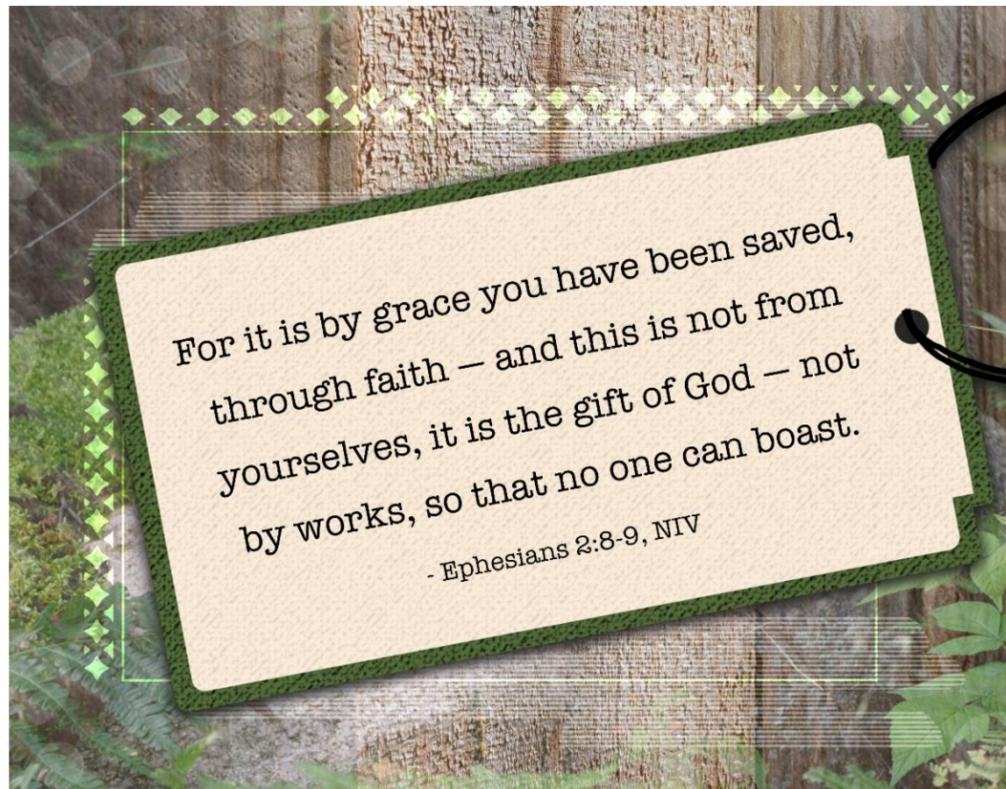




THE WEEKLY FIRST



The story is told about a debate between the Christian Humanist, Erasmus, and Martin Luther. Each described their view of God's work in our salvation. Erasmus' picture of God's work in our salvation is like a mother helping a baby learn to walk. The mother gives a steady hand, ready to catch the baby if she fell. In great contrast Luther pictured human beings as helpless caterpillars surrounded by a ring of fire and God reaches down, plucks the caterpillar from certain destruction and transforms the caterpillar into a beautiful multi-colored butterfly. The latter illustration is a Biblical view of God's salvation by grace.

C.S. Lewis was in a forum for theologians who were discussing what makes the Christians Faith different from other religions. Lewis replied, "that's easy. It is grace!" This Sunday we will continue to think on one of the Bible's greatest expositions on grace, Ephesians 2:1-10. To the degree we know we were once Luther's caterpillars will we experience the transforming power of God's transforming grace. "Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 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...For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast." (Ephesians 2:3b-5,8-9)

This Sunday we will consider the thought, "so that no one can boast".



