

***Grace and peace to all of you  
from our Lord and Savior,***

***James 1:12*** – “Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him.”

As we step into 2024, Cook's Church is guided by the spirit of endurance, inspired by James 1:12. This verse is not just a passage; it's a beacon that lights our path in the coming year.

Endurance, especially in our faith, is a journey of persistence. It's about weathering storms with resilience and emerging with a stronger, more steadfast faith. At Cook's Church, we see this endurance as a collective commitment. We stand together,



***Prayer Requests:***

Cook's Church/Playschool, Lyle Pace, Jill Griffin (Novant/Main), Jimmy McClure (now home), Tom McClure (Stanley Total Living Ctr, Rm 502), Jack McClure, Steve Self, Rick Greene, Sara Yarbrough, Allyne Gant, Dale Luckey, F.D. & Pat Hager, Sarah Justice, Jerome Abernathy, Steve (@ Univ Rehab & welcomes visitors!) & Sharon Gilmore, Nancy & Richard Smith, Debbie White, Nicolas Wilson (teenage grandson of Ed & Nancy w/brain tumor), Betty McClure, Jo Price, Jerry Hunter, Melody Mathews, Judy & Richard Bogan, Judy Rozzelle, Angie Ross, Ann Drake, Baby Carson, Al & Frances Lancaster, Mark Lackey, Dr. Jeff Ruskusky, Nancy Mummaw, Andy Burge, Ned & Carolyn Beatty, Sherry Wasek,

supporting each other through trials and celebrating victories, both big and small. Our church's dedication to serving the community and participating in missions will continue to be a testament to our endurance in Christ. Each act of service, each outreach program, is a reflection of our enduring faith and commitment to embody Christ's love and resilience. For individual members, this year is an invitation to deepen their personal relationship with Christ through persistent prayer, study, and meditation on the Scriptures. It's about finding strength in quiet moments with God, and using that strength to face life's challenges.

Cook's Church in 2024 is a community united in faith and fortified by endurance. Together, we look forward to a year of growth, service, and unwavering faith, confident that our perseverance will lead us to the 'crown of life' that awaits.

Peace in Christ, **Pastor Jason Bryant**

**{\*\*ONE YEAR BIBLE READING**

**PLAN:** Here's the link to the readings: <https://shorturl.at/nsDL9> (you may need to copy and paste this link into your browser for it to work, and for those of you that can't access it by computer, you can attain a copy in the church office, either by stopping by to pick one up, or it can be mailed/emailed to you.)

*Join us this Sunday, Feb. 4, @ 10am for a message from Pastor Jason on 'Necessary Traumas – Forgiveness' (Matthews 18:15-22)!}*

***Thank you to all that have graciously made an additional contribution to our church since the first of last year. It is very much appreciated. Please note, our financial need remains this year. If you have available funds, please consider making an over-and-above contribution to our general fund. Thank you for***

Nancy Brammer, Chrissy Hart, Jack Byers, Kurt Hollar, Al Thompson, Bobby Hotaling, John Park, Michael Matrone, Joe Picard, Jim & Dawn Thompson, Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, *Eileen Black & family* (death of mother), David Luckey, KCH/Kenya, NC School System/Students/Teachers/Administration, victims of natural disasters, those suffering from long-term illnesses, families who grieving the recent loss of loved ones, and all those in need of our prayers of intercession

**{\*Names are left on for 4 weeks, so if they are still in need of 'extra' prayer after that, please let the church office know.}**

Homebound List: Jill Griffin, Steve Gilmore, Sarah Penninger, Tom McClure, Sara Yarbrough, Allyne Gant, Jack Parker

Soldier List: Austin McCrary, Clara DeFeo, Turner Salm, Anne Ledford, Eddy Self, Andy Dula, Chris Dula, Seth Seal, John Makahilli Jr., ALL Vets & families.

Please pray for all daily; to make changes to any of these lists, contact the church office @ 704/399-7735.

