



**FIRST**  

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**PRESBYTERIAN**  

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**CHURCH**

*Welcome*

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

## ~ Gathering Before the Word ~

**Welcome**

Pastor Eddie

**Prelude**

*He Who Began a Good Work in You*

Setting by Hayes

**Lighting of the Candles**

Kinsley Culp & Mary-Gray Petersen

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

**All: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.**

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

**All: For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.**

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 512**

*Now With Joyful Exultation*

Beecher

**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.

**Confession of Sins**

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your unfailing love. Blot out our transgressions according to Your great compassion. We have sinned against You and You alone and have done what is evil in Your sight. Cleanse us, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow. Create in us a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of our salvation, and grant us a willing spirit. For we pray in the name of our beloved Savior, who is the Friend of sinners.

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Assurance of the Gospel**

Jeremiah 33:8

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against Me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against Me.

**~ 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**

*A Mighty Fortress*  
Joe Morris, tenor

Luther

**\*Scripture Reading**

James 1:18-27

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**Sermon**

“Christian’s Relationship with the Word ”

Pastor Eddie

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

**\*Sending Song No. 483** *Come, We that Love the Lord* MARCHING TO ZION

**\*Prayer and Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*Marching to Zion*

Setting by Young

**\*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!



**The flowers on the piano are placed to the glory of God by the congregation in honor of Pastor Eddie & Roxanne, in recognition of Pastor Appreciation Day.** Glory to God for their faithful service at First Presbyterian. We are truly blessed by and thankful for your ministry. Please extend your own word of thanks to Pastor Eddie and Roxanne.

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

About \$102,000 has been donated, or nearly 49% 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!



## The Building on the Cornerstone campaign will have a Chili Cookoff and Homemade Dessert Sale on Sunday, November 2 after the worship service!

All are invited to attend. If you can make a crockpot of chili or a homemade dessert to benefit the campaign, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Various types of chili (mild, spicy, veg, etc.) and desserts (cakes, pies, cookies, fudge, etc.) are needed! This will be both a fellowship opportunity and a fundraiser for the Cornerstone project, which will make improvements to the outside of the church property next spring.



**Christmas Play Practice continues, as we prepare for our presentation on December 7!** Upcoming practices include: **Sunday, October 19: 3-4:30pm** in Fellowship Hall; **Wed, Oct. 22: 6-7:30pm** in F'ship Hall (Dinner at 5:30pm); **Wed, Oct. 29: 5-6pm** in Sanctuary (Serve at Supper 6-7:30pm); **Sunday, Nov. 2: 3-4:30** in Fellowship Hall **More dates to come!**

**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, featuring a delicious catered dinner of pecan chicken, garlic mashed potatoes, steamed green beans, salad, bread, drinks, and dessert. We'll get to know each other better through progressive table seating. Sign up in the Narthex by Wednesday, October 15th if you plan to attend.



**The JOY Group will meet again on Friday, October 31 at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Heath Burchett will be sharing his ministry of "Watchman of the Streets." Sign up in the Narthex to bring soup, side or dessert. Brush up on your trivia for some fun and games!

**The next Men's Fellowship Dinner** will be held Thursday, November 6 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. More details coming soon!





**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 October our focus is toys:

250 Matchbox cars for boys  
 250 Nerf balls 5-8.5" for boys  
 250 jump ropes for girls  
 250 sewing kits for girls (3x5") or bead craft kits (with everything needed included)



Place donations in the red collection bin in the Narthex. You may also give online or with an offering marked for "Shoeboxes".



**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 NEXT 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.





**Thank you for all the prayers, thoughts and cards** for my family as my parents navigated through various health issues and lifestyle changes. God was, and continues to be, with us throughout this journey and we have truly felt all of your prayers!

**Terri Pruett**

**Dear Church Family,** Words cannot express our gratitude for your outpouring of support over the last few weeks. To say that our lives have been difficult is an understatement. But you did and continue to do what the Body of Christ does - you prayed with us, rejoiced with, mourned with us, and comforted us. We can't count the number of texts, inquiries, and well-wishes surrounding Tommy's illness and death and Carol's surgery. The flowers, cards, gift cards and meals were so helpful and true gifts to us. The lunch following Tommy's funeral was such a special gesture from some incredible ladies, and we were touched by your generosity. Our family is grateful to be a part of the First Pres family, and we love you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. **Ryan, Michelle, Landon, and Noah Walker**

## **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**

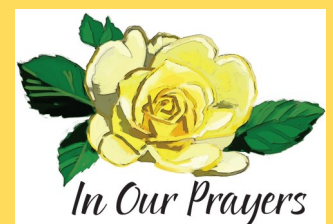
- Jean Bost - recovery from a fall
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments
- Carol Lowder - recovery from breast cancer surgery
- Sandy Boucher-Bessent - recovery from eye surgeries
- Angela Miller - recovery from surgery on broken wrist
- Betty Sechler - recovery from a fall
- Walker Family - loss of Tommy Walker

### **FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH**

- Kristen Cranford (Sharon's daughter-in-law) - recovery from aortic aneurysm surgery
- Sara Bailey Wooten's niece - recovery from injuries after accident
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10-yr-old with stomach cancer
- Julie Griffin (Bellottis' daughter) - recovery from stomach/esophagus surgery
- Zelda West (Trish Nixon's granddaughter) - recovery from another surgery
- Jane McDaniel (Mal & Debbie's daughter-in-law) - no definitive diagnosis, meds are helping with pain and other symptoms
- 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, October 12

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

## Tuesday, October 14

11am -1:00pm - Linda's Closet Work Day  
12:00pm - NA

## Wednesday, October 15

3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen  
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
\*No other Wednesday activities

## Thursday, October 16

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

## Next Sunday, October 19

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

## SERVANTS

**Elder Lock-Up:** Tony Rary

**NO Children's Message This Week**

**Children's Message Next Week:** Michelle Walker

**Children's Church This Week:** Roxanne Spencer

**Children's Church next week:** Lynn Efird

**Acolytes This Week:** Kinsley Culp & Mary-Gray Petersen

**Acolytes Next Week:** Michael Herbst & Noah Walker

**Nursery:** Roxanne Spencer

**Nursery Next Week:** Lynn Efird

**Ushers:** Ryan Walker, Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan, Mark Goodnight

**Ushers Next week:** John Hammond, Tony Hunter, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder

**Greeters:** Raegan Swaringen & Renee Goodnight

## FINANCIALS FOR SEPTEMBER

**YTD Income** \$222,688.05

**YTD Expenses** \$222,856.55

**YTD Budget** \$239,715.28

**Last week's attendance:** 10/5/2025

**Worship AM - 94**

**Sunday School - 62**

# 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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