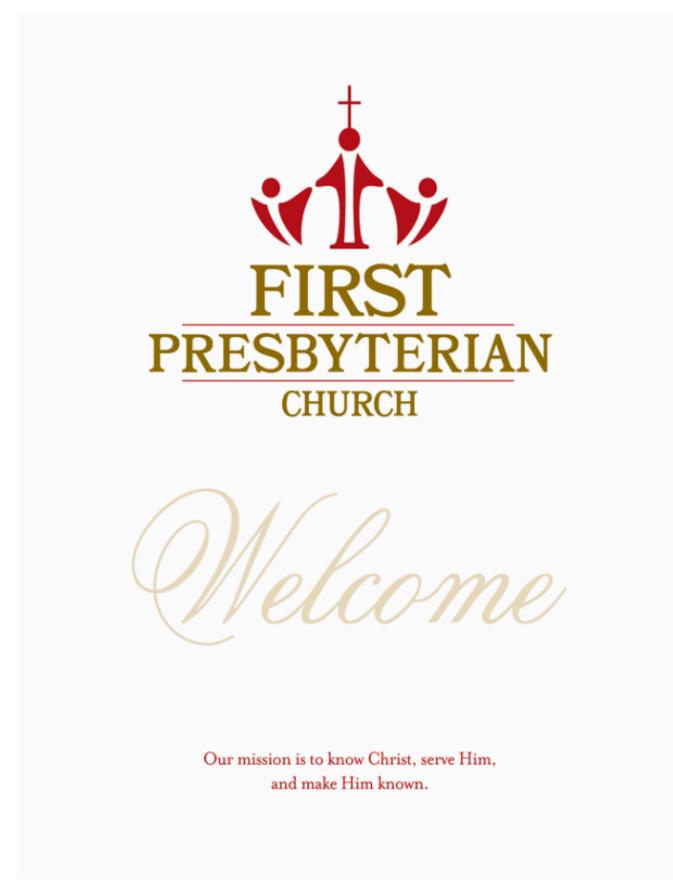
The Building on the Cornerstone renovations to the church's outdoor property are underway! The landscaping company has already removed the old plants, and they have begun installing new trees and shrubs. Next week, the brick walkways will be demolished, and new concrete walkways will be poured. Other work will follow including new lighting, repairs to the front porch, sodding of grass, and an irrigation system. The goals are to make the property safer, more attractive, and easier to maintain. Church activities will continue as scheduled throughout the construction.



As we repair and renovate our landscaping, we have an opportunity to produce a new *time capsule*, to be placed behind the front porch "Cornerstone".

If you have ideas or suggestions for items to be placed, please see Eddie or Michelle ASAP!

Sunday Bulletin is Online!



Plan to join us Wednesday, February 18th, 6:30pm, at Kimball Memorial Lutheran for an Ash Wednesday Service.

Our Newest Covenant Partners



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



THIS SUNDAY, February 15, is the last day for our Souper Bowl of Caring collection of canned and dry goods to benefit Cooperative Christian Ministry's food pantry. Look for donation bins outside the Fellowship Hall and in the Narthex.



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.



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 THIS Sunday, February 15!



Our first Men's Fellowship Dinner of 2026 will be Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6pm. Trey Nintean, 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 Memorial Lutheran.

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**.



Ladies, mark your calendars for a spring "Mix & Mingle," sponsored by the Women's Council. The event will be on Monday, April 20 at 6pm. More details are forthcoming!



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

- Debby Baker - health concerns
- Vicki Morris - recovery from knee replacement surgery
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- Jeff Barnhardt - kidney stone procedure March 10
- C. J. Semcho - surgery Monday for broken leg
- Dave Argabrite - loss of friend, Bob

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.
- Beth (Sue Maiocchi's sister) - ruptured disk; surgery soon
- Karen Pless' mom - recovery from stroke and broken clavicle
- Cathy (Alice Jeanes' aunt) - pancreatic cancer
- Hadley (Pam Hook's granddaughter) - burn to hand
- Marcia Ritchie (Debbie McDaniel's mom) - recovery from a fall and surgery
- June (Elizabeth McRobbie's mother) - suffered a stroke; in palliative care
- 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 15

Souper Bowl of Caring!

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

Tuesday, February 17

- 11:00 - 1:00pm - Linda's Closet
- 12:00pm - NA
- 3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen
- 6:45pm - Missions Team

Wednesday, February 18

- 3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen
- 6:00pm - Chancel Choir Practice
- 6:30pm - Ash Wednesday Service at Kimball Lutheran

Thursday, February 19

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

Next Sunday, February 22

10 Cents A Meal!

- 9:30am - Morning Coffee
- 10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service
12:00pm - Elementary Youth Pizza & Bowling

Servants

Elder Lock-Up: Raegan Swaringen
Children's Message This Week: Michelle Walker
Children's Message Next Week: Roxanne Spencer
Children's Church This Week: Megan Quigg
Children's Church next week: Sharon Cranford
Acolytes This Week: Evie Sechler & Ingrid Townsend
Acolytes Next Week: Scarlett Porter & Mary-Gray Petersen
Nursery: Megan Quigg
Nursery Next Week: Sharon Cranford
Ushers: Tony Hunter, Amy Hurst, Chris Lowder, Mike Lowder
Ushers Next Week: Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel, Jill & Phil McLain
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



First Presbyterian Church of Kannapolis | 201 Vance Street, Kannapolis, NC | (704)
938-4623 | [WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)



First Presbyterian Church of Kannapolis | 201 Vance Street | Kannapolis, NC 28081 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!