



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

February 4, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 20 *All Things Bright and Beautiful* stanzas 1 and 4
Hymn 698 *Take, O Take Me as I Am* sing twice

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: How good it is to sing praises to our God;

Leader: For he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

People: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;

Leader: Make melody to our God.

People: Praise the Lord!

Psalm 147:1-11

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

I Corinthians 9:22

*HYMN 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* St. Denio
The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mark 1:29-39

Silence

Unison

O God, we know that we are broken, but we are reluctant to be made whole. We confess that we fear your healing touch and what it might mean to be made well. We are comfortable in our brokenness because it is familiar. We are afraid that we would owe you too much if we allowed you to make us new. Yet, deep in our souls, we long for you to make our lives whole. Heal our hearts, forgive our failings, and mend our hurts.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Hymn 582

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

Mike McLeod

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 to the chapel for Children's Church.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear. Open my mouth, and let me bear, gladly the warm truth everywhere. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

[Isaiah 40:21-31](#)

Pew Bible, page 628

ANTHEM

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Malcolm Archer

Transcribed by S. R. Scheer

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in Heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make God's love too narrow by false limits of our own;
And we magnify his strictness with a zeal he would not own.

There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple, we would take him at his Word;
And our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING

[Mark 1:29-39](#)

Pew Bible, page 33

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Lifted Up for Service

Mr. Drumheller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God the Holy Spirit. 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. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 468

In My Life

Lord, Be Glorified

During the hymn, ushers will collect your written prayers to be included in the Prayers of the People.

Open My Eyes, That I
May See (Hymn 451)

The familiar 19th century text is set to the English hymn tune, *Corvedale*, which provides a wonderful vehicle for hearing the text in a way quite different from the melody published in the United States. The unpublished choral and organ arrangement was transcribed from a recording by the Wells Cathedral Choir as heard on NPR's, *With Heart and Voice*.

A Brief Statement of Faith was written as the Presbyterian Church reunited in 1983. The statement lifts up concerns that call most urgently for the church's attention in our time. The church is not a refuge from the world; it is called to be a blessing to the world.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Offertory* César Franck
*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

*HYMN 377 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* Houston

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *God's Wonderful Peace Be with You* William M. Runyan

*POSTLUDE *Epilogue on 'Dix'* William H. Harris

*All who are able may stand.

We rejoice that you are worshiping 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 Leah Kilde. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Ushers: Jack Morton, captain; Duncan Bryson, Jim Ivey, Robert Ivey, Taylor Jolly, Greg Lisk, Penny Morton, and Jeff Robertson **Outside Ushers:** Greg Lisk; Tom Norwood **Elder Greeters:** Lee McLaurin; Gayle Russell **Nursery:** Sara Kate Thomas **Preschool Partners:** Kristie & Keith Bryson **Nana & Papa Team:** Debby Johnston; Carol Sasser **Children's Church:** Angie Earnhardt, Kelly Lentz, Adrienne Averette

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

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Doris Forte; Debi Medlin (breast cancer; stepsister of Dona Lisk). **See newsletter for complete list.**

Prayer Partners...During Lent, you have the opportunity to pray for another member of the congregation. If you would like to pray for and be prayed for, fill out a prayer card enclosed with the bulletin and bring it back on February 11 or February 18. On February 18, everyone who wants to participate will receive another person's card. In this way, we will keep one another supported in prayer throughout the season.

Beginning the week of February 18, small groups will gather weekly for discussion and prayer around the theme, *Living the Word*. **Sign-ups for Lenten Small Groups are in the pit stop.**



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Please help feed our Stanly County neighbors by participating in this year's Souper Bowl competition. As you face the front of the sanctuary...

Bring chicken noodle soup if your usual worship seat is on the right side (choir loft side) of the middle section, the right section, choir loft, or the balcony.

Bring tomato soup if your usual worship seat is on the left side of the middle section, the left section, or the section near the sound board.

Our youth will collect both soup and money on February 4. Please support our neighbors in need.

Which Ministry Is Right for You?

Many of our committee chairs are putting together groups to share in ministry. Please prayerfully consider how you might be involved in the work of one of these committees. Contact the folks below to say, *Here I Am!*

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Contact (email, phone number)</u>
Childcare	Laura Beth Marks	lbmarks4@gmail.com 704-202-9334
Christian Education	Sarah Michael	scmichael@windstream.net 704-982-5730
	Gayle Russell	gayleruss@gmail.com 704-438-2779
College & Military	Kate Gibson	katherine.e.gibson@gmail.com 336-301-4564
Fellowship	Jim Hesley	jimhesley@yahoo.com 704-985-4271
	Connie Wallace	connie.wallace59@gmail.com 704-982-8260
Membership	Chris Whitley	sfcwhitley53@gmail.com 704-982-3784
Mission	Joyce Lambert	barotseland3000@aol.com 704-982-6142
Property	Lynn White	g_lynn_white@yahoo.com 704-983-2384
Scholarship	Lee McLaurin	lcovingtonm.20@gmail.com 704-305-3984
Senior Care	Tom Norwood	fnorwood@vnet.net 704-983-3647
Stewardship	Rich Schaefer	richard.schaefer@gmail.com 614-579-2475
Worship	Dona Lisk	liskdona@gmail.com 704-591-5934
Ushering	Jack Morton	jackmmorton@gmail.com 704-982-0011



Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

(for 2nd & 3rd Graders)

Sunday, February 4 at 9:00 a.m. in the Media Room

Breakfast Bunch is a special program exclusively for our 2nd and 3rd graders designed to help cultivate lasting friendships by giving them designated time together to build our community of faith. If you are in 2nd or 3rd grade, please join us on Sunday, February 4 in the Media

Room (downstairs) for some delicious muffins, yogurt, and juice! Please let Jill Niebler (jlniebler@gmail.com) know if you are able to join us or if you have questions.

