



**FROM THE
PASTOR**

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

Philippians 2:15: “...that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.”

As we navigate the complexities of our times, the words of Paul to the Philippians resonate with a timely echo. In a world that often feels warped and crooked, how do we find our way? How do we not only navigate but illuminate, not merely survive but thrive as beacons of hope and purity? It's a question that brings us to the heart of our spiritual journey, and one that we will explore in this Sunday's sermon. This week, we delve into



Prayer Requests:

Cook's Church/Playschool, Jack Parker (Huntersville Health & Rehab, 13835 Boren St, Huntersville, 28078), Johnnie Quinn, Linda Lynn, Ginny Dunn (The Laurels, 6101 Clarke Creek Pkwy, Charlotte, 28269, Rm #D202, 704/249-0374c), Jill Griffin, Tom McClure (Stanley Total Living Ctr, Rm 502), Dale Luckey (recovering from knee surg), Charlie & Debbie McCrary, Bev Weldy, Jack McClure, Sara Yarbrough, Allyne Gant, F.D. & Pat Hager, Sarah Justice, Dennis & Debbie Abernathy, Jerome Abernathy, Jimmy McClure, Steve (@ Univ Rehab & welcomes visitors!) & Sharon Gilmore, Nancy & Richard Smith, Debbie White, Nicolas Wilson (teenage grandson of Ed & Nancy w/brain tumor), Andy Burge, Judy & Richard Bogan, Kurt Hollar, Lisa

the transformative power of God's grace and how it molds us to stand out as lights in the darkness. Just as stars are born from the most turbulent and chaotic regions of space, so too can our spiritual rebirth emerge from the tumult of our struggles. Through the renewing of our minds and the offering of our lives as living sacrifices, we are called to embody the brightness of God's work within us. Join us as we discover how, like stars, our lives can radiate light in the darkness, guiding others and glorifying God. We will explore what it means to be transformed and how this transformation not only changes us internally but also empowers us to make a real impact in our world. Let us come together to reflect, worship, and seek the ways we might "shine like stars" in our generation. Looking forward to seeing each of you this Sunday as we seek to grow and shine together.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **Pastor Jason**

New 'Prayer Team' Meeting

As Cook's Church continues to push forward out into the community, we're launching a 'Prayer Team' that will help lead our church in this vital area. The Team will learn how to pray with people with the idea of training volunteers to pray deeply for the ongoing needs of our church and our visitors. Our 'Prayer Team' will take part in our worship service by providing prayer leadership following the service. ***This is a vital and wonderful time so get on board now.*** Team meetings are meeting on **Sundays, April 28, May 5 & 19 @ 4:30pm (NOTE time change!)** in Rm #113.

Cook's Cares

Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, David Luckey, Cindy Little, Gary Hayes, Robert Wood, Brian Zuercher, Clay Hodge, Garrett Michel, Debbie Cole, Jake Turner, Melody Mathews, Judy Rozzelle, Baby Carson, Betty McClure, Jo Price, Jack Byers, John Park, Michael Matrone, Bruce Cole, Steve Johnston, Dinah Riggs, *family of Lamont Lark*, Tom Lineberger, 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...

"Names listed above in *italics* will be removed this week unless someone notifies the church office that they still need 'extra prayer'...which we're MORE than glad to keep praying for them if needed!"}

Homebound List: Jill Griffin, Steve Gilmore, 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) or Pastor Jason Bryant (704-607-4162 /

Jason@cookschurch.org or 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

I've (Pastor Jason) already begun the first of what I hope will be many live and online classes under the banner, "Cook's Cares." This campaign has begun with 'my cooking classes' each **Sunday at 3pm (NOTE time change!)**. There we'll prepare some form of food that highlights culinary-school level cooking with affordable ingredients found at your local grocery store. But the concept "Cook's Cares" is far broader. To that end, I'd like you to begin thinking about a class that you might teach to assist people. Perhaps you've got some knowledge of plumbing or construction that could help people successfully manage life. Again, focus on techniques or things that you do or can accomplish that would offer a benefit to someone else. Just let Pastor Jason know and we'll work from there to potentially schedule a class. In the meantime, **do come out this Sunday at 3pm in the Fellowship Hall kitchen** to learn how to make some great dishes!

{Join us this Sunday at 10am for a message from Pastor Jason on '**Transformed to Transform**' (Romans 12:1-3)!}

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 considering this request.

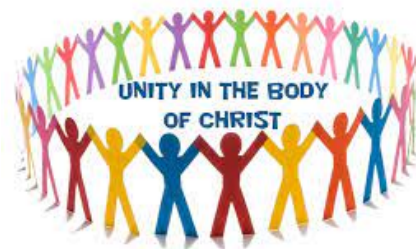


our Elders and Deacons know so that they can minister to you and/or your family.



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.



****Please note that our "Fellowship on the Lawn" will now be held outside in front of our sanctuary unless it's raining...please join us after worship to fellowship with your brothers & sisters in Christ and enjoy a quick treat while you do!**

Please note: we are 'trying out a **NEW** procedure' for the **receiving of your tithes and offerings to Cook's Church** – we will have 2 offering plates available near the altar and 2 offering plates available in the Narthex every Sunday for your donations which can be put in either plate before and/or after worship each week, OR you can use our new 'QR code' that will be in our bulletin and also on the yellow card in the pew rack to make a donation, OR if you prefer, online giving (contact Ginger Thompson, our Treasurer, for details on that option). If you have any questions, please see Pastor Jason. *As always, we thank you for supporting Cook's Church!*



***"Being an Authentic Church"
Adult Bible Study!***

This study is being led by Fred Cox and Pastor Jason and they would love for **ALL Adults** to join them **each Sunday at 6pm** in our sanctuary! So please make plans now to join them 'each Sunday'!



We will receive the **10 Cents-A-Meal offering THIS Sunday, April 28**, during our 10am worship - *thank you for helping us to feed the hungry in our area through this program!*



'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: **June 2; June 30; Sept. 15; Nov. 3; Dec. 29.** Contact the church office if you'd like to reserve a date!



**Congratulations
GRADUATES!**



**UPCOMING EVENTS
TO PUT ON YOUR
CALENDARS!**

Cook's Cub Scouts will be hosting a **Krispy Kreme DOUGHNUT Sale/ Fundraiser THIS Saturday, APRIL 27, from 8am-noon** (or until they run out) – don't miss out on a delicious treat as well as supporting our Scouts!

Cook's next '**PRAYER VIGIL**' will be on Saturday, **MAY 4** in our sanctuary from 8am-noon - we'd love to have you come and pray for each other, our church, our community, our state/nation, and our world!

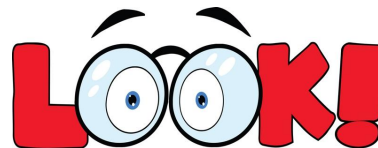
****Sunday, JUNE 2:
GRADUATION SUNDAY**



****The 'Laundry Ministry's'** next mission will be the *last Monday of this month, April 29.* * If you'd like to be part of this Mission, contact Jeannie McClure at 704/519-5021.



FYI: Trinity UMC MEN (6230 Beatties Ford Rd, 28216) is having a **FISH FRY** on Saturday, **May 4**, beginning at 3pm - \$15 per plate which includes filet flounder, shrimp & catfish, with slaw, fries & hushpuppies, tartar & cocktail sauce.



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

We will honor our 2024 High School & College Graduates during our morning worship!

Cook's **'Auto Show @ Shuffletown'** - Saturday, **JUNE 8**,
Registration 8:30-12; Show 9am-2:30pm - please be sure to come 'stroll down memory lane' with us!

CHECK THIS OUT!



For more details on ALL of our upcoming church events, be sure to 'check out' our website (www.cookschurch.org) & Facebook page, as well as the Thurs eNews and mailed newsletter!



Cook's MONTHLY MEETINGS:

****Cook's SESSION** will meet on the **2nd Sunday** of each month at **7pm** in Rm #113.

ALL LADIES are invited to join our Presbyterian Women's **CIRCLE meeting** on the **second Tuesday** of each month (**May 14**) at **10:30am** or **7:00pm** in Rm #113 in the Ed Bldg. Contact Pede Self with questions at 704/516-1753.

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

www.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 the QR code above, or your debit/credit card and that "app" is available to download from our website...

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

Cook's **MEN OF THE CHURCH** will have their **monthly breakfast meeting** on the **third Sunday** of each month at **7:30am** (Ed Bldg lobby) and **ALL MEN** at Cook's are invited to attend! Contact Dale Luckey with questions at 704/309-0798.

Cook's **PROPERTY Ministry** normally meets on the **second Thursday** of each month at **6:30pm** in Rm #113 - check with Neal Hager to see when they will meet again.

Cook's **MISSION Ministry** meets on the **first Friday** of each month (**May 3**) at **10:00am** in Rm #113...contact Fred Cox with questions at 980/288-3307.

Cook's **WORSHIP Ministry** meets on the **first Thursday** of each month (**May 2**) at **2:00pm** via Zoom and/or in the church office...contact Denise Veard for details at 704/564-8030.

Cook's **FINANCE MINISTRY** meets on the **fourth Sunday** of each month (**April 28**) at **11:15am** in Rm #113. Contact Joe Thompson if you have any questions at 704/399-8837.



We wish the following a Happy & Blessed Birthday!

- May 14 - Suzy Hager;
- May 15 - Avery Birmingham;
- May 16 - Julie Sasnett;
- May 17 - Christine Bogojevich;
- May 18 - Sheila Black;
- May 20 - Mia Chaney;
- May 25 - Elizabeth Bolick;
- May 26 - Melinda McElhaney;
- May 30 - Bonnie Spurlock



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. 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



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

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

Contact Us!

Pastor Jason Bryant

jason@cookschurch.org

Church Office

office@cookschurch.org

Cook's Playschool

cooksplayschool@gmail.com

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