



First Presbyterian

“Sanctify them by the truth;

Your word is truth.

As You sent Me into the world,
I have sent them into the world.”

John 17:17-18

Welcome!

~ **Gathering Before the Word** ~

Welcome

Eddie Spencer

Prelude and Preparation for Worship

Kim

Sweet By and By

Lighting of the Candles

Abby Vriesema & Noah Walker

***Call to Worship**

Matthew 28:18-20

Leader: Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

ALL: And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

***Hymn of Praise No. 483**

Come, We that Love the Lord

MARCHING TO ZION

***Prayer of Adoration**

Prayer of Confession

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for ignoring Your immensity and greatness. Lord Jesus, forgive us for our struggle to truly rest in Your finished work. Holy Spirit, we offend You by minimizing Your transforming power and walking our own way. We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with You. It is in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

1 Peter 2: 24-25

“He Himself bore our sins” in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by His wounds you have been healed.” For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

***Hymn of Trust No. 466**

Abide With Me
(Stanzas 1,3,4)

EVENTIDE

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

~ **Proclaiming the Word of God** ~

Word with our Children

Amelia Caskey

***Doxology No. 965**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Offering and Special Music *The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)* Maher/Sooter/Fowler
PraiseMakers

***Scripture Reading** Matthew 16:13-19 page 972

Sermon "Called Outwardly" Eddie Spencer

~ **Responding to the Word of God** ~

***Hymn No. 869** *Here I Am, Lord*

***Prayer and Benediction**

Postlude *Now Thank We All Our God* Karg-Elert

*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 in the Church Nursery. 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!



The flowers on the altar are placed to the glory of God and in honor of Pastor Eddie and Roxanne for National Clergy Appreciation Day. Today especially, we praise God for providing Eddie and Roxanne to serve our church and lead us in service to our community. We are so blessed to have them here,

and we are beyond grateful that they accepted God's call to Kannapolis. Please extend your own word of thanks to Eddie and Roxanne for their ministry!



“Thank you” seems so inadequate for the kind expressions of love and encouragement that were showered on me last week! From the beautiful flowers on the altar and those given by the children, to the cards, notes, hugs, and the gift from Session ... I was overwhelmed. I am still amazed that God would allow me to serve as a leader in His church, now going on 5 years! On my own, I am not worthy of such an honor. Not one thing I have ever accomplished that is good or successful is a result of my own ability. God has blessed, gifted, provided for, and directed me in more ways than I can count - not the least of which is an amazing husband who supports me, encourages me, and tirelessly serves alongside me. Our children and family do the same. So I thank you, giving glory to the One who makes all things possible.

In His love, Michelle

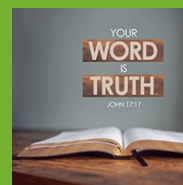


Wednesdays in the Word continue this week!

A Fellowship Meal will be served beginning at 5:30pm on a donation basis. This week’s menu will be grilled chicken, potatoes, green beans, drinks and dessert. PraiseMakers rehearse at 6pm. Classes/groups start at 6:30, including:

- “Foundations” - Adult class with Pastor Eddie,
- “Anxious for Nothing” - Middle/Sr High with Michelle,
- “Unafraid” - Elementary children with Chariti & Chris,

Join us as we dig deeper into God’s Word this fall!



A Men’s Fellowship Dinner will be held on Thursday, October 12 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall (donation basis). We will enjoy a meal from Sonny’s BBQ, including bbq pork, bbq chicken, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, salad, drinks and dessert. Rodney Taylor will lead us in a time of devotion. Please sign-up in the Narthex by TODAY, October 8th! (Suggested donation is \$11 per person.)

The Missions Team will host a Missions Meal

(donation basis) immediately following the worship service on Sunday, October 22! Members of the Missions Team will provide soups and cornbread. The congregation is asked to contribute desserts. All donations received will go towards our OCC Shoebox packing efforts.

THANK YOU for your support of this ministry!



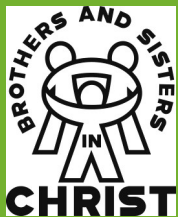
The Journey Youth Fall Festival will be Sunday, October 29 at 4pm! Join us at the Walker farm as we fire up the grill and then the tractor for a hayride. We'll play games, make crafts, and enjoy sweet treats together. Entrée will be provided, please bring a side or dessert to share. Sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, October 22!

Serving Christ Together

Missions Highlight



Compassion International is “a child-advocacy ministry pairing compassionate people with children living in extreme poverty to release the children from spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty”. Child sponsorship allows this mission to take place as youngsters are provided access to health care, education, and other necessities, while being shown and taught the love of Jesus. Your monthly 10 Cents a Meal offerings at First Pres support three children. Dorcas, sponsored since December 2015 is 14. She lives in Burkina Faso and is in the 6th grade. Bithi, sponsored since March 2016 is 15. She lives in Bangladesh and is in 9th grade. Alassane, sponsored since February 2018 is 10. He lives in Burkina Faso and is in 5th grade. Thanks you for your support of this special ministry!



