



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~**Welcome**

Pastor Eddie

Prelude*Go Down Moses*

Setting by L. Schackley

Lighting of the Candles

Cierstyn Lowder, Oliver Townsend

Call to Worship

Ephesians 1:3-7

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight.

All: In love He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us.

***Hymn of Praise No. 610** *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

Founds

***Prayer of Adoration and 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.

Profession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

***Hymn of Assurance No. 482** *Am I A Soldier of the Cross?* see insert

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word With Our Children Dave Argabrite

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

Offering and Anthem No. 275 *There's No God as Great*

***Scripture Reading** Ephesians 1:9-11 Page 1156

Sermon "God's Plan" Pastor Eddie

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

***Sending Song No. 479** *Onward Christian Soldiers* see insert

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude** *Trumpet Voluntary* W. Goodwin

*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!



Building on the Cornerstone - January 2026

Update We are excited to announce that work is expected to begin in late February on our landscaping and hardscaping changes to the church property! The goals of the project are to make the property safer, more attractive, and easier to maintain. The work will include:

- New concrete walkways in front of the church & repairs to bricks on the front porch
- New outdoor lighting around the church
- New landscaping around the church, in the courtyard, and around the back
- An irrigation system
- A place for a future lift beside the front porch

A contract has been signed with a landscaping and hardscaping company. Much of our current landscaping will be removed and replaced. At our request, our contractor, based on professional experience and expertise, selected specific plants and trees that are both low-profile and low-maintenance, yet visually attractive.

Once the work begins, completion is expected in about one month. During this time, expect that there may be some disruptions (e.g., walkways closed) and a general “work in progress” appearance. If you have any questions about the work, please contact Jeff Barnhardt or Phil McLain. Thanks to your generosity, our initial fundraising goal has been met. There is still a need for additional funding to complete irrigation and a new railing on one side of the front porch – approximately \$10,000. If you would like to contribute, please write “Cornerstone” on your check or offering envelope, or give online via our website. We are so grateful for all who have given to make this project a reality!



Sunday School classes have resumed. Plan to join us each Sunday at 9:30 am for morning coffee and 10:00am for studying God’s Word together.

Adult Sunday Classes include:

Disciples Class, led by Dave Argabrite. Beginning a study of the book of Hebrews.

Friendship Class, currently led by Vickie Ellington, and next by Debbie McDaniel and Renee Goodnight into February. Studying the Reformation and how it impacts us today. Their current focus is “What’s so Great About the Doctrines of Grace” by Richard D. Phillips.

Guardians Class, led by Raegan Swaringen and Ron Lisenby. Studying the Gospel of Luke in depth.

Heart Sisters, led by Becky Seaford, Sandy Boucher-Bessent and Sharon Cranford. Continuing their study of spiritual gifts, disciplines, and fruits. Currently focused on spiritual disciplines used to develop spiritual gifts and draw closer to God.



We love our guests and regular visitors, and we would love for you to consider joining our church. There is a process to become an "official" member of First Pres. Our ECO denomination calls members

"Covenant Partners," because you are entering into a partnership with our church family. Whether official or not, we love all who worship with First Pres and are glad you are here! If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Covenant Partner, see Eddie or Michelle.



Voices are wanted to make a joyful noise with our Chancel Choir!

If you love to sing or want to learn more about music, we would love to have you join us. Practices are weekly on Wednesday nights at 6pm. For more information, see Eddie or Valarie.



The Missions Team is once again sponsoring Souper Bowl Sunday! As football fans gear up for national playoffs, our church will collect canned and dry

goods to benefit Cooperative Christian Ministry's food pantry. On Sundays, February 1 and February 8, look for donation bins outside the Fellowship Hall and in the

Narthex. If you would prefer to give a monetary donation, youth will be in the Narthex on Sunday, February 8 to collect.



Linda's Closet is open the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 11:00am - 1:00pm. Other Tuesdays are workdays.

Please note that our focus is as a clothing ministry, so we can only accept donations of new or clean, gently used clothing, shoes, or handbags. We simply don't have the room for additional items.

Current needs:

- Kids clothes, especially boys, sizes 5-16
- new underwear for all

See Sue Maiocchi if you can volunteer.



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



Take a look in our “Lost and Found: bin, located in the Narthex. There are several cups/tumblers and other items waiting for their owners. If you have lost a piece of jewelry, please contact the office. After a few weeks, they will be disposed of.

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

- Bonnie Goodnight and family - loss of her father, Lester Watts
- Peggy Gibson and family - loss of Frank
- Andy Oakes - loss of long-time friend
- Jeff Barnhardt - kidney stones
- Debby Baker - recovery from pneumonia
- Vicki Morris - knee replacement surgery on January 27
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- Julie Doby - broken hip pocket and femur

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Trey & Semra Goodnight (Mark Goodnight’s nephew and wife) - Semra, pregnant, receiving treatments for aggressive breast cancer, being induced this month
- Bruce Warnix (friend of our Church family) - recovering from heart surgery
- Steve Smith (Becky Seaford’s brother) - cancer has returned, beginning chemo
- Diane Belotti’s brother, Robert Hudak - recovery from spine surgery
- Diane Belotti’s daughter, Julie Griffin - cellulitis after foot surgery
- Thomas “Bran” James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10-yr-old - stem cell treatment in January
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister’s granddaughter) - cancer
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister’s daughter) - cancer treatments in January

HOMEBOUND

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



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, January 18

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

Tuesday, January 20

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

Wednesday, January 21

6:00pm - Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, January 22

10:30am - Ladies Bible Study
12:00pm - NA

Next Sunday, January 25

10 Cents A Meal!

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Ken Sparks

Children's Message This Week: Dave Argabrite

Children's Message Next Week:

Roxanne Spencer

Children's Church This Week: Lynn Efird

Children's Church next week: Sue Maiocchi

Acolytes This Week: Cierstyn Lowder & Oliver Townsend

Acolytes Next Week: Gabriel Miller & Noah Walker

Nursery: Lynn Efird

Nursery Next Week: Sue Maiocchi

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

Ushers Next Week: Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel, Jill & Phil McLain

Greeters: Sue Maiocchi, Donnie Swaringen

FINANCIALS FOR DECEMBER

YTD Income \$304,303.51

YTD Expenses \$310,907.09

YTD Budget \$319,619.00

Last week's attendance: 1/11/2025

Worship AM - 115

Sunday School - 80

SERMON NOTES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

Raegan Swaringen

Cookie Hamilton

Sue Maiocchi

Sharon Cranford

Chris Lowder

Phil McLain

Tony Rary

Ken Sparks

Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk

Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator



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