



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Albemarle, North Carolina

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

January 23, 2022

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PRELUDE

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Dietrich Buxtehude

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Carter Gibson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Courtney Niederer, liturgist

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is sure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous together.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Let us worship God!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Your law is perfect, O God; your ways are just. We praise you for Christ, who makes known your Word. Gold's value is nothing compared to the salvation you offer. The sweetness of honey is a foretaste of the feast you prepare. Made alive by your mercy and renewed in your Spirit, we come adoring your goodness, O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

*HYMN 20

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Royal Oak

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our Restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Psalm 19

*RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE

hymnal 119, stanza 3

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

(The response will be sung by choir and congregation.)

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we nor more may die,

Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ANTHEM

The Best of Rooms

Hal H. Hopson

Christ, He requires still, wheresoe'er He comes to feed or lodge,
to have the best of rooms:

Give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part of all the house:
the best of all's the heart.

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

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Penny Morton

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-3 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We have gathered before your Word, O God. We want to hear with understanding, so give us attentive ears. By the power of your Holy Spirit at work in the word read and proclaimed, make the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts acceptable to you, our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[*Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*](#)

Pew Bible, page 416

SERMON

Remembering

Reverend Cathy S. George

*HYMN 310

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

St. Thomas

From

*The Confession of
1967*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written. The Scriptures are not a witness among others, but the witness without parallel. The church has received the books of the Old and New Testaments as prophetic and apostolic testimony in which it hears the word of God and by which its faith and obedience are nourished and regulated. God's word is spoken to his church today where the Scriptures are faithfully preached and attentively read in dependence on the illumination of the Holy Spirit and with readiness to receive their truth and direction. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory *If Thou But Trust God to Guide You* Georg Böhm
Doxology *As With Gladness Men of Old* hymnal 150, stanza 3

(The response will be sung by choir and congregation.) Dix
*As they offered gifts more rare at thy manger, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.*

*Prayer of Dedication

**God of life and new life, bless these gifts that we've been given, that they may further
your reign in this world. Amen.**

*HYMN 462 *I Love to Tell the Story* Hankey

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Peace, God's Wonderful Peace* William Runyan
Peace, God's wonderful peace be with you now and evermore, Amen.

*POSTLUDE *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* Dietrich Buxtehude

*All that are able may stand.

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Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, Penny Morton, and Courtney Niederer for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Carter Gibson.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the birthdays of Vance Cole, Jacob Palmer, and Julia Cole.

Ushers for January: John Howell (captain), Duncan Bryson, Keith Bryson, and Jim Hesley

Outside Ushers for January 23: Steve Cumming; Ronnie Michael

Sound: Evan Sanges **Film:** Andy McLeod

Nursery: Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Sarah Michael

Children's Church: Heather Kilde; Thora Kilde

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Rev. Augustus (Gus) S. Feather, III (husband of Nancy Feather; former pastor of First Presbyterian Church from 1989 to 2001), The family of Larry Carpenter (father of Matt Carpenter), The family of Joan Sharp (mother of Rev. Cathy George), Debbie Hinson (mother of Melissa Eudy), Ross Holshouser, Gus Holbrook, Terry Morgan, Robin Howell, Don Abernathy, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Gloria Bryson, Nancy Jolly, Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

Please stop by the church (Pit Stop on Sundays and/or office area during the week) to sign a hymnal for Ruth Ann Rogers. The hymnal will be available thru the end of February. Call the church before you to come to make sure someone is in the building (704-982-2722).



Central School Backpack Food Program Donations Needed
 Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish,
 Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Cans of Tuna, Chicken Helper,
 Cans of Chicken, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups
Donations may be dropped off in the Pit Stop at the church.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 PARTNERSHIP DRIVE-THRU LUNCH WITH TIFFANY'S
 THURSDAY, JANUARY 27 FROM 11:30 A.M.- NOON
 RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 24
 PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL**



Tiffany's at the Boardroom is partnering with FPC to provide lunch to you! Drive-Thru Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on THURSDAY, January 27! Please RSVP by Monday, January 24 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Thursday, January 27 between 11:30 a.m.-NOON. For your safety, the kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu:

Tiffany's Tomato Bisque, Grilled Cheese Sandwich supplies for you to make at home, & Red Velvet Cookies

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family.

Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church. We prefer cash.

All we need you to do is: call or text Jane Snyder at 704-438-3358 and let her know how many plates you need and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).



**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
 CONGREGATION & CORPORATION
 SUNDAY, JANUARY 30 FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

Session has set the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 30. The meeting will be held immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to receive annual reports and to transact other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The Postal Service is delivering one shipment of 4 COVID tests per residential address.

