



THE WEEKLY FIRST



This Sunday, we will continue our Lenten Journey to the Cross of Christ, as we consider another of Jesus' "Amen" statements from Luke 23. As our Savior hung on a cross between two criminals, He was mocked, insulted, and sneered at. One of the criminals being crucified with Him challenged Jesus - "*Aren't You the Messiah? Save Yourself and us!*" (v. 39) But the other criminal chided him, reminding him that Jesus was the only one of them who didn't deserve the punishment they were receiving. And then he asked the Lord, "*Jesus, remember me when you come into Your kingdom.*" Jesus answered him, "*Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise.*" (vv. 42-43) What a beautiful promise that must have been to the criminal; and what a beautiful reminder to us that Christ's sacrifice covers the sins of we who deserve the punishment He so willingly and undeservedly took.

Click the link below for the most recent Session Minutes.

[Session Minutes March 2025](#)

[Sunday Bulletin is Online!](#)



Welcome

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



Congratulations to Ryan Walker!

He was awarded Sheriff's Office Veteran Officer of the Year by the Salisbury Rotary Club at their annual Public Safety Awards luncheon on Tuesday, March 18.



Health Market: Produce Giveaway & Linda's Closet

First Presbyterian and Feeding Kannapolis Hunger will host a Health Market THIS Saturday, March 22 at 9:30am.

We will feature information and samples on healthy eating, along with a produce giveaway. Linda's closet will also be open for the community. Set up will be Friday, March 21 at 5:30pm (pizza provided), and volunteers are needed by 9am on Saturday, March 22.



Work on the sanctuary restroom is in progress!

The room will likely be unavailable this Sunday March 23, but will be available by next Sunday. The room is being painted and will get new floor covering, fixtures, and mirrors.

The Session has approved purchasing new equipment for the playground to add to what we already have. A climber and two



Middle and Senior High Youth are invited to the premiere of The Chosen, Season 5, at Southeast Cinemas – Carolina Mall! The new Season of The Chosen begins with the events of Palm Sunday, and we will use these viewings as the basis for our Wednesday night discussions during Lent. Below is our schedule for viewing. Please sign up in the Narthex for each date you plan to attend! See Michelle if you need more information.

Friday, March 28 – 6:45pm (Part 1); Meet at Chili's for dinner at 5:15pm

Friday, April 4 – 5:30pm (Part 2); Go to dinner after the movie

Saturday, April 12 – 1:00 pm (Part 3); Meet for lunch before the movie



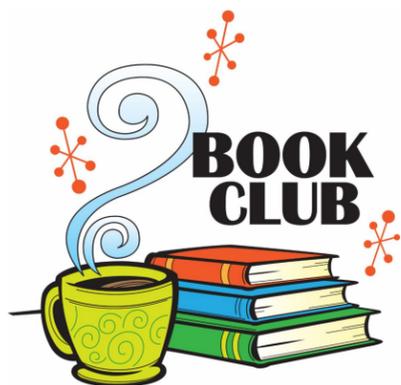
Women Without Reservations

Women Without Reservations will meet for dinner next Sunday, March 30 at 6:00pm. Join us at the Cheesecake Factory in Birkdale Village.

MEET AT CHURCH AT 5:00pm TO CARPOOL.

We will also be “showering” Lauren Goodnight with diapers, pure wipes, and gift cards for her baby girl due May 17!

All women of the church are invited. Please let Michelle Walker know if you plan to attend so we can secure enough space at the restaurant.



A BOOK CLUB will meet Monday, March 31 from 10:00-11:30am in the parlor. Our first book is *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon. The book club is open to men and women. See Trish Nixon if you would like more information.



This year, there will be multiple opportunities to pause during Holy Week and contemplate more deeply Jesus' journey to the cross, His sacrificial death, and His triumphant resurrection. Please invite others to these special services and events:

Palm Sunday, April 13

11:00am – Worship Service in Sanctuary
7:30pm – *The Last Supper* presentation

Maundy Thursday, April 17

6:30pm – Worship Service in Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 18

6:30pm – Worship Service with area churches in Sanctuary

Saturday, April 19

10am – 12pm – Children and Youth Easter Celebration

Easter Sunday, April 20

11:00am – Resurrection Worship Service with Special Music and Flowering of the Cross



The Last Supper - a Display of God's Faithfulness!

