



**FIRST**  

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**PRESBYTERIAN**  

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**CHURCH**

*Welcome*

Our mission is to know Christ, serve Him,  
and make Him known.

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~ **Gathering Before the Word** ~

**Welcome**

Eddie Spencer

**Prelude and Preparation**

*Chromatic Fugue*

Pachelbel

**Lighting of the Candles**

Caylin Lowder & Landon Walker

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 145

Leader: I will exalt You, my God the King; I will praise Your name forever and ever. Every day I will praise You and extol Your name forever and ever.

**ALL: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise. His greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends Your works to another; they tell of Your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty and I will meditate on Your wonderful works.**

Leader: They tell of the power of Your awesome works and celebrate Your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

**ALL: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.**

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 696**

*Marvelous Grace*

MOODY

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**Prayer of Confession**

“God of grace, You have given us Jesus, the Light of the World, but we confess that we sometimes choose darkness and cling to things that hide the brightness of Your love. We often gratify the flesh, cower to the powers and principalities of this world, and refuse to walk in the newness of life we have in Jesus.

Forgive us, Father, and fill us with Your Spirit that we might walk in the light of Jesus, boldly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus, and tell of Your glory shining in the face of Jesus, our Lord and our Light forever.

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Assurance of the Gospel**

**\*Hymn of Assurance No. 174**

*I Stand Amazed*  
(Stanza 2)

MY SAVIOR’S LOVE

**Apostle’s 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, died, 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 living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

**\*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 604**      *To God be the Glory*      Crosby  
(Stanza 3)

## Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

### ~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

**Word With Our Children**      Jenna Baker

**Offering & Hymn of Prayer No. 322**      *I Need Thee Every Hour*      Lowry

**Scripture Reading**      Genesis 39      Page 40

**Sermon**      "The Joseph Story"      Eddie Spencer

### ~ Responding to the Word of God ~

**Sending Hymn**      *How Beautiful*      Paris  
Lucinda Stewart, soprano

**\*Prayer and Benediction**

**Postlude**      *C Major Fugue*      J.S. Bach

\*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.

**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.

**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!

# UPCOMING Events



**ATTENTION, ALL PARENTS AND YOUTH!** There will be an organization and planning meeting **THIS Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Pizza, salad, drinks and dessert will be provided beginning at 5:45pm (sign up in the Narthex). Please bring your calendars and come ready to talk about opportunities for our youth (including music, dance, studies, and outings) in the coming year!!!

**The JOY Group will gather for a lunch on Friday, January 26th at noon in the Fellowship Hall.**

Our menu will be Taco Bar, soup, desserts and drinks followed by games. Bring a game at least four people can play (UNO cards, Dominoes, etc). Sign up in the Narthex.



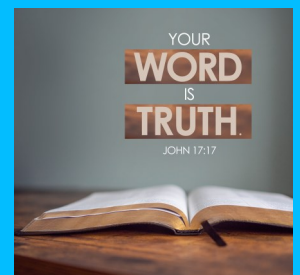
**Teen girls (Middle & High School) are invited to a Bible Study with Amelia Caskey!** "Finding God Faithful - A Study on the Life of Joseph" is an 8-session study which will begin on Sunday afternoon, February 4th. The group will gather monthly and dinner will be provided! Subsequent meetings are scheduled for: March 17, April 7, June 2, and July 14. Feel free to invite friends to join us for this special time of fellowship and devotion.

Let Amelia or Tracy Caskey know if you are interested.

**WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORD** resume February 7 at 6:30pm with a 6-week, Old Testament Survey for adults. The Rev. Dr. Trevor Smith will lead our study. Dr. Smith is a graduate of the College of William & Mary (AB), Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (MDiv), and the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies/Middlesex University (PhD). He is the son and grandson of Presbyterian ministers and is currently serving at the Marshville Presbyterian Church after completing 42 years of pastoral ministry in Philadelphia, Stillman Valley, IL and Charlotte, NC. He resides in the Kannapolis area with his wife, Joany.

**Our study will be based on C.A.S.K.E.T.** - an Old Testament Survey created by Dr. Carol Kaminski of Gordon-Conwell. The survey allows us to see the "big picture" of the OT without getting lost in the details of genealogies, countless laws, lists of kings, where the prophets fit in, and the exiles endured by God's people. Just a handful of 'memory devices' provide a clear path from Genesis to Malachi and on into the New Testament.

**Plan to join us as we 'dig deeper' into God's Word this winter!**





**New Game Night on Friday, January 26th from 6:00-8:00pm in our Fellowship Hall.** The purpose of Game Night is a fun evening of fellowship with friends, exercising your brain power and having a good time.

