



**FIRST**  

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**PRESBYTERIAN**  

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**CHURCH**

*Welcome*

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

**~ Gathering Before the Word ~****Welcome**

Eddie Spencer

**Prelude***Rhosymedre*

Williams

**Lighting of the Candles**

Landon &amp; Noah Walker

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 19:1-6

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

**All: They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.**

Leader: In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

**All: It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 20** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

ROYAL OAK

**\*Prayer of Adoration****Prayer of Confession**

God our faithful Father, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with You and with one another. We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience. We have served our own self-interests instead of serving only You and Your people. We have not loved our neighbor as You have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious Father, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with You and one another, through Christ, our Lord.

**Silent Prayers of Confession****Assurance of the Gospel**

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**\*Hymn of Assurance No. 706** *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

## ~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

### Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

#### Word with Our Children

#### Blessing of the Bookbags

**\*Doxology No. 965** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

**Offering & Special Music** *Supper Time/Softly and Tenderly*

Chancel Choir

Stanphill/Thompson

**\*Scripture Reading**

Luke 6:12-26

Pages 1020-21

**Sermon**

“Kingdom Community”

Eddie Spencer

## ~ Responding to the Word of God ~

**\*Sending Song**

*Yes, Lord, Yes*  
Chancel Choir

Keesecker

**\*Prayer and Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

Allabreve in D

J. S. Bach

\*All who are able, please stand.  
CCLI# 222113

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 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!

Guest  
Musicians



**A special thank you and welcome to Christopher Brayne, our guest musician, this morning!**



## Dear friends of CCM,

At CCM, we define CRISIS as a condition of economic instability brought about by an unexpected event that has the potential to result in disastrous circumstances. With the help of your continued support, we can develop preventive strategies that will significantly reduce the number of households and individuals in crisis. **THANK YOU** for your contribution of \$1,200.00 on 7/17/2025. We invite you to PRAY alongside us, and continue to engage with our ministry as GOD directs! Blessings! Jeremy Burleson, Chief Relationship Officer



**As we bless our students and the 2025-26 school year, we ask that you continue to keep our youth in prayer.** Magnets are available in the Narthex with each student's name, school, and grade.

Take a magnet to "adopt" one of our youth and commit to praying for them throughout the school year. You could even send them notes during the year to remind them that you are praying for them. Please let Michelle know which student you have adopted!

**Christmas play practice will soon begin!** An interest meeting will be held immediately following worship TODAY, Sunday, August 10, in the Fellowship Hall. All youth are invited to participate!



## Building on the Cornerstone

**NEXT Sunday, August 17, will be a day of celebration as we reflect on the 50th Anniversary of the building of our Sanctuary! Features include a combined Sunday School, items from the 1975 time**



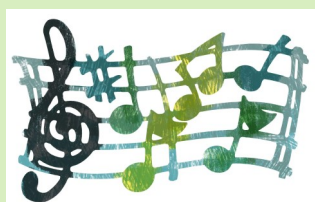
**capsule, a display of church history, remembrances from church members, a special worship service, and a reception on the front steps.**

In conjunction with this commemoration, First Pres will launch "Building on the Cornerstone" – a fundraising effort for an exterior renovation which will include replacing shrubbery and walkways, repairing brickwork on the porches, adding more green space, and improving entryways and the

courtyard. We encourage you to invite family, friends, and past church members, and make plans to attend our celebration of God's faithfulness, as we anticipate His future for our church.



**A Ladies' Bible Study meets each Thursday at 10:30am.** They are following Max Lucado's "In the Footsteps of the Savior" - a video study. It is a journey through the hills, dust, and homes of the Holy Land, including Capernaum, Galilee, Bethany, Jerusalem. and others. Weaving insights from his own travels to Israel with teaching from his books, Lucado will guide us to walk where Jesus walked and ponder the promises Jesus made. **See Alpha Barger for more information.**



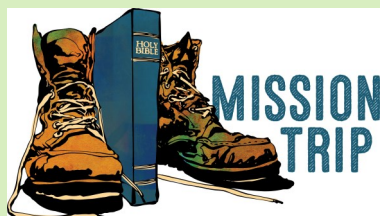
**Want to have some "wicked" good fun this fall?**

*Wicked*, the musical, is coming to Blumenthal Performing Arts in Charlotte! A group will travel to the 7pm performance on Sunday, October 26. **Seats are limited, so please see Michelle Walker by NEXT Sunday, August 17 if you would like to go.**

**A self-defense class will be held on Saturday, August 23 from 10:30am - 12pm in our Fellowship Hall.** All ages, male and female, are invited to join us. The class will be led by a retired fireman, who has over 40 years of teaching experience. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Contact Vickie Ellington for more information - (704) 706-4395.



## MISSIONS FOCUS



**The Missions Team invites you to an all-church Sunday School presentation!** On Sunday, August 24 at 10:00am, Adam & Toby Caskey will detail their recent Mission trip to Alaska! Children, youth, and adults will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Continental breakfast begins at 9:45am.

**Mark your calendar for our next FPC Missions Night!**

Join us on Wednesday, August 27 at 6:00pm as we continue to highlight the missions of our church, find ways we can be involved, and pray over our outreach efforts.



**Collection for our 500 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes continues!** We will pack 250 for girls and 250 for boys, ages 10-14. For the month of August our focus is school supplies. **Needs are:**

Wooden pencils      Packs of skinny markers  
Pencil sharpeners      Ink pens  
Wireless notebooks or note pads

Place donations in the red collection bin in the Narthex. You may also give online or with an offering marked for "Shoeboxes".



## ONGOING OUTREACH



**Linda's Closet is open the 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays from 11:00am -1:00pm** during August & September. Other Tuesdays will be "work days". See Trish Nixon if you can volunteer. Current needs:  
\* Boys clothes, sizes 2-16 \* Men's clothes \*New underwear for all



**Thank you for donating to the First Pres Blessing Fence!**  
See Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help with current needs:  
\*small cosmetic bags \*feminine products \*new/gently-used towels



**The Missions Team is collecting "pull tabs" for the Charlotte-area Ronald McDonald House.** Rinse the tabs (from sodas, soup/veg cans) and place them in the container in the Narthex.

## 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

- Chad Eudy - health concerns
- Betty Sechler - recovery from knee surgery
- Jenny & Ken Sparks - passing of Jenny's mother, Nadine S Hildebran
- Angel Dixon - recovery from infection

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Family of Henry Byham (Diane Bellotti's 2<sup>1/2</sup> yr old great-nephew) - on his passing
- Pat Haynes (Renee Goodnight's mother) - recovery from foot surgery
- Amy Morgan (Adam Stricker's mother-in-law) - continuing with treatments
- Kristen Cranford (Sharon's daughter-in-law) - aortic aneurysm
- Jane McDaniel (Mal & Debbie's daughter-in-law) - testing for health concerns
- Chris Race (family of Trish Nixon) - colon cancer
- Cara Mistal (Trish Nixon's niece) - cancer
- Christine Bork (Trish Nixon's niece) - cancer
- Karen Miller (friend of Cresses) - non-small-cell carcinoma
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - recovery from brain surgery
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - recovery from surgery
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - another surgery in September
- Barbara Coffey (friend of Judy Hunter) - cancer
- Thomas Dishman (friend of Judy Hunter) - kidney transplant

### HOMEBOUND

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



# This Week @ FIRST PRES

## Sunday, August 10

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
10:00am - "Building on the Cornerstone"  
Capital Campaign  
Presentation  
11:00am - Worship Service with  
Blessing of Bookbags  
12:00pm - Youth Christmas Play Info  
Meeting in Parlor

## Tuesday, August 12

11:00am - 1:00pm -  
Linda's Closet "work day"  
12:00pm - NA  
6:45pm - Missions Meeting

## Thursday, August 14

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study  
12:00pm - NA  
6:00pm - Pilot Club in Fellowship Hall

## Next Sunday, August 17

9:30am - Morning Coffee  
10:00am - Building on the Cornerstone  
Sunday School Celebration  
11:00am - Building on the Cornerstone  
50th Anniversary Worship  
12:00pm - Anniversary Reception on  
Front Steps

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Ken Sparks

**Children's Message This Week:** Blessing  
of Bookbags

**Children's Message Next Week:** Roxanne  
Spencer

**Children's Church This Week:** Chariti  
Lowder

**Children's Church next week:** Jenny  
Sparks

**Acolytes This Week:** Landon & Noah  
Walker

**Acolytes Next Week:** Evie Sechler & Ingrid  
Townsend

**Nursery:** Chariti Lowder

**Nursery Next Week:** Jenny Sparks

**Ushers:** Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Jeff  
Barnhardt, Eric Cowan

**Ushers Next week:** Mark Goodnight, John  
Hammond, Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst

**Greeters:** Tony Rary, Debbie McDaniel

## FINANCIALS FOR JULY

**YTD Income** \$174,641.81

**YTD Expenses** \$171,193.16

**YTD Budget** \$186,444.44

**Last week's attendance:** 8/3/2025

**Worship AM - 92**

**Sunday School - 41**

# SERMON NOTES

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

**Raegan Swaringen**

**Sharon Cranford**

**Tony Rary**

**Cookie Hamilton**

**Chris Lowder**

**Ken Sparks**

**Sue Maiocchi**

**Phil McLain**

**Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk**

**Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator**



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