



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*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

Mercer

Lighting of the Candles

Caylin & Camryn Lowder

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 95

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song.

All: For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.

Hymn of Praise No. 543Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET

Prayer of Adoration*Prayer of Confession**

God, our heavenly Father, You are our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Every good and perfect gift comes from You. Yet we confess that we have doubted Your generous heart which delights to give what is good to Your children. We have murmured and complained against You. We have failed to give thanks to You in all circumstances. Empower us to cast off these and all other sins of our heart knowing that they are an affront and insult to You. Fill us anew with Your Spirit and deepen our gratitude so that we might serve and obey You with undivided and joyful hearts. It's in the name of Jesus our Lord, we pray.

Silent Prayers of Confession**Assurance of the Gospel**

II Corinthians 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich.

Song of ResponseI Love You Lord*

Klein

We love You, Lord, and we lift our voice, to honor You, O our souls, rejoice!
Take joy, our King, in what You hear: May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.
We praise You Lord, and we lift our voice, to honor You, O our souls, rejoice!
Take joy, our King, in what You hear: May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of our Church Family

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Word with Our Children | | Michelle Walker |
| Offering and Special Music | <i>In Everything Give Thanks</i> Michelle Walker & friends; Amy Hicks | Easter/Wilburn |
| *Scripture Reading | Luke 18:15-17 | Page 1038 |
| Sermon | “Child-likeness” | Eddie Spencer |

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

Sending Song *Friend in Jesus* Ingram/Cain/Matz/Johnson
PraiseMakers, featuring Camryn Lowder, Evie Sechler, Brooks Haaland

*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude *To God Be The Glory* Crosby
*All who are able, please stand.
CCLI# 222113

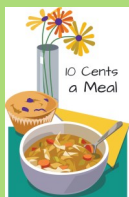
welcome

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 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!



This Sunday marks our monthly 10 Cents-A-Meal collection!

Our youth will be in the Narthex immediately following worship to collect your donations. These offerings are divided between Compassion International (we sponsor 3 children through this organization) and Cabarrus Meals on Wheels.



A special thank you and welcome to Wanda Kurfees, our guest pianist. Please welcome her to our service today.



You can order poinsettias for our church beginning this Sunday for \$14 and dedicate them in honor or in memory of someone on the order form in the bulletin. The last day to order will be **Sunday, December 1st**. Please be sure to put "Poinsettia" on the memo line of your check. If you would like to make a monetary donation instead as a Christmas offering, please mark your gift as "Christmas".



First Pres has secured a spot to process OCC shoeboxes in Charlotte! Our assigned time at the Samaritan's Purse warehouse is THIS Friday, November 29th, from 3pm-7pm. We will stop for dinner on the way back, and the van will be available for transportation. Please sign up in the Narthex by **TODAY**, November 24th if you would like to go. See Michelle Walker for more



Join us for a Thanksgiving Day lunch THIS Thursday, November 28! The meal starts at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Turkey, gravy, tea and lemonade will be provided. Guests are asked to bring sides and desserts to share. If you would like to decorate the tables, please see Vickie Ellington. **Please sign up the Narthex by TODAY, November 24th.**

Our Giving Tree is in the Narthex! This year, the Missions Team has decided to adopt three families, with 6 children total, referred to us by Cooperative Christian Ministry. Tags on the tree list items for both the children and the families. If the item is for a child, information about the child is on the reverse side of the tag. Simply take a tag from the tree, and return the item **-unwrapped, with the tag attached** - to the base of the tree. **All gifts must be returned by Sunday, December 15.** Thank you for your support of



Help is needed to decorate our church for Advent and Christmas! Strong arms are especially needed THIS Friday, November 29th at 10am to set up our altar "stage", bring down items from storage on the third floor, and erect the large Christmas tree in the Sanctuary. Finishing touches, including decorating the tree, hanging wreaths, putting out candles, etc. will happen on Saturday, November 30th at 10am. See Cookie Hamilton for more information.



First Presbyterian's Journey Youth will present "Let It Be Christmas" on Sunday, December 15th!

All are invited to a "Christmas dinner" of ham, mashed potatoes, and green beans, beginning at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. The congregation is asked to provide desserts.

Our musical program will begin at 6:15pm. Please sign up for the meal in the Narthex. If you need a ride, let Eddie or Michelle know. Let's joy in remembering the real reason we celebrate this special season!!

The 65 voice Piedmont Choral Society will present its annual Christmas concerts, with orchestra, on Friday, December 6 at 7 pm and Saturday, Dec. 7 at 3 pm at Calvary Lutheran Church, 950 Bradley St NE, Concord. Concerts are free and no ticket is needed. Info: Kay Yates 704.699.6053.



Middle/Senior High Youth are invited to a Christmas Party, hosted by the Caskeys, on Wednesday, December 11th! We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for fun and festivities from 6pm-8pm. More details coming soon. Please let Tracy know if you can make it!



The Joy Group invites all Seniors for a Christmas Lunch at the home of Ron & Alpha Barger on Monday, December 16th at noon. We will also have a "White Elephant" exchange.

Bring a wrapped gift costing less than \$10. Ham, rolls and drinks will be provided. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, December 15th to bring 1-2 side dishes and/or dessert. If you would like to carpool, meet at the Church at 11:15am. Dave & Jane Argabrite have room for 6 people. Driving directions will be available soon.



Linda's Closet is open Tuesdays from 11:00am-2:00pm. As of right now, only fall, winter, and baby clothes donations are being accepted. The closet is all set with hangers, so no more needed at this time. Please see Trish Nixon if you can volunteer.

Thank you to all who have donated to the First Pres Blessing Fence! See Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help with these needs:

- ◆ Feminine Products
- ◆ Men & Women's toboggans and gloves



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

- Jeff Barnhardt - recovery from broken arm
- Sue Maiocchi & family - loss of Sue's dad
- Fred Caskey - recovery from knee surgery Nov 22
- Judy Goodnight - good report
- Alexis Howell - surgery Dec 13

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - Spina Bifida - fighting infections, two more surgeries needed
- Robert Little (Richard's brother) - new treatment for cancer
- Justin Wallace (Melba's grandson)- waiting for heart and kidney transplant
- Barbara Coffey (friend of Judy Hunter) - cancer
- Thomas Dishman (friend of Judy Hunter) - on dialysis and waiting for a kidney
- Jennifer Watson (Frank Gibson's daughter) - treatment for cancer
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care

HOMEBOUND

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



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, November 24

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service
1:00pm - 3:30pm - OCC Drop Off

Monday, November 25

10:00am - Noon - OCC Drop Off

Tuesday, November 26

11:00am - 2:00pm - Linda's Closet
12:00pm - NA
6:30pm - Session

Wednesday, November 27

5:30pm - Dinner
6:00pm - PraiseMakers/Christmas Play
Practice
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 28

1:00pm - Thanksgiving Lunch in
Fellowship Hall

Friday, November 29

10:00am - Church Decorating
Christmas Play Practice
3:00pm-7:00pm - Shoebox Processing
in Charlotte
5:30pm - Agape Chinese Baptist
Church Stream Fellowship

Saturday, November 30

10:00am - Church Decorating

Next Sunday, December 1

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Phil McLain

Children's Message Today: Michelle Walker

Children's Message Next Week: Chrismons

Children's Church: Roxanne Spencer & Sharon Cranford

Children's Church Next Week: Jenny Sparks

Acolytes: Caylin & Camryn Lowder

Acolytes next week: Cierstyn Lowder & Landon Walker

Nursery: Sharon Cranford

Nursery next week: Sharon Stricker

Ushers: Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder

Ushers next week:

Greeters: Ken Sparks & Tony Rary

FINANCIALS

FOR OCTOBER

YTD Income \$247,328.82

YTD Expenses \$233,207.28

YTD Budget \$263,966.70

Last week's attendance: 11/17/2024

Worship AM - 112

Sunday School - 53

SERMON NOTES

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

Raegan Swaringen

Dave Ellington

Lynn Sechler

Cookie Hamilton

Chris Lowder

Ken Sparks

Sue Maiocchi

Phil McLain

Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk

Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator



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