

APRIL 2022

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



GET INVOLVED! CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY, VBS & MORE

HE IS RISEN! CELEBRATE EASTER WITH US THIS MONTH

PASTOR'S LETTER

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

-Galatians 6:9-10

Dear Church Family,

Our church has experienced a lot of change in the last couple of years. Much of it has been learning to adapt to circumstances beyond our control. The Lord has continuously blessed us during this time, and for this we are grateful!

One change has been the restructuring of our deacons. Yes, the leadership of our church spent much time and prayer wrestling with this issue and the decision to pause for a season was tough. However, leadership has been very careful not to allow ministry to slip through the cracks. Our worship committee has taken over the ushering responsibilities and has done so with an outstanding attitude of support to the church body. Additionally, our new congregational care committee has been hard at work, meeting twice a month, often for two hours at a time. Much of this time has been prayerfully establishing core values and defining who we are as a group.

Tremendous progress has been made and the good news is this: our congregational care committee now has a vision plan and will soon be communicating this plan with the larger church body. Thanks for your patience in this! The end goal is to better identify and serve the ministry needs within our church family in a way that complements and supports other committees and ministry teams already in place.

So, as the above verse communicates, please keep in mind our need to not grow weary or give up as we serve our Lord. We need His strength for endurance! Also, please pray for our new ministries and/or changes to existing ministries as we remember all that takes place in our church family is "for the good of all."

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

STEWARDSHIP



“Giving your time, your talents, and your tithes to God’s work...”

Prayer- God, thank you for the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus, who was crucified, died, was buried, and rose again on the third day for my sins.

The Resurrection as Key to Christian Stewardship- Luke 24:1-12

The resurrection is the key to understanding Christian stewardship because it is the key to Christianity. In the resurrection of Jesus, God signals his intention to restore human life and all of creation, reversing the curse and decay caused by the fall and straightening this “bent” world. Jesus’ new incorruptible body indicates that God is not going to do away with the physical world; he is redeeming and transforming it. Jesus has defeated death and is now bringing all God’s enemies under his feet. Not only this, but he promises that those who overcome through faith in him will rise again and reign with him eternally in a re-created new earth.

The resurrection of Christ from the dead is the foundation event of the new age which began with him, comparable only to creation when life itself began... It is by this resurrection power that the church lives and carries out its mission. Its sacraments are an actual communion with the living Lord. Its members “taste the powers of the world to come” for by his resurrection Christ has brought into the present the world to come, and faith is the access to this life. We “rise with Christ into a newness of life” and become the channels through which life flows into the world. Thus to pray with Paul that we “may know the power of his resurrection” is to seek the deepest meaning and the richest resources of our stewardship... Christian stewardship takes on nothing less than cosmic significance. Its aim is the restoration of all areas of life to its right Lord.

Without this cosmic vision and eternal perspective, we are tempted to focus on the world around us, believing that what happens now is all that matters and that our only hope for material rewards, relationships, pleasures, comfort, justice and mercy are found in this life. But because this new resurrection power is at work in us, we can live as nearly as we can to that final state of perfection by the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead (see *Romans 8:10-11*).

Message from your Stewardship Committee

Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Stewardship theologian A.C. Conrad (Page 1367)

PRESCHOOL

Lunch Bunch

We resumed Lunch Bunch for the remainder of the school year and we are happy to see our little ones socializing, learning independence and how to manage their lunchtime. Plus, they get extra time on the playground!

Spring Pictures

Our Picture Days are April 6-7. Your child will be assigned a day for his or her pictures to be taken. All children graduating will have their pictures taken in their graduation cap and gown, siblings will be photographed together and class pictures will be taken as well. Say cheese!

Easter Break

Our Easter Break is scheduled for April 14-19. Preschool will be closed to celebrate Easter and our Risen Lord. Preschool will resume Wednesday, April 20th. We hope you have a wonderful holiday with your family.



Spring Music is in the Air...

Since the health of the community seems to be improving, we plan to have our Spring Sing in person! Our Spring Sing is scheduled for April 28 & 29. Drop-off is from 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM. The program will start promptly at 9:15 AM. All are welcome! You also can come in early and preview and purchase your child's pictures before the program or wait until after the conclusion.



Looking Ahead...

We are planning a special graduation for all our rising kindergarteners. Our graduation program will be May 20th at 9:15 AM. More details will come in May.

LOGOS/MSM

Logos/MSM April Dates

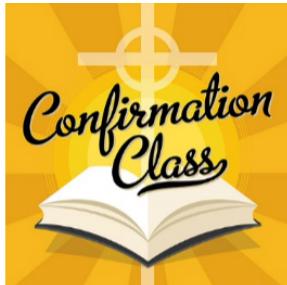
Sunday, April 3- MSM choir (grades 6-8) sings at 11:00 am traditional service

Wednesday, April 6- Beach Bash Banquet- Last day of Logos/MSM

Banquet is for Logos/MSM participants and weekly volunteers



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Confirmation Class Dates (8th graders)

Friday, April 8- Confirmation Retreat- 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Sunday, April 24- Confirmation class meets with Session 6:30 pm in 143 Broad

Sunday, May 1- Confirmation Sunday 9:30 am Contemporary service in 143 Broad

Saints Alive "Lunch Bunch"

The Saints Alive group (our "older" adult group) plans to meet for lunch together on Monday, April 25 at 11:30 am at Isy Bell's Cafe, located at 1043 North Main Street.

** Please note the change to the 4th Monday in April. Please contact Ellen Auten to make a reservation by Sunday, April 24.



High School, College and Grad School Graduates

Please contact the church office (mariann@mooresvillefpc.org; 704-664-5275) if you would like to include upcoming or recent graduation information in the May newsletter.

Palm Procession

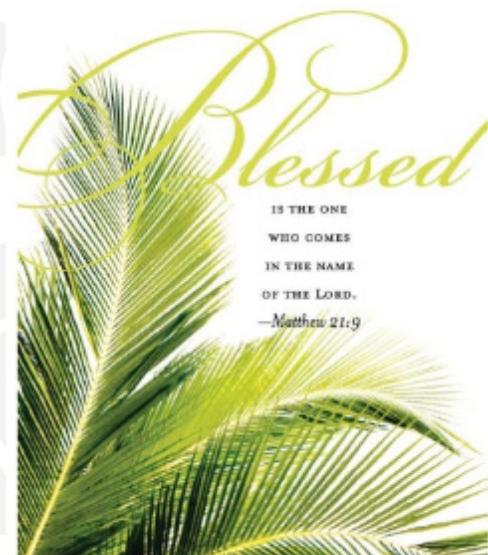
All children and youth are encouraged to participate in the Palm Procession on Palm Sunday, April 10, at the contemporary and traditional worship services. Anyone who would like to be part of the procession should meet:

- In the coffee shop area of 143 Broad for 9:30 contemporary service
- In the church parlor for 11:00 traditional service

We will form a procession in the worship spaces, and wave our branches, remembering Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We will place coats donated in the Palm Sunday Coat Drive at the cross.

Special note:

- Children will be dismissed to the nursery (preschool age) or the Children's Church (grades 1-5) following the procession in the Contemporary Service.
- Children will be dismissed to Sunday School classes following the procession in the traditional service.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Palm Sunday Coat Drive

You are encouraged to bring your used or outgrown winter coats to church on Palm Sunday, April 10, symbolically "laying down your coat for Jesus", just as the people of Jerusalem lined his path with their cloaks and palm branches for the triumphal entry. The coats will be donated to Mooresville Christian Mission.

As we begin to enjoy warmer temperatures and you pack your coats away, consider donating a coat as a visible symbol of outreach and generosity to others.



Bring your coats to the parlor or coffee shop area in 143 Broad on Palm Sunday, and they will be used as part of the Palm Procession.

Bereavement

Christian sympathy is expressed to Jean Chislachi and family in the death of her husband, Ron Chislachi, on March 12.

Christian sympathy is expressed to Sheryl Davis and family in the death of her mother, Onie Mary Sherrill Kasper, on March 12.

Christian sympathy is expressed to the family of Adonna Dickerson in her death on March 21.

Christian sympathy is expressed to the family of Joan Gibson in her death on March 30.

Births

Congratulations to Elizabeth and Hunter Nanney on the birth of their son, John Hunter, on March 3. Family members include big sister Brawley Nanney, grandfather Jeffrey Brawley and great-grandmother Billie Brawley.

Congratulations to Lindsay and Charles Robinson on the birth of their daughter, Mary Claire, on March 5. Family members include siblings Jack and Charlie and grandparents Lynda and Steve Robinson.

Congratulations to Carroll and Barbara Teeter on the birth of their first great grandson, Conner William Morrow. Conner's parents are Laura and Johnny Morrow.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Egg Hunt- Reservations Required



Saturday, April 16- 10:00 am
Meet in fellowship hall- Held rain or shine
For preschool through 5th grade (parents or grandparents must attend with their child)
Reservations are required- go to church website to register (www.mooresvillefpc.org)
Bring Easter basket and a fresh flower to add to the Flower Cross
Donations of individually-wrapped candy (small enough to fit inside a 2" plastic egg) are welcomed and appreciated. Please leave candy in the basket in the church office by Tuesday, April 13.

Children's Church- April Activities

***Please note: Children's Church will not be held on Easter Sunday, April 17, so that children may worship together with their families on Easter.

Sunday, April 3- Lord's Prayer
Sunday, April 10- Palm Sunday activities
Sunday, April 17- No Children's Church- Easter Sunday
Sunday, April 24- Lord's Prayer



Church Clean Up Day

Hello Church Family,

The Property Committee has organized a church cleanup day for Saturday, April 9 from 8:30 am till noon. We have a number of projects we plan to tackle that morning and need your help to make it happen. We plan to do lots of cleaning: closets, parking lots, kitchens, and blinds. There will be landscaping, work in the choir room, and some general organizational work happening around the building. Your Property Committee will work hard to organize meaningful work and hopes to make a huge impact on the church building and grounds on the morning of April 9. If you'd like to help lead a project, please contact Jason Sentas at jason@mooresvillefpc.org, or just sign up to help out on the church website. We hope you can join us.

Tenebrae Service

We will once again be offering a Tenebrae service along with a prayer vigil during Holy Week. This will take place on Thursday, April 14th. It will include dinner at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, a worship service with communion at 7:30 pm in the 143 building, and a

ANNOUNCEMENTS

prayer vigil that will extend in from the end of the worship service until noon on Good Friday (April 15th). Details for participation and sign-up will be communicated through our bulletin, website, and constant contact. We hope for this to be a meaningful event as we seek to worship our Lord during this Lenten season.

MISSIONS

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

I'm sitting at 143 Coffee House this morning reflecting on God's wonderful grace. Weekends like this are rare and wonderful. I love to imagine the spiritual implications of what we experienced this weekend. There is a beauty and connection in the body of Christ that we don't always recognize simply due to the limitations of our perspectives and the busyness of our lives.

Lifewater is in the unique position of hearing the prayers of the villagers as they seek help, pray for relief, strength, grace, and a future. They even pray for the Church in America that we would be receptive to God and hear his call. Then, on the other side of the world, the Spirit moves in the hearts and minds of other members of his body, and people respond with empathy and compassion for those they will never meet. They give with generous hearts and open hands. Our part in this story began to unfold over a year ago with Dr. Campbell's willingness to share Lifewater with Jason and Chris. It was your willingness to explore ideas that started to open doors and create a connection. I love to watch how God moves through his people. It is humbling to be a small part of the effort and I am thrilled to work with you reaching vulnerable families in the most remote parts of the world with the gospel of hope and safe water.

To all of you, thank you for the opportunity to share Lifewater with your church, and thank you for your hospitality. Lifewater is indebted to your kindness and deeply appreciates your compassion toward the people of Ethiopia. You will create the resources and tools they need to take ownership of their communities' health and provide them the opportunity to hear about the love of Christ. Thank you for an incredible weekend.

I look forward to stewarding your support and sharing more about the impact of your gifts.

Gratefully,

Jim

CALENDAR

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:30 am Fellowship Time 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship/MSM Sings 5:00 pm MS PYF 5:00 pm Congregational Care Meeting 7:00 pm HS PYF 7:00 pm Membership & Outreach Meeting | 3 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B | 4 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm MCM-Circles | 5 Preschool Spring/Graduation School Pictures 12:20 pm Midweek Lenten Luncheon Services 4:30 pm MSM/Logos 5:30 pm Wed. Night Dinner Together 6:00 pm Bible Study w/Dave 6:00 pm Lost and Found Bible Study |
| 10 Palm Sunday Processional 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm MS PYF 7:00 pm HS PYF 7:00 pm Committee Meetings | 11 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 2:00 pm Circle 1 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166 | 12 Preschool Egg Hunt & Easter Classroom Parties 10:00 am Circle 4 12:00 pm Circle 5 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm MCM-Circles 7:00 pm Circle 3 | 13 Preschool Egg Hunt & Easter Classroom Parties 12:20 pm Midweek Lenten Luncheon Services 5:30 pm Wed. Night Together Dinner 6:00 pm Bible Study with Dave 6:00 pm Lost and Found Bible Study |
| 17 Easter Sunday 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:30 am Fellowship Time 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm Combined PYF | 18 Easter Monday Office Closed Preschool Closed- Easter Break 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B 7:00 pm Property Meeting | 19 Preschool Closed- Easter Break 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm MCM-Circles | 20 5:30 pm Wed. Night Together Dinner |
| 24 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Men's Bible Class 10:30 am Fellowship Time 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 4:30 pm VBS Meeting 6:30 am Session Meeting/ Confirmands 7:00 pm HS PYF | 25 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 11:30 am Saints Alive Lunch Bunch (Isy Bell's) 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B | 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm MCM-Circles | 26 |
| | | | 27 |

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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|---|---|--|---|
| | | 1 | 2 |
| | | 7:15 Men's Bible Study 11:00 am MSM/Logos Trip Fearless Adventure Park | |
| 7 Preschool Spring/Graduation School Pictures 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry | 8 Preschool Spring/Graduation School Pictures 6:00 pm Confirmation Retreat | 9 7:15 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Church Work Day | |
| 14 Preschool Closed- Easter Break 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner 7:30 pm Tenebrae Service | 15 Good Friday Preschool Closed- Easter Break | 16 7:15 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt | |
| 21 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry | 22 | 23 7:15 am Men's Bible Study | |
| 28 Preschool Spring Sing Program 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal | 29 Preschool Spring Sing | 30 7:15 am Men's Bible Study | |

Birthdays:

4/1 Roy Harris, Jr., Daniel Newell, Andrew Washburn
4/3 Carol McClure
4/4 Gregory Johnson, Campbell Schaen
4/6 Martha Kirkland, Morgan Sentas
4/7 Jim Davidson, Lucy Hastings, Hallie Omohundro, Andy Poore, John Streb
4/8 Donna Brawley, Kaylee Brumley, Anna Miller
4/10 Brandon Abernathy, Hannah Cole, Joseph Irwin, Sarah Johnson
4/11 Dawn Chappell
4/12 Bill Abele, Landon Mauney, Rick Omohundro, Bill Omohundro, Karen Shore
4/14 Eva Brooks, Cate Vaughan
4/16 Judy Daniel, Michael Hodge, Scott Mauney, Cassandra Rockness
4/17 Tway Barrett
4/20 Will Barrett
4/21 Stephen Garvin
4/22 Jason Blair, Mary Matheson, Erik Micklow, Karli Rockness, Jason Sentas
4/23 Brent Curtis, Sr., Paul Dame, John Daniel, Anna Rhyne
4/24 George Brawley, Teresa Moore
4/25 Samuel Creech, Sherri Dame
4/26 Suzanne Baillie
4/27 Kevin Cox
4/29 Bill Brawley
4/30 James Miller

VBS

Vacation Bible School

Dates: Monday, July 11 – Friday, July 15, from 9:30 am – noon

Theme: “Jerusalem Marketplace,” where we’ll be immersed in Bible-times culture, learning and fun. Escape the hustle and bustle of the modern world and dive into our Bible-times VBS! Each day, participants will experience Jerusalem as Jesus did, learning valuable lessons, making fun crafts, singing great songs, playing fun games, as they rotate through activity stations with their “tribe.” As kids follow the steps Jesus took, they’ll discover what it means to walk with him today!

Activity stations include:

- Opening Celebration
- Tribe Time
- Marketplace Shops
- Village Playground
- Synagogue School
- Village Bakery (snacks)

Registration will begin on Sunday, May 1 – all registration will be online.

- Participant ages: 4 year olds through rising 6th grader
- Volunteers: Rising 7th grades – adults.

VBS “Wish List” (items will be returned):

- Pop-up picnic / beach canopies
- Large baskets
- Ferns / houseplants
- Artificial palm trees
- Artificial fruit (grapes, apples, oranges, etc.)

You may find more information at www.group.com/vbs

Next VBS Planning Committee meeting – Sunday, April 24 – 4:30 pm in Room 222



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Email: office@mooresvillefpc.org

mooresvillefpc@groups.facebook.com

If you would like to be added to or deleted from our mailing list, please send an email to office@mooresvillefpc.org or call 704-664-5275

9:30 am Contemporary Worship
11:00 am Morning Worship

April 2022

