

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, July 28**

10:00 am \*Worship  
11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (pit stop)

**Monday, July 29**

8:00 pm Bible Study at Off the Square

**Wednesday, July 31**

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Sunday, August 4**

*Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger*

10:00 am \*Worship  
11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (pit stop)  
11:00 am Mission Committee

\*childcare provided

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!  
JULY**

29- Marlene Sanges  
31- James Cotton  
Dick Liles

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!  
JULY**

28- Matt & Claire George-Drumheller  
John & Heather Kilde  
Jim & Mary Louise Sawyer

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!  
AUGUST**

01- Michelle Cumming  
Madelyn Taylor  
03- John McIntyre  
04- Terrie Holshouser

**SCCM CHALLENGE FOR JULY**

Staple Items...Flour, Sugar, Vegetable Oil, Broth, Cooking Spray

**SCCM CHALLENGE FOR AUGUST**

Canned or Dried Beans, Canned Tomatoes, Rice



**LEMONADE ON THE LAWN  
SUNDAYS FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN THE PIT STOP**

Stop by to connect with your church family  
over lemonade and tasty treats!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Gardening for SCCM**

If you have extra garden produce, consider sharing it at the designated table in the Pit Stop. Church members who need it can take some for a donation. Contributions and extra produce will be donated to SCCM.



\*\*\*\*\*

**DINNERS FOR 7**

Dinners for 7 will return in the fall. These dinner groups will gather (in home, restaurants, or around a picnic table in the park) once a month through the fall. Sign-up to be part of one and make new connections.



**The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Albemarle, North Carolina  
Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor  
Church Offices: (704) 982-2722  
Matt Drumheller, Co-Pastor  
Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org  
July 28, 2019



**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

*Thirst*  
by  
Mary Oliver.

**MORNING MEDITATION**

*Another morning and I wake with thirst for the goodness I do not have. I walk out to the pond and all the way God has given us such beautiful lessons. Oh Lord, I was never a quick scholar but sulked and hunched over my books past the hour and the bell; grant me, in your mercy, a little more time. Love for the earth and love for you are having such a long conversation in my heart. Who knows what will finally happen or where I will be sent, yet already I have given a great many things away, expecting to be told to pack nothing, except the prayers which, with this thirst, I am slowly learning.*

**PEALING OF THE BELLS**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

**GATHERING SONGS**

Hymn 720 *Jesus Calls Us* all stanzas

Based on  
Psalm 145

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Debbie Wainwright, liturgist

I will praise you, my God and King,  
**And bless your name forever.**  
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
**God's greatness is without limit.**  
God's hand opens,  
**Satisfying the desire of every living thing.**  
The Lord is just in all ways,  
**And kind in all doings.**  
The Lord is near to all who call,  
**God hears the cry of those who love him and fulfills their desire.**  
My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,  
**And all flesh will bless his holy name.**  
**We have come to worship our God, far above us, and always near to us.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Giver of life, every day you rain down manna from heaven so that we can eat the bread of angels. Turn our complaints into gratitude, that we, as a church, may mature into the body of the risen Christ given for the life of the world. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 14**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Dix

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence  
**God of past, present, and future, we confess that we live casual lives. Too often, we commit ourselves to things of little consequence and ignore what matters most to you. We are a people of many words, and yet ignorant in the ways of your Word. We are busy with many things, yet slow to respond to others with the love of Jesus Christ. Forgive us. By the power of your Holy Spirit, increase in us a faith sufficient for our time, give us hope whose roots grow deep, and enlarge our hearts so we may love others as you love us.**

**\*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**

**FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN**

Reverend Ayscue

*Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery.*

**ANTHEM**

*On Eagle's Wings*  
Craig Taylor, Bass

Michael Joncas

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

*Glory to God*  
hymnal  
page 582

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Gracious God, as we turn to your Word, may your Spirit rest upon us. Make us steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.**

**SERMON** *Does God Help Those Who Help Themselves?* Reverend Ayscue

**SCRIPTURE STORIES FROM THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS**

Exodus, selected verses David Kilde, storyteller  
Luke 8:22-25 Ellie Niederer, storyteller  
John 2:1-12 Anne Montgomery, storyteller  
I Kings 17:1-16 Jim Hesley, storyteller

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**What is the mission of the church?**

The mission of the church is to bear witness to God's love for the world in Jesus Christ.

**What forms does this mission take?**

The forms are as various as the forms of God's love, yet the center is always Jesus Christ. The church is faithful to its mission when it extends mercy and forgiveness to the needy in ways that point finally to him. For in the end it is always by Christ's mercy that the needs of the needy are met.

