

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, January 28, 2024

Reverend Delton Farmer

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“Helping Others See Jesus’ Grace In Me”

Order of Worship

4th Sunday After Epiphany

**Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT #507 (AA)

"He Has Done Great Things For Me"

TESTIMONY, WITNESS AND PRAISE

LIFE IN CHRIST

HE HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME 507

*The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.
Psalm 126:3*

1. He has done great things for me.
2. He has made a way for me.
3. He will give you vic - to - ry.
4. I'm gonna be a wit - ness for Him.
5. I'm gonna let my lit - tle light shine.

Great things, great things.
Made a way, made a way.
Vic - to - ry, vic - to - ry.
Wit - ness, wit - ness.
Shine, shine.

He has done great things for me.
He has made a way for me.
He will give you vic - to - ry.
I'm gonna be a wit - ness for Him.
I'm gonna let my lit - tle light shine.

Text: Jessy Dixon, © Dixon Music, Inc.

Tune: GREAT THINGS, 7 4 7; Jessy Dixon, © Dixon Music, Inc.; arr. by Stephen Key, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

All: Great are your works, O Lord, pondered by all who delight in them.

Leader: Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

All: You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

***OPENING HYMN #476 (AA)**

"Stand Up For Jesus"

LIFE IN CHRIST

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

476 STAND UP FOR JESUS

*...take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day...
Ephesians 6:13*

1. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross!
2. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The trum - pet call o - bey;
3. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Stand in His strength a - lone;
4. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The strife will not be long;

Lift high His roy - al ban - ner— It must not suf - fer loss.
Forth to the might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
The arm of flesh will fail you— Ye dare not trust your own.
This day the noise of bat - tle— The next, the vic - tor's song.

From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my shall He lead,
Ye that are men now serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
Put on the gos - pel ar - mor, Each piece put on with prayer;
To Him that o - ver - com - eth A crown of life shall be:

Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished And Christ is Lord in - deed.
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
He with the King of glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818-1888
Tune: WEBB, 7 6 7 6 D; George J. Webb, 1803-1887

***PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION**

Heavenly Father, today we lift our voices to intercede for our brothers and sisters in faith, for our church, and for the global Christian community. We ask for unity among believers, that our love for one another may be a testament to Your transformative power. Strengthen our churches, Lord, and guide our leaders with wisdom, discernment, and an unwavering commitment to Your Word. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But temptation and sin are ever present, and we struggle to respond completely to Christ’s invitation. Let us seek God’s forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would have us be. In Jesus Name Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Relentlessly God seeks us out with abundant grace and boundless mercy. This is good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***GLORIA PATRI**

SPECIAL SELECTION

Praise Team - "My Tribute"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION..... **Reverend Delton H. Farmer**

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT – Psalm 111

NEW TESTAMENT – Mark 1:21-28

SERMON **"Believers Have The Authority"**

Reverend Delton H. Farmer



I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR 451

*With my whole heart I seek You; do not let me stray from Your commandments.
Psalm 119:10*

1. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, Most gra - cious Lord;
 2. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, Stay Thou near - by;
 3. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, In joy or pain;
 4. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, Teach me Thy will;

No ten - der voice like Thine Can peace af - ford.
 Temp - ta - tions lose their pow'r When Thou art nigh.
 Come quick - ly and a - bide, Or life is vain.
 And Thy rich prom - is - es In me ful - fill.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Ev - 'ry hour I need Thee;

O bless me now, my Sav - ior, I come to Thee.

Text: Annie S. Hawkes, 1835-1918
 Tune: NEED, 6 4 6 4 with refrain; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

INVITATION TO DISCIPLSHIP/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

With gratitude for God's faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY SELECTION

Praise Team - "I Am On The Battlefield For My Lord"

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN #700 (GG)

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

1 I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

2 I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

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*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Reverend Farmer

Let us go from this place trusting that in Jesus Christ God is with us and for us in every place. May the grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you and abide with you this day and forever more. Amen.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP with FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

We will be worshipping with First Presbyterian Church (TBA). Be sure to tune in to their TV ministry on channel 64.



