



**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** *Trumpet Voluntary* Clark  
Zach Snively, Trumpet

**Lighting of the Candles** Landon & Noah Walker

**\*Call to Worship** *I Will Carry You* Glover/Holcomb  
GraceFull Movements Dance Ministry

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 281** *God of the Ages* NATIONAL HYMN

**\*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, for You are the only refuge in troubled times. Yet, we confess that our fears are legion. We are afraid to love, afraid to commit ourselves, afraid of what others think, afraid of rejection, afraid of being hurt, afraid of failure, and afraid of what the future might bring. Show us that Jesus Christ is Your protection of us, Your presence with us, and Your power in us. Forgive us, for the glory of our Savior's name, Jesus Christ the Lord.

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Assurance of the Gospel** Ephesians 2:8-9

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast.”

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 776** EIN FESTE BURG

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

**Prayer for the Nations**

~ **Proclaiming the Word of God** ~

**Word with our Children** Alpha Barger

**\*Doxology No. 965** OLD HUNDREDTH

**Offering and Special Music** *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* Bach  
Zach Snively, Trumpet

**Scripture Reading** Page 1090  
Acts 11:19-26

**Sermon** "An Outward Church" Eddie Spencer

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

**Sending Song** *Good, Good Father* Barrett/Brown  
PraiseMakers with George Maxwell , guitar

**\*Prayer and Benediction**

**Postlude** *Trumpet Tune* Purcell  
Zach Snively, Trumpet

\*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!

## Reformation Sunday

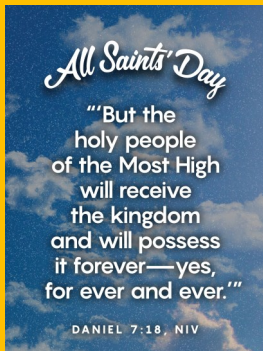
Today, many Protestant churches celebrate Reformation Day. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 Thesis/Protests on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. These protests were surreptitiously printed into the German language and became a catalyst for a movement which eventually became widely known as the Protestant Reformation.

Luther, Calvin and other Reformers, guided by biblical convictions, sought to reorient Christianity on the foundations of the Apostles and Prophets with Jesus Christ as the Chief Cornerstone (Eph 2:29). The five "Solas" (Latin phrases which gave unity and summarized the core theological convictions of the Protestant Reformation are as follows:

- ***Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone): The Bible alone is our highest authority.***
- ***Sola Fide (Faith Alone): We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.***
- ***Sola Gratia (Grace Alone): We are saved by the grace of God alone.***
- ***Solis Christus (Christ Alone): Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.***
- ***Soli Deo Gloria (To the Glory of God Alone): We live for the Glory of God alone.***

In these days, may God grant us deeper faith and courage to hold fast to the Word of God, rest in the Gospel of Christ, and live for the glory of our great and glorious God.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Next Sunday, November 5, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday** during our Worship Service. Together, we will remember those members within our congregation and wider church family who have passed away since last November and are now members of the Church Eternal. If you are aware of someone who should be included in that list, please see Michelle today, or send an email to [michellewalker@firstpresb.org](mailto:michellewalker@firstpresb.org).

### Wednesdays in the Word conclude this week!

A Fellowship Meal will be served beginning at 5:30pm on a donation basis.

PraiseMakers rehearse at 6pm.

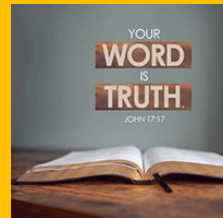
Classes/groups start at 6:30, including:

“Foundations” - Adult class with Pastor Eddie

“Anxious for Nothing” - Middle/Sr. High Youth 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 is TODAY, October 29** beginning at 4pm! Join us at the Walker farm for food, fun and fellowship. See Michelle for more information.

### First Presbyterian Church, Linda's Closet, and Feeding Kannapolis Hunger

will host a Fall Health Fair and Cold Weather Clothing Giveaway THIS 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 vendors and health organizations too! Please drop off donations of coats, gloves, and toboggans by Wednesday, November 1st. Volunteers are 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. RSVP in the Narthex by Sunday, November 19!!!

# Serving Christ Together



**Thank you to all who came to the Missions Lunch** last Sunday after church. A total of \$2,652 was donated towards our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox packing efforts!!!!

**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, 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 "Shoeboxes."



## **Our OCC Shoebox packing will begin Wednesday, November 8th with Craft Night!**

After dinner at 5:30 (pizza served on a donation basis) we will decorate items to place in our shoeboxes. All ages are invited to come ready to create (and maybe get messy)!

## **Our Shoebox Packing Party will be Wednesday**

**November 15th!** Chicken and sides will be served at 5:30, before we gather to pack and pray for our 400 boxes at 6:30pm. There's a job for everyone, so come enjoy the fun and fellowship!!!



## **First Presbyterian will once again serve as an Operation Christmas Child Shoebox 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!



**First Pres has reserved a limited number of slots at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte!** Our shift is on Friday, November 24 from 3pm-7pm. We will carpool in the church van, and gather for dinner at a restaurant in Charlotte following our shift.

Volunteers must be at least 13 years old to participate.

Please sign up in the Narthex, or see Michelle for more information.





**The First Presbyterian Fence Ministry** is currently collecting 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. 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

- Sandy Bessent and family - loss of Paul
- Kay McAllister - recovery from knee surgery and broken wrist
- Cookie Hamilton - recovery from ankle surgery
- Phil Smith - recovery from knee surgery
- Barbara Hancock - recovery from multiple health concerns
- Danny Bost- battling cancer
- Jean Bost - surgery on infected toe Nov 3
- Hank Cranford - health concerns



### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Robert Little (Rickard's brother) - new treatment for cancer
- Betty Sechler's brother - recovery from stroke
- 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
- Ken Salisbury( husband of admin asst, Lisa) recovery from eye surgery

### 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 29

### Reformation Sunday

- 9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
  - GraceFull Movements & Acting Out Rehearsals
- 10:00am - Sunday School
- 11:00am - Worship Service
- 4:00pm - Journey Youth Fall Festival at the Walkers

## Tuesday, October 31

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

## Wednesday, November 1

### Wednesdays in the Word!

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

## Thursday, November 2

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

## Friday, November 3

- 5:30 pm Fall Health Fair Set up
- 5:30 pm - Agape Chinese Baptist Church Stream Fellowship

## Saturday, November 4

- 9:30am - Fall Health Fair & Clothing Giveaway with Soup Lunch

## Next Sunday, November 5

### All Saints Sunday

#### \*\*\*Daylight Savings Time Ends\*\*\*

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

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Ken Sparks

**Children's Message:** Alpha Barger

**Children's Message Next week:** Acting Out

**Children's Church:** Michelle Walker & Megan Quigg

**Children's Church next week:** Roxanne Spencer & Katherine Vriesema

**Acolytes:** Landon & Noah Walker

**Acolytes next week:** Caylin Lowder & Abby Vriesema

**Nursery:** Jenna Baker

**Nursery next week:** Chariti Lowder

**Ushers:** Jill McLain, Phil McLain, Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler

**Ushers next week:** Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Ryan Walker, Jeff Barnhardt

**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: 10/22/23

Worship - 110

Sunday School - 68

— WOMEN —  
MENTORING  
— WOMEN —

### Second Presbyterian Church invites all

women to "Under the Wing...Women Mentoring Women" with author and guest speaker Dr. Tricia Scribner. The event will be Sat, November 4 from 9am-12:30pm Cost is \$20 which includes lunch and a book. Fliers are in the Narthex .

# SERMON NOTES


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS**

- |                        |                       |                         |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Tracy Caskey</b>    | <b>Dave Ellington</b> | <b>Lynn Sechler</b>     |
| <b>Cookie Hamilton</b> | <b>Chris Lowder</b>   | <b>Ken Sparks</b>       |
| <b>Sue Maiocchi</b>    | <b>Tony Rary</b>      | <b>Donnie Swaringen</b> |
- Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator**  
**Jeff Barnhardt, Session Clerk**

