



**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 & Preparation for Worship

*Rondeau*

Purcell

Lighting of the Candles

Michael Herbst & Noah Walker

\*Call to Worship

Hebrews 12:1-3

Leader: Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.

**All: And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.**

Leader: For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**All: Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

\*Hymn of Praise No. 601

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

CORONATION

\*Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer

Joe Morris, tenor

Psalm of Hope

Psalm 126

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

Then it was said among the nations,

**All: The Lord has done great things for them. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.**

Leader: Restore our fortunes, Lord, like streams in the Negev. Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

**All: Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.**

\*Hymn of Faith No. 55

*When God First Brought Us Back*

Daw/arr. Boyer

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Word With Our Children

Dave Argabrite

Offering and Special Music

*Melcombe*  
Christopher Brayne

Parry

<b>*Scripture Reading</b>	Psalm 17:6-8; 18:1-2	Page 539
<b>Sermon</b>	“Praying Strength”	Eddie Spencer
<b>Celebration of the Lord’s Supper</b>	<i>Adagio</i>	Peeters

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

<b>Sending Song</b>	<i>Psalm 126</i>	Sojourn Music
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**\*Prayer and Benediction**

<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Fugue in D Minor</i>	Mendelssohn
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\*All who are able, please stand.  
CCLI# 222113

*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!

**Today we welcome back Christopher Brayne, as our guest musician. We are glad to have him with us.**



**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”.

# Upcoming Events



## Celebrate Christmas in August with the Missions Team!

We are continuing our Operation Christmas Child collection this month, having set our goal to once again pack 400 shoeboxes - 200 for girls aged 2-4, and 200 for girls aged 10-14.

**For August, our collection will focus on school supplies!** We need 400 wireless composition books, 200 packs of 24 ct crayons; 200 packs of skinny markers; lots of pencils, 400 pencil sharpeners, and 400 pairs of scissors.



If you would like to contribute towards these items or the cost of shipping our boxes (\$10/box) you can do so online; or mark your donation "Shoeboxes" and place it in the offering plate **by Sunday, August 25th.**

If you would like to pack your own shoebox, pre-printed boxes will soon be in the Narthex, or use one from home, and grab an instruction guide. Return your packaged box, with the \$10 shipping cost inside, by Sun, November 17. If you would like to Build a Shoebox online, go to [www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/).



## First Pres will host a "Back-to-School Bash" on Saturday, August 10, from 10am-1pm!

We, along with other area churches, will provide bookbags, school supplies, and new shoes, for up to 200 children.

In addition, Linda's Closet will be open for families to shop for back-to-school clothing. We will end with a cookout in the Pavilion, including games and treats for all. **We need your help!** First Pres is collecting packs of No. 2 pencils and packs of wide-ruled loose leaf paper. **Leave donations in the box in the Narthex by today, Sunday, Aug. 4.**

Linda's Closet needs new or gently used clothing for children and babies. We also need volunteers to help cook, serve, and host. **Please sign up in the Narthex if you want to attend or volunteer.** **Those wishing to receive school supplies or shoes must register on our website by Sunday, August 4!**

## Let's cover our students in prayer!

As we approach another school year, we will once again have a special "Blessing of the Bookbags" on Sunday, August 11. Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their bookbags for a prayer during the worship service. Magnets will also be available in the Narthex with the names of all our children. Members of the congregation are encouraged to "adopt" a child by taking a magnet and committing to pray for that child every day during the year. **If you would like for your child to be included, please email their name, grade, and school to [michellewalker@firstpresb.org](mailto:michellewalker@firstpresb.org)!**





**Bible Study Fellowship** will be offering a Women's group study of Revelation for the 2024-2025 year. It will meet at Multiply Church facility next to Big Lots in Concord on Wednesdays at 9:30am and **starts September 4**. Children may come with their mother since classes are offered for all ages. The calendar follows the school's calendar with the same break times. You can enroll at [joinbsf.org](http://joinbsf.org), select an in-person group, and indicate the Concord, NC location. You will be greatly blessed!!! If you have questions, contact Sharon Cranford.