Table hosts are needed to facilitate games. For our first game night there is no childcare but all ages who enjoy games are welcome! **Sign up in the Narthex or contact Vicki Ellington (704-706-4394).**

## SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER



### **Ministry Focus: Cabarrus Meals on Wheels (MOW)**

Cabarrus Meals on Wheels is a non-profit organization that provides well-balanced, nutritious meals, 5 days a week, to eligible homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities. Each of the 31 Cabarrus routes ideally needs a driver and a helper. Having daily face-to-face contact during the week allows volunteers to develop relationships with those they are serving and provides a wellbeing check to alert of any potential problems. This in turn can help clients remain longer in their homes. Half of our monthly 10 Cents a Meal Collection is now designated for Cabarrus MOW, with the other half going towards our Compassion International children. Dave and Jane Argabrite, who have volunteered for Cabarrus MOW since September of 2018, would be happy to talk to you or let you ride along with them if you want more information!

**The Missions Team has scheduled a Domestic Missions Trip in 2024!** The site is in New Bern, NC for hurricane repairs. We are working with World Renew, an ECO partner. Work will begin on Tuesday, May 27th and continue through that week.

**An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 4, immediately following worship.** A sandwich lunch will be provided, so please sign up in the Narthex if you would like to attend!



### **Linda's Closet is open on Tuesdays**

from 11am - 2:00pm Currently, Closet needs are coats, socks, hats, and gloves in all sizes. Donations have been so plentiful that no other clothing items are currently being accepted. If you would like to volunteer to serve with Linda's Closet, please see Cindy Devoe!

**Thank you to all who have donated to the First Pres Blessing Fence!** So many items have been gifted to our community through this ministry. Currently, their only needs are 1 gallon or 2.5 gallon storage bags and small sealable plastic containers with screw-on lids (to hold shampoo and conditioner). Further needs will be updated as supplies are exhausted. Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!



**Our Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes have shipped!** This year our boxes are going to: Uruguay, Peru, Honduras, Colombia, and Ecuador. Please continue to pray that the children, families, and communities receiving these boxes will truly experience the love of our great God!



**THANK YOU**

**We would like to express our sincere appreciation** to our church family for all of the acts of kindness shown to us during John's recent hospitalization and continued recovery.

Thank you again and God bless you.

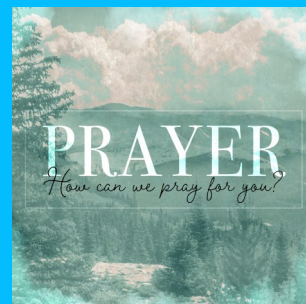
**Brenda & John Roberson**

### **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**

- Randy Childers - hospitalized and having multiple tests
- Tony Sherrill - battling infection
- Judy Goodnight - health concerns
- Bill Jolley - kidney stone procedure, January 25
- Greg Arcos - mother died
- Phil Smith - recovery from surgery on ankle
- John Roberson - health concerns
- Barbara Boucher - health concerns
- Hank Cranford - health concerns



#### **FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY**

- Bruce Pruett (Terri's husband) - fracture of knee and back
- Steve Smith (Becky Seaford's brother) - cancer treatments
- Debra Dandro - treatment for cancer
- Emily Stansell (Lucinda's friend) - re-occurrence of brain cancer
- Martha Stricker (Bill Stricker's mother) - perforated intestine
- Barbara Coffey (Judy Hunter's friend) - stage 4 cancer
- Everett Halsell (Sue Maiocchi's dad) - treatment for cancer
- Justin Wallace (Melba Funderburk's grandson)- rare disease

#### **HOMEBOUND**

- Bob and Shirley Faust - Morningside
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Iris Efird - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks



# This Week @ FIRST PRES

## Sunday, January 14

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service

## Tuesday, January 16

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

## Wednesday, January 17

5:45pm - Youth Dinner  
6:30pm - Youth Planning Meeting

## Thursday, January 18

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

## Friday, January 19

5:30 pm - Agape Chinese Baptist  
Church Stream Fellowship

## Next Sunday, January 21

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Donnie Swaringen

**Children's Message:** Jenna Baker

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

**Children's Church:** David & Vickie Ellington

**Children's Church next week:** Roxanne Spencer & Amelia Caskey

**Acolytes:** Caylin Lowder & Landon Walker

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

**Nursery:** Judy Hunter

**Nursery next week:** Sue Maiocchi

**Ushers:** Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister

**Ushers next week:** Mal McDaniel, Jill McLain, Phil McLain, Todd Pless

**Greeters:** Dave Ellington, Roxanne Spencer

## FINANCIALS

### FOR DECEMBER

**YTD Income**           \$314,008.13

**YTD Expenses**       \$297,738.86

**YTD Budget**           \$291,504.00

**Last week's attendance:** 1/7/2024

**Worship AM - 107**

**Sunday School - 76**

