

FEBRUARY 2026

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



STARTING SOON! WEDNESDAY NIGHT TOGETHER

UPCOMING: MEN'S BREAKFAST, SAINTS ALIVE & MORE!

PASTOR'S LETTER

**“But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.”
James 1:22**

Dear Church Family,

I am so grateful for the gift of a study leave to spend time in Scripture, pray, and listen for the Lord's guidance. During this time, God allowed me to prepare our next two sermon series, including the one we have just begun from the book of James entitled *Everyday Faith*.

James offers us a beautifully practical picture of what it means to live out the gospel in our daily lives. His words are simple yet searching—filled with questions that stir the heart, illustrations that ground us, and bold truths that spark deep reflection. Life can be messy, noisy, and seem overwhelming, yet James invites us not to shrink back from the hard places. Instead, he encourages us to face life's challenges with a steadfast faith, trusting that God meets us right where we are and shapes us through everyday trials and struggles. He speaks with a pastoral tone, using familial language that reminds us that we are living out our faith as a family of believers. The James sermon series will take us up to Easter.

Post Easter, we will begin a sermon series from the book of Judges entitled *Trending vs. Truth*. Judges present a sobering picture of a world shaped by cultural relativism, where “everyone did what was right in their own eyes.” Though this comes from Old Testament times, the patterns we see there are far from outdated—they mirror many of the tensions believers face today. We live in a culture that often competes with biblical values and challenges the church to live faithfully against the grain. I believe this series will offer rich insight and timely encouragement as we seek to anchor our lives in God's revealed truth rather than the shifting trends around us. This series will carry us through the month of June.

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

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



WEDNESDAY NIGHT TOGETHER RETURNS THIS SPRING!

Wednesday Night Together (WNT) is returning this spring, and we're excited to invite our church family into another season of fellowship, worship, and discipleship for all ages.

Spring 2026 WNT runs from February 11 through April 29, offering eight weeks of classes, bookended by meaningful worship gatherings and shaped by rhythms that allow space for rest and reflection.

The semester will include:

- **Opening Worship Night:** February 18 (*Ash Wednesday*)
- **Closing Worship Night:** April 29
- **No WNT:** March 11 (*Spring Break*) and April 1 (*Holy Week*)

Each Wednesday evening begins with **children and youth music opportunities from 5:00–5:30pm**, followed by a **family-style dinner at 5:30pm**. After dinner, **children, youth, and adult programs meet from 6:20–7:30pm**, creating space for learning, conversation, and connection across generations.

Adult Classes This Spring Include:

- **Livable Theology: Understanding Our Beliefs and Why It Matters** – Pastor Moses
- **Bethel Bible Series: Continuing the New Testament** – Rev. Fred Coates
- **Discipleship Essentials – Final Part** – Pastor Dave Rockness
- **Lost & Found Women's Bible Study: Abide (1–3 John)** – Jodi Rockness
- **Young Parents Bible Study & Fellowship** – Michelle Stissel & Amy Petrenko

Children will continue engaging *The Biggest Story* curriculum through Bible study, crafts, and activities designed to help them know and love God's Word. Youth will gather for Scripture study, fellowship, and discipleship, growing together in faith and community. WNT is more than a midweek program — it's a shared rhythm of life where we gather at the table, open God's Word, sing together, and grow as disciples of Jesus alongside one another.

To learn more about Wednesday Night Together or to see class details, visit moorevillefpc.org/wednesday-night-together.

Are you or someone you know interested in teaching or helping lead a group for a future WNT? Please contact me at moses@moorevillefpc.org.

For Christ and His Kingdom,

Pastor Moses

An Invitation to the Men of Our Church

Over the past several months, I've been praying and thinking about the men of our church—how we can better connect, encourage one another, and grow together as men of faith.

Toward the end of last year, I reached out to a wide group of men across our church—spanning many ages, stages of life, and seasons—to simply gauge interest in men's fellowship and discipleship. The response was incredibly encouraging. There was a strong return of interest and a shared heart to see something meaningful take shape for the men of our church.

Before COVID, there were rhythms like men's breakfasts, retreats, and gatherings throughout the year, and I'd love to see something like that begin to grow again—built slowly, intentionally, and together.

As a first step, I'd like to invite the men of our church to a **Men's Breakfast**:

Saturday, February 28, 2026

9:00 am

143 Broad Street 2026

This will be a relaxed, come-as-you-are gathering—time to eat, connect, pray together, and begin dreaming about what men's fellowship could look like moving forward. Nothing formal, no program—just brothers around the table.

If you're able and willing, we would love help **donating breakfast items** or **serving one another through cooking, coffee, and setup**. One of the hopes for this ministry is that it's something we build together through shared life and simple acts of hospitality.

Looking ahead, my heart is to see a fellowship of men that meets throughout the year in meaningful and accessible ways—whether that's breakfasts every 3 months, small groups, service opportunities, retreats, or simply finding ways to enjoy life together.

That might even include some **after-church, low-key sporting events**—kickball, soccer, or ultimate frisbee out on the field by the parking lot (affectionately known as *Narnia Field*). Nothing competitive or intense—just a chance to laugh, move, and spend time together as men and families... unless we win then YES, LET'S GO!! *Insert trophy acceptance speech here*

If any of this stirs something in you—whether you're eager to participate, help serve, or help shape what this becomes—I'd love to hear from you. This is very much an invitation and an ongoing conversation as we prayerfully discern what God might grow among the men of our church in 2026.

More details will be shared soon. For now, mark your calendar for February 28—and know that you are invited.

(and if this message reaches you and you are interested and willing in helping and participating in some way, then shoot me email and let's talk about it!)

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Moses

Associate Pastor of IG Ministry & Christian Education
moses@moorevillefpc.org



STEWARDSHIP

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

PRAYER: *Lord, in all my relationships, help me to act with a goal of submission and love.*

Rules of Love - Colossians 3:1- 4:6

In this chapter Paul has drawn the outline of the new self that each Christian is to put on. It is a self ruled by the love of Jesus (see Col 3:14), characterized by forgiveness, harmony, peace and thanksgiving. Paul's overarching rule of life is that every word and every deed be done in the name of Jesus (see Col 3:17). Following such a rule affects our outlook on life. We begin to wake each morning with the sense that we are serving Jesus himself. It is this rule of love that Clement of Rome (c. 40-c. 97), a first-century contemporary of the apostles, describes.

Who can describe the (blessed) bond of love of God? What man is able to tell the excellence of its beauty, as it ought to be told? The height to which love exalts is unspeakable. Love unites us to God. Love covers a multitude of sins. Love beareth all things, is long-suffering in all things. There is nothing base, nothing arrogant in love. Love admits of no schisms: love gives rise to no seditions; love does all things in harmony.

The rule of love is to applied, Paul implies, in the stewardship of all of our relationships, both outside the family – in public and in work life (see Col 3:22 – 4:1, Eph 6:5-9 – and within the family (see Col 3:18 – 21, Eph 5:22 – 6:4).

Families exemplify harmony when people have a goal of submission to one another (see Eph 5:21): wives esteem and honor their husbands; husbands cherish and value their wives and work to meet their needs; children are cooperative and teachable; parents discipline with gentle love – encouraging their children toward growth in health, wisdom and maturity. The family is the custodian of the image of the Triune relationship revealed to us in Jesus Christ, who is the only true example of life's highest ideal.

(The family) is the one institution in which it is possible to say “we” without any loss of individuality. It is each for all and all for each, as is never the case in a secular society and seldom in a religious society. To say “we” and to mean it, is a very great spiritual achievement for the nominative plural is the noblest of the personal pronouns. A family in which each does what he can, each receives what he needs, wholly without financial calculation of earning or merit, represents the highest known ideal, our only true approximation to the Kingdom of God, yet countless families, made up of fallible persons, demonstrate this ideal in great measure every day of their lives.

But Paul isn't finished. In his further instructions, he says that putting on Christ means that Christians are to be people of prayer, giving thanks (see Col 4:2). Only with prayer are harmonious relationships possible.

Message from your Stewardship Committee
Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Quaker author, philosopher & theologian D. Elton Trueblood (Page 1566)

SAINTS ALIVE 2026

January 20 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Bob Amon shares the history of the circus

February 17 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Fitness in February with Sharon Culp

March 17 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Lenten Service with David Hamilton

April 21 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Andy Poore shares more about FPC history

May 19 12:30pm - 1:30pm

TBD

Welcome back to another amazing year of Saints Alive. On the 3rd Tuesday of every month (Sept - 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. Our Next Saints Alive will be on Tuesday February 17th with Sharon Culpp. Sharon will come and show us a variety of exercises (mostly seated exercises) to help with strength and balance.

Time: 12:30 - 1:30pm

Location: Fellowship Hall

RSVP: by February 15



PRESCHOOL

Football Fever Days

Help us get ready for the Super Bowl! Wear your favorite team jersey, colors or sports-themed shirt on February 5th and 6th. We want to see your team spirit!

Preschool Closed

Preschool will not be in session on Monday, February 9th. MGSD is closed, so we will be closed as well. Teachers will spend the day preparing for upcoming conferences and reviewing assessments.

Parent Conferences

We look forward to meeting with you for our Parent Teacher Conferences. Our conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, February 10th. Preschool will not be in session that day to allow the teachers to meet with parents individually.

Valentine's Day Parties

We will celebrate our friendships on Valentine's Day. Please have your child dress in Valentine colors. We will have fun exchanging valentines with one another. Please keep a lookout for more information about the valentine exchange from your child's teachers. Our Valentine's Day parties are scheduled for February 12th and 13th. We will feel "lovely" those days!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



VBS SAVE THE DATE!

More information about volunteering and registration will come soon!

What's Happening This Month!

Tithes and offerings- each week we collect tithes and offerings during Kingdom Kids. We also talk about where we would like our offerings to go. This month the children will be filling baby bottles. Our goal is to fill 3 baby bottles. They can bring in change or dollar bills to Kingdom Kids each week and we will fill as many baby bottles as we can!

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 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: 3rd Floor Classrooms

K-1st Grade - Room 322

(Teachers: Ms. Lucy, Ms. Andrea, Ian)

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 11:15am will be brought to the second floor childcare room (Duck room) so that our teachers can get to church on time.**

WNT will kick off on February 11th!

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 - 7:35pm

Sprouts ministry - Childcare

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 7:30pm.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!

February 18 is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of the Lenten season. The forty days of Lent ends with the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, April 5th. The observation of Lent is not a biblical mandate, but it has been my experience that participating in a Lenten themed devotion or Bible study can make your walk with Christ meaningful and the celebration on Easter Sunday more joyful.

On **February 18 at 6:30pm** we will gather in the sanctuary for an Ash Wednesday worship service with communion and the imposition of ashes. The imposition of ashes is a time for repentance, prayer, and renewal as we prepare our hearts for the Lenten season. It is a reminder of our need for God and that we are dust and to dust we will return. We return to dust, but we have hope in Jesus Christ our Savior through whom we have eternal life because of what He did on the cross. The chancel choir will lead us in worship with *Create in me a clean heart*. This anthem is based on Psalm 51:10-13. I pray this song will be our theme for the service as it calls us for spiritual renewal, repentance, and a restoration of the joy our salvation in Jesus Christ!

On Sunday, January 11 Laura Rumble began her service as interim Contemporary Worship Leader. I am grateful for Laura and her leadership and look forward to having her share her gifts and talents with our church. I am also grateful for Kerri Smith. Kerri served the church faithfully and I am grateful for her. She had a heart for loving and worshiping God every Sunday.

David Hamilton



Advent
Recital 2025



Amahl and the Night Visitors 2025

Saint-Saens Christmas Oratorio 2025

Dear Church Family,

Thank you kindly for your warmhearted welcome as I begin my term as Interim Worship Leader at FPC. I am genuinely grateful for the words of encouragement some of you have already shared.

This next season will be a one of change. Together, we will be navigating some new systems that we believe will refresh our worship experience. Our goal is God-centered worship that is both inviting and inclusive. To be inviting, we will strive for excellence that glorifies God, inspires His people, and is (hopefully) sonically pleasing. To be inclusive, we want to open up opportunities for musicians and singers who are ready to jump in and serve in contemporary worship, as well as provide training opportunities for those who may not yet feel ready and could benefit from encouragement and guidance.

My role is not to sing for you, but to lead you in worship and to equip you in your musical growth when necessary. My desire is to serve our congregation well and to provide meaningful and inspiring opportunities for you to use your voice and musical gifts to glorify our Savior. If you feel ready to use your musical gifts, please email laura@moorevillefpc.org, and we will begin the conversation.

If you have feedback as we make progress together, I wholeheartedly welcome your suggestions, questions, and concerns. These may also be shared by emailing laura@moorevillefpc.org.

Your sister in Christ,

Laura Rumble

YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear Church Family,

I hope you are all doing well! My deepest gratitude goes out to each of you who have been supporting our youth ministry lately through praying, sponsoring students for trips, and providing food on Sunday nights. We feel deeply loved and would not be able to do what we are doing without your sacrificial generosity! I can assure you that none of your support is in vain, as we continue to watch the Lord produce real fruit in our youth.

Some highlights from this past month include: a few students placed their faith in Jesus for the first time at youth group, a new student leader preached at Mooresville high school FCA, many students have become more open in confessing their sins/praying with each other, and we have had lots of first/second time visitors!

Nevertheless, this is a crucial time of the year for youth ministry, so please keep praying for us! Lots of our students are beginning to experience burnout from school, winter depression, and more demanding extracurricular schedules. If you ever run into some of our youth on Sunday mornings or in the community, I encourage you to simply ask them "How are you really doing? And how can I be praying for you?" Those two questions go a long way! The next generation is longing to be seen, heard, and valued.

There are still a few students who are in need of financial assistance to attend our Youth Spring Retreat to Snowbird. If that is something you would like to help give to, please let me know (zeb@moorevillefpc.org). The cost is \$200 per student. God bless you!

Sincerely,

Zeb Nelson

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

<p>1</p> <p>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</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 116-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1:30pm Prayer Meeting</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee 6:30pm Combiend Refresh Youth- Super Bowl 7:00pm Finance Committee</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Preschool Closed 2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Personnel Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 116-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Preschool Parent Conferences- no classes 10:00am Circle 4 12:30pm Circle 5 5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:00pm Circle 3 6:30pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT Begins</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 3:00pm Prayer Shawl Team 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30pm Missions Committee 7:00pm Personnel Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 116-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Chapel 12:30pm Saints Alive 5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Ash Wednesday 1:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT- Worship Night</p>
<p>Chili Cook-Off Day 22</p> <p>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</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 116-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Dental Health Presentation 1:30pm Prayer Meeting</p>

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>5</p> <p>Preschool Football Fever Day 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Preschool Football Fever Day</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Workshop</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Preschool Valentine's Day Parties 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Preschool Valentine's Day Parties</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Workshop</p>
<p>19</p> <p>6:00pm Cub Scouts Track Setup 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:00pm Scouts Test 'n' Tune Race</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Workshop</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30am Preschool Dental Health Presentation 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study</p>

BIRTHDAYS

2/1- Houston Brawley, Sarah Sholar
2/2- Parker Duncan, Katherine Potts, Seth Snodgrass
2/3- Carolyn Poteat
2/4- Bailey Abernathy
2/5- Kathy Ballard
2/8- Eugene Chenyl
2/10- Jim McDonnell, Sherry Noe, Terry Skeen
2/11- John Robertson, Crystal Teets
2/12- Jane Abernathy, Maddy Robinson
2/13- Maddie Copeland, Greta McCrea, Jack Stanley
2/15- Madison Magnusson
2/16- Caleb Foulke, Debbie Hunter, Steve Waugh
2/17- Amanda (Mandy) Abercrombie, Barbara Bryan, Lisa Davidson, Melinda Myers, Victor Petrenko
2/18- Amy Barnhardt, Muriel Lovett, Ginger Rogers
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

REFRESH YOUTH SAVE THE DATES

February 1st
COMBINED Refresh Youth
(GAME NIGHT)

February 11th
WNT Starts Back Up

March 13th-15th
Snowbird Youth Spring Retreat

May 3rd
Confirmation Sunday

May 17th
Graduation Sunday
(High School Seniors)

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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

February 2026



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians