



THE WEEKLY FIRST



Our Thanksgiving Day lunch is TOMORROW Thursday, November 28!

The meal starts at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

As we celebrate our Thanksgiving with our family and friends, we also prepare to celebrate Advent and Christmas. This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. The Season of Advent is a four-week period before Christmas Day to spiritually consider and celebrate the Advent of our Lord. Historically, the four-week celebration of Advent begins on the Sunday closest to November 30 and progresses to Christmas Eve, December 24. Subsequently comes the “12 Days of Christmas” celebration. For those who follow the church year closely, the focus of their worship during the season of Advent is on the preparation for the coming of Christ. The term “Advent” derives from the Latin word, “adventus,” which is translated in English as “coming” or “arrival.”

Advent at First Presbyterian is more of an Advent and Christmas celebration. Our Advent themes this year are “Hope”, “Peace”, “Joy” and “Love” with hope as Sunday’s theme. I will be teaching on hope from Isaiah 9. We will culminate our service of worship with the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

[Sunday Bulletin](#) is Online!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



All Adult Sunday School classes will meet together in the Fellowship Hall from December 8-22. We will begin with a fellowship breakfast at 9:30am, followed by class at 10am. There will be no Sunday School on December 29.



The last day to order poinsettias for our church is this Sunday, December 1 for \$14 and dedicate them in honor or in memory of someone. **Order forms are in the Narthex.** 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".



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



THANK YOU to all our volunteers who staffed the First Pres Drop-Off Collection last week.

We were privileged to collect and pray over 3,623 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!!! Please continue to pray for the safe delivery of these boxes, blessings on the volunteers who transport and distribute them, and God's love to be revealed to the children, families, and communities that receive them.



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. See Michelle Walker for more information.



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 this ministry!



Help is needed THIS FRIDAY and SATURDAY 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.



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 on Wednesday, December 11th from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall! The Caskeys will host dinner, dessert, and a hot chocolate bar, but bring a treat or snack if you'd like to share! Wear your best

ugly sweater for a contest, and bring a wrapped \$10 gift to exchange. There will also be games and prizes and fun galore! Friends are welcome, but please RSVP to Tracy Caskey by Sunday, December 8.



First Presbyterian will have a float in this year's Kannapolis Christmas Parade! The parade happens downtown on Saturday, December 14 at 6pm.

Our theme is "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."

If you can help decorate the float on the morning of Saturday, December 14, please see Andrew Townsend or Megan Quigg.



The Joy Group will meet for a Christmas Lunch at the home of Ron & Alpha Barger on Wednesday, December 18 at noon.

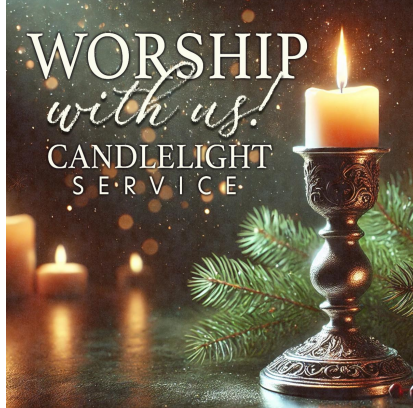
We will also have a "White Elephant" exchange. Each person should bring a wrapped gift costing less than \$10 to play in the exchange.

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 will be available soon.



Join us for Christmas Caroling on Wednesday, December 18!

We will leave the church at 6pm, and visit several homebound members before returning for warm refreshments. The church van will be available for transportation.



Invite friends and family to our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on December 24!

This year, we will gather at 5:30pm for a time of worship and reflection.



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

- Sue Maiocchi and family - loss of Sue's dad
- Tony Rary and family - loss of son-in-law
- Toby Caskey - recovery from pneumonia
- Fred Caskey - beginning physical therapy
- Alexis Howell - surgery December 13

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Rachel Spencer (Eddie's mom) - recovery from pneumonia
- 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) - 2nd round of chemo treatment
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care

HOMEBOUND

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

This Week@FIRST PRESB

Sunday, December 1

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

Monday, December 2

- 10:30am - Women's Council

Tuesday, December 3

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

Wednesday, December 4

- 5:30pm - Youth Families' Dinner
- 6:00pm - PraiseMakers/Play Practice
- 6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 5

- 10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study

Friday, December 6

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

Next Sunday, December 8

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Raegan Swaringen

Children's Message Today: Chrismons

Children's Message Next Week: Chrismons

Children's Church: Jenny Sparks

Children's Church Next Week: Sue Maiocchi

Acolytes: Cierstyn Lowder & Landon Walker

Acolytes next week: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Nursery: Sharon Stricker

Nursery next week: Debbie McDaniel

Ushers: Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel, Jill & Phil McLain

Ushers next week: Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler, Phil Smith, Pam Hooks

Greeters: Cookie Hamilton & Dave Argabrite

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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First Presbyterian Church of Kannapolis | 201 Vance Street, Kannapolis, NC | (704) 938-4623 | [WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)



First Presbyterian Church of Kannapolis | 201 Vance Street | Kannapolis, NC 28081 US

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