



**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**    *In Remembrance* Red

**Lighting of the Candles** Caylin Lowder & Abby Vriesema

**\*Call to Worship**    *Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place* Wolfe  
 Lucinda Stewart, Michelle Walker, Kay Yates, vocal trio

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 254**                      *For All the Saints* SINE NOMINEE  
 Kay Yates, Alto, Piano

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**Celebration of Life**

**Song of Thanksgiving**                      *Safely Home* Green

~ **Proclaiming the Word of God** ~

**Word with our Children** Acting Out

**\*Hymn of Praise No.**    *Sing With All the Saints in Glory* HYMN TO JOY

Sing with all the saints in glory,  
 Sing the resurrection song!  
 Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,  
 To the former days belong.  
 All around the clouds are breaking,  
 Soon the storms of time shall cease;  
 In God's likeness, man awaking,  
 Knows the everlasting peace.

Life eternal! O what wonders  
 Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,  
 When amid earth's closing thunders,  
 Saints shall stand before the throne!  
 O to enter that bright portal,  
 See that glowing firmament,  
 Know, with Thee, O God immortal,  
 "Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent!" (W. Irons)

**Offering and Special Music**    *Jesus Tender Shepherd Hear Me* Stainer  
 Jun-Fung Ng

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 2

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Sermon

“Christ Our Champion”

Eddie Spencer

Celebration of The Lord’s Supper

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

Sending Prayer for Farrar & Cindy Griggs

\*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

*Nothing But The Blood*

*Lowry*

\*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!



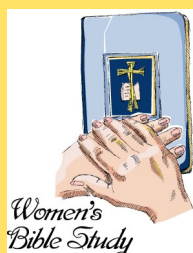
**As our church family celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion,** we also traditionally collect for our Good Samaritan Fund. This fund allows the church pastor and staff to assist those in need – both in our church and in our community. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in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



**Farrar Griggs has been called to another Transitional Pastor position.** He will be Senior Pastor at Narberth Presbyterian Church in Narberth, PA, a town on the mainline to Philadelphia about 13 miles from City Center. He will begin his new position on November 13. Farrar is a son of this church. He was a member here for many years and served in virtually all lay capacities. He was called into ministry about twenty years ago. Farrar started as a Certified Lay Pastor, then was called to Rocky Creek Presbyterian Church in Jefferson, SC, in 2011. Since then he has served as a Certified Transitional Minister and lead pastor at Second Presbyterian Church, Kannapolis, and Bethel Presbyterian Church, Cornelius, NC. This year he has worked with Bill Jolley at Flow Harris Presbyterian to keep that pulpit filled. As Farrar and Cindy prepare for departure to his third "last job," they have asked that First Presbyterian bestow a blessing and covet your continued prayer support in this new ministry for our Lord.



**The Thursday morning Women's Bible Study** will begin a new book next week entitled *Help My Unbelief*. "Barnabas Piper invites us into a larger faith: one that has room for questions, victories, failures, and mystery. Belief in an infinite God by finite humans is an act of exploration, a process of learning - and then embracing - what we can't learn but can trust. Please join the group on Thursdays from 10:30am - 12pm to discover the God who not only desires our belief but also *welcomes our confusion*."



**The JOY Group will meet on Wednesday, November 15** at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Dave Argabrite will lead the program, which will include a clip from The Chosen on Jesus healing at the Bethesda pool. Ham will be provided. Please sign up in the Narthex for a side or dessert!



**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

**As we begin to prepare for Advent and Christmas**, a combined choir from Kimball Lutheran and First Pres will soon begin rehearsals for a cantata. The music will be presented at First Pres on Sunday, December 10, at 6 pm. Please see Kay Yates if you would like to add your voice to the choir.



**The church will be decorated for Advent** on Saturday, December 2, beginning at 2pm. Help is needed to lift and carry boxes down from the third floor, set up the altar extension and large tree, and hang greenery!

# Serving Christ Together

**Thank you** to everyone who helped set-up, prepare food, assist shoppers, and be a welcoming presence to our community for the Fall Health Fair yesterday!!!. We were able to serve many in our community with produce, eggs, coats, and soup!



## **It's the final push for our Operation Christmas Child**

**Collection!** The missions team has committed to packing 400 boxes for ages 10-14, 200 boys and 200 girls. Our most needed items at present are: 293 bars of soap, 365 thick washcloths, 331 boxes of 24 count crayons, 228 scissors and 168 packs of skinny markers. Filler items like these are also great: jump ropes, small jars of playdough, LED flashlights, watercolor palettes (no liquid) and small games or puzzles. So that we may order supplies and have an accurate count, the deadline for donations is **THIS Wednesday, November 8!!!**

**Our OCC Shoebox packing will begin this 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.



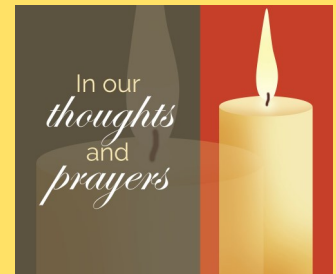
**The First Presbyterian Fence Ministry** is currently collecting plastic bandages, lip balm, washcloths, towels and hand towels, combs and brushes, hair ties, deodorant, feminine products, plastic forks/spoons, ponchos, scarves, gloves, and toboggans. If you would like to donate items, please see Sam 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 - recovery from toe surgery
- Hank Cranford - health concerns



### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Cathy Pifferetti (PO BOX 6, Spencer, NC 28159) - tragic loss of Frank
- Robert Little (Richard's brother) - new treatment for cancer
- 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

### 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, November 5

### All Saints Sunday

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast  
- GraceFull Movements &  
Acting Out Rehearsals

10:00am - Sunday School  
- Confirmation

11:00am - Worship Service  
- Communion

## Tuesday, November 7

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

12:00pm - NA

6:30pm - Session

## Wednesday, November 8

5:30pm - Fellowship Dinner

6:00 pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal

6:30pm - OCC Craft Night

## Thursday, November 9

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

## Friday, November 10

5:30 pm - Agape Chinese Baptist  
Church Stream Fellowship

## Saturday, November 11

### Veteran's Day

## Next Sunday, November 12

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

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Lynn Sechler

**Children's Message:** Acting Out

**Children's Message Next week:** Roxanne  
Spencer

**Children's Church:** Roxanne Spencer &  
Kathering Vriesema

**Children's Church next week:** Sue  
Maiocchi & Amelia Caskey

**Acolytes:** Caylin Lowder & Abby Vriesema

**Acolytes next week:** Evie Sechler & Ingrid  
Townsend

**Nursery:** Chariti Lowder

**Nursery next week:** Lynn Efird

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

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

**Greeters:** Deb McDaniel, Jeff Barnhardt

## FINANCIALS FOR OCTOBER

**YTD Income \$251,004.60**

**YTD Expenses \$246,982.81**

**YTD Budget \$242,920.00**

**Last week's attendance:** 10/29/23

**Worship - 113**

**Sunday School - 66**

# SERMON NOTES

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

**Tracy Caskey**

**Dave Ellington**

**Lynn Sechler**

**Cookie Hamilton**

**Chris Lowder**

**Ken Sparks**

**Sue Maiocchi**

**Tony Rary**

**Donnie Swaringen**

**Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator**

**Jeff Barnhardt, Session Clerk**

