

JULY 2026

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! 250 YEARS OF OUR NATION

UPCOMING: VBS WEEK! HOW TO SUPPORT & PRAY

PASTOR'S LETTER

““And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

- 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)”

Dear Church Family,

As we move deeper into the summer months, we are beginning a new sermon series entitled *Encounters with God*. After ten heavy weeks in Judges through our series *Trending vs. Truth*, this next series should feel a bit less dark in tone, but no less rich in substance. We will turn our attention to transformative moments in the Gospel accounts-places where ordinary lives were interrupted, renewed, and redirected by the presence of Jesus.

Because summer often brings travel and shifting routines, this series is designed so that each message can stand on its own while still contributing to a larger theme. Whether you are here every week or in and out during these months, my prayer is that each encounter will invite us to understand Christ more clearly and be changed by Him more deeply.

On a personal note, this has also been a season of great joy for our family as we celebrated the marriage of our fourth daughter, Kailie, to Steve. We are deeply grateful for a church family that has been such an integral part of her life and of our celebration. To see family and friends gathered from so many different walks of life was a gift we will treasure for a long time.

We are also thankful for Pastor Moses and his wife, Jordin, whose faithfulness and partnership have helped shoulder the preaching load this past month. Their ministry has been a blessing, and I continue to be grateful for the many ways God provides for His church through the gifts and service of His people.

I hope your summer is going well! It continues to be a joy to serve alongside you in ministry!

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dare Rockness



STEWARDSHIP

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

PRAYER: *God and Father, I know that I can trust that you will supply what I need. I pray that my trust will result in true contentment.*

The Contented Steward - *Philippians 4:10 – 13*

The apostle Paul's contentment is legendary. This often-quoted text reflects the unquestionable trust Paul had that God was able to provide whatever he needed in any circumstance, and that it was always enough. Puritan minister and theologian Thomas Watson (1620-1686) defines this kind of contentment.

1. Contentment is a divine thing; it becomes ours, not by acquisition, but infusion; it is a slip taken off from the tree of life, and planted by the Spirit of God in the soul; it is a fruit that grows not in the garden of philosophy, but is of heavenly birth; it is therefore very observable that contentment is joined with godliness ... 2. Contentment is an intrinsical thing; it lies within a man; not in the bark, but the root. Contentment hath both its fountain and stream in the soul. The beam has not its light from the air; the beams of comfort which a contented man has do not arise from foreign comforts, but from within ... 3. Contentment is an habitual thing; it shines with a fixed light in the firmament of the soul. Contentment doth not appear only now and then, as some stars which are seen but seldom; it is a settled temper of the heart ... It is not casual but constant.

Theologian Mark Allan Powell relates contentment to stewardship...

When we are faithful stewards, trusting in God to provide us with what we need, we will have better and more satisfying lives. We can go deeper and recognize that trust implies not only absence of something negative (anxiety) but also the cultivation of something positive... We not only trust God that we will have enough to get by; we trust God that we do have enough, already, right now. We have enough to be the people God wants us to be and to have the lives God wants us to have.

Devotional writer Donna Huisjen recounts the following story that drives home the concept of contentment in our modern world:

Last fall an advertisement appeared on a double billboard close to my home. One side pictured a young girl wrinkling her nose in protest against the cottage cheese and Jell-O "pink stuff" on her family's overly abundant Thanksgiving table. The adjoining billboard featured a little girl walking along a windswept sidewalk, hand clasped in that of an adult. I remember precisely what was being endorsed: a local homeless shelter. The faces on both sides of the billboard were unhappy, but one was dirty and pinched rather than peeved. The girl at the Thanksgiving table suddenly came to symbolize for me the "enemy" that is too often us. She became the unwitting representative of all in our culture that is selfish, pampered, demanding and complacent. Satisfaction, the comparison reminded me, is truly relative.

**Message from your Stewardship Committee
Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Theologian Mark Allan Powell (Page 1558)**

REFRESH YOUTH



Dear Church Family,

I want to say thank you to each of you who supported us on our 2026 FUGE Camp trip! Whether you sent a child with us, gave money to sponsor a student, volunteered long hours to serve, or simply prayed for us, we could not have done it without you!

It was truly an amazing week of ministry, and lots of fun too. Four students from our youth group surrendered their lives to Jesus... Praise God!!! On top of this, our kids stepped out of their comfort zones by sharing the gospel in the streets, serving widows, and intentionally praying over one another. I am in awe of the faithfulness of our God! I humbly ask that you join me in continuing to pray for our students post camp. Pray specifically that they continue to “fan into flame” the fire that the Holy Spirit lit inside of them amidst that special week. 2 Timothy 1:6 “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.”

