



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering Before the Word ~**Welcome**

Pastor Eddie

Prelude*He Hideth My Soul*

setting by Hayes

Lighting of the Candles

Landon & Noah Walker

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 145:1-7

Leader: I will exalt You, my God the King; I will praise Your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise You and extol Your name for ever and ever.

All: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom.

Leader: One generation commends Your works to another; they tell of Your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and I will meditate on Your wonderful works. They tell of the power of Your awesome works, and I will proclaim Your great deeds.

All; They celebrate Your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

***Hymn of Praise**

Revive Us Again
(see insert)

ADA

Prayer of Adoration*Prayer of Confession**

Almighty Father, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, we confess our struggle to rest in the victory of our triumphant King. Forgive us for not living in the joy that Christ's victory over sin and death brings.

Pardon our slowness to believe, our prayerless days, our pervasive discontentment, and our wasted opportunities for serving You and sharing the good news of the Gospel. In Your tender love, restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with Your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Silent Prayers of Confession**Assurance of the Gospel****Ephesians 2:4-5**

But God, 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 - it is by grace you have saved.

***Hymn of Assurance No. 729** *Let This Be My Supreme Desire*

~ **Proclaiming the Word of God** ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

***Doxology No. 965**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Offertory and Anthem No. 327 *When We Walk with the Lord* Sammis/Towner

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:11-16

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Sermon

“Marks of Maturity”

Eddie Spencer

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

***Sending Song**

Rise Up, O Church of God
(see insert)

ST. THOMAS

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

setting by Held

*All who are able, please stand.

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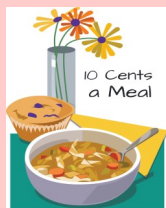
welcome

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!



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.



All Middle & High School Students are invited to the Cabarrus County Fellowship of Christian Athletes' Spring Weekend!

The event is Friday evening, May 1 and Sat., May 2 at the Community Church of Mt. Pleasant. We will gather for worship, teaching, fellowship and fun! Meals are included. **Please sign up in the Narthex TODAY if you would like to attend.** Michelle will attempt to provide transportation. ****The First Pres Missions Team is providing lunch at the gathering on May 2. If you can volunteer to help prep or serve the meal, please see Michelle.****



Calling all youth! We will soon embark on a study of what "the Church" is, who "the Church" is, and where you fit in! Guests will share insights with us as we look at what God designed "the church" to be, to look like, and to do. **Lesson #1 is "The Church shows up for each other!"** This spring, let Michelle know if your youth has an activity (sport, play, recital, etc.) that we can show up for and support them!

Our next opportunities are:

Thursday, April 30: *Charlie March's football game at Carolina Int'l School (9545 Poplar Tent Rd, Concord)* Game begins at 4:30pm and ends at 5:30pm. Please plan to drop-off and pick-up there.

Saturday, May 9: *Mary-Gray Petersen's volleyball game at West Cabarrus YMCA.* We will meet at Afton Pub & Pizza for lunch at 11:15am (5380 Village Dr. NW, Concord), then walk to the Y for her game at 12:30pm. Pick up will be at the Y (5325 Langford Ave. NW, Concord) at 1:30pm.

Wednesday, May 13: *Oliver Townsend's baseball game at Virginia Foil Park in Mt. Pleasant.* We will leave church at 4:30pm, eat at What-a-Burger in Mt. Pleasant, and then go to the game at 6:00pm. **Please sign up in the Narthex, especially if you need transportation!!!**

Saturday, May 16: *Cierstyn Lowder's soccer game across from S. Rowan YMCA (950 Kimball Rd., China Grove).* Game begins at 8:30am and lasts about an hour.



Mark your calendars for Graduation Sunday, May 17! Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our graduating high school seniors, Amelia Caskey and Abigail Malinovsky. We will have a special moment of recognition during the worship service, and a reception in their honor in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

Youth Sunday will be May 31! Our children and youth will lead the worship service using their talents for music, drama, and dance. Rehearsals will begin on April 29, with dinner at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall, and practice from 6-7pm. Rehearsals will continue on May 6 and May 20. "Dress" rehearsal will be Saturday, May 30 at 10am in the Sanctuary. See Michelle if you need more information!

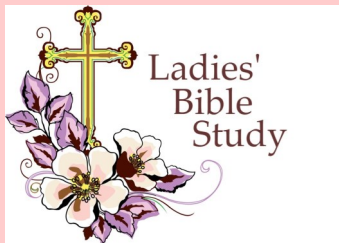




Nominations for the office of Elder at First Presbyterian are now being accepted. An Elder Recommendation Form may be found in the Narthex. Please read the form and prayerfully consider any nominations. Return the Recommendation Form to the Offering Plate by NEXT Sunday, May 3. Elders will be selected at a congregational meeting on Sunday, June 28, and Installed during worship on Sunday, July 5.



The Friendship Sunday School Class is beginning a journey through prayer, what happens when we pray, and the practical application of prayer. This journey will take us from Exodus to Revelation. What role do angels have in the Christian's life and in prayer? If Christ is our intercessor, why do we need the help of the angels? Our sources will, of course, be the Bible, Tim Keller's Book on Prayer, John Piper, Desiring God, and the writings of the early reformers. If you are not already a part of a Sunday School Class, we hope you will join us at 10:00 a.m.



The Thursday morning Ladies' Bible Study begins a new book this week. They will examine *The Armor of God* by Priscilla Shirer with the aid of a video study. All women are invited to join the group. They meet weekly at 10:30am at church. See Alpha Barger for more information.

The annual Kannapolis Bible Teaching Association fundraising banquet will be held on Monday, May 4!

You are invited to join us at Shoe Show Headquarters (2201 Trinity Church Road, Concord) from 6-7:30pm for dinner, reflection, and celebration of what God is doing in Kannapolis City Schools through this ministry. See Sam McAllister or Steve Goodnight for more information!



The South Rowan Bible Teaching Association is holding their annual Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner on Thursday, May 7th at First Reformed Church in Landis,

offering a lunch or dinner option. Lunch can be picked up from 11:00am-1:00pm and dinner pick up is from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Meals are \$14 each and include half a bbq chicken, baked beans, slaw, roll and homemade dessert. The deadline for purchasing tickets is THIS Thursday, April 30th. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please contact the church office or see Michelle Walker.

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:** spring & summer clothing for all, especially children's and new underwear and socks for all



Thank you for donating to the First Pres Blessing Fence! See Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help with current needs: **Two Gallon Size Ziploc Bags & Ball Caps**

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 - cancer
- Jean Bost - transition to Greens of Cabarrus
- Linda Johnston - health concerns
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- Richard Little - treatment for multiple myeloma
- Mac Atwell (Lauren Goodnight's uncle) - recovery from surgery

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Trey & Semra Goodnight (Mark Goodnight's nephew and wife) - Semra's MRI and PET scan came back clear, 3 more chemo sessions, then surgery
- Julie (the Bellottis' daughter) - recovery from foot surgery
- Natalie Burleson - loss of father, Jim Stowe
- Family & friends of Richard Hough - on his passing
- Sammie Dunn (Dave Argabrite's cousin) - shingles & upcoming chemo
- Chalora Leece (Jason Leece's mom) - surgery to remove kidney on May 6th
- Margaretta Cowan (Eric's mom) - in hospice at home
- Robert Ellison (Sparks' in-law) - declining health
- Meredith Milam (Stricker's niece) - undergoing chemotherapy for uterine cancer
- Karen Pless' mom - recovery from stroke & broken clavicle
- Steve Smith (Becky Seaford's brother) - chemotherapy
- Robert Hudak (Diane Belotti's brother) - recovery from spine surgery
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10-yr-old stem cell treatments
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - cancer

HOMEBOUND

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



This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, April 26

10 Cents A Meal!

9:30am - Morning Coffee
- GraceFull Movements
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service

Monday, April 27

2:00pm - Dorcas Circle of Hope

Tuesday, April 28

11:00-1:00pm - Linda's Closet workday

12:00pm - NA

3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen

Wednesday, April 29

3:30-6:30pm - Peek NexGen

5:30pm - Youth Dinner

6:00pm - Youth Sunday Rehearsal

- Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 30

10:30am - Ladies Study/Session Room

12:00pm - NA

4:30pm - Youth @ Carolina Int'l (Charlie
March football game)

3:30-6:30m - Peek NexGen

Friday, May 1

3:00pm - Missions Team

4pm - 9:00pm - Youth to FCA Weekend

Saturday, May 2

8:30am - 4:00pm - Youth to FCA
Weekend

Next Sunday, May 3

9:30am - Morning Coffee

- Gracefull Movements
Rehearsal

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Worship Service with Holy
Communion

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Cookie Hamilton

Children's Church This Week: Roxanne
Spencer

Children's Church next week: Sharon
Stricker

Acolytes This Week: Landon & Noah
Walker

Acolytes Next Week: Camryn & Cierstyn
Lowder

Nursery: Roxanne Spencer

Nursery Next Week: Sharon Stricker

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

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

Greeters: Phil McLain & Roxanne Spencer

FINANCIALS FOR MARCH

YTD Income \$76,504.30

YTD Expenses \$72,375.86

YTD Budget \$81,740.01

Last week's attendance: 4/19/2026

Worship AM - 107

Sunday School - 71

