SEPTEMBER 2025

firstpress



UPCOMING: HOLIDAY TEA, SAINTS ALIVE & MORE

JOIN US THIS FALL: WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER!



PASTOR'S LETTER

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." – Hebrews 6:19-20

Dear Church Family,

What are the things you hope for in life? Perhaps it is the security of a healthy family, fulfillment in work/career, or something as simple as physical health. You may hope that your financial investments, consistent workout program, and parenting tactics pay off down the road. If you're into sports, you hope that your team wins against their big rival. If you're planning a beach vacation, you hope for a week of decent sunshine. We have our things we hope for, yes?

At the same time, hope often carries with it a certain level of doubt. Although you may really hope to nail down your outdoor project on Saturday, there are many aspects in life that you cannot control- an unexpected visitor, bad weather, a sprained ankle, or an illness. We can often find ourselves using the term "hope" as wishful thinking rather than a certain expectation.

Our next sermon series will address the biblical concept of hope. Biblical hope conveys confidence. It is a certain expectation based on a sure foundation. Hebrews 11 states, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." This type of hope often feels elusive in a broken world filled with uncertainties. As we work our way through the book of Hebrews, my desire is to help you see that biblical hope is a reality and not a feeling.

That's right, there is absolutely no doubt attached to biblical hope! Biblical hope provides a sure foundation upon which we can base our lives. Scripture tells us that faith in Jesus provides an anchor for the soul! It provides assurance that God is in control and that His promises can be trusted. In a world that can shake a person's confidence, I pray that this upcoming sermon series can further strengthen in you a deep-rooted, biblical sense of hope.

It continues to be a privilege to service alongside you in ministry! May the Lord bless you as we enter this fall season.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating 150 Years

"The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." - Psalm 126:3

As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church (on November 16th), the Prayer Team invites you to share your stories of God's faithfulness- personal experiences, cherished church memories, or moments where God has shown His provision, grace, and love to or through FPC. We want to give God all the glory!

Your stories will be lifted up as a praise during our weekly Prayer Team meetings on **Wednesdays at 1:30**, leading up to the anniversary.

3 ways to share your praise anytime (through November 9th):

- 1. Place it in the **Prayer Box** (Sanctuary or Coffee Shop)
- 2. Email to laurawright133311@gmail.com or welshrd318@gmail.com
- 3. Give it to any **Prayer Team member**: Margaret Auten, Brent & Margaret Curtis, Christy Floyd, Damaris Fullwood, Amy Hamilton, Lorra Lee Holshouser, Roger Hyatt, Lisa McCutcheon, Clay Scholer, Donna Welsh, Laura Wright

We hope you'll remember God's faithfulness at FPC and even share a story around your dinner table. Share as many praises as you wish - we would love to hear them all!

Story Ideas to Inspire Praise:

- **Provision:** Times God provided financially, supplied volunteers, or met ministry needs in unexpected ways.
- **Blessing through ministry:** Ways a program, ministry, or member at FPC blessed your life or the community.
- Faith nurturing: Seasons when God's faithfulness strengthened your faith through worship, study, discipleship, or fellowship.
- Personal encounters: Any special ways God has met you or shown His love through FPC.
- Looking forward: Prayer requests for God's purposes and future at FPC.

Great is His faithfulness! We can't wait to praise God for all He has done.

"I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds." - Psalm 77:11-12

Saints Alive

Welcome back to another amazing year of Saints Alive. On the 3rd Tuesday of every month (September - May) we meet for a time of fellowship and fun. Lunch costs \$10 a person. RSVPs are asked on or before the Sunday prior to Saints Alive.

This Falls line up is fantastic; you aren't going to want to miss it! I cannot wait to see you all again and enjoy your company.

Saints Alive

September 16 - 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Nate Sentas - Sharing about his work with Campus Outreach

October 21 - 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Meredith Whitlow - Benefits of Music Therapy for all ages

November 18 - 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Hope Mobility - a special needs missions overseas

December 16 - 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Advent Concert with David Hamilton

ATTENTION LADIES-SAVE THE DATE!

Holiday Tea and Brunch

SATURDAY. NOVEMBER 15TH. 2025 #30AM-200PM

Allow the love of Christ to fill your heart anew with hope for the season ahead!

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER



Wednesday Nights Together - Fall 2025

Our Vision

As we begin a new season of Wednesday Nights Together (WNT), it's good to pause and remember what this ministry is all about. At First Presbyterian Church, WNT is more than a program — it's a rhythm of life together. Each Wednesday, we gather as one body to share a meal, worship, and dive into God's Word in community.

WNT fulfills our church's mission through **dynamic worship experiences**, **dinner together**, **and a discipleship path for spiritual growth**.

Our heart for WNT is threefold:

- **Fellowship** sharing life together over a meal and in relationships that build up the body of Christ.
- Worship centering our hearts and voices on the Lord who calls us into His presence.
- **Discipleship** offering classes, Bible studies, and groups that equip every generation to grow in faith and live out the gospel.

When we as a staff asked, "Why WNT?," we realized it reflects the very values of FPC Mooresville:

- Intergenerational Fellowship church family togetherness across all ages and stages.
- Intentional Community embracing diversity, breaking bread, and worshiping to glorify God.
- Livable Bible Learning upholding God's Word and applying it in daily life.
- **Christ-Centered Growth** deepening our relationship with God so He can shape us into a gracious, generous, mission-oriented community.

By gathering midweek, we renew our strength in Christ, encourage one another, and walk the path of discipleship side by side. Whether you are new or have been here for years, WNT is an open door to connect, grow, and belong.

Fall 2025 Schedule

September 10 – December 3

- 10 weeks of Bible Studies & Classes
- 2 Worship Nights: October 15 & December 3
- 1 Break: November 26 (Thanksgiving)

What to Expect on a WNT Evening:

- 5:00–5:30 PM Children & Youth Music Opportunities
 - Children's Choir (ages 4 3rd grade)
 - Youth Choir (4th 6th grade)
 - Praise Team (7th 12th grade)
- 5:30 PM Dinner together (suggested donation \$5/person, \$20/family max)
- 6:20 PM Dismissal for programs (childcare available)
- 6:20–7:30 PM Children, Youth, and Adult Offerings
- Quarterly Worship in Sacred Spaces (3rd grade-adult, childcare available)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER

Adult Offerings - Fall 2025

Romans Bible Study - Pastor Moses Camacho-Greer

Join Pastor Moses in a journey through Paul's letter to the Romans. This study will provide both a big-picture overview and practical discussion, helping us see how the Gospel of God's righteousness transforms our lives today. Expect interactive teaching, biblical context, and conversation that connects Romans to our modern walk of faith.

Bethel Bible Series (New Testament) - Rev. Fred Coates

Fred will continue leading participants through the Bethel Bible Series, focusing on the New Testament. This class will offer tools to understand Scripture more deeply, connect Old and New Testament themes, and strengthen your ability to interpret God's Word faithfully.

Discipleship Essentials - Rev. Dave Rockness

Using *Discipleship Essentials* by Greg Ogden, Pastor Dave will guide participants through a practical discipleship journey. This group emphasizes growing in Christ through study, accountability, and shared spiritual practices, equipping you to live out your faith and invest in others.

Lost & Found Women's Bible Study – Jodi Rockness & Amy Hamilton

This Fall, the women's *Lost & Found* group will dive into the book of Daniel—discovering who we are, who we worship, and how it all points to Christ. Resources will include Anne Graham Lotz, Shane J. Wood, the Bible Project, and Spoken Gospel. Jodi and Amy will co-lead in the Performance Coffeehouse café area. (*Note: the morning session of Lost & Found will resume in the new year.*)

Being Prepared: Life & Financial Issues as We Age - Judy Daniel, Liz Lumadue, and Rick Tidball

Drawing from resources such as the PBS special *Being Mortal*, this class will help participants think biblically and practically about aging, end-of-life planning, and caring for loved ones. Topics will include wills and trusts, care facilities, and preparing for life's later seasons with wisdom and faith.

Young Adults & Young Families - Michelle Stissel

A space for young adults and young families to connect, grow, and encourage one another in faith. Led by Michelle, this group will focus on biblical study and discussion with practical application for navigating early adulthood, marriage, parenting, and discipleship in today's world.

Children & Youth Programs

Children's Ministry - led by Melissa Foulke

Kids (ages 2 through grade 5) will engage with *The Biggest Story* curriculum through Bible study, crafts, and activities designed to help them know and love God's Word. Childcare is available for infants through preschool.

Youth Bible Study - Zeb & Sarah Nelson

Middle and high school students will gather for study, fellowship, and discipleship. Zeb and Sarah will guide students in exploring Scripture and living out their faith in community.

Whether you're seeking fellowship, teaching, or worship, there's a place for you at WNT this Fall. Come hungry for dinner, bring your Bible, and join us as we grow together in Christ.

PRAYER: God, I do not own anything. It is all yours. Show me how much I should keep for myself and what I should give back to you.

Giving to the God Who Has Everything

Psalm 50:1-23

We've heard or asked it again and again: "What do you give the person who has everything?" The very need to frame this question should alert us that something is wrong in our society. Psalm 50, though, teaches us how to give to God who does indeed have everything.

As Christians, we have much to learn from God's judgement in verses 7-16 against the "religious" community. The Lord does not rebuke these people for failing to meet his minimal requirements for sacrifices and offerings (v. 8). Instead, God reproaches them for blatant sin and ingratitude (vv. 17-20).

So, how do we give to the God who has everything? By giving to those who have nothing (see Mt 25: 44-45) and by praising him for his blessings to us (see 2Co 8:9). Devotional writer Selwyn Hughes (1928-2006) makes an important point about the sacrifice of generosity prompted by gratitude:

If in reality we don't own our possessions, then the obvious thing is to acknowledge this in a prayer to God. Have the sense to say to God, "I am not the owner, I am the ower." A businessman said, "I've prospered in my business; now my task is to know how much I can keep for my own use." That's the right order. How much can I keep for myself? For everything I needlessly spend on myself is taken from some other person's need.

The successful person has learned how to make money, but the significant person has learned how to give it away – how to be generous, to share the blessings of money with those who are in need or those who help meet a variety of social and humanitarian needs.

The successful person has achieved great things – sadly sometimes at the expense of others. He or she is proud of what has already been accomplished. The significant person understands that the greatest thing anyone can accomplish is to serve others and to help them achieve their goals.

Finally, successful people have attained a measure of status. Others look up to them and maybe even see them as role models. We often discover later that those who have become our role models let us down ... In direct contrast, the significant person is one who values relationships. They become trusted friends and invaluable mentors, and they invest their time in others rather than in striving to build status.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear Church Family,

School is back, which means we are also back on a more consistent schedule for Refresh Youth! While our summer was amazing (we went to camp, held pool parties, and traveled far for mission trips), I am excited to begin some "normal" rhythms again with our students.

Going forward, you can expect us to hold youth group on most Sunday nights from 5pm-6:30pm for middle schoolers and 7pm-9pm for high schoolers (exceptions: holidays or special events).

We also will be gathering weekly as a youth group at 5:30pm on Wednesdays with the rest of our church for WNT (Starts on September 10th). This semester, our youth will be breaking off into small groups on Wednesdays for student led Bible study! Instead of listening to an adult leader teach the whole time, we are equipping our students to learn how to read the Bible for themselves, understand what it is saying, and apply the truths of Scriptures to their lives!

Please join me in praying for our youth ministry throughout this school year! We witnessed the Lord move through us in miraculous ways last year to bring students to Himself, and we are praying that He will do it in even greater measure in the 2025-2026 school year. Our theme verse for the year is Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." May we hunger and thirst for more of Jesus Christ as a youth ministry as we are entering this new season.

Important Dates:

September 10th: WNT Kick Off

September 21st: Combined Youth Bowling Night

October 24th: 5th Quarter Event @9:30pm-12am (We are

partnering with FCA)

November 7th: Combined Youth Revival Night

*I send out a weekly email every Monday to our youth group parents/students with the updated schedule for that specific week, please let me know if you want to be added to that list if you are not on it already. Thanks!

Blessings, Zeb Nelson











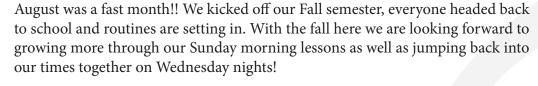






CHILDREN'S MINISTRY





What's Happening This Month:

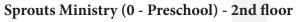
- **1. We need HELP!** Our WNT sprouts ministry needs some extra helping hands. If you are willing to serve 1x or 1x a month on WNT in our 0 2's class, please reach out to melissaf@mooresvillefpc.org. We cannot provide this act of loving service to our young families without you!
- **2. September 7-** Our second graders will receive their Bibles during the 10:00am service.
- **3. September 10** WNT kicks off!! See WNT details below for more information.
- **4. Children's Ministry Bulletin Board** We have a bulletin board in the fellowship hall with the monthly bulletin, updates, important dates and information. Feel free to check it out throughout the month for reminders and information.



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



0 - 23 months - Nursery room

Toddlers (our 2's and 3's class) Duck room

(Teachers: Ms. Allison, Ms. Melissa)

Preschool (our 4-5 year olds) Bear Room

(Teachers: Ms. Margaret, Ms. Lily)



Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

Drop off - Fellowship Hall Pick up - Fellowship Hall K-1st Grade Room 322

(Teachers: Ms. Lucy, Ms. Andrea)

2nd-4th Grade Room 324

(Teachers: Mr. Rick, Ms. Denise, Ms. Kathryn, Brother Bill)

4th-5th Grade Room 309

(Teachers: Ms. Courtney, Mr. Will, Ms. Jodi, Hatten)



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 children will divide by grade and head to their classes on the 3rd floor with their teachers. Please pick up your K-5th graders from their classes on the 3rd floor.

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

Wednesday Night Together

Choir 5pm - 5:30pm

Please check your children in before heading to their choir classes. Children ages 5 years old - 3rd grade will meet in the choir room Children 4th grade - 12th grade will meet in the sanctuary

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 - Duck room

Elementary children will once again be working through "The Biggest Story"

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.

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 Office & Preschool Cloesd-Labor Day 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	2	1:30pm 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	9:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	9 10:00am Circle 4 Meeting 6:00pm Circle 3 Meeting 6:00pm Handbells Rehearsal	10 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT Kickoff 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm Finance Committee 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	12:30pm Saints Alive Luncheon 6:00pm Handbells Rehearsal	17 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 2:00pm Prayer Shawl Team 5:00pm Congregational Care Council Meeting 6:00pm Combined Refresh Youth-Bowling	Preschool Closed 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	23	24 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT
8:30am 28 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	7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	30	

CALENDAR

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

THURSDAY

THORSDAT		SATURDAT
7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	5	7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study
Preschool Picture Day 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	Preschool Picture Day	7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study
18 Preschool Fire Safety Day	19 Preschool Fire Safety Day	7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	26	7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study

BIRTHDAYS

9/1- Noah Fleming, Bill Lackev

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- John Donelson, Sue Stevens

9/12- Sandra Blalock, Angela Carpenter, Pat King, Caroline Ladd

9/13- Marsha Cornelius

9/14- Walt Jones, John Neely, 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, 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

9/25- Caroline Micklow

9/26- Rose Sink, Maddie Teeter

9/29- Jerry Bickett, Andrew Merrill, Faye Wright

9/30- Ross Culp

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

September 2025

