



**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**

*Canon in D*

Pachelbel

Patrick Deese, flute; Kay Yates, piano

**Lighting of the Candles**

Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

**Call to Worship**

*Lifting Me Up*

Pardo/Clemmons/Sapp

GraceFull Movements Dance Ministry

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 286** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* AUSTRIAN HYMN

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**Prayer of Confession**

“Father in heaven, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for ignoring Your immensity and greatness. Forgive us for spurning the love of Your Son and forgetting His rule in our lives. Forgive us for not walking by the Spirit and squandering Your gifts. We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy upon us. In Jesus’ name we pray.”

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Assurance of the Gospel**

Ephesians 2: 8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

**\*Hymn of Response No 568**

*I Will Sing of My Redeemer*

Bliss

**Concerns and Celebrations of our Church Family**

~ **Proclaiming the Word of God** ~

**Word With Our Children**

Roxanne Spencer

**Doxology No. 965**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Offering and Special Music** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. Tolbert  
Patrick Deese, flute; Kay Yates, piano

**Scripture Reading** Genesis 45 Page 47

**Sermon** “The Joseph Story” Eddie Spencer

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

**Sending Song** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* Lutkin  
Patrick Deese, flute; Kay Yates, piano

**\*Prayer and Benediction**

**Postlude** *Send the Light* Gabriel

\*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!



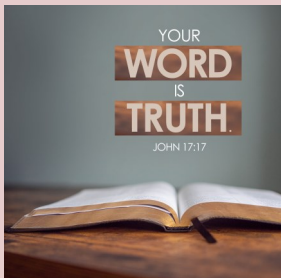
**LOVE quote of the Week**

“What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love

looks like.”

Augustine

## UPCOMING Events



### **WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORD will continue this week!**

Children and youth are invited to gather at 6pm for Music Ministry. At 6:30pm, adults will meet in the Fellowship Hall for an Old Testament Survey with Rev. Dr. Trevor Smith. Roxanne Spencer and Lydia Vriesema will lead children to explore the "I AM" statements of Jesus. Middle High Youth are invited to meet with Michelle to investigate some "Believe-It-or-Not" Bible stories.

**Join us as we study God's Word together!**

### **The JOY Group will meet for lunch THIS Friday, February 23, at noon in the Fellowship Hall.**

There will be a special presentation by Lee Goodman, a Fire & Life Safety Educator Level 3 with the Kannapolis Fire Department Risk Reduction Division. Lee started in the fire service in 1966 as a Jr. Firefighter at Winecoff VFD. He joined the NC National Guard in 1971 and retired after 39 years. Lee is a veteran of the Gulf War (1991) and served one tour in Iraq (2005).



The menu is soup, sandwiches, dessert and drinks. We need three people to sign up for soup, others can sign up to bring sandwiches or dessert. Drinks are being provided. **Sign up in the Narthex.**



### **Join us THIS FRIDAY, February 23, for First Pres GAME NIGHT at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall!**

Games and popcorn will be provided. If you are interested in being a table host, or if you need a ride, please contact Vickie Ellington at (704) 706-4395.

Chess players wanting to play a "chess master" should also let Vickie know ASAP so she can coordinate.

### **First Pres will host a Men's Fellowship dinner on Thursday, February 29th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

Pastor Wayne Frasier, a retired Associate Reformed Presbyterian pastor, will be our guest speaker. Pastor Frazier served at Back Creek ARP for over two decades and was a moderator of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian General Synod. He has also been a leader in church planting and development in the ARP. The menu will include chicken, potatoes, salad, dessert and drinks, for a suggested donation of \$10.

**Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend!**



# SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER



## Project 24 February Update

Thank you to all who have supported **Project 24**. To date, we have raised \$56,000 of the \$100,000 to \$110,000 that is needed to complete the top two priorities!

**Project 24** is the beginning of a multi-year effort to improve our church campus functionally and aesthetically. The current focus is on two items: (1) replace the 50+ year old heating and air conditioning system for the Fellowship Hall and third floor of the Education Building and (2) improve the Fellowship Hall restroom.

If you are able, please prayerfully consider making a financial contribution to support this effort. By doing so, you will be helping to provide a functional and more attractive space for the activities of this church for years to come. You can contribute online through the church website or by placing a check with "Project 24" on the memo line in the offering plate. Gifts of any size are greatly appreciated.



## The Cabarrus, Iredell, and Rowan County Area Volunteer Teams for Operation Christmas Child

will host a Celebration Event here at First Pres on Saturday, March 2! Anyone interested in knowing more about the ministry of Operation Christmas Child or becoming more

involved is welcome to attend the celebration from 10:30am - 12pm in our Fellowship Hall!

Please RSVP to [michellewalker@firstpresb.org](mailto:michellewalker@firstpresb.org) by Sunday, February 25.

## Linda's Closet is open on Tuesdays from 11am - 2pm.

As winter is coming to an end, we will begin accepting donations again. Our greatest needs are: men's jeans sizes 28, 30 and 32; men's sneakers, especially size 9 & 10; and children's shoes in good condition, any size. We are also accepting spring and summer clothes for all. Bless all of you who continue to support this ministry. We are touching hundreds of people in our community.

**If you would like to volunteer, 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.

Current needs: 1 & 2.5 gallon storage bags  
Small sealable plastic containers  
(to hold shampoo and conditioner)

**Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!**



**Thank you to all who donated towards our Souper Bowl of Caring last Sunday!**

Ninety eight pounds of canned or dry goods and \$615 were collected, all for the benefit of Cooperative Christian Ministry.

## **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**

- Linda Hathaway - recovery from shoulder surgery
- Bill Jolley - slowly improving from kidney stone procedure
- Barbara Boucher - health concerns
- Hank Cranford - health concerns
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments for cancer

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

- Bruce Pruett (Terri's husband) - fracture in his knee and back
- Emily Stansell (Lucinda's friend) - re-occurrence of brain cancer
- Barbara Coffey (Judy Hunter's friend) - stage 4 cancer
- Terry Rainey (father of Walkers' friend) - cancer treatments
- Sheena Allen (Wren Philpot's daughter-in-law) - cancer treatments

### **HOMEBOUND**

- Randy Childers - Big Elm
- Bob and Shirley Faust - Morningside
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Iris Efird - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks



# This Week @ FIRST PRES

## Sunday, February 18

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
- GraceFull Movements Dance  
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service

## Monday, February 19

2:00pm - Dorcas Circle of Hope

## Tuesday, February 20

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

## Wednesday, February 21

6:00pm - Journey Youth Music Ministry  
6:30pm - Wednesdays in the Word

## Thursday, February 22

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

## Friday, February 23

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

## Next Sunday, February 25

### 10 Cents A Meal

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

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Tony Rary

**Children's Message:** Roxanne Spencer

**Children's Message next week:** Michelle Walker

**Children's Church:** Tracy & Amelia Caskey

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

**Acolytes:** Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

**Acolytes next week:** Landon & Noah Walker

**Nursery:** Amelia Caskey

**Nursery next week:** Jenna Baker

**Ushers:** Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel, Jill McLain, Phil McLain

**Ushers next week:** Todd Pless, Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler, Ryan Walker

**Greeters:** Donnie Swaringen, Ryan Walker

## FINANCIALS

### FOR JANUARY

**YTD Income** \$20,438.16

**YTD Expenses** \$17,988.94

**YTD Budget** \$26,396.67

**Last week's attendance:** 2/11/2024

**Worship AM - 91**

**Sunday School - 66**

# 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**