The 2025 performance of *The Last Supper* on Sunday, April 13, at 7:30pm, will mark the 21st presentation by the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Kannapolis!

The original production of the tableau by Ernest Emurian took place on March 26, 1961, and showings have continued regularly in the 61 years since, yearly in the beginning, then most recently on a 3-year interval. 2022 marked the Church's most recent presentation.

The Last Supper drama depicts Jesus and His 12 disciples, as imagined by artist Leonardo da Vinci, just after Jesus' announcement that one of the 12 will betray him. In turn, the disciples "come alive" to ponder... "Is it I?" **Invite others and make plans to attend this moving worship service, as together we reflect on God's gift of salvation to all.**



Families and friends are invited to a Children and Youth Easter Celebration, Saturday, April 19, 10am -12pm. Join us for games, crafts, a cookout, and special treats as we contemplate Jesus' love for us. **Please sign up in the Narthex.**



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
- New or gently used bath towels

Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!



**Linda's Closet has new hours:
Tuesdays, 11:00am - 1:00pm.**

The closet will be closed Tuesday, March 25 to reorganize after the Health Market/Clothing giveaway this weekend.

No more winter clothes are needed at this time. Lightweight spring jackets would be appreciated until May. Also, men's and children's clothes are still needed.

Devotionals are often requested by closet visitors. If you have any to share, they would be appreciated.

Please see Trish Nixon for information and to volunteer.

Thank you for your support of this ministry!

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

- Peggy Gibson - recovery from arm and hip surgery
- John Hammond - heart surgery March 24th

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH FAMILY

- Catherine Cox (Alice Jeanes' sister) - recovery from surgery
- Richard Hough (Eddie's friend) - recovery from brain surgery
- Amy Morgan (Sharon Stricker's son's mother-in-law) - recovery from surgery for cancer
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Zeldia West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - Spina Bifida - recovery from two surgeries
- Justin Wallace (Melba's grandson) - recovery from transplants kidney and amputated foot
- Darrell Blalack (Linda Hathaway family) - diagnosed with Hodgkins
- Barbara Coffey (friend of Judy Hunter) - cancer
- Thomas Dishman (friend of Judy Hunter) - on dialysis and waiting for a kidney
- Buddy Troutman (friend of Hammonds) - under hospice care
- Timmy Troutman (Buddy Troutman's son) - recovery from heart surgery

HOMEBOUND

- Linda Bost - Best of Care
- Barbara Hancock - Home

- Loretta Young - Five Oaks

This Week@FIRST PRESB

Sunday, March 23

10 Cents A Meal

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee
 - Gracefull Movements & Acting Out Rehearsal
- 10:00am - Sunday School
- 11:00am - Worship Service
- 3:00pm - Build Altar Extension for *The Last Supper (Bring drills!)*
- 4:00pm - Last Supper Rehearsal

Monday, March 24

- 2:00pm - Dorcas Circle

Tuesday, March 25

- 12:00pm - NA
- 3-6:30pm - Peek NexGen

Wednesday, March 26

- 3-6:30pm - Peek NexGen
- 5:30pm - Youth Families' Dinner
- 6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal
- 6:30pm - Wednesdays in the Word

Thursday, March 27

- 10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study
- 12:00pm - NA
- 3-6:30pm - Peek NexGen

Friday, March 28

- 12:00pm - JOY Group at China Grove Family Restaurant
- 5:15pm - Youth at Chili's
- 6:45pm - *The Chosen* at Southeast Cinema

Next Sunday, March 30

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee
 - GraceFull Movements Rehearsal
- 10:00am - Sunday School
- 11:00am - Worship Service
- 4:00pm - Last Supper Rehearsal
- 6:00pm - Women Without Reservations at Cheesecake Factory & Showering Lauren Goodnight

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Ken Sparks

Children's Message this Week: Michelle Walker

Children's Message next Week: Acting Out

Children's Church: Sharon Cranford

Children's Church next Week: Roxanne Spencer

Acolytes: Michael Herbst & Caylin Lowder

Acolytes next week: Camryn Lowder & Mary Gray Peterson

Nursery: Jenny Sparks

Nursery next week: Megan Quigg

Ushers: Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister

Ushers next week: Mal McDaniel, Jill & Phil McLain, Todd Pless

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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