



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~

Welcome

Pastor Eddie

Prelude

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Setting by Carter

Lighting of the Candles

Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 40:1-3

Leader: I waited patiently for the LORD; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

All: He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in Him.

***Hymn of Praise No. 372** *When Morning Gilds the Sky*

LAUDES DOMINI

Prayer of Adoration

The Lord's Prayer No. 912

Malotte

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, loving King, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from Your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are laid bare before Your eyes and ours. We open ourselves to You and ask that You cover us in Christ. Let us hear Your word: Your cross is our peace, Your resurrection is our freedom, Your Spirit is our power, and Your kingdom service is life that is truly life.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

Ephesians 2:4,5

“But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.”

***Song of Assurance No. 363**

ASSURANCE

Blessed Assurance: Jesus is Mine

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

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

Offering and Special Music *Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You* Althouse
Chancel Choir

***Scripture Reading** James 1:1-8,12 Page 1196

Sermon “Wisdom for Enduring Trials” Pastor Eddie

~ **Responding to the Word of God** ~

***Sending Song No. 440** *He Leadeth Me* AUGHTON

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Setting by Hustad

***All who are able, please stand.**

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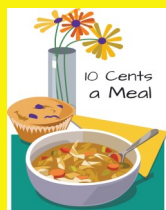
welcome

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!



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.



Welcome to our Newest Covenant Partner!

Andrew Oakes is a cook in the deli at Food Lion and has 1 child and 2 grandchildren. He was raised attending a Lutheran school and believing in God. While Andy's path has included times of trouble, he has found God to be faithful. His desire now is to live the way God intends. In his spare time, Andy enjoys cooking, reading, playing drums, and sketching. Having been invited to First Pres by a friend, he feels that he has found a family here. Please take a moment to welcome Andy!

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Building on the Cornerstone campaign!

About \$94,000 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 the memo "Cornerstone", or give on our website. Any amount is appreciated!



Fall Wednesday Night Activities continue this week!

October 1: Wednesdays in the Word

5:45pm - ALL ARE INVITED TO A FELLOWSHIP DINNER!

(Grilled chicken, potatoes, salad, drinks & dessert on a donation basis.)

6:30pm - Adults study with Pastor Eddie in the Fellowship Hall.

Children and Youth meet at **6pm** for play practice and **6:45pm** for study with Ms. Devenney or Michelle.

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**.



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 dinner. 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!



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”.

A huge “THANK YOU” to all who set up, prepared for, cooked, attended, and cleaned up after our spaghetti luncheon fundraiser last Sunday. A total of \$1,131.00 was collected for our shoebox packing efforts!

Join the Missions Team for the Lifeline Million Meals Tour at the Cannon Ballers' stadium! On

Saturday, October 25, we have reserved 40 spots for the 2:00pm meal packing time slot. All ages and abilities can

participate in packing nutritious meals for the hungry in our community and around the world. *It's also a great time to wear your new First Pres gear.* Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, October 19.



Our next Wednesday in Mission will be a Winter Clothing Giveaway and Soup Supper! On Wednesday, October 29, from 6-7:30pm, we will give away coats and winter accessories while serving a hot soup supper. Linda's Closet will also be open for shoppers. You can help! Please donate new or gently used winter coats, gloves, toboggans, and clothing. Volunteers will also be

needed to cook soup, serve, assist shoppers, and clean up. Youth will help serve the meal. Place donations in the Linda's Closet bins outside the Fellowship Hall and sign up in the Narthex if you can serve with us!

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

- Jean Bost - recovery from a fall
- 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
- Julie Griffin (Diane Bellotti's daughter) - stomach/esophagus surgery Sept. 29
- 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 28

10 Cents a Meal!

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements

10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service

Tuesday, September 30

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

Wednesday, October 1

3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen
5:45pm - Fellowship Dinner
6:00pm - Christmas Play Practice
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm - Wed in the Word
6:45pm - Children/Youth Classes

Thursday, October 2

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

Friday, October 3

5:30pm—Beaver Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, October 4

5:30pm—Beaver Wedding & Reception

Next Sunday, October 5

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service with Holy Communion

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

Children's Message This Week: Roxanne Spencer

Children's Message Next Week: NONE

Children's Church This Week: Sharon Stricker

Children's Church next week: Chariti Lowder

Acolytes This Week: Camryn Lowder & Evie Sechler

Acolytes Next Week: Cierstyn Lowder & Ingrid Townsend

Nursery: Sharon Stricker

Nursery Next Week: Chariti Lowder

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

Ushers Next week: Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler, Phil Smith, Pam Hooks

Greeters: Sue Maiocchi, Roxanne Spencer

FINANCIALS FOR SEPTEMBER

YTD Income \$200,481.76

YTD Expenses \$197,321.53

YTD Budget \$213,079.36

Last week's attendance: 9/21/2025

Worship AM - 121

Sunday School - 69

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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