Enter your name, address and email at www.usps.com/covidtest to request a shipment.

The website is live now.

If you do not own a computer and would like to have a COVID test shipment mailed to your home, please contact Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821).





FIRST FAMILY MEAL
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL

First Family Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, February 2! Unfortunately, we are still unable to gather for First Family. If you would like a First Family meal, please RSVP by Monday, January 31 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu:

**Potato Soup with Shredded Cheese and Bacon (on the side), Mixed Green Salad,
Sweet Potato Cake, Pound Cake and Brownies**

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family.

Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

All we need you to do is:

**call Anne Montgomery at 704-796 5841 or email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com
and let her know how many plates you need,
if you would like sweet potato cake, pound cake or brownies for each meal, and
if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).**

Though we will not share the meal at the same table, we will delight in the opportunity to share the same meal at our own tables. A prayer and table ritual will be included for each household. Sharing the meal and the ritual will bind us together as the one body of Christ.

School supplies are needed for Central Elementary to finish the 2021-2022 school year. Please take the list below as you shop for much needed supplies for our partner school. BRING YOUR DONATION OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO THE CHURCH AND DROP-OFF IN THE DESIGNATED BIN IN THE PIT STOP. COLLECTION WILL BE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY. If you have any questions, contact Ruth Cotton (704-942-1381 or hugawolf@hotmail.com).

Student Supplies

Crayons – 16 or 24 count Crayola brand only	Zipper Pencil Pouch or Plastic Pencil Box
Elmer's brand Glue Sticks	Plain Solid 2-pocket folders
#2 Pencils	Pocket folders with prongs
#2 Beginner Jumbo Pencils (for Kindergarten students)	Pencil top erasers
Composition Hard Cover Wide-Ruled books (not spiral bound)	Highlighters (packs)
70-sheet wide-ruled 1-subject composition books	Crayola brand Colored Pencils
Scissors (child & youth sizes)	Crayola Markers
Playdoh brand play-doh	Clipboards
Pink Pearl Eraser	Ear Buds
Card Stock Paper	Headphones
Expo Dry Erase Markers (large & small size)	Small Pencil Sharpener
Notebook Paper (wide-ruled & regular-ruled)	Sticky Notes

Classroom Supplies Needed Include:

Lysol or Clorox Wipes, Kleenex, Copy Paper, Hand Sanitizer,
Band-aids, and Ziplock Sandwich Bags (Quart and Gallon)

January Book Conversation on Monday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor

The January book is *Fifty Words for Rain* by Asha Lemmie. We will meet in the parlor at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 24. Spanning decades and continents, *Fifty Words for Rain* is a dazzling epic about the ties that bind, the ties that give you strength, and what it means to be free.



Faith on the Fifth Offering on Sunday, January 30

The Mission Committee will receive a
Faith on the Fifth Offering on Sunday, January 30
to help those in our community with heating assistance through SCCM.



Due to the increase in Stanly County's positivity COVID rate, and for your protection and for the protection of the church staff, please take the following steps:

- (1) When you come into the church office, wear a mask and conduct your church business from the office counter.
- (2) If at all possible, conduct church business by phone or email. We will respond as quickly as possible.

The office phone number is 704-982-2722.

To email staff:

- Cathy George (cgeorge@fpcalbemarle.org)
- Kyle Lambert (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)
- Pam Knighten (pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org)
- Jane Snyder (jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)
- Gina Martin (gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org)
- Stan Scheer (sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org)
- Frank Poolos (fpoolos@fpcalbemarle.org)

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.



First Presbyterian Church Art Gallery

Open Now

(Located in the Church Basement)

GHA Autism Supports Creative Arts Program Presents

POP ART

Do you like looking at bold images of everyday items painted in bright colors? This type of art is called *Pop Art*, and it began in the 1950s. Pop Art is a style of art based on simple, bold images of everyday items, such as soup cans, painted in bright colors.

The term *pop art* originated with Lawrence Alloway, a British museum supervisor. He used the term to describe the new form of popular art that had a modern feel and the phrase stuck. Many famous artists who participated in this artistic movement became household names.

This year, the GHA Creative Arts students are exploring this artistic medium by using simple images and adding bright bold colors in a comic book style. Our courageous students have expressed themselves through their artworks more than words can express.



**New Sunday School Class
Faith, Fellowship, & Food
Every Sunday at GloryBeans Coffee House
(134 West Main Street, Albemarle)**

GloryBeans has graciously offered to open the coffee shop for us every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for Faith, Fellowship, and Food. We would love you to join us! Please enter through the back alley. Text Melissa Eudy if you have questions (704-439-6747).

