



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ **Gathering Before the Word** ~

Welcome

Prelude & Preparation for Worship *Holy Manna* American Folk
Melanie Freeman, cello; Kay Yates, piano

Lighting of the Candles Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

***Call to Worship** Psalm 136:1-3,26

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

All: His love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods.

All: His love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords.

All: His love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the God of heaven.

All: His love endures forever.

***Hymn of Praise No. 772** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* SOLID ROCK

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

Prayer of Confession

Loving Father, who by Your Son has given us access to Your throne of grace and who has made wondrous promises to us of things eternal, we rightly owe You our total, unqualified worship and obedience. Yet we have foolishly and willfully strayed like lost sheep. As those united to Your Son by faith, we are bold to ask for Your complete forgiveness of all the sins we have committed. Grant to us the certain knowledge of our full pardon, and move us to constant, grateful obedience, that Your wonderful name may be glorified now and forever. It is in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

***Hymn of Assurance No. 437** *Day by Day* BLOTT EN DAG

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word with our Children

Presley Baker, soloist

Jenna Baker

Offering & Special Music

Be Still My soul

Sibelius

Joe Morris, tenor; Melanie Freeman, cello

*Scripture Reading

2 Chronicles 20:13-18

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Sermon

“Watch God Work”

Jeff Porter

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

*Sending Song No. 859

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

Weary Land

Spiritual

*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 Pastor Jeff Porter in Eddie's absence. Jeff was a pastor for 25 years serving several churches in NC. He now works for Samaritan's Purse in Donor Ministries. His wife, Susan, is a retired teacher and a year-round volunteer for Operation Christmas Child. Jeff and Susan attend Forest Park Presbyterian Church (ECO) in Statesville, NC. Please take time to greet them!

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, 382 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 are now available in the Narthex, along with instruction guides. 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/.



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 can 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.



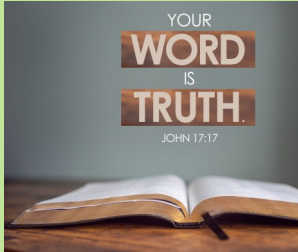
Journey Youth and their families are invited to a Wednesday Night Fall Kick-off! On September 18, we will begin with a cookout at 6pm.

Then, all ages are invited to compete in a Gaga Ball tournament! Friends are welcome - just sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, September 15.



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 this Saturday, September 14 and possibly one Saturday per month. In order to do this we need at least 1-2 volunteers willing to help from 11am-2pm once a month or even every other month. If you would like

to volunteer, please see Cindy DeVoe.

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 FPC Family, Thank you for all the love, concern and support during the time of our mother's illness and homegoing. You truly showed the love of Christ to her and to all of her children. We will forever be grateful for the love we were shown.

The Efird Family (Rick, Lee, Larry, Don Jr., Jay, and Susan)

Thank you so much for the kind words and prayers through this difficult time. Knowing I have so much support is very encouraging! Your continued prayers through these difficult decisions is so much appreciated. All my love, Jessica Brown

Thank you Church family for your prayers and concerns. I have new medications and may have other medical procedures in the future. I'm not proceeding with knee surgery until I get these heart issues addressed.

Thank you, Dave & Jane Argabrite

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 - heart concerns
- Barbara Boucher - health concerns
- Debra Dandro - continuing treatments

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Jane McDaniel (McDaniels' daughter-in-law) - heart issues
- 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
- Justin Wallace (Melba's grandson) - waiting for heart & kidney transplant
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - 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) - 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 8

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

Monday, September 9

10:30am - Women's Council

Tuesday, September 10

11:00am - 2:00pm - Linda's Closet
12:00pm - NA

Thursday, September 12

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

Friday, September 13

5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Saturday, September 14

11am-2pm - Linda's Closet Open

Next Sunday, September 15

9:30am - Fellowship Breakfast
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service
4:30pm - Teen Girls' Bible Study

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

Children's Message: Jenna Baker

Children's Message Next Week: Roxanne
Spencer

Children's Church: Lynn Efird & Risa Little

Children's Church Next Week: Andrew &
Jenna Baker

Acolytes: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Acolytes next week: Cierstyn Lowder &
Landon Walker

Nursery: Sharon Stricker & Debbie McDaniel

Nursery next week: Jenny Sparks

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

Ushers next week: Phil Smith, Pam Hooks,
Ryan Walker, Jeff Barnhardt

Greeters: Phil McLain & Roxanne Spencer

FINANCIALS

FOR AUGUST

YTD Income \$194,040.27

YTD Expenses \$192,650.34

YTD Budget \$211,173.36

Last week's attendance: 9/1/2024

Worship AM - 105

Sunday School - 54

