



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

Berceuse

Vierne

Lighting of the Candles

Caylin Lowder & Abby Vriesema

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

All: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people the sheep of His pasture.

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

All: For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

***Hymn of Praise No. 585** *With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring* SOLID ROCK

***Prayer of Adoration**

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful Father, we are thankful that Your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, and deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward Your purposes, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, and our neglect of Your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what You love, and do what You command, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Ephesians 1:7-8

In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us.

***Song of Worship No. 796** *Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

EBENEZER

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word With Our Children

Michelle Walker

Offering & Special Music *If the Lord Wasn't Walking By My Side* Slaughter
Men's Vocal Group

Doxology No. 965

OLD HUNDREDTH

***Scripture Reading** Romans 12:9-13 Page 1123

Sermon "Practice Hospitality" Eddie Spencer

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

***Sending Song No. 339** *He Knows My Name* Walker

***Prayer and Benediction**

Postlude *March* Walton

*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 final guest musician for the summer. Christopher has served our congregation several times throughout the last month, and we are grateful to have worshipped with him! Kay Yates will return to her role as Director of Music next Sunday, September 1.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Henry & Dora Cranford and A.W. & Ilene Bradsher, Hank and Sharon Cranford's parents.





This Sunday marks our monthly 10 Cents-A-Meal collection!

Collection cans will be in the Narthex for your donation. These offerings are divided between Compassion international (we sponsor 3 children through this organization) and Cabarrus Meals-on-Wheels.

Upcoming Events

Sue Maiocchi is hosting a table on behalf of First Pres

for the Cabarrus Women's Center Benefit Banquet on Thursday, September 12, 6:00pm at the Embassy Suites Convention Center in Concord. This is a fundraiser for the Center. **Please let Sue know by Sunday, September 1 if you would like to attend.**



We are continuing our Operation Christmas Child

collection, 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, we still need** 183 wireless composition books, 102 packs of 24ct crayons; 151 packs of skinny markers; 261 pencil sharpeners, 233 glue sticks and 328 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/.



Mark your calendars for Genesis Sunday, which

begins our 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. Groups meeting include:

- Explorers: Pre-K and Lower Elementary; Alpha Barger & Judy Hunter
- Seekers: Upper Elementary; Carol Lowder, Sharon Stricker & Pat Hill
- Navigators: 6th grade & up; Tracy & Amelia Caskey
- Drummond: Ron Lisenby
- Disciples: Dave Argabrite
- Friendship: Vickie Ellington & Renee Goodnight
- Guardians: Raegan Swaringen & Michelle Walker



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 hand them out in a drive-thru at Kimball. See Phil McLain if you are willing to help!



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. If you have questions, contact Sharon Cranford.

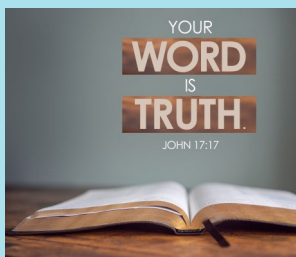
South Rowan Public Schools Bible Teaching Association is having a Run For the Word 5K

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.



Wednesdays in the Word resume September 25!

Pastor Eddie will begin with a 5-week adult class on the life of Moses. Children and Youth will meet as well. For the remaining weeks, we will enjoy fall festivities and OCC Shoebox activities. The schedule for Wednesday nights will be as follows:

5:30pm - Dinner for Youth and families

6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal

6:30pm - Adult and Youth classes



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.



You are invited to Celebrate Community - A Night to Remember - on Sat, September 28!

This evangelical event to celebrate the children and youth in our community will be held at the Cannon Ballers' stadium 7pm and end with fireworks. There are even opportunities to join a community choir for kids and adults. For more information see Michelle Walker! **If you would like to go with a First Pres group, please sign up in the Narthex!**

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

- John Hammond - health concerns
- Efird Family - loss of Iris
- Shirley Faust - at Accordius with Bob, under hospice care
- Melba Funderburk - continuing health concerns
- Judy Goodnight - treatments are going well
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments
- Dave Argabrite - heart arrhythmia

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's 7-yr-old granddaughter) - recovery from 10 hr surgery
- Jenny VanShavon (friend of Trish Nixon) - battling cancer
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - continuing treatment for brain tumor
- 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
- 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 & Shirley Faust - Accordius Health
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, August 25

10 Cents-A-Meal

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

Tuesday, August 27

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

12:00pm - NA

Thursday, August 29

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

Friday, August 30

5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Next Sunday, September 1

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with Holy
Communion

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Jeff Barnhardt

Children's Message This Week: Michelle Walker

No Children's Message Next Week

Children's Church: Sue Maiocchi & Katherine Vriesema

Children's Church Next Week: Tracy & Amelia Caskey

Acolytes: Caylin Lowder & Abby Vriesema

Acolytes next week: William & Michael Herbst

Nursery: Roxanne Spencer

Nursery next week: Amelia Caskey

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

Ushers next week: Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel

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: 8/18/2024

Worship AM - 121

Sunday School - 54

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

