

PRITCHARD CHURCH MESSENGER

AUGUST 2026 | VOLUME 61 | ISSUE 8

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

JOIN US DURING YOUR LUNCH BREAK
AS WE STUDY THE BOOK OF ROMANS,
LED BY PASTOR CHRIS RICHARDSON.

No worries if you can't make it every week!
You can jump in anytime and still keep up.

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT NOON
STARTING SEPTEMBER 9, 2026.

Bring your own lunch and come ready
for good conversation and a time in the word.

PRITCHARD
CHURCH

1117 SOUTH BLVD. CHARLOTTE, NC 28203
FELLOWSHIP HALL

You are, of course, familiar with the idea of "Facilities Forward", the team that has been reviewing and chewing on some options for potentially updating our facilities and working with some local developers.

This month, in August, we are going to riff off of that with the sermon series: "Pritchard Forward". Of course, updating and renewing our facilities would be a wonderful, kingdom affirming step and would greatly assist our church in budget but also function. However, we need to recognize, that in conjunction with that, there are things we can do to fully maximize our momentum as we seek to surge forward.

Mission must be at the heart of all we do. I love the way one of my favorite books puts it: "We should not say that the church has a mission. Instead, we should say that the mission of God has a church" (David Bosch). What he is saying is that we often think of this completely backwards. Jesus didn't create the church then decide that church needed a mission. No! God has a mission in the world, the redemption and reconciliation of all. And God decided that the best way to move that mission forward was through the church.

In order to move forward, we must re-center and constantly remind ourselves - Mission is our priority.

As we do that, in our staff room we are discussing ways we can simultaneously simplify what we are doing while pursuing a higher level of excellence in those things. When churches grow they are tempted to become more

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complex and to continually add things: programs, processes, whatever you can think of. But the better way is to pick a few really essential things and do those with full quality. So that is one of the ways we are looking to move forward.

August is a great chance to calibrate, lock-in, and prepare for the fall ahead. I hope you will join us in this process.

To visualize this, we are planning to have a "big board" near the front of the sanctuary so people can visualize where they want to serve, what they want to do, and how they can help. This will have ways to serve and areas of need. I hope you'll not only look closely, but that you'll also sign up. There is much joy in helping in the kingdom!

Chris Richardson

Lead Pastor

Women's Beach Retreat

Registration for our annual women's retreat is officially open on Church Center! If you think you'll be joining us September 25-27, go ahead and reserve your spot today. Space is limited and we'd love for you to be there! Don't wait...claim your spot before it's gone!

School Supplies Drive Through August 23

We are collecting school supplies to support the students and staff of Charles H. Parker Academic Center. Your donations will help equip classrooms with the essential items needed for a successful school year and remind educators and families that they are seen, valued, and supported. Drop off your donations in the Gathering Place. To ensure the supplies can be delivered in time for the new school year, we are unable to accept donations after August 23. You can find a list of needed items in our weekly Pritchard Connect.



Anchor of Hope Needs

Our supplies for Anchor of Hope are running low, and we would be grateful for your help! Please be mindful of specific needs as we continue serving individuals in our community. We're collecting the following non-perishable items:

Granola bars, individual packs of crackers, easy mac, Dinty Moore meals, Cup Noodles, instant oatmeal packets, peanut butter, pasta/pasta sauce, SpaghettiOs, Chef Boyardee canned meals, individually packaged snacks.

Donations may be dropped off at the office anytime Monday-Thursday or on Sunday mornings in the Gathering Place.

Parking Deck Information

When parking in the deck other than Sunday mornings, validate your parking using one of the QR codes posted around campus to avoid receiving a parking notice and being charged. The validation is good for 3 hours from the time you enter the deck. The QR codes can be found at these locations: Williams 3rd floor, Fellowship Hall, Thrift Store, church office, and the Sanctuary lobbies. If you have any problems, please contact Rusty.

Camp Ridgecrest August 3-7

- If you plan to visit and have lunch or dinner, please make your reservation ASAP. The cost is \$10/person per meal, payable upon arrival, with cash being the preferred method. Please email Melissa Wisor to let us know when you're coming.
- Consider donating cucumbers and tomatoes! Our campers would benefit from your garden goodies or those purchased from the grocery store. Please bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 2.
- If you'd like to mail a card to a camper, please send it to the camper's name in care of Camp Ridgecrest, PO Box 279, Ridgecrest, NC 28770. Please mail any correspondence prior to August 3 to ensure delivery while our group is at camp.

A Summary of the Pritchard Church Monthly Generosity Report

JUNE 2026

A copy of the full report is available on request.

