



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

There is a Balm

Stevens

Patrick Deese, flute; Kay Yates, piano

Lighting of the Candles

William & Michael Herbst

***Call to Worship**

Isaiah 40:28-31

Leader: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom.

All: He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;

Leader: But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

All: They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

***Hymn of Praise No. 219**

Jesus Shall Reign

DUKE STREET

***Prayer of Adoration**

Apostle's Creed No. 783

***Song of Meditation**

The Lord's Prayer

Malotte

Patrick Deese, flute; Kay Yates, piano

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Offering & Special Music

Amazing Grace/Pachelbel's Canon

arr. Shafferman

Vocal Ensemble; Patrick Deese, flute

***Scripture Reading**

John 1:35-42

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Sermon

“Back to the Basics”

Eddie Spencer

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

*Sending Song No. 174

I Stand Amazed

MY SAVIOR'S LOVE

*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

Ode to Joy

Beethoven

*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!



The rose on the altar is placed to the glory of God and in honor of Sienna Rae Thomas, born August 4th to proud parents, Alex and Amanda Thomas and first grandchild for Susan Thomas. Congratulations to the Thomas family.

Dear Church Family, Words can't express my gratitude for the many blessings of love and support I have received this summer. I especially thank Eddie and Michelle for leading the music and the session for allowing me the needed time off for "maintenance". I am excited to be back where I belong this Sunday to "make a joyful noise". Much love and appreciation to all. Kay



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



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 September, our collection will be personal care items!** Our goal is to collect 400 hairbrushes, 370 washcloths, 394 regular sized bars of soap, 398 packs of hair accessories (like clips, pins, or small bows), and 362 toothbrushes. We would also like to give small water bottles to the older girls (we still need 120) and a dinnerware set for the younger girls (We will order - approx. \$2.83 each on Amazon).

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 marks the start of a new Sunday School year!

Next Sunday, 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:

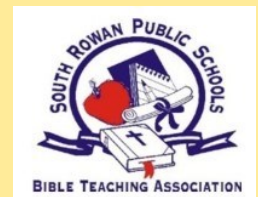
- Explorers: Pre-K & Lower Elementary; Alpha Barger & Judy Hunter
- Seekers: Upper Elementary; Carol Lowder, Sharon Stricker & Pat Hill
- Navigators: 6th grade & up; Tracy & Amelia Caskey
- Drummond: Ron Lisenby
- Disciples: Dave Argabrite
- Friendship: Renee Goodnight & Vickie Ellington
- Guardians: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



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 and Southeast Middle Schools. If interested, pick up a flyer in the Narthex.



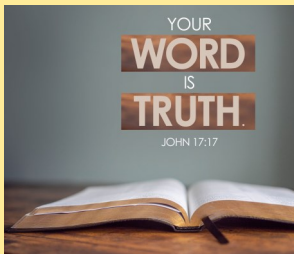


Men of the church are invited to a Fellowship Dinner on Thursday, September 19 at 6pm. Pastor Jim Harris of Calvary Baptist Church, Kannapolis, will be our guest speaker. The menu will include steak or chicken, baked potato, salad, and dessert. Suggested donation is \$12.00 per person. **Please sign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

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!



Linda's Closet is having a SPECIAL OPENING.

The closet will be open on Saturday, September 14 to serve our community. If you would like to volunteer, please see Cindy DeVoe. Our racks are full, so no donations are being accepted at this time except new/gently used socks, belts, purses, handbags and wallets.



Thank you to all who have donated to the First Pres Blessing Fence! Current needs: Small (travel size) empty sealable plastic containers to hold shampoo and conditioner, ball caps, bandanas, small bottles of water. Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!

Dear Eddie & First Pres, It is a joy to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ at First Pres! Today we lifted up your congregation in prayer.

Blessings, Forest Park Pres Church, Prayer 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

- Efird Family - loss of Iris
- John Hammond - health concerns
- Alice Jeanes - recovery from chest infection
- Susan Baker - recovery from surgery
- Jeff Barnhardt - recovery from surgery
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Jessica Brown (Lisenby's granddaughter) - lesions on liver
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's 7 yr old granddaughter) - recovery from surgery
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - treatment for brain tumor
- Nicolas Sherrill (nephew of Paul Gillespie) - recovery from military accident
- 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) - first of six radiation treatments
- Jennifer Watson (Frank Gibson's daughter) - battling cancer
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care

HOMEBOUND

- Bob & Shirley Faust - Accordius
- Linda Bost - Best of Care
- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, September 1

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with Holy
Communion

Monday, September 2

Labor Day

The church office will be closed.

Tuesday, September 3

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

12:00pm - NA

6:30pm - Session

Thursday, September 5

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

12:00pm - NA

Friday, September 6

5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Next Sunday, September 8

Genesis Sunday

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School Introductions
in Fellowship Hall

11:00am - Worship Service

12:00pm - Volunteer Training in
Fellowship Hall

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

NO Children's Message This Week

Children's Message Next Week: Jenna
Baker

Children's Church: Tracy & Amelia Caskey

Children's Church Next Week: Lynn Efird &
Risa Little

Acolytes: William & Michael Herbst

Acolytes next week: Evie Sechler & Ingrid
Townsend

Nursery: Amelia Caskey

Nursery next week: Sharon Stricker &
Debbie McDaniel

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

Ushers next week: Jill & Phil McLain, Tony
Rary, Lynn Sechler

Greeters: Phil McLain & Roxanne Spencer

FINANCIALS

FOR JULY

YTD Income \$171,436.37

YTD Expenses \$159,034.79

YTD Budget \$184,776.69

Last week's attendance: 8/25/2024

Worship AM - 128

Sunday School - 65

SERMON NOTES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

- Raegan Swaringen**
 - Cookie Hamilton**
 - Sue Maiocchi**
 - Dave Ellington**
 - Chris Lowder**
 - Phil McLain**
 - Lynn Sechler**
 - Ken Sparks**
- Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator**
Jeff Barnhardt, Session Clerk