**Who are the needy?**

The hungry need bread, the homeless need a roof, the oppressed need justice, and the lonely need fellowship. At the same time – on another and deeper level – the hopeless need hope, sinners need forgiveness, and the world needs the gospel. On this level no one is excluded, and all the needy are one. Our mission as the church is to bring hope to a desperate world by declaring God's undying love – as one beggar tells another where to find bread. Amen.

**\*HYMN 649**

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

Amazing Grace

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Invitation  
Offertory *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* Lani Smith  
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 833**

*O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

St. Margaret

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Jubilation (Toccatina)*

Donald F. Callender

-----  
\*All that are able may stand.

*Romans 10:8b  
Psalm 91:9*

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

From the  
*Belonging to God*  
Catechisms.

In the question and answer format of the Westminster Shorter Catechisms, the *Belonging to God* Catechisms were adopted by the General Assembly of the PCUSA in 1998. Using the language of the catechisms in worship makes explicit the faith commitment of the church.

**We are grateful for your presence 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.

**Thanks to** Martha Sue Hall, organist, and Craig Taylor, soloist, for sharing their respective musical talents with us today.

**Thanks to** Debbie Wainwright for serving as liturgist today.

**Thanks to** Jim Hesley, David Kilde, Ellie Niederer, and Anne Montgomery for their participation in worship today.

**The flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Jackson Palmer’s birthday.

**The rose in the sanctuary** is in honor of the birth of Margot Ann Johnston, daughter of Taylor and Lisa Rauch Johnston, born on July 20, 2019.

**There is no Children’s Church in the summer.** School-aged children are encouraged to remain in worship. Nursery is available for newborns-preschoolers.

**Thanks to** the Bryson and Martin families for hosting lemonade on the lawn today.

**Ushers:** Brett Richards, captain; Mark Donham, Judy Kilgore, Ethan Richards, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman  
**Outside Ushers:** Wes Eudy; Tom Norwood **Elder Greeters:** Debbie Bennett; Lee McLaurin **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Debby Johnston; Carol Sasser

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Don Joines, Jim Sawyer, Mark Mabry, Jordan Andrew (daughter of Bo & Lauren Andrew), Jane Pickler (pancreatic cancer), Davis Fort. **See newsletter for complete list.**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Save the Date for  
Vespers & Homemade Ice Cream  
Sunday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
At the home of Connie Wallace & Ken Knight  
(45118 Byrd Road, Albemarle)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Consider this call** – We are seeking folks to serve in several areas of our Christian Education program. Would you be willing to share your faith and life experience with children or teens for a couple hours each month? Please pray about this opportunity and let Elizabeth know how you might help (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).

\*\*\*\*\*



**Due to the painting of the GHA Autism Supports office, their parking lot is closed until further notice. The GHA staff requests that First Presbyterian Church friends and members not park in the lot until the painting is complete...this includes Sundays. We will notify you when GHA opens the parking lot. Thank you.**

**We are grateful for your presence 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.

**Thanks to** Martha Sue Hall, organist, and Craig Taylor, soloist, for sharing their respective musical talents with us today.

**Thanks to** Debbie Wainwright for serving as liturgist today.

**Thanks to** Jim Hesley, David Kilde, Ellie Niederer, and Anne Montgomery for their participation in worship today.

**The flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Jackson Palmer’s birthday.

**The rose in the sanctuary** is in honor of the birth of Margot Ann Johnston, daughter of Taylor and Lisa Rauch Johnston, born on July 20, 2019.

**There is no Children’s Church in the summer.** School-aged children are encouraged to remain in worship. Nursery is available for newborns-preschoolers.

**Thanks to** the Bryson and Martin families for hosting lemonade on the lawn today.

**Ushers:** Brett Richards, captain; Mark Donham, Judy Kilgore, Ethan Richards, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman  
**Outside Ushers:** Wes Eudy; Tom Norwood **Elder Greeters:** Debbie Bennett; Lee McLaurin **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Debby Johnston; Carol Sasser

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Don Joines, Jim Sawyer, Mark Mabry, Jordan Andrew (daughter of Bo & Lauren Andrew), Jane Pickler (pancreatic cancer), Caroline Morton Chisholm (chemotherapy), Elaine Coats, Davis Fort. **See newsletter for complete list.**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Save the Date for  
Vespers & Homemade Ice Cream  
Sunday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
At the home of Connie Wallace & Ken Knight  
(45118 Byrd Road, Albemarle)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Consider this call** – We are seeking folks to serve in several areas of our Christian Education program. Would you be willing to share your faith and life experience with children or teens for a couple hours each month? Please pray about this opportunity and let Elizabeth know how you might help (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).

\*\*\*\*\*



**Due to the painting of the GHA Autism Supports office, their parking lot is closed until further notice. The GHA staff requests that First Presbyterian Church friends and members not park in the lot until the painting is complete...this includes Sundays. We will notify you when GHA opens the parking lot. Thank you.**