

# FIRST NEWS

Revs. Josh and Lara Musser Gritter, Co-Senior Pastors

June 2024



## Deeply Rooted

# Sharing Stories Of Encounters With God

In my Pentecost/Baccalaureate sermon, I asked the congregation, “How many stories of divine presence have gone untold in this very room?” If you heard my sermon, have you ever been the woman? Have you ever been the taxi driver?

I’d been preaching about how these days it can feel like God is done with us like God no longer is speaking to God’s people. Yet, I suspect that feeling likely arises not because God is no longer speaking, God is indeed speaking and moving but we don’t speak it.

Even though I’m a preacher, I am cautious about telling the stories in my life where I felt encountered by God. For me, sometimes, these stories are difficult to tell because I fear that others might question it or minimize an experience I hold so dearly. Other times, these stories are hard to tell because they involve moments of sin or suffering that involve not only myself but others as well. Not every story is fully mine to tell everyone. Still, our world needs us to tell these stories. So, I’ll go first and tell one of my stories of God’s presence that can be told to a wider audience.

When I was in college, I went through a situation where a friend betrayed my trust. The details aren’t significant but what is significant is how bitter and hurt I was feeling. It was a small college campus; I saw this friend everywhere. Each time I was filled with embarrassment and hurt. Outwardly, I covered this hurt with sarcasm. Maybe everyone would think I was fine if I could darkly joke about it. Except these jokes had a slight cruel sting to them. It was probably obvious; I was not fine. I kept thinking about how I ought to confront this person to make wrongs right and make me feel better.

I brought this situation to a campus contemporary worship service called Group. At Group, there was space at the back of the room for people to pray, journal, create art, or simply lay on the ground. It was very college, and it was very awesome. I went to the back of the service during a song and began praying about my anger and how wronged I felt. I asked God how I might address the situation. What could I say to make them understand my hurt and simultaneously feel better? Then, in my mind, I saw an image of Jesus on the cross. I was at a distance below him. It wasn’t a sharp image. I am certain it wasn’t the actual historical Jesus being



crucified, but it was real in some sense. He looked in my direction, and I heard a voice say, “I’ve already forgiven them. Now it’s time for you.”

I was shocked. I’d never audibly heard from God. Later, I would question whether I just fantasized about what I wanted to hear, but, at the moment, I had no doubt about what I had heard or experienced. God had seen me and spoken to me. Plus, forgiveness is not what I wanted to hear. My little wounded heart had so barricaded itself with the impenetrable steel of anger and control that forgiveness was unthinkable and had felt impossible. But in this brief moment of encounter with God’s living presence, I had suddenly become able to forgive. Like the radiance of Christ’s momentary interruption into my life was all it took to melt those steel barricades. So, I forgave and let it go. Others may not have even noticed. Nothing specular happened outside of the confines of my own life, but it was enough.

Let me ask more directly: Do you have a story of divine presence that you’ve never told or haven’t told in a while? Take this as your invitation to tell it. Tell someone you trust. Tell a pastor. We would love nothing more than to sit down with you, listen, and respond, “Behold, God has been in our midst!”

--Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

## Deeply Rooted Care

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### Our Deepest Sympathy To:

- Margaret Graham on the death of her daughter, Leigh Graham
- Cindi Graham, on the death of her sister, Leigh Graham
- Carol and Acey Worthy on the death of her cousin, Dave Boyer.
- Jennifer Flynn and family on the death of her father, Lloyd Baucom.
- Anne Maxey and family on the death of her mother, Margaret Lewis.

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### A Note Of Appreciation

Dear Church Family,

We are so appreciative of the calls, notes, cards, and flowers we have received over the past months. Your prayers, concern, and love have meant so much as we have struggled with multiple health issues and broken bones. We have certainly missed being able to attend church services but are grateful for the online version. We hope to be back "in person" in the near future.

--Bill and Sybil Baker

### A Successful Blood Drive

Thank you, Thank you, First Presbyterian Family! Your faithfulness and health were visibly demonstrated at our recent blood drive when all our appointments were filled, and our goal of donated units was surpassed! We had a goal of 20 units, and we were blessed with 28!

Please mark your calendars for July 30, 2:00-6:30 pm, to give the gift of life again at First Pres!

