



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ **Gathering Before the Word** ~

Welcome

Pastor Eddie

Prelude

Jesus Paid It All

Setting by Hayes

Lighting of the Candles

Oliver Townsend & Noah Walker

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 96:1-4

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day.

All: Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise!

***Hymn of Praise No. 599**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

***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.”

Prayer of Confession

Adapted from Ephesians 4:29-32

Heavenly Father, by the power of Christ in us, help us not to let any unwholesome talk come out of our mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. By Your Holy Spirit at work in us, help us not to grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom we were sealed for the day of redemption, but to get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Set us apart, oh Christ, to be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave us.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Psalm 103:11-12

“For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.”

***Song of Assurance No. 465**

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Celebration of Operation Christmas Child

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

Offering and Special Music *Ancient Words* Setting by Purifoy
Chancel Choir

***Scripture Reading** Colossians 4:2-6 Page 1208

Sermon “Prayer, Time, Conversation” Pastor Eddie

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

***Sending Song No. 427** *How Firm a Foundation*

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude** *Foundation* Setting by Lasky

*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!

Faith Family,
My heart felt thanks for the many cards, texts, calls, and prayers during my time of illness. The hip surgery was successful and I am doing well. Your prayers made all the difference. Looking forward to being back home and in church.
Love in Christ, Sharon Cranford





Thank you to all who have contributed to the Building on the Cornerstone capital campaign! Over \$91,000 has been donated, or nearly 45% of the \$210,000 goal. The Building on the Cornerstone project will make improvements to the appearance, safety, security, and maintainability of our church's outdoor property. The work is to be done in the spring of 2026. If you wish to give, write a check to First Presbyterian with "Cornerstone" on the memo line, or give on our website. Any amount is appreciated!

Fall Wednesday Night Activities continue this week!

September 24: Wednesdays in Mission

6:30pm - Meet at church to pack bags for Meals on Wheels (pet food) and our Blessings Fence. Children and Youth meet at **5:30pm** for dinner; **6pm** for play practice; **6:45pm** for study.

October 1: Wednesdays in the Word

6:30pm - Adults meet with Pastor Eddie for study in the Fellowship Hall. Children and Youth meet at **5:30pm** for dinner; **6pm** for play practice; **6:45pm** for study with Ms. Devenney.

October 8: Wednesdays in Prayer

6:00pm (NOTE EARLIER TIME) - Give out our Law Enforcement Appreciation Bags at Kannapolis Police Department (401 Laurate Way). We will be given a brief tour, then pray with officers and staff as they change shifts. Children and youth will meet for dinner at **5:30pm**; walk to KPD at **6pm**; return for class at 6:45pm.



The Dorcas Circle of Hope will resume meeting TOMORROW, 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; bring a side or dessert to share. Sign up in the Narthex or see Dave & Jane Argabrite. 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 dinner with salads from Chick-fil-A. During the meal, we'll get to know each other better through progressive table seating. RSVP is required, so sign up in the Narthex by Wednesday, October 15th if you plan to attend.

To learn more about the Women's Council, or how to serve with the Women of the Church, please see Sharon Stricker.



New First Pres Gear! We are purchasing First Presbyterian tshirts, sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts. The design for each is the same - First Pres “logo” on the front, and our Mission Statement on the back. Prices are as follows:

Tshirt - (S-XL) \$10.95; 2X \$12.50; 3X \$13.50

Sweatshirt - (S-XL) \$19.20; 2X \$21.20; 3X \$22.50

Hooded Sweatshirt - (S-XL) \$23.95; 2X \$25.95; 3X \$27.95

Please see Michelle Walker to pay for and place your order no later than Sunday, October 5!



TODAY we celebrate Operation Christmas Child!

- During the worship service, we will celebrate 5 years as a Drop-Off Collection site for area shoeboxes with Marvellous Okonne, a Shoebox recipient.
- Following worship, the Missions Team will provide a spaghetti dinner on a donation basis. **Gluten-free spaghetti will be available.** All proceeds will go towards our shoebox packing efforts.

Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry!



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”.

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!



FEEDING
KANNAPOLIS
HUNGER

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 - recovery from eye surgery and 2nd eye surgery 10/1
- Angela Miller - recovery from surgery on broken wrist
- Betty Sechler - recovery from a fall

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Kristen Cranford (Sharon's daughter-in-law) - recovery from aortic aneurysm surgery
- Tommy Walker (Ryan's dad) - Presbyterian Hospital with serious health issues
- Bill & Barbara Bailey (Terri Pruett's parents) - multiple health concerns
- Sonny Darling (Lisa Salisbury's grandson) - at home with health issues
- 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 21

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

Monday, September 22

2:00pm - Dorcas Circle in F. Hall

Tuesday, September 23

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

Wednesday, September 24

3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen
5:30pm - Youth/Families Dinner
6:00pm - Christmas Play Practice
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6:30pm - Wed in Mission

6:45pm - Children/Youth Classes

Thursday, September 25

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

Friday, September 26

12:00pm - JOY Group in F. Hall
6:00pm - FKH Market Set-up

Saturday, September 27

9:30am - FKH Market

Next Sunday, September 28 10 Cents a Meal!

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

Children's Message This Week: OCC
Speaker

Children's Message Next Week: Roxanne
Spencer

Children's Church This Week: Amelia
Caskey

Children's Church next week: Sharon
Stricker

Acolytes This Week: Oliver Townsend &
Noah Walker

Acolytes Next Week: Camryn Lowder &
Evie Sechler

Nursery: Amelia Caskey

Nursery Next Week: Sharon Stricker

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

Ushers Next week: Sam McAllister, Mal
McDaniel, Jill McLain, Phil McLain

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: 9/14/2025

Worship AM - 122

Sunday School - 89

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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