



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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February 9, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

Lord, the gift of your Word is a light for our path. Help us to study your way and follow your teaching until we know the true Light who has come into the world and will come again in glory: Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Based on a
prayer of Jerome
(c.342-420)*

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

Know that the Lord is God.

God made us and we belong to God.

Psalm 100:3

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

CHORAL INTROIT *O Come, Let Us Sing Unto the Lord* Donald Moore

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are called to follow to walk in the way of justice and righteousness.

For we are the children of God!

We are called to serve – to be Christ with and for one another,

For we are the salt of the earth!

We are called to shine – to be beacons of hope and witness to truth,

For we are the light of the world!

Come, you who are claimed as children of God, salt of the earth, and light of the world.

Let us worship God!

Matthew 5:13-16

***PRAYER OF THE DAY 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.

***HYMN 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

God of mercy, when we consider the brokenness of the world, we often feel overwhelmed. You have made us salt of the earth, yet we lose our saltiness. You have made us the light of the world, yet we hide our light under a bushel. Forgive us when we use our sense of hopelessness as an excuse. Free us from fear and stir us to action that we might be the salt and light you created us to be.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Reverend Drumheller

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.

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter.
That he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth.
And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

[Matthew 5:13-16](#)

Pew Bible, page 4

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Salt and Light

Reverend Drumheller

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, *Come, Lord Jesus!* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory to God hymnal,
page 582

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

We believe that the Holy Spirit is active not only in the writing and handing down of scripture, but in its ready and hearing also.

In the Prayer for Illumination, we ask the Spirit to be present in the active role of hearing God's word.

Sermons are posted on the church's website (www.fpccalbemarle.org).

You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

*HYMN 757 *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Kingsford

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER Reverend Ayscue

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Doxology

Offertory

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
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.

Theodore Dubois
 hymnal, page 606

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN 767 *Together We Serve* San Anselmo

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* Sicilian Mariners

*POSTLUDE *Festive Trumpet Tune* David German

*All who are able may stand.

We are grateful for your presence 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 Natalie Niederer. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Ushers: Jill Niebler, captain; Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Melanie Hendrix, Katherine Jolly, and Lee McLaurin **Outside Ushers:** Kyle Marks; Lee Snuggs **Elder Greeters:** Steve Coats; Ellen Snyder **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Laura Beth & Kyle Marks **Children’s Church:** Taylor & Kyle Barbee

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Gene Earnhardt, Jane Lisk, Gene Freshly (husband of Jill Freshly; recovering from mild stroke), Debbie Gabriel (sister of Gayle Russell; diagnosed with breast cancer), Frank Green, Carolyn Sharpe, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Mark Mabry, Jane Pickler. **See newsletter for complete list.**

Souper Bowl of Caring Update

Thanks for your SOUPER BOWL generosity. We collected 167 cans of tomato soups, 243 cans of chicken noodle soup (equal to 345 pounds of soup), and almost \$275.00. The big winner is folks in our community who are hungry.

Would You Like to Help?

Could you write a brief reflection based on assigned scripture for inclusion in our on-line Lenten devotional? Contact Elizabeth for more information (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).



With deep appreciation for all you do,
the staff of First Presbyterian Church would like to invite you to a
Volunteer Reception in your honor.

Thursday, February 13

10:00 a.m.-Noon in the church parlor

RSVP to Pam Knighten (pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org) or

Kyle Lambert (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) or call the church office (704-982-2722).



Post Worship Luncheon

Sunday, February 16 following worship

Menu: Baked Potato & Salad Bar

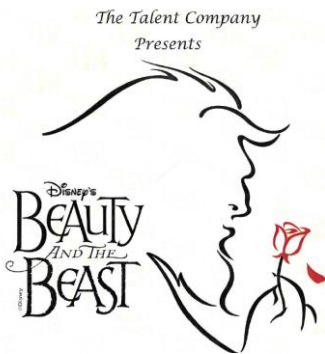
Everyone is encouraged to bring a potato topping to share.

The youth will host this luncheon to raise funds for the *Rise Against Hunger* packing event.

February 23 at 3:00 p.m.

People of all ages can help with the packing. Plan to be part of this afternoon.

The three Presbyterian churches of Stanly County are going to partner with Rise Against Hunger to pack meals for hungry people around the world. Over the course of two hours, we will pack approximately 25,000 meals. Contact Matt Drumheller to sign-up!



Faith Explorer Outing on Thursday, February 13
Meet at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$6.00 per person.

Show time is 7:30 p.m.

Parents:

Pick-up will be at the Agri-Civic Center
when the show ends at 9:45 p.m.

Contact Dorothy to sign-up

(dhart@fpcalbemarle.org or 828-244-3824).



BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

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, February 26 at 10:30 a.m.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 9

- 8:45 am Diaconate
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 6:30 pm Youth Group eats at Hwy 55 Burgers, Shakes, & Fries
(750-A Leonard Ave suite E)

Monday, February 10

- 8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's
(1611 Bellamy Circle, Albemarle)

Wednesday, February 12

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 13

- 10:00 am-12:00 pm Volunteer Reception (Parlor)
- 7:00 pm Faith Explorers meet at Stanly County Agri-Civic Center for *Beauty & The Beast*

Sunday, February 16

Youth Club Trusty Travelers and Faith Explorers sing in worship

Reception of New Members

- 8:30 am Session
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Congregational Lunch Sponsored by Youth
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! FEBRUARY

- 09-Debbie Bennett
- 10- Susan Pandich
- 11-Katherine Jolly
- 12-Karen Hinkle
- 14-Hunter Matthews
- 15-Emily Deese
Richard Griffin
Pete Smith
- 16-Miller Morgan

Visit the
Winter Art Gallery Exhibition
featuring Photography by Andy Cotton

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR FEBRUARY
Canned Vegetables –
Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, Peas, Beans,
Mixed Vegetables (Veg-all), Canned Tomatoes