FIRST FAMILY GATHERING ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Evening Prayer at 5:45 p.m. in the Chapel

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Gym

Menu for Build Your Own Bowl:

Choose your base, protein, toppings, and sauce

Base: Jasmine Rice, Cous Cous, Lettuce, Black Beans, Tortillia Chips

Protein: Shredded Chicken or Ground Beef

Toppings: Avocado, Tomato, Charred Corn, Cilantro, Shredded Cheese, Jalepeno, Lime, Onion

Dressing/Sauces: Cilantro Yogurt, Salsa, Sour Cream, Cheese Sauce

Desserts: Sweet Potato Cake, Brownies, Cookies

Contact the church office to make reservations (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).



Volunteers Needed for First Family Gathering

- Dessert Crew: Tuesday, February 6 at 10:00 a.m.
- Toppings & Sauce Crew: Wednesday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m.
- Set up crew: Wednesday, February 7 at 3:45 p.m.
- Final Touches crew: Wednesday, February 7 at 5:15 p.m.
- Clean-up crew: Wednesday, February 7 at 6:45 p.m.

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722, on her phone 704-438-3358 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help!



You are invited to the First Presbyterian Church Volunteer Reception

Thursday, February 15 from 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).

Stanly County Habitat for Humanity BBQ Chicken Fundraiser

½ BBQ Chicken, Slaw, Chips, Roll, and Dessert

Thursday, February 22

11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

At Centerview Baptist Church (508 Northeast Connector, Albemarle)

Advance tickets available in the church office.

Ticket Prices: \$9.00 in advance...\$10.00 day of the event

Drive Thru, Take-Out, Delivery, & Dine-In

Delivery Available with orders of 5+ plates

******(Delivery must be scheduled before February 20)******

Catered by Port-A-Pit BBQ



Habitat for Humanity also needs volunteers for the event and to make cakes/desserts. Sign-up on the Mission Bulletin Board by Sunday, February 11.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 4

Souper Bowl of Caring/Ten-Cents-A-Meal

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch (Media Room)

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

Monday, February 5

8:00 pm-9:00 pm Bible Study with Matt at Off the Square

Tuesday, February 6

10:00 am First Family Dessert Crew

Wednesday, February 7

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

9:15 am-11:00 am *Pray & Play

10:00 am First Family Toppings & Sauce Crew

12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)

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

3:45 pm First Family Set-up Crew

5:15 pm First Family Final Touches Crew

5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)

5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)

5:45 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)

6:00 pm First Family Dinner (Gym)

6:45 pm First Family Clean-up Crew

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 8

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Sunday, February 11

Youth Club Handbell Ensemble Rings in Worship

Faith Explorers Sing in Worship

8:45 am *Diaconate

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm-4:00 pm Faith Explorers' Bake & Take
w/Pizza Lunch

5:00 pm-6:30 pm Youth Group Family Night

6:00 pm Worship Committee

***childcare provided**



**Visit the Winter Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring Paintings by Matt Moeller**

High School Bible Study with Elizabeth and Jack is on sabbatical until April.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

FEBRUARY

04-Hugh Carpenter

Holly Holbrook

05-Keith Byrd

Robin Howell

06-Melissa Eudy

Bob Johnston

07-Jennifer Mabry

08-Mellanie Morgan

09-Debbie Bennett

10-Susan Pandich

11-Davis Fort

Katherine Jolly

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

FEBRUARY

06-Steve & Laura Blalock

09-Bill & Diane Stevenson

Community Participation Needed

You are requested to complete the 2018 Community Health Assessment survey. This is the survey the Stanly County Health Department and Carolinas HealthCare System Stanly conduct to determine what our major priorities are for the next three years by analyzing community responses and State data. The information in this report is, also, used to get grants for agencies and non-profits.

The survey can be done through February 28. For more information, contact Debbie Bennett at dbennett@stanlycountync.gov or 704-982-9171.

The link is:

<https://goo.gl/forms/u0c06jntFJeY1Sc32>

or visit the Stanly County Health Department website at

health.stanlycountync.gov

Backpack Food Program

UPDATED LIST OF DONATIONS NEEDED:

Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Canned Tuna, and Saltine Crackers.

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date:

Wednesday, February 28 at 10:30 a.m.

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR FEBRUARY

Canned Vegetables

Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, Peas, Beans,
Canned Tomatoes, Mixed Vegetables (Vegall)