

APRIL 2026

first press

A MOORESVILLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION



HAPPY EASTER FPCM FAMILY! HE IS RISEN!

SERVE THIS SUMMER! SUNDAY SCHOOL, VBS & MORE...

PASTOR'S LETTER

“...all the people did what was right in their own eyes...” - Judges 17:6

Church family,

This spring we will begin a new sermon series through the book of **Judges** entitled *Trending vs. Truth*. At first glance, Judges is an intimidating book that may seem archaic and irrelevant. However, as we dig into it, I believe that you will find Judges to be highly relatable and deeply challenging. This book presents a historic narrative of a people caught in a cycle of compromise, confusion, and spiritual drift. Yet through every chapter, Scripture reveals to us the faithfulness of God and His relentless grace toward His people.

Each week we will explore the struggles faced by Israel as they were deeply pulled in every direction by a culture that was blind to the one True God and blatantly disregarded the moral values set forth by His Word. It's a story that will sound familiar because it is a story that eerily mirrors our own. The book of Judges doesn't just reveal the dangers of “doing what is right in our own eyes” (cultural relativism)— it points us toward the hope of a true King, a greater King, who leads us in what is good, right, and lifegiving.

We begin on **April 12** with a message titled “**Couldn't or Wouldn't?**” from Judges 2:1–5. I am looking forward to walking through this powerful and relevant book together as we discover how God's unchanging truth speaks into the trends and pressures of the world we live in today.

It continues to be a joy to serve alongside you in ministry here at FPC Mooresville!

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Dave Rockness

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saints Alive

Our Next Saints Alive will be on Tuesday April 21. Andi Poore will be joining us to share more about the history of FPC. Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 12:30 - 1:00pm. Lunch is \$10 per person.

Please RSVP to
melissaf@moorevillefpc.org.

Time: 12:30 - 1:30pm
Location: Fellowship Hall
RSVP: by April 21



SAINTS ALIVE 2026

March 17 12:30pm - 2:00pm
Lenten Service with David Hamilton & Meredith Whitlow
(Please RSVP to Moses by March 15)

April 21 12:30pm - 1:30pm
Andy Poore shares more about FPC history

May 19 12:30pm - 1:30pm
David and Melinda Vail - Sing along



STEWARDSHIP

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

PRAYER: *Lord, help me to pass the "money test." Give me only what I am willing to steward in such a way as to please you.*

How to Pass the Test - Revelation 3: 14 – 22

The natural water supply in Laodicea was neither hot, like the springs of Hieropolis to its north, nor cold, like the springs of nearby Colosse, but rather it was a tepid and lazy stream. The church in Laodicea was wealthy, but spiritually it was like its water supply: lukewarm, because the people didn't feel they needed God. In the eyes of God, Laodicea had been tested and found wanting.

Money may also serve as a test – financially, practically, and spiritually. The writer of Proverbs grasped the significance of this truth when he wrote, "(Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the Lord?" Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God)" (Pr 30:8-9). Thomas Carlyle, the British historian and essayist, said, "Adversity is hard on a man, but for one man who can stand prosperity, there are a hundred that will stand adversity. Prosperity is a test that most people cannot pass."

The church at Laodicea is a case in point. Founded in 250 B.C., Laodicea became famous for its fertile fields, beauty, and wealth. The city served as a center for banking and finance, even minting its own coins. By the latter part of the first century, when the book of Revelation was written, the Laodicean church had apparently grown accustomed to this affluence, putting material wealth ahead of spiritual needs ... The Laodiceans allowed wealth to replace faith, and thus failed the test of prosperity.

Today, our faith faces a practical test each year when it comes time to fill out our tax return ... When you look at your tax return, it's easy to gauge your spiritual perspective. For example, how much you spend on interest compared to how much you give says a lot about what you believe. You get a tax deduction for the interest as well as the charitable contributions– but only the interest deduction points to a lifestyle funded by debt. Look at your deductions. Do you take a greater deduction for interest on debt than you do for your charitable giving?

Ethicist and religion scholar Allen Verhey gives the antidote for a Laodicean mind-set: A person's life – or a community's life – does not consist in the abundance of possessions, and it cannot be secured by accommodating the claims of Domitian (the emperor) and so living comfortably. A person's life consists rather in celebrating the enthronement of the Lamb who was slain. Such a celebration frees the Christian person and community from conventional standards of prosperity and power, frees them not to be anxious and to be generous, and frees them to dream – at least – of a good future where justice dwells.

Message from your Stewardship Committee
Excerpts from NIV Stewardship Study Bible
Christian financial planner, author and CEO Ron Blue (Page 1674)

YOUTH MINISTRY



Dear Church Family,

I want to thank each of you who gave generously to support our Youth Spring Retreat to Snowbird. We were blessed to be able to bring 21 students with us on the trip, and that would not have been possible without your generosity and prayers! It was truly an impactful time of worship, prayer, fellowship, and Christ centered discussions for everyone who was there.

There is a lot going on in our youth ministry right now, so here are all the important updates to be aware of:

April 4th... Family Easter Celebration (Youth Volunteers Needed!)

Our church is hosting our annual family Easter Celebration on April 4th! With that being said, we are in need of youth volunteers to help make this event happen. Please reach out to me or Melissa Foulke (melissaf@moorevillefpc.org) if you are able to be there! **We are willing to sign for service hours if needed!**

April 5th... No Refresh Youth (Easter Sunday)

May 3rd... Confirmation Sunday

May 17th... Graduation Sunday (High School Seniors)

June 15th-19th... FUGE Camp 2026 at Regent University

At the request of many students, we are going back to FUGE Camp this summer! The Lord has already met so many of us at FUGE in



miraculous ways, and we are expectant for what He is going to do again this summer!

If you are interested in signing up yourself or your child for FUGE Camp, then please let me know by **May 1st** (you can email me or tell me in person)! Keep in mind... **I secured 30 spots, so we will be registering on a first-come first-served basis.** I will send more information about the specific retreat details later to the group of you that have confirmed you are able to attend!

Basic Information About FUGE Camp:

-Dates: June 15th-19th, 2026

-Location: Regent University at Virginia Beach, VA (5 hours away from the church)

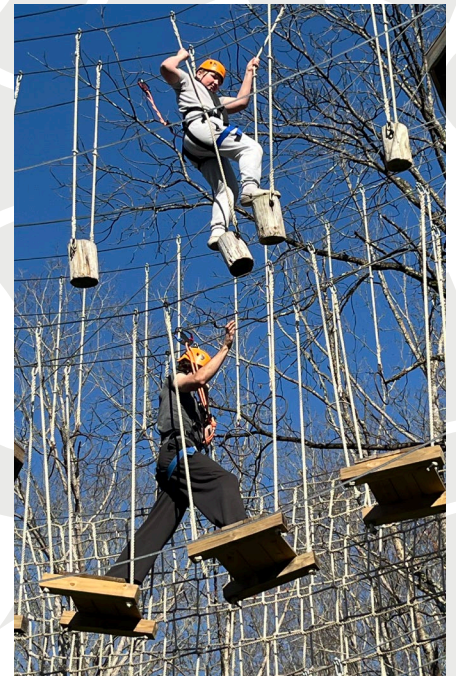
-Price: \$450 per student (there will be fundraising opportunities to help with the cost!)

-Both middle and high school students are welcome to join us

-We are doing Mfuge this year (this means that our group will spend part of everyday doing mission work in the local community)

Church family, please let me know if you have any yard work/jobs that you would be willing to have our students do for donations towards their summer camp trip! We are in need of support again to make this trip affordable for everyone.

Blessings,
Zeb Nelson



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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 continue to give towards the Seed company. An organization who translates the bible into other languages.

April 4 - Family Easter Celebration

Join us on April 4th from 9:30 am - 11:30am for our family Easter celebration. Preschoolers will have an egg hunt on the playground while our Elementary school children will have games and activities on the field. Remember to bring your own basket!

April 13 - VBS Camper registration

Come join us for an incredible week at SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE where we will learn how God is our strength in all circumstances! Campers must be 4 years old on or before July 12 2026 in order to participate.

Volunteer registration is still open - Volunteers with children under the age of 4 can sign their children up for our jr. VBS. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Melissaf@moorevillefpc.org.

Opportunities to Serve:

Summer Sunday School:

We are seeking a minimum of 12 volunteers to serve in either June or July to help us keep our Summer Sunday school program running smoothly. IF you are willing to serve this summer as a teacher or assistant teacher please let Melissa know as soon as you are able.

VBS:

We will have a variety of crafts/decorations we will need created. You can come to church at your leisure or take items home to work on them there. More information on when these crafts will be available for you to work on will be coming soon. Volunteer sign up for the week of VBS will open on March 30th! If you have children younger than 4 years old, we do run a Jr VBS for the children of our volunteers, so they can come too!! We look forward to having you join us this year as we pour into the almost 200 children who join us each year.

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.



VBS 2026 **JULY 13 - 17**
9:30am - 12:30pm
4 yrs - 6th Grade
Volunteer registration opens March 30th
Volunteers may register their campers when they register.
Camper Registration Opens April 13
SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE
Cokesbury Kids
FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD
First Presbyterian Church of Mooresville

The poster features a cartoon wolf character in a red jacket and green hat, holding a microphone. The background shows a snowy mountain landscape with a ski lift and a snow globe.

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sprouts Ministry

(0 - Preschool)

2nd floor

0 - 23 months: Nursery room

Toddlers (2's & 3's):

Duck room

(Teachers: Ms. Allison, Ms. Melissa)

Preschool (4's & 5's):

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: 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.

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.**

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 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.

PRESCHOOL

Egg Hunts

Our Easter Egg Hunts are scheduled for April 1 & 2. The children love to search for the hidden eggs! Parents are welcome to join us for the fun. Times and locations have been sent by your teachers.

Easter Break

Our Easter Break is Friday, April 3 through Monday, April 6. Preschool will be closed to celebrate Easter and our Risen Lord. We hope during this time you will create family memories of egg hunts, Easter dinners, and a celebration of the sacrifice Jesus made for all of us.



Spring Music is in the Air...



Your children are in full bloom during our music classes. We are practicing our songs for our Spring Sing. I am so impressed with how quickly they are learning all our songs! Our program is scheduled for April 16 & 17 at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 8:40 AM. Mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss it!

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

			<p>1</p> <p>Preschool Easter Egg Hunts/Parties 2:30pm Prayer Meeting 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Easter 8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Preschool & Office Closed-Easter Break 9:00am Lost & Found Bible Study 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm MABTA Banquet</p>	<p>8</p> <p>2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>12</p> <p>8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 4:00pm Confirmation 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee 6:30pm HS Refresh Youth</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am Lost & Found Bible Study 2:00pm Circle 1 7:00pm Personnel Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00am Circle 4 12:30pm Circle 5 5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Circle 3 6:30pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>15</p> <p>2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:30am Contemporary Worship 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Contemporary Worship 11:15am Traditional Worship 2:30pm Prayer Shawl Team 4:00pm Confirmation 5:00pm MS Refresh Youth 6:30pm HS Refresh Youth</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00am Lost & Found Bible Study 6:30pm Missions Committee 7:00pm Finance Committee 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:30pm Saints Alive Luncheon 5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>22</p> <p>2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>26</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 6:30pm HS Refresh Youth</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 1166-G 7:00pm Scouts BSA Troop 166-B</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00pm Handbells Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p> <p>2:30pm Prayer Meeting 5:30pm WNT 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p>

CALENDAR

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

2 Maunder Thursday Preschool Easter Egg Hunts/Parties 6:00pm Maunder Thursday Dinner 7:00pm Tenebrae Service	3 Preschool Closed- Easter Break	4 7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study 9:30am Easter Celebration
9 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	10	11 7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study
16 Preschool Spring Sing 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	17 Preschool Spring Sing	18 7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study
23 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	24	25 7:15am Men's Bible Study 7:15am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Lake Norman FCA Banquet
30 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal		

BIRTHDAYS

- 4/1- Sadie Crymes, Daniel Newell, Andrew Washburn
- 4/2- Tenku Mandi
- 4/3- Carol McClure, Mark Ramsey
- 4/4- Campbell Schaen
- 4/5- Mackenzie Crawley
- 4/7- Jim Davidson, Lucy Hastings, Hallie Omohundro, Andy Poore, John Streb
- 4/8- Donna Brawley, Jill Holman, Anna Miller
- 4/10- Brandon Abernathy, Hannah Cole, Jeffrey Padgett
- 4/11- Dawn Chappell
- 4/12- Bill Abele, Landon Mauney, Rick Omohundro, Karen Shore
- 4/14- Eva Brooks, Pete Lester, Cate Vaughan
- 4/16- Judy Daniel, Michael Hodge, Scott Mauney, Leo Neff, Cassandra Rockness
- 4/17- Tway Barrett, Carson Lester
- 4/18- Elinor Moseley
- 4/19- Roberta Burdsall, Grace Stanley
- 4/20- Will Barrett
- 4/21- Stephen Garvin
- 4/22- Jason Blair, Erin Micklow, Karli Rockness
- 4/23- Brent Curtis Sr., John Daniel, Anna Kelley
- 4/24- George Brawley, Teresa Moore, Brett Myers
- 4/25- Samuel Creech
- 4/26- Suzanne Baillie
- 4/27- Kevin Cox
- 4/29- Bill Brawley

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Ave.
Mooreville, NC 28115

Telephone: 704-664-5275
Fax: 704-664-7526
Preschool: 704 664-7201

Website: www.moorevillefpc.org
Email: office@moorevillefpc.org

[moorevillefpc@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/moorevillefpc)

If you would like to be added to or deleted from
our mailing list, please send an email to
office@moorevillefpc.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

April 2026



ECO

A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians