



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbells

Stanley Scheer, Organist

Gina Martin, Director of Christian Education

Pam Knighten, Secretary

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

E-mail: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org

Volume 49

March 6, 2106

No. 10

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

PRELUDE

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Have You Offended

Dale Wood

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, all who are thirsty,

People: Come, all who are weak,

Leader: Taste the living water,

People: Dip your hands in the flowing stream.

Leader: Drink from it, live by it,

People: For this water will never run dry.

***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 32**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silent

Unison **God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ into the world to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves as pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and forgive our sin.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Believe the good news,

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Mr. Drumheller

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the Children's Greeting, parents may take preschool children to the nursery. Children in grades K-2 may go the chapel for Children's Church.

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Gilbert M. Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In the truth of your Word, O Lord, reveal the truths of our lives. Illumine our hearts, refresh our lives, and renew a right spirit within us. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

[*Luke 1:46-55*](#); [*Luke 8:1-3*](#)

Pew Bible, pages 53-54; 62

SERMON

Lowly

Mrs. Ayscue and Mr. Drumheller

*CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Take, O Take Me as I Am

hymnal, page 698

(The congregation will sing the hymn two times.)

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Intermezzo

Hermann Schroder

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer and Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

*During the serving of communion, the congregation is invited to join the choir in singing
'Great Is Thy Faithfulness' (hymnal, page 39).*

Thanksgiving

*HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

*POSTLUDE

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Johannes Brahms

*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 Grace Richards. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Fay Granger (Laura McLeod's mother) by her family on her birthday.

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger today.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, March 6. All those who trust in Jesus Christ are invited to share in this meal of our community. Ushers will direct worshippers forward to receive the bread and juice at the appropriate time. Gluten-free elements are available at the front of the sanctuary.

Thanks to Blake Taylor, Kassie Taylor, and Billie Jean Snuggs for their artistic contribution to worship.

Ushers: John Howell, captain; Brad Boone, Lee Boone, Bill Hall, Robin Howell, Adam Jolly, Jack Morton, Penny Morton, Ellen Snyder **Elder Greeters:** Keith Bryson; Martha Sue Hall **Nursery:** Cici Ly **Toddler Room:** Misty Honbarrier **Preschool Partners:** Penny & Jack Morton **Nana & Papa Team:** Carroll Sitton **Children's Church:** Dona Lisk; Jacob Palmer

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Dick Kolk (friend of Lynn & Martha White), Connie Watson (sister of Dan Samples; recovering from a stroke), Dexter Efird. **See newsletter for complete list.**

Richard Lambert will depart on Monday, March 7 for the Mwandu Mission where he will live and work toward having the well installed in Mabumba. Please keep him in your prayers as he travels and works.

Daily Scripture Reading and Prayer for Lent

March 6	Luke 13:22-35	March 10	Luke 16:1-18
March 7	Luke 14:1-24	March 11	Luke 16:19-31
March 8	Luke 14:25-35	March 12	Luke 17:1-19
March 9	Luke 15:1-32	March 13	Luke 17:20-37



Contemplative Lent Worship

Tuesday, March 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Join us for this important worship opportunity designed to help worshippers focus on the reading in Lent, to be silent before God, and to sing the hymns of faith. We will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Childcare is provided.

Food for Body & Soul

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer in the Chapel

5:45 p.m. Dinner prepared and served by Diaconate...Cost: Donation

Menu: Lasagna, Salad, PB & J Station, Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water

Please sign the Friendship Register if you are planning to attend dinner.

6:15 p.m. Classes

Wednesday evenings will bring the church community together for worship and around the table for dinner. Afterwards, there will be study opportunities for adults. Together we will talk about some of the issues that create barriers and separate people from one another.

Book Conversation on The Faith Club by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner...Location: Parlor

This is the story of three women of different faiths (Jewish, Muslim, and Christian) who commit to learning about the faith of others. Books will be available for \$10.00 at the first meeting. Discussion will be led by Carol Sasser and others.

Contemporary Barriers...A variety of speakers will help us think together about the following issues. Location: Sanctuary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
March 9	Poverty	Skeet Ayscue Director of Homes of Hope, Inc.
March 16	Gender	Pastor David Kilde & Sandi Kilde



COMMUNITY LENT WORSHIP SERVICES FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ALBEMARLE WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 9 & 16 AT NOON IN THE SANCTUARY THEME: THE PARABLES OF JESUS LUNCH FOLLOWING...COST: DONATION

First Baptist Church is hosting the Community Lent Worship Services on Wednesdays, March 9 and 16 at noon in the sanctuary. An offering will be received each week in support of Habitat for Humanity and the Crisis Assistance Fund.

Wednesday, March 9:

Preacher: Rev. John Futterer, Pastor of First Lutheran Church

Worship Leader: Rev. Michael Furr, Associate Pastor of Family Ministries at First Baptist Church

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING BANKS

All members (and especially those with preschool and school-age children) are encouraged to pick-up a Sharing Calendar and a One Great Hour of Sharing bank in the pit stop. Educational material and activities are provided to go along with this offering. This is guaranteed to be a hit with your children and/or grandchildren.

OGHS banks are available in the pit stop. Please return your filled bank on Easter Sunday (March 27).



School Supplies for Central School...Supplies needed are: #2 Pencils, Wide-Ruled & College-Ruled Notebook Paper, 24-count Crayola Crayons (Crayola brand only), Kleenex, Hand Sanitizer, & Anti-bacterial Wipes. A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR
CENTRAL SCHOOL BOOKFAIR**

**The book fair will take place March 7-11 from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
& also on Tuesday, March 8 until 6:30 p.m.**

Sign-up (even for an hour or two) on the pit stop bulletin board to be part of this event which benefits the Central School library.

Contact Carroll Sitton at carrollsitton@rtmc.net or 336-461-5158

**Remember to *spring forward* one hour in the early morning hours of March 13
(or before you go to bed on March 12).**



Easter Lilies

Deadline: Sunday, March 20

If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Easter Lilies as an Easter Memorial or Honorarium, please fill out the form below exactly as you wish the memorial or honorarium to read, attach a check in the amount of \$15.00 and place in the offering plate or leave in the church office no later than **Sunday, March 20**. Checks should be payable to "First Presbyterian Church" and designated "Easter Lilies." All memorials/honorariums received by March 20 will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, March 27.

Easter Lilies

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

I plan to take my lily after worship on Easter.

I will leave my lily for delivery to a homebound member.



Sunday Mornings at 9:45

Children’s Sunday School Classes will continue as they have been.

Senior High Students meet with Matt in the Media Room.

Adults Offerings...

❖ *The Wired Word*

Discussion of current events in light of our theological convictions.

Location: Church Parlor with Rich Schaefer

Location: Old Session Room with Skeet Ayscue

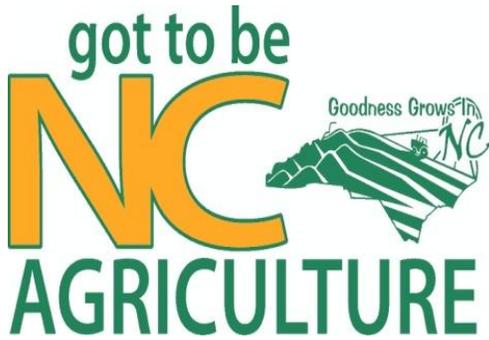
❖ *Old Testament*

Location: Session Room with Bill Jolly and Larry Sitton

Utilizing a video series developed by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish scholar who teaches at Vanderbilt University, Bill Jolly and Larry Sitton will lead this class. Levine presents a commentary on the origins, meanings, and interpretations of the stories in the Old Testament, in a thought-provoking and stimulating way. Interesting class discussion will follow.

❖ *The Faith & Family Class* returns to discuss issues of faith in the context of growing families.

Location: Classroom 2 in the basement with various facilitators



**Art Gallery Spring Exhibit
featuring**

Students of Central Elementary School

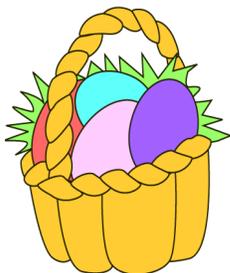
You Are Invited to a Meet & Greet Reception for
Congregation & Artists and their families
Tuesday, March 15...4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church Common Area
(Basement)

Agriculture: A Wise and Noble Pursuit

Central students have been learning about and discussing North Carolina agriculture and why it's so important to our lives. Fifth graders and Kindergarteners learned about cows and all the ways they are used and the products they give. The fifth grade focused on foreshortening and painting techniques to show depth. The Kindergarteners created their cows by using simple shapes and lines. Fourth graders created those glorious creatures that wake everyone up each morning: the rooster. Third graders discussed the beautiful sunflower fields found across our local countryside and learned about radial symmetry and the Fibonacci sequence found in the seeds. Second graders learned the importance of bees in agriculture and created prints to use in their collages. And finally, first graders learned about lots of local agriculture and that North Carolina produces the most amount of sweet potatoes in the United States. They created a watercolor resist of a colorful farm.

**Please Welcome Our Visitors from Bucknell University
March 13-19**

We look forward to hosting a group of students from Bucknell University. They are spending their spring break with us once again. While in Stanly County, they will work with Habitat for Humanity and enjoy hiking at Morrow Mountain and other places of interest. These students, and the staff accompanying them, will sleep and shower in the Educational Building. Evening will find them playing basketball in the gym, watching movies in the theatre, or preparing meals in the kitchen. They will enjoy dinner with the congregation on Wednesday, March 16.

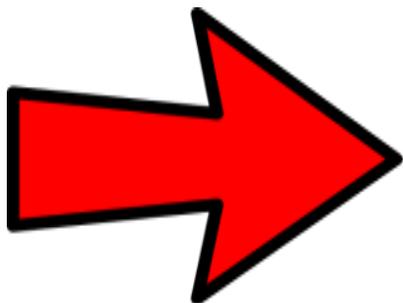


**EASTER EGG HUNT & COOKOUT
SUNDAY, MARCH 20 at CITY LAKE PARK
4:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.**

SNL is hosting an Easter egg hunt for congregation families again this year. Come celebrate the season, join in the fellowship and food, and hunt for some Easter eggs! Families are asked to bring a bag of chips and/or drink to share. Anyone who would like to donate plastic eggs or bags of candy for the event, please drop off your donations in the pit stop by Sunday, March 13. We appreciate your help! This is one of our favorite SNL activities each year, so bring the family out for an afternoon of fun!

**Easter Eve Camping at Morrow Mountain
on March 26**

Some folks are interested in camping at Morrow Mountain on Easter Eve (March 26). If you would like to be part of this group, contact Ken Knight (704-985-6277 or kbknight17@gmail.com). We'll have a great evening of fellowship and trek to the sunrise service together.



**!!! SIGN-UP NOW !!!
Congregational Retreat at Camp Caraway
April 8-10**

Our Congregational Retreat is **April 8-10**. We hope you will plan to join us at Camp Caraway for a weekend of fun games, good food, and enlightening discussion. **Pastor David Kilde** will be our speaker on the topic of being religious and spiritual people in a multi-cultural democracy. Now is the perfect time to sign your family up for this retreat which they will not want to miss.

There are two housing options available for the Congregational Retreat:

- Bunk Style Housing: \$102.00 per person**
- Single Occupancy Hotel Style Rooms: \$186.00**
- Double Occupancy Hotel Style Rooms: \$162.00**
- (Prices include 4 meals.)**

FAMILY PRICING
First child is full price...all others are FREE!

Please be aware that there will be scholarships and payment plans available for this retreat. Please see the sign-up sheet available in the church lobby outside the office or contact the church office to sign up!



Scholarships

From the Scholarship Committee...

Scholarship applications are available on the counter in the common area outside the church office. **The deadline to return completed applications is Monday, April 11.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2016 are: Heather Deese, Chair, Al Andrew, Phillip Brown, Jim Sawyer, and Lee McLaurin, ex-officio.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 6

*Fourth Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/
Ten-Cents-A-Meal*

- 9:45 am *Sunday School/ENGAGE!
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Palm Sunday Marketplace Planning Committee
(Old Session Room)
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee (Session Room)
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Combined SNL

Monday, March 7

- 7:00 pm Circle #5 meets at the home of Sally Grantier
(522 Avondale Ave., Albemarle)
- 7:00 pm *Sanges Small Group* at the home of Marlene & Nathan Sanges
(409 Cherrywood Lane, Albemarle)
- 8:30 pm Sr. High Bible Study at Elizabeth's
- 8:30 pm Pick-up Basketball

Tuesday, March 8

- 6:00 pm *Contemplative Worship (Chapel)
- 6:45 pm-7:45 pm **Flex, Flow, & Grow Small Group* (Classroom 2-basement)
- 7:00 pm *Mission Emphasis Johnston Small Group* at the home of Debby & Bob Johnston
(1212 Heritage Drive, Albemarle)
- 7:00 pm *Mittendorf/Schaefer Small Group* at the home of Susan Pandich
(1727 Southpoint Lane, New London)

Wednesday, March 9

- 6:00 am *Ayscue Small Group* (Church Parlor)
- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Community Lent Service at First Baptist Church
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 5:30 pm Evening Prayer
- 5:45 pm Lent Dinner
- 6:15 pm-7:15 pm *Lent Classes
- 7:15 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 10

- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:15 pm *Lisk Small Group* (Church Parlor)
- 7:30 pm *Drumheller Small Group* (Church Parlor)

Friday, March 11

- 10:30 am-Noon *Meditative Watercolor Small Group* (Old Session Room)

Sunday, March 13

*Fifth Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Youth Club Orff Ensemble & Youth Cubs
participate in Worship/Daylight Saving Time begins*

- 8:45 am *Diaconate
- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am Youth Club Orff Ensemble rehearses in the sanctuary
- 9:45 am *Sunday School/ENGAGE!
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm-3:00 pm Faith Explorers Sunday Outing Art Gallery Crawl
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm SNL
- 7:00 pm *Session

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

- 06- Keith Andrew
Robert Ivey
- 07- Chris Mabry
- 09- Cidney Eudy
Ginny Marshall
David Whitley
- 10- Russ Carpenter
- 11- Jim Carter
Nancy Jolly
- 12- Morgan Kinley

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

MARCH

- 10- David & Carroll Holbrook
- 13- Bill & Ruth Ann Rogers

*Visit the
First Presbyterian Church
Winter Art Exhibit
Featured Artist
Judy Murrell*

*childcare provided

SCCM NEED FOR MARCH: CANNED MEAT (TUNA, CHICKEN, SPAM)