



FROM THE
PASTOR

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

***Ephesians 4:3: "Make every
effort to keep the unity
of the Spirit through
the bond of peace."***

In our busy lives, it's easy to feel disconnected from those around us. Yet, we're reminded of the importance of unity and peace within our community. I recently thought about a time when a group of us came together to help a neighbor rebuild their home after a storm. We all had different skills and backgrounds, but working side by side toward a common goal brought us closer together. This experience reflects our calling as a church. Each of us brings unique gifts, but it's our



Prayer Requests:

Cook's Church/Playschool, Nancy Smith, Jack & Jeannie McClure, Sydney Thompson, Charlie & Debbie McCrary, Ronnie Petursson, Ellen Jackson, Steve Self, Don Monteith, Allyne Gant, Sara Yarbrough, Dale Luckey, Matt Thompson, Dennis & Debbie Abernathy, Jerome & Linda Abernathy, Ginny Dunn (*visitors welcome!* @ The Laurels, Rm #D202, 704/249-0374c), Steve (Univ Nursing & Rehab, Rm 602A) & Sharon Gilmore (now @ Residences @ Windsor, 3501 E. Independence Blvd, Charlotte, 28205, Rm 1408, 980-355-3242), David Luckey, Nicolas Wilson (grandson of Nancy Wilson), Betty McClure, Kurt Hollar, Melody Mathews, Michael Matrone, Judy & Richard Bogan, Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, Steve Johnston, Tom Lineberger, Carol

shared purpose that unites us. When we focus on what we have in common—our love for God and for one another—we strengthen the bonds of our community. I encourage you to find ways to connect with others in our congregation. Whether it's joining a Sunday school class, volunteering, or simply reaching out to someone new, your efforts make a difference. Let's strive to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace, building a community where everyone feels valued and connected.

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

We welcome Sarah-Dianne Jones to our pulpit this Sunday while Pastor Jason is on vacation! *Sarah-Dianne is proud to have lived in nearly all the Southern states, though she claims Alabama as home. A graduate of Maryville College, she majored in religion before spending 3 years in Washington, DC, working with the PCUSA's Young Adult Volunteer Program and a local congregation. After 4 years at Sardis Presbyterian here in Charlotte, she served as the Program Associate for the Center for Excellence in Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary throughout their startup year. In June of 2024, she graduated from Union with her Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education. Sarah-Dianne is passionate about working with children, the way that creativity influences our ability to find joy in the world, and whatever her latest craft is.*

Calhoun, Kathy Gant, Beverly Farquhar (M. McElhaney's sister), Danny Ollis, Robert Luckey, Fennel & Milam families (Playschool families/Riverside flood victims), **ALL the many others affected by Hurricane Helena...loss of family**

members/homes/income/jobs, etc., KCH/Kenya, Cook's Homebound mbrs/Active Military personnel, victims of mass shootings/nat'l disasters, those with ongoing illnesses/grieving the loss of a loved one, and the many others whose name(s) are not listed here but are in need of our intercessory prayer
(*Names on for 4 wks - please let the church office know if they still are in need of add'l prayer. If a name has been removed and is still in need of add't prayer, please contact the church office and we'll be glad to put them back on the list.)

Homebound List: Sara Yarbrough, Steve Gilmore, Allyne Gant, Ginny Dunn

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

{Be sure to join us this Sunday at 10am
for a sermon from Sarah-Dianne Jones
on **'A Path in the Mighty Waters'**
(Isaiah 43:16-21)!}

'Cook's Cares': Please join Pastor Jason at his cooking class on **Sundays at 3pm** (the next **Cooking Class** will be held on **Sunday, November 10**). 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 lead a class** in which you teach to assist people...perhaps you've got some knowledge of plumbing, construction, car repairs, personal bookkeeping, etc. 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 (jason@cookschurch.org / 704/607-4162) and we'll work from there to potentially schedule a class.

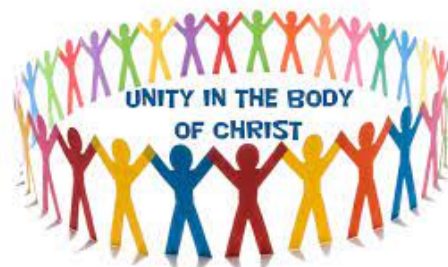
{We recently formed a **new 'Prayer Team'** that has been trained on how to pray with people with the idea of praying deeply for the ongoing needs of our church, church members and our visitors. Our 'Prayer Team' will take part in our worship service by providing prayer leadership immediately following our 10am worship service in the 'prayer room' behind the sanctuary. If you have a need on your heart and would like prayer, please be sure to join them! For more info about this Prayer Team, contact Kay or James Harper (980-275-2075 / 704-614-3550.)}

*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***



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 (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!

available funds, please consider making an over-and-above contribution to our general fund. Thank you for considering this request.

October is
Pastor Appreciation
Month



Pastor Jason:
"You turn the Word into a symphony for the soul."



