



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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December 30, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Please sign and pass the Register of Friendship during this time.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to the Lord a new song;

Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord and bless God's name.

Tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

Psalm 96:1-2

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN 141

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

Personent Hodie

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Unison

Merciful God, we have seen the Christ child in the manger, and we know that you are a light to all people. Forgive us when our lives are not shaped by the Christmas story, when our hearts are not open to the leading of your Spirit.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

hymn 143, stanza 4

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,

Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Melissa Eudy

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery.

Children in grades K-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

The congregation is encouraged to participate in the prayer with the children.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

LESSON ONE

Adam and Eve Disobey God

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

CAROL 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

LESSON TWO

God's Promise to Abraham

Genesis 22:15-18

CAROL 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
stanzas 1, 6, and 7

Veni Emmanuel

LESSON THREE	<i>A Great Light in the Darkness</i> Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	
CAROL 110	<i>Love Has Come</i>	Bring a Torch
LESSON FOUR	<i>A Little Child Will Lead Them</i> Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9	
CAROL 129	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>	Es ist ein' ros'
LESSON FIVE	<i>An Angel Appears to Mary</i> Luke 1:26-35, 38	
CAROL 119	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	Mendelssohn
LESSON SIX	<i>Mary Gives Birth in Bethlehem</i>	
CAROL 124	<i>Still, Still, Still</i>	Still, Still, Still
LESSON SEVEN	<i>Angels Announce the Messiah</i> Luke 2:8-16	
CAROL 135	<i>Rise Up Shepherd and Follow</i>	Follow
LESSON EIGHT	<i>Magi Come from the East</i> Matthew 2:1-11	
CAROL 151	<i>We Three Kings of Orient Are</i>	Kings of Orient
LESSON NINE	<i>And the Word Became Flesh</i> John 1:1-14	
CAROL 132	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	In dulci jubilo

Written in England after the Reformation, the Westminster Confession addressed political and religious debates. It was adopted by the Puritans who brought Presbyterianism to the colonies.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Son of God, the second Person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance, and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him human nature, with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof; yet without sin: being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance. Which person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and humans. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* hymnal, page 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*All that are able may stand.

We rejoice that you are worshipping with us today. If you are a member of this church, please seek out those who are visiting and welcome them to this family of faith. If you are visiting and would like to know more about the church and membership here, please speak with one of the ministers following worship.

The acolyte today is Grant Lisk. After extinguishing the Advent candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Ushers: Jim Marshall, captain; Robbie Beard, Duncan Bryson, Elizabeth Bryson, Keith Bryson, Lachlann Currie, Mark Mabry, Kyle Marks, Laura Beth Marks, Mike McLeod, Chris Whitley **Outside Ushers:** Matt Carpenter; Eric Niederer **Elder Greeters:** Mary Kesselman; Gayle Russell **Nursery:** Caroline Snyder **Kids Care Crew:** Laura & Mike McLeod **Children’s Church:** Gina Martin

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Judy Toney (sister of Jim Hesley; chemotherapy for breast cancer), Steve Granger (brother of Laura McLeod; stage 4 lung cancer). **See newsletter for complete list.**

Gaither Endowment Grant Applications...The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until January 15. Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).



**FIRST FAMILY GATHERING ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2
EVENING PRAYER AT 5:45 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL
DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE GYM**

Menu: Boston Butt, Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean, Corn, Mixed Green Salad, Rolls, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Station, Assorted Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water and Lemonade

Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by noon on Monday, December 31 to say you’re coming.

Volunteers Are Needed for First Family Gathering

Set-up Crew: Wednesday, January 2 at 3:45 p.m.
Clean-up Crew: Wednesday, January 2 at 6:45 p.m.

Please call Jane Snyder at the church (704-982-2722) or on her cell phone (704-438-3358) if you would like to help!

Confirmation Class Meeting on Sunday, January 6 in the parlor following worship...Eighth and ninth graders and their parents are invited to meet with Matt Drumheller on January 6th to discuss plans for the 2019 Confirmation Class. We will meet briefly in the parlor following worship.



Warm Gifts of Winter...This winter, please help us spread the warmth to our friends in the community by bringing new and gently used scarves, mittens, gloves, and toboggans to the tree in the Pit Stop. We will collect through Sunday, January 6. We will donate these warm gifts to children at Central Elementary School and the SCCM Clothing Closet.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 30

Service of Lessons & Carols

11:00 am *Worship

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve/Financial Year-End Closing at Noon/

Church Office Closes at Noon

Tuesday, January 1

New Year's Day/Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:30 am Backpack Food Program

3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club

3:45 pm First Family Set-Up Crew

5:45 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)

6:00 pm First Family Dinner

6:45 pm First Family Clean-Up Crew

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 3

10:00 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Dickey's Barbecue Pit
(720 NC 24/27 Hwy, Albemarle)

Friday, January 4

6:00 pm-10:00 pm Officer's Retreat

Saturday, January 5

9:00 am-1:00 pm Officer's Retreat

Sunday, January 6

Epiphany/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Ordination &

Installation of New Officers/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for

Hunger/Bring Warm Gifts of Winter

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Confirmation Class Meeting for 8th & 9th Graders &
Parents (parlor)

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

***childcare provided**

Work on the Habitat house will resume on January 5. Let's make a concerted effort to get the Johnson family home in January. Let Elizabeth Wilson (704-982-3625) or Sandy Rogers (704-982-2649) when you can work.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

DECEMBER

- 30- Sally Grantier
John Montgomery
31- Mildred Andrew
Adrienne Robinson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY

- 03- Mike McLeod
Sandy Rogers
04- Sandy Saunders
05- Austin Coats
Miriam Russell
06- Shannon Lisk

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

JANUARY

- 05- John & Debbie Hahn

There will be no Sunday School
on December 30.

FINANCIAL YEAR END CLOSING

PLEASE NOTE...Today is the final Sunday in December pay up your 2018 pledge by December 31, 2018. The financial books will close on Monday, December 31, 2018 at noon. Any contributions received after that time will be carried over to 2019.

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR DECEMBER

Canned Meat
(Chicken, Salmon, Spam, Tuna)

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY

Toiletries & Household Items
(Shampoo/Conditioner, Deodorant,
Toothpaste, Laundry Detergent, Bar
Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products)

Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies,
Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup,
Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or
Fruit Cocktail Cups

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date: Wednesday, January 2 at 10:30 a.m.