



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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November 18, 2018

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

**MORNING MEDITATION**

*How can we live into God's vision that chooses love over fear?*

Kent Annan

**PEALING OF THE BELLS**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

**GATHERING SONGS**

Hymn 641                      *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*                      stanzas 1, 2, and 3  
Hymn 36                        *For the Fruit of All Creation*    all stanzas

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bless the Lord who counsels and guides us.

**Because we keep the Lord ever before us, we shall not be moved.**

Rejoice! Let your hearts be glad! Let your spirits rejoice and your bodies rest secure.

**For God does not give us up to death, but shows us the path of life. Praise the Lord!**

Psalm 16:7-11

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Holy God, creator of all that is and is to come, you made the world and called it good. We thank you and praise you, for we have wreaked havoc on your good creation, yet you promise to make all things whole and live among us in joy and peace. Keep us watchful for Christ's coming, enliven our hope, and support us through the birth pangs of your new creation, that we may welcome you with songs of praise. Amen.**

Revelation 21:3  
Mark 13:8

**\*HYMN 367**

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*                      St. George's Windsor

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

**God of grace, all around us are wars, and rumors of wars, and we are afraid for ourselves and our world. We follow after false leaders and grasp for whatever security we can find. Forgive us, Lord, for we are quick to forget that all of life is in your hands. Renew our hope, increase our courage, and keep us watchful for the signs of your just and peaceful reign that is to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Mark 13:5-8

**\*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.**

*Glory to God*  
hymnal  
page 582

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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

John 6:68

This text is a poem of national thanksgiving and serves as a model for Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1.

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

An excerpt from *The Confession of 1967*.

### 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

**O Lord, you have the words of eternal life. Speak to us by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we might hear what you would say to us today. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING [1 Samuel 2:1-10](#) Pew Bible, page 234

### ANTHEM

*We Thank You, Lord*

Lloyd Larson

We thank you, Lord, and worship You with gladness;  
We praise Your name and lift our hearts in song,  
For You are good, Your love endures forever,  
Our faithfulness continues all day long.  
You've lavished us with every spiritual blessing,  
We thank you, Lord, and praise You now in song.

We thank you, Lord, for everyday provisions,  
For daily food, for clothes, and shelter, too;  
For health and strength and grace for every trial,  
For this free land where we can worship You.  
You crown each day with Your abundant goodness.  
We thank You, Lord, and lift our praise to You.

We thank You, Lord, for giving us salvation,  
You sent Your Son that we might be forgiven.  
From the east and west, our sins are vanquished;  
Now justified, we're citizens of heaven.  
You've sealed us with Your promised Holy Spirit;  
We thank You, Lord, for love so freely given! Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING [Mark 13:1-8](#) Pew Bible, page 71

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

*A Pathway Forward*

Reverend Ayscue

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, a father's house, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents the triumph of God over all that resists his will and disrupts his creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.**

\*HYMN 357

*The Days Are Surely Coming*

Llangloffan

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Drumheller

**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.**

### TITHES AND OFFERING

Invitation

As followers of Jesus, we are called to give ourselves for others, as Jesus has given himself for us.

**With gratitude for Christ's grace, let us offer our lives to the Lord.**

Offertory *Now Thank We All Our God* Georg Kauffmann

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 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* Festal Song

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *For the Fruit of All Creation* Stanley R. Scheer

\*POSTLUDE *Chorale Improvisation on 'Nun danket alle Gott'* Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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\*All that 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 Thora Kilde.** After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

**Thank you to** Barbara Overcash for creating the cornucopia which graces the dias and reminds us of God's abundant provision.

**Ushers:** Brett Richards, captain; Jim Hesley, Judy Kilgore, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman, and Rose Saltzman **Outside Ushers:** John Howell; Kyle Marks **Elder Greeters:** Lee Boone; Dona Lisk **Nursery:** Cortney Brown **Kids Care Crew:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael **Children's Church:** Lynn Poplin

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Hilda Perry (sister of Cathryn Harwood; continuing health concerns), Judy Smith (friend of Meredith Moses; pancreatic cancer), Cam Rogers, Cyndi Thornton (niece of Lynn White; breast cancer), Sally Warburton (friend of Debbie & John Hahn), Marty Goforth (friend of Debbie & John Hahn; treatment for melanoma), Margaret Brooks (friend of Debbie & John Hahn), Katherine Cox (mother of Sherrie Richards; health concerns), Conor Granger (nephew of Laura McLeod; mental health issues), Judy Murrell. See newsletter for complete list.

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**The Worship Committee will fill the sanctuary windows with angels and churches during Advent.** Please share yours – of any size and material – along with a sentence or two about where the item came from and should be marked with the owner's name. All angels and churches need to be at the church by Tuesday, November 27.

**2018 Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance  
(formerly called Barium Springs Home for Children)**

**Sunday, November 18**

The mission of Children's Hope Alliance is to provide a safe, healing journey for hurting children and families – creating hope now and in the future. All of the services provided by Children's Hope Alliance create hope for hurting children and families in three ways...

*Healing the hurt, providing a safe home,  
and encouraging a healthy start!*

Your generous donation will make an impact on each child.

Bring your offering on Sunday, November 18.

*This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.* John 15:12 (NSRV)

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**children's hope**  
— ALLIANCE —

**Community Thanksgiving Worship**

**Date: Sunday, November 18**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Location: The Gathering  
(175 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Albemarle)**

Preacher: Pastor James Laurence of First Lutheran Church, Albemarle  
Other downtown pastors will assist in worship.

A reception will follow.

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**SERRV Fair Trade Items Available**

**Sunday, November 18**

**Will you help support this mission?**

**Bring your Christmas shopping list!**

**Located in the pit stop from**

**9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**on Sunday, November 18.**

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**Alternative Christmas Gifts**

On November 25 and December 2, 9, and 16, there will be opportunities to purchase alternative gifts in the Pit Stop. You will be able to select from among both local and international recipients. For each purchase, you will receive one of several holiday-themed acknowledgement cards. The charities are: The Community Care Clinic, Homes of Hope/The Community Inn, Stanly Community Christian Ministry (SCCM), and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

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**November 18th is the Youth Group Friendsgiving event.**

We will meet at the church at 6 p.m. for a potluck dinner.

Please bring a dish to share!

Then, we'll cross the street to The Gathering for the Community Thanksgiving worship service.

Friends are welcome to attend.

Let Dorothy know via email or text what you plan to bring.  
([dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org) or 828-244-3824).





Join Elizabeth and Jane Snyder for this conversation as we look at life's losses (death, health, home, independence) in the past and others that will surely come. Using resources of faith, we will talk about some losses and how the community of faith assists in healing. Margaret Fields will provide helpful information.

*They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.*

(Isaiah 40:31)

**Living with Loss  
Thursday, November 29  
10:00 am-2:00 pm**

Lunch will be at Second Street Sundries (dutch treat).

Please sign up by November 12.

(704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org))

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**Faith Explorer Outing  
Hiking Morrow Mountain  
Sunday, November 18 following worship**

The Faith Explorers will be going on a hike to Morrow Mountain following worship on Sunday, November 18. Bring athletic clothing to change in to and pack a lunch to enjoy at our halfway point. Contact Dorothy to sign-up ([dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org) or 828-244-3824).

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**Baked Items Needed for the Youth Sponsored  
Christmas Kitchen on Sunday, December 16**

If you are willing to make and donate cakes, pies, casseroles, etc., for the youth sponsored Christmas kitchen, please sign-up below and place in the offering plate.

**Contact Dorothy if you have questions.  
[dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org) or 828-244-3824.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Item(s) you will make & donate: \_\_\_\_\_



Thank you in advance for your help.

## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday, November 18

*Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance*

*SERRV Items Available in the Pit Stop Before & After Worship*

- 8:30 am \*Session
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers' trip to Morrow Mountain
- 6:00 pm Youth Group Friendsgiving Potluck Dinner
- 7:00 pm \*Community Thanksgiving Service at  
The Gathering (175 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Albemarle)

### Monday, November 19

- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program

### Wednesday, November 21

*No Youth Club/No Choir Rehearsal*

### Thursday, November 22

*Thanksgiving*

*Church Office Closed*

### Friday, November 23

*Church Office Closed*

### Sunday, November 25

*Christ the King Sunday*

*Alternative Gifts Available in the Pit Stop*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship

**\*childcare provided**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### NOVEMBER

- 18-Lee McManus
- 19-Gus Feather
- 21-Debbie Wainwright
- 23-Meredith Moses  
Gayle Russell  
Thomas Taylor
- 24-John Earnhardt

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

### NOVEMBER

- 22-Gayle & Ned Russell



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

## SCCM CHALLENGE FOR NOVEMBER

Canned or Dried Beans, Canned Tomatoes, Rice



### **Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:**

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

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

**Next Packing Date: Monday, November 19 at 10:30 a.m.**