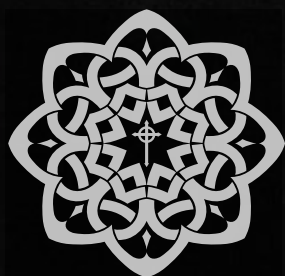


FEBRUARY 2022

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



INSIDE: UPDATES ON YOUTH, MISSIONS, PRESCHOOL...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! CHILI COOK OFF, BINGO & MORE

PASTOR'S LETTER

"I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him..." -Ephesians 1:17

Dear Church Family,

Our sermon series this winter emphasizes the spirit of unity that we can experience in Christ. The apostle Paul opens the letter with what John Stott describes as, "an outburst of adoration." Paul is unconcerned with apologetics or scientific proofs and simply declares the majesty and greatness of the Lord. As the introduction shifts into a prayer, Paul then expresses his desire for believers to come to know the many blessings that we already possess through our faith in Jesus- the hope of our calling (salvation, fellowship, holiness, etc.), the riches of His glorious inheritance (our value in His sight!), and the immeasurable greatness of His power (resurrection power, headship over all creation for the church). My prayerful hope is that this sermon series will help inspire continued spiritual formation that deepens our relationship with God. This fits with our first prong of our church's vision- the desire to see every member grow in their faith. If we progress in this direction, we will inevitably experience a strengthening of unity in Christ.

I encourage you to read the newsletter and February calendar. If you do not have a connecting point for spiritual development (Sunday School, Bible study, circle group, etc.), I would challenge you to seek one out or contact Pastor Jason or myself to help you find a group that might be right for you.

It continues to be a pleasure to serve alongside you in ministry!

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

STEWARDSHIP



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

Prayer- Jesus, as you gave your life freely, I want to give sacrificially and with joy. Holy Spirit, I can’t do so without your filling and your power. I humbly ask for both.

A Heart for Giving! - 2 Corinthians 9 : 6-15

What a remarkable passage on giving. ***“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”*** The laws of harvest operate not only in the natural, but also in the spiritual realm. This principle is true in all areas of Christian experience, especially in the area of giving. The believer recognizes that giving is not a question of scattering, but of sowing and that- since all giving constitutes a challenge of faith- it is not a contribution, but an investment. *(Expository preacher Stephen F. Olford, 1918-2004).*

“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion.” These offerings can be somewhat sporadic, spontaneous, unpredictable, and reflective of our varying levels of enthusiasm and areas of commitment. They can be spirit-led: we are free to follow our conscience and our intuition in deciding how much to give and when to give it. There is great joy in such giving, for we are not merely fulfilling a basic responsibility but, in truth, are opening our hearts to the goodness of God. It is in such giving that we become generous people. It is in such giving that we become grateful people. Indeed, it is in such giving that we become godly people. *(Theologian Mark Allan Powell).*

“God loves a cheerful giver.” The more we give, the more we delight in our giving- and the more God delights in us. Our giving pleases us. But more importantly, it pleases God. This doesn’t mean we should give only when we’re feeling cheerful. The cheerfulness often comes during and after the act of obedience, not before it. So don’t wait until you feel like giving- it could be a long wait! Just give and watch the joy follow. God delights in our cheerfulness in giving. He wants us to find joy. He even commands us to rejoice. What command could be a greater pleasure to obey than that one? But if we don’t give, we’re robbed of the source of joy God instructs us to seek! *(Author Randy Alcorn).*

Message from your Stewardship Committee
Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible (Page 1526)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saints Alive "Lunch Bunch"

***Note change in meeting to 3rd Monday of the month

Due to inclement weather in January, we had to cancel our plans to get together for lunch in January- so we're going to try again for February and hope for better weather! The Saints Alive "Lunch Bunch" group plans to meet on Monday, February 21 at 11:30 am at Olive Garden, located at 438 Talbert Road. Please note the change in day of the week to the 3rd Monday of the month (previously met on Tuesdays).



Chili Cookoff

The Chili Cookoff is coming on February 27, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. and you are invited to join us for this fun and tasty event. The funds raised this year will benefit the well we are digging in Blantyre, Ethiopia with Lifewater International. Representatives from Lifewater will join us for the evening to answer questions and share in the evening. In order to make this event a success, we need items for the silent auction, chili cooks, and lots of people to come. So please mark your calendar, keep an eye out for a bulletin insert, and connect with the office if you have a silent auction group, a donation, or would like to make a chili.

Lenten Lunch Services

For the Season of Lent, First Presbyterian Church is going to host a lunchtime service that looks at the life of Peter as he walked closely with our Lord Jesus Christ. Peter was called by Jesus, walked with Jesus, saw the works of Jesus, denied Jesus, was restored by Jesus, and then went on to lead the church that Jesus established. The service will be in the worship space of 143 Broad at 12:05 on Wednesdays from March 2 through April 13. There will be a short time of worship, a brief message, and then some questions to discuss as you share a meal together. You are invited to bring your own lunch or register on the church website for a meal prepared by a local downtown business.

Missing Library Books and DVDs

We are missing a significant number of library books and DVDs. Please look around your house (and/or vehicles) to see if you have any books or DVDs that need to be returned to the church library. We have a lenient return policy, and during the pandemic it has become even more lenient, but we would like to gather our collection back to the correct location! Thank you!

Bereavement

Christian sympathy is expressed to the family of Nancy Smith in her death on Friday, January 14.

CHRISTIAN ED

First Kids Worship

All first through 5th graders are invited to attend First Kids Worship, an age-appropriate worship service held during the 9:30 am worship service. First Kids Worship is held in the fellowship hall. We are studying the Catechism.

February lessons include:

Sunday, February 6

Christ as prophet, priest and king

Sunday, February 13

Christ as prophet, priest and king

Sunday, February 20

10 Commandments

Sunday, February 27

10 Commandments

Sunday School Social

Everyone is invited to a Sunday School Social on Sunday, February 13, at 10:30 am in the fellowship hall. We'll have an opportunity to gather together as a church family and enjoy special breakfast refreshments and great fellowship with one another.

Our last Sunday School social was on February 16, 2020, and we certainly have missed those opportunities to gather together on Sunday mornings. We hope you'll plan to attend!

Vacation Bible School 2022

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for Monday, July 11-Friday, July 15, from 9:30 am - noon. Be sure to put these dates on your brand new 2022 calendars, as we look forward to a week of learning, playing, singing and growing in our faith! Hard to believe we'll be in summer clothes and looking for cool places to find some shade, as we begin planning during the cold winter weather. But it will be here before we know it!

VBS Planning Committee Meeting

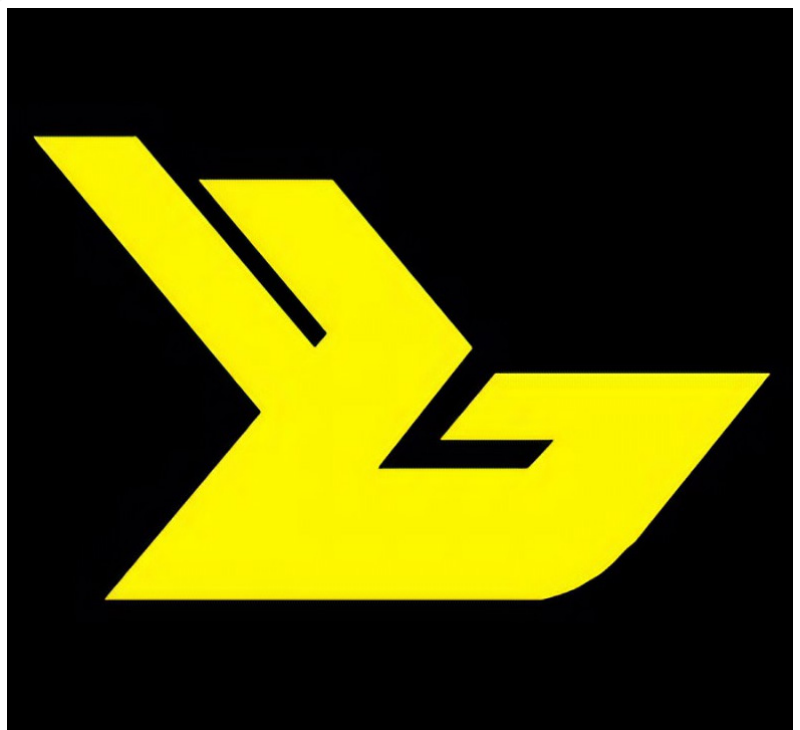
There will be a meeting of the VBS Planning Committee on Sunday, February 20 at 5:00 pm in Room 222. If you are interested in helping decide this year's theme and curriculum, please plan to attend to provide input and suggestions. Please contact Ellen Auten (704-664-5275; ellen@moorevillefpc.org) if you are interested in helping on the Planning Committee.

YOUTH

Snowbird Winter Camp

written by: Ellie Glad

On December 31st through January 2nd, the PYF youth group went to Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters in Andrews, North Carolina. We spent a lot of time doing fun activities such as various swings, ziplines, rock walls, and other outdoor activities. For worship we had a sermon series on 1 Peter 1:1. We looked at how Jesus's sacrifice affects our lives now. After each sermon we split into small groups and had a more in-depth discussion. It was a lot of fun and I look forward to going back next year.



PRESCHOOL

Football Fever Days

Help us get ready for the big Super Bowl! Wear your favorite team jersey or sports-themed shirts on February 10th and 11th. We want to see your team spirit!



Preschool Closed

Preschool will not be in session on Monday, February 7th. Teachers will be preparing for upcoming conferences and reviewing assessments.

Valentine's Day Parties

We will celebrate our friendship on Valentine's Day. Please have your child dress in Valentine colors. We will have fun exchanging valentines with one another. Please check your child's classroom newsletter for more information about the valentine exchange. Our Valentine's Day parties are scheduled for February 14th and 15th. We will feel "lovely" those days!



Virtual Parent Conferences

As February continues, we look forward to meeting with you virtually for our Parent Conferences. Our conferences are scheduled for Monday, February 21st. Preschool will not be in session that day to allow the teachers to meet with parents individually. We are anxious to share your child's progress with you!



Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

We invite the entire church and preschool family to join us on Wednesday, February 23rd from 4-7 pm for our fundraiser event. ALL mobile, drive-thru and dine-in orders count. You do not need to mention you are from the preschool or church. 10 % of the proceeds that evening goes toward Preschool. We plan to replace toys that have seen lots of wear and tear over the years. We thank you in advance!



SCOUTS

BSA TROOP 166 (BOYS) & TROOP 1166 (GIRLS)



Prepared. For Life.®

FEBRUARY 2022 SCOUTING NEWS

BINGO NIGHT!!! Friday, February 4th, 2022, 7:00-9:30!!!



Tickets available in the church office or through any Scout! \$10/ticket = 4 Bingo Cards

Prizes will be awarded, there will be a Silent Auction and refreshments!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SCOUT SUNDAY: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 2022!!!



Both Troops Meet on Mondays @ 7pm; Boys (Fellowship Hall); Girls (Church Parlor)
Email: SMtroop166@gmail.com

MISSIONS

Clean Water for Vulnerable Communities

This year the Mission Committee is partnering with Lifewater to focus our efforts on providing clean water for a vulnerable community in Bensa, Ethiopia.

Lifewater is a charitable Christian organization which works to provide clean water for communities, as well as education on how to lead a healthy and clean lifestyle regarding water quality. We would like to raise funds for a water well in Bensa, Ethiopia which would serve around 200 people.

You can read about Batire, a mother in Bensa, who would be directly impacted through this project via the following link:

<https://lifewater.org/project/help-moms-like-batire-start-a-business/>



A screenshot of a Lifewater project page. The main image shows a woman, Batire, standing in a grassy field with a brown cow. Text on the image reads: "Clean water helps us save our resources and will give me time to boost my business." - Batire. To the right, the project title is "Give Safe Water to Mothers like Batire". Below it, it says "Help Serve 200 People" and "Get This Project Started". Further down, it states "This water project was generously sponsored by FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, AL". A progress bar shows "\$620 Raised of \$13,000" with "4 supporters, 5% sponsored". A quote from Batire is included: "Clean water helps us save our resources and will give me time to boost my business." - Batire. Location information for Bensa region, Ethiopia, and GPS coordinates (6.5551, 38.878) are provided. A "View Interactive Map" button is at the bottom right. A row of small thumbnail images is visible at the bottom of the main image area.

Safe water is a vital part of life. Without a well, women and children are forced to walk multiple miles and hours each day to unsafe water sources and carry it back to their village for drinking, cooking, and cleaning. Often the journey to water sources is unsafe. In addition, traveling multiple hours every day keeps children out of school. Finally, this water often causes illness which can lead to malnutrition, dehydration, and even death.

Lifewater helps communities establish wells within one kilometer, or a little over half a mile, of each home in the village. In addition, they incorporate a "wash program" which teaches the community sanitary care including but not limited to, sanitary restrooms, how to handle kitchen items away from animals, and implementing hand washing stations.

You may be asking yourself where the staff and funds for these projects come from. That is where we come in! Funds are raised via our charitable donations, but also require community buy-in from the villagers. Each village has a 20% work and cost buy-in by the local population and a well committee is formed. The families are charged a very small fee each month so that funds may be accumulated to repair the well and pump when problems arise. "Wash technicians" are hired from the local villages and are partnered with Christian church building partnerships.

MISSIONS

So as you can see, these projects not only establish a clean water source, they also establish a sense of ownership and community, jobs, and an opportunity for prosperity! The goal is to create a clean water source that can be sustained by the village so that they are not reliant on continued support from donations.

Lifewater provides over-site for 5 years to be sure that the well remains functional, and they remain available to the community after those 5 years as needed for problems that are unmanageable by the local water committee.

The impact of these projects can be clearly seen in the following YouTube video explaining how Prossy's life has been changed with a clean water in her community:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thzuu-za4A0>



A Lifewater Story: Lasting Change and Clean Water for Prossy

We need your help to reach the goal of clean water for Bensa!

We need to raise \$13,000 to provide safe drinking water to the villagers (average cost of about \$65 per person). Collectively, our Christmas Eve offering, alternative Christmas gifts offering, and the chili cook-off funds will be used to raise the funds needed for this project. Additionally, if you feel compelled to help, you can make donations directly via the link with Batire's story or via a check to First Presbyterian Church.

Together, in Christ, we can share His love and compassion for those in dire need of clean water and God's love. YOU are the real mission committee of First Presbyterian Church and we need your help to share God's love. Feel free to visit the Lifewater main website at Lifewater.org to view the vast expanse of their mission and work.

Thank you in advance from First Pres Mission Committee and Lifewater International!



CALENDAR

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

		1 ECO National Gathering Dallas Texas 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm MCM Circles	2 ECO National Gathering Dallas Texas 4:30 pm MSM/Logos 6:00 pm Lost and Found Bible Study
6 Scout Sunday 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm MS PYF 7:00 pm HS PYF	7 Preschool Closed 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 2:00 pm Circle 1 Meeting 7:00 pm Scouts Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts Troop 166-B	8 10:00 am Circle 4 12:00 pm Circle 5 7:00 pm Circle 3 6:00 pm MCM Circles 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	9 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
13 Super Bowl Sunday Sunday School Social 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Sunday School Social 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm PYF Combined Super Bowl Party	14 Valentine's Day Preschool Valentine's Day Classroom Parties 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 7:00 pm Scouts Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts Troop 166-B	15 Preschool Valentine's Day Classroom Parties 6:00 pm MCM Circles	16 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
20 9:30 am Contemporary Worship (Logos sings) 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm MS PYF 5:00 pm VBS Planning Meeting 7:00 pm HS PYF	21 President's Day Preschool Closed- Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 11:30 am Saints Alive to Olive Garden 7:00 pm Scouts Troop 1166-G 7:00 pm Scouts Troop 166-B	22 6:00 pm MCM Circles	23 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
27 9:30 am Contemporary Worship (MSM Sings) 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 5:00 pm Chili Cook-Off 5:00 pm MS PYF 6:30 pm Stated Session Meeting 7:00 pm HS PYF	28 9:30 am Lost and Found Bible Study 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 116-B 7:00 pm Scouts BSA Troop 116-G		

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>3</p> <p>ECO National Gathering Dallas Texas 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 pm Troop 166 Bingo Fundraiser</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:15 am Men's Bible Study w/Jason 10:00 am Cub Scout Derby Workshop</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Cub Scouts Derby Setup Preschool Football Fever Day 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Preschool Football Fever Days</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:15 am Men's Bible Study w/Jason 10:00 Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby</p>
<p>17</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:15 am Men's Bible Study w/Jason</p>
<p>24</p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:15 am Men's Bible Study w/Jason</p>

Birthdays:

2/1- Sarah Sholar
2/2- Lynn Streetman
2/3- Carolyn Poteat
2/4- Bailey Abernathy
2/5- Kathy Ballard
2/9- Peggy Davidson
2/10- Terry Skeen, Sherry
 Noe, Jim McDonnell
2/11- Crystal Teets
2/12- Jane Abernathy,
 Maddy Robinson
2/13- Greta McCrea,
 Maddie Copeland
2/15- Madison
 Magnusson
2/16- Caleb Foulke,
 Debbie Hunter, Steve
 Waugh
2/17- Amanda (Mandy)
 Abercrombie, Barbara
 Bryan, Lisa Davidson
2/18- Amy Barnhardt,
 Ginger Rogers
2/20- Charles (Charlie)
 Bittinger, Holly Brumley
2/21- Frances Howie
2/23- Connor McNeely
2/24- Allen Brawley,
 Madeline Morgan,
 Michael Micklow
2/25- Carter Culbreth,
 Mike Russell
2/26- Nathan Decastro,
 John Miller, Trent Newell
2/27- Dale Brawley
2/28- Emily Horsman,
 James Webb

LOGOS/MSM

Logos / MSM February Dates

Wednesday, February 2

Groundhog Day

Wednesday, February 9

"Souper" Bowl

***Mission Project: Bring canned goods to donate to Christian Mission

Wednesday, February 16

Winter Olympics

Sunday, February 20

Logos choir (grades 1-5) sings at 9:30

Contemporary Worship in 143 Broad

Wednesday, February 23

Legos at Logos

Bring favorite Lego creations to display at dinner

(please bring in a sturdy box or container)

Sunday, February 27

Middle School choir (grades 6-8) sings at 9:30

Contemporary Worship in 143 Broad

Logos/MSM Inclement Weather Policy

During these winter months, please remember our Logos/MSM inclement weather policy: "In case of cancellation of Mooresville Schools, Logos/MSM will not be held."



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Ave.
Mooresville, NC 28115

Telephone: 704-664-5275

Fax: 704-664-7526

Preschool: 704 664-7201

Website: www.mooresvillefpc.org

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

February 2022



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians