



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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July 12, 2020

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

All of us, at some time or another, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors – in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver.

From
*The World According to
Mister Rogers*
by Fred Rogers.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
Love is the fulfillment of the law.

Romans 13:10

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come, for God gathers us here, into a community of faith:

Where the hungry are fed, where the thirsty drink life's water.

We come, for God welcomes us here, into that home called grace:

Where the naked are clothed; where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.

We come, for God reunites us here, in that family called love:

Where the imprisoned model justice, where the sick are cradled in God's peace.

Matthew 25:31-40

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you have shown your love for all things through the beauty of creation. As we worship you, may our hearts and lives be so transformed that we recognize beauty in ourselves, in our neighbors, and in the world. Turn our thoughts outward that we may love as you first loved us. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Reverend Ayscue

Silence

God of all creation, you have made us in your image and called us to love our neighbor. We want to love as you love; yet we find it easy to turn away from our neighbors, to stand apart from those who are not like us. The burden of loving one another is too heavy for us. We pray you will heal our brokenness, renew our spirit, and open our hearts through your love.

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

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Barbara McManus

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of this global neighborhood, we pray your Holy Spirit will touch our hearts and open our minds to the truth of your love for all people and your call to community through Christ. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

[Leviticus 19:9-18](#)

ANTHEM

How Shall I Sing that Majesty

Kenneth Naylor

How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie; sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around Thy throne, O God most high;
Ten thousand times ten thousand sound Thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears, whilst I Thy footsteps trace;
A sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold Thy face.
They sing because Thou art their Sun; Lord, send a beam on me;
For where heaven is but once begun there alleluias be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart, inflame it with love's fire;
Then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir.
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light;
Yet when Thou dost accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite.

How great a being, Lord, is Thine, which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere;
Thy time is now and evermore, Thy place is everywhere.

GOSPEL READING

[Matthew 25:31-40](#)

Ben Lisk, reader

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What is a Neighbor?

Reverend Drumheller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Declaration of Faith

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. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Recorded October 14, 2018

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

A Declaration of Faith is a comprehensive faith statement written by the PCUS. Though not included in its Book of Confessions, this statement has been adopted by the PCUSA as a *reliable aid for Christian study, liturgy, and inspiration.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Linda Anderson

PRAYER FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Steve Cumming

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Johann G. Walther

Prayer of Dedication

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.

God be in my mine eyes and in my looking.

God be in my mouth and in my speaking.

God be in mine heart and in my thinking.

God be at my end and in my departing.

Recorded
October 14, 2018

PERMISSIONS: *Organ Prelude on "Come Holy Spirit"*. Music: *veni creator spiritus*, Stanley R. Scheer (b. 1940), unpublished work, permission of composer. *How Shall I Sing that Majesty*, Text: John Mason (1645-1694), Music: *Coe Fen*, Kenneth Naylor (1931-1991) © 1984, *Oxford University Press*. Used with permission under One License A-709512. *We Are One in the Spirit*, Text and Music: *They'll Know We Are Christians*, Peter Scholtes (1938-2009), © 1966, *F. E.L. Publications assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.* Used with permission under One License A-709512. *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*. Music: *Liebster Jesu*. Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748). Public domain. *God Be in My Head*, Text: from Sarum Primer (1514), Music: John Rutter (b. 1945) © 1988, *Oxford University Press*. Used with permission under One License A-709512.

Thank you to Skeet Ayscue and Duncan Bryson for helping to create this morning's video. Thank you to Linda Anderson, Steve Cumming, Ben Lisk, and Barbara McManus for helping with worship.

This week's worship video will become available at 10:00 a.m. To access the worship video, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the worship banner or search for the church on *YouTube* and click on the appropriate video.

Worship continues to take place at 10:00 a.m. during the summer months.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Linda Richards (physical therapy at Forrest Oakes), Tom Bonekemper (cousin of Linda Anderson; pancreatic cancer), Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, Matt and Elizabeth will lead Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom. To access the meeting, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the *Morning Prayer* banner. You can also find the link through the Facebook event.

Mom's Group via Zoom...If you are a mom who could use some support from peers in the church, there is a group gathering on Zoom. Led by Melissa Eudy and Sandy Saunders, this group meets on Wednesday nights at 9:00 p.m. Please contact Melissa Eudy (the5eudys@gmail.com or 704-439-6747) for the Zoom details.



Digital Devotionals, based on the Psalms, are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. If you have a Psalm you would like to have read, contact Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).

Kim and Jeff Robertson will soon leave our community and move to the Chattanooga, TN area. Since we will not be together in worship before their departure, you are encouraged to stop by the church and sign the hymnal for them. Call before you to come to make sure someone is in the building (704-982-2722).

First Presbyterian Church Storytime for Children



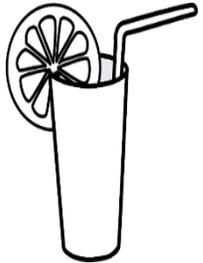
Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. for PreK-Kindergarten via YouTube livestream video

Matt or Elizabeth will livestream a video reading a children's book. To access the video, go to the First Presbyterian Church website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the Storytime banner.

Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m. for 1st-3rd Graders via Zoom

Matt or Elizabeth will host a Zoom call with the 1st through 3rd graders to read a chapter book with them. This will be about 20 minutes of reading time.

Email Matt (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org) for the Zoom code and password.



Lemonade on the Lawn via Zoom

Join your friends in the summer tradition of Lemonade on the Lawn (online) immediately following worship. You are invited to bring your own lemonade or beverage of your choice and join others for conversation.

Gathering will be simple. Along with the information regarding access to Sunday worship, you will receive the zoom link to gain entry to Lemonade on the Lawn.

We hope to see you following worship on Sundays.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE GRANTS

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until **July 15**. 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: Debbie Bennett, chair; Elizabeth Ayscue, Patrick Currie, John Earnhardt, Bob Gaither, Mary Kesselman, Lee McLaurin, and Nathan Sanges.



SHOP & DROP FOR SCCM
Thursday, July 16 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Drop your donations at the front steps of the church.
(126 West North Street, Albemarle)
Event will take place rain or shine.

The Mission Committee is sponsoring a *Shop & Drop* to help supply the food pantry at SCCM with needed food items as well as personal hygiene items, toiletries, and paper products.

Most needed items are:

Canned Fruit in Light Syrup, Canned Pasta Meals, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Hygiene Items, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes (pkgs. no larger than 4), Bar Soap, Hand Soap, and Laundry Detergent (no larger than 100 oz.)

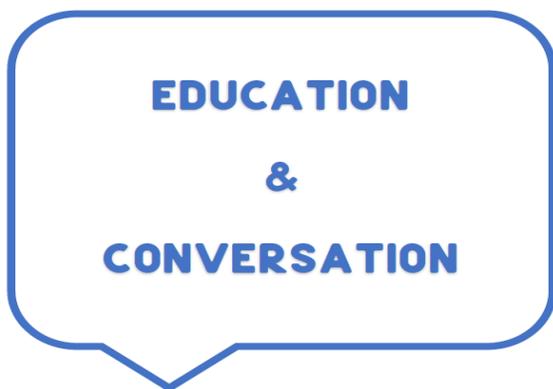
These items may be brought to the front steps of the church, 126 West North St., where there will be folks to assist you. This event will take place rain or shine. Let's try to cover the steps with nourishment and supplies for our neighbors!

POPCORN & A MOVIE ON FRIDAY, JULY 17
STOP BY THE CHURCH FOR FRESHLY POPPED POPCORN
BEGINNING AT 2:00 P.M. AND UNTIL ALL POPCORN TUBS ARE GONE.
ENJOY IT WHILE YOU WATCH



A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
STARRING TOM HANKS AS MISTER ROGERS.
You can find the movie on Starz, DIRECTV, Hulu, Sony Pictures, or for purchase on Amazon Prime.

Let's plan to watch from our homes at 7:00 p.m. and enjoy the connection of being together in different places.
For your safety, we will be wearing masks and gloves in making and distributing the popcorn.
The outside of the tubs will be sanitized.



As we, as a congregation, educate ourselves about systemic racism, you are invited to participate in the following zoom conversations:

Monday, July 27 at 7:00 p.m.

We will discuss the book *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving

In order to participate in either of these conversations, you will need to contact the office to express interest. Information regarding the link to the zoom call will then be emailed to you.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 12

10:00 am Online Worship followed by Lemonade on the Lawn via Zoom

Monday, July 13

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

Tuesday, July 14

10:00 am Digital Devotional

1:00 pm Online Story Time (PreK-Kindergarten)

1:15 pm Online Story Time (1st-3rd Graders)

Wednesday, July 15

Deadline for Endowment Grant Applications

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

9:00 pm Mom's Group via Zoom with Melissa Eudy & Sandy Saunders

Thursday, July 16

10:00 am Digital Devotional

11:00 am-2:00 pm Shop & Drop for SCCM (front steps of the church)

7:00 pm Virtual Youth Group Movie Night

Friday, July 17

2:00 pm-until Pick-up Popcorn for Movie Night

7:00 pm Movie Night at Home-*A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*

Sunday, July 19

10:00 am Online Worship followed by Lemonade on the Lawn via Zoom

**Your on-going support of First Presbyterian Church is essential to the mission and ministry of the church and to the well-being of our ministry partners, locally and globally.
Thank you for your generosity.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
JULY
17-Matt Carpenter
Michael Laton

**Tithes and offerings may be mailed to:
First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1578
Albemarle, NC 28002**

**Online giving can be done through the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org).
Click on the GIVE button.**

All staff members are working at home whenever possible, and the church building is closed most of the time. The church's answering machine is being checked periodically; however, in case of an emergency, please contact Elizabeth (704.985.2945) or Matt (540.449.5319) directly.

Anyone inspired to write a devotional is invited to send it to Elizabeth for distribution (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org). Many thanks to the writers who have made these devotionals available for the past few months.