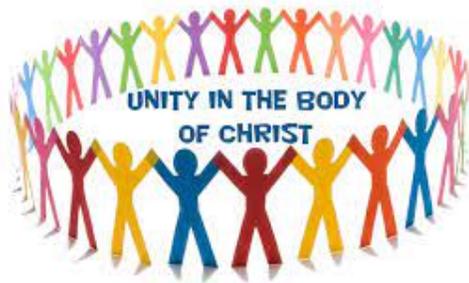
**\* WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BE ABLE TO MINISTER TO YOU!**

Please don't hesitate to notify the church office (704-399-7735 / [office@cookschurch.org](mailto:office@cookschurch.org)) or Pastor Jason Bryant (704-607-4162 /

[Jason@cookschurch.org](mailto:Jason@cookschurch.org) or [jaydbryant@gmail.com](mailto:jaydbryant@gmail.com)) of any deaths, sickness, surgeries, births, etc. that you and/or a family member may be experiencing so that we can let our Elders and Deacons know so that they can minister to you and/or your family.

considering this request.

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\*\*\*\*Please note that our  
**“FELLOWSHIP ON THE LAWN”**  
will be set-up in the lobby of the  
Education Building for the month of  
February, and possibly into March,  
depending on the ‘cold/rainy’  
weather. Join us there after worship  
to **fellowship with your brothers &  
sisters in Christ** and enjoy a quick  
treat while you do!

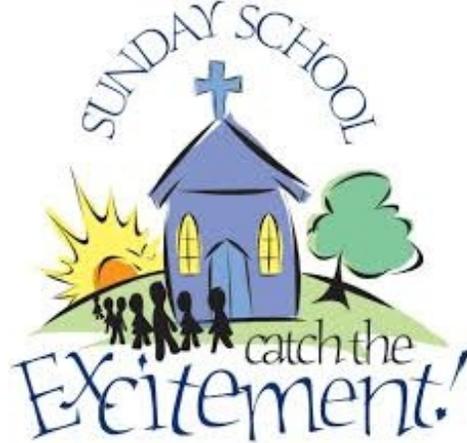
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**CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING**

**\*\*NOTE:** We will have a ‘**Called  
Congregational Meeting**’ this  
Sunday, 2/4/24, to elect one Elder  
to the Class of 2026 and to elect  
the 2024 Nominating Ministry; the  
2023 Mission Giving and the 2024  
Budget (in Narthex) information will  
be available to you for your  
information.

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**Looking for a class that  
will help you grow in  
your knowledge of what  
God’s Word is saying to  
each of us?**

*You are always invited to  
join us at one of our  
Sunday School classes (for  
all ages!) each Sunday at  
9am to study His Word  
and what it means for our  
daily living!*

For more info, contact Paige  
Benson at 704/488-7417.

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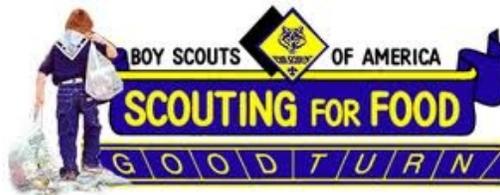
**2024 Flower Calendar  
dates that are  
AVAILABLE:** If you’d like to  
supply our sanctuary flowers  
in honor and/or in loving  
memory of a loved one, these  
dates are available at this  
time (there may be more  
forthcoming): **April 14; May  
12; Sept. 15; Nov. 3.**  
Contact the church office if  
you’d like to reserve a date!

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Cook's sanctuary will host a  
**'PRAYER VIGIL'**  
for anyone that would like to  
come and say a 'silent prayer'  
**THIS coming Saturday,**  
**February 3 from 8am-12pm.**

Come pray for yourself/  
family/neighbors, all churches, our  
state/nation/world! *Praying together,*  
*with God's help we can accomplish*  
*many things!* ***"Therefore, I tell you,***  
***whatever you ask in prayer,***  
***believe that you have received it***  
***and it will be yours"*** (Mark 11:24).



**"SCOUTING FOR FOOD"** is an  
ongoing annual program of the Boy  
Scouts of America that begun in  
1985 by the Greater St Louis Area  
Council. The program involves  
collecting for local food banks. It is  
organized at the local level  
throughout the country.

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET to bring**  
**your 'non-perishable food items'**  
(please NO glass containers!) **to Cook's**  
**THIS Sunday, February 4, 2024,**  
for Cook's Scouts Troop #51 food  
drive! The Scout Troop will take  
them to a local food bank to help  
those in need of food for their



\*Anyone who would love to  
**"make a joyful noise unto**  
**the Lord"** is invited to join  
Cook's Adult Choir! Contact  
Clayton for questions at  
claydeacon@gmail.com.

\*\*Cook's **NURSERY** is  
available each week (for SS at  
9am & worship at 10am) for  
our youngest members, ages  
birth thru 4 yrs old!



...that **IF** your picture is  
posted in our online  
church directory (to  
access go to

ww.cookschurch.org and

at the very bottom of that page you will  
see "Church Directory"...click on that  
button), you can go into your  
information and make changes such  
as address, phone #'s, if in military  
past or present, the different groups  
you have been a part of at the  
church, etc. If you have any  
problems and/or questions on how  
to do so, please contact Gaye List at  
gayelist@gmail.com. Also, if your  
picture (or families') is not currently  
in our directory, please send a photo  
to the church office  
(office@cookschurch.org) and we'll  
see about getting it and your  
information included asap!

## NEWS FROM FINANCE MINISTRY

The Finance Committee would  
like you to know that we now  
have another way to donate funds  
to Cook's Church...you can use  
your debit/credit card and the  
"app" is available to download  
from our website...

www.cookschurch.org. If you  
have any questions, call Ginger  
Thompson, Treasurer @  
704/562-7558.

families!  
{This Sunday, **February 4th**, will be '**Scout Sunday**' therefore the Scouts will be leading several parts of our worship and we *welcome all of their families* that will be visiting with us!}

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**\*\*ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE:**

Pastor Jason will be in our sanctuary from **12-2:00pm** on '**Ash Wednesday**', **February 14, 2024**, for **anyone** to stop by to receive 'ashes' and a prayer with/for you if you'd would like him to do so.

{We are also in the process of planning a '**Maundy Thursday Service/Seder Meal**' on **3/28** – more details to follow.}

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**Cook's MONTHLY MEETINGS:**

Cook's **SESSION** meets on the **second Sunday** at 7pm in Rm #113.

**ALL Ladies** are invited to join our Presbyterian Women's **CIRCLE meetings** on the **second Tuesday** @ **10:30am** or **7pm** in Rm #113 in the



The Digital Ministry of Cook's is working on all things that you need to stay connected with Cook's as well as resources to grow in your faith. Check out our **REFRESHED** website - [CooksChurch.org](http://CooksChurch.org). Join us today and be a part of our online community!

\*\* We're *now* on 'Instagram' so be sure to check it out and "Like" and share!



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Cook's Church has a **FACEBOOK** page!

Come check us out and stay connected!

[www.facebook.com/pages/Cooks-Memorial-Presbyterian-Church](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cooks-Memorial-Presbyterian-Church)



Ed Bldg. Contact Pede Self with questions.

Cook's **MEN OF THE CHURCH** will have their monthly breakfast meeting **on the third Sunday at 7:30am** (Ed Bldg lobby) and **ALL men** at Cook's are invited to attend! Contact Dale Luckey with questions.

Cook's **PROPERTY Ministry** meets on the **second Thurs at 6:30pm in Rm #113** - contact Mike Stanford with questions.

Cook's **MISSION Ministry** meets on the **first Friday** at 10:00am in Rm #113... contact Fred Cox with questions.

Cook's **WORSHIP Ministry** meets on the **first Thursday** at 2:00pm via Zoom and/or in the church office...contact Denise Veard for details.

Cook's **FINANCE MINISTRY** meets on the **fourth Sunday** at **11:15am** in Rm #113. Contact Joe Thompson if you have any questions.

#### **SERMONS:**

Did you miss worship this past Sunday? Do you ever want to listen to a recent sermon again?

Recent sermons from Sunday morning worship can be found on the Cook's Church website!

Click here:

[www.cookschurch.org/sermons](http://www.cookschurch.org/sermons)

**Have you read your recent church newsletter?** Recent issues of our Cook's Communicator can be found on our church website!

Click here:

[www.cookschurch.org/newsletters](http://www.cookschurch.org/newsletters)

#### **Contact Us!**

**Pastor Jason Bryant**

[jason@cookschurch.org](mailto:jason@cookschurch.org)

**Church Office**

[office@cookschurch.org](mailto:office@cookschurch.org)

**Cook's Playschool**

[cooksplayschool@gmail.com](mailto:cooksplayschool@gmail.com)

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