Thank you for your meaningful and uplifting messages."

****Be sure to tell Pastor Jason how much you appreciate him!!!**

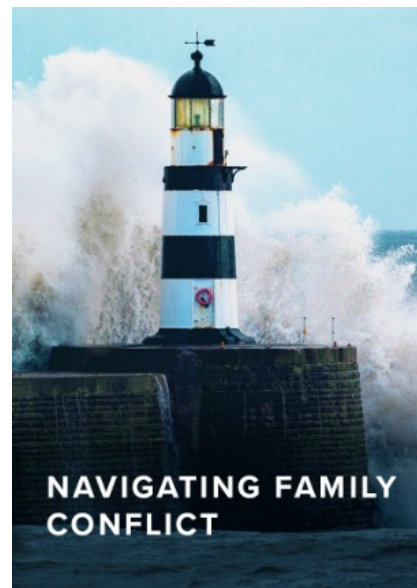
Coat & Blanket Drive



****COATS, GLOVES, HATS & BLANKETS are needed NOW** by the flood victims in Western N.C.! Please bring any **'new and/or gently used'** items to the church office between 9am-5pm and no later than **THIS FRIDAY, October 18 @**



Please note: We want you to know that we have a **NEW** procedure' for the **receiving of your tithes and offerings to Cook's Church** – we have 2 offering plates available on the offertory table in front of 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, we have 'online giving' (see website: www.cookschurch.org, 'Give Now' link, for details on that option). If you have any questions, please see Pastor Jason. *As always, we thank you for supporting Cook's Church!*



NOON – if no one is here, please leave items at the back door to the office and we'll get them when we return.

Thank you!



Cook's **GARAGE SALE will be held on Saturday, **NOVEMBER 9!** {Sale hours will be **8am-1pm** – *please spread the word to all your friends & neighbors*}! Donations can be brought to 'Rowan Hall' any day, M-F, 9am-5pm...see Cheryl in the church office for a key to get into RH. **ALL** donations *must be brought to RH NO LATER THAN NOON on FRIDAY, 11/8!* If you have any questions, contact Jeannie McClure (704/519-5021).
Thank you!



We are **NOW** collecting the following items that will be sent to disabled vets, shut-in vets or

"Navigating Family Conflicts" 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!



We are getting ready to clean out **Room #206** on the top floor of the Ed Bldg - if you have anything stored in that room that you want to keep, please be sure to relocate it *soon!* If you have any questions, see Neal Hager.
Thank you!



COMING SOON!

Our **Fall Festival** will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 26**, from **2-5pm** in our parking lot in front of FH! There will be games, candy, lunch

veterans in need **through**
October 27 for **OPERATION**
NORTH STATE: Brylcreem
Gel, toiletries, Old Spice Aftershave,
Vitalis Hair Tonic, magazines,
games, puzzle/coloring books,
socks/footies, pudding cups (reg &
sugar free), cookies, candy, chewing
gum...or checks made payable to
Operation North State. Handmade
cards/drawings from children are
much appreciated also! Collection
boxes for your donations will be in
the Narthex and Ed Bldg
entranceway to receive your
donations. Thank you in
advance for your support!
{Check out www.operationnorthstate.com
and Facebook for more info.}



**Help us to give a Christmas
present to a child overseas
that normally would not
receive one through
'Operation Christmas
Child'...collection dates are
NOW through **November 22**.**
Here is a *suggested* list of most
wanted items to be put in the
shoebox: outfit to wear, underwear,
flip flops, comb, hair items, tooth-
brush, washcloth, nail file/clipper,
hat/scarf/mittens, sunglasses, doll,
stuffed animal, small musical
instrument, notebooks, index cards,
ruler, pencils, crayons/colored
pencils/markers, coloring/picture

items, sno-cones and more!
ALL children are invited
so please invite your
family, friends &
neighbors to join us!
****DONATIONS of bags**
of candy' are needed – a
donation box is in the
Narthex starting this Sunday
through **Oct. 25**. See
Johnnie Quinn if you have
any questions.

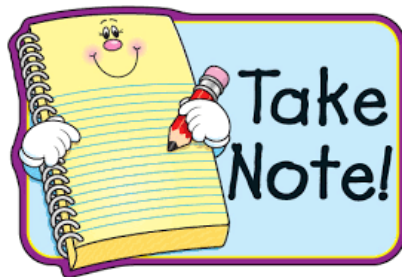


****More 'upcoming
events' to put on your
calendar:**
Prayer Vigil–Sat., Nov. 2
- everyone (you(!) & your friends,
neighbors, family, etc.) is invited to
drop by our sanctuary from
8am-noon to say a prayer for
anything that is on your heart
that you would like to turn
over to God!
All Saints' Day
Remembrance – Sun.,
Nov. 3, during our 10am
worship service, we will light a
candle in loving memory of
our members that have gone
to be with our Lord & Savior in
the past year.
**Thank Offering 'Soup &
Sandwich' Lunch** –
Sun., **Nov. 17**, right after
worship in FH, *plan now to join
our Presbyterian Women for*

books, stickers, small puzzles, Uno card game, marbles, magnets, craft items/kit, jump romp, foam ball, finger puppets, slinky, tennis ball, plastic tools/dinosaurs, play cars/trucks/boats, yo-yo, small frisbee/kite/Etch-a-Sketch, bead jewelry/kit, compass, baseball/mitt.

Items they do **NOT** want: standard playing cards, food/candy/gum, used items, toothpaste, liquids or items that could leak, melt, freeze or break, shampoo, creams, lip balm bath gels, mirrors or glass, war-related toys/knives/guns, backpacks.

An OCC shoebox and label is in the Narthex and Ed Bldg entranceway for your use or you can use your own.



Cook's Worship Ministry needs YOUR help!!!!

We have many people involved in each Sunday's worship service and we are currently looking for **anyone that can help with 'audio/visual tasks'** (live streaming of service, showing slides on screen, running cameras, sound system, etc. - AV *experience a plus* but not mandatory... **it's not really as hard as it sounds!**), **'Fellowship on the Lawn'** and **'nursery' workers**. Even if you can *help once a month or once a quarter*, it would be a great help. Questions or to sign-up, contact Denise Vead (704-564-8030) – thank you!

lunch on this Sunday and enjoy some homemade soup & delicious sandwiches!

Hanging of the Greens Party & Chili Dinner

Sun., **Nov. 24** @ 4pm, our *Worship Ministry* would appreciate your help with decorating our sanctuary for Christmas, and then Pastor Jason will be serving up a delicious chili dinner to enjoy afterwards!

A Christmas Organ

Recital – Sun., **Dec. 8** @ 2:30pm, join David, along with 2 other guest organists, in our sanctuary to enjoy some inspiring and festive Advent & Christmas music!

Queen City Ringers

Holiday Handbell

Concert – Sat., **Dec. 21**

@ 2pm, this will be a fun & beautiful concert @ Cook's to bring your whole family & friends to enjoy!

Cook's Adult Choir's

Christmas Cantata –

Sun., **Dec. 22**...please join us at our 10am worship service in which our Adult Choir will present the *Christmas story* in song!



Congregation – please help us to spread the word that the **"Heartbeats Women's Center Mobile Lab"** is in Cook's parking lot **most every Tuesday from 1-4pm** (depending on rain/heat) and *anyone* is invited to stop by to receive one of their (free)

****Important Note** - If you can't be here in person for worship on Sundays and would like to watch our service online, look for them on 'YouTube – Cook's Church CLT'. And please sign up for this YouTube subscription:

Link: Cook's Church CLT - YouTube



To our church family: Jack and I appreciate the prayers and thoughts sent our way this week. All of you continue to be our strength and hope with your many offers of help.
- Jeannie McClure

To the Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church (Men's Group): Thank you so much for your donation to our scholars! You all are greatly appreciated.
- from the Paw Creek Elementary Family

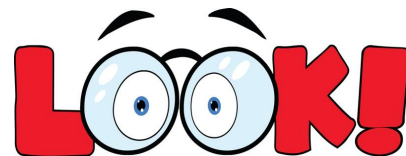


The 'Laundry Ministry' was gifted \$360 through an unusual source

services. *Heartbeats* is dedicated to serving our community with quality care by offering free and confidential medical services (pregnancy testing, ultrasounds), practical assistance, and emotional support. For more details, their website is heartbeatspcc.org and phone # is 704-489-0708.

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 weekly mailed newsletter!



***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

this week. Our dear sweet Aunt Betty collected quarters among other things. Upon her death a bucket was found full of rolled quarters. The quarters were given to the Laundry Ministry out of love and a desire to help others. God bless her!!!



Cook's MONTHLY MEETINGS:

We now have a new '**Digital/ Communications Team**' that will meet monthly - **time/date tba**. If you have any questions about this Team, contact Reg King.

Cook's **SESSION** will meet on the **2nd Sunday (**Rescheduled to Oct. 20, 7:00pm)** of each month in Rm #113.

***ALL LADIES** are invited to join our Presbyterian Women's **CIRCLE meeting** will meet on the **second Tuesday of every 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 meet monthly (as needed) at **7:30am** in the lobby of the Ed. Bldg. and **ALL MEN** at Cook's are invited to attend! Contact Dale Luckey with questions at 704/309-0798.

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 Church has a FACEBOOK page! Come check us out and stay connected!
www.facebook.com/pages/Cooks-Memorial-Presbyterian-Church

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.



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 (www.cookschurch.org)!

Have you read your recent church newsletter? Recent issues of our Cook's Communicator can be found on our church website (www.cookschurch.org)!

Contact Us!

Pastor Jason Bryant

jason@cookschurch.org

Church Office

office@cookschurch.org

Cook's Playschool

cooksplayschool@gmail.com

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