



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

***Psalm 139:14: "I praise You
because I am fearfully and
wonderfully made;
Your works are wonderful,
I know that full well."***

So often, we forget that God's hand shaped each of us uniquely and that His workmanship is truly amazing. In a world where comparison is the norm, Scripture reminds us that our worth does not come from how well we measure up to others. Instead, it comes from our Maker, whose loving creativity brought us into being. No matter what you face in life, each of you is a masterpiece formed by God's perfect design.



Prayer Requests:

Cook's Church/Playschool, James Harper (back surg on 1/15, requesting no visitors at this time but call to Kay are appreciated), Paige Benson, Patty Brown, Charlie & Debbie McCrary, Nancy Smith, Max Love, Jack McClure, Ronnie Petursson, Ellen Jackson, Steve Self, Allyne Gant, Sara Yarbrough, Debbie Abernathy, Jerome Abernathy, Ginny Dunn (visitors welcome! @ The Laurels, Rm #D202, 704/249-0374c), Steve (Univ Nursing, Rm 602A) & Sharon Gilmore (Residences @ Windsor, Rm 1408, 980-355-3242), Nicolas Wilson (grandson of Nancy Wilson), Betty McClure (Huntersville Health & Rehab), Kurt Hollar, Michael Matrone, Judy & Richard Bogan, Lisa Roth, Colette Roberts, Gloria Ricker, Kathy Gant, Beverly Farquhar, Angie Ross, Steve Johnston, Cindy Folsom, Branson Morris, Cam Carter, Scott Bolick, ***ALL those affected by***

Embrace the truth that you are “wonderfully made,” reflecting His light and love in the world. It’s a beautiful, joyful reality that cannot be diminished by self-doubt or outside opinion. You are God’s beloved creation—wholly known, cherished, and absolutely precious in His sight. And this good news calls us to live in confidence and gratitude. Each day gives us fresh opportunities to celebrate the unique gifts God has placed within us and to share them freely with others. In doing so, we become living testimonies of God’s wonder, shining as reminders that His marvelous works continue in and through us all.

In name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pastor Jason

{Join us this Sunday at 10am for a message from Pastor Jason on "Jesus at the Party" (John 1:1-12)!}

Cook’s Cares: Please join Pastor Jason at his cooking class at 3pm in our FH kitchen (**next class date to be announced at a later time**). 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. ****We’d like YOU to begin thinking about a class** that you might 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. Just let Pastor Jason know (jason@cookschurch.org / 704/607-4162) – we’d like to potentially schedule a class for you to lead.

After a search, the Session of

Hurricane Helena and wildfires in CA...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.

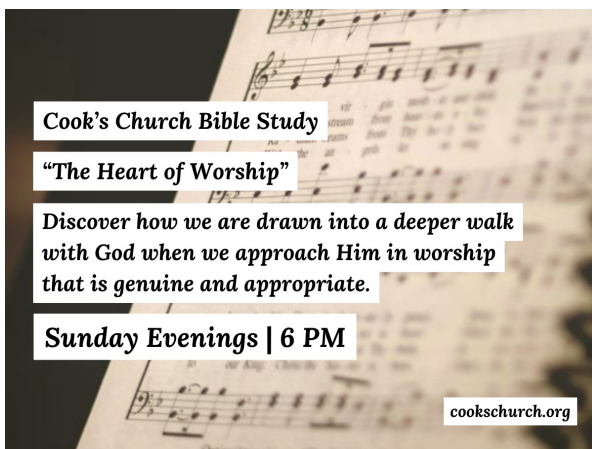
Please pray for all daily; to make changes to any of these lists, contact the church office @ 704/399-7735.

*** 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.

our church has extended an offer to 'Alyssa Overcash' to take over for Cheryl after her departure. This means that Alyssa will be here as a lot more. Please be on the lookout for office hours which we will post soon.

Alyssa was hired to be our Director of Community Outreach. She was doing such a good job that it seemed a natural extension to have her take on some of Cheryl's responsibilities when she retires at the end of the month. Please welcome Alyssa to her new role as you see her!



