



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

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

American Folk Melody

There Is A Fountain

Tana Nichols, oboe; Kay Yates, piano

Lighting of the Candles

Landon & Noah Walker

*Call to Worship

Colossians 3:1-4

Leader: Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

All: For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

*Hymn of Assurance No. 363 *Blessed Assurance*

ASSURANCE

*Prayer of Adoration

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' 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 at 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 Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

*Hymn of Praise No. 405

ST. ANNE

O God Our Help in Ages Past

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Word with our Children

Blessing of the Bookbags

Offering and Special Music

Stockton

Glory to His Name
Handbells & Piano

***Scripture Reading**

Colossians 3:12-14

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Sermon

“Forgiveness”

Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

***Hymn of Communion No. 175**

HAMBURG

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

***Prayer and Benediction**

Postlude

The Lord Who Reigns Above

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!

As our church family celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we also traditionally collect for our Good Samaritan Fund. This fund allows the church pastor and staff to assist those in need – both in our church and in our community. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the ‘Good Samaritan Fund’ envelope, or mark your offering envelope ‘Good Samaritan Fund.’

UPCOMING Events



Thank you for supporting the Cabarrus and uCity Women's Centers. Your willingness to participate in the baby bottle campaign will save and change lives right here in our community. We are certainly blessed to have you as a supporter. Your congregation was very generous in collecting \$970.16 in support of this ministry! These funds will be put to good use glorifying God through actions showing His love.

In Christ, *Olivia Thornton, Center Administrator*

Today, we join in praying for students, faculty, and staff as school begins for the 2023-2024 year. The names, schools, and grades of our children have been placed on magnets in the Narthex. Our church family is invited to "adopt" a student by taking their magnet from the display, committing to pray for that child daily in the coming year. Thank you for your continued support of our children and youth!



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.

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!



Confirmation Class

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!

Journey 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 as soon as possible in the Narthex, so that we can secure tickets before they sell out!!!



Calling all volunteers! If you currently volunteer in any of our children's ministries, like Nursery, Sunday School, Children's Church, Wednesday night, or even special programs, it's time for your annual volunteer training! New volunteers are needed, who must also attend this training. Another session will be held **Sunday, August 13 at 9:30 am** in the Session Room. If you are not able to attend, please see Michelle so another time can be arranged. Thank you for all you do for our children!!!

Linda's Closet is open for weekly visitors! The clothing closet, located beside the choir room, will be staffed on Tuesdays from 11am – 2pm. Volunteers are needed to assist shoppers during those hours. Please sign up in the Narthex if you can help for all or part of that time slot!



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!

Celebrate Christmas in July by shopping for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes! As our collection begins, we will focus on school supplies like composition notebooks (not wire-bound), scissors, pencils, manual pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, markers, and crayons. Place your donations in the collection bin, located in the Narthex. Thanks for your support!



Prayer Concerns

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

CHURCH FAMILY

- Evie Sechler - recovery from surgery
- Roxanne Spencer - caring for mother
- Susan Hathaway - loss of her sister, Joy Purser
- Randy Childers - in hospital with severe infection
- Danny Bost- battling cancer
- Hank Cranford - health concerns

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Lori Holder (Sam McAllister's daughter) - health concerns
- Justin Wallace (Melba Funderburk's grandson) - rare disease
- May Ackerman (Roxanne's mom) - hospice care
- Harvey Baker (Bakers' brother) - surgery to remove brain tumor
- Sherry Bath (Amy Hurst's friend) - recovery from cancer surgery
- Fiancé of Rachel Hinson—death of mother
- Gay Family from China Grove - loss of 17-year-old son
- Sheila Cowan (Eric Cowan's sister) - recovery from kidney replacement
- Ellen Morrison (Judy Hammond's friend) - cancer
- Buddy Troutman (Judy Hammond's family) - health concern

HOMEBOUND

- Bob & Shirley Faust - Morningside
- 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, August 6

Blessing of the Bookbags!

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- GraceFull Movements
Dance Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with
Holy Communion

Monday, August 7

10:30am - Women's Council

Tuesday, August 8

11:00am - 2:00pm - Linda's Closet

12:00pm - NA

6:30pm - Session

Wednesday, August 9

6:30pm - Agape Bistro Rehearsal

Thursday, August 10

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

Saturday, August 12

8:00am - Journey Youth @
Tweetsie Railroad

Sunday, August 13

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- GraceFull Movements
Dance Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

Children's Message: Blessing of the Bookbags

Children's Message next week: Alpha Barger

Children's Church: Michelle Walker & Megan Quigg

Children's Church next week: Chris & Chariti Lowder

Acolytes: Landon and Noah Walker

Acolytes next week: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Nursery: Amelia Caskey

Nursery next week: Allison Hammett

Ushers: Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler, Ryan Walker, Jeff Barnhardt

Ushers next week: Danny Bost, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond, Tony Hunter

Greeters: Donnie Swaringen, Debbie McDaniel

FINANCIALS

FOR JULY

YTD Income \$178,363.95

YTD Expenses \$174,039.67

YTD Budget \$170,044.00

Last week's attendance: 7/30/23

Sunday School - 74

Worship - 115

