

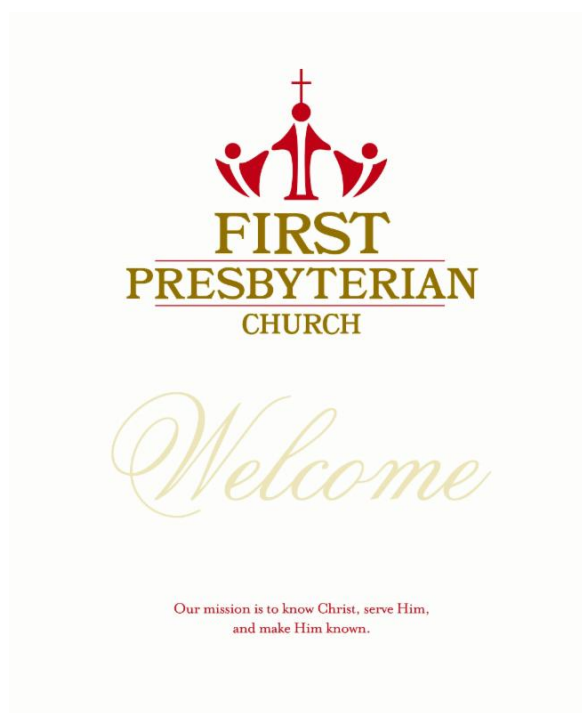


THE WEEKLY FIRST



“Practice hospitality” (Romans 12:13). This is the theme for Sunday. In our Bible reading and study, when there is a familiar word like “hospitality”, used in our culture, churches and the Bible, as a Bible teacher, I try to give Biblical meanings for biblical words. If there was ever a biblical word that demands this, it is “hospitality”. Henry Nouwen captures this sentiment. “Hospitality has lost much of its power and is often used in circles that expect tea parties, bland conversation and watered down piety. Still if there is a concept worth restoring to its original depth and its evocative potential, it is Biblical hospitality.” (Henry Nouwen) Sunday, from Romans 9:13 and Luke 14, we will consider the “original depth” and “evocative potential” of Biblical hospitality.

[Sunday Bulletin](#) is Online!





Sue Maiocchi is hosting a table on behalf of First Pres at the Cabarrus Women’s Center Benefit Banquet
on Thursday, September 12th 6:00pm at the Embassy Suites Convention Center in Concord. There is no cost for the meal but this is a fundraiser for the Center. **Please let Sue know by Sunday, September 1st if you would like to attend.**



We are continuing our Operation Christmas Child collection in August, 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:

- 183 wireless composition books
- 102 packs of 24 ct crayons
- 151 packs of skinny markers
- 261 pencil sharpeners
- 233 glue sticks
- 328 pair 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, 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 Sunday, 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 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: 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: Renee Goodnight & Vickie Ellington
Guardians: Raegan Swaringen & Michelle Walker



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, select an in-person group, and indicate the Concord, NC location. You will be greatly blessed!!! If you have questions, contact Sharon Cranford.



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, please 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.

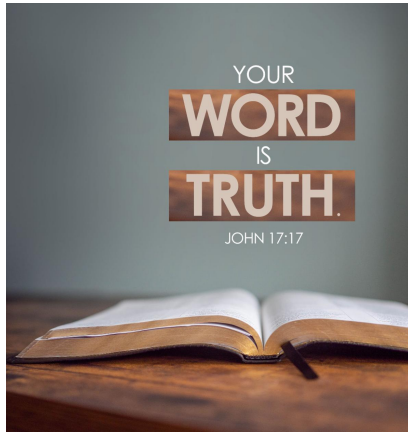


"Christmas" Themed Bridal Shower

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.



Wednesdays in the Word resume September 25. Pastor Eddie will begin our time together 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.



You are invited to Celebrate Community - A Night to Remember - on Saturday, 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!



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, sunscreen.

Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!



The closet is open Tuesdays from 11:00am - 2:00pm to serve our community.

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
- Efird family - loss of Iris
- Shirley Faust - Accordius with Bob, under hospice care
- Melba Funderburk - continuing health concerns
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments
- John Hammond - health concerns
- 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 hour 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 Huner) - 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
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks

This Week@FIRST PRESB

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

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



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so you can send a card?**

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