



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~

Welcome

Pastor Eddie

Prelude
Shackley

Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child

setting by

Lighting of the Candles

Landon Walker & Oliver Townsend

***Call to Worship**

Romans 11:33-36

Leader: Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!

All: Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?

Leader: Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?

All: For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him Be the glory forever!

***Hymn of Praise No. 523**

Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid

MELITA

***Prayer of Adoration**

Psalm for Meditation

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to You, Lord; Lord hear my voice. Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If You, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve You. I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in His Word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption. He Himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

***Hymn of Assurance No. 696**

Marvelous Grace

MOODY

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

***Doxology No. 965**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Offertory and Anthem

There Is A Balm in Gilead

Setting by Andes

***Scripture Reading** Ephesians 2:11-22 Page 1157

Sermon “How We Become a Community of Grace” Pastor Eddie

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

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

***Sending Song No. 691** *Amazing Grace* NEW BRITAIN

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude** *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* *Setting by Leatherman*

***Dedication of Time Capsule** Front porch

*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!



As our church family celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we traditionally collect for our Good Samaritan Fund. This fund allows the pastor and staff to assist those in need - both in our church and in our community. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the ‘Good Samaritan Fund’ envelope, or mark your offering ‘Good Samaritan Fund’.

Please welcome our newest covenant partners!



Jim & Diane Bellotti come to First Pres by letter of transfer from Overbrook Presbyterian Church in Gaffney, SC. They have been in Kannapolis about a year and a half. The Bellottis found First Presbyterian to be a most welcoming and loving church, and look forward to continuing their spiritual journeys here. Jim and Diane have been married almost 51 years. They share three children, 9 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Jim is a systems analyst and enjoys sports and spending time with family. Diane is a preschool teacher. She loves taking care of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and enjoys reading and sewing.



There will be a blood drive for Thomas “Bran” James

(10 year old friend of Pam Hooks) on Saturday, March 21, 2026 11am - 4pm at Gary's BBQ in China Grove. We have been praying for Bran, awaiting for a stem cell treatment. See more details in the Thursday email or pick up a flier in the Narthex.

Our Building on the Cornerstone renovation work is well underway, and expected to be substantially completed within the next few weeks! New concrete walkways have been poured and landscaping has continued. In the coming weeks, work will move to the front steps, railings, and porch. Sod will be installed and general cleanup will commence. We will soon realize our goal of a safer, more attractive and easier-to-maintain outdoor campus. Thank you to all who have contributed to the project, making these renovations possible! For a more detailed March update, check The Weekly First Thursday email or grab a printout in the Narthex.



New Time Capsule Dedicated Today! During our August 2025 celebration of the sanctuary's 50th anniversary, we opened a time capsule created in 1975. A new time capsule will soon be placed inside the 'cornerstone' at the edge of the front porch. Items to be included in this time capsule are displayed in the

Narthex. Today, immediately following worship, the congregation is invited to gather on the front steps to dedicate the new time capsule. We will share in a time of reflection and prayer.

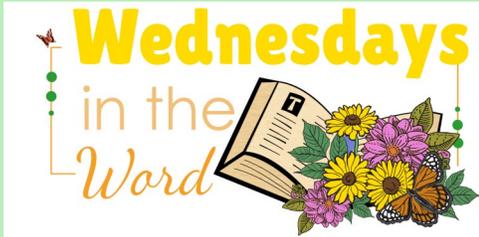
2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Church Staff have prepared an Annual review of 2025. Our First Pres family faithfully served in 2025. Copies are available in the Narthex, as well as digitally on our website and Thursday email.





The JOY Group (Just Older Youth) will meet at the China Grove Family Restaurant on Friday, March 6 at 12pm for lunch. Anyone 55 or older is welcome to join us for fellowship and fun. Please sign up in the Narthex if you will attend. If you need a ride, let Eddie or John Roberson know.



Join us this March for Wednesdays in the Word! Each week, Pastor Eddie will lead a Lenten Service for all adults in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm. Youth and their families are invited to dinner each week at 5:30pm. PraiseMakers, as well as Chancel Choir, will rehearse at 6pm, followed by Children/ Youth groups from 6:30-7:30pm. Join us as we focus our hearts on Jesus' love and sacrifice, and anticipate the miracle of Easter.

You are invited to commemorate Holy Week with us!

Palm Sunday, March 29 – Worship in the Sanctuary with Palm Branches and Youth Processional

Maunder Thursday, April 2 – Combined Worship Service at Kimball Lutheran Church with Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 3 – Combined Worship Service with Kimball Lutheran at First Presbyterian

Easter Sunday, April 5 – Resurrection Worship Service in the Sanctuary



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 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month, 11:00am - 1:00pm. Other Tuesdays are workdays. We only accept donations of new or clean, gently used clothing, shoes, or handbags. **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 *new/gently-used towels *feminine products



Hello My Church Family, I would like to express my appreciation to the church. So many have sent texts and cards to CJ, myself, and Cookie. We are greatly honored to be a part of this church community. I have been blessed to grow up in this church and so glad that now my son gets to witness the JOY as well. You all mean so much to our family. Special thanks to Michelle and Eddie for texting and keeping us in good spirits. **Kelly Semcho**

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
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- C. J. Semcho - recovery from leg surgery
- Jeff Barnhardt - kidney stone procedure March 10
- Alice Jeanes - hip replacement March 3

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Trey & Semra Goodnight (Mark Goodnight's nephew and wife) - Baby Edis is doing well; Semra started treatments for aggressive breast cancer
- Karen Pless' mom - recovery from stroke & broken clavicle
- Beth Kreshak (Sue Maiocchi's sister) - ruptured disk; surgery 2/27
- 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) - chemotherapy
- Diane Belotti's brother, Robert Hudak - recovery from spine 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, March 1

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

Tuesday, March 3

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

Wednesday, March 4

3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen
5:30m - Youth & Families Dinner
6:00pm - PraiseMakers Rehearsal
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Practice
6:30pm - Adult Service in F.Hall
Children/Youth Groups

Thursday, March 5

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

Friday, March 6

12:00pm - JOY Group lunch at China Grove Family Restaurant

Saturday, March 7

Daylight Savings' Time Ends!

Next Sunday, March 8

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

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Sue Maiocchi

NO Children's Message This Week

NO Children's Message Next Week

Children's Church This Week: Tracy Caskey

Children's Church next week: Jenny Sparks

Acolytes This Week: Landon Walker & Oliver Townsend

Acolytes Next Week: Aubrey Ross & Charlie March

Nursery: Tracy Caskey

Nursery Next Week: Jenny Sparks

Ushers: Lynn Sechler, Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Ryan Walker

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

Greeters: Ken Sparks & Rene Goodnight

FINANCIALS FOR JANUARY

YTD Income \$14,587.00

YTD Expenses \$21,691.98

YTD Budget \$27,246.67

Last week's attendance: 2/22/2026

Worship AM - 137

Sunday School - 75

