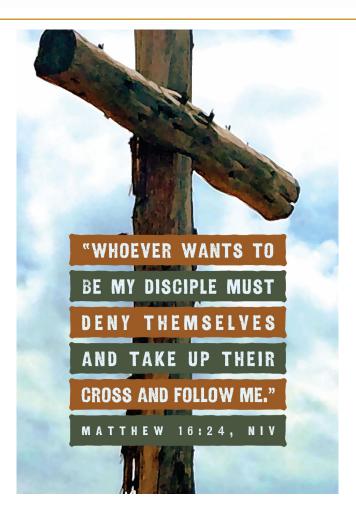


THE WEEKLY FIRST



What does it mean to be a Christian; to identify as a follower of Jesus? This is our theme for this week's worship which will culminate with the Lord's Supper.

The famous Green Bay Packers football coach Vince Lombardi in the first practice of a new season would hold a football and say, "men, this is a football". These men were professional football players; some of them were Hall of Fame football players. They obviously knew what a football looked like. Why would Coach Lombardi do this? To remind them the power of fundamentals, the basics. A foundation of success and the pursuit of greatness whatever the endeavor is built on mastering the fundamentals.

This week we are going to consider the basics, the fundamentals of discipleship. Jesus as revealed in John 1 called some of his original disciples. From the passage in John 1, I will seek to teach a few of the basics for following Jesus.

Sunday Bulletin is Online!





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





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 THIS Sunday, September 1st, if you would like to attend.





We are continuing our Operation Christmas Child collection in September, 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 focus on personal care items! We need:

400 hairbrushes

370 washcloths

394 regular sized bars of soap

398 packs of hair accessories (like clips, pins, or small bows)

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, 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/.



LOOKING FOR A SEASONAL JOB WITH AN ETERNAL PURPOSE?

Help process Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes for children around the world in Jesus' Name!











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 Wednesday,

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.

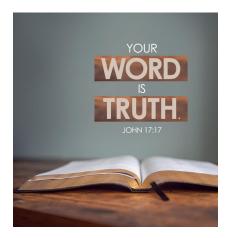


"Christmas" Themed Bridal Shower

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. You can register online or sign up in the Narthex.



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:



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!



Special Opening: The closet will be open on Saturday, September 14from 11:00am - 2:00pm to serve our community.

If you would like to volunteer to help, please see Cindy DeVoe.

We have been blessed with so many clothes that we no longer have room to store them. For the next few weeks we will not be accepting clothes.

We do need new or gently used socks and belts for men, women and children, as well as handbags, purses and wallets.

Thank you for your love and support.

The Closet Crew

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
- Jenny VanShavon (friend of Trish Nixon) battling cancer
- 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 Huner) 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 PRESB

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 <u>next week</u>: Sharon Stricker & Debbie McDaniel **Ushers**: Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal

McDaniel

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

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



Want to have access to all of our members anytime you need it? Need to know someone's birthday or anniversary so you can send a card?

Then sign up for our **Online Member's Directory**. All information current and updated whenever you need it! And you know what? There is also an app for your phone!

Create your secure password today and don't miss out! Click the link below to get started!

https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/



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