Cook's Church Bible Study
"The Heart of Worship"
Discover how we are drawn into a deeper walk with God when we approach Him in worship that is genuine and appropriate.
Sunday Evenings | 6 PM
cookschurch.org



THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

Cook's Church Congregation and friends,

It was a very good year for Cook's. What follows is a listing of many of Cook's important accomplishments completed during 2024:

- * Renovation of Fellowship Hall was completed.
- * Not a part of the damage, however new flooring was installed.
- * We upgraded the sound system in the sanctuary.



We will have a '**CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**' *THIS Sunday, January 26, 2025*, at the end of worship to elect members to our 2025 Nominating Ministry and approve changes to the Pastor's Terms of Call for 2025. Also, our '2025 Budget and 2024 Mission Giving' will be presented.



We will receive the '**10 Cents-A-Meal Offering**' *this Sunday morning, January 26, during our 10am worship service. Please be sure to mark all donations "10 Cents" and they can be put in one of the offering plates on the communion table or in the Narthex. Thank you for helping us feed those in need of food in our area!*

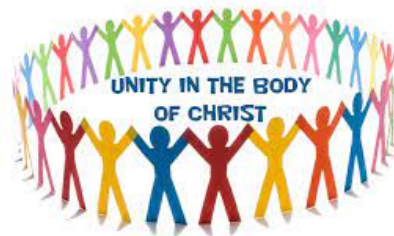
- * We installed new equipment to enhance the streaming quality of our services to accommodate our members and neighbors who are homebound.
- * We welcomed 7 Youth members through Confirmation and 5 Adult members.
- * We added a new Staff Member: Alyssa Overcash.
- * We re-designed the role of Secretary/Administrative Assistant and added the role of Director of Community Engagement. Alyssa will assume both roles.
- * We completed our new Digital Sign.
- * Several trees, all hazards, were either trimmed or taken down.
- * Our Prayer room was created for reflection, prayer and guidance immediately after the morning worship service.
- * We have had needed work done to certain plumbing systems and the boiler.
- * Multiple music programs were held at Cook's and will become a staple for our congregation and the surrounding area.
- * Our Social Media presence has been enhanced and increased.
- The sale of the adjacent 7.9 acres was approved and negotiations are now underway with a quality developer.
- * Because of the property sale a group is being brought together to make plans for the use of the funds from the sale. Picture this as a VISION 2.0 group. Initial thoughts are: 1) Identifying the physical repairs for our aged campus that have long been put aside for lack of funds. 2) Planning with our Financial Advisor for the long-term investment of the funds. This will offer a great deal of financial stability for a very long time. **Please note that we are



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 that our 'Viewpoint Sunday School Class** will meet on Sunday, **February 2** at 9am in Rm #101. {And just a reminder that the Viewpoint SS Class is having a *get-together at Sports Page in Coulwood at 6:30pm...contact Reg King if you have ?'s.*}



****Please note: due to the cold/wet weather, we will NOT have 'Fellowship on the Lawn' after worship through the winter**

still at least a year and a half away from receiving these funds.

We would like to let you know that most of the projects were funded by specific gifts. Our normal receipts and balances for the General Fund would not have allowed for these projects had it not been for the generosity of members and friends, the diligence of the staff, and the close overseeing of Sessional committees. In fact, we ran with a deficit all year. We were blessed with funds when we needed them! Please note that our financial situation remains precarious, so we ask you to continue your giving and consider additional gifting if you are able all through the year. In addition, keep doing everything you can to grow our congregation!

Have faith and keep Cook's in your prayers! Stay safe, stay well and stay warm!!

- Reg King, Elder, Class of 2024



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE EVENTS!

Please join us for a "**Retirement Reception**" honoring Cheryl Cole **THIS Sunday, January 26**, after worship in Fellowship Hall!

Our quarterly '**Community-wide PRAYER VIGIL**' will be held here at Cook's in our sanctuary on **Saturday, February 1**, from **8am-**

months. It will resume in April, 2025. Please be sure to greet your fellow church members inside before leaving worship each Sunday!



Thank you for supporting Cook's Church! Offering plates are available on the communion table at the front of the sanctuary and also in the Narthex area. If you prefer to give online, we have a QR code in the bulletin and also on the yellow tab in the pew racks, or you can go to our website and click on the 'Give Now' button and it will walk you through the process.



* At this time, we have 2 '**2025 Flower Calendar**' dates available: **March 2 and April 27**. If you are interested in supplying our sanctuary flowers in honor of and/or in loving memory of a loved one on any of these dates, please contact the church office as soon as possible...704-399-7735 /

noon - everyone is urged to drop by to pray for 15 min or so for yourself and/or your family, our city / state / nation / world, and please tell your neighbors they are invited also!

Cook's Scouts will lead us in worship on '**Scout Sunday**' - **February 2** at 10am - please be sure to join us for worship! ('**Scouting For Food**' is an ongoing annual program of the Boy Scouts of America that begun in 1985 by the Greater St. Louis Area Council. The program involves collecting for local food banks and is organized at the local level throughout the country. Cook's 'Boy & Cub Scouts Troop #51' will be collecting '**non-perishable food items**' (NO glass containers!) here at Cook's on **Sunday, February 2**. Please bring your donations that day to the Narthex & they will take them to a local food bank to help those in need of food!)

and Looking Further Ahead:

Community Daddy / Daughter 'Winter' Dance – Sunday, February 23, 4-6pm - in Cook's FH...D.J., dancing, treats, photo booth and more! *ALL fathers/grandfathers/uncles etc. are invited to join their daughters/granddaughters/nieces etc. of all ages!*

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper – Tuesday, March 4 (More details to come!)

Ash Wednesday Prayer/Ashes Service – Wed., March 5, 11:30am-1:30pm, Cook's sanctuary

Easter Egg Hunt {tentative date set for Saturday, April 12}

Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 13

Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 20

office@cookschurch.org.

Thank you!



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!](mailto:cooksplayschool@gmail.com)



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). *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,**



Cook's MONTHLY MEETINGS:

***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.

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.

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 **10:00am** in Rm #113...contact Fred Cox with questions at 980/288-3307.

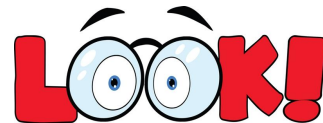
Cook's **WORSHIP Ministry** meets on the **first Thursday** of each month at **2:00pm** via Zoom and/or in the church office...contact Denise Vead for details at 704/564-8030.

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.

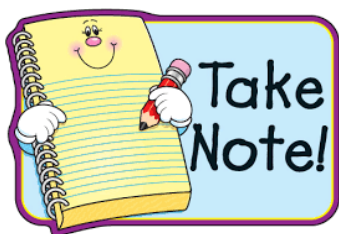
****Cook's NURSERY** is available each week (for SS at 9am & worship at 10am) for our youngest members, ages birth thru 4 yrs old!



...that **IF** your picture is posted in our online church directory (to access go to 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

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.



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) or Johnnie Quinn (704-941-5464) – 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 on **'YouTube – Cook's Church CLT'**. And please sign up for this YouTube subscription:

Link: Cook's Church CLT - YouTube

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



SERMONS:

Did you miss worship this past Sunday? Do you ever want to listen to a recent sermon again? Recent sermons from Sunday



We wish a Blessed and Happy Birthday to the following:

Feb. 11 - Carrie Troxler

Feb. 13 - Matt Bolick

Feb. 16 - Heather Wilz

Feb. 17 - Linda Lynn, Ben Stevens

Feb. 18 - Rachael Miles,
Richard Smith

Feb. 20 - Jerry Benson

Feb. 23 - Kelly Harper,
Maggie Beasley

Feb. 24 - James Harper

Feb. 27 - Natalie Bryant

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

Alyssa Overcash

alyssa@cookschurch.org

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