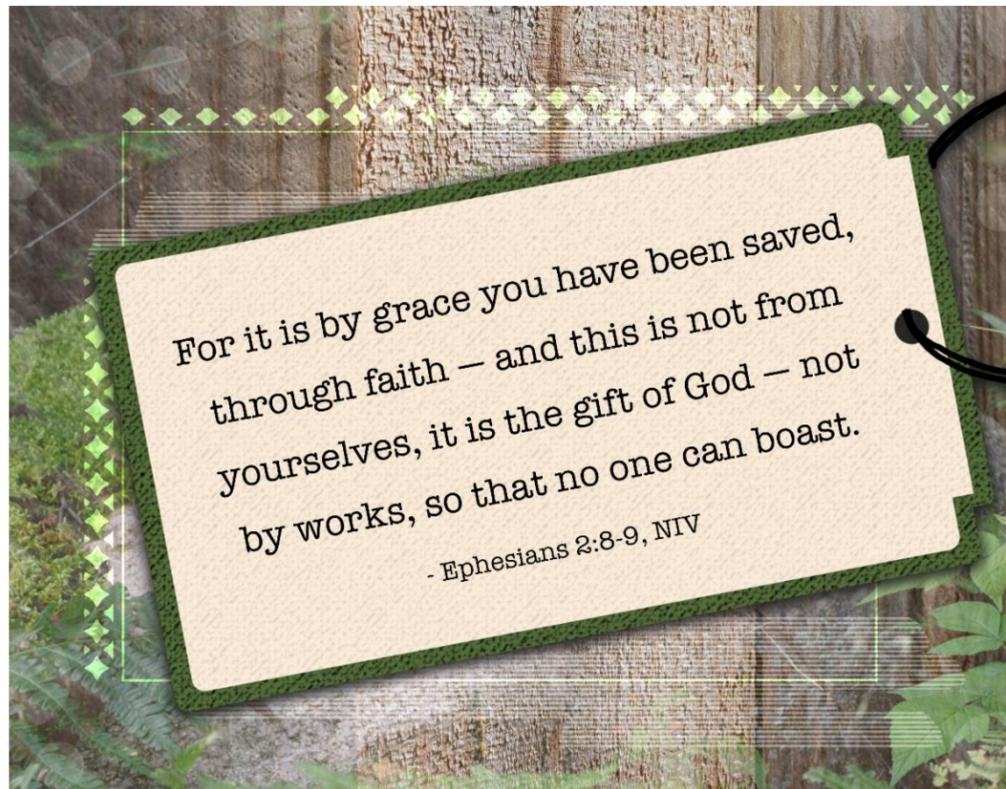




THE WEEKLY FIRST



We eagerly anticipate seeing you this Sunday for worship! What a remarkable stretch of weather our region has had these past two weeks. While we are grateful for the technology that allowed us to broadcast a worship service the last two Sundays, we are even more grateful that we can greet you in person this week.

Pastor Eddie and Roxanne have just spent several days at the ECO National Gathering in Atlanta, Georgia. They will share their experiences with us upon their return. This Sunday, Pastor Eddie will resume our series on Ephesians. His focus will be on Ephesians 2:1-10 and the topic of our salvation. We will conclude our worship by sharing in The Lord's Supper.

The Missions Team had originally planned to collect canned and dry goods for Cooperative Christian Ministries the first two Sundays in February. We have adjusted that time frame and will now collect for our Souper Bowl of Caring this Sunday (2/8) and next (2/15). Bins are outside the Fellowship Hall and in the Narthex for your donations. If you would prefer to give money, our youth will collect in the Narthex following worship this week. We hope to see you soon!



We know the destinations for our 507 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! Receiving countries were **Chile, Guatemala, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Peru.** Thank you for your faithful prayers for our boxes' safe delivery and their fruitful impact for Christ in the lives of the children that receive them! A total of **12,205,900** shoeboxes were collected for OCC in 2025.

We invite you to experience what our Lord is doing in the jungles of Peru through a dynamic multimedia presentation. **(Click on the link below.)** To God be the glory!

Bringing the Gospel to the Jungle



Building on the Cornerstone work will begin within the next few days as weather permits!

New concrete walkways, outdoor lighting, landscaping, irrigation, and brickwork repairs will make our property safer, more attractive, and easier to maintain. There will be some disruption for several weeks as the current landscaping and brickwork is demolished and the new walkways and plants are installed. However, church services and activities will continue as usual. We are grateful to all who have given to make this project possible! If you wish to contribute to help complete our fundraising, write a check to the church with 'Cornerstone' on the memo line.

Cornerstone - January Update

Sunday Bulletin is Online!



Dianne Lowe came to the Concord area from Greenville, SC in 2022, following the death of her husband. She has 4 children and 8 grandchildren, and teaches piano at Music & Arts. Dianne's hobbies include reading, quilting, hiking, and pickleball. She was raised in a Christian home and saved at age 3. Dianne can say that God has used any trials to deepen her relationship with Him and accomplish good. She was drawn to First Pres by the preaching and prayers, loves her Heart Sisters Sunday School class, and wants to be part of the ministry as she serves her Savior and deepens her heart knowledge of Him.