**The Fellowship Hall restroom has been reopened**, and work is complete except for some finishing touches and decorating! Work on the Fellowship Hall air conditioning is expected to begin the first full week of August. There is also one air conditioning unit still to be finished on the third floor, as work has been delayed due to illness of the HVAC contractor. The Project 24 team will meet soon to determine and begin planning the next scope of work after the HVAC.

### **Linda's Closet ministry is planning to be open for our Back-to-School Bash on August 10th!**

We need children's clothes for boys and girls, sizes 6-16.

If you know anyone who is cleaning out their children's closets to get ready for school clothes shopping, PLEASE let them know we will accept their outgrown clothes in good condition. Bless you all for your continued support. Please contact Cindy DeVoe if you have any questions or can help.



**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:** Small (travel size) empty sealable plastic containers to hold shampoo and conditioner, ball caps, bandanas, small bottles of water, and sunscreen. **Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!**

**Recycling bins are now available in the Fellowship Hall, Narthex and Main Office.** Please make use of them for paper, cardboard, plastic and glass!





**I am very thankful for First Presbyterian.** You have become my church family in this past year. Thank you for the prayers, kindness and generosity as I move into my new home. **Eric Cowan**

**Dear Church Family,** There are not enough words to share letting you know how much everything you did for Randy and us has meant. You will never know until you stand before the Lord how much your cards and visits meant to him (and also to me). The children's cards really lifted his spirits and made him smile. First Pres is truly the epitome of what a Church family is biblically supposed to be. Having a delicious meal was so kind. I pray your church will continue to stand as a beacon to a lost and dying world. **Robbie Ruffin, Randy Childers' sister**

### **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**

- Judy Goodnight - treatments continue
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments

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

- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Family of Jerry McGinnis (Bonnie Goodnight's cousin) - loss of Jerry
- Jessica Brown (Connie Lisenby's granddaughter) - internal bleeding
- Everett Halsall (Sue Maiocchi's dad) - recovery from surgery
- Sarah Salisbury (Lisa Salisbury's daughter) - blood clots in lungs - improving
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - recovery from brain surgery
- Barbara Coffey (friend of Judy Hunter) - cancer
- Thomas Dishman (friend of Judy Hunter) - on dialysis and waiting for a kidney
- Sheena Allen (Wren Philpot's daughter-in-law) - recovery from surgery
- Eric Michael (former member) - treatment for myeloma
- Katherine Kean (Alice Jeanes' sister) - esophageal cancer
- Jennifer Watson (Frank Gibson's daughter) - battling cancer
- Sam Dunn (Dave Argabrite's cousin) - lung cancer treatments
- Bob Teal (friend of Steve Goodnight) - lung cancer
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care

### **HOMEBOUND**

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



# This Week @ FIRST PRES

## Sunday, August 4

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
- GraceFull Movements rehearsal  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service with Holy Communion

## Tuesday, August 6

11:00am - 2:00pm - Linda's Closet  
12:00pm - NA  
6:30pm - Session

## Thursday, August 8

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

## Friday, August 9

5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist Church Stream Fellowship  
6:30pm - Back-to-School Bash Setup

## Saturday, August 10

8:30am - Back-to-School Bash Setup  
10:am - 1pm - Back-to-School Bash

## Next Sunday, August 11

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
- GraceFull Movements rehearsal  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service with Blessings of Bookbags

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Jeff Barnhardt  
**Children's Message This Week:** Dave Argabrite  
**Children's Message Next Week:** Blessing of the Bookbags  
**Children's Church:** Megan Quigg & Abigail Malinovsky  
**Children's Church Next Week:** Jenna Baker & Amelia Caskey  
**Acolytes:** Michael Herbst & Noah Walker  
**Acolytes next week:** Cierstyn Lowder & Landon Walker  
**Nursery:** Sue Maiocchi  
**Nursery next week:** Lydia Vriesema  
**Ushers:** Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel, Tony Rary  
**Ushers next week:** Jill & Phil McLain, Lynn Sechler, Ryan Walker  
**Greeters:** Dave Ellington, Debbie McDaniel

## FINANCIALS

### FOR JUNE

YTD Income	\$137,107.83
YTD Expenses	\$141,163.48
YTD Budget	\$158,380.02

**Last week's attendance: 7/28/2024**  
**Worship AM - 102**  
**Sunday School - 59**

