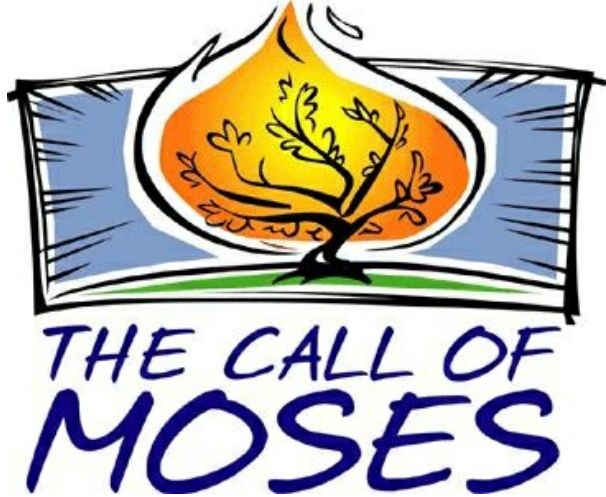




THE WEEKLY FIRST



God spiritually works similarly to the way He worked in Moses in Exodus 3. This was the big idea of the “Moses Story” message last Sunday. God spiritually grows us by disturbing us so that we become aware of our need and trust in Him. Moses was disturbed by a burning bush, but most of us will not see the flaming fire of God’s radiating presence speaking out of a thorny shrub.

Yet many of us pray and desire for miracles to occur in our lives. Sometimes God works in an evident and miraculous manner. The problem with miracles is that once we experience one miracle, we want another miracle. The purpose of God’s extraordinary work in our lives is to demonstrate His glory and to teach us to live by faith, not dependent on miracles. The primary means by which God speaks into our lives is His Word. The Scriptures are His burning bush by which He disturbs, comforts and speaks to us. Daily, take up and take in the truth and life of God’s Word.

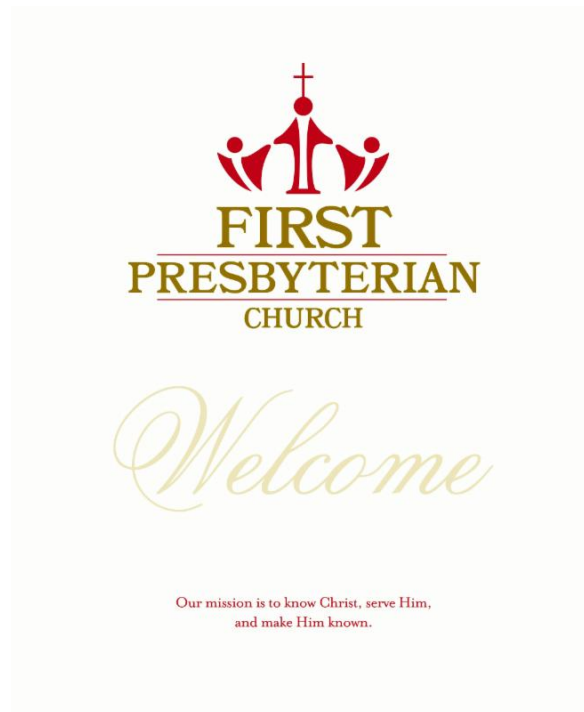
God not only disturbed Moses with His inextinguishable burning bush, but also with Moses’ sandals. “When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, ‘Moses! Moses!’ And Moses said, ‘Here I am.’ ‘Do not come any closer,’ God said. ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.’ Then He said, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.’ At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.” (Exodus 3:4-6)

Approaching the bush, Moses was confronted by the God who knew him by name and whose presence was disturbing and fear-evoking. Many people believe in God but in what kind of “God” do they believe? Many want a “God” who is like them but a little bigger and better; a “God” whose attributes they can pick and choose so that their “God” fits their basic assumptions about life and morality or fits their political preferences. Many, like Jonah, want a “God” who disdains the same people they disdain.

There is no historical religion, spiritual movement, or divine being like the God revealed in the Bible. The metanarrative of the Bible reveals the God who is perfectly holy; who, by His holy nature and character must bring justice to sin and evil; who is perfectly love; and who chose to enter this world in person to bear the justice, pay the penalty and defeat the wages of sin which is death. In the person and work of God in Christ, God’s holiness and justice intersected at the cross and empty tomb for our salvation by grace through faith in Christ. There is no God like the God of the Bible and no news like the Good News of the gospel of Christ.

This week, we will continue our study of Exodus 3. The God of Exodus 3 is the God who revealed His name to Moses. The eternal Creator, God of Abraham, Issac and Jacob, and the God and Father of our Lord is a personal and relational God. He has chosen and delights to enter into a personal relationship with those who will trust Him.

Sunday Bulletin is Online!



First Presbyterian Church extends a heartfelt "thank you" to Cindy DeVoe, founder, organizer and leader of our Linda's Closet clothing ministry. Linda's Closet has grown in its outreach and touched so many in our community under her leadership.

Cindy has chosen to step down as leader of the Closet ministry, but we will continue to be grateful for her service to the Lord through the closet ministry and our church.



