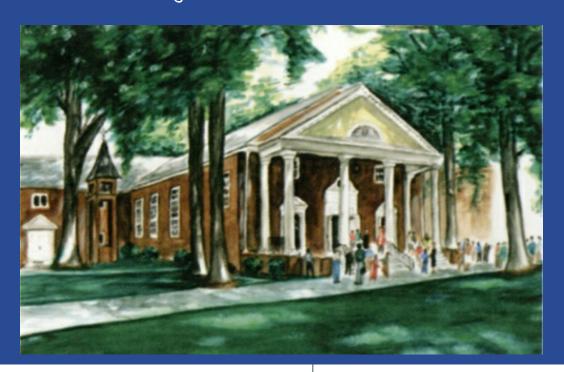
## Cook's Church Weekly E-News





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

Hebrews 6:19-20 – "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf."

Hope is a word we often hear, but in a world filled with uncertainty, it can feel fleeting. For Christians, however, hope is not a fragile wish or a vague optimism. It is a confident assurance grounded in the promises of God and the work of Jesus Christ. The hope we have in Christ is described as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It doesn't waver with the storms of life or break under the



Prayer Requests:

Cook's Church/Playschool, family of Frank Norris, Dwight Black, James Harper, Patty Brown, Penny & Max Love, Suzy Hager, Nancy Smith, Charles & Kay Mathews & family, Whitey Ridenhour, Jack & Jeannie McClure, Charlie & Debbie McCrary, Ronnie Petursson, Ellen Jackson, Steve Self, Allyne Gant, Sara Yarbrough, Dale Luckey, Matt Thompson, Debbie Abernathy, Jerome Abernathy, Ginny Dunn (visitors welcome! @ The Laurels, Rm #D202, 704/249-0374c), Steve (Univ Nursing & Rehab, Rm 602A) & Sharon Gilmore (Residences @ Windsor, Rm 1408, 980-355-3242), David Luckey, Nicolas Wilson (grandson of Nancy Wilson), Betty McClure, Kurt Hollar, Michael Matrone, Judy & Richard Bogan,

weight of trials. Instead, it holds us steady, rooted in the unchanging character of God. His love is steadfast, His promises are true, and His grace is sufficient for every need. This hope is alive because it is tied to the resurrection of Jesus. As Peter writes, "In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' It is this living hope that gives us strength to endure hardships, courage to face the unknown, and joy in the assurance of eternal life. Christian hope transforms the way we live. It compels us to trust God even when the road is unclear, to love others as we've been loved, and to shine as lights in a world often clouded by despair. Hope isn't passive—it's active. It inspires us to move forward, leaning into God's promises and His faithfulness. Let's live as people anchored in the unshakable hope of Jesus Christ, proclaiming with our words and actions the joy and peace that only He can provide. In name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Pastor Jason

{Be sure to join us this Sunday at 10am

for a sermon from Pastor Jason on 'All About Hope' (Romans 8:18-25)!}

\*Our 'Cook's Cares' COOKING
CLASS meets at 3pm in our
Fellowship Hall kitchen (the next
class date in '2025' tba)...everyone
is invited to join Pastor Jason to
'learn how to whip up a delicious
dish' that highlights culinary-school
level cooking with affordable
ingredients found at your local

Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, Carol Calhoun, Kathy Gant, Beverly Farquhar (M. McElhaney's sister), Robert Luckey, Cherie Lowman, Audrey Bryan, Grey Frey, Angie Ross, Murray Lassiter, Judy 'JJ' Jones, Steve Johnston, 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 addt'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.

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#### \* 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.

grocery store'. But the concept "Cook's Cares" is far broader. \*\*To that end, Jason would 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

# \*\*\*Congregational Meeting December 1, 2024\*\*\*

potentially schedule a class.

We will hold a 'brief congregational meeting' with one purpose – to elect Elders and Deacons for the coming years, at the end of our worship service THIS Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024.

An 'informational meeting' will be held THIS Sunday, December 1, 2024, at 1:00pm in Cook's Fellowship Hall to present information to church members on the future development of the property at 3201 & 3221 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Rd – the parcels adjacent to the church property. Representatives from Mountain View Commercial Real Estate Company will be on hand to provide information and answer questions. Please plan to join the Property Ministry Team and Cook's Session at this important meeting.

Thank you to all that have graciously



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Frank Norris. Frank passed away on Sunday, November 24, 2024. His funeral will be this Saturday, November 30, at 1:00pm in Cook's sanctuary and afterwards there will be visitation with the family in Fellowship Hall. Please remember his family in your prayers during this time of loss.



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.

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.

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

\*\*Three 'Upcoming Musical Events' to put on your calendar:

A Christmas Organ Recital — Sunday, December 8 @ 2:30pm, join David, along with 2 other guest organists, in our sanctuary to enjoy some inspiring and festive Advent & Christmas music! A love offering will be received and sent to the Hurricane Helene NC Flood Victims.

Queen City Ringers Holiday
Handbell Concert – Saturday,
December 21 @ 2pm, this will be
a fun & beautiful concert @ Cook's
to bring your whole family & friends
to enjoy! A love offering will be
received for the Queen City
Ringers.

Cook's Adult Choir's

Christmas Cantata – Sunday,

December 22...please join us at our 10am worship service in which



\*\*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!



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, <u>OR</u> if you prefer, we have

our Adult Choir will present the Christmas story' in song!

Christmas will be here before we know it so that means it's time to order our 'Poinsettias' to decorate Cook's sanctuary and to honor and/or remember our loved ones. They will be in our sanctuary on Sundays, December 15 & 22. We are offering red, 6" plants at \$7.00 each. We ask that you take your plants you order home after our 5pm Christmas Eve Worship **Service**, and if you're unable to attend that service, please take them home after worship on 12/22 or 12/29. The deadline to turn in your order with payment is no later than THIS Sunday morning, December 1. Order forms will be available in the Narthex and Ed Bldg entranceway starting this Sunday. Contact the church office at 704/399-7735 or office@cookschurch.org with questions. See Denise on Sunday morning, Dec. 1, if you have any questions.

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'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!

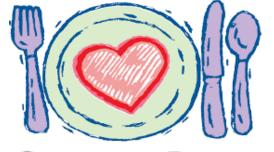


## "Looking Forward to Christmas" Adult Bible Study!

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!



The Dec-Feb 'DAILY BREAD Devotionals' are available for you to pick up in the Narthex, Ed Bldg entranceway, box on shelf at back door to the church office & church office during



### COMMUNITY DINNER

Everyone is invited to attend our 'COMMUNITY MEAL' on

**Thursday, December 12**, from 5-6:30pm in FH! *Please bring a friend or two with you*! (Menu will be ham, green beans, potato salad & dessert.)

Take Note!

# 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-

\*\*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

8030) - thank you!

work hours.



**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) 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 YouTube subscription:

Link: Cook's Church CLT YouTube



#### **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** 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 (for December, ALL Ladies are invited to join our Circles on Monday, December 9th at the 'home of Bonnie Pace' at 6:30pm...details tba) at 10:30am or 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. 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.

Cook's **PROPERTY Ministry**normally meets on the **second Thursday** of each month at <u>6:30pm</u>
in Rm #113 - check with Neal Hager

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 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 @

to see when they will meet again.

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

Cook's **WORSHIP Ministry** meets on the <u>first Thursday</u> of each month at <u>2:00pm</u> 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 <u>11:15am</u> in Rm #113. Contact Joe Thompson if you have any questions at 704/399-8837.

Play,
Learn

Grow...

Tigether!

# Cook's Playschool would love to have your 3-5 year old(s) join them!

Cook's Playschool is held Monday thru Thursday from 9:30am-1pm each day! If you'd like your 3-5 year old to be in on the 'all the fun they will have while they are learning important life skills and preparing for Kindergarten', please contact Kelly Carter and/or Bobbie Penninger in the Playschool office immediately at 704/394-4422 or cooksplayschool@gmail.com!

\*\*Everyone is invited to attend Cook's Playschool's Christmas Program on Thursday, Dec. 19 @ 12:15pm in Fellowship Hall! Enjoy an arrangement of holiday songs by all children as 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



#### **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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well as a live nativity from our Fantastic Fours. Refreshments will be served before the program. Doors open at 11:45 for you to come and enjoy!

Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church | 3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road | Charlotte, NC 28216 US

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