



First Presbyterian Church

UPDATE/3.21.24

MOUNT HOLLY NC

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday—March 24

The service begins with a Palm Processional and special music!

Maundy Thursday—March 28 at 6:00 pm

This year's Tenebrae service will feature readings based on the last days of Jesus' life. The Lord's Supper will be observed, and candles will be extinguished as the darkness deepens. The service concludes with the singing of *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?*

Easter Sunday Breakfast at 9:30

The Men of the Church will provide a delicious breakfast starting at 9:30. Come enjoy good food and fellowship!

Easter Worship, March 31 at 10:55

We look forward to celebrating Jesus' resurrection with a joyful service. A special prelude will begin at 10:55. Music by trumpet, choir and handbells. The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be dedicated.

Flower Cross

Please bring flowers from your garden and place them on the flower cross by the sanctuary steps.

Easter Egg Hunt

Children are invited to hunt for eggs on the front lawn immediately following the service!

Holy Humor Sunday—April 7

The tradition continues with a light-hearted and joyful celebration of the resurrection! This is an "Old Easter Custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity. It is rooted in the musings of early church theologians (Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. They called it 'risus paschalis' - the Easter laugh."

You are encouraged to wear bright and silly attire!



Open doors, open hearts, a welcome for all just as you are!

Session Highlights

The Session met on March 11 and took the following actions:

- Received an update on the work and progress of the Balcony Team.
- Approved having two Session members negotiate potential terms of a financial agreement with Dr. Dara Cobb-Lewis to rent office space in our Educational Building for her counseling practice.
- Ratified an email vote allowing the Catawba River Plantation HOA to use the sanctuary for a meeting on March 20.
- Approved a request from the City of Mt. Holly to use our parking lot for handicapped parking on Saturday, May 4, during Springfest.
- Approved Marguerite Randall as chairperson of the Endowment Committee.
- Received the January – February Profit and Loss report.
- Approved a bid from an electrical contractor to upgrade electrical issues required by our insurance carrier. Funding for this upgrade will come from Endowment Funds.



April Birthdays

Alex Faith	1
Sandra Rhyne	2
April Jessen	6
Warren Rhinehart	7
Henry Massey	14
Alex Gibson	18
Ralph Webb	20
Brody Lineberger	25
Allison Lockridge	25

Thoughtful Thursday 4-18

Join us for the next of our thoughtful and respectful conversations about challenging topics. Come learn about “allyship” and how it applies to issues such as abortion. Wondering what the Bible says about that? Join us in a safe space to think about this topic. We meet from 6:00—7:30 and dinner is provided!

VBS—Save the Dates!

Our fabulous Intergenerational VBS is back this summer!

Save the dates:

Sunday, June 2 12:00—2:00 (lunch)

Monday, June 3 6:00-8:00 (dinner)

Endowment Requests Due

A reminder that requests for grants and scholarships are due **by April 1**.

Budget Update

Total budget 2024	\$180,765.00
YTD receipts	30,836.50
YTD CRO	215.26
YTD Daily Change	94.00
YTD One Great Hour	45.00

Thank you for your ever-faithful giving for our ministry at First Presbyterian!



One Great Hour of Sharing

The “Gracie the Fish” banks have gone home with our children to collect their coins for this special offering of the PC(USA). And on Easter Sunday we all will have the opportunity to offer our contributions to this fund for hunger, disaster relief and self-development of people. Your gift truly makes a difference in very many ways! Envelopes are located in the pews or you can note OGHS on your check. Last year our contribution totaled \$546! Let’s see if we can do that again for this important ministry!

Outdoor Worship on Earth Sunday April 21 at 11:00

Bring your camping chairs, picnic blankets and smiles as we worship outside on April 21, Earth Sunday! Chairs will also be provided. We'll celebrate the beauty of God's creation. Worship will be followed by...

...Lunch!

There will be grilled burgers and hot dogs, and ice cream! And that will be followed by...

...A Concert!

The group Trinity, Jonathan Brackett and our choir will present some musical delights to liven our spirits!

Mark your calendars! Invite a friend or neighbor and join us!

#EarthDay



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING CINCO DE MAYO!



The Youth at FPC will be serving nachos and tacos on May 5, 2024 after church. This is a fundraiser for our week at Montreat!

