



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

September 16, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

As Martha worked with concern and attention, and Mary stopped and sat in stillness to listen, let us make around ourselves a space comfortable and warm as a hearth fire glowing; within our hearts, room to receive a guest.

Neil Paynter of the
Iona Community in
Scotland.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* stanzas 1 and 4
Hymn 729 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* stanzas 2 and 4

***CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

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

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Look to the heavens!

They are shouting the glory of God.

The days and the nights declare the magnificence of God's creative works.

Their voice goes through all the earth and their words reach the ends of the world.

Let our words of praise be acceptable to you.

Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!

Lee Boone

Psalm 19:1-4, 14

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and everlasting God, increase our faith, hope, and love; and, that we may receive all you promise, make us love what you have commanded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN 305 *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* Darwall's 148th

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silent

Unison

You have called us, O God, and we have refused to listen; you have stretched out your hand and we have not taken it. We have taken what you have given us and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you. We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom. Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the reality of your gospel. Give us the insight we need to understand your place in our lives so that our words and actions reflect your glory in the lives of others.

Jeremiah 23:25-29

***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

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer

God of comfort and hope, we pray your blessing upon these shawls...warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing. May they be a safe haven...a sacred place of security and well-being, of mercy and meaning, sustaining and embracing those who receive them. May those who receive these shawls be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in your love. Amen.

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-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, whose Spirit comes to us in moments of both strength and weakness, come now into our midst that we might be able to hear your Word in fullness and in truth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING [James 3:1-12](#) Pew Bible, page 216

ANTHEM *Be Thou My Vision* Mark Hayes

GOSPEL READING [Mark 8:27-38](#) Pew Bible, page 41

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Big Hearted* Rev. Ayscue

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 314** *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* Christ, Be Our Light
During the hymn, ushers will collect your written prayers for inclusion in the Prayers of the People.

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

From
*A Brief Statement
of Faith.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Taylor Johnston

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 OFFERING

Invitation

For the hope of the world,

We offer our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

Andante

William Harris

*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.

*HYMN 721

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Pescador de Hombres

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

William G. Tomer

*POSTLUDE

Postlude

William Mathias

*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.

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 Grant Lisk. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Lee Boone is liturgist today. He is the son of Jane and Brad Boone and is a senior at Gray Stone Day School.

Many thanks to the folks who have lovingly and prayerfully crafted the shawls which are being blessed today.

Ushers: Jill Niebler, captain; Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Nancy Joines, Katherine Jolly, Ken Knight, Andy McLeod, Shelley Shedd **Outside Ushers:** Wes Eudy; Ronnie Michael **Elder Greeters:** Joyce Lambert; Rich Schaefer **Nursery:** Grayson Harris **Kids Care Crew:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael **Children's Church:** Liz Davis; Luke Davis

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Katherine Cox (mother of Sherrie Richards; health concerns), Conor Granger (nephew of Lara McLeod; mental health issues), Holly Norwood, Veronica Fraser (friend of Debby Johnston; pancreatic cancer), Jack Dickerson (father of Susan Pandich), Judy Murrell, Sally Grantier, Hessie Clark. See newsletter for complete list.

First Presbyterian Church presents the Fall Art Exhibit
Face Off 2018
featuring works by GHA Autism Supports Creative Arts Program

New This Fall...Fun, Light, Easy Exercise

What is it? A seated stretching exercise class. All exercises can be easily modified to benefit every fitness level.

When? Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.

Where? In the gym

Instructor? Our own Kim Robertson will lead the group.

Relax & de-stress while improving flexibility and muscle tone.



**INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?**

If you have been visiting this congregation for a while (or just showed up) and want to know more about the privilege and responsibility of ministry, plan to join Matt and members of the Membership Committee for a very brief meeting.

When? Following worship on Sunday, September 23

Where? In the Parlor

Can't make the meeting? Contact Matt Drumheller
(704-982-2722 or mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org).

We'll share brief conversation and set a date to talk about the Presbyterian Church and this congregation specifically.

Backpack Food Program

Donations Needed:

Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Hamburger Helper, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.



Faith Explorers

Our 4th & 5th graders will enjoy monthly outings during the school year, as well as a clearly defined program during Youth Club on Wednesdays.

First Outing: Sunday, September 16

Pool Party & Pizza after worship at the home of Penny & Jack Morton

Bring your bathing suit, towel, and sunscreen to church as we'll head over to the pool after worship.

Pick-up time: 3:00 p.m. at the Morton's home

(40313 Hoops Court, Albemarle)

POOL PARTY

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 16

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

- 8:30 am *Session
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers' Pool Party
- 5:00 pm Youth Group Dinner at the Moeller's

Tuesday, September 18

- 11:15 am Light Exercise (Gym)
- 12:00 pm October Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, September 19

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 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 Club Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 20

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:15 pm Light Exercise (Gym)

Friday, September 21

Youth Group Lock-in (begins at 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, September 22

Youth Group Lock-in (ends at 9:00 a.m.)

Sunday, September 23

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Prospective Members (parlor)

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! SEPTEMBER

- 16-Kyle Marks
David Morgan
- 17-Peggy Rogers
- 18-Sam Davis
Nathaniel Eudy
- 19-Becky Miller
- 20-Angus Currie
Brent Lisk
Grant Lisk
- 21-Ben Andrew
Ollie Henkenjohann
- 22-Jake Whisnant

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! SEPTEMBER

- 16-Don & Sheryl Stewart

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER

- Paper Goods...
- Toilet Tissue
- Paper Towels
- Facial Tissue
- Cleaning Supplies

Attention College Students & Parents

Please contact the church office
(klambert@fpcalbeamarle.org or 704-982-2722)
with your college mailing address and email address.

*shhh....
it's a secret*

Would You Like To Be A Silent Partner?

We need people to serve as a Silent Partner to our college students away at school. Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbeamarle.org) to say you'll help.