



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

***Hebrews 10:25:*** “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

In our fast-paced world, it can be difficult to carve out time for weekly worship, yet the benefits are undeniable—both spiritually and personally. Gathering for worship each week renews our spirits, deepens our connection with God, and strengthens our bonds with one another. Studies even show the positive effects of regular worship on mental and emotional well-being. Research from the Harvard School of Public



***Prayer Requests:***

Cook's Church/Playschool, family of Melody Mathews (Charles & Kay Mathews' daughter, funeral @ 2pm on Sat, 11/16, Weddington Methodist), Patty Brown, Frank Norris (ICU/Atrium/Univ), Penny Love, Whitey Ridenhour, Nancy Smith, Jack & Jeannie McClure, Charlie & Debbie McCrary, Ronnie Petursson, Ellen Jackson, Steve Self, 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 (Residences @ Windsor, Rm 1408, 980-355-3242), David Luckey, Nicolas Wilson (grandson of Nancy Wilson), Betty McClure, Kurt Hollar, Michael Matrone, Judy & Richard Bogan, Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, Carol

Health found that people who attend religious services regularly are less likely to experience depression and report a higher sense of purpose and satisfaction in life. Weekly worship helps us pause and reset, giving us space to reflect on God's love and faithfulness, which can be easily forgotten amid the noise of everyday life. It's a time to be reminded of our purpose, to experience the gift of community, and to let the Word speak to our hearts. In a worship setting, we're given the opportunity to lift our voices in praise, share our burdens in prayer, and experience a sense of belonging. These moments of worship nourish our souls, equipping us with strength and perspective for the week ahead. In times of joy and sorrow, having a consistent worship routine means we're never alone; we have a community ready to celebrate, support, and walk alongside us. Joining together in worship grounds us in God's unchanging grace and provides a rhythm of hope and renewal. Consider making weekly worship a priority, not only as a commitment to God but as a gift to yourself and those you love. The peace, joy, and connection you experience will transform your week and deepen your faith.

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 'The One Who Comes' (John 3:31-36)!}

\*Our 'Cook's Cares' **COOKING**

Calhoun, Kathy Gant, Beverly Farquhar (M. McElhaneys sister), Robert Luckey, Cherie Lowman, Audrey Bryan, Grey Frey, Angie Ross, Murray Lassiter, Judy 'JJ' Jones, 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.

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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.

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**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 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](mailto: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 available funds, please consider making an over-and-above contribution to our general fund.*



**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.

(\*NOTE: the **Viewpoint SS Class** will meet again **this** Sunday, 11/17, at 9am in Rm 101.)



\*\*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

Thank you for considering this request.

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**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 Friday, 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, doll, sunglasses, stuffed animal, small musical instrument, notebooks, index cards, ruler, pencils, crayons/colored pencils/markers, coloring/picture 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.

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treat while you do!

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**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](http://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!*

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**\*\*‘Upcoming Events’ to put on your calendar:**

**Thank Offering ‘Soup & Sandwich’ Lunch – THIS**

**Sunday, Nov. 17**, right after worship in FH, plan now to join our Presbyterian Women for lunch on this Sunday and enjoy some homemade soup & delicious sandwiches!

**Hanging of the Greens Party & Chili Dinner–Sunday, 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

**“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!

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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 work hours.

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**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!

Adult Choir will present the  
Christmas story' in song!

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**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 Sun, 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](mailto:office@cookschurch.org) with questions.

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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!](mailto:cooksplayschool@gmail.com)

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**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](http://heartbeatspcc.org) and phone # is 704-489-0708.

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**CHECK THIS OUT!**

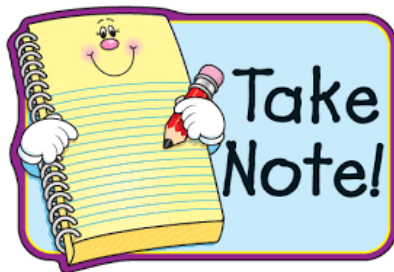


**For more details on ALL of our upcoming church events, be sure to 'check out' our website ([www.cookschurch.org](http://www.cookschurch.org)) &**



**Cook's Presbyterian Women's recent 'Garage Sale's proceeds' were approx. \$2685 - thank you to everyone (all of the workers and/or those who purchased items) who made it a huge success!**

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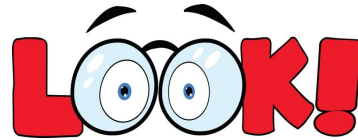
### **Cook's Worship Ministry needs YOUR help!!!!**

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!

**\*\*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

**Facebook page, as well as the Thurs eNews and weekly mailed newsletter!**

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**\*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](mailto: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!

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...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](mailto: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!

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**NEWS FROM  
FINANCE MINISTRY**

on 'YouTube – Cook's Church CLT'. And please sign up for this YouTube subscription:

**Link: Cook's Church CLT - YouTube**

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### **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** 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 **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

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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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)



Check out what is happening @Cook's Scan to connect with Us on Facebook

### **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](http://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](http://www.cookschurch.org))!

### **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)



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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