



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~

- Welcome** Eddie Spencer
- Prelude** *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Hamlin
- Lighting of the Candles** Cierstyn Lowder & Noah Walker
- *Call to Worship** Psalm 27: 4,5,1
Leader: One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.
All: “For in the day of trouble He will keep me safe in His dwelling; He Will hide me in the shelter of His sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?”

***Hymn of Praise No. 102** *Arise, Your Light is Come* FESTAL SONG

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Prayer of Confession** Psalm 51

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel Galatians 1:3-5
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen

***Hymn of Grace No. 696** *Marvelous Grace* MOODY

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

- Offering & Special Music** *Glorify Thy Name* Hamlin
- *Scripture Reading** Galatians 1:11-24 Page 1151
- Sermon** “Gospel Uniqueness” Eddie Spencer

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

*Sending Song No. 227 *He is Lord* Frey

*Prayer and Benediction

Postlude *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* Page

*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!



As our church family celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we also traditionally collect for our Good Samaritan Fund. This fund allows the church pastor and staff to assist those in need - both in our church and in our community. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the 'Good Samaritan Fund' envelope, or mark your offering envelope 'Good Samaritan Fund'.



Today we welcome Don Simmons as our guest organist. Don has served First Presbyterian in the past as Director of Music. He most recently retired as Director of Music from Kimball Memorial Lutheran. Please extend your own welcome to Don!

TWO 2025 Bible Reading Plans are still available!



One is our traditional plan, prepared by Pastor Eddie. It takes us through the entire New Testament in addition to the books of Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes from the Old Testament.

The other plan takes the reader through the entirety of the Bible in a year. The plan is not in chronological order, but incorporates readings from both Old and New Testament throughout the year, divided by the genre of the writing. Each week will include portions of the Epistles, The Law, History, Psalms, Poetry, Prophecy, and the Gospels. It is taken from www.bible-reading.com/bible-plan.html. Each plan is available on a large bookmark, which you may pick up in the Narthex or find on our website.

Please make plans to join us on Saturday, January 11 to remove Christmas decorations from the sanctuary.

We will meet at 10:00am. Strong arms and legs are also needed to carry items back to storage on the third floor!



Women Without Reservations will gather for dinner on Sunday, January 19 at 6:00pm.

Meet at Gianni's Trattoria Restaurant in Gibson Mill (325 McGill Ave NW Concord NC 28027). Spouses are invited. Women Without Reservations is a women's group that desires to embody Proverbs 31 - living without reservations as women of God and welcoming any woman of the church to join them! In this case, we do need to make reservations, though, so please let Michelle Walker know by Wednesday, January 15 if you can make it!



Join us for Sunday School in 2025!

There are many opportunities for studying God's Word together in Sunday School. Children's classes continue to meet on the third floor for Preschoolers through Middle Schoolers.

Adult classes meet as follows:

The Guardians Sunday School Class will begin a new study this year, led by Raegan Swaringen. The study will be an in-depth look at the Gospel of Luke, called "Jesus, the Son of Man." It will last approximately 27 weeks, beginning Sunday, January 12. The Guardians class meets in the Session Room, just down the hallway from the church office.

The Friendship Class is led by a rotation of teachers. They will begin a study of spiritual gifts next Sunday, Jan. 12, that will last approximately 6 weeks. Trish Nixon will lead these lessons. Their classroom is across from the choir room in the lower level of the church.

The Disciples Class, led by Dave Argabrite, is currently studying the Book of Job. They meet on the 2nd floor of the Educational Building.

The Drummond Class will begin a series on the Book of Revelation on Sunday, January 19. It is entitled "Blessed Hope," by Robert Godfrey. Ron Lisenby leads the class. They meet on the 2nd floor of the Educational Building.



Linda's Closet will resume its normal hours on Tuesday, January 7.

Currently, there is a great need for men, young boys', and young girls' (sizes 3-5) winter clothes. Please no spring or summer clothes at this time! If you are interested in volunteering, see Trish Nixon. Thank you for your support of this ministry!

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

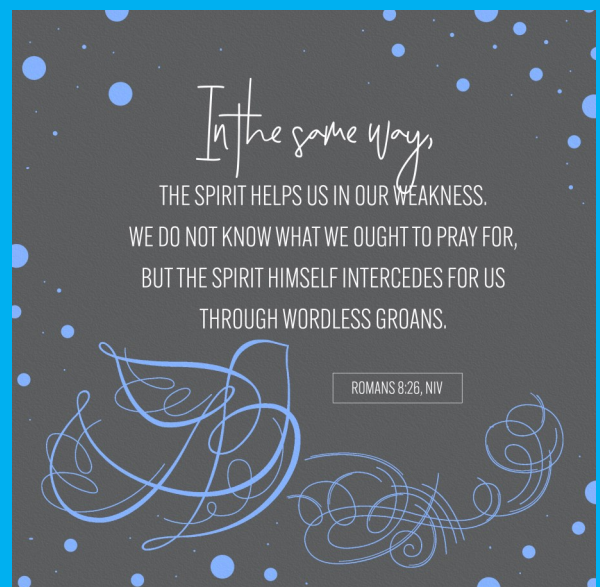
- Pastor Eddie, Roxanne, and the Spencer family - death of Eddie's mom, Rachel
- Richard Little and family - loss of his brother, Robert
- Debra Dandro - celebrating completing treatments
- George Maiocchi - in hospital with double pneumonia
- Phil Smith - ankle surgery on January 16
- Ronald Barger - broken ribs
- Susan Hathaway - pneumonia

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Patrick Goode (Devin's brother) - stage 4 cancer
- Steve Smith (Becky Seaford's brother) - surgery this week
- Heidi Helms (daughter of family friends of Chariti Lowder) - 2 yr old at Duke University with rare condition, MIRM
- Catherine Cox (Alice Jeanes' sister) - cancer
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - Spina Bifida
- Anna Hinson (Becky Seaford's daughter-in-law's mother) - doing well, thank you for your prayers
- 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, January 5

Epiphany Sunday

9:30am - Morning Coffee

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with Holy Communion

Tuesday, January 7

11am - 2pm - Linda's Closet

12:00pm - NA

6:30pm - Session

Thursday, January 9

12:00pm - NA

Saturday, January 11

10:00am - Undecorate the Church

Sunday, January 12

9:30am - Morning Coffee

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Raegan Swaringen

No Children's Message Today

Children's Message Next Week: Michelle Walker

Children's Church: Risa Little

Children's Church Next Week: David Ellington

Acolytes: Cierstyn Lowder & Noah Walker

Acolytes next week: Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

Nursery: Roxanne Spencer

Nursery next week: Vickie Ellington

Ushers: Todd Pless, Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler, Ryan Walker

Ushers next week: Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan

Greeters: Lynn Sechler, Donnie Swaringen

FINANCIALS

FOR NOVEMBER

YTD Income \$276,403.22

YTD Expenses \$258,407.96

YTD Budget \$290,363.37

Last week's attendance: 12/29/2024

Worship AM - 70

No Sunday School

