



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 Hahn

Variations On In Babilone

Lighting of the Candles Evie Sechler and Ingrid Townsend

***Call to Worship** Psalm 27:1,4

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?

ALL: One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple."

***Hymn of Praise No. 246** *God is Here* NETTLETON

***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.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel Ephesians 2:4-5

"But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved."

***Hymn of Trust No. 322** *I Need Thee Every Hour* Lowry

Prayer for the Nations

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

***Doxology No. 965** OLD HUNDREDTH

Offering and Special Music *In This Very Room* Harris

Lucinda Stewart, soprano; Brenda McCombs, piano

***Scripture Reading** 2 Peter 1: 3-8 page 1204

Sermon "Upward to Inward to Outward" Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

*Sending Song

Shalom to You
Lucinda Stewart, soprano

Young

*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

They'll Know We Are Christians

Held

*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!



Sunday, October 22nd will be a day of celebration and thanksgiving at First Pres!

We are pleased to announce the dedication of the Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Crawford Memorial Pavilion immediately following the worship service next Sunday. Join us under our new shelter for a time of prayer and thanksgiving.

Then, enjoy a Missions Lunch in the Fellowship Hall to benefit our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox packing efforts. The Missions Team will provide soups and cornbread, while the congregation is asked to provide desserts.

Come celebrate this new facility, our replaced playground, and our expanded ministry capabilities!!!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesdays in the Word continue this week!

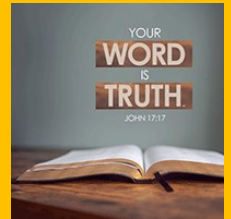
A Fellowship Meal will be served beginning at 5:30pm on a donation basis. This week's menu will be Brunswick stew, sausage tortellini soup or white lasagna soup, cornbread and desserts.

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!



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!

The South Rowan Public Schools Bible Teaching

Association is hosting their annual golf tournament on Monday, October 30th. A shotgun start begins at 9am at The Club at Irish Creek. Registrations and/or sponsorships are due by October 23rd. Forms are in the Narthex if you are interested!



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 also 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, Nov. 3, 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!!!

Join us for Thanksgiving Day lunch on Thursday, November 23! The meal starts at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Turkey and gravy will be provided; guests are asked to bring sides, desserts, and tea to share. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, November 19!!!



Serving Christ Together

Operation Christmas Child 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 hygiene items and need your help to fulfill the following: 323 bars of soap, 67 brushes, 400 combs, 365 thick washcloths, and 400 tubes of lip balm. 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 "Shoebboxes."



First Presbyterian will once again serve as an Operation Christmas Child Shoebbox Drop-off Center in 2023! During National Collection Week, November 13-20, volunteers will be needed to staff our center and receive shoeboxes from neighboring churches and community members. We must then transport those boxes to Pitts Baptist on Monday, November 20. A sign-

up board is in the Narthex with the hours for which help is needed. See Sue Maiocchi if you have questions or would like more information!

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.



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.

Thank you for your support of this special ministry!



Dear Roxanne, Judy and the entire Fall for Fashion Team,
A note of thanksgiving for all your efforts to make a lovely gathering for the ladies. Roxanne your welcoming spirit was contagious and Judy your prayer was sincere and heartwarming. The entire team really did a wonderful job. Happy fall and God bless, Noreen Kualii

First Presbyterian Church Family,

Thank you for sharing your beautiful building with our family. It was so special for our children to be married in the same place as their family members. You have been so kind and generous to us. With love, The Mahaley Family

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 multiple health concerns
- Kay McAllister - knee surgery Oct 23
- Danny Bost- battling cancer
- Jean Bost - health concerns
- Hank Cranford - health concerns
- Cookie Hamilton - sprained ankles

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Everett Halsell (Sue Maiocchi's dad) - beginning treatment for 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
- Betty Sechler's brother - recovery from stroke
- 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 15

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

Tuesday, October 17

11:00am - 2:00 pm Linda's Closet
12:00pm - NA

Wednesday, October 18

Wednesdays in the Word!

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

Thursday, October 19

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

Friday, October 20

5:30 pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Saturday, October 21

10:00am - Missions Meal Prep

Next Sunday, October 22

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- Graceful Movements
Dance Rehearsal
10:00am - Sunday School
- Confirmation
11:00am - Worship Service
12:00pm - Dedication of Joe Crawford
Pavilion
- Missions Meal for OCC
Shoebox Packing Efforts

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Ken Sparks

Children's Message Next week: Roxanne Spencer

Children's Church: Dave & Jane Argabrite

Children's Church next week: Debbie McDaniel & Abigail Malinovsky

Acolytes: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Acolytes next week: Camryn & Caylin Lowder

Nursery: Allison Hammett

Nursery next week: Ella Sechler

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

Ushers next week: Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel, Todd Pless

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: 10/8/23

Sunday School - 80

Worship - 111

