



# THE WEEKLY FIRST



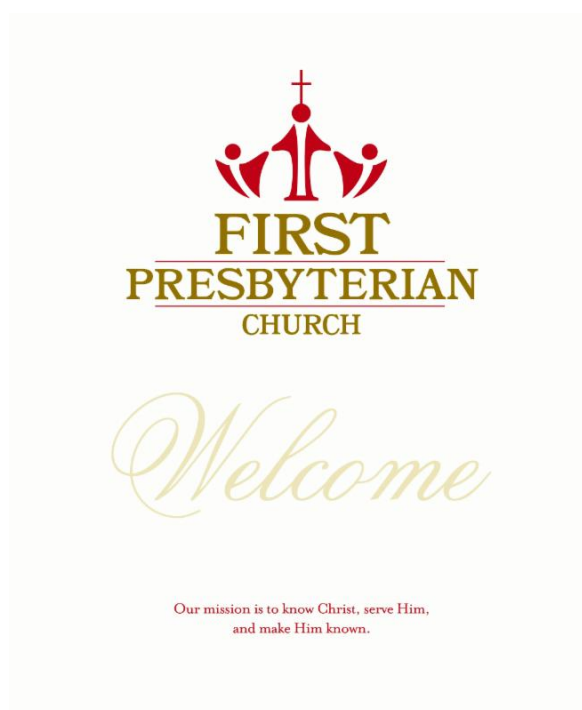
Dear Church family,

Roxanne and I had a wonderful time away but missed worshipping with our church family. We look forward to giving thanks with you on Sunday. I will be teaching on Luke 18:15-17. The passage highlights the time when people were bringing little children to Jesus. The adults including the disciples, rebuked those bringing their children. Jesus not only welcomed the children but responded to the adults by saying, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” (Luke 18:16-17) What does this mean? What is Jesus teaching us? I will be teaching on this Sunday.

If you do not have family coming to visit on Thanksgiving or an annual tradition you celebrate, we would love for you to celebrate Thanksgiving at the church. Our Thanksgiving meal is 1:00pm on Thursday. If you would like to come, please either sign up on Sunday or let the church office or me know.

Great peace in the Lord,  
Eddie

[Sunday Bulletin](#) is Online!



**You can order poinsettias for our church** beginning this Sunday for \$14 and dedicate them in honor or in



gift as “Christmas”.

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



Continue to uphold all the victims, first responders, and relief workers in your prayers.



**First Pres has secured a spot to process OCC shoeboxes in Charlotte!** Our assigned time at the Samaritan's Purse warehouse is 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 Sunday, November 24th if you would like to go. See Michelle Walker for more information.



**Join us for a Thanksgiving Day lunch on 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 Sunday, November 24th.**



**Our Giving Tree will be in the Narthex THIS Sunday, November 24!**

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 this ministry!



**Help is needed to decorate our church for Advent and Christmas!** Strong arms are especially needed on 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.



**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 - Calvary Lutheran Church, 950 Bradley St NE, Concord. Concerts are free and no ticket is needed. Info: Kay Yates 704.699.6053.



**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!!



**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. Each person should bring a





will be available soon.

wrapped gift costing less than \$10 to play in the exchange.

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



**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:**

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

**Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!**



**Linda's Closet** is open on Tuesdays from 11am-2pm.

**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. We do not have room to store spring and summer items.

Please see Trish Nixon for information and to volunteer.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have worked so diligently!

**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 and family - loss of Sue's dad
- Fred Caskey - recovery from knee surgery November 22
- Judy Goodnight - good report
- Alexis Howell - surgery December 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 & 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

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# This Week@FIRST PRESB

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**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

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# 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

**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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Need to know someone's birthday or anniversary  
so you can send a card?**

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