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
16 washcloths
382 regular sized bars of soap
398 packs of hair accessories (like clips, pins, or small bows)
362 toothbrushes

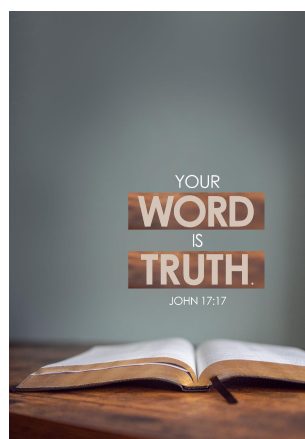
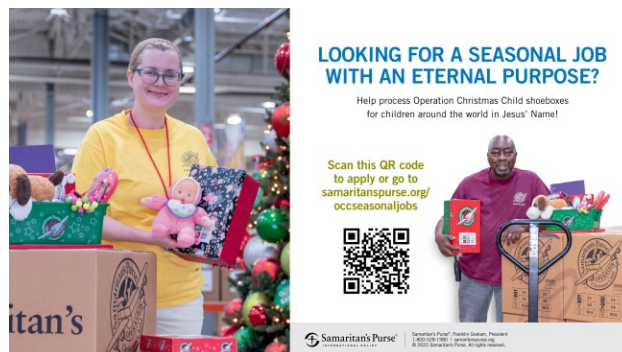
We would also like to give small water bottles to the older girls

(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 "Shoebboxes" and place it in the offering plate.

If you would like to pack your own shoebox, shoeboxes are now available in the Narthex, also instruction guides. 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/.



Join us this fall for Wednesdays in the Word!

Pastor Eddie will lead an adult class expounding on our Sunday morning "Moses" series. Children will also consider the life of Moses, while youth will focus on the example of Daniel. Beginning Wednesday, October 16, Chancel Choir rehearsals resume at 6:30pm. The schedule for Wednesday nights will be as follows:

- 5:30pm - Dinner for Youth and their families
- 6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal
- 6:30pm - Adult and Youth classes
- 7:30pm - GraceFull Movements rehearsal



First Presbyterian will host a booth at Kannapolis' National Night Out!

We will set up in Veterans' Park on Tuesday, October 1 from 5pm-7pm to provide information on our church, pass out First Pres coffee mugs, and give away cotton candy and water! **If you would like to help staff the booth, please see Michelle as soon as possible!**



The Afternoon Tea on Saturday, October 5th has been cancelled. We apologize for any inconvenience.

First Presbyterian will host the ECO NC Presbytery Fall Gathering on



Saturday, October 12! Elders and ECO representatives will be on our campus from 8:30am -1pm to enjoy a time of worship, fellowship, and inspiration. The meeting will build on the theme of *Metanoia* introduced at the

National Gathering this year. If you are interested in greeting, serving lunch, or being part of the clean-up crew, please see Cookie Hamilton!



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)

Ziplock bags: 1 & 2 gallon

First Aid items: band aids, wipes, vaseline

Clean/gently used socks, hats, gloves and scarves

Handwarmers

Small bottles of water.

Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!



Linda's Closet will be temporarily closed for the coming weeks. The Closet is taking this opportunity to re-organize, prepare for fall and winter, and transition its leadership. Therefore,

the Fall Coat Giveaway will not be offered. At this time, we also request that you hold any donations until an inventory can be taken of the items we have on hand.

We remain grateful for all who have contributed to this ministry, and would love to have additional volunteers. There is a need for people to greet, sort, organize, and assist shoppers. If you would like to volunteer, please let Eddie or Michelle know!

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 and recovery from surgery

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - recovery from surgery
- Robert Little (Richard's brother) - new treatment for cancer

- Justin Wallace (Melba's grandson) - waiting for heart & kidney transplant (in ICU with pneumonia)
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - treatment for brain tumor
- Jessica Brown (Lisenby's granddaughter) - treatment for liver issues
- 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) - radiation treatments
- Jennifer Watson (Frank Gibson's daughter) - battling cancer
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care
- Jim Mike Ward (friend of Argabrites) - has ALS
- Gloria Covington (Thomas' friend) - health concerns

HOMEBOUND

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

This Week@FIRST PRESB

Sunday, September 29

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal
- 10:00am - Sunday School
- 11:00am - Worship Service

Tuesday, October 1

- 11:00am - 2:00pm - Linda's Closet
- 12:00pm - NA
- 5:00pm-7pm - Kannapolis National Night Out
(Veterans' Park)

Wednesday, October 2

- 5:30pm - Journey Youth Dinner
- 6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal
- 6:30pm - Wednesday in the Word for all ages!

Thursday, October 3

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

Friday, October 4

- 5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Next Sunday, October 6

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal
- 10:00am - Sunday School
- 11:00am - Worship Service with Holy
Communion

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton
Children's Message: Acting Out Drama Ministry
Children's Message Next Week: Amelia Caskey
Children's Church: Michelle & Ryan Walker
Children's Church Next Week: Jenny Sparks & Megan Quigg
Acolytes: Caylin & Camryn Lowder
Acolytes next week: Michael Herbst & Landon Walker
Nursery: Megan Quigg
Nursery next week: Roxanne Spencer
Ushers: Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister
Ushers next week: Mal McDaniel, Jill & Phil McLain, Tony Rary
Greeters: Phil McLain & Roxanne Spencer

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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