



FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Welcome

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

~ Gathering before the Word ~

Prelude *God Bless the Mothers* Moore

Choral Call to Worship *I'm Gonna Sing* Gardner
Chancel Choir

Welcome & Service of Friendship Pastor Darryl Evans

***Call to Worship**

Beloved in Christ, let love be genuine;
hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.

**Love one another in mutual affection;
outdo one another in showing honor.**

For in this way God's glory will be made known and people will praise God.

***Hymn of Praise No. 579**

ST. DENIO

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise****Prayer of Confession**

David Hamilton

**Have mercy on us, Lord:
You have set your way before us,
and we tremble to see it.
It is not just suffering we are afraid to bear,
but also the weight of your call:
Your command to excel in love,
to rejoice in hope and to live peaceably with all.
Merciful God, take away our fear and faithlessness.
Help us to see what you see,
to follow where you go,
and to live in awe at your presence.**

(Please continue in a moment of silent, personal confession.)

Leader: Believe the Good News of the Gospel:
People: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven!

***Song of Response**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Thanksgiving & the 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.

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Anthem

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel
Chancel Choir

Emerson

Word with our Children

Malaina Meeks

(Four year olds through 2nd graders may now be excused to Children's Church. An adult will now escort the children to the Children's Church Classroom, which is on the 3rd floor of the education building, where they will be picked up by a parent after the service.)

***Hymn of Preparation No. 590**

AZMON

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Scripture Reading

II Thessalonians 2

Leader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Comforted by Grace

Darryl Evans

“May our Lord Jesus Christ myself and God our Father... encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.”
--II Thessalonians 2:16-17

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Offering & Offertory

Ave Verum

Mozart

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn of Commitment No. 691**

NEW BRITAIN

Amazing Grace

***Choral Benediction**

The Lord Bless You
Chancel Choir

Morris

***Benediction**

Postlude

E Minor Toccata

Pachelbel

***All who are able please stand.**

CCLI # 2221136

To Our Guests

Welcome! We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning. We hope you find today meaningful and refreshing. If you have a prayer request, please see Darryl or call us at 704-938-4623.

Children's Activity Bags are available for children age 3 to Grade 5. They include a children's bulletin related to the Sunday sermon, crayons, and scrap paper. An usher would be happy to bring you one.

Children's Church is available for children 4 years to 2nd Grade. After the "Word with Our Children," they will be escorted to their Children's Church in our Educational Building. 4-year-olds will meet in the nursery, where they are learning from the Gospel Light Preschool unit entitled "Thank You, God!" Parents should report to their child's classroom after worship to pick them up.

April Financial Update

Year to date budget - \$94,477.32
Year to date income - \$89,795.24
Year to date expenses - \$84,140.89

Upcoming

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Joan O'Quinn and Peggy Linn by Mark & Jennifer Linn.

The Christian Education Team cordially invites the congregation to a Disciples Appreciation Luncheon immediately following the worship service on Sunday, May 19. Please join us in the fellowship hall as we honor all of our wonderful Christian Education volunteers. The menu will include grilled chicken, green beans, roasted potatoes, Caesar salad, strawberry shortcakes, tea and lemonade. **Please RSVP on or before May 16** by placing a name & number attending in the offering plate or Michelle Walker's box or register online.

Jackson Park Elementary School - Giving Back. The Missions Team would like to continue our support to Jackson Park Elementary School throughout the school year. They have a year-round food pantry and clothing closet available for donations. Please find a handy printout outside the sanctuary (under the TV screen) with more information on colors/sizes. Please drop off all donations in the Youth Room in the designated bookshelves.

Big Brother/Big Sister Program. We are looking for volunteers in the congregation that are willing to partner with Jackson Park Elementary School for a Big Brother/Big Sister Program. You will be paired with a student and encouraged to meet during lunch time on a monthly basis. If interested, please find a volunteer background check form outside the sanctuary (under the TV screen). Return all forms to Jenna Baker or a Missions Team Member.

Our Missions partner Sole Hope is sponsoring a Sole Hope Denim Dash 5K and 1/2 Mile Kids Fun Run on Saturday, June 1 in Salisbury from 9am - 12pm. Any youth or adults interested in participating, please let Michelle Walker know by Wednesday, May 22nd. You can find more information at: www.runsignup.com/solehope.

The Missions Team is looking into options for an Eastern NC Mission Trip, as many of you have expressed a desire to assist with hurricane relief. So that we can better plan an appropriate trip, please complete the form below or online if you are interested in serving. Place it in the offering plate **by Sunday, May 19**. A meeting of those interested will follow in the weeks to come. Thank you as always for supporting your Missions Team!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Best time of year to travel: _____

Any accommodations you will require: _____

The congregation is invited to a Wednesday Night Life Year-End Celebration on Wednesday, May 22nd!!! Our youth (and anyone else who wants to help!) will deliver gift bags to the Kannapolis Police Department at 5:30pm. We will be given a brief tour and some information from officers there. Then, we will gather at the church for a cookout, fun, and games, including Pelican snowballs! Please **RSVP online by Sunday, May 19** or place this form in the offering plate:

Family Name: _____

Phone: _____

No. Attending: _____

Allergies: _____

The “Bad Girls” Thursday morning Bible Study is taking a short break. We will start back up on June 6th at our regular time (10:30 am). We will be studying “The Women of Easter” by Liz Curtis Higgs.

We only have 45 more dresses to go to reach our goal of 200 for the shoeboxes. If you would like to participate in this mission project, please grab a paper dress (and a paper clip) off the table in the narthex, attach your check, or cash and put in the offering plate. Thanks to everyone who has participated so far. Your generosity amazes us. *The Crafty Ladies*

ALL YOUTH interested in participating in a musical for Youth Sunday (June 2nd), please plan to attend a final rehearsal on Wednesday, May 15 from 6:00pm - 7:00pm. Dinner will be provided from 5:30pm - 6:00pm for all youth and families participating.

There will be a final rehearsal for ALL YOUTH participating in Youth Sunday on Wednesday, May 29th in the Sanctuary from 6:00pm - 7:00pm. Dinner will be served from 5:30pm-6:00pm for youth & families in the Fellowship Hall. Please let Michelle Walker know as soon as possible if your child(ren) want to participate in leading the worship service (other than in the musical).

CCM-Concord is in need of some volunteer part time help. If interested, please see Sam McAllister.

If you would like to contribute flowers for worship, please see the sign-up poster on the bulletin board just outside the church office. The cost for an arrangement is \$56. Or, if you like to purchase something permanent that can be rotated during the weeks we don't have a live arrangement, please contact Jill McLain.

Prayer Concerns

MEMBERS

Carla Efirm - recovering from hip surgery.

Juanita Holt - health issues.

Jean Roberts - recovering from shoulder surgery.

Bill Hammond - health concerns.

Mike Williams - back in hospital.

Mike Freeman - recovering from neck surgery.

Iris Efirm - recovering from surgery.

Mary Johns - done with surgeries and is doing well.

Emily Griggs - teacher in Casablanca.

Donna Whitley - at home.

Loretta Young - at Five Oaks.

Peggy Barnhardt - at Morningside with Dementia.

Lynn Efirm - continuing treatment.

Connie Rary - still fighting cancer, went to Duke specialist.

Debby Baker - finishing cancer clinical trial and changing treatment.

FAMILY OF MEMBERS

Brent Easley - a friend of the McLains who has a rare aggressive form of leukemia.

Mark McDaniel - Mal's brother, cancer is back and is currently undergoing radiation treatments.

Janna Kiger - Edward Bell's colleague, is on life support at Duke due to complications from the flu.

Arthur Fu - Jessica is very thankful for all the prayers for her brother, who has cancer.

Special Church Member of the Week

Joe Crawford

Black Mountain Neuro-Medical
Treatment Center
932 Old US Hwy 70
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Send a card, make a visit or a call,
or offer a prayer. All to say "God
loves you and the church cares
about you."



www.firstpresb.org

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Phone - 704-938-4623

The Session

Rev. Dr. Darryl Evans, Moderator
Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk of Session

Class of 2019

Garrett Brady
Mike Freeman
Allison Hammett
Carol Lowder

Class of 2020

Jeff Barnhardt
Frank Gibson
Phil McLain
Gip Rumble

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Darryl Evans
Pastor

David Hamilton
Director of Music

Michelle Walker
Director of Children's Ministries

Terri Pruett
Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Kay Yates
Organist

Irene Davis
Nursery Director

John Bostian - foster son of Ron & Alpha, at home with home healthcare now.

Alex & Debbie - Kaitlyn Maxwell is grateful for everyone's prayers for her nephew Alex as he works through depression and her mother, Debbie, as she is recovering from knee surgery.

Amy Ritchie - friend of Jane Jacobs, dealing with stage 4 Breast Cancer.

Nancy Barger - friend of Jane Jacobs, dealing with cancer.

Barbara Coffey - friend of Judy Hunter: stage 4 Breast Cancer, undergoing chemo.

Thomas Dishman - friend of Judy Hunter: problems with LVAD, awaiting heart transplant.

Chuck Rogers - friend of Judy Hammond: suffered stroke following surgery.

Shelia & Steve Dobson - friends of Judy Hammond: Steve had brain surgery.

Russell Gardner - friend of Mike Freeman: cancer and recurring pneumonia.

Ernest Miller - friend of Mike Freeman: lung cancer and PTSD (Viet Nam Vet)

Lori Holder - daughter of Sam McAllister: Suffering with MS.

Hope Community - church plant in Wilmington, NC with Nate Stratman.

Prayer request? Please write it down on the blue pew prayer card, & place in the offering plate.

Servants

Greeters: Gip Rumble & Frank Gibson

Elder Lock-Up: Gip Rumble

Children's Message: Malaina Meeks

Children's Message next week: Chris Lowder

Children's Church: Ryan & Michelle Walker

Children's Church next week: Ali Craft & Mary Lee Evans

Videographer: Michael Martens

Nursery: Linda Grebler

Nursery next week: Jane Argabrite

Acolytes: Amelia Caskey & Abigail Malinovsky

Acolytes next week: Toby Caskey & Will Evans

Ushers: Paul Barnhardt, John Hammond, Ron Lisenby, & C.J. Semcho

Ushers next week: Mel Eaton, Mike Freeman, Todd Pless, John Roberson

This Week

TODAY

- 9:30 a.m. - **Coffee Hour** -
Good News Class
10:00 a.m. - **Sunday School/
Elder Training**
11:00 a.m. - **Worship Service**

MONDAY

- 8:00 p.m. - **Alcoholics Anonymous**

TUESDAY

- 12:00 p.m. - **Narcotics Anonymous**
7:00 p.m. - **Session**

WEDNESDAY

- 6:00 p.m. - **Youth Musical Rehearsal**
6:30 p.m. - **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**
7:30 p.m. - **Handbell Rehearsal**

THURSDAY

- 12:00 p.m. - **NA**
6:30 p.m. - **Boy Scouts**
8:00 p.m. - **AA**

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:30 a.m. - **Coffee Hour** -
Disciples Class
10:00 a.m. - **Sunday School/
Elder Training**
11:00 a.m. - **Worship Service**
12:00 p.m. - **Disciples Appreciation
Luncheon**
4:00 p.m. - **Women's Sunday Circle**



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