Regina Starnes has two adult sons and two grandchildren. She is a retired CT/Radiology Technologist who enjoys music and singing. Regina was baptized as a teenager at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Salisbury. She loved summers spent at church camps – as a camper and later as an employee. Regina was drawn to First Presbyterian by the compassion of the members, the preaching of the Gospel, and the genuine love shown for others. She attends the Friendship Sunday School Class.



Jasmine Boldin has a 7-year-old daughter and works as a medication aide at Big Elm Nursing Center. She enjoys taking walks, listening to music, good food, dancing, and water activities. Jasmine's faith began at a young age in her grandmother's church. She recommitted her life to Christ in 2023 after going through a trying time. She is grateful for Christ's love and the Holy Spirit within her. She gives thanks to God for First Presbyterian, a church home she prayed for, where people “see” her and genuinely care for each other and their community.

Please greet Jasmine, Dianne and Regina and welcome them into membership. If you would like more information about becoming a member, see Eddie or Michelle.



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 Sunday, February 8 and February 15, 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.



Please be sure to check the Lost and Found box in the Narthex for any items you may have left behind. If you lost a piece of jewelry, please contact the office. Items will be disposed of at the end of February if not claimed.



Middle and Senior High Youth are invited to a “Big Game” Watch Party THIS Sunday, Feb. 8 at Pastor Eddie’s house! Pizza, wings, and drinks will be provided. Bring a snack or dessert to share. **Come from 6pm until halftime.** Please sign up in the Narthex or RSVP to Michelle!



Elementary Youth will go bowling on February 22 after church! We will leave right after worship, go to Pizza Hut on Cannon Blvd for lunch, and then head to Foxfire Lanes to bowl. Parents are invited to attend. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, February 15!



Our first Men's Fellowship Dinner of 2026 will be Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6pm. Trey Ninteau, Northern Cabarrus Co. Area Representative for Fellowship of Christian Athletes, will be our guest speaker. Menu is steak or chicken,

baked potato, salad, dessert, and drinks for a suggested donation of \$15. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, Feb. 22.



Lenten Offerings

First Presbyterian will partner with Kimball Memorial Lutheran for an **Ash Wednesday Service on February 18.** The service will take place at Kimball with a combined choir.

Wednesdays in the Word will resume March 4-25. Pastor Eddie will lead Lenten Services in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm. Children and Youth will gather for dinner at 5:30pm, PraiseMakers Rehearsal at 6, and classes from 6:30-7:30.

We will gather at Kimball Memorial on **Maundy Thursday, April 2** for a combined service.

Kimball will join us at First Presbyterian on **Good Friday, April 3.**



Linda's Closet is open the first and third Tuesdays each month, from 11:00am - 1:00pm. Other Tuesdays will be work days.

See Sue Maiocchi if you can volunteer.

Current needs:

- Kids clothes especially Boys, sizes 5-16
 - 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

- Andy Oakes - loss of long-time friend
- Debby Baker - health concerns
- Vicki Morris - recovery from knee replacement surgery
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments

- Regina Starnes - health concerns

Family & Friends of Church

- Trey & Semra Goodnight (Mark Goodnight's nephew and wife) - Semra and Trey welcomed their healthy baby boy, Edis. She will now be receiving stronger treatments for aggressive breast cancer.
- Marcia Ritchie (Debbie McDaniel's mom) - recovery from a fall and surgery
- June (Elizabeth McRobbie's mother) - suffered a stroke; in palliative care
- 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 - awaiting stem cell treatment
- 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, February 8

Souper Bowl of Caring!

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee
- 10:00am - Sunday School
- 11:00am - Worship Service with Holy Communion
- 6:00pm - MH/SH "Big Game" Watch Party

Tuesday, February 10

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

Wednesday, February 11

- 3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen
- 6:00pm - Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, February 12

- 10:30am - Ladies Study/Session Room
- 12:00pm - NA
- 3:30-6:30m - Peek NexGen

Next Sunday, February 15

Souper Bowl of Caring!

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

Servants

Elder Lock-Up: Raegan Swaringen

NO Children's Message This Week

Children's Message Next Week: Michelle Walker

Children's Church This Week: Jennie Sparks

Children's Church next week: Megan Quigg

Acolytes This Week: Camryn Lowder & Landon Walker

Acolytes Next Week: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend

Nursery: Jennie Sparks

Nursery Next Week: Megan Quigg

Ushers: Jeff Barnhardt, Eric Cowan, Mark Goodnight, John Hammond

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

Greeters: Chris Lowder, Debbie McDaniel

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

Raegan Swaringen Sharon Cranford Tony Rary

Cookie Hamilton Chris Lowder Ken Sparks

Sue Maiocchi Phil McLain

Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator

Jeff Barnhardt, Session Clerk



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