



**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**

Eddie Spencer

**Prelude and Preparation for Worship**

Townend

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us***Lighting of the Candles**

Landon Walker &amp; Abby Vriesema

**\*Call to Worship**

Colossians 3:12-16

Leader: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

**All: Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.**

Leader: And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

**All: Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.**

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 351**

HYFRYDOL

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***\*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."**

**Prayer of Confession**

**"Holy and gracious Father, we confess that too often we want a Savior on our terms to meet our needs. Yet, You have sent Jesus as manna from heaven to give us spiritual, eternal, and abundant life. Forgive us for seeking life and satisfaction in other people, causes, and things. Grant us the solid joys and lasting treasure that belong only to Your children. For we pray in the exalted name of Jesus Christ our Lord who alone can satisfy hungry hearts like ours."**

**Silent Prayers of Confession****Assurance of the Gospel**

Colossians 1:13-14

**"For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."**

## ~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

### Celebration of our Fathers

#### \*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 21

TERRA BEATA

*This Is My Father's World*

#### Offering and Special Music

Kerby

*On This Father's Day*  
*Kay Yates, alto*

#### \*Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:24-29

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#### Sermon

“United with Christ”

Eddie Spencer

## ~ Responding to the Word of God ~

#### \*Song of Consecration No. 749

IVERSON

*Spirit of the Living God*

#### \*Prayer and Benediction

#### \*Postlude

*Love Divine*

Wesley

\*All who are able, please stand  
CCLI# 2221136

*welcome*

**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.

**Wifi** is accessible throughout our common areas. You may log in to First Presbyterian Guest with the password: Praise!!

**Children's Activity Bags** are available for children aged 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 *Events*

**Our Baby Bottle Boomerang** for Cabarrus Women's Center is coming to an end! Please return all baby bottles and donations by **TODAY, Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**, to the basket in the Narthex. The Cabarrus Women's Center is a life-affirming pregnancy support center. See Vickie Ellington for more information.



**The Missions Team is hosting a Night of Service on Wednesday, June 21st!** We will meet at Lifeline Christian Mission's Charlotte Center – 325 McGill Ave NW, Suite 175, Concord, NC 28027 – at 6pm and pack meals for about an hour. All ages are invited to serve, but space is limited, so please sign up in the Narthex by **TODAY, June 18**, if you would like to serve!



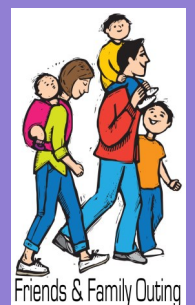
**The congregation is invited to a luncheon in honor of Frank & Peggy Gibson** for their many hours of service and dedication to First Presbyterian Church. Join us on Sunday, June 25 following worship in the First Presbyterian Church fellowship hall. RSVP via sign up in the Narthex. The congregation is asked to provide desserts.

**This summer, Journey Youth are invited to Create and Celebrate: A Summer with Our Creative God!** We will explore God's creativity through various forms of art, including music, painting, pottery, and more! This week, we will participate in the Night of Service. On Wednesday, June 28, we will have dinner at 6:00pm and Music Class at 6:30pm. Weekly meetings will continue on Wednesday evenings in July. Let Michelle know if you will attend!



**You are invited to a Night of Worship" on Friday, June 30th!** Area churches will gather in Veteran's Park (119 N. Main Street) from 6:30-8:30pm to minister to our community through song. Our very own PraiseMakers Kids' Choir will add their offerings of worship. Join us as we praise our great God with our community!

**Our next Friends & Family Outing will be Saturday, July 1 at Tweetsie Railroad!** We will meet at church at 8:00am to carpool, then enjoy the day exploring the park. You may bring a picnic lunch or purchase lunch on site. Dinner will be at the Daniel Boone Inn around 5pm before we head home. Journey Youth tickets will be paid for by the church. Otherwise, adults 13+ are \$51 and children 3-12 are \$31. Dinner is on your own. Group reservations are required for the park and the restaurant, so please RSVP to Michelle ASAP, but no later than Wednesday, June 21!



**A Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, June 25th during the Worship Service for the purpose of electing Elders. Elders elected in 2023 will serve a three-year term, beginning in July.



**These are the nominees:**



**Chris Lowder** looks forward to serving God as an elder for First Presbyterian. He and his wife, Chariti, are parents to three of our youth: Caylin, Camryn, and Cierstyn. Chris is employed with the North Carolina Research Campus in Facilities Maintenance. He has been active in church his entire life, having previously attended Mt. Zion UCC. Chris is excited to help take First Pres into the future as a beacon for our community and the world. Chris is a member of the Guardians Sunday School Class and serves as an Usher, on the Building and Grounds Team, and as a children/youth volunteer. He also acts as back-up videographer for our Sunday morning services. Chris will strive to uphold our mission to know Christ, serve Him, and make Him known.

**Sue Maiocchi** is honored to be nominated as an Elder to serve the dynamic, kind, and caring people of First Presbyterian. She is married to George, and has two children and three grandchildren. Sue works part-time for Westrock Coffee Company in Concord. Having been raised in an American Baptist Church, her life revolved around the church and its activities. Since joining First Presbyterian, she has discovered that its members live the church's Mission Statement through worship, adult education, music, children's programs, and its heart for missions. Sue looks forward to sharing the gifts God has given her and finding where she can play her part. Her favorite verse is Jeremiah 29:11, and she is excited for the plans God has for her faith journey. Sue is active in the Friendship Sunday School Class, the Dorcas Circle of Hope, the JOY Group, and the Missions Team. She has recently agreed to serve as First Pres' Drop-Off Team Leader for our Operation Christmas Child Collection Center.



**Ken Sparks** is humbled and honored to be nominated as an elder, and feels blessed to be a member of First Presbyterian's congregation. Ken is retired, having formerly owned Sparks Chrysler of Concord. He and his wife, Jenny, have three children and six grandchildren. Ken was raised in a Christian home to believe that the Word of God as written in The Holy Bible is absolute. Having been in the Methodist church all his life, he and Jenny were invited to First Pres by friends. He finds our worship services to be spiritually enriching, and likes that Pastor Eddie preaches from the Bible. Ken now feels that he is being called to serve the Lord at First Presbyterian. He is a member of the Friendship Sunday School Class and the JOY Group, and serves as an offering counter following worship services.



**New Summer Sunday School coming soon!** Pastor Eddie will lead a 7-week class on "Foundations: An Overview of Christian Truth in the Church," from Sunday, July 2 through Sunday, August 13. All adults are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00am as, together, we examine our beliefs.



**Linda's Closet is now open for weekly visitors!** The clothing closet, located beside the choir room, will be staffed on Tuesdays from 11am – 2pm. They have already assisted 29 individuals or families within the last two weeks! Donations are currently needed for: hangers with clips/grips, women's tshirts and tank tops (esp. 1x & 2x), and small boys' clothing (esp. 3T, 4T, and 5-7). See Cindy DeVoe, Kay McAllister, or

Mary Taylor for more information or to volunteer, and tell them "thank you" for all their hard work!

## Prayer Concerns

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

### CHURCH FAMILY

- **Randy Childers** - rehab at Big Elm
- **Devin Goode** - recovery from hernia surgery
- **Danny Bost** - battling cancer
- **Hank Cranford** - improving
- **Dawn Cavin** - recovering from fall
- **Richard & Farrar Griggs** - loss of sister, Shirley Ann Janson

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- **Rachel Spencer** (Eddie's mom) - recovering from blood clot
- **Sherry Bath** (Amy Hurst's friend) - treatments for cancer
- **Lester Watts** (Bonnie Goodnight's dad) - health concerns
- **Ellen Morrison** (Judy Hammond's friend) - cancer
- **Robert Little** (Richard's brother) - final treatments for cancer in July
- **Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Troutman** (Judy Hammond's family) - health concerns

### HOMEBOUND

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



# THIS WEEK@FIRST PRESB

## Sunday, June 18 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service

## Tuesday, June 20

12:00pm - NA  
6:30pm - Missions Team

## Wednesday, June 21

6:00pm - Night of Service at Lifeline Meal Packing

## Thursday, June 22

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study  
12:00pm - NA

## Next Sunday, June 25 10 Cents a Meal!

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service with Congregational Meeting  
12:00pm - Appreciation Luncheon for Frank & Peggy Gibson

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Donnie Swaringen  
**Children's Message:** Children's Prayers  
**Children's Message next week:** Roxanne Spencer  
**Children's Church:** Brian & Hannah Efird  
**Children's Church next week:** Lynn & Shannon Sechler  
**Acolytes:** Landon Walker & Abby Vriesema  
**Acolyte next week:** Caylin Lowder & Noah Walker  
**Nursery:** Kaitlyn Maxwell  
**Nursery next week:** Amy Hamilton  
**Ushers:** Fred Caskey, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond, Tony Hunter  
**Ushers next week:** Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister  
**Greeters:** Ryan Walker, Roxanne Spencer

## FINANCIALS

FOR MAY

<b>YTD Income</b>	\$126,421.01
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	\$115,564.34
<b>YTD Budget</b>	\$121,460.00

**Last week's attendance:** 6/11/23  
**Sunday School - 72**  
**Worship - 122**

# SERMON NOTES

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