



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 the Sake of the Call
Dallas Boovy, piano

Chapman

Lighting of the Candles

Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 16

Leader: I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; apart from You I have no good thing.”

ALL: Lord, You alone are my portion and my cup; You make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Leader: I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

ALL: You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand.

***Hymn of Praise No. 2**

O Worship the King

LYONS

***Prayer of Adoration and Lord’s Prayer**

“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

“Merciful God, You made us in Your image, with a mind to know You, a heart to love You, and a will to serve You. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconsistent, and our obedience incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into Your likeness. In Your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. It is in His matchless name 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 tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

***Hymn of Assurance No. 363**

Blessed Assurance

Crosby

*Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Word With Our Children		Roxanne Spencer
Offering & Special Music	<i>Gentle Shepherd</i> Michelle Walker, Kay Yates, Joe Morris, Richard Little	Gaither
Scripture Reading	Genesis 37	Page 38
Sermon	“The Joseph Story”	Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

Sending Song	<i>May I See the Hand of God</i> Michelle Walker, Kay Yates, Joe Morris, Richard Little	Jensen
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*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude	<i>God Cares</i>	Martin
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*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!

The third Sunday of January has come to be celebrated in many churches as “Sanctity of Human Life Sunday”. A 1984 proclamation states, “I call upon the citizens of this blessed land to gather on that day in homes and places of worship to give thanks for the gift of life, and to reaffirm our commitment to the dignity of every human being and the sanctity of each human life.” Please join us in prayer that all life in this country, and indeed the world, will be seen as sacred.

UPCOMING Events



Join us for Sunday School!

Youth classes include:

Explorers (PreK - K) - **studying The Gospel Project**
with Alpha Barger & Judy Hunter

Seekers (1st - 4th Grades) - **studying The Gospel Project**
with Carol Lowder & Sharon Stricker

Navigators (5th - 8th grades) - **studying Kingdom Quest**
with Tracy & Amelia Caskey

Adult classes include:

Guardians - **studying 1 Corinthians 13** with Pastor Eddie

Friendship - **studying Jude and lesser-known books of the Bible**
with Renee Goodnight & Vickie Ellington

Disciples - **studying John 13-21** with Dave Argabrite

Drummond - **studying Romans** (video series by Dr Godfrey) with Ron Lisenby

The JOY Group will gather for a lunch this 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.



New Game Night this Friday, January 26th from 6:00-8:00pm in the 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 Vickie Ellington (704-706-4395) (Please note phone number correction.)**



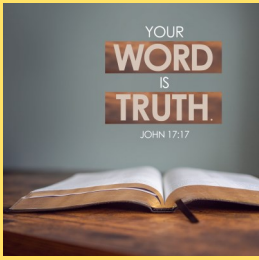
Teen girls (Middle & High School) are invited to a Bible Study with Amelia Caskey!

“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.

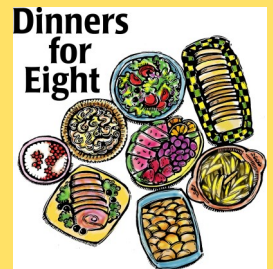
Let Amelia or Tracy Caskey know if you are interested.



WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORD resume February 7 at 6:30pm. Rev. Dr. Trevor Smith will lead a 6-week Old Testament Survey for adults. Dr. Smith and his wife, Joany, have served in ministry for 42 years, now at Marshville Presbyterian Church. The study method will follow C.A.S.K.E.T. - an Old Testament survey that focuses on the “big picture” of the Old Testament without getting lost in the details. Join us as we follow a path from Genesis to Malachi - and on to the New Testament.

Do you like to eat? Do you enjoy good company?

How about signing up for a **monthly** Supper club at First Pres. For the months of February, March and April, you can meet with members of your church and get to know each other better.



Each supper will have eight people; one couple will host & provide the entrée & beverage, one couple will bring two sides, one couple will bring a salad & dessert. The host will invite a couple as guests for a total of eight people. Or you could go out to a restaurant. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex, or contact Renee Goodnight.



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!



First Presbyterian will once again partner with Kimball Lutheran for Samaritan's Table

on Thursday, February 8 at 5pm. Volunteers prep to-go meals at First Pres, then help hand them out in a drive-thru at Kimball. See Phil McLain if you are willing to help!



The Missions Team is sponsoring a Missions Lunch on Sunday, February 11 immediately following worship.

As part of the “Souper Bowl of Caring”, Missions Team members will provide soup and drinks on a donation basis. The congregation is asked to provide desserts. A collection

bin will also be outside the Fellowship Hall for canned and dry goods. Donations and proceeds will go to Cooperative Christian Ministry.

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!



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
- Tony Sherrill - battling infection
- Judy Goodnight - health concerns
- Bill Jolley - kidney stone procedure, January 25
- John Roberson - health concerns
- Barbara Boucher - health concerns
- Hank Cranford - health concerns
- Debra Dandro - treatment for cancer



FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Bruce Pruett (Terri's husband) - fracture of knee and back
- 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
- Terry Rainey (father of Walkers' friend) - cancer treatments
- Bill Stoudt (Vickie Ellington's brother-in-law) - health concerns

HOMEBOUND

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

This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, January 21

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

Monday, January 22

2:00pm - Dorcas Circle of Hope

Tuesday, January 23

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

Thursday, January 25

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

Friday, January 26

12:00pm - JOY Group Lunch/Games
5:30 pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship
6:00-8pm - Game Night in Fellowship
Hall

Next Sunday, January 28

10 Cents a Meal!

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Donnie Swaringen

Children's Message: Roxanne Spencer

Children's Message next week: Michelle Walker

Children's Church: Roxanne Spencer & Amelia Caskey

Children's Church next week: Michelle Walker & Lydia Vriesema

Acolytes: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Acolytes next week: Abby Vriesema & Noah Walker

Nursery: Sue Maiocchi

Nursery next week: Katherine Vriesema

Ushers: Mal McDaniel, Jill McLain, Phil McLain, Todd Pless

Ushers next week: Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler, Phil Smith, Pam Hooks

FINANCIALS

FOR DECEMBER

YTD Income \$314,008.13

YTD Expenses \$297,738.86

YTD Budget \$291,504.00

Last week's attendance: 1/14/2024

Worship AM - 123

Sunday School - 76

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