### News From Meals On Wheels

After a cold and rainy winter, our Meals on Wheels volunteers have been enjoying the warmer days of spring to deliver nutritious meals to homebound seniors. The First Pres team is responsible for ten routes in the Salisbury area on either the second or fourth Thursday of every month.

With the summer months and vacations ahead, we're anticipating needing more volunteers to make sure that our routes are covered. Please call First Pres coordinator Mary Greene at 704-633-4164 if you would like more information about how you can join our team. In addition to the meal delivery, our volunteers engage with participants to make

sure they are happy, healthy, and safe and report any concerns to the MOW office. Routes are only about an hour long. It's a wonderful and rewarding way to give back to your community!

We are very grateful for the following church members and friends of our church who have delivered meals during the past several months: Tony Shaw, Carol and Del Denny, Wayne Hayworth, Tracy Smith, Bessie and Ed Cook, Paula and Bill Troxler, Randy Lassiter, Dianne Scott and Tony Blackwell, Lyn Beaver and Tricia Johnson, Bob Cook, Mary Greene and Teresa Williams, Jim Mitchell, Missy and Henry Brown, Kim Johnson, Anne and Frank Saunders, Linda Jones and Buddy Farnan, Eleanor Sandifer, Helen Kichefski and Martha Bostian and her grandson, Elizabeth Bergsma, Ed Lewis and Bobby Williams, Nancy and Frank Eason, and Linda Bartlett. We extend a warm welcome to Joan Horner, CC Crofton, and Susan Sember as new team members. Thanks, ladies, for your willingness to step forward!

### Facilitate-Property Maintenance

### Sanctuary Waterproofing Project In Final Stages

While final completion is still several months away, the major waterproofing project for our church sanctuary building is in the final stages.

The waterproofing portion of the project around the building is essentially complete and we have been able to use our sanctuary space since late April. Following worship on June 16, we will have to vacate the sanctuary for a period of about three weeks to allow replacing the precast concrete steps in the courtyard, to include waterproofing under the courtyard porch. Availability of the sanctuary should resume in early July.

The longer-term and final aspect of the project is delivery of matching brick, primarily for the steps and porch for the Fulton Street entrance, plus the reconstructed steps and elevated landing for the Innes Street entrance. The brick is due for delivery in mid-August. The final step of the project is landscaping all around the building.

Beginning back on November 1, 2023, the contractor, R&L Glover Enterprises, under the supervision of Bryce Evans, excavated down some 20 feet all around the exterior of the church building to repair and replace waterproofing materials.

The Facilitate Team remains grateful to our congregation and church staff for their patience during this lengthy process. It has been an inconvenience, but the final results will protect and preserve our sanctuary building for many years.

From Pastor Randy...

## Summer Reading

Sometimes, I find it helpful to identify a devotional for summer reading. Devotionals are not intended to be read straight through. Sometimes, it is helpful to have something that is a companion. I carry it around for the summer and pick it up when I remember. Occasionally, they capture me. Regardless, they accompany me.

This year, it is the title that intrigues me: "Have a beautiful, terrible day!" Kate Bowler takes the title from a quote by author Frederick Buechner, who once wrote: "Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid." If you have been introduced to Kate Bowler's writing, or even perhaps to her during her visit to Catawba College last fall, you know that she has experienced both the beautiful and the terrible. At least she can be trusted to speak truthfully about both.

The preface pushes us to face our anxieties: "Our moods seem tight and jittery. We worry about groceries and school shootings and airborne viruses." If she has not already lost you, there is a chance you may be able to follow her through the anxieties of life to beautiful. The setting sun "pooling into oranges and deep reds." Other things that point us to the beautiful include good medicine, cheese dip, and mischievous children.

While Bowler's world is filled with terrible anxiety, her faith in God is God will always be working to bring beauty to the world. That's the kind of reading companion needed now. Not something to simply distract us. Rather, something that dares to look fully at the difficulties of the world and still find beauty and hope. I hope you find such a reading companion for your summer!

--Pastor Randy Kirby

## Presbyterian Women Bestow Honor On Dr. Kirby

On Monday, May 6, Presbyterian Women had their last Bible Study lesson and gathering for this year, and it was an important one! Our wonderful teacher, Dr. Randy Kirby, finished up this year's study on *Sacred Encounters*.

