

OCTOBER 2026

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



UPDATES: LEGACY CAMPAIGN & SEARCH TEAMS

THIS MONTH! JOIN US FOR OUR FALL CHURCH PICNIC!

PASTOR'S LETTER

“I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.... For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.”
1 Corinthians 3:6, 9 (NIV)

Dear Church Family,

As I think about this season in the life of our church, Paul’s words are especially meaningful. Many faithful people are planting, watering, serving, praying, and giving- and through it all, God is bringing growth. I am grateful for the spirit of partnership and trust that is so evident among us.

Please Pray for Our Search Teams

Three search teams are now in place and beginning their work: one for our music director, one for our youth director, and one for a part-time AVL position. Please keep each team in prayer as its members listen carefully, discern faithfully, and seek the people God is preparing for these important areas of ministry.

While these searches move forward, I am deeply thankful for those who are serving so generously. Robbie Pearson continues to hold our music ministry together as interim director. Many volunteers have stepped forward to support and lead our youth, and we have been encouraged by the support being received across each of these ministries. These faithful responses are a beautiful reminder that ministry belongs to the whole church.

Please pray for our search teams, for the ministries continuing in the present, and for the future staff members whom the Lord is even now preparing for a new calling among us. May God grant wisdom, patience, unity, and a clear sense of direction throughout this process.

Legacy Campaign Update

I am also pleased to share a brief update on Phase 1 of the Legacy Campaign. Our pledge goal was \$1.85 million. Including the Fronnie Gardner gift, commitments have now surpassed \$2 million, and we have nearly \$1.6 million in hand. Because of your generosity, we are positioned to begin many of the planned projects, and you will soon start to see tangible results.

One early sign of progress will be the arrival of a loaner organ, which we expect to receive sometime between now and Christmas. Please keep our Property Committee in prayer as its members oversee the details, make careful decisions, and help guide this work forward.

Thank you to the many people whose generosity has made this progress possible. Caring for and maintaining the facilities entrusted to us is an important expression of good stewardship. These spaces support worship, discipleship, fellowship, outreach, and ministry to generations yet to come.

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

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Dave



STEWARDSHIP

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

PRAYER: *Lord, thank you for the freedom you have bestowed on me. I pray that others will experience your freedom too.*

The Truth Will Set You Free– John 8:32,34

Jesus is saying these things to the “Jews who had believed him” (John 8:31). Steeped in their history and not understanding the deeper level at which Jesus spoke, they did not yet understand that he himself would free them from sin. He was, as he would say later, “the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:6).

Early church father Augustine (354-430) elaborates on the freedom that is found in Christ:

Let us all flee to Christ. Against sin let us appeal to God, the giver of freedom. Let us request to have ourselves put up for sale that we may be redeemed by his blood. For the Lord say, “You were sold for nothing, and without money you shall be redeemed.” Without payment, without your payment, because by mine. The Lord says this; for he gave the payment himself, not silver, but his own blood. For we had remained both slaves and in need ... The Lord alone, then, sets (us) free from this slavery; he, who did not have it, himself sets (us) free from it.

Because Jesus Christ has set us free, we are free to live and work as agents of God in the kingdom of heaven. Evangelical theologian R. Schott Rodin explains what that freedom involves:

First, we are freed for service to God. This freedom comes in our yielding all lordship to God alone. It is a freedom from the pressures and attitudes that draw us in a vicious cycle of claiming lordship over our own kingdoms that we might find meaning there, only to find that the more lordship we claim, the less meaning we really experience ...

Second, we are freed for true love of self ... To be freed to love ourselves is to be freed to see ourselves in God's eyes. What a freedom this is! We no longer see ourselves (in the abstract) but as children of God – redeemed, forgiven, embraced, empowered, and called into service. Our self-worth is wholly wrapped up in our vocation as stewards in the one and only kingdom that claims our allegiance ...

Third, we are freed for service to our neighbor ... If we are free, if we are stewards in God's kingdom, then our lives are God's gift to us to invest in service to our neighbor. We make this investment joyfully, regardless of the temporal costs, because we know that all we have ahead of us is life. How else can missionaries invest decades of life in our world's most hostile areas than if they see their lives from an eternal perspective? How else can we consider sacrificial service than if we have understood our lives as a gift to be stewarded and in that sense to be given back to a world in need of the transforming grace of God?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Help Us Launch a Young Families Sunday School Class

We are exploring the possibility of offering a Sunday School class for young families on Sunday mornings at 10am, and we're looking for people who may be interested in helping lead or facilitate it.

You do not need to be an experienced teacher or Bible scholar! We can provide studies, videos, discussion guides, and other resources to make leading the class approachable and rewarding. Whether you could help regularly, serve as part of a rotating team, or simply want to learn more, we would love to hear from you.

This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage young families, help them build relationships within the church, and grow together in faith.

If you may be interested (or would like more information) please speak with Rev. Moses Camacho at moses@moorevillefpc.org! There is no commitment required at this stage; we are simply gauging interest.

Refresh Youth

Our youth had a worship night, 100% led by youth- worship, testimony, prayers, and lesson. Please keep our young people in prayer as our church begins a search for their new youth leader.



JUST A THOUGHT...

What Do You Have?

Rev. Moses Camacho-Greer

Mark 6:30-52; Mark 8:1-38

In Mark 6 and Mark 8, Jesus encounters two enormous crowds of hungry people. He sees them with compassion and tells his disciples to feed them. The disciples see only the impossibility of the situation. There are too many people, too few resources, and no obvious solution. Their instinct is to send the crowd away. But Jesus asks a simple question: “How many loaves do you have?”

In other words:

What do you have? Bring it to me.

What the disciples offer is clearly not enough. Yet Jesus takes it, blesses it, breaks it, and places it back into their hands. The disciples carry the food to the people, returning to Jesus until everyone has eaten and been satisfied. Afterward, they collect twelve baskets of leftovers from the feeding of the five thousand and seven baskets from the feeding of the four thousand. Jesus could have fed the crowds without the disciples. He could have placed bread directly into every person’s hands. Instead, he chose to include his disciples. **He made them participants in his compassion and partners in his work.**

Yet even after witnessing these miracles, the disciples still did not understand. When they later worried because they had brought only one loaf, Jesus asked them, “Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?” They had seen his power, carried his provision in their own hands, and gathered the leftovers—and still had not fully grasped who Jesus was or what it meant to follow him.

That question should stop us in our tracks:

Do we not yet understand?

I confess that I sometimes find myself sighing deeply in my spirit, as Jesus did in Mark 8:12. I look at the needs around us and grieve—not because a schedule is incomplete or because an institution needs free labor, but because so many opportunities to embody the love of Christ remain unanswered. A relatively small group of people continues to serve, often giving far more than was initially asked, while many others remain disconnected from the shared work of the body.

Consider only one example: our ministry to children. If every person in our congregation who is able and available offered to serve for just one Sunday, the schedule could potentially be filled for years. Yet in some areas, the same few faithful servants rotate week after week. This simply should not be so among the people of Christ. We should be careful here. People pass through seasons of illness, caregiving, grief, exhaustion, and other genuine limitations. Some also serve Christ faithfully in ways that are quiet or unseen, both inside and outside the church. This is not an invitation to judge one another’s circumstances.

It is, however, an invitation for each of us to examine ourselves honestly before the Lord.

Can a member of Christ’s body ever say, “I have done my time, and now I am finished”? Our roles may change. Our strength may diminish. The form of our service may look different in various seasons. But

while God gives us breath, is there ever a season in which we are released from loving, encouraging, giving, praying, and serving?

Scripture reminds us that each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Our lives—including what we have done with the gifts, time, opportunities, and mercy entrusted to us—matter eternally. This truth is not intended to drive us into fearful activity or to suggest that we earn salvation through volunteering. We are saved by grace. But that same grace transforms us into people who follow the Servant King. Faith that has truly received Christ's love cannot remain permanently closed to the needs of others.

Immediately after Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ, Peter rebukes him for speaking about suffering and death. Jesus responds with sobering words: "You are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." Then Jesus calls the crowd and his disciples to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him.

Peter wanted Jesus without the cross. We must ask whether we sometimes want something similar: Christ's comfort without his call, his provision without participation, his church without responsibility, and his kingdom without self-denial.

But Jesus did not come to be served. He came to serve and to give his life for many. Following him therefore cannot mean remaining lifelong consumers of what others provide. The church is not merely a place where we come to be fed. It is a people through whom Christ feeds others.

Perhaps we hold back because we feel unqualified, assume someone else will do it, believe our contribution is too small, or think we have already given enough. The disciples' offering was small too. Jesus did not ask whether they had enough. He asked what they had—and whether they would place it in his hands.

One day we will stand before Christ in his glory. What will we say about the lives, gifts, strength, and opportunities he entrusted to us? Where did we join in his compassion? Whose burdens did we help carry? Whom did we welcome, teach, encourage, protect, or serve? What did we do when his body had need?

These are not questions for "someone else." They are questions for every disciple, including me.

Jesus still looks upon people with compassion. He still calls his disciples to take part in his work. And he still asks us:

What do you have?

May we not harden our hearts or turn away. May we place what we have in his hands, receive what he gives back, and carry it faithfully to those he has called us to serve.

Pastor Moses

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Thank you to the FPC Preschool teachers for sharing so much of their fabulous classroom fun with us throughout the week.

What's Happening This Month:

October 18 - Church picnic at Cornelius Road park following the 11:15am service.

October 14 - WNT Worship night

There are no classes. Children K and up will attend the worship night with their families. Childcare will be provided 0 - PreK.

October 28 - WNT - Costume night

Join us in any costume (no weapons and nothing too scary please). We will have a costume parade after dinner.

Check in for Nursery - 12th Grade

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: 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 - 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 6:20pm - 7:30pm

Sprouts ministry - Child care will be provided for 0 - preschool in the Duck Room on the 2nd floor.

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

What We're Learning

Autumn brings so many learning opportunities such as apple tasting, leaf hunting, looking for pumpkin attributes and seeing God's hand in the fall foliage. We also have a few classes camping in the classroom and learning about spiders and insects.

Original Art

Our Fall fundraiser this year transforms your child's artwork into custom keepsakes. These are great gifts for Christmas and will be back in plenty of time to wrap them up and put them under the tree! The artwork and order forms were sent home in September and are both due back with your payment to us by Friday, October 9th.



Farm Days

During October, we get "Down on the Farm." We explore animals that live on the farm, how crops grow and what farmers do on a farm. To celebrate our learning, we have a farm petting zoo visiting us on October 8th and 9th. Dress like farmers or your favorite farm animal those days! We look forward to a cock-a-doodle good time!



Fall Break

Preschool will be closed October 12-16th for Fall Break. This is a great time for picking out pumpkins, jumping in the leaves or going on a family hike. Enjoy this break and we will see you back on Monday, October 19th.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 29th is our Parent-Teacher Conference Day. Sign-up sheets have been sent home and your teachers will confirm a time with you after fall break. Please note - Preschool will NOT be in session that day to allow time to discuss our students' progress with all our parents.

Mark Your Calendars

October 5: Library with Mrs. Crystal
October 8 & 9: Farm Days
October 9: Original Works Fundraiser Orders Due
October 12-16: Fall Break, Preschool Closed
October 19 & 20: Chapel with Pastor Moses
October 29: Parent-Teacher Conferences, Preschool Closed
October 30: Preschool Closed



MUSIC MINISTRY

Many of you may not know me so let me introduce myself. I'm Robbie Pearson and am currently serving as Interim Director of Chancel Choir as we begin the search for a new Director of Music Ministries. I've served in music ministry for almost 50 years as organist, pianist, and director of adult, youth and children's vocal, handbell, and instrumental choirs. I'm delighted to be leading our Chancel Choir as we sing our faith and would like to share opportunities for you to join our music ministry.

Opportunities to Sing Your Faith – Chancel Choir is a diverse group that loves to sing and serve in our Music Ministry. We're also a small group with singers who aren't able to be at every rehearsal or be in worship every Sunday to sing so we need additional singers. Here are several options:

Full Time Choir Commitment: For singers who would like to join Chancel Choir and are available to attend most weekly rehearsals and sing in worship as many Sundays as possible. Rehearsals are at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room following WNT.

Short Term Choir Commitment: The Advent/Christmas season is a great opportunity for singers who would like to sing during this special season. Rehearsals for Advent/Christmas begin on September 30 at 7:30 p.m. immediately following WNT. Initially we'll rehearse for 30 minutes, and as we approach Advent and Christmas, rehearsal time will be extended. You may also choose to sing only for our Christmas Program/Worship on Sunday, December 13 at 11:15 a.m.

Occasional Instrumental Commitment: We occasionally have a need for instrumentalists to play with the choir, as a solo or small group instrumental ensemble. This is another great way to share your gift of music that doesn't require a long-term commitment. Please let me know what instrument(s) you play and if you're willing to play on occasion. All instruments are an option: Brass, Strings, Woodwinds, Percussion (both drums and handheld global percussion).

I invite you to prayerfully consider sharing your gift of music full time, for a short-term commitment, or just on occasion.

Contact: *Robbie Pearson, Interim Director of Music, robbie@moorevillefpc.org; 704-560-9978*



Save the Date

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2026
11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary

"Darkness to Light"
Chancel Choir & Praise Team
Christmas Program

*from a voice crying in the wilderness
to the glorious light of Christ*

A few scripture passages about music...

*"The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his
handiwork." – Psalm 19:1*

*"For you shall go out in joy and be led
forth in peace; the mountains and the
hills before you shall break forth into
singing." – Isaiah 55:12*

*"And it was the duty of the trumpeters
and singers to make themselves heard
in unison in praise and thanksgiving to
the Lord." – 2 Chronicles 5:13*

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 2:00pm Circle 2 Meeting 6:30pm Combined Refresh Youth	7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	6:30pm Cub Scouts	2:30pm 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 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting	Preschool Closed- Fall Break 2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	Preschool Closed- Fall Break 10:00am Circle 4 Meeting 12:30am Circle 5 Meeting 6:00pm Circle 3 Meeting	Preschool Closed- Fall Break 2:30pm 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 12:30pm Church Picnic 12:30pm Christian Ed Committee Meeting 2:30pm Prayer Shawl Team 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 7:00pm HS Refresh Youth	6:30pm Missions Committee Meeting 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 9:00pm Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B	12:30pm Saints Alive Luncheon 6:30pm Cub Scouts	2:30pm 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 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	6:30pm Cub Scouts	2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

BIRTHDAYS

1 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	2	3 7:00am Men's Bible Study
8 9:00am Preschool Farm Day 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	9 9:00am Preschool Farm Day Preschool Picture Day	10 7:00am Men's Bible Study
15 Preschool Closed- Fall Break 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	16 Preschool Closed- Fall Break	17 7:00am Men's Bible Study 10:30am Worship Training
22 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	23	24 7:00am Men's Bible Study 4:00pm Rehearsal 7:00pm Worship
29 Preschool Parent Conferences- no classes 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	30 Preschool Closed	31 7:00am Men's Bible Study

10/1- Fred Coates, Angie Toma
10/2- Paul Manning, Paige Rider, Teresa Trimble
10/4- Luz Heilman, Daniel Moore, Judy Roach, Beth Sink
10/5- Robbie Pearson
10/6- Hans Pluer, Liz Lumadue, Kate Woods
10/7- Debbie Lackey, Camryn Stissel
10/8- Anne Baker, Lisa McNeely, David Williams
10/9- Scott Knutsen, Anya Mack
10/10- Mark Childers, Beth Hall, Millie Milam
10/11- PJ Decastro, Adam Holman, Beth Riefner
10/12- John-Patrick Justice, Laura Rumple
10/14- Liam Campbell, Don Copeland, Carson Schaan
10/15- Tina Brooks, Sarah Cook, Tony Ervin, Austin Russell, Angela Willard, Ron Zanetti
10/16- Richard Hall, Shannon McIntosh, Bill Morrow, Ian Robb
10/17- Moses Camacho-Greer, Cadence Culbreth
10/18- Joanne Chaplinsky, Matthew Hutto
10/19- Brad Chappell, Tate Potts, Abigail Snodgrass
10/20- Stoney Culler
10/23- Trenton Newell
10/24- Allyn Ramsey
10/26- Audry Harris, Michael Zwolinski
10/27- Jae Teeter
10/28- Jack Barrett, Justin Foulke, Liam Hodges, Jackson Trimble
10/30- Amelia Christman, Taylor Dickerson, Hatten Hodges, Natalie Meehan
10/31- Carolyn Holhouser, Tracey Prochaska, Mike Toma

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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

October 2026



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians