



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~

Welcome

Pastor Eddie

Prelude

Hallelujah, What a Savior!

Bliss/Putnam

Lighting of the Candles

Michael Herbst & Oliver Townsend

***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**

We Gather Together

See insert

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin

God, our heavenly Father, every good and perfect gift comes from You. Yet we confess that we have received Your gifts with a thankless heart and have doubted Your generous heart. We have murmured and complained against You. We have failed to give thanks to You. Empower us to cast off the spiritually unhealthy weight of thanklessness that is slowing us down in our race of faith. May your Holy Spirit so rule us that You give us victory over this and all the other sinful tendencies of our hearts.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of the Gospel

II Corinthians 8:9

For we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich.

***Hymn of Grace**

Alleluia, Alleluia

See insert

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word with our Children

Dave Argabrite

Offering and Anthem

Bless the Lord, O My Soul
Chancel Choir

Raney

***Scripture Reading**

James 4:13-17

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Sermon

“The Fantasy of Control”

Pastor Eddie

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

***Sending Song No. 559** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Alleluia, No. 1

Fishel/Honore

***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!

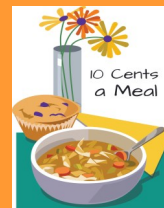


Thanks to all who have contributed to the “Building on the Cornerstone” campaign.

To date, almost \$130,000 has been contributed towards the goal of \$210,000, or just over 60% of the goal! This effort will make improvements to the appearance, safety, security, and maintainability of the church’s outdoor property. If you wish to contribute, write a check to the church with ‘Cornerstone’ on the memo line, or give through the church website.

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.



You can order poinsettias for our church for \$15 and dedicate them in honor or in memory of someone. Order forms are in the Narthex. The last day to order will be NEXT Sunday, November 30. Please be sure to put "Poinsettia" on the memo line of your check.

First Presbyterian Youth will present "And the Song Goes On," a Christmas musical, on Sunday,

December 7 at 7:00pm! Join us for a delicious dinner at 6:00pm, and bring a dessert to share. If you need a ride, please see Eddie or Michelle. Invite friends and family to join us as our youth remind us the Reason we celebrate...and sing!



Christmas Play Practice continues, as the youth prepare for our presentation!

Upcoming practices include:

Sunday, November 23 - 4:30-6:00pm in Sanctuary

Sunday, November 30 - 12:30-2:30pm in F. Hall (lunch provided after church)

Wednesday, December 3 - 6-7:30pm in F. Hall (dinner at 5:30pm)

Saturday, December 6 - 10:00am-12pm Dress Rehearsal



The First Presbyterian Chancel Choir invites you to "A Family Christmas Celebration" on Sunday,

December 14 at 7:00pm. Spend an evening listening to the beautiful music of the season. Our youth and special guest musicians will also lend their talents. If you need transportation, see Michelle or Eddie. All are welcome!

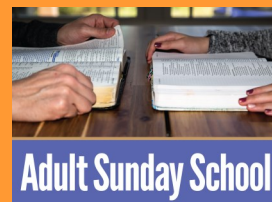


Join us for Thanksgiving at FPC! We will gather for lunch on Thursday, November 27 at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. Turkey, ham, gravy, and drinks will be provided. Guests are asked to contribute sides and desserts to share. Please sign up in the Narthex by **TODAY**, Sunday, November 23!

Help us decorate our church for Advent! If you can lift items, set up trees, hang wreaths, or place decorations, please meet at the church on Saturday, November 29 at 9:00am. **The Sanctuary tree will be erected first, at 9am.** All other decorating will follow. Please lend a hand as we ready our buildings for this special time of celebration.



Adult Sunday School will meet for combined classes on December 7, 14, & 21. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. There will be **NO** Sunday School, for any ages, on December 28 .



Mark your calendars for Christmas Caroling to our homebound church family! We will carpool from the church on Wednesday, December 17 at 6pm and travel to several homes nearby. Desserts and hot drinks will await our return. Come make a joyful noise with us!

The JOY Group invites all Seniors for a Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, December 10th at the home of Ron & Alpha Barger. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Bring a wrapped gift costing less than \$10. Please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert in the Narthex by Sunday, December 7th.

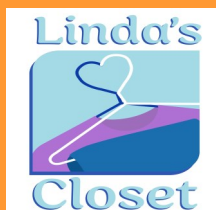


The Navigators' Sunday School Class Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 10 from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

Wear fun Christmas attire (there will be an ugly sweater contest!), and bring your favorite treat or snack to share. Dinner, dessert, and a hot chocolate bar will be provided. Come for fun, games and fellowship. Please RSVP to Tracy Caskey or sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, December 7.



The First Pres Giving Tree is in the Narthex! This year's beneficiaries will be Shady Brook Elementary families and Meals on Wheels recipients. Each item requested is tied to the tree with 2 tags. Write your name on one tag and place it in the bag under the tree. Take the other with you, and attach it to the item you purchase when you return it. Deposit your gift in the corresponding gift bin under the tree by Sunday, December 14. Please only wrap the gift if the tag indicates it should be wrapped! See Sue Maiocchi or Janet Harte with questions.



Linda's Closet is open the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays

from 11:00am -1:00pm. Other Tuesdays are "work days".

See Sue Maiocchi if you can volunteer. Current needs:

*boys clothes, sizes 2-16 *costume jewelry *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

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

- Debby Baker - health concerns
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments
- Carol Lowder - continuing treatments
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- Jeff Barnhardt - kidney stones
- Steve Goodnight - in hospital with a broken back
- Bonnie Goodnight - caring for her father, Lester Goodnight

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Diane Belotti's daughter, Julie - recovery from foot surgery
- Diane Belotti's brother, Robert Hudak - recovery from spine surgery
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10-yr-old with stomach cancer
- Cassie Cannon (friend of Jane Jacobs) - under hospice care
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - recovery from brain surgery
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - recovery from surgery

HOMEBOUND

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



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, November 23

10 Cents A Meal

9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service
1pm - 4pm - OCC Collection
4:30-6:00pm - Youth Play Practice

Monday, November 24

10am-12pm - OCC Collection

Tuesday, November 25

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

Thursday, November 27

Happy Thanksgiving!

12:00pm - N/A
1:00pm - Thanksgiving Lunch

Saturday, November 29

9:00am - Advent Decorating

Next Sunday, November 30

1st Sunday of Advent

9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service
12:30-2:30pm - Youth Play Practice
(Lunch provided)

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Jeff Barnhardt

Children's Message This Week: Dave Argabrite

Children's Message Next Week:
Michelle Walker

Children's Church This Week: Tracy Caskey

Children's Church next week: Sharon Cranford

Acolytes This Week: Michael Herbst & Oliver Townsend

Acolytes Next Week: Caylin Lowder & Mary-Gray Petersen

Nursery: Tracy Caskey

Nursery Next Week: Sharon Cranford

Ushers: Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder, Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel

Ushers Next Week: Jill McLain, Phil McLain, Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler

FINANCIALS FOR OCTOBER

YTD Income \$243,554.45

YTD Expenses \$251,790.65

YTD Budget \$266,349.20

Last week's attendance: 11/16/2025

Worship AM - 124

Sunday School - 70

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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