



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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January 20, 2019

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

**MORNING MEDITATION**

*Alone with none but thee, my God, I journey on my way. What need I fear, when thou art near, O King of night and day? More safe am I within thy hand, than if an host didst round me stand.*

*Prayer of  
Saint Columba  
of Iona  
(c. 521-597)*

**PEALING OF THE BELLS**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

**GATHERING SONGS**

Hymn 187                      *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*                      stanzas 1 and 4  
Hymn 468                      *In My Life*                      all stanzas

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

God's steadfast love extends to the heavens; God's faithfulness to the clouds.

**Christ brings hope out of despair, and joy out of sorrow.**

The spirit is the fountain of water and life. In her light, we see light.

**God is the author of all our gifts, bound together in the body of Christ.**

Come, let us celebrate the gifts of God!

**Come, let us worship the Lord!**

*Psalm 36  
I Corinthians 12*

**\*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 366                      *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*                      Hyfrydol

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

**Holy Lord, you are a God of grace and good gifts. Forgive us when we do not recognize your grace: when we do not hear your Spirit calling and challenging us. Forgive us when we do not live as people of grace: when we are quick to offer judgement and slow to offer compassion. Forgive us when we do not believe the depth of your grace: when we doubt whether we are good enough to be loved. Forgive us, God of grace. Wash us in your mercy and move us to new life.**

*I Corinthians 12*

**\*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 on the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)). You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

The Affirmation of Faith was adapted from the Confession of 1967, which was written in a time of racial tension in America. The confession focuses on God's work of reconciliation in Jesus Christ.

**\*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**

Reverend Ayscue

*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 One, giver of all light, lift up our hearts and minds to Christ, the morning star that never fades. By the light of your Holy Spirit, reveal to us your saving Word and lead us to offer our lives to you in service and in love. Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** [\*1 Corinthians 12:1-11\*](#) Pew Bible, page 163

**ANTHEM**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies.  
Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light.  
Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child;  
Friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild.  
Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine, to our race so freely given;  
Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven:  
Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.

**GOSPEL READING**

[\*John 2:1-11\*](#)

Pew Bible, page 87

**SERMON**

*Abundance*

Reverend Drumheller

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who makes all things to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen.**

\*HYMN 720

*Jesus Calls Us*

Galilee

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

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

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 702

*Christ Be Beside Me*

Bunessan

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sevenfold Amen*

John Stainer

\*POSTLUDE

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\*All that 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 Graham Chapman.** 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 honor of the birthdays of Julian Cole, Vance Cole, and Jacob Palmer.

**Ushers:** Jill Niebler, captain; Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Nancy Joines, Katherine Jolly, Ken Knight, Andy McLeod, and Shelley Shedd **Outside Ushers:** Greg Lisk; TBD **Elder Greeters:** Taylor Johnston; Joyce Lambert **Nursery:** Cortney Brown **Kids Care Crew:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael **Children's Church:** Heather Kilde; David Kilde

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Brinn Andrew (daughter of Kellie and Jason Andrew; diagnosis and treatment for neuroblastoma), Maddie McRae (daughter of Renee & Keith McRae; diagnosis & treatment for a brain tumor), Debra Barnard (daughter of Gloria Bryson; neuroendocrine carcinoma), Judy Toney (sister of Jim Hesley; chemotherapy for breast cancer), Mike Burke. **See newsletter for complete list.**

**Angels loaned for sanctuary décor during Advent** are now ready for pick-up in the office.

**Co-Pastors Conversations will be held the following times in the church parlor:**

January 20 following worship

January 22 at 4:00 p.m.



**Tea & Conversation on Thursday, January 24  
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. in the parlor**

Come enjoy warm conversation on a cold afternoon. Kim Robertson will share in the time by leading the group in gentle seated stretches.

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**Women's Workday at Habitat House on Saturday, February 2**

We are hoping for a complete team of willing women for this day. Skilled and unskilled workers are welcome! Let Elizabeth Wilson (704-982-3625 or ewilson1927@carolina.rr.com) know you can be there.

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**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 27 FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

Session has established the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 27. The meeting will be held immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to receive annual reports, to transact other business as may properly come before the meeting, and to act on the proposed co-pastor model and its impact upon the pastors' terms of call.

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**Grandparent & Child Retreat  
Sunday, January 27...  
Noon-2:30 p.m.**

**Partnering in Christian Education....  
Children K-5<sup>th</sup> grade...  
Grandparents of any age...**

Lunch in gym followed by activities around the church. Call or email church office to sign up! ([klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) or 704-982-2722).

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**Opioid Taskforce**

A group of FPC members is continuing to have conversations about how our congregation might participate in Stanly County's response to opioid abuse. We are continuing to educate ourselves about the crisis. Did you know...

- Addiction on average is considered inheritable 50% of the time.
- Addiction is not a choice. Genetic and environmental factors are thought to play an equal role in the onset of drug use.
- Abusing drugs or alcohol before the brain is fully developed (before the mid 20s) may increase the risk for addiction later in life.

Please keep those who struggle with drug abuse and addiction and their families in your prayers, and keep your eyes out for more information and further updates from the opioid taskforce.

## **OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, January 20**

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Co-Pastor Conversations (Parlor)

### **Monday, January 21**

*Martin Luther King, Jr. Day/Church Office Closed*

### **Tuesday, January 22**

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 12:00 pm February Newsletter Deadline

### **Wednesday, January 23**

*No Youth Club*

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, January 24**

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm-3:30 pm Tea & Conversation

### **Friday, January 25**

- 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Youth Group Board Game Night

### **Saturday, January 26**

- 8:30 am Youth Workday at the Habitat House

### **Sunday, January 27**

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm \*Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation
- 12:00 pm-2:30 pm Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

**\*childcare provided**

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

### **JANUARY**

- 21-Drew Melone
- 22-Jaycee Barbee
- 23-Susan Garrison  
Kim Marshall  
Ronnie Michael
- 24-Dennis Gower
- 26-Thomas Shedd
- 27-Linda Richards

## **SCCM CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY**

Toiletries & Household Items  
(Shampoo/Conditioner, Deodorant,  
Toothpaste, Laundry Detergent, Bar Soap,  
Feminine Hygiene Products)

### **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 Backpacking Date: Wednesday, January 30 at 10:30 a.m.**