Other Adult Sunday School class offerings (meet at 9:45 a.m. at the church):

Hard Sayings of Jesus led by Dr. Bill Jolly (Location: Old Session Room-Basement)

Like his original hearers, many people today find Jesus' sayings hard. Some sayings are hard because they are difficult to understand, others because the demands they make on us are only too clear. F. F. Bruce examines seventy of the hard sayings of Jesus to clear away the cultural and historical difficulties which keep us from grappling with the real challenge of Jesus' message. Evident in each chapter is Bruce's keen evangelical scholarship and pastoral insight. Participants will look at a different hard saying each week and discuss. One example of a hard saying of Jesus is, *But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.*

The Wired Word led by various facilitators (Location: Church Parlor)

The class meets each week and discusses current events and Bible verses that relate to that event. Every Thursday morning, an email is sent to class members from *The Wired Word* organization (a non-denominational group) that contains three key elements: 1) a two-page summary of a specific current event or news item, 2) a few *key questions* to stimulate your thinking about the article and 3) several Bible verses which relate directly to issues in the news article or the key questions. You can read the lesson at your convenience and spend as much (or little) time thinking about it. In class on Sunday, the facilitator will briefly review highlights of the news article and lead the discussion of the key questions and Bible verses. Because the lesson is different every week, it does not matter if you miss a week or more at a time for whatever the reason. Please come and give it a try! You may just get *hooked* as so many of us are. Contact Rich Schaefer for more information (richard.schaefer@gmail.com or 614-579-2475).

Book Study led by Kim Marshall and Courtney Niederer (Location: Classroom 2-Basement)

This class is starting a new book on Sunday, January 30. If you are interested in participating in the book study, *Shantaram* by Gregory David Roberts, will be available on January 23 in the class.

Sunday School for Children (meet at 9:45 a.m.):

<u>Class</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Preschool (3-5 yr olds)	Preschool Room	Becky Andrew; Hannah Domenech; Angie Earnhardt
Grades K-3rd	Children's Church Room	Kim Andrew; Adrienne Averette
Grades 4th-5th	2 nd Floor Classroom	Heather Hatley; Penny Morton; Jill Niebler
Grades 6th-12th	Teen Room	Al Andrew; Emily Andrew

Church Staff Opening...Facilities Maintenance Coordinator

The church is in great need of a Facilities Maintenance Coordinator. This position recently received a pay upgrade and requires approximately 10 hours per week. The ideal person would be able to open/prepare and close the church on Sundays and as needed for scheduled events. The position involves operating and assisting in routine maintenance of the building systems including lighting, heating, air conditioning, plumbing, etc. The coordinator



will work closely with the Property Committee chair, minister, and office manager to determine long-term maintenance needs. A job description for this position can be requested from the church office. If you know someone who might be interested, please contact the church office (704-982-2722).

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 23

- 8:30 am Session Meeting via Zoom
- 9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House
(134 West Main Street, Albemarle)
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL Youth

Monday, January 24

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 2:00 pm RSVP for Drive-Thru Partnership Lunch
- 7:00 pm Book Conversation in the Parlor
- 8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston
(1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

Wednesday, January 26

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5th Graders)
- 5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos
- 6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, January 27

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am-12:00 pm Drive-Thru Partnership Lunch with Tiffany's
- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, January 30

Faith on the Fifth Offering for SCCM Heating Assistance/Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation

- 9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House (134 West Main Street, Albemarle)
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation
- 6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL Youth The Bigger Church Activity

***childcare provided**

Your on-going support of First Presbyterian Church is essential to the mission and ministry of the church and to the well-being of our ministry partners, locally and globally. Thank you for your generosity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
JANUARY
 23-Susan Garrison
 Kim Marshall
 Ronnie Michael
 24-Dennis Gower
 26-Thomas Shedd
 28-Kim Andrew
 Gus Holbrook
 30-Linda Anderson

Tithes and offerings may be mailed to:
 First Presbyterian Church
 P.O. Box 1578
 Albemarle, NC 28002

Online giving can be done through the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org). Click on the GIVE button.

!!! Pfeiffer Pfriends Are Needed !!!

The Health Sciences Program of Pfeiffer University continues its presence in downtown Albemarle as students are working on a degree in the Physician's Assistant or Occupational Therapy Programs. Your willingness to be a Pfeiffer Pfriend would be a blessing. For more information on Pfeiffer Pfriends, please email Martha Sue at hallmsh@hotmail.com or call her at 704-985-5821.

