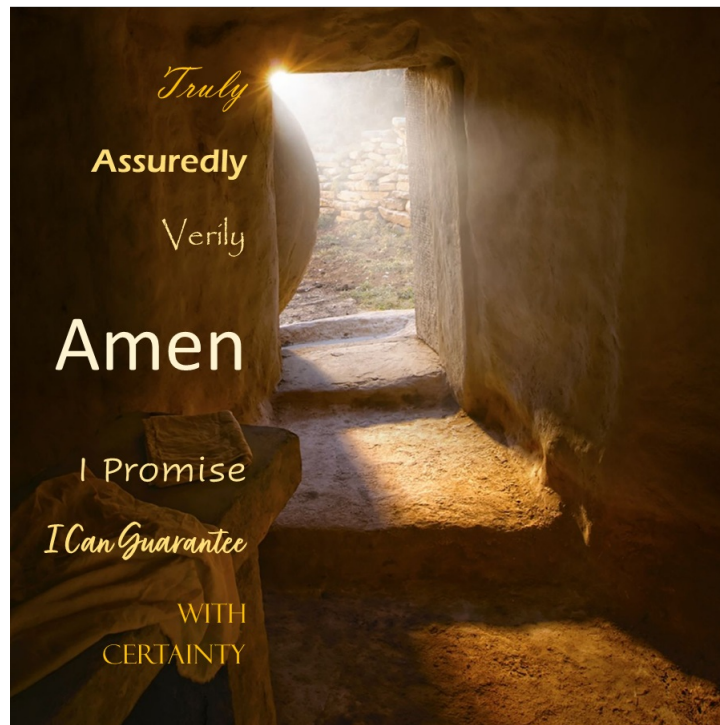




# THE WEEKLY FIRST



In my years as a pastor, I have used this time of the year known to many as the Lenten Season to think deeply on the meaning of the Cross and Resurrection so that people like us may more deeply believe the truth of the Gospel and celebrate the God of such glorious grace. To this end, Michelle and I have been working for weeks on our Lenten/Holy Week booklet. The booklet is written by us for you. If God uses it to spiritually encourage you or if you think it may be helpful to someone else, we hope you will share it. A digital copy is attached to this “Weekly First” email and the printed copies are available at church.

I look forward to worshipping together Sunday. The passage on which the teaching is based is Mark 10:35-45.

**Click the link below for a Lenten Devotional.**

[Lenten Devotional 2025](#)

**[Sunday Bulletin](#) is Online!**



*Welcome*

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



#### **PROJECT UPDATES:**

**Work on the sanctuary restroom is complete except for a few finishing touches.** The room is now open.

Arrangements are being made for a contractor to replace the burned-out light bulbs high up on the ceiling and in the chandeliers in the sanctuary. This will be done in early April.

The session has approved purchasing new equipment for the playground to add to what we already have. A climber and two bouncers will be purchased.

The team is studying other potential improvements (both indoors and outdoors) and will communicate as more is known.



**Ladies' Thursday Bible Study group enjoying lunch together after the completion of their latest study.**

#### **New topic for Ladies' Thursday Bible Study**

Come join our Ladies' Bible Study which meets on Thursdays at church beginning at 10:30am. Our new study is by Priscilla Shirer, **Discerning the Voice of God**. The author states, "Wherever you are in your spiritual walk, God will find a way to speak to you in a way you will understand. Become acquainted with the voice that has spoken from a fire and a cloud; with visible signs and an invisible Spirit; through a burning bush and burning hearts." The challenge as we study is to hear His voice more clearly in our lives.



**Wednesdays in the Word continues its Lenten study.**

Join us each Wednesday through April 9, as we contemplate Christ's Journey to the cross and the events of Holy Week. Adults will meet in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Eddie. Children and Youth will meet on the third floor.

#### **The schedule is as follows:**

5:30pm - Dinner for Youth

6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal

6:30pm - Adult and Youth Classes

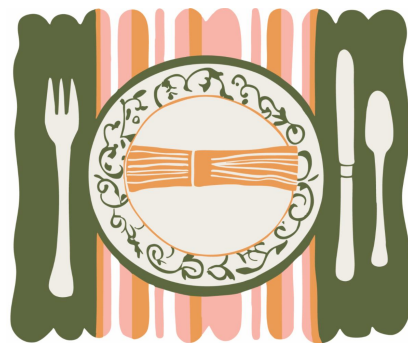


**Middle and Senior High Youth are invited to the premiere of The Chosen, Season 5, at Southeast Cinemas – Carolina Mall!** The new Season of The Chosen begins with the events of Palm Sunday, and we will use these viewings as the basis for our Wednesday night discussions during Lent. Below is our schedule 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); Meet at church at 5:00pm then go to dinner after the movie

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



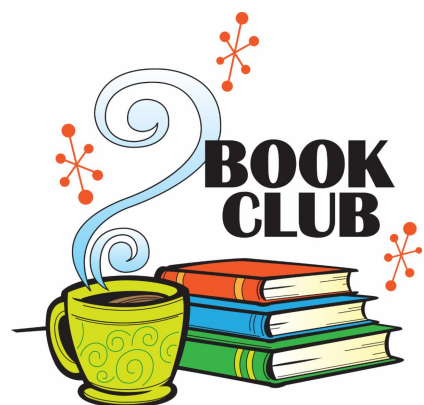
*Women Without Reservations*

**Women Without Reservations will meet for dinner this 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 at Kimball Memorial Lutheran

**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! - Part 2**

**The Last Supper tradition began in 1961 when the Women of the Church (WOC) were hosting monthly programs of inspiration and topics related to the church.** Betty Jean Rodgers, Director of Christian Education at that time, suggested a script given to her by a friend - *The Last Supper*, written by Ernest K. Emurian. Myrtle Cashion (WOC President), Dot Williams (WOC Vice President) and Iris Efird (past WOC President) reviewed the script and discussed its possibilities. Dot's husband, August Williams, proposed letting the Men of the Church work with the women to make the presentation even more effective and meaningful. According to Myrtle's notebook, those laying the groundwork for this endeavor were: Dot Williams, Effie Eudy, Bobbie Karriker, Phyllis White, Lela Bishop, Betty Jean Rodgers, Iris Efird, F. J. Daves, and Clyde Scarboro.

**Don't miss First Presbyterian's 21st presentation this Palm Sunday, April 13 at 7:30pm.**

**Be sure to invite family and friends to this moving worship service, as together we reflect on God's gift of salvation to all.**

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**Families and friends are invited to a Children and Youth Easter**

# Outdoor Easter Celebration

**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 is open on Tuesdays from  
11:00am - 1:00pm.**

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 - recovery from quadruple by-pass surgery
- Mark Intravia - recovery from shoulder surgery

### **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) - starting chemo in three weeks
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - chemo treatments
- Zelda 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

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### Sunday, March 30

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee  
- Gracefull Movements Rehearsal  
10:00am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship Service  
4:00pm - *The Last Supper* Rehearsal

### Monday, March 31

- 10:00-11:30am - Book Club

### Tuesday, April 1

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

### Wednesday, April 2

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

### Thursday, April 3

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

### Friday, April 4

- 5:30pm - *The Chosen* at Southeast  
Cinema; Dinner following

### Saturday, April 5

- Time tbd - *The Last Supper* set  
completion

### Next Sunday, April 6

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

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Ken Sparks

**Children's Message this week:** Roxanne Spencer

**NO Children's Message next week**

**Children's Church:** Roxanne Spencer

**Children's Church next week:** Michelle Walker

**Acolytes:** Camryn Lowder & Mary Gray Peterson

**Acolytes next week:** Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

**Nursery:** Megan Quigg

**Nursery next week:** Vickie Ellington

**Ushers:** Mal McDaniel, Jill & Phil McLain, Todd Pless

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

**Greeters:** Phil McLain, Roxanne Spencer

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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  
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?**

Then sign up for our **Online Member's Directory**. All information current and updated whenever you need it! And you know what? There is also an app for your phone!

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