TEN CENTS A MEAL - We Can Make a Huge Difference when ALL participate. Using the same passage Two and Five Cents-a-Meal has been used since 1982. Please consider a gift to Ten Cents-a-Meal every 1st Sunday.

PW BIBLE STUDY/CT Meeting - Saturday, February 17, 2024 @ 11:00 am via Zoom

Meeting ID:872 5882 5653 PC: 758558 Call in: +1 301 715 8592

[Lesson 6: A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus]

LOAVES & FISHES 5TH Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be March 29, 2024

CLEANSING WATERS SHOWER MINISTRY - 1st & 3rd Sundays from 9:00 am - 10:30 am

BT EXPRESS (Alcohol/Narcotics Program) Mondays & Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY – (Hybrid) - Bible Study every Wednesday night @ 6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 834 3423 2514 Passcode: 306013
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83434232514?pwd=OU9aMGFkSkt6Z0R6U2ZlM2FRYm90Zz09>

**One tap mobile, + 1-301- 715-8592, follow the prompts:
then give meeting ID - 834 3423 2514#, Enter passcode - 306013#**

!!!! USHERS NEEDED !!!!

Are you interested in helping to direct members and visitors, assisting with seating and providing assistance to those in need? Does providing information about the church, maintaining order during service and helping to prepare the sanctuary before and after the services sound like fun? Then you are just who we need to serve on the Usher Ministry. Please join us for an interest/organizing meeting immediately following worship today by the organ. Thanks.

CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP
April 18-21, 2024
Cost: \$450 per person, \$250 single supplement
Register: <https://www.fupcc.org/civilrights> or scan QR code
Leaders: Larry Bosc, professional civil rights tour guide and former educator in CMS and Rev. Lucy Crain, Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Members of First Presbyterian and First United Presbyterian Churches will embark on a transformative three-day journey to explore the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. We will visit iconic landmarks, engage in meaningful discussion, share moments of introspection, and connect with fellow travelers as we delve into the pivotal events that shaped our nation.

This immersive experience promises not only to educate but also to inspire and renew our commitment to justice and equality for all God's people. Join us as we honor the legacy of those who fought for freedom and continue the journey towards a more just and inclusive future.

INCLUDED IN FEE:
All transportation and accommodations, three breakfasts, one lunch, guides and tips
Contact glee@firstpres-chr.org for more information.

scan to register
<https://www.fupcc.org/civilrights>

"We've learned to fly the air like birds, we've learned to swim the seas like fish, and yet we haven't learned to walk the earth as brothers and sisters."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CIVIL RIGHTS TRIP
April 18-21, 2024
Connect with the pivotal events that shaped our nation

First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte

Civil Rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965

Trip Date:
April 18-21, 2024

**Registration for the Civil Rights Trip is
NOW open.**

**Only 5 spaces remain for First United
Contact the FUPC church office if interested**

704-376-8014

Or email: secretary@fupcc.org

**Cost: (\$450 Dbl occupancy) (\$700 single)
Contact: Rev. Farmer if Scholarship
assistance is needed.**



**TACKLE
HUNGER**

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 11th

In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: *“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”*

Since then, more than \$170 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation’s largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need.



www.souperbowl.org

Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money and serve at hunger-relief charities and show caring and compassion in local communities across the country. Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need.

On Sunday, February 11th, First United Youth will take up a special collection for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Every dollar donated will go to **The Bulb Ministry**, our Souper Bowl of Caring charity of choice. Please give generously!

If you are not worshipping with us in person, you can make a donation online. Go to the church website, fupcc.org and click on the **Give Now** button. Be sure to indicate Souper Bowl of Caring in the notes section. Thank you.

What is The Bulb?

