th. Please continue to lift up in prayer all those impacted by this horrific storm.

# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



# It's getting closer!

Our OCC Shoebox Packing Party has been rescheduled for Wednesday, November 16th. Pizza, salad, and drinks will be served beginning at 5:30pm. PraiseMakers Kids' Choir will rehearse from 6:00pm - 6:30pm. Then the packing fun begins! Once we reach our goal of 400 boxes, we'll celebrate with dessert. Don't miss out on the fun!!!

# First Presbyterian will once again serve as an Operation Christmas Child Drop-off Location during National Collection Week, November 14-21. Area churches, organizations, and

individuals will bring their packaged shoeboxes for us to collect, count and cartonize. On Monday, November 21 we will transport all the boxes we have collected to the Central Drop-Off Location at Pitts Baptist Church in Concord. Volunteers are needed to staff our collection and to help load all the boxes for transport on the 21st. See the shifts and sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or Michelle Walker, for more information.



First Presbyterian has secured a shift to serve at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte on Saturday, November 26, from 2pm-7pm

**26, from 3pm-7pm.** Volunteers must be at least 13 years old. We will leave from the church (carpooling available!) at 4:45pm, and we will stop for dinner on the way home. This is a great time of fun service and fellowship. Signup in the Narthex, or see Michelle Walker for more information.

# 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**

**Paul Bessent-** Recovery from respiratory issues **Alice Jeanes-** death of a family member

#### **FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY**

McKenzie Hampton-(Sandy Bessent's daughter)- Multiple health concerns
Kimberly Stipe- (Kay McAllister's daughter)- Recovery from surgery to remove tumor
Lena Marie Troutman (Judy Hammond 18 month granddaughter)- treatment after burns on her feet
Chelsea Ellington- (Ellington's daughter-in-law)- biopsy for skin cancer
Mike Allen (Barger's family)- Cancer diagnosis and is struggling
Lisa Threatt (Chariti's mom) -treatment for trigeminal neuralgia is helping

#### **HOMEBOUND**

Cindy Fisher- Transitional
Donna Mauldin- Landing of Cabarrus
Peggy Barnhardt – Morningside
Barbara Hancock- home
Iris Efird- home
Barbara Wise - Oaks at Hampton, Cummings, Georgia
Loretta Young - Five Oaks

# **SERVANTS**

**Elder Lock-Up: Tony Rary** 

Children's Message: Alpha Barger Children's Message next week: Lucinda

Stewart

Children's Church: Ryan & Michelle Walker Children's Church next week: Roxanne

**Spencer & Megan Quigg** 

**Acolytes: Violet & Amias Hamilton** 

Acolyte next week: Camryn Lowder & Evie

Sechler

**Nursery: Jenna Baker** 

Nursery <u>next week</u>: Allison Hammett Ushers: Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike

Lowder, Sam McAllister

Ushers next week: Mal McDaniel, Todd Pless,

Jill McLain, Phil McLain

**Greeter: Dave Argabrite, Jeff Barnhardt** 

# FINANCIALS FOR OCTOBER

YTD Income\$223,176.55YTD Expenses\$220,164.85YTD Budget\$246,147.50

Last week's attendance: 10/30/22

**Sunday School** 54

Worship 104

# THIS WEEK@FIRST PRESB

# Sunday, November 6 Daylight Savings Time

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast

9:45am - GraceFull Movements Dance Ministry

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with Holy Communion

# **Tuesday, November 8 Election Day**

12:00pm - NA

6:30pm - Session with Missions Team

# Wednesday, November 9

5:30pm - Fellowship Meal

6:00pm - PraiseMakers' Kids Choir

6:30pm - OCC Craft Night and Gospel of John Small Groups

# **Thursday, November 10**

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

# Friday, November 11 Veterans' Day

### Sunday, November 13

Sunday, November 13
9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
9:45am - GraceFul Movements Dance Ministry

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service