Agape Chinese Baptist Church will soon begin using part of our facility for a weekly Friday night fellowship and Bible Study. Many of the group live or work in Kannapolis, and will be on our campus from approximately 5:30-8:30pm. They minister to believers and those seeking to know more about Christ.

Operation Christmas Child Updates! Collection Season

is in full swing! Our missions team has committed to packing 400 boxes for ages 10-14, 200 boys and 200 girls. We are currently working on school supplies and need your help to fulfill the following: 168 composition notebooks (not wire-bound), 324 scissors, 138 packs of colored pencils or crayons, and 390 packs of skinny markers. Place your donations in our collection bins in the Narthex or outside the Fellowship Hall. You may also make monetary donations (including online) - just mark your offering for “shoeboxes.”



Linda's Closet clothing ministry is in need of men's jeans in waist sizes 30 - 36 and girls' clothing, sizes 6 months - 5T. The closet is open on Tuesdays, 11 am - 2pm. Thank you for your help!

First Presbyterian Church, Linda's Closet, and

Feeding Kannapolis Hunger will host a Fall Health Fair and Cold Weather Clothing Giveaway on Saturday, November 4! The health and wellness presentation will begin at 9:30am, with a fresh produce and egg giveaway to follow. Attendees can also shop for coats, gloves, and toboggans, as well as other needs in the closet.

Soup, desserts, and bread will be served for lunch. There will be kids' activities and music! But we need your help! Please drop off donations of coats, gloves, and toboggans by Wednesday, November 1. Volunteers will also be needed to prep the market on Friday evening, as well as donate desserts, prepare and serve lunch, and help shoppers on Saturday. Sign up in the Narthex, and join us for a fun day of service!!!





The First Presbyterian Fence Ministry continues to bless individuals with hygiene and seasonal clothing items. Small bags with products like plastic bandages, lip balm, washcloths, towels and hand towels, combs and brushes, hair ties, deodorant, feminine products, plastic forks/spoons, ponchos, scarves, gloves, and toboggans are placed on the fence along Vance St. for those in need. If you would like to donate items, please see Sam or Kay McAllister; or make a donation to First Pres marked “homeless ministry” to support our fence and other homeless outreaches.

Prayer Concerns

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

- Irene Davis - loss of brother
- Barbara Hancock - recovery from Covid
- Randy Childers - Big Elm, Room 204
- Danny Bost- battling cancer
- Hank Cranford - health concerns



FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Everett Halsell (Sue Maiocchi's dad) - diagnosed with cancer
- Justin Wallace (Melba Funderburk's grandson) - rare disease
- Sherry Bath (Amy Hurst's friend) - chemo and radiation treatments
- Ellen Morrison (Judy Hammond's friend) - cancer
- Buddy Troutman (Judy Hammond's family) - health concern
- Leigh Ann Hall (Betty Sechler's daughter) - recovery from stroke
- Margarita Cowan (Eric Cowan's mom) - health concerns
- Shirley Ellington (Dave Ellington's mom) - recovery from a fall and shoulder surgery
- Robert Little (Richard's brother) - new treatment for cancer

HOMEBOUND

- Bob & Shirley Faust - Morningside
- Peggy Barnhardt - Morningside
- May Ackerman - Morningside
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Iris Efird - Home
- Barbara Wise - Oaks at Hampton, Cummings, Georgia
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks

This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, October 8

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- GraceFull Movements
Dance Rehearsal
10:00am - Sunday School
- Confirmation Class
11:00am - Worship Service

Tuesday, October 10

11:00am - 2:00 pm Linda's Closet
12:00pm - NA
6:30pm - Missions Team

Wednesday, October 11

Wednesdays in the Word!

5:30pm - Fellowship Dinner
6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal
6:30pm - Kids, Youth, & Adult Groups

Thursday, October 12

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study
12:00pm - NA
6:00pm - Men's Fellowship Dinner

Next Sunday, October 15

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- Graceful Movements
Dance Rehearsal
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Ken Sparks

Children's Message: Amelia Caskey

Children's Church: Tracy & Amelia Caskey

Children's Church next week: Dave & Jane Argabrite

Acolytes: Abby Vriesema & Noah Walker

Acolytes next week: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Nursery: Judy Hunter

Nursery next week: Allison Hammett

Ushers: Ryan Walker, Jeff Barnhardt, Danny Bost, Mark Goodnight

Ushers next week: John Hammond, Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder

Greeters: Sue Maiocchi, Jeff Barnhardt

FINANCIALS

FOR SEPTEMBER

YTD Income \$224,203.45

YTD Expenses \$222,649.78

YTD Budget \$218,628.00

Last week's attendance: 9/24/23

Sunday School - 67

Worship - 103

