

SEPTEMBER 2026

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



INSIDE: NEW MEMBERS, CHURCH PICNIC & MORE

WNT IS BACK! READ ABOUT CLASS OFFERINGS THIS FALL

PASTOR'S LETTER

"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow." 1 Corinthians 3:6-7, NIV

Dear Church Family,

As we continue through this season of transition, please continue to keep our church, our leaders, and our ministry teams in your prayers. We are actively seeking God's guidance as we work to fill two important roles: youth ministry and music ministry. Your prayers are deeply coveted as we begin to form search teams and trust the Lord to continue growing the ministry He has entrusted to us.

I am especially grateful to Robbie Pearson for stepping in as interim music director for traditional worship during this time. Robbie's willingness to serve is a gift to our congregation, and I know you will join me in encouraging and supporting her in the weeks ahead.

In the meantime, I am personally coordinating the youth role for our weekly middle school and high school ministries. I am thankful to share that several volunteers have already stepped forward, and our high school student leaders have taken strong ownership in this ministry. Their initiative and faithfulness are a beautiful sign of the healthy place our church is in right now.

Thank you for the encouragement, prayers, and support you have offered so generously. I am grateful for this church family, and I am confident that God will continue to lead us with wisdom, unity, and hope as we move forward together.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave

Welcome New Members!

Sanctuary: (Left to Right): David & Debra Williams, Chris Bell (wife Sara and daughter Natalie), Charlotte and Jason Camp (daughter, Larkin)

143: (Left to Right): Barb & David Hogg, Holden Aldridge, Laura Dixon (children Ruby & Harry), Heather & Clark Hodges (Hatton & Liam), Fred Roberts, and Paul Wilson.





STEWARDSHIP

GIVING YOUR TIME, YOUR TALENTS, AND YOUR TITHES TO GOD'S WORK...

PRAYER: *God, you always care for me. Help me to keep my fear under control.*

The Tyranny of “What if?” – Nehemiah 4:15 – 23

Good stewards need to adapt to changing circumstances, but that's not all. They must also be on the alert for outside threats that could undermine their work. External challenges can come in the form of outright attack, as the Israelites feared in Nehemiah 4, or they can be spiritual in nature, like demonic attack or despair.

Our anxieties and worries usually are not related to the lack of things but rather to the loss of things. One of Satan's favorite tools is the question “What if?” Dedicated Christians get trapped in fear – the “what if” of retirement, disability, unemployment, extended illness, economic collapse. God wants us to consider these things and even plan for them – within reason. But a Christian must consciously reject the attitude of fear.

Fear is the antithesis of trust; therefore, if we live in fear of the future, financially, we suffer from the problem of not putting our trust in God. That doesn't mean that we shouldn't plan for the future, but if we live in fear it means that we have taken on a responsibility that belongs to God. If other people see us living lives of fear, we lose our witness.

Commenting in a more lighthearted vein on the effect of fear, editors and movie analysts Craig Brian Larson and Andrew Zahn recall a scene from the movie *Hoosiers*:

Hoosiers is the Cinderella story of a small-town Indiana high school basketball team that overcomes adversity in order to win the state championship. Gene Hackman plays the part of Norman Dale, a former college coach with a maligned past, who is hired to coach the boy's team from Hickory, Indiana.

When the team arrives at Bulter Field House in Indianapolis to play for the state championship, the players' jaws drop at the size of the six-thousand-seat arena with its freestanding hoops and suspended scoreboard. Coach Dale senses that they are intimidated. He instructs one of his players to take a tape measure and mark off the distance from the basket to the free throw line. “What's the distance?” the coach inquires. “Fifteen feet,” the player with the tape calls out. Coach Dale tells the team's shortest player to climb up on the shoulders of the tallest player and measure the height of the basket. “How high is it?” he ask. The boy says, “Ten feet.” The coach says, “I believe you'll find these are the exact same measurements as our gym back in Hickory.” The team laughs, and the tension eases. They move on to prepare for the game.

Message from your Stewardship Committee
Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Christian financial stewardship leader Larry Buckett (Page 585)

JUST A THOUGHT...

Learning to See

Rev. Moses Camacho-Greer

Mark 4:30-52

One of the things I love most about the Gospel of Mark is how honest it is about the disciples. These are the men who left everything to follow Jesus. They heard His teaching firsthand. They watched Him heal the sick, cast out demons, calm storms, and perform miracles. They were not outsiders looking in. They were His disciples. And yet, remarkably, they still struggled to understand Him.

Mark 6 gives us one of the clearest examples. Jesus feeds more than five thousand people with five loaves and two fish. The disciples see the bread multiplied in their own hands. They gather twelve baskets of leftovers. Then, only hours later, they find themselves straining against the wind on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus comes toward them, walking on the water. They are terrified.

Jesus tells them, “**Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.**” He climbs into the boat, the wind dies down, and Mark tells us: “They were completely amazed, for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.” Mark 6:51–52

That is startling language: *Their hearts were hardened*. Not the Pharisees. Not the religious leaders opposing Jesus. **His disciples**. They had witnessed the miracle, but they had not yet understood what the miracle revealed about the One standing before them. They saw what Jesus did without yet fully seeing who Jesus was. And perhaps that is part of discipleship.

Following Jesus does not mean that we immediately understand everything about Him. It is a journey of discovery—a continual movement from blindness toward sight, from confusion toward revelation, from merely knowing stories about Jesus toward knowing Jesus Himself.

There are still places in us where our understanding has not caught up with what God has already shown us.

Where have we seen His provision and still live anxiously?

Where have we experienced His faithfulness and still struggle to trust Him?

Where are we amazed by what Jesus does without allowing it to deepen our understanding of who He is?

And where might Christ be calling us to courageously trust what our hearts are beginning to recognize, even while our minds are still trying to catch up?

As I prepare to begin a new discipleship journey with several people at FPC, this is one reason we are beginning with Mark. We are not gathering because we have already figured Jesus out. We are gathering because we want to know Him more deeply.

The beautiful thing about Mark’s disciples is that their blindness is not the end of their story. Jesus keeps teaching them. He keeps correcting them. He keeps revealing Himself to them.

And, remarkably, He keeps calling them His disciples.

Perhaps that is good news for us too.

The question is not whether we have arrived. The question is whether we will keep following—allowing Jesus, again and again, to open our eyes to who He truly is.



FPC MOORESVILLE



Wednesday Nights Together: Come to the Table

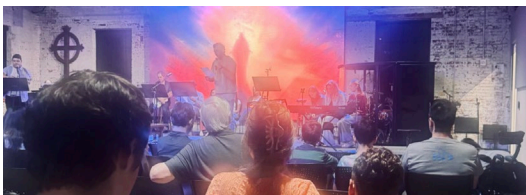
When Wednesday Nights Together first began, I had high hopes for what it might become. As the pastor tasked with working alongside our staff and church leadership to help bring WNT together, I hoped it might create a place where people across our congregation could gather, build relationships, grow in faith, and simply enjoy being the church together. The Lord has exceeded these hopes!

Over the past several semesters, WNT has welcomed an average of **150–160 people each week**, from young children to older adults and just about every age in between. People from different worship services, backgrounds, generations, and stages of life have found themselves sitting around the same tables, sharing dinner, learning names, making new friends, and discovering relationships they might not otherwise have formed. Our Worship Nights have brought us together through prayer and song, testimonies and stories, special guests, Scripture, and moments of simply enjoying the presence of God and one another.

And perhaps that is what I have loved most about WNT: it has become more than a Wednesday night program. It has become a **rhythm of fellowship, worship, and discipleship**.



There is something deeply Christian about gathering around a table. Throughout Scripture, we find God's people eating together, worshipping together, learning together, praying together, and sharing life together. Week after week, I see something of that spirit at FPC. I am incredibly grateful for the way the Lord continues to bless this ministry and invite people further into the life of our church family. And I am grateful for the heart of FPC Mooresville—a church that continues to make room for one another, welcome new faces, break bread together, and seek to grow in the love and joy of Jesus Christ.



And now, **WNT returns September 9!**

What's Coming This Fall?

Each Wednesday begins with **dinner at 5:30 PM**, followed by children, youth, and adult programs from **6:20–7:30 PM**. Childcare is available for infants through preschool.

Our suggested dinner donation this semester is now **\$6 per person**—yes, inflation has officially found WNT too!—with a **\$20 family maximum**.

This fall's adult offerings include: (next page)



The Parables of Jesus: Hearing Them Again

Led by Rev. Moses Camacho-Greer

We'll revisit some of Jesus' most familiar stories and explore the surprising, challenging, and sometimes uncomfortable ways they would have been heard by His first listeners. Bring your Bible and come ready to hear these stories again.

The Holy Spirit You May Not Know

Led by Amy Petrenko

A welcoming, discussion-based exploration of the person and work of the Holy Spirit and His presence in the everyday life of a follower of Jesus.

Lost & Found Women's Bible Study: Anchored

Led by Jodi Rockness

Journey through the life and letters of the Apostle Peter and discover what it means to remain anchored in Christ through every season.

Our children will also begin **Kids' Travel Guide to the Lord's Prayer**, an interactive journey helping K–5th graders learn how Jesus teaches us to pray. Middle and high school students will gather for **Youth Bible Study**, fellowship, and discipleship with Pastor Dave Rockness and our youth ministry volunteers.

Mark Your Calendar

WNT Fall Semester: September 9–December 2

Worship Nights: October 14 & December 2

No WNT: November 25 for Thanksgiving week

Whether you have been part of WNT from the beginning, joined us somewhere along the way, or have never come before, there is room at the table for you.

Come for dinner. Meet someone new. Bring your Bible. Try a class. Bring your children or grandchildren. Invite a friend. Worship with your church family.

Come hungry. Leave filled—body, heart, and soul.

I cannot wait to gather with you again this fall.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Moses

Women's Bible Study: Ecclesiastes — Life in the Light of Eternity

Led by Denise Tidball

A study of Ecclesiastes and its honest questions about meaning, purpose, fulfillment, and the lasting hope we find in God.

Known: A Story Group

Led by Rev. Jordin Camacho-Greer

A nine-week, Christ-centered group centered on sharing our stories, listening deeply to one another, and recognizing God's presence and faithfulness within our lives.

Please note: Known is the ONLY WNT class requiring advance registration. Because of the personal and relational nature of the group, participation is limited to **8 adults (18+)** and begins **September 16**. All other WNT classes and groups are open—simply come and join us!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Important News: We had high hopes of starting the children's music choir on Sunday mornings this month but unfortunately that will not happen at this time.

We will be waiting for a new music director to be hired before we make any further decisions about children's music.

Please know that the children's music ministry is very important to us and we will get it started again as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding and patience.



What's Happening This Month:

September 9 - WNT kicks off! There is NO MUSIC at WNT for children this semester. Dinner is from 5:30 - 6:15. Class - 6:30 - 7:30. See WNT info below for classroom and curriculum information.

We need HELP! - Our WNT sprouts ministry needs some extra helping hands. If you are willing to serve 1x or 1x a month on WNT in our 0 - 2's or 3's - 5's class, please reach out to melissaf@moorevillefpc.org. We cannot provide this act of loving service to our young families without you!

Check in for Nursery - Highschool

Just a reminder, all children going to a Sunday School class, WNT or Youth group event should be checking in at our check in station.



Children 5th grade and younger will get a name tag with a matching guardian name tag for secure pick up. No name tags will be printed for our MS or HS students. Please be sure to check in your children before you take them to their class or meeting area.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sprouts Ministry (0 - Preschool) 2nd floor

0 - 23 months: Nursery room

Toddlers: Our 2's-3's class Fish room

Preschool: Our 4-5 year olds class Lamb room

Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

Drop off- Fellowship Hall

Pick up:

K-1st grade Room 322

2nd-3rd grade Room 324

4th-5th grade Room 309



Children's Sunday School Hour: 10-11am

Sprouts Ministry is our Nursery - preschool

We love the playground! We have a great time getting outside, running, playing and building friendships. Please know that we aim to go outside weekly weather permitting.

Toddlers and preschoolers will participate in a time of music/worship as well as in a Bible lesson, activity and a visit to the playground if the weather is cooperative. We will provide a light snack.

Infants - young 2's will be in our infant room playing and being cared for by some wonderful volunteers. They will be provided a snack of cheerios and water or whatever you bring in their cup. *Please bring a cup for them if you are able, we have labels here for you to use to label your child's cup.*

Check in will begin at 9:45 after the Sunday School teachers have prayed together. Please wait for the check in time to begin so that our teachers can pray and get to their classes before you and your children do.

Kingdom Kids - Kindergarten - 5th grade:

Elementary school classes will use the following schedule:

10:00 Kingdom Kids meet in Fellowship Hall for a time of worship, scripture memorization, games and more. After we conclude our large group time together, the children will divide by grade to tables for their lesson time. We strongly encourage children to bring their bibles to Sunday School.

***** Please note - children who have not been picked up by 11:10 am will be brought to the second floor childcare room (Duck room) so that our teachers can get to church on time.***

Wednesday Night Together

Dinner 5:30pm-6:15pm - Dinner will be in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner is \$5 a person with a max of \$20 per family. High chairs are available as well as a "kids meal" choice.

Classes for all ages 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Sprouts ministry - Child care will be provided for 0 - preschool.

0 - 2 - Fish room

3 - preschool - Lamb room

Elementary children will be utilizing the "Kids Travel Guide to The Lord's Prayer" to study the Lord's prayer and what it all means.

K - 2 - Room 324

3 - 5 Room 322

Children will only be dismissed to someone with the appropriate matching tag. Please know we are doing this for the safety of the children. If someone other than the person who dropped them off is picking up, we will also accept a picture of the parent security tag. Snap a pic and share it with whomever is picking up. Please do your best to pick up all children by 7:40pm.

PRESCHOOL



We love hearing all the children back in our preschool hallways. We are excited for the children to continue to get into the routine, learn and have fun.

Prayers are welcomed!

Our preschool is in full swing and we need daily prayers. We ask that you pray for our school, our preschool families and our teachers. Your daily prayers throughout this school year are greatly appreciated!

2026 Normy Awards

We are so honored to be a 2026 Normy Award Nominee for Best Preschool-Mooresville! We would appreciate it if you would take a moment to vote.

- Please go to lakenormanpublications.com
- Click on the flashing banner for the 2026 Normys
- Scroll down to #92 Best Daycare/Preschool-Mooresville
- Click on First Presbyterian Preschool (we are the second preschool listed)
- Scroll to the end and click Done.

Vote on all your devices (one vote per device). The voting period runs through September 20th. Many thanks to our wonderful families for all your love and support!



Spring School Pictures

We will get “picture perfect” for our Fall pictures scheduled for Sept 10 & 11. Your child came home with his/her assigned day at the end of August. These pictures will be held outside (weather permitting). Siblings will also be taken together. You will also have the option for a family photo – contact Mrs. Tracey to sign up for a slot.

Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

We are EXCITED to have our Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night Wednesday, September 30th from 4 -7pm. All dine in and drive through orders count toward our fundraiser. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Events

Library with Mrs. Crystal: September 1
Preschool Closed for Labor Day Break: September 7
Picture Days: September 10 & 11
Chapel with Mrs. Melissa: September 14 & 15
Fire Drills: September 15 & 16
Fire Safety Days: September 17 & 18
Preschool Closed: September 21
Original Works Art Fundraiser Packages Sent Home: September 24 & 25
Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night 4-7pm at the Hwy 150 Location: September 30



You're Invited to Our Fall Picnic!

Make plans to join your church family for our annual Fall Picnic on Sunday, October 18, following the 11:15am worship service. We will meet at Cornelius Road Park in Mooresville for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fall fun. All are welcome—members, guests, families, and friends. Please bring a side or dessert to share.



SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

		1	2 2:30pm Prayer Meeting
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	Office & Preschool Closed-Labor Day 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	10:00am Circle 4 12:30pm Circle 5 6:00pm Circle 3	2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT Begins
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	12:30pm Saints Alive	2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 12:30pm Christian Education Committee Meeting 2:30pm Prayer Shawl 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	6:30pm Missions Committee Meeting 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B		2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B		2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

3 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	4	5 7:15am Men's Bible Study
10 Preschool Picture Day 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	11 Preschool Picture Day	12 7:15am Men's Bible Study
17 9:30am Preschool Fire Safety Day 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	18 9:30am Preschool Fire Safety Day	19 7:15am Men's Bible Study
24 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	25	26 7:15am Men's Bible Study

BIRTHDAYS

9/1- Noah Fleming, Bill Lackey
9/2- Katherine Walton
9/4- Rachel Van Harn
9/5- Ashley Norton
9/6- Walter Morgan
9/7- Courtney Rockness, Charles Justice
9/9- Joshua McClure
9/10- Bella James, Jimmy Pearce
9/11- Lucia Corrales, John Donelson, Sue Stevens
9/12- Sandra Blalock, Angela Carpenter, Pat King, Caroline Ladd
9/13- Marsha Cornelius
9/14- Walt Jones, Jeff Stonestreet
9/15- Katherine Kavanaugh, John Smith, Bruce Telford
9/16- Dot Campbell, Nancy Davidson
9/17- Dan Davidson, Shelley Rhyne
9/18- Esther Kann, Reed Parker
9/20- Steve Abernathy, Clayton Carlson, Gene Vaughan, Curt Will
9/22- Whitfield Brawley, Amelia Rider
9/23- Angie Copeland, Pat Culberson, Trish Glad, Jodi Rockness, Jordan Sledge, Logan Foulke, Dylan Foulke
9/24- Eliza Decastro, Brem Sholar
9/25- Caroline Micklow
9/26- Rose Sink, Maddie Teeter
9/29- Jerry Bickett, Andrew Merrill
9/30- Ross Culp

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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

8:30 am Contemporary Worship
10:00 am Contemporary Worship
10:00 am Sunday School
11:15 am Traditional Worship

September 2026



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians