



THE WEEKLY FIRST



Last Sunday was a great day! You can find the historical videos on our YouTube page. A huge thanks to Michelle Walker as well as Lynn Sechler for all the work they did. Also, my daughter Rachel was the video editor for the historical presentation.

This Sunday I will teach on Psalm 107. Psalm 107 is a song of celebration for the “great love of the Lord”.



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!

Sunday Bulletin is Online!



Welcome

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



The Building on the Cornerstone capital campaign is

underway to raise funds to make exterior renovations to the church property. Our aspiration is to complete fundraising by early 2026, and have the work done in the spring. The vision is to rejuvenate the outside of the church for continued ministry well into the future, as described in this linked slide from the recent Sunday School presentation: [Cornerstone Vision](#)



Reminder: If you "adopted" one of our youth to pray for this school year, please let Michelle know the name of the child(ren) you took!



All ladies are welcome to join the morning Ladies' Bible Study each Thursday at 10:30am. They will follow Max Lucado's "In the Footsteps of the Savior" - a video study. The author will take us on 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. All ladies are welcome!

See Alpha Barger for more information.



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.

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.



The following Missions Speaker is scheduled for our final summer Sunday School! Join us for a Continental Breakfast beginning at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall on the following Sunday:

August 31 - Alisha Dixon, AYA House



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 - a Christian Music
Festival - is back this
September in Wilkesboro,**



NC! The youth and families are invited to attend on Saturday, September 13. We will leave the church around 2pm. Food trucks and vendors are available on site. We will return after the last act, around 10pm. Please sign up in the Narthex ASAP so we can arrange transportation! See Michelle for more info.



The Missions Team is collecting “pull tabs” for the Charlotte area Ronald McDonald House. These tabs can be found on soda cans, soup/vegetable cans, pet food containers, or other canned goods. Please rinse the tabs and place them in the container in the Narthex.

• Our collection for 500



Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! 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!**



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
- Small cosmetic bags

Please see Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help!



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

OPEN DATES FOR GUESTS:

August 19

September 2, 26 and 30

There is a need for boys clothes sizes 2-16 and men's clothes and new underwear for men, women and children.

Other Tuesdays will be "work days"

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Trish Nixon.

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

- 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 PRESB

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

Raegan Swaringen Sharon Cranford Tony Rary

Cookie Hamilton Chris Lowder Ken Sparks

Sue Maiocchi Phil McLain

Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator

Jeff Barnhardt, Session Clerk



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