



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Albemarle, North Carolina

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

October 17, 2021

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE *When Peace Like a River* Douglas E. Wagner

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Sophie Poplin

PEALING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES

Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
Come into God's presence with singing.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Emily Andrew

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Unless the Lord builds a house, those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.
It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest.
We shall put our trust in the Lord who gives rest to God's beloved.
Let us worship God!

Psalm 127

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

We praise you, God of all being. You give food to the hungry, set prisoners free, open the eyes of the blind, and lift the spirits of those bowed down. Because you are righteous, you sent Christ to redeem the lost and the wayward. We come into your presence enlivened by your Holy Spirit and full of new hope to give you the honor due your name. Amen.

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat;
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Merciful God, of compassion and justice, take pity on us as we confess our sin. We are not the stewards Christ calls us to be. Riches possess us while others go hungry. We mismanage creation with our pollution and strife. Your goodness is betrayed by our lust for power. We abuse your provision for us by our selfish desires. Help us hear once again Christ's call to be faithful, and through him, forgive us as we repent of our sin and turn from it.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE

Glory to God

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
**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

Gina Martin

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.

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

ANTHEM

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, wash and anoint us with your word of truth. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGE

[Malachi 3:8-12](#)

NEW TESTAMENT PASSAGE

[Mark