



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

July 8, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

Save us, Lord, from being self-centered in our prayers, and teach us to remember to pray for others. May we be so caught up in love for those for whom we pray, that we may feel their needs as keenly as our own, and pray for them with imagination, sensitivity, and knowledge. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

John Calvin
(1509-1564)

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONG

Hymn 697 *Take My Life* stanzas 1, 4, 5, and 6

CHURCH CORRESPONDENCE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Hymn 390 *Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!* Louez le Seigneur

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Throughout this sermon series, we will listen in on conversations between *modern Christians* and *early Christians* as they explore faith in the church.

***HYMN 14**

For the Beauty of the Earth Dix

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

Generous God, we acknowledge that all we have is a gift from you. We confess our enjoyment of abundance and our reluctance to share. We pray you will open our eyes to the needs which exist around us and open our hearts to joyful giving. Turn us from greed and toward generosity in the name of the risen Christ who gave himself for us.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

Sermons are posted to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org). You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

From *A Declaration of Faith*; adopted by the Southern Presbyterian Church in 1977.

***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

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the children's greeting, parents may take preschool children to the nursery.

SOLO *Gabriel's Oboe from 'The Mission'* Ennio Morricone
Frank Poolos, Oboe

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, we pray that your Holy Spirit will strengthen us to be devoted to the teachings of your Word, that though it we may hear your voice and follow it into eternal life. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING [Acts 2:43-47](#) Pew Bible, page 112
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Share* Mrs. Ayscue

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor to include those ordinarily despised and excluded. His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death. He commanded his disciples to live the same way. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet. Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor, to treat our neighbor's needs as our own, to care passionately for the other's good, to share what we have. It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves. Amen.

*HYMN 694 *Great God of Every Blessing* Aurelia
During the hymn, ushers will collect your written prayers to be included in the Prayers of the People.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Mr. Drumheller
AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

Our God has prepared a table for us. We eat of the bread of life and drink of the overflowing cup of salvation.

So let us give generously from our common wealth, as our way of praising God and sharing with those in need.

Offertory

Andante

Felix Mendelssohn

*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 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Darwall's 148th

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Meinen Jesum lass ich nicht

Johann G. Walther

*All who are able may stand.

My Offering cards are in the pews. As a regular practice, you are invited to take one, reflect on your giving, and place it in the offering plate when it comes to you.

Worship continues with fellowship in the Pit Stop. Join others for lemonade and conversation.

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

There is no Children's Church today. School-aged children are encouraged to remain in worship.

Thanks to Morgan Kinley and Ellen Snyder for their role as letter writers in worship this morning.

Ushers: Brett Richards, captain; Jim Hesley, Judy Kilgore, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman, and Rose Saltzman **Outside Ushers:** Steve Coats; Stephan Kinley **Elder Greeters:** Keith Bryson; Taylor Johnston **Nursery:** Kaitlyn Massey **Preschool Partners:** Jill Niebler; Isabel McLeod **Nana & Papa Team:** Gayle Russell

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Melba Faircloth (sister of Miriam Russell), Dick Liles (sciatica pain), Ruth Ann Rogers, Betty Stancik (sister of Bill Hall; continuing health concerns), Doug Archer (cancer), Frank Osborne (brother of Lillie Hancock), Rodney Morgan. **See newsletter for complete list.**

**FELLOWSHIP
&
LEMONADE
ON THE
LAWN
EVERY
SUNDAY
FOLLOWING
WORSHIP
IN THE
PIT STOP**



**First Presbyterian Church
Congregational Retreat
October 12-14**

Morrow Mountain State Park

It's not too early to sign-up for First Presbyterian Church's congregational retreat on October 12-14 at Morrow Mountain State Park. See the bulletin board in the pit stop for more information.

Summer Sermon Series

This summer, Matt and Elizabeth will lead us in taking a look at the life of the early Christian church – its challenges and practices – through the lens of the New Testament book of Acts. Sermons now through July 29 will focus on texts in Acts.



Will You Check Your Bookshelves? We are looking for several more copies of Jan Karon's book, *Shepherds Abiding*, for the August book conversation. If you have one to loan, please let Kyle know (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) or drop it by the church.

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until **July 12**. Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org). Applications may be submitted by individual church members or committee chairpersons. Once funding requests are received, the Endowment Committee will review the applications and determine which requests will be funded. Personal interviews may be requested if further information is needed regarding a funding request. If you have questions about the application process, please contact the office. Endowment Committee members include: Steve Cumming, Chair; Lee McLaurin, ex-officio, Laura Blalock, Patrick Currie, Bob Gaither, and Mary Kesselman.



We will Circle the Sanctuary for the SCCM food pantry in July!
You may bring non-perishable food items to designated areas in the sanctuary between now and July 22.

Let's fill the shelves!

Most Needed Items Are:

- Canned Fruit (No Sugar Added)**
- Canned Vegetables (Low Sodium)**
- Canned Meats**
- Spaghetti Sauce**
- Spaghetti Noodles**
- Macaroni & Cheese**
- Oatmeal/Grits**
- 1lb bag of rice**



**- Coming in August-
Christmas!**

We'll celebrate this holy season without the distractions of shopping, baking, gift wrapping, etc.

- August 14 Bible study on the gospel accounts of the birth of Jesus
- August 19 Advent Worship with brunch & Chrismon making for all ages
- August 20 Book Conversation on *Shepherds Abiding*
- August 26 Christmas Worship

In addition, we will have a Movie Night (*The Star*) and collect items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

**Summer Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring Works By Lilley Brookshire**

First Presbyterian Church is excited to have on display during the summer months the original paintings, drawings, and sculpture of Lilley Brookshire. Lilley is a junior at Gray Stone Day School. She is 17 years old and has been painting and drawing for 6 years. In her free time, she enjoys playing tennis, the piano, and the ukulele. Visit the Summer Art Gallery located in the basement of the church!



The 2018 Nominating Committee

welcomes your suggestions of persons to be considered for service as Deacon or Ruling Elder.

In thinking of folks who may be qualified to serve, please consider the following:

- Worship attendance
- Participation in church activities
- Service rendered to the church
- Christian living in daily life
- Ability to work cooperatively with others

Suggestions for Deacon

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Suggestions for Ruling Elder

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please return suggestions to the church office or to Keith Bryson, Nominating Committee Chair, by August 5. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Keith Bryson, Robert Ivey, Taylor Johnston, Nancy Joines, Bill Jolly, Jack Morton, and Frankie Palmer.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 8

Circle the Sanctuary

10:00 am *Worship

11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Pit Stop)

Wednesday, July 11

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, July 12

Deadline for Gaither Endowment Grant Forms

Sunday, July 15

Circle the Sanctuary

10:00 am *Worship

11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Pit Stop)

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JULY

07-Barbara Lindley

Stella Marks

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

JULY

10-Don & Janice Abernathy

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR JULY

Canned Meats

Tuna, Chicken, Spam, Salmon