	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Budget Needs	\$128,413	\$770,478
Tithes & Offerings Budgeted	\$105,126	\$630,755
Tithes & Offerings Received	\$ 86,411	\$522,897
Other Income	<u>\$ 29,656</u>	<u>\$170,322</u>
Total Revenue	\$116,067	\$693,219
Expenses	<u>\$113,131</u>	<u>\$737,999</u>
Net Income	\$ 2,936	(-\$ 47,716)

Believe it or not, 2026 is over ½ over. That means it's time to start looking at 2027 in earnest. The 2027 budget requests are due no later than August 19. The budget request form is available on Church Center under the "Forms" tab and in many of the group's resource tabs. If you are having trouble finding the form, please contact me. Having all budget requests turned in on time is important; it will help the Stewardship Committee do its job well. If you are on a committee or team with budget responsibilities, please make this a matter of prayer. Ask the Father what He would have done in 2027 as it relates to the area you are serving.

HERE TO HELP: What do you know about Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)

Every individual required to take RMDs (your birth year dictates your age when this occurs) should make their charitable contributions by having their IRA trustee transfer up to \$108,000 directly to a qualified charity (like Pritchard) and exclude the IRA transfer from income. The IRA transfer to the charity counts toward the IRA owner's "RMDs" for the year. For those who wish to make charitable contributions, this tax break effectively allows a qualifying taxpayer to exclude all or a portion of their otherwise taxable RMDs from taxable income. This, in turn:

1) Could cause your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) to stay below the thresholds for the 3.8% NIIT (i.e., \$250,000 for joint returns; \$200,000 if single), that might otherwise be imposed on your investment income (e.g., dividends, interest, capital gains), and

2) Could also increase various credits and deductions that would otherwise be phased out as your adjusted gross income increases. In addition,

3) This could potentially reduce the portion of your Social Security payments that would otherwise be taxable. Moreover,

4) This exclusion could reduce the amount of your Medicare Part B and Part D premiums for subsequent years, which generally increase as your MAGI increases.

(Disclaimer: Though taken from a credible source, this information is for educational purposes only and is not intended as tax, legal, or financial advice. Tax situations vary, so please consult a qualified tax professional or advisor regarding your specific circumstances.)

Saved to Serve, *Rusty Thomaston*
Executive Pastor



Jean Boyd	8/1	Peggy Lyerly	8/10
Reagan Self	8/1	Susan Brown	8/12
Jeannie Sigmon	8/1	Robin Richardson	8/13
Virginia Wallace	8/1	Julia Jenkins	8/16
Bob Morgan	8/2	Bethany Nettles	8/17
Sharon Carstens	8/4	Terry Walker	8/17
Mary Frances Bussey	8/5	Donna West	8/23
Bo Sherrill	8/6	Terry Pope	8/27
Anne Roberson	8/7	Donna Baldivid	8/29
Larry Robinson	8/8	Ashley Murphy	8/31
Lynn Allen	8/9	Don Royer	8/31

We Express Our Love & Sympathy to:

- Steve and Debbie Price in the passing of his sister, Karen Maready.
- Perry and Joannie Holland in the passing of his cousin.
- Cindy Zeigler and family in the passing of her aunt, Jane Falls.
- Ron and Carol Hewitt in the passing of his son, Chris Hewitt.

August

Saturday, August 1

4:00pm – Kids Ministry Fellowship

5:00pm – More Than Conquerors

Sunday, August 2

9:00am – Kids and Youth Programming

9:00am – Connect Groups

10:30am – Worship/Communion

Monday, August 3

9:00am – Campers leave for Ridgecrest

Tuesday, August 4

2:00pm – Afternoon Bible Study Group

Wednesday, August 5

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

Thursday, August 6

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's)

Friday, August 7

12:00pm – Campers return from Ridgecrest

Saturday, August 8

Sunday, August 9

Monday, August 10

8:30am – Farewell Summer Camp (ages 7-11)

6:30pm – Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, August 11

8:30am – Farewell Summer Camp (ages 7-11)

Wednesday, August 12

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

8:30am – Farewell Summer Camp (ages 7-11)

6:30pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 13

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's)

8:30am – Farewell Summer Camp (ages 7-11)

Friday, August 14

Saturday, August 15

5:00pm – More Than Conquerors

Sunday, August 16

9:00am – Kids and Youth Programming

9:00am – Connect Groups

10:30am – Worship

12:00pm – Church Council

Monday, August 17

SummerFest at Caswell starts

Tuesday, August 18

Wednesday, August 19

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 20

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's)

Friday, August 21

SummerFest at Caswell ends

Saturday, August 22

Sunday, August 23

9:00am – Kids and Youth Programming

9:00am – Connect Groups

10:30am – Worship/Back to School Bash

Monday, August 24

Tuesday, August 25

9:00am – Volunteers to Crisis Assistance

Wednesday, August 26

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

5:30pm – Cultivate

Thursday, August 27

6:30am – Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's)

Friday, August 28

Saturday, August 29

5:00pm – Overdose Awareness Event

Sunday, August 30

9:00am – Kids and Youth Programming

9:00am – Connect Groups

10:30am – Worship

Monday, August 31

Wishing all of our students a