The Bulb is a donation-based and nonprofit mobile farmers market. We provide fresh produce that is grown by local farmers, as well as produce rescued from area grocery stores, to food insecure communities in and around Charlotte. Our “take what you need, give what you can” motto means to create a barrier-free environment that promotes accessibility for all people.



What is The Bulb’s mission?

At The Bulb, our mission is to provide mostly local produce, as well as education on health and wellness, to food insecure communities. Together with local farms, grocery stores and community organizers, we are working to create a world where fresh and nutritious food is a right and not a privilege, while seeking social justice through affordable and attainable education, art and wellness.

Presbytery of Charlotte Churches that currently serve as The Bulb mobile market sites:

- **The Grove Presbyterian Church - Tuesdays**
- **Amity Presbyterian Church - Wednesdays**
- **Philadelphia Presbyterian Church - Thursdays**

❧ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE ❧

Hello First United Family,

Your monthly support for the Capital Campaign means so much.

Your Capital Campaign Pledge is your financial commitment to our 3-year funding drive to raise needed capital for major repairs and possible future renovations.

The roofs on the Sanctuary and the Education Building have been completed and paid for, but to continue to give our church new life and remain a part of the up-town landscape, your support is vital and needed more than ever.

ARE YOU COMMITTED TO DOING YOUR PART?

ARE YOUR PLEDGES UP TO DATE?

Thank you so much for those of you who continue to support this church, have faith and hope by paying your pledges to help move forward with the Lord's work on the corner of
7th and College Streets

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus". [Philippians 1:6]

Yours in Christ,
The Capital Campaign Leadership Team

7 Marks of Congregational Vitality

1. A commitment to forming disciples over every member's lifetime. This leads first to personal transformation, as people put on the heart of Christ, and then to social transformation, as people joyfully go forth into the community and tackle the issues facing today's culture.
2. Embracing the call to evangelism. We show forth the love of Christ by our actions and our lives even more than by our words. Our relationships are genuine and caring. People know we are Christians by our love.
3. An outward focus. Our church is not a place to escape from the world, but rather our gateway to our community where we may be the hands, feet, heart and mouth of Jesus Christ for people who are suffering or marginalized.
4. Empowering every member to discover their individual calling and the gifts God has given them so they can go forth and serve.
5. Spirit-inspired worship that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.
6. Caring relationships modeled on God's love. We open our doors and hearts to all people, and we build relationships modeled on God's love, which leads to genuine reconciliation and peace.
7. Congregations with healthy systems. Our mission focuses are clear. There is fiscal responsibility and accountability. We have thoughtful decision-making structures. Our leaders and staff enjoy a sustainable balance of work/rest time.



History of our Partnership

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN + SUN COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

The Opening Doors campaign identified mental health as an outreach priority after Charlotte's Opportunity Task Force included access to mental healthcare as a major factor in socioeconomic mobility and flourishing. First Presbyterian Church recognized barriers to quality, accessible mental health counseling within the uptown community (cost, location) and set out to partner with excellent therapists to provide care in uptown.

COVID-19 underscored the widespread need, not only for direct services for people of all income levels, but also for more opportunities to destigmatize education about mental health and wellness.

After receiving proposals from many potential partners, Sun Counseling was identified as the church's clinical partner for this project. First Presbyterian values Sun Counseling's proven excellence in clinical practice, as well as their commitment to compassionate, engaging education about mental health concerns that are familiar to many of us.

The Opening Doors Capital Campaign will fund income-based scholarships for clients seeing the therapists at the First Presbyterian location. FPC will also provide two offices in the Fresco Lobby during business hours.

Sun Counseling will provide educational opportunities throughout the year for the congregation and community of First Presbyterian Church.

