



**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

Lighting of the Candles

Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 46

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**All: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters his voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Leader: Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.

**All: "Be still, and know that I am God.**

Leader: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

**All: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

\*Hymn of Praise No. 286

AUSTRIAN HYMN

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

\*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

**"Heavenly Lord, Your name is a strong tower. The righteous run to it and are safe, yet, we confess that we have turned away from You. You call us to have no other gods before You. Yet, we worship and serve created things rather than You, our Creator and Redeemer. Forgive our divided hearts and wandering eyes. Grant us faith to gaze upon Jesus, who alone is worthy of our focused worship and deepest affection, for we pray in His matchless name."**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Isaiah 54:10

**"For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but My steadfast love shall not depart from you, and My covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you."**

\*Hymn of Grace No. 441 *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

SPARROW

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Offering and Special Music

Dix

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Abigail Malinovsky

\*Scripture Reading

Colossians 2:16-23

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Sermon

“Guard Your Treasure”

Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

\*Hymn of Peace No. 749 *Spirit of the Living God*

IVERSON

\*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.

**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!

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

I wanted to thank the congregation for the \$1000 scholarship. Everyone has been so supportive of me throughout my years at Appalachian State University. I will be a senior this coming school year and I feel just as supported as I did year one. Thank you to everyone for all the prayers while away at school. I also want to thank everyone for the prayers and support I received while abroad. It meant so much to me to be so far away but still receiving the support I got from you all! Thank you to everyone!



*Emma Sechler*

# UPCOMING *Events*

**Create & Celebrate.** This summer, Journey Youth are invited to Create & Celebrate: A Summer with Our Creative God! The schedule for July is as follows:

- This Wednesday, July 19: No Class
- Wednesday, July 26: Music with Kay & Michelle
- Wednesday, August 2: Mosaics with Allison Hammett

Please RSVP to Michelle if you plan to attend, so we have plenty of food and materials!



**Friends & Family Outings abound this summer! Here's what's coming up:**

- **Journey Youth are invited to a pool party on Sunday, July 30 at Northwest Swim Club** (5000 Durneigh Dr., Kannapolis, NC 28081). We have reserved a shelter from 4pm-8pm, and will enjoy an afternoon of swimming before a delicious cookout! Hamburgers will be provided. Please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A4AABAC2EA1FB6-journey> to RSVP and sign up for a side!



## FRIENDS & FAMILY

- **Our outing to Tweetsie Railroad has been rescheduled. The new date is Saturday, August 12th!** Carpooling will be available from the church at 8am. After spending the day in the park, we will enjoy dinner at Dan'l Boone Inn Restaurant before heading home. Journey Youth tickets will be covered by the church. For more pricing information, see the sheet in the Narthex. **Sign up by Sunday, July 30!**

- **Youth, family, and friends are invited to Faith Fest, a Christian music worship event on Saturday, September 16 in Wilkesboro, NC!** Featured artists include Chris Tomlin, Cece Winans, Cain, and more. We will leave from church at 1pm and enjoy an afternoon and evening of fun and fellowship. **Sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, July 30 so we can purchase advance tickets!!!**



**All adults are invited to a combined summer Sunday School!** From now through Sunday, August 13, Pastor Eddie will lead a class entitled "Foundations: An Overview of Christian Truth in the Church." The class will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00am.

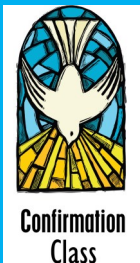
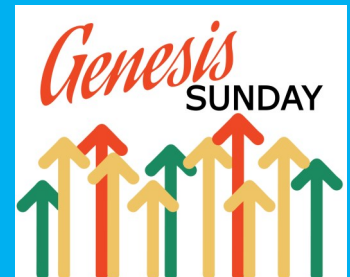
**Women Without Reservations is going to Melting Pot Lake Norman on Saturday, August 5 at 6pm!** This women's group desires to fulfill Proverbs 25:31 by living "without reservations," while welcoming anyone who wants to join us "without reservations"! In this case, though, we need to make reservations, so RSVP to Michelle by Sunday, July 30!



**School will be starting soon, and we want to send our youth off covered in prayer!** On Sunday, August 6, they are invited to bring their bookbags for a special "blessing" during the children's message. Magnets with each child's name, grade, and school will also be placed in the Narthex for church members to "adopt" – committing to pray for that child each day in the coming year. If you would like for your youth to be included, please email

michellewalker@firstpresb.org with the student's information.

**Mark your calendars for Genesis Sunday, August 20th!** We will start with breakfast at 9:30. During the 10:00 Sunday School hour, classes will be introduced, many of which will begin new studies. Come find your place as we study God's word together!



**A Confirmation Class will begin soon for rising 6th graders and up!** The class will meet every other Sunday from August 27 through December 3 during the 10:00am Sunday School hour, and will be led by Pastor Eddie and Michelle. Confirmation will take place during the worship service on Sunday, December 17. Please see Michelle if your youth is interested in participating!

**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. Donations are currently needed for: kids' hangers, 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!



**Our Fence Ministry continues with new, summer items!** Small bags have been placed on the fence with hygiene kits and summer wearables. If you would like to contribute, the following items are needed: bars of soap, wash cloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby wipes, dry shampoo, combs/brushes, deodorants, feminine products, socks, underwear, flip flops, and summer hats. See Sam or Kay McAllister to donate or for more information!





**Dwain Upton is a friend of the Spencers from Fort Myers.** He has served with Young Life for many years and is presently preparing to go to Portugal to serve as a missionary with Young Life International. Dwain shared his calling last week during Sunday school and several folks asked how they could learn more about his ministry. Dwain's email is [portugal.dwain.upton@gmail.com](mailto:portugal.dwain.upton@gmail.com) and phone number is 918-810-2550. If you are interested in supporting Dwain financially, you can send a check for:

Dwain Upton  
Young Life  
PO Box 5184  
Harlan, IA 51593

## 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

- **Bob and Shirley Faust** - both in hospital
- **Shannon Sechler** - recovery from another carpal tunnel surgery
- **Randy Childers** - rehab at Big Elm
- **Danny Bost** - battling cancer
- **Hank Cranford** - health concerns

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF Church Family

- **Joy Purser** (sister of Susan Hathaway) - Lewy Body Dementia
- **Tammy Meadows** (friend of Judy Hunter) - head injury
- **Carolyn Dixon** (friend of Kathleen Crosier) - surgery for cancer
- **Sheila Cowan** (Eric Cowen's sister) - recovery from a kidney replacement
- **Ellen Morrison** (Judy Hammond's friend) - cancer
- **Robert Little** (Richard's brother) - final treatments for cancer in July
- **Buddy Troutman** (Judy Hammond's family) - health concern

### HOMEBOUND

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



# THIS WEEK @ FIRST PRES

## Sunday, July 16

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

## Tuesday, July 18

12:00pm – NA

## Thursday, July 20

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

## Sunday, July 23

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

**10 Cents a Meal!**

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Dave Ellington

**Children's Message:** Amelia Caskey

**Children's Message next week:** Jenna Baker

**Children's Church:** Tracy & Amelia Caskey

**Children's Church next week:** Jane Argabrite & Vickie Ellington

**Acolytes:** Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

**Acolytes next week:** Erica & Lily Efird

**Nursery:** Jenna Baker

**Nursery next week:** Hannah Efird

**Ushers:** Danny Bost, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond, & Tony Hunter

**Ushers next week:** Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Ryan Walker, & Sam McAllister

**Greeters:** Jeff Barnhardt & Ryan Walker

## FINANCIALS

### FOR JUNE

**YTD Income** \$151,206.95

**YTD Expenses** \$141,206.06

**YTD Budget** \$145,752.00

**Last week's attendance:** 7/09/23

**Sunday School - 72**

**Worship - 113**

# SERMON NOTES




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First Presbyterian Church • 201 Vance Street • Kannapolis, NC 28081  
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