Following the lesson, the women, along with the church staff, enjoyed a covered-dish meal together. During lunch, the First Pres Presbyterian Women and the ladies from Trinity Presbyterian presented Dr. Kirby with an honorarium and a PW Life Achievement Award for his dedicated years of leading, teaching, and inspiring women of the church. Randy has served as our teacher for 14 years, filling our minds with unforgettable lessons and sharing his vast knowledge.

All women are invited to join the next Bible Study, which will begin in September and run through May. Our curriculum will be *Let Justice Roll*



**Joyce Durkee presents Rev. Randy Kirby with PW Life Achievement Award**

Down. If you want a book, speak to Joyce Durkee about ordering a copy for \$14 before the study begins. Our teachers will be Amanda Hathcock, our Director of Christian Formation and Discipleship, and Denise Fink, our PW Moderator. We meet on the first Monday of each month, except for September and January due to federal holidays. Those months we meet on the second Monday.

So, ladies, please join us on September 9, at 11:00, in the Fellowship Hall as we kick off our new year of study. It promises to be a roller coaster of learning and fellowship.

### **From the Showing Up Committee: Overton Tutoring Wraps a Great Year**

It has been a good school year at Overton School. Thank you, again, to all who volunteered with our tutoring program! We ended the school year with a luncheon for teachers and staff on May 23.

Many of our tutoring volunteers have indicated that they will be returning to help again in the fall. If there are any **additional church members who would like to tutor at Overton in the fall**, please let us know. It is a commitment of one hour per week and can be set up at your convenience. You will be assigned two students to help read. You read to them, and they read to you. It is very rewarding to work with these children. Please contact Lynn Hales by text or call 704-640-7156, or call the church office.

Another reminder is that we will be collecting **student backpacks for Overton** for the fall, as we have done every year. Some stores may have sales on backpacks now if you want to buy ahead. Backpacks can be dropped off at the church office anytime. You are also asked to enclose a \$10 contribution to pay for school materials.

Thank you so much for your help with this project!

--Lynn Hales and  
the Showing Up Committee

# DAY SCHOOL GOOD NEWS



OUR LAST DAY OF SCHOOL WAS MAY 22ND. THE DAY SCHOOL FINISHED THE END OF THE YEAR WITH A FAMILY LUAU AND KONA ICE CAME. KONA ICE SERVED EVERYBODY SO QUICKLY AND WAS VERY YUMMY! ALL OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HAD A WONDERFUL TIME ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY.

THE DAY SCHOOL, ALSO, WENT ON A FIELD TRIP TO LAZY 5. ALMOST ALL OF THE CHILDREN ENJOYED FEEDING THE ANIMALS FROM THE WAGONS AND AT THE BARN.

THE STAFF IS LOOKING FORWARD TO A RELAXING SUMMER TO PREPARE FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. THE DAY SCHOOL STARTS BACK AUGUST 19TH AND WE ARE ALMOST FULL WITH AN ADDED 2 YEAR OLD CLASS. PLEASE CONTACT CHRISTY GODBOLD IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US TO VOLUNTEER OR SUBSTITUTE.. WE LOVE HAVING CHUCH MEMBERS SEE EVERYTHING WE DO!

## Musical Notes...

# Glad To Be Here...Join Our Music Ministry!

**WOW!** What a welcome I have had to First Pres, to North Carolina, and to Salisbury. This has been an amazing adventure for me already and it has just begun!

**EXCITED!** I am so excited to be here in so many ways, and one of them is to see the wonderful ways we can bring glory to God together at First Pres. I still need to learn all these new names. I will eventually remember them all, but please know I am enjoying meeting every single one of you. So please bear with me.



**GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER!** I would just like to share with you some of my thoughts and ambitions of being with you.

**BE A PART!** Do you have any musical talents? Do you play any instruments, sing in the shower, or whistle? We will find a place for you to make a joyful noise to the Lord with us. If you can, stop by and see me, or call and talk with me. I'm eager to meet you and watch your talents flourish for the glory of God!

**I AM HAPPY!** Please know, I AM HAPPY! I am happy to be with First Pres. I am honored and grateful to have this opportunity. I will support the church and its congregation through my prayers, and I ask that you support your music programs through prayer and participation. Together, we will PRAISE GOD through every note we play and sing.

Musically yours.....  
Teresa de Freitas

## Gathered by the Spirit - The 2024 Churchwide Retreat Join Us August 23-25

The Gather Team invites you to join us for intergenerational fun and learning at the 2024 Churchwide Retreat at Camp Caraway on August 23-25. It is the perfect time to step away from your "real" life while you connect with your church family, surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. This year's theme is *Holy Spirit: Turning on Your Spiritual Life to Water the World Around You*.