Opening
DOORS



First Presbyterian
Church of Charlotte

Sun Counseling and Wellness

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

About Sun Counseling and Wellness

Sun Counseling and Wellness is made up of a consortium of providers that have many years of experience working with individuals, couples, families, and groups. We are passionate about helping clients achieve a balanced and fulfilling life and treating the WHOLE person. We use modern and evidence-based therapeutic techniques and are individualized and creative in our work with clients. Some of our specialty areas include trauma, grief, eating disorders, anxiety, depression, self-esteem, body image, life transitions, integrative wellness, yoga, acupuncture, and more.



VALUES

Authenticity, Creativity, Compassion, Education, Service, Showing up. This spells ACCESS. By definition, access is "a means of approaching or entering a place and the ability, right, or permission to approach, enter, speak with, or use." Our hope is for every person to find permission to tend to their wellness and to have the opportunity to do so.

These are approachable, safe, inclusive, nonjudgmental counseling relationships to fit your needs. It is our privilege to work with clients and we are on a mission to destigmatize, elevate the conversation, and normalize dialogue around mental health. We want people to feel proud to say "Yep, I go to therapy!"

Scheduling an Appointment

Sun Counseling and Wellness will handle all scheduling for appointments in the First Presbyterian counseling center. The new client form can be accessed on their website: suncounselingandwellness.com/new-clients

You do not need a referral from a First Presbyterian minister to make an appointment.

About the Scholarships

The cost of therapy can be a barrier to many. Sun Counseling therapists will work directly with individual clients to identify the appropriate rate for services rendered, using the income-based charts provided below.

If you think you qualify for a reduced rate, please fill out the form at fpc.finyx.us/scholarship or speak directly with your therapist during or prior to your first session.

For adult clients or guardians with FEWER than four dependents:

YOUR INCOME	SESSION COST
Up to \$15,000	\$10 / \$15
\$15,001-30,000	\$25 / \$35
\$30,001-40,000	\$50 / \$75
\$40,001-50,000	\$75 / \$100
\$50,001-55,000	\$100 / \$150
\$55,001-60,000	\$125 / \$165
\$60,001+	\$150* / \$200*

For adult clients or guardians with MORE than four dependents:

YOUR INCOME	SESSION COST
Up to \$20,000	\$10 / \$15
\$20,001-\$40,000	\$25 / \$35
\$40,001-50,000	\$50 / \$75
\$50,001-60,000	\$75 / \$100
\$60,001-65,000	\$100 / \$135
\$65,001-70,000	\$125 / \$165
\$70,001+	\$150* / \$200*

* fee for session with a provisionally licensed therapist

* Full-rate fees: \$175 for a 60-minute intake / \$150 for subsequent 50-minute sessions

* fee for session with a fully licensed therapist

* Full-rate fees: \$250 for a 60-minute intake session / \$200 for subsequent 50-minute sessions

Meet the Therapists

Sun Counseling and Wellness provides two full-time therapists who are available for appointments on the First Presbyterian campus.



Dr. Sheba Surratt, DBH, LCMHC

I have 15 years of experience providing counseling, professional development, and consultative services. I work with children, teens and adolescents, and adults. I provide services to individuals with emotional, psychological, lifestyle changes, and various other problem-situations. I work to reduce behavioral and/or mental health symptoms that impair quality of life in order to improve overall self-care management and wellness. *Specialty areas: Anxiety, depression, grief and loss, developmental concerns, adjustment and life transitions, self-esteem and self-concept, interpersonal conflict and relationship issues, substance use.*

Andrea Juarez, LCSWA

I am a Latinx, Bilingual (English/Spanish), Licensed Clinical Social Worker Associate. I am passionate about breaking the stigma surrounding mental health and helping individuals find healing in their life. My aim is to work collaboratively with you to empower and support through life's ups and downs. It is my



priority to create a safe and inclusive space for you to process and explore your feelings. *Specialty areas: complex trauma, intergenerational trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship dynamics, First Gen experience, LatinX experience, change/life transitions, navigating family of origin experiences.*

More Info at firstpres-charlotte.org/counseling-center

