



THE WEEKLY FIRST



We've gotten a taste of fall recently as temperatures have cooled, and fall ministry at FPC is well underway. Tomorrow (Friday) night at 7, ALL are invited to a Movie Night under the Pavilion – pizza, salad, and popcorn provided. Sunday morning at 9:30am we will gather for breakfast, then celebrate Genesis Sunday for our Sunday School classes at 10am. Wednesday night activities begin September 10th with Wednesdays in the Word, Wednesdays in Prayer, and Wednesdays in Mission. Please take time to read the announcements about each of these events, RSVP when appropriate, and join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we engage our heads, hearts, and hands in fellowship, worship, and work for our Lord. As always, if you have any questions about any of our activities, you can always reach out to Pastor Eddie or Michelle.

This Sunday, we will continue our series, "Consider the Great love of the Lord," based on Psalm 107:43. God, in His Word, graciously communicates with us in a manner we understand. He employs names and metaphors to reveal and describe what a personal relationship looks like with Him. God is King, Savior, Groom, Elder Brother, Friend, and more. This Sunday, from Psalm 103, we will consider how God loves as a Father and celebrate The Lord's Supper together.

Click on the link below for a brief article on the God who is Love.

[God who is Love](#)



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 revitalize the outdoor property around the church. Changes will be made to improve the appearance, safety, and security of the church grounds while reducing the effort required for ongoing maintenance. Plans are for the work to be done in the spring of 2026. If you wish to contribute, write a check to First Presbyterian with "Cornerstone" on the memo line or contribute through the church website. Thanks to all who have contributed already!

Click the link below for 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!



EVERYONE is invited to Movie Night in the Pavilion TOMORROW, FRIDAY, Sept. 5.

Pizza & salad will be provided at 7pm

The movie will start at 8pm or when it's dark.
Please RSVP at:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9jU-7d65-QC0UAQC6seXnFyyBjiMExWh1qJWTQbnK2qhIng/viewform?usp=dialog>
Bring a lawn chair or beach blanket for some “revolutionary” fun!



Genesis Sunday is set for THIS SUNDAY, Sept 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
 - Seekers (Carol Lowder, Sharon Stricker, Alpha Barger - Elementary youth
-



The Women's Council, which represents all the women of First Presbyterian, will resume monthly meetings on Monday, September 8 at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Officers will also be elected at this meeting. ALL women who are interested in the work of the Women's Council or would like to serve on the Council are welcome to

attend. See Sharon Stricker for more information, or if you can't make the meeting time.



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* At 6:30pm Rev. Dr. Trevor Smith will lead adults through a time of guided prayer in the Sanctuary. 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. **THIS Sunday, Sept 7 is the last day to sign up.** All who plan to attend FaithFest are asked to meet in the parlor immediately following worship this Sunday.



Anyone 55 or older is invited to gather monthly for fun, inspiration, practical tips, guest speakers, fellowship and meals.

Join us Friday, September 26th at NOON in the Fellowship Hall. Chicken

Salad on Croissants and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Sign up in the Narthex or see Dave or Jane Argabrite/dargabrite@hotmail.com for more information. Come join the JOY - because life is better when we share it together.



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.



Work with Operation Christmas Child to process gift-filled shoeboxes for children around the world in Jesus’ Name.

Whether you’re a people person or like working behind the scenes, we have a variety of seasonal employment openings—from assisting teams of volunteers to lifting cartons of shoeboxes or operating forklifts in our warehouse.



Work from approximately mid-November to mid-December at one of our regional shoebox processing centers:

Atlanta, GA | Baltimore, MD | Boone, NC | Charlotte, NC
Aurora, IL | Coppell, TX | Englewood, CO | Fullerton, CA

Apply at samaritanspurse.org/occseasonaljobs



Samaritan's Purse®, Franklin Graham, President
P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607 | 1-800-528-1980 | samaritanspurse.org
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Collection for our 500 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes continues!

For the month of September our focus is personal care items.

Needs are:

- 250 hair combs and 250 hair brushes
- 250 boys' ankle socks
- 250 girls' ankle socks
- 250 packs girls' underwear
- 250 packs boys' underwear
- 250 girls' hair accessories
- 250 boys' sunglasses

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!**

The Dorcas Circle of Hope will resume meeting on Monday, Sept. 22 at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall. They meet regularly on the 4th Monday of the month for fellowship and Bible study. This year, their focus will be on Randy Alcorn's book, *Heaven*. All ladies are welcome. See Carol Lowder for more information.



FEEDING
KANNAPOLIS
HUNGER

Feeding Kannapolis Hunger will host another health fair and produce giveaway on Saturday, September 27.

If you would like to volunteer for set-up on Friday evening at 6pm or during the event on Saturday morning beginning at 9am, 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
- 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 September.

OPEN DATES FOR GUESTS:

September 16 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!

Help us keep Prayer Concerns current with weekly updates. Email the church or note on a prayer card & place in the offering plate.

- Connie Lisenby - surgery on September 5
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma
- Carol Lowder - breast cancer - surgery 10/2
- Sandy Boucher-Bessent - eye surgery 9/17 and 10/1
- Angela Miller - recovery surgery on broken wrist
- Jerry Phillips and family - on the passing of her son, Bynum Phillips
- Sharon Cranford - recovery from hip replacement
- Chad Eudy - health concerns
- Betty Sechler - recovery from knee surgery

- Sonny Darling (Lisa Salisbury's grandson) - more testing needed
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10 yr old with stomach cancer
- 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 surgery 9/15
- 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

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

9:45am - Fellowship Breakfast
10:00am - Genesis Sunday for Sunday
School in Fellowship Hall
11:00am - Worship Service with Holy
Communion

10:30am - Women's Council in Fellowship Hall

11am -1:00pm - Linda's Closet
Workday
12:00pm - NA
3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen
6:45pm - Missions

3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen
5:30pm - Youth/Families Dinner
6:00pm - Christmas Play Practice
6:30pm - Wed in the Word with Pastor
Eddie
6:45pm - Children/Youth Classes

Thursday, September 11
10:30am - Ladies’ Bible Study
12:00pm - NA
3:30pm-6pm - Peek Nex Gen
6:00pm - Pilot Club in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 13
2:00pm - Youth & Families to FaithFest

Next Sunday, September 14
9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton
Children’s Message This Week: none
Children’s Message Next Week: Michelle Walker
Children’s Church This Week: Risa Little
Children’s Church next week: Vickie Ellington
Acolytes This Week: Mary-Gray Petersen & Landon Walker
Acolytes Next Week: Michael Herbst & Caylin Lowder
Nursery: Risa Little
Nursery Next Week: Vickie Ellington
Ushers: Lynn Sechler, Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Ryan Walker
Ushers Next week: Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond
Greeters: Sue Maoicchi, Roxanne Spencer

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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