



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~**Welcome**

Pastor Eddie

Prelude*Pass It On*

Setting by Colvin

Lighting of the Candles

Michael Herbst & Caylin Lowder

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 145:3-9

Leader: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends Your works to another; they tell of Your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty—and I will meditate on Your wonderful works.

All: They tell of the power of Your awesome works—and I will proclaim Your great deeds. They celebrate Your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

Leader: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

All: The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made.

Hymn of Praise No. 351Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

Prayer of Adoration*Prayer of Confession**

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for discounting Your sovereign love. Lord Jesus, forgive us for our struggle to truly rest in Your finished work on our behalf. Holy Spirit, we offend You by minimizing Your transforming power and by walking our own way. We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, half-hearted devotion, and only mild repentance. Forgive us, O God of our Salvation, for the glory of Your matchless name. It is in Jesus, we pray.

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

I John 3:1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Song of Assurance No. 322I Need Thee Every Hour*

NEED

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word with Our Children

Michelle Walker

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

Offering and Special Music *Before the Throne of God Above*
Chancel Choir

Bancroft

*Scripture Reading

1 John 3:1-3

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Sermon

“Knowing and Beholding”

Pastor Eddie

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

*Sending Song No. 553

How Great Thou Art

Hine

*Prayer and Benediction

*Postlude

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Setting by Raney

*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!



A sincere thank you to my church family for the prayers, phone calls, and cards during the past weeks after Bynum's passing. You are truly dear to my heart.

Love to all,
Jerry Phillips



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 Pres with "Cornerstone" on the memo line or contribute through the church website. Thanks to all who have contributed already!

Fall Wednesday Night Activities continue this week!

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 meet for dinner at 5:30pm, Play Practice at 6, and Classes at 6:45. (Continues on the "middle" Wednesdays of each month.)



September 24: Wednesdays in Mission

Join us at 6:30pm as we participate in many of the Missions Projects of our Church. Children and Youth schedule remains the same. (Continues on the last Wednesdays of the month.)

Every Wednesday: Chancel Choir Rehearsals have resumed weekly at 6pm.

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



The Dorcas Circle of Hope will resume meeting on Monday, Sept. 22 at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall.

They meet on the 4th Monday of the month for fellowship and Bible study. This year, their focus is on Randy Alcorn's book, *Heaven*. All ladies are welcome. See Carol Lowder for more information.

The JOY Group (Just Older Youth) is back this fall!

Anyone 55 or older is invited to gather monthly for fun, inspiration, practical tips, fellowship, and friendship. We will meet on Friday, September 26th at 12pm 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 for more information. Come join the JOY – because life is better when we share it together!



Ladies, mark your calendar for a night of fun, sponsored by the Women's Council!

You are invited to a "Mix and Mingle" on Monday, October 20 at 6:30pm. We will enjoy a delicious catered meal and get to know each other better during progressive table seating. Details and a link to RSVP are coming soon! If you would like to learn more about the Women's Council, or are interested in serving on the board, please see Sharon Stricker.



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 September, our focus is personal care items. **Needs are:**

250 hair combs	250 hair brushes
250 boys' ankle socks	250 girls' ankle socks
250 packs girls' &	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 NEXT Sunday, 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. **Gluten-free spaghetti will be available - please sign up in the Narthex if you would like this option.** All proceeds will go towards our shoebox packing efforts.

Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry!



Our next Missions night - Wednesday in Missions - is Sept. 24 at 6:30pm! Our focus will be on packing bags for Meals on Wheels (pet food) and the First Pres Blessing Fence, as we learn more about these outreach opportunities. We hope to see you there!

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

Information will be given on healthy eating, healthy living, and food preparation. Participants will leave with a box of produce. Volunteers are needed to help set up and prepare the produce on Friday, Sept. 26 at 6pm—pizza provided. Volunteers are also needed on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 9am—until. There will be opportunities to greet, hand out produce, give food samples, and clean up. Please sign up in the Narthex for the times you can work. If any healthcare professionals are willing to check blood pressures, let Michelle know!



ONGOING OUTREACH



Linda's Closet is open the 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays of the month from 11:00am -1:00pm. Other Tuesdays are "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

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

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Kristen Cranford (Sharon's daughter-in-law) - aortic aneurysm surgery Monday
- Tommy Walker (Ryan's dad) - Presbyterian Hospital with serious health issues
- Bill Bailey (Terri Pruett's dad) - recovery from broken neck
- Sonny Darling (Lisa Salisbury's grandson) - back in the hospital
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10 yr old with stomach cancer
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - recovery from another surgery
- Jane McDaniel (Mal & Debbie's daughter-in-law) - testing for health concerns
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - recovery from brain surgery
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - recovery from surgery
- 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, September 14

9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service

Tuesday, September 16

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

Wednesday, September 17

3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen
5:30pm - Youth/Families Dinner
6:00pm - Christmas Play Practice
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm - Wed in Prayer with Rev. Dr.
Trevor Smith
6:45pm - Children/Youth Classes

Thursday, September 18

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

Saturday, September 20

9:30am - OCC Luncheon Set-Up

Next Sunday, September 21

9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Sunday School with
Marvellous Okonne, OCC
11:00am - Worship Service
12:00pm - Missions Luncheon
for Operation Christmas Child
Shoeboxes

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

Children's Message This Week: Michelle Walker

Children's Message Next Week: OCC Speaker

Children's Church This Week: Vickie Ellington

Children's Church next week: Amelia Caskey

Acolytes This Week: Michael Herbst & Caylin Lowder

Acolytes Next Week: Oliver Townsend & Noah Walker

Nursery: Vickie Ellington

Nursery Next Week: Amelia Caskey

Ushers: Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond

Ushers Next week: Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder

Greeters: Sue Maoicchi, Roxanne Spencer

FINANCIALS FOR AUGUST

YTD Income \$200,481.76

YTD Expenses \$197,321.53

YTD Budget \$213,079.36

Last week's attendance: 9/7/2025

Worship AM - 128

Sunday School - 81

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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