



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ **Gathering Before the Word** ~

Welcome

Eddie Spencer

Prelude & Preparation for Worship *Processional on "St. Anne"* Young

Lighting of the Candles Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

***Call to Worship** Psalm 121:1-2

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the mountains - where does my help come from?

All: My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

***Hymn of Praise No. 264** *Lift High the Cross* CRUCIFER

***Prayer of Adoration and the Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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

Almighty and gracious God, You have made us for a relationship with Yourself, as a vine with its branches. Yet we have repeatedly and foolishly pulled away from You, in our thinking, in our speaking, and in our doing. Please forgive us. We are truly sorry, and we, even now, return to You. Grant us the confidence of Your forgiveness, the joy of Your love, the peace of Your rule, and the favor of Your presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Isaiah 55: 6-7

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

***Song of Assurance No. 898** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* BEACH SPRING
Joe Morris, tenor; Abigail Malinovsky, clarinet

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word With Our Children		Acting Out Drama Ministry
Offering and Special Music	<i>O Jesus, I Have Promised</i> Angela Swicegood	Diemer
Doxology No. 965		OLD HUNDREDTH
*Scripture Reading	Psalm 100	Page 593
Sermon	“Praying Our Thanks”	Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

Sending Song	<i>It Matters to the Master</i> The Lowder Girls	McCutcheon
---------------------	---	------------

*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude	<i>Toccata</i>	Kerr
-----------------	----------------	------

*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 Angela Swicegood as our guest musician. Angela has served as a guest organist in the Charlotte area since 2000 and enjoys playing different organs and seeing how people worship. She currently works with Park Scholarships and the Jenkins MBA program at NC State. Angela and her husband, Steve, live in the Mountain Island Lake area, and they have two sons.

Upcoming Events



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 193 wireless composition books, 112 packs of 24 ct crayons; 151 packs of skinny markers; 281 packs of pencils, 281 pencil

sharpeners, 233 glue sticks and 352 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.

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 10. If you would like to Build a Shoebox online, go to www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/.



Bible Study Fellowship will be offering a Women's group study of Revelation for the 2024-2025 year. It will meet at the 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, select an in-person group, and indicate the Concord, NC location. You will be greatly blessed!!! If you have questions, contact Sharon Cranford.



Mark your calendars for Genesis Sunday, which marks the start of a new Sunday School year!

On September 8th, we will gather for breakfast at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. At 10am, we will introduce youth and adult Sunday School offerings, then dismiss to our

respective classes. Classes include:

Explorers: 4 year old & Kindergarten; Alpha Barger & Judy Hunter

Seekers: 1st grade - 4th grade; Carol Lowder, Sharon Stricker & Pat Hill

Navigators: 5th grade & up; Tracy & Amelia Caskey

Drummond: Ron Lisenby

Disciples: Dave Argabrite

Friendship: Renee Goodnight & Vickie Ellington

Guardians: Raegan Swaringen & Michelle Walker

The Guardians Sunday School Class is invited to a cookout at the home of Donnie & Raegan Swaringen on Saturday, August 24! Gather at 4:30pm for fellowship and swimming, if you like. Dinner will begin at 6pm. Meat will be provided; guests are invited to bring appetizers, sides, or desserts. Please let Donnie or Raegan know if you will attend, and come with ideas for Sunday School this fall!



First Presbyterian will once again partner with Kimball Lutheran for Samaritan's Table on Thursday, September 12 at 5 pm. 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!

South Rowan Public Schools Bible Teaching Association is having a Run For the Word 5K fundraiser on Saturday, September 14 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Landis, NC. Funds raised support their 3 full-time teachers' salaries and benefits. They have hired a full-time teacher for China Grove Middle School and Southeast Middle School. If interested, pick up a flyer in the Narthex.



Men of the church are invited to a Fellowship Dinner on Thursday, September 19 at 6pm. Pastor Jim Harris of Calvary Baptist Church, Kannapolis, will be our guest speaker. The menu will include steak or chicken, baked potato, salad, and dessert. Suggested donation is \$12.00 per person. Please sign up in the Narthex and indicate your choice of entree.

The First Pres Women's Council is hosting a "Christmas" themed Bridal Shower for Elizabeth Sechler on Sunday, Sept 22nd. Please drop by the Fellowship Hall between 3:00-5:00pm to bless Elizabeth. She is registered at Target and Amazon.



Ladies, Save the Date for an Afternoon Tea Party on Saturday, October 5th. Josephine Haynes will be our guest speaker. There will be a fashion show and food featuring local businesses.



It's nice to hear from a place that was home for over 20 years and nicer still knowing I have friends there. Thank you for your prayers, good wishes and kind words. They were greatly appreciated. May God continue to bless you and First Presbyterian and the work there to spread God's love. **Eric Michael**

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 are going well
- Iris Efird - home under hospice care
- Shirley Faust - under hospice care and going to Accordius to be with Bob
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Jessica Brown (Lisenby's granddaughter) - health concerns
- Zelda (Trish Nixon's 7 yr old granddaughter) - spinal surgery August 20th
- Jenny VanShavon (friend of Trish Nixon) - battling cancer
- Ellie Kingston (Cress' granddaughter) - recovery from knee surgery
- Everett Halsell (Sue Maiocchi's dad) - recovery from surgery
- 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
- Katherine Kean (Alice Jeanes' sister) - esophageal cancer
- Jennifer Watson (Frank Gibson's daughter) - battling cancer
- Bob Teal (friend of Steve Goodnight) - lung cancer
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care

HOMEBOUND

- Bob Faust - Accordius
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, August 18

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

Tuesday, August 20

11:00am - 2:00pm - Linda's Closet
12:00pm - NA
2:00pm - Dorcas Circle
6:30pm - KBTA in Session Room

Thursday, August 22

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

Friday, August 23

5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Saturday, August 24

4:30pm - Guardians SS Cookout

Next Sunday, August 25

10 Cents a Meal

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Jeff Barnhardt

Children's Message This Week: Acting Out

Children's Message Next Week: Michelle Walker

Children's Church: Chris & Chariti Lowder

Children's Church Next Week: Sue Maiocchi & Katherine Vriesema

Acolytes: Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

Acolytes next week: Caylin Lowder & Abby Vriesema

Nursery: Vickie Ellington

Nursery next week: Roxanne Spencer

Ushers: Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan

Ushers next week: Mark Goodnight, John Hammond, Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst

Greeters: Dave Ellington, Debbie McDaniel

FINANCIALS

FOR JULY

YTD Income \$171,436.37

YTD Expenses \$159,034.79

YTD Budget \$184,776.69

Last week's attendance: 8/11/2024

Worship AM - 136

Sunday School - 64

SERMON NOTES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

Raegan Swaringen

Dave Ellington

Lynn Sechler

Cookie Hamilton

Chris Lowder

Ken Sparks

Sue Maiocchi

Phil McLain

Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator

Jeff Barnhardt, Session Clerk



First Presbyterian Church • 201 Vance Street • Kannapolis, NC 28081
704-938-4623 • www.firstpresb.org