We have a lot of exciting things that are happening in July, so here are some important dates to be aware of:

July 5th... Pickleball Night
July 13th-17th... VBS week
July 8th... Supper Club @ Dairi-O
July 12th... Bonfire Worship Night
July 22nd... Supper Club @ Cook Out
July 26th... Lake Day
July 31st... Rowan Revival Night
August 9th... Promotion Sunday! (Incoming 6th graders join us)

Blessings,

Zeb Nelson

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

What's Happening This Month

Tithes and Offerings - Continue to go to our mission to help The Seed Company. We will be doing this through the month of July.

Bible Memorization: This summer the children will be memorizing Psalm 23 as we study it throughout the summer. We will be sending home a memorization plan so the children can aim to memorize a section every week or two weeks and can say it without help by the end of the summer.

Opportunities to Serve:

Summer Sunday School:

Please bring your children to check in at the regular time.

Kingdom Kids (K- 5th) will then go to the worship portion of the service with you. Before the Sermon volunteers will walk them over to the Fellowship Hall where they will have a lesson on Psalm 23 as well as a craft or a game. We will also work on memorizing Psalm 23. You can pick up your Kingdom Kids in the Fellowship Hall - please check out with an adult. *Leaders will not take children to the Fellowship Hall if they do not have a name tag, so please check them in before you head to the service.*

Sprouts Ministry: Regular check in, but will have one preschool classroom this summer (Duck Room) as well as our nursery.

VBS:

July 6-9 we will be getting everything organized for VBS. Filling nametag holders, sorting bandanas, filling first aid supplies and more. If you are willing and able, please come any time between
Monday/Wednesday - 9am and 2 pm
Tuesday/Thursday - 12pm and 4pm

Sunday July 12 is DECORATING DAY! Join us for lunch following the 11:15 service, and help us transform the church into a winter wonderland.

Be in prayer throughout VBS week for the Lord to use us to touch the lives of the children who come as campers and to touch the lives of the almost 60 volunteers who will be serving throughout the week.

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.

SUMMER SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sprouts Ministry (0 - Preschool) 2nd floor

0 - 23 months: Nursery room

Toddlers: Our 2's-4's class Duck room

Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

K- 5 will meet together after the worship portion of the 10:00 service. Children will have a lesson together in the Fellowship Hall.

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.

JULY 2026

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

			1 2:30pm Prayer Meeting
5 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 6:30pm Combined Refresh Youth	6 Office Closed- Observance of Independence Day Holiday 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	7	8 2:30pm Prayer Meeting 6:15pm VBS Volunteer Training
12 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee 6:30pm Combined Refresh Youth	13 9:00am VBS 2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Personnel Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	14 9:00am VBS 10:00am Circle 4 6:00pm Circle 3	15 9:00am VBS 2:30pm Prayer Meeting
19 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 2:00pm AED/CPR Training & Refreshment 2:30pm Prayer Shawl Team 6:30pm Combined Refresh Youth	20 6:30pm Missions Committee 7:00pm Finance Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	21	22 2:30pm Prayer Meeting
26 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 6:30pm Session Meeting 6:30pm Combined Refresh Youth	27 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	28	29 2:30pm Prayer Meeting

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

2 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	3	4 7:15am Men's Bible Study
9 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	10	11 7:15am Men's Bible Study
16 9:00am VBS 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	17 9:00am VBS	18 7:15am Men's Bible Study
23 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	24	25 7:15am Men's Bible Study
30 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	31 3:00pm Youth Event	

BIRTHDAYS

7/1- Eric Estes, Chuck Hunter
7/2- Carolyn Brawley, Noah Hutto, Betty Pearce, Pete Peterson
7/3- Kathryn Coates, Ralph Herring, James Couturier, Cameron Sledge, Rick Van Harn
7/5- Juliana Morrow, Mary Mosely
7/6- Brian Cole, Ann Manning
7/7- John Grimes, Celia Putnam
7/10- Erin Micklow, John Morrow, Patrick Stutts
7/11- Jeffrey Brawley, Joshua Davis, Lynette Roberts
7/13- Hayden Estes
7/14- Meg Sileo
7/15- Justin Neff
7/16- Madeleine Waugh, Matthew Windsor
7/17- Tom Rhyne, Ezra Seyller, Donna Welsh
7/18- Trevor Potts, John Robinson
7/19- Kathleen Patterson, Gary Roach
7/20- Catherine Campbell, Jacob Johnson
7/21- Jackson Schaen
7/22- Katie McIntosh
7/23- Saleena Boles, Nolan Lynch
7/24- Allison Neff, Verna Whalen
7/25- Marilyn Beaver, Marian Dillingham, Michael Linen
7/26- Ellen Auten, Riley Rumble
7/27- French Brawley, Caroline Howard, Jordan Magnusson
7/28- Jordyn Timberger
7/29- Emory McNeely
7/30- Graham Weaver

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.74
Mooresville, NC

Address Service Requested

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

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

July 2026



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians