



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

***Proverbs 31:25-26*** – “*She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.*”

As Mother's Day approaches, we are reminded of the profound influence and unwavering dedication of mothers in our lives and communities. Whether they are our biological mothers, adoptive mothers, spiritual mentors, or mother figures, their impact is immeasurable and their love, boundless. In the tapestry of family, mothers are often the threads that hold us together. They nurture, teach, guide, and support us



*Prayer Requests:*

Cook's Church/Playschool, **our sincere Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Tom McClure** (funeral @ Cook's Fri, 5/10, 11am, visitation afterwards in Ed Bldg lobby, family interment to follow), Jack Parker (c/o 520 Turner Rd, Gastonia, NC 28078), Dale Luckey, Jill Griffin, Johnnie Quinn, Linda Lynn, Ginny Dunn (The Laurels, 6101 Clarke Creek Pkwy, Charlotte, 28269, Rm #D202, 704/249-0374c), 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, David Luckey, Andy Burge, Robert Lynn Burge, Debbie White,

through life's journey. From the whispered prayers in the dead of night to the joyful encouragement in moments of triumph, their presence is a constant source of strength and comfort. The Bible speaks frequently of the nurturing nature of mothers, likened to God's love in its tenderness and strength.

This Mother's Day, let us reflect on the vital role that these incredible women play in our spiritual and daily lives. Let us honor them not just with words, but through acts of kindness and recognition of their endless efforts. For those for whom this day might bring sadness—due to loss, estrangement, or unfulfilled desires of motherhood—we reach out with open arms and compassionate hearts. Our community is here to embrace you, to sit with you in your sorrow, and to support you in love. This Mother's Day, let us all take a moment to express our gratitude for the women who have shaped our lives.

Whether it be through a phone call, a card, or a prayer, let your appreciation be known and felt. Mothers, we thank you for your sacrifices, your love, and the grace you bring into our lives. May you feel deeply cherished and celebrated—not just today, but every day. God bless all mothers and mother figures for the vital roles they play in echoing God's unconditional love.

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

Nicolas Wilson (teenage grandson of Ed & Nancy w/brain tumor), Judy & Richard Bogan, Kurt Hollar, Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, 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

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 meeting will be held again on **Sunday, May 19** (NO meeting on 5/12-Mother's Day) @ **4:30pm** (\*NOTE time change\*) in Rm #113 and will last about an hour. See Kay Falls or James Harper for more information.

### **Cook's Cares**

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' on **Sundays 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, **our next class** will be on **Sunday, JUNE 2, at 3pm in the Fellowship Hall kitchen** and we hope you will join us to learn how to make some great dishes! {\*\*PLEASE NOTE: there will be **NO** cooking classes May 12 for *Mother's Day*, and May 19 & 26 as Pastor Jason will be on study leave.}

{Join us this Sunday at 10am for a sermon from Pastor Jason on '**A Mother's Compassion**' (Mt. 9:35-37)!}

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.

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***"Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of motherhood. This Sunday, as well as every day of the year, we celebrate the loving sacrifice of mothers, both biological and spiritual, who nurture and guide us in Your ways. Bless them with joy, strength, and love to continue their selfless devotion, and may they feel deeply appreciated and honored every day. Amen."***

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**Looking for a class that**

**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.**

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**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!*

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**"Being an Authentic Church"**

**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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**\*\*Please note that our "Fellowship on the Lawn" will now be held outside in front of our sanctuary unless it's raining (will set-up in the Ed Bldg lobby if weather is bad)...please join us after worship to fellowship with your brothers & sisters in Christ and enjoy a quick treat while you do!**

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**COMMUNITY DINNER**

May's '**COMMUNITY MEAL**' will be **TODAY**, **Thursday, May 9**, from 5-

## 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** (**NOTE: NO** Bible Study on 5/12 & 26...*Mother's Day & Memorial Day weekend*; will meet on 5/19, then June 2/9/23/30...) at **6pm** in our sanctuary! So please make plans now to join them!

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6:30pm at Hillcrest Baptist Church. The menu will be taco pie, blue chips, salad & dessert. *Please invite your friends & neighbors to come with you to enjoy this delicious meal and some wonderful fellowship!*

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*Cook's Playschool presents their annual "Fantastic Fours" 'Graduation' and you are all cordially invited to attend this ceremony on Thursday, May 16, 2024, 11:00am, on the front steps to the church sanctuary (if raining, in sanctuary)! And if we have good weather, we will have a 'picnic' on the playground right after the program...so pack your picnic lunch and enjoy all the fun!*

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**'2024 Flower Calendar'**

# UPCOMING EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDARS!

**\*THIS Sunday, MAY 12 –  
“Mother’s Day Celebration”**  
during our 10am worship service!

**MAY 26 – “Memorial Day  
Remembrance”**

Acknowledgement and extending our  
appreciation to all of our *Cook’s*  
*Veterans!*

**Sunday, JUNE 2:  
GRADUATION SUNDAY**

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!**



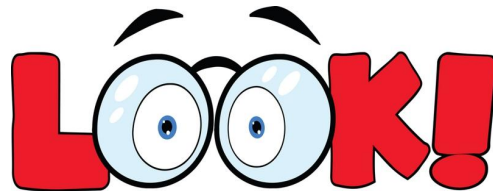
***For more details on ALL of our  
upcoming church events, be sure to  
'check out' our website  
([www.cookschurch.org](http://www.cookschurch.org)) & Facebook  
page, as well as the Thurs eNews and  
mailed newsletter!***



**Cook's MONTHLY MEETINGS:**

**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.** Contact  
the church office if you'd like  
to reserve a date!



***\*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

[www.cookschurch.org](http://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](mailto:office@cookschurch.org)) and we'll  
see about getting it and your  
information included asap!

\*\*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 (THIS Tuesday, May 14)** of each month at 10:30am or 7:00pm in Rm #113 in the Ed Bldg. Contact Pede Self with questions at 704/516-1753.

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 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 at 2:00pm via Zoom and/or in the church office...contact Denise Vead for details at 704/564-8030.

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

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## 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](http://www.cookschurch.org). If you have any questions, call Ginger Thompson, Treasurer @ 704/562-7558.

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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!



**Memorial Day** is just around the corner and we will be publishing a list of all of Cook's Veterans the week before. **If you know of any one that has or is serving in the military that has been or is member of Cook's Church that was not on the list in 2023, please send me their name, what branch they served in, and in what war they served and/or during peace time by May 15.** Also, if someone on last year's list has passed, please let me know that too.

Thank you!



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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)



**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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