Our guest speakers for the retreat are Drs. Jack and Priscilla Pope-Levison. They will lead us in three learning sessions. Priscilla is Associate Dean for External Programs and Professor of Ministerial Studies at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. Her most recent book is *Models of Evangelism*. Jack holds the W. J. A. Power Chair of Old Testament Interpretation and Biblical Hebrew at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. Our pastors have invited us to use Jack's book *40 Days with the Holy Spirit* as a churchwide devotional in the summer months as part of their sermon series on *40 Days in the Spirit*.

The retreat opens with check-in and dinner on Friday evening and ends after worship on Sunday morning. The cost for the weekend is \$120 for the first adult, \$60 for the second adult, \$30 per child age 3 and up (children under 3 are free). This cost includes meals, lodging, and activities. Scholarships are available.

There are fun opportunities for all ages. We have time reserved at the lake with kayaks. There are beautiful hiking trails, and we will have spaces for card and board games. Youth can enjoy Bazooka Ball, and the ice cream shop will be open on Saturday! Registration is open through June 15 at

<https://fpcsalisbury.breezechms.com/form/26fe67>. Contact Amanda Hathcock or Gwynne Shoaf with any questions.





*RTF Group gathers at the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, AL*

## **Race Task Force – Branching Out Montgomery Group Tour Deepens Understanding**

For years, the scene of racial violence, an Alabama city recently taught lessons about peace, justice, and repentance to a First Pres group traveling the Civil Rights Trail under the sponsorship of the Race & Justice Ministry Team. First Presbyterians who journeyed to Montgomery, Alabama, were Ed and Beffie Cook, Doug Glasgow, Pastor Lara Musser Gritter, Gail Hounshell, Barrie Kirby, and Marianna and Allison Swaim. Joining the group were Ann and Ed Lanear from Trinity Presbyterian. The goal of the trip was to deepen understanding of the African American experience and of the stake we all have in protecting civil rights. Montgomery was an apt setting.

“What impressed me most overall is that Montgomery has come to terms with its unjust, violent, racist past by openly acknowledging what happened and the horror of it all,” says Barrie Kirby. “It’s like a public confession of sin. There is no repentance of sin that is denied or hidden.”

“What is wrong in a society must be acknowledged to make things right or, once righted, keep things right. Montgomery has done an admirable job in doing that.”

The group traveled from the Legacy Museum in Montgomery to the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma some 50 miles away and went to several points in between. They learned about civil rights, voting rights, and even the right to choose a seat on a city bus. The history stretched from enslavement to the Jim Crow era, civil rights struggles and successes, and today’s mass incarceration. Montgomery historian Joseph Trimble traveled the trail with the group to share local culture, foods, and stories. That made a big difference, according to Marianna Swaim.

“Our guide was phenomenal and really made the memories come alive,” Marianna says. “Being in the actual place where so much important history (happened) was truly a meaningful, unforgettable experience. The educational opportunity is exceptional.”

The four-day trip included two days of travel and two jam-packed days of touring, all in the First Pres van. Other travelers might want to allow three days to visit sites in Montgomery and Selma. The area is rich with stories to tell.



*A selfie Pastor Lara shot with Marianna Swaim, Gail Hounshell, Ann Lanear, Beffie Cook and Barrie Kirby*



*The group enters the profoundly moving Legacy Museum, Montgomery, AL*

## **King Bio and TED Talks On Race & Justice Calendar**

The Race & Justice Ministry Team has started two new Zoom discussion groups that you can join for the weeks ahead.

• **King: A Life:** Monica Green and Barrie Kirby are co-leading the 7:00 pm Wednesday book discussions, which started May 15 with introductions. This round's topic is the landmark MLK biography, *King: A Life* by Jonathan Eig. For more information or to request the Zoom link to participate, email Barrie at [barrie.m.kirby@gmail.com](mailto:barrie.m.kirby@gmail.com).

• **TED Talks:** Beffie Cook and Esther Atkins Smith will host the Sunday discussions at 7:00 pm. Each week the group will watch and discuss a short TED Talk or other video. No purchase or homework required! To find out more or get a zoom link, email [egravescook@yahoo.com](mailto:egravescook@yahoo.com). Here's the tentative schedule:

- May 26 - "How Racial Bias Works - and How to Disrupt It"
- June 2 - "How Racism Makes Us Sick"
- June 9 - "Racism Has a Cost for Everyone"
- June 16 - Juneteenth history and myths
- June 23 - "The Real Story of Rosa Parks."

Faith Formation  
**Join Us For Our Summer  
 Unified Sunday School Series**  
**-Revolving Reverends-**

Each Sunday in the fellowship hall, beginning at 9:45 a.m., a reverend who regularly attends First Presbyterian will join us to speak on a topical issue related to our spirituality, faith, or daily lives. We welcome you to join us for these discussions. Coffee service will be provided. A children's unified Sunday school will be available in room 206 for our elementary and pre-teen students. The nursery will remain available for our pre-k and younger children. Please join us!

- June 30- Rev. Felicia Hoyle
- July 7- Rev. Barrie Kirby
- July 14- Dr. Barry Sang
- July 21- Dr. Randy Kirby
- July 28- Rev. Josh Musser Gritter
- August 4- Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

**Unified Sunday School Opportunity**

June 23 at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall  
 Join the Race and Justice Ministry team as they share their recent trip to Montgomery, Alabama.

**Meeting Reminders**

Gather will meet on Zoom at 6:00 pm. on Monday, June 10. If you would like to know more about the Gather team or help plan upcoming events, please see Gwynne Shoaf.

Grow in Friendship will meet on Monday, June 3, at 3:00 pm in the Mary and Martha Classroom. If you would like to become more involved in this ministry, please see Rhonda Shaw.

■  
 Thank you to all our volunteers and the Grow in Faith team for their hard work on Vacation Bible School! We welcomed over 80 children to our campus to learn about Jesus' love. We pray this ministry and our church have planted seeds in their lives so they will continually seek Jesus as they grow. Thank you for your role in that, First Pres!

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 Thank you to all our volunteers who have taught Sunday School this fall and spring season! We wouldn't be the church without your ministry. We pray this break over summer will provide a respite for you all to be refreshed and renewed when the fall Sunday School Season begins September 22, 2024.  
 --Amanda Hathcock



**Thank You for Your Support  
 Of The TWAM 5K! 🌟**

First Presbyterian Church Community,

My heartfelt thanks for your overwhelming support and enthusiasm for this year's Teens with a Mission 5K. Whether you sponsored the event, donated your time, provided race support, hosted a porch party along the course, cheered on our runners, or prayed for our success, your involvement was crucial to the event's resounding success. The students raised over \$24,000 toward their mission trip! 🙌

Each role played a vital part in creating a vibrant and supportive atmosphere, truly embodying the spirit of our mission. It is heartening to see our community come together in such a dynamic way to



support our youth and their commitment to serving others. I know our TWAM saints, Julie Steele and Allen Cook, are smiling down to see these good works in action.



We look forward to next year's event and hope to continue this wonderful tradition with even greater success. Thank you once again for your dedication and spirit. Your support transforms our efforts into impactful results, making a real difference in the lives we touch. ❤️

With deepest gratitude, Delaine Fowler

**Embrace Your Elephant Spiritually (EYES) Table**

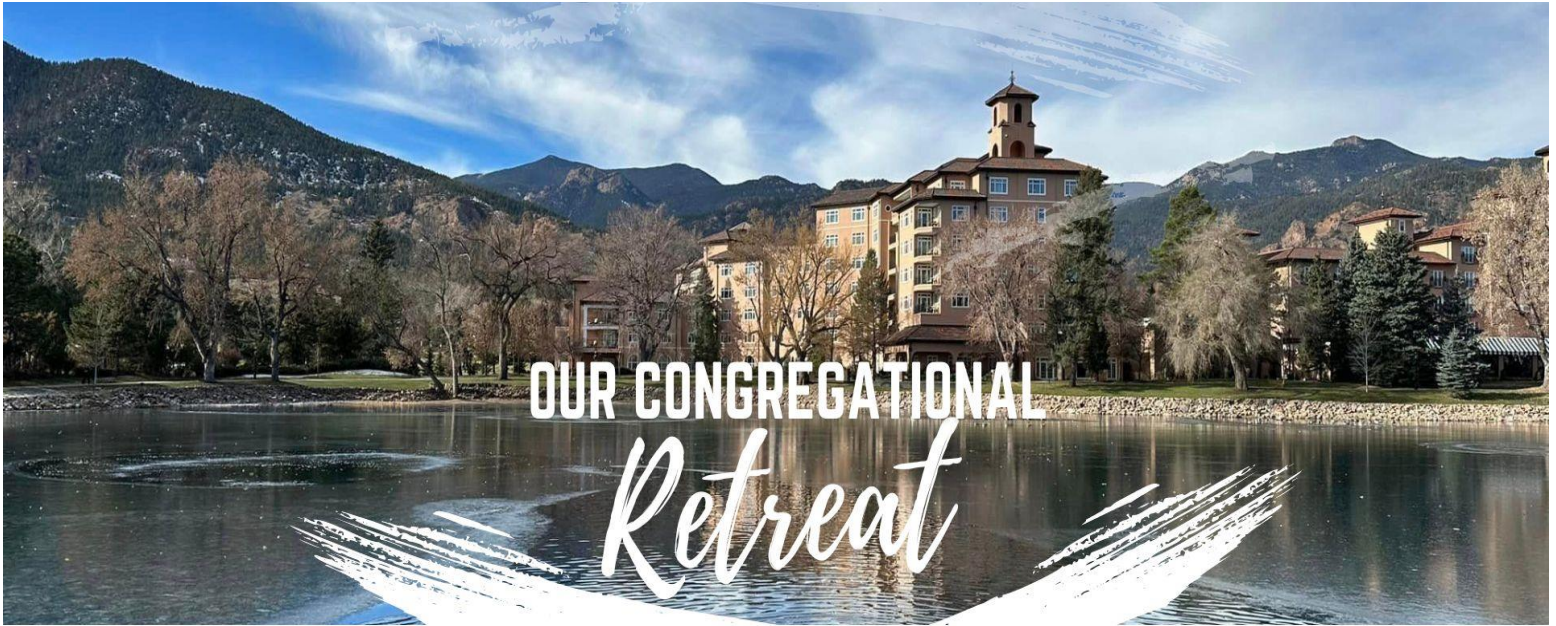
The Race and Justice Ministry Team is recruiting First Presbyterian Church disciples on a community journey in one evening a week during October 2024. Participants will select the day of the week they are available.

Men and Women of different races and denominations will meet at an EYES (Embrace Your Elephant Spiritually) table to journey and focus on educating, sharing, and addressing the elephant in the room for many Christians ... Racism. The friendships and conversations will lead to an honest dialog. The Word of God will open and seal each session as these men and women journey into The Truth, The Emotions, The Walk, and The Healing. Men and Women interested in participating in the 2024 EYES Table, please contact Debbie Collins dgristcollins@gmail.com.

**Media & Communications**

**Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines:**

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
July & August	June 19
September	August 21
October	September 18
November	October 16
December	November 18 (Monday)
January 2025	December 16 (Monday)



August 23-25, 2024

@ Caraway Conference Center and Camp



Join our Pastors and special guest speakers,  
Drs. Priscilla and Jack Levison as they lead us in learning about  
“ The Holy Spirit:  
Turning on your spiritual life to water the world around you.”

Registration ends June 16, 2024



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**First Presbyterian Church**  
**308 West Fisher Street**  
**Salisbury, NC 28144**

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**Sunday Worship Schedule**

- 8:30 am Contemporary Worship Lewis Hall
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11 am Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
- Unified Worship 11 a.m. beginning June 23 in Lewis Hall



# First Presbyterian

## June 2024

- |          |   |           |   |           |   |           |   |
|----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|
| <b>2</b> | Communion Sunday<br>RHM food pantry Sunday<br>9:45 Campus Improvement meeting<br>5:00 VBS | <b>7</b>  | 11:15 Summer Meals  | <b>14</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals  | <b>23</b> | 11:00 Unified Worship - LH<br>TWAM Report Sunday                                    |
| <b>3</b> | 3:00 Grow in Friendship Team<br>5:00 VBS<br>5:30 Showing Up Team                          | <b>9</b>  | 8:30 & 11:00 TWAM Commissioning   | <b>17</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals<br>5:00 Fund Team<br>7:00 Session  | <b>24</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals  |
| <b>4</b> | 10:00 Staff<br>5:00 VBS   | <b>10</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals<br>6:00 Gather Team - Zoom   | <b>18</b> | 10:00 Staff<br>11:15 Summer Meals   | <b>25</b> | 10:00 Staff<br>11:15 Summer Meals<br>6:00 Stephen Ministers                         |
| <b>5</b> | 9:00 Yoga<br>11:15 Summer Meals<br>5:00 Grief Support Group, VBS<br>7:00 Choir Rehearsal  | <b>11</b> | 10:00 Staff<br>11:15 Summer Meals<br>6:00 Stephen Ministries  | <b>19</b> | 9:00 Yoga<br>11:15 Summer Meals<br>12:00 Newsletter Deadline (July & Aug)<br>5:00 Grief Support Group<br>7:00 Choir Rehearsal | <b>26</b> | 9:00 Yoga<br>11:15 Summer Meals<br>5:00 Grief Support Group<br>7:00 Choir Rehearsal |
| <b>6</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals<br>5:00 VBS<br>6:30 LCW Rehearsal                                      | <b>12</b> | 9:00 Yoga<br>11:15 Summer Meals<br>5:00 Grief Support Group<br>5:30 Property Maintenance Team<br>7:00 Choir Rehearsal | <b>20</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals<br>6:30 Mary & Martha Class @ RHM<br>6:30 LCW Rehearsal  | <b>27</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals<br>6:30 LCW Rehearsal  |
|          |   | <b>13</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals<br>6:30 LCW Rehearsal  | <b>21</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals  | <b>28</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals  |
|          |   |           |   | <b>28</b> | 11:15 Summer Meals  | <b>30</b> | 11:00 Unified Worship - LH  |



## Core - Fund Management

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

April 30, 2024

#### OPERATING

YTD Income	431,045.69
YTD Expenses	<u>381,924.31</u>
Cash Flow - <b>Positive</b>	<u>49,121.38</u>

YTD <b>Actual</b> Income	431,045.69
YTD <b>Budgeted</b> Income	<u>411,076.33</u>
<b>OVER</b>	<u>19,969.36</u>

YTD <b>Budgeted</b> Expenses	446,296.00
YTD <b>Actual</b> Expenses	<u>381,924.31</u>
<b>UNDER</b>	<u>64,371.69</u>

#### DAY SCHOOL

YTD Gain	<u>4,436.28</u>
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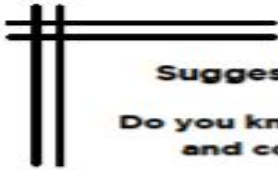
#### GIVING

YTD <b>Actual</b> Giving	395,391.43
YTD <b>Budgeted</b> Giving	<u>394,909.67</u>
<b>OVER</b>	<u>481.76</u>

YTD <b>Actual</b> Pledges	364,781.43
YTD <b>Budgeted</b> Pledges	<u>360,409.67</u>
<b>OVER</b>	<u>4,371.76</u>

**4 WAYS TO GIVE**

- ONLINE & RECURRING**  
WWW.FIRSTPRES.SALISBURY.ORG
- MAIL IT IN**  
300 W FISHER ST  
SALISBURY, NC 28144
- TEXT 2 GIVE**  
704.286.1055
- IN PERSON**



### Suggested Nominations for Church Officers

**Do you know someone who loves First Presbyterian and could be a faithful leader in our church?**

**THE NOMINATING TEAM** wants your suggestions as it begins discerning nominations for the offices of Ruling Elder to present to the congregation. We need four Elders.

If you have a suggested name, please present the name in writing to the office, email [cmowery@firstpresalisbury.org](mailto:cmowery@firstpresalisbury.org), or place in the offering plate.

**Ruling Elders:** Ruling Elders are ordained officers of the church. Each elder serves for three years. Elders are the spiritual leaders of the congregation. They embrace change, cherish tradition, and trust the Holy Spirit to lead them in navigating where our community needs to change or celebrate its past. Elders appreciate and represent all worship styles of this church and commit their time, talent, and financial resources to support First Pres to make it a place *Where God's Love is Alive for Mission*. Elders liaise between the Session and Ministry Teams under their Ministry Focus. They are spiritual mentors and conduits of information.

**Nominees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We also need nominations for the Nominating Committee:** This committee is comprised of 6 members at and 1 at large. Their main charge is to listen to the voice of God and discern who to nominate for the office of Ruling Elder.

**Nominees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum Criteria Guidelines to Be Nominated:**

- \*A member of First Pres for at least two years
- \*Active in the life of the church

