



MAY 2025

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION

STAY UP-TO-DATE: NEW MEMBERS, EVENTS & MORE

JOIN US! 2025 GRADUATION SUNDAY & CHURCH PICNIC



PASTOR'S LETTER

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

Dear Church Family,

As our youngest daughter, Karli, is approaching high school graduation, I have been reflecting on the gift of church community. Our family came to Mooresville in 2014, excited to join new church community, yet uncertain of how long it might take for our six daughters to adjust in their new setting. Fortunately, they were all able to immediately connect! Over the past 11 years, our daughters have been blessed by Sunday school, logos, musicals, VBS, PYF (now “Refresh”), mission trips, banquets, family night suppers, etc. They have all been recipients of gospel teaching, grounded leaders, and authentic relationships with people from all ages and stages.

This church has never been a place in which we have had to force our children to attend. In fact, they have all taken initiative to not only engage, but to invest as well. It brings joy to my heart to see my children actively involved in the life of FPC Mooresville and then pursuing church fellowship as they graduate to new places and settings. You folks have played a valuable role in the spiritual development of my family and for this I will forever be grateful.

As I reflect on my own experience, I also keep in mind many of you who have children and grandchildren graduating this May. It is a joy to celebrate these milestones together with you, our church family. Please know that we will be keeping this group of seniors in our prayers as they venture on towards their next stage in life as well. It continues to be a privilege to serve alongside you in ministry.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Senior Graduation Sunday

We invite you to join us in celebrating our high school senior graduates on May 18th with a special combined service at 11:15 am in the sanctuary!

There will be childcare available in the duck room on the second floor for kids in kindergarten and younger.

Following the service, we will head over to Cornelius Rd Park for a church picnic as well! If you are a high school senior that would like to be recognized in this service, please confirm with our Youth Director (Zeb Nelson) if you have not already, and he will get you all the information that you need. Zeb's email is zeb@mooresvillefpc.org.



(pictured: our 2024 combined graduation service)



Scholarship Recipients 2025

Congratulations to the following recipients of our 2025 scholarships! As you enter into a new phase of your life, may God be your guide.

Recipients of the Agnes P Neel Scholarship:

James Miller - Clemson University - Major: Economics

Camryn Stissel - University of Florida - Major: Mechanical Engineering

John Robinson - UNC Charlotte - Major: Investment Banking

Recipients of the Cora Freeze Scholarship:

Alana Creech - UNC Chapel Hill - Major: Psychiatry

Karli Rockness - Messiah University - Major: Registered Dietician

John Miller - Clemson University - Major: Sales/Sports Marketing



Welcome New Members!

In April we welcomed and celebrated new members to our congregation! Pictured left (top to bottom) are:

(11:15 service, left to right) Donna & David Miles, Courtney & Will Mosely (children- Mary, Elinore, & Margaret)

(10am service, left to right) Michael & Meg Sileo (son- Evan), Justin & Allison Neff (they have 2 children not in the picture- Leo & Adaylyn).

(8:30 service, left to right) Saleena Boles (+ family members to her right; they did not join; just joined her for the picture).



Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Brandon and Jessica Abernathy on the birth of their baby Campbell Louise Abernathy on April 29, 2025. Grandparents are Steve and Jane Abernathy, and big brother is Greyson.

You're Invited! Baby Shower for Moses & Jordin Camacho-Greer

Join us in celebrating the upcoming arrival of Moses and Jordin's baby! It will be on Saturday, May 17, 1:00 - 3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall & Courtyard. Come and go as you're able! Light refreshments will be provided and there will be a time of prayer over the family. Please bring a box of diapers (sizes 1-4) to enter the diaper raffle! For those who'd like to bless the family in other ways, their registry can be found at: my.babylist.com/jordin-camacho-greer. Optional RSVP: greerjo@me.com.



You're Invited! Guest Speaker & Dinner

You are invited to join Sunday evening (5/4) in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm for dinner. It will be immediately followed by a program with our guest speaker, Emmanuel Muhammed.

Spirit Night at Barcelona Grill!

On Thursday, May 8, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, Troop 1166 is raising money to help with camperships (Scouting scholarships) for Scouts needing financial support and other Troop equipment needs. Please join us for a night out of good food!

Youth Summer Camp Fundraiser

Do you have a specific job or yardwork that needs to be done? If so, some of our youth are willing to help you in exchange for a donation towards their summer camp trip to South Carolina on June 2nd-6th!

Please contact Zeb Nelson (our Youth and Young Adults Director) at zeb@mooresvillefpc.org if you would like to make a request. He will reach back out to you, and if possible connect you with some students to do the job. Thanks so much!

VBS Donations

BUZZ on by and grab a bumble bee from our VBS bulletin board in the Fellowship hall. Each bee has an item or items you can choose to donate towards our MAGNIFIED VBS this summer. We are asking that all donations be delivered to the front office by June 10th. Any questions, please contact Melissa Foulke melissaf@mooresvillefpc.org.

Saturday Morning Women's Bible Study

We warmly welcome all women to join us on Saturdays @ 7:15am! On Saturday, April 26th we began a deep dive into the Book of Isaiah, which has been called "The Mini Bible", each of its 66 chapters corresponding to one of the 66 books of The Bible. The first 39 chapters of Isaiah concern the Judgment of God and the last 27 chapters concern the Blessing of God, corresponding to the 39 books comprising the Old Testament and the 27 books comprising the New Testament, respectively.

"The Wiersbe Bible Study Series: Feeling Secure in the Arms of God" and its companion commentary "Be Comforted" will guide the study. For more information, contact Denise Tidball via the church office.

Saints Alive

This month will be our last Saints Alive lunch until we meet again in September. Bob Amon will be joining us as our guest speaker and in honor and memory of the 80th anniversary of WWII. Bob will be sharing stories from veterans; both local and from FPC.

Join us for "Where were you on the day the war ended." Lunch will be held in the Fellowship Hall starting at 12:30pm. Cost is \$10 per person. You can RSVP to the church office, on the church website or to Melissa Foulke melissaf@mooresvillefpc.org.

STEWARSHIP

Giving your time, your talents, and your tithes to God's work...



PRAYER: *Lord, I want to be called, sanctified, willing and submitted. Help me to be set apart for you.*

Set Apart - 2 Timothy 2:14-21

What is holiness? Many people think we become holy by the eradication of something evil within. No, we become holy by being separated unto God. In Old Testament times, it was when a man was chosen by God to be altogether His that he was publicly anointed with oil and was then said to be "sanctified." Thereafter he was regarded as set apart to God. In the same manner even animals or material things – a lamb, or the gold of the temple – could be sanctified, not by the eradication of anything evil in them, but by being thus reserved exclusively for the Lord. "Holiness" in the Hebrew sense meant something thus set apart, and all true holiness is "(Holy To The Lord)" (Ex 28:36). I give myself over wholly to Christ: that is holiness. Presenting myself to God implies a recognition that I am altogether His. This giving of myself is a definite thing, just as definite as reckoning. There must be a day in my life when I pass out of my own hands into His, and from that day forward I belong to Him and no longer to myself.

Called, sanctified, willing and submitted, we are available to God for his use. Author and Christian spiritual writer Evelyn Underhill (1875-1941) tells us that we must be available for whatever use God has for us.

Sometimes our positions seem to be that of tools; taken up when wanted, used in ways which we had not expected for an object on which our opinion is not asked, and then laid down. Sometimes we are the currency used in some great operation, of which the purpose is not revealed to us. Sometimes we are servants, left year in, year out to the same monotonous job. Sometimes we are conscious fellow workers with the Perfect, striving to bring the kingdom in. But whatever our particular place or job may be, it means the austere condition of the workshop, not the freelance activities of the messy but well-meaning amateur; clocking in at the right time and tending the machine in the right way. Sometimes, perhaps, carrying on for years with a machine we do not very well understand and do not enjoy; because it needs doing, and no one else is available. Or accepting the situation quite quietly, when a job we felt that we were managing excellently is taken away. Taking responsibility if we are called to it, or just bringing the workers their dinner, cleaning and sharpening the tools. All self-willed choices and obstinacy drained out of what we thought to be our work; so that it comes more and more God's work in us.

Message from your Stewardship Committee
Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Chinese evangelist and martyr Watchman Nee (Page 1594)

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hey everyone,

As the school year is coming to an end soon, we as a youth ministry are very thankful for all the Lord has done so far this year, and we are also excited for all that He is going to do this SUMMER!

A large group of our middle and high school students will be traveling to South Carolina for a FUGE summer camp from June 2nd - 6th. Thank you to everyone who supported us in our fundraising efforts for that camp at the bake sale! Your generosity has made it possible for many students to be able to afford going on that trip! Please pray that God will use our week at camp to draw all of us closer to Him in mighty ways. On top of this, some of our students will be going to the Dominican Republic this summer for a Filter of Hope mission trip under the

leadership of Dan Davidson! I am so grateful that our young people have the opportunity through our church to be a witness to the nations. God used our mission trip in January to Guatemala in such a powerful way, and I believe He is going to do even more with this next one!

FYI, I included some pictures of our most recent youth events: Devos & Desserts for the girls AND Guys Night for the boys! I love seeing our student leaders be bold and lead devotionals for their peers!

Lastly... I am hyped to announce that we are bringing back SUPPER CLUB for the summer!! Tell your friends now! Parents/students there will be more information to come on that soon in the weekly Refresh Youth emails.

Dates to be aware of:

- May 4th: Our 8th graders are being confirmed in the church on Sunday morning!
- May 18th: Our high school graduates will be celebrated at 11:15am in a combined Graduation Sunday service! Our youth group end of the year party will take place on this day as well!

Blessings,
Zeb Nelson



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

May is here and with it comes all of the end of the year fun. We are looking forward to ending the year strong.

Currently we are still seeking Sunday School helpers for both our Toddler class and our Preschool class for the summer months. If you are willing and able to help, please reach out to Melissa Foulke or Jessica Stanley ASAP! (contact info below)

What's Happening This Month:

- 1. May 18th - Senior Sunday.** This Sunday we celebrate our graduating seniors. We will have 1 service at 11:15am. Our Sprouts ministry/child care will be open for children kindergarten and younger for this service.
- 2. May 18th - Church Picnic.** After the 11:15am service we will be having our spring church picnic. We will meet at Cornelius Road Park in Mooresville. Lunch is provided, consider bringing a side dish or dessert to share.
- 3. June 1st - Promotion Sunday.** On June 1st we will celebrate promoting our incoming Kindergarteners all the way up through MS. Our promotion comes with.... a PANCAKE BREAKFAST for our Kingdom Kids!! Our incoming Kindergarten children will join us for their first Sunday in Kingdom Kids.

We have invited the Middle schoolers to join us so we can send off our 5th, now 6th graders with prayers and blessings! If you would like to provide a topping or some fruit we would love that, just let Melissa or their current Sunday School teacher know.

SUMMER HELP NEEDED:

We have over 40 faithful volunteers who serve from August - May. We are seeking volunteers to serve this summer in either June or July so that our regular Sunday school teachers can take a season to rest and come back in August recharged and excited to serve another year.

If you are willing to serve and would like more information on our current needs please reach out to Melissa Foulke melissaf@mooresvillefpc.org or to our nursery coordinator Jessica Stanley Jstanley1215@gmail.com.

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 class) Fish room

Preschool (our 3-5 year olds) Duck Room

Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

Drop off - Fellowship Hall

Pick up - 3rd floor



Children's Sunday School Hour: 10am - 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 is our 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 teachers will guide their classes to the third floor for their age group bible lesson.

Any 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.

Classrooms and Teachers: Sunday Mornings

K-1 - Room 324

Sunday Teachers: Andrea Abele, Lucy Hastings, Rachel van Harn, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

2-3 - Room 322

Sunday Teachers: Rick and Denise Tidball, Kathryn Coates, Bill Denis

4-5 - Room 309

Sunday Teachers: Jodi Rockness, Camryn Stissel, Kelly Coyle, Karli Rockness



MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Confirmation Sunday with Communion 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 5:30pm Dinner & Missions Event	4 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	5 6:00pm Handbells Rehearsal	6 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
Mother's Day 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee 6:30pm HS Refresh Youth Value Village Formal 7:00pm Finance Committee	11 2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Personnel Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	12 10:00am Circle 4 Meeting 12:30pm Circle 5 Meeting 6:00pm Circle 3 Meeting	13 14 Last Day for MWF Preschoolers 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
Graduation Sunday 10:00am Sunday School 11:15am Combined Worship 12:15pm Church Picnic 2:00pm Prayer Shawl Team 5:00pm Congregational Care Council Meeting 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	18 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	19 12:30pm Saints Alive Luncheon	20 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 6:30pm Session Meeting 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	25 Office Closed- Memorial Day	26	27 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1		2	3
7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal		7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study	
9:15am Preschool Letterland Parade 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	9:15am Preschool Letterland Parade	7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study	10
Last Day for TTh, MTTh, TWTh & 5-Day Preschoolers 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	Preschool Graduation Ceremony for Rising Kindergarteners 12:00pm Hope Mobility	7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study	17
7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal		7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study	24
7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal		7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study	31

BIRTHDAYS

5/1- Lisa Fries, Maggie Jones, John Lynch
5/2- Margaret Curtis, Corinne Sink, Jack Seyller
5/3- Alix Davis, Ethan Foulke, Philip Heilman
5/4- Dave Culler, Michael Sileo
5/5- Melissa Foulke, Richard Mack, Jack Robinson
5/6- Kim Streb, Jay Trimble
5/7- Connie Russell
5/8- David Meehan, Julie Morrow
5/10- Amara Reid
5/11- Ted Mikels
5/12- Nora Fillnow, Susan Kendall, Aubrey Stevens
5/13- Margaret Auten
5/14- Marshall Crouch, Jr., Elizabeth Nanney
5/15- Mary Mason, Charlie Robinson, Ron Welsh, Emily Zwolinski
5/16- Joseph Campbell, Thomas Kirkland, Dale Miller, Jackson Woods
5/17- Sarah Crofts, Glyn Powell
5/18- Carole Crews, Lisa McCutcheon, Brawley C. Nanney, Tee Stanley, Montyne Winokur
5/19- Spencer Cox, John Merrill, Claire Slusser, Allen White
5/20- Tom Kirkland
5/21- Rachel Faulkenberry, Jaden Winebarger
5/22- Preston Washburn
5/23- Meredith Kavanaugh, Joe Robinson, Kinnon Rockness, Gabriel Solomone
5/24- Barbara Nelson, Jennifer Robinson
5/25- William Rumble, Marjorie Schnicker
5/26- Roger Hyatt, Elizabeth Jones, Jacob Rumble
5/27- Elisa Cox, Will Hall, Susan Poore, Dave Rockness
5/28- Adalyn Neff
5/29- Aimee Culler, Matthew Sidorovich, Victoria Waugh
5/30- William Mosely, Laura Wright
5/31- Sophie Poirier

PRESCHOOL

A Message from Mrs. Tracey



I cannot believe May is upon us and our school year is about to come to a close. We have enjoyed watching your little ones grow in so many ways. Your children have certainly blossomed like the springtime flowers. They have learned their colors, shapes, numbers and letters. They've learned how to walk through our hallways with quiet walking feet and bubbles in their mouths. Your children have practiced sharing, taking turns, sitting in Circle Time and how to be a good friend. I hope you saw the love of Jesus through our teachers. They are a dedicated team and they have enjoyed being a part of your child's education.



Letterland Parades

Our Letterland Parades are scheduled for May 8th & May 9th at 9:15am. Dress your child in his/her favorite Letterland Costume.

Outfits must be functional to wear at school, as we will not be

changing clothes. Parents may join us in the car line area in order to cheer us on!

Last Days of School

May 14: Last day for MWF students

May 15: Last day for MTTh, TTh, TWTh and 5 day students

Graduation Ceremony

Our Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 16th in the Fellowship Hall for all rising kindergarteners. Parents will drop off their children in the car line by 9:00am. Our ceremony will begin promptly at 9:15am. To our families with Graduates, it has been an honor having your children with us. We are sad to see them leave, but we are blessed to have been

a part of their early learning. We are confident they are equipped with the skills to be successful in kindergarten. You have been a part of our family and for that, you have our heartfelt thanks.



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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

May 2025



ECO

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