



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~

Welcome

Eddie Spencer

Prelude

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. by Becky Slagle Mayo

Lighting of the Candles

Caylin & Camryn Lowder

Choral Call to Worship *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus*
Chancel Choir

Lemmel

***Call to Worship**

***Hymn of Praise No. 551**

LAST UNS ERFREUEN

All Creatures of our God and King (stanzas 1-3, 6)

***Prayer of Adoration and the Lord's Prayer**

“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

Confession of Sins

Gracious God, You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places even as You chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before You. We confess that we have not lived wholly for You, nor have we lived blamelessly in our thoughts, words, or actions. Please forgive us and restore in us the joy of our salvation. In the Name of King Jesus we pray.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Ephesians 2:8

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

***Hymn of Assurance No. 615**

THOMPSON

Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word with Our Children

Michelle Walker

Offering & Special Music

Give Me Jesus
Chancel Choir

arr. by Diane Dykgraaf

***Scripture Reading**

Psalm 107

page 600

Sermon

“Consider the Great Love of the Lord”

Pastor Eddie

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

***Sending Song No. 859**

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

***Prayer and Choral Benediction**

Kaiser

The Lord Whom We Love
Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

They'll Know We're Christians

arr. by Wilbur Held

***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!



We are pleased to welcome Dr. Valarie Valois as our new Director of Music!

To call Valarie accomplished is an understatement - she brings years of experience as a pianist, organist, vocalist, conductor, composer, and teacher to First Pres. Valarie has studied and performed all over the world, and we are blessed to have her on staff. When not performing or planning services, Valarie enjoys gardening, reading,

documentaries, good food, and "celebrating the simple and extraordinary miracles of living every day." Please take time to extend your own words of greeting to Valarie!

Dear First Presbyterian Family,

Thank you all for the kind words of congratulations and encouragement as I celebrated three years of sobriety. I sincerely appreciate everything this church has done for me. We truly are a family! I love you all, Eric Cowan

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

Jim & I would like to thank you for all the kind and caring sympathy cards we have received in regards to the passing of our great-nephew Henry. Having a caring Christian community during this sad time has given us comfort knowing you are praying for us. Thank you for being the compassionate arms of Jesus! In Christ, Jim & Diane Bellotti



Join us for Movie Night in the Pavilion on Friday, September 5! Set in the 1970s, the movie tells the story of a Christian movement amongst hippies in Southern California, including its influence on a now-prominent pastor. All ages are invited for dinner (pizza & salad) at 7pm. The movie will start around 8pm. We will move into the Fellowship Hall if weather is inclement. Registration is requested (online or in the Narthex) so we have enough food. Please invite friends and family, don your 70's best, and bring a lawn chair or beach blanket for some "revolutionary" fun!!!

Genesis Sunday is set for September 7! We will begin at 9:30am with breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. At 10am, Fall Sunday School classes will be introduced for all ages.

Offerings this year are:

- Disciples Class (Dave Argabrite) - Books of 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and 1 & 2 Peter
- Friendship Class (Vickie Ellington) - Our Heritage as Presbyterians
- Heart Sisters (Sandy Bessent & Becky Seaford) - Spiritual Disciplines
- Guardians Class (Raegan Swaringen) - The Gospel of Luke
- Navigators (Tracy & Amelia Caskey) - Middle & Senior High Youth
- Elementary Youth



Fall Wednesday Night Activities Begin September 10 with a kick-off dinner at 5:30pm (donation basis)!

September schedule is as follows:

September 10: *Wednesdays in the Word* Pastor Eddie will lead an adult class from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Children and youth will meet for play practice from 6:00pm-6:45pm, then have their own classes until 7:30pm. (Continues on the 1st Wednesday of each month.)

September 17: *Wednesdays in Prayer* Adults will meet at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary, and follow guided prayer time together. Children and Youth schedule remains the same. (Continues on the "middle" Wednesdays of each month.)

September 24: *Wednesdays in Mission* continue as we participate in many of the Missions Projects of our Church. Children and Youth schedule remains the same. (Continues on the last Wednesday of each month.)

There's a place for everyone, so please join us!



FaithFest Christian Music Festival is coming soon!

Youth and families are invited on Saturday, September 13.

We will leave the church around 2pm and return after the last act, around 10pm. Food trucks and vendors are available on site. Please sign up in the Narthex ASAP so we can arrange transportation! See Michelle for more info.



This Sunday marks our monthly 10 Cents-A-Meal collection!

Our youth will be in the Narthex immediately following worship to collect your donations. These offerings are divided between Compassion International (we sponsor 3 children) and Cabarrus Meals on Wheels.



Our final Summer Sunday School is next Sunday! Guest Speaker is Alisha Dixon of the AYA Recovery House. 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 and pray over our outreach efforts.

Opportunities at this Missions Night include:

- Packing Law Enforcement Appreciation Bags
- Packing Shady Brook Elementary Family Food Bags
- Operation Christmas Child Crafting (Hairbows; Tic Tac Toe Games)
- Sorting at Linda's Closet
- Care Team Card Making



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".

Join us on September 21 for an Operation Christmas Child Sunday! A church-wide Sunday School at 10am will feature guest speaker Marvellous Okonne. Marvellous received a shoebox gift as an 8-year-old living in Central Africa. He will share how that gift continues to remind him of God's love.

During the worship service, we will celebrate 5 years as a Drop-Off Collection site for area shoeboxes.

Following worship, the Missions Team will provide a spaghetti dinner on a donation basis. All proceeds will go towards our shoebox packing efforts.

Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry!



ONGOING OUTREACH



Linda's Closet is open the 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays from 11:00am -1:00pm in 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

- Jerry Phillips - loss of Bynum
- Sharon Cranford - hip surgery Tuesday
- Betty Sechler - recovery from knee surgery
- Connie Lisenby - surgery Sept. 5

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Jane McDaniels (McDaniel's daughter-in-law) -health concerns
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - recovery from surgery
- Kristen Cranford (Sharon's daughter) - health concerns
- Thomas Abercrombie (Belotti's grandson) - motorcycle accident
- Rachel Duvall (San McAllister's granddaughter) - recovery from brain surgery
- Karen Miller (Cathy Cress' friend) - good report
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter)
- Amy Morgan - continuing with treatments
- Barbara Coffey (friend of Judy Hunter) - cancer

HOMEBOUND

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



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, August 24

10 Cents a Meal!

9:45am - Fellowship Breakfast
10:00am - All-Church Sunday School w/
Adam & Toby Caskey
11:00am - Worship Service

Tuesday, August 26

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

Wednesday, August 27

6:00pm - Missions Night

Thursday, August 28

10:30am - Ladies' Bible Study
12:00pm - NA

Next Sunday, August 31

9:45am - Fellowship Breakfast
10:00am - Sunday School w/
Alisha Dixon of the AYA
House
11:00am - Worship Service

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Ken Sparks

Children's Message This Week: Michelle Walker

Children's Message Next Week: Alpha Barger

Children's Church This Week: Debbie McDaniel

Children's Church next week: Megan Quigg

Acolytes This Week: Caylin & Camryn Lowder

Acolytes Next Week: Cierstyn Lowder & Oliver Townsend

Nursery: Debbie McDaniel

Nursery Next Week: Megan Quigg

Ushers: Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel

Ushers Next week: Phil & Jill McLain, Todd Pless, Tony Rary

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: 8/17/2025

Worship AM - 173

Sunday School - 90

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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