

# FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## September 1, 2024



**Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor**

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*"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"*

# Order of Worship

## 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

*\*Congregation Stands/rise in spirit*

**PRELUDE Guest Organist** ..... **Dr. Pam Dennis**  
**My Faith Looks Up to Thee** – arr. Dale Wood  
**I Love Thee** – arr. Joyce Jones

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** ..... **Elder Gail Walker-Farmer**

**\*INTROIT #438 (AA)** "Come By Here, My Lord" (*verses 1&4 only*)

1 Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
Come by here, my Lord, come by here.  
Oh Lord, come by here.

4 Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, come by here.  
Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, come by here.  
Kum Ba Yah, my Lord, come by here.  
Oh, Lord, come by here.

### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** God has granted us a new day give Him praise!

**People:** Praise be to God for this most generous gift!

**Leader:** God has given his Son to us that we might learn ways of peace and mercy.

**People:** Let the words of God's own Son, Jesus, enter our hearts and transform our lives!

**Leader:** Come, let us worship this great God of abundant mercy and love!

**People:** Let our songs, our words, and our thoughts reflect God's healing and restoring love. Amen

**1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee:  
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

**2 Holy, Holy, Holy! all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
God everlasting through eternity.**

**3 Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye made blind by sin Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**4 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

**\* PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION** (*Unison*)

**Lord of mercy and abundant love, we have gathered here this day to hear your healing words of compassion and to be transformed by your love. Help us to become more faithful servants in our thoughts, words, and deeds. It is in Jesus 'Name, we pray. Amen**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Leader:** The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting; God's grace never changes. Therefore, we come together to confess our sin, trusting that in Christ, we have already been forgiven.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that our words and actions do not always line up. We are quick to confess our faith, but slow to live it. We sing praise to your name, but we pass by orphans and widows on the other side of the street. Change us, O God. By your grace, transform us. Root out the selfishness that hardens our hearts, and replace it with compassion and generosity. Empower us by your Spirit that we might be doers of your word and not hearers only. All this we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

## **\*GLORIA PATRI**

## **SPECIAL SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir – "Hiding Place"** *by The New Jersey Mass Choir*

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

Gracious God, we see as in a mirror dimly. Your Spirit offers clarity, wisdom and understanding. Open our eyes, that these many words of Scripture may bear witness to your true Word: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS** ..... **Reverend Delton H. Farmer**

**OLD TESTAMENT - Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9**

**NEW TESTAMENT - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

## **SERMON** ..... **"Follow God's Command Not Tradition"** ..... **Reverend Delton H. Farmer**

## **INVITATIONAL SELECTION**

**FUPCC Choir "Give Me A Clean Heart"**

## **❧ INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ❧**

## **BLESSING OF THE HABITAT BUILDING STUD**

## **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Philippians 2:5-11*)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**MINUTE FOR MISSION ..... Christina Solis**

### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**Leader:** "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." Since God is the source of all generosity, let us generously return our tithes and offerings to the Lord. *You may give online @ fupcc.org, mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202, or leave with the officers at the back of the sanctuary as you exit. Remember, all we have, and all we are, belong to God. Let us give with a cheerful heart. Amen*

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY SELECTION**

**FUPC Choir - "God Is Great" by Ricky Dillard**

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Leader:** Generous God, we return to you these gifts, not only of our resources, but also of our lives. Sanctify us and use us to work out your purposes in the world. Amen.

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - Invitation to the Lord's Table .....Rev. Farmer**

### **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Leader:** The Lord be with you

**People:** And also, with you

**Leader:** Lift up your hearts

**People:** We lift them to the Lord

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**





# I'VE GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY 622

*...and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.*

*1 Peter 1:8*



1. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
2. I've got the peace that pass - eth un - der - stand - ing,  
3. I've got the love of Je - sus, love of Je - sus,  
4. For there is there - fore now no con - dem - na - tion,



Down in my heart, Down in my heart, Down in my heart;



I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
I've got the peace that pass - eth un - der - stand - ing,  
I've got the love of Je - sus, love of Je - sus,  
For there is there - fore now no con - dem - na - tion,



Down in my heart, Down in my heart to stay.

Text: George W. Cooke

Tune: I'VE GOT THE JOY, Irregular; George W. Cooke

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION ..... Rev. Farmer

POSTLUDE Guest Organist..... Dr. Pam Dennis

*In Christ There is No East or West – arr. Dale Wood*



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## ♫ FIRST UNITED MEN ♫

Men of First United "Save the Date." You have been asked to provide music on the following Sunday's. **September 29<sup>th</sup>** and **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Be a part of the worship experience. Let us make a "Joyful Noise" unto the Lord. Stay tuned for rehearsal dates and times.

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## 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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

**PW BIBLE STUDY**— PW Bible study will resume Saturday, September 21, 2024 @ 11:00 am  
via ZOOM (3rd Saturday, every month)

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

**LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN/Introduction/Lesson 1-Environmental Justice**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** - PW Women will be collecting personal hygiene items for Sister to Sister for women (*deodorant, soap toothpaste, toothbrush, feminine products, lotion*), The collection of toiletries will continue throughout the year (December).

**NOURISH UP 5<sup>TH</sup> Fridays @ First Presbyterian, the next date will be November 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 starting back September 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: : 874 8560 5940 Passcode: 413228

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87485605940?pwd=1W9aATJXSS4OqG90shNj5hr8jYK7cB.1>

**FIRST UNITED'S TRIUMPHANT TEENS – Bible Study**

**Sunday Mornings @ 9:45 am      Classroom #201      Ages: 13-18      (snacks provided)**

**All FUPC T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, and Hoodies up to \$2 Off Clearance!!!!**

Hello Church Family, in effort to clear the remaining apparel inventory, the Deacon Board is excited to announce that our apparel is now on sale!!!! **That means, all Hoodies are now \$20, Crewneck sweatshirts are \$18, Adult T-shirts are \$8, and Youth T-shirts are \$6!!** All items will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Please get yours now while supplies last!!! When they are gone, they are gone!!

**SIZES AVAILABLE** - Hoodies: M, L and 2XL      Sweatshirts: XL      Youth T-Shirts: S, M, L

**Adult T-Shirts: S, M, L, 2XL and 3XL**

**HABITAT Fall 2024 Kick-off dedication – Saturday, September 7, 2024 @ 11:30 am**

**First United site sponsorship day is September 7, 2024 after the dedication in the afternoon**

**2853 James St. Charlotte, NC 28208**



First United continues to participate in the Habitat build project in collaboration with area churches. We give thanks for being a part of such a worthy cause in providing a home for families in need. Our church is responsible for the lunch and kickoff event on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Rev. Farmer will share a brief meditation and Rev. Lucy Crain will offer a prayer blessing over the studs signed by the members of the different churches. Please

join us along with the family who will move into the home when completed at 11:30am on September 7, a day of thanksgiving, fellowship and community.

≈ This is our 27th year and 36 house being built ≈



## ❧ September Birthdays ❧

<i>Michael Huff Jr.</i>	<i>September 2<sup>nd</sup></i>
<i>Isiah Williams</i>	<i>September 7<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>LaShanda Barber</i>	<i>September 11<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Barbara Byers</i>	<i>September 11<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Melanie Maxwell</i>	<i>September 12<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>William Harris</i>	<i>September 13<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Gaynelle Grier</i>	<i>September 15<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Chelsey Farmer</i>	<i>September 16<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Kara Rogers</i>	<i>September 17<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Jannell Reed</i>	<i>September 18<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Dorothy Allison</i>	<i>September 19<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>William Malone Jr.</i>	<i>September 19<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Renea Stitt</i>	<i>September 20<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Tammye Layer</i>	<i>September 20<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Barbara Hartsell</i>	<i>September 25<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Amora Cannon</i>	<i>September 30<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Elijah Newton</i>	<i>September 30<sup>th</sup></i>

## ❧ September Anniversaries ❧

<i>Stephanie &amp; Eric Davis</i>	<i>September 2<sup>nd</sup></i>
<i>Castonia &amp; Anthony Dozier</i>	<i>September 21<sup>st</sup></i>
<i>Lolane &amp; Jeffrey Yongue</i>	<i>September 29<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Ellen &amp; Arthur Smith</i>	<i>September 30<sup>th</sup></i>



COLLEGE AND GREEK

Sunday

September 15, 2024

**REP Your School,  
Fraternity, or Sorority by  
wearing  
paraphernalia!!!**



# SAVE THE DATE

HOMEcoming 2024

NOVEMBER 15 - 17, 2024

**Submit Theme Ideas  
to the Session as you  
reflect on A Season to  
Reclaim, Return, and  
Remember  
(Eccl 3: 1-8)**

**Deadline:  
August 15, 2024**





# Clearance Sale!

**All FUPC T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, and Hoodies**  
**up to \$2 Off Clearance!!!!**

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**!!!! SALE !!!!**

**That means, all Hoodies are now \$20,  
Crewneck sweatshirts are \$18, Adult  
T-shirts are \$8, and Youth T-shirts are \$6!!**

All items will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Please get yours now while supplies last!!!  
When they are gone, they are gone!!

## **SIZES AVAILABLE**

**Hoodies: M, L and 2XL**

**Sweatshirts: XL**

**Youth T-Shirts: S, M, L**

**Adult T-Shirts: S, M, L, 2XL and 3XL**



# ≈CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ≈

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  
7<sup>th</sup> 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



Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church (USA)  
3435 Nevin Rd. Charlotte, NC 28269 ♦ 704.596.4550

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**



### **Let Justice Roll Down**

Presbyterian Women in your congregation are warmly invited to join  
with family and friends of Presbyterian Women at SAPC  
in observance of our annual Women's Day worship service on

**Sunday, September 8, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Guest Speaker: Reverend Dorothy J. Killian**  
**At-Large Member of the Presbytery of Charlotte**

The theme will center on the 2024-2025 PW Horizons Bible Study

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We hope you plan to stay and enjoy a time of fellowship, as we share  
as partners in Christ, at a reception immediately following worship

**EVERYONE IS INVITED**

# 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.



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 everyone 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/newclients](http://suncounselingandwellness.com/newclients)

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.tinyurl.com/scholarship](http://fpc.tinyurl.com/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.





## **Participating in Worship – September 1, 2024**

**Liturgist:** Elder Donna Fair

**Communion:** Elder Mabel Williams

## Deacons Preparing Communion: Deacons

**Offering:** Monica Carr and Elder Sharon Kelley

**Ushering:** Stephanie Davis and DéAndre Yongue

**Greeting:** Elder Gail Walker- Farmer

**Guest Organist : Dr. Pam Dennis**

**Guest Flautist:** Karen Solis

## ❧ SICK AND SHUT-INS ❧

## AT HOME

**Mrs. Louise Ezell** ..... 1850 Magwood Dr. #212, Charleston SC 29414

**Dr. Sandra Govan** ..... 6508 Wickville Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215

**Ms. Jonette Harper** ..... 5925 Sierra Dr. Charlotte, NC 28216

**Mrs. Selene Burris** ..... 805 Cross Trail Dr. Charlotte, NC 28204

## **SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES , HOSPITALS & SENIOR LIVING**

**Dr. Mildred Y. Mosley** .....WALTONWOOD AT COTSWOLD  
5215 Randolph Rd Apt 2018, Charlotte, NC 28211-5164

**Mrs. Margaret Freeman** ..... BROOKDALE SOUTH CHARLOTTE  
5515 Rea Road Apartment #111B, Charlotte, NC 28226

**Ms. Constance Sims** ..... ALDERSGATE (ASBURY REHAB)  
3800 Shamrock Dr. Room#206, Charlotte, NC 28205

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**PRAYER LIST Email: [prayer@fupcc.org](mailto:prayer@fupcc.org)**

Barbara Cannon  Caryle Blakeney-Bennett  Abby Flanders

Shepard Foley ❧ Ms. Jane Reid ❧ Connie Patton ❧ Mrs. Yvonne Thomas

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*By your Spirit, O God, you call us to follow Jesus Christ. Fill us with your Spirit to join with others in faith and become the people you intend us to be. Open our eyes to your love, and help us share this love with the world. In Christ's name. Amen.*

## SERMON NOTES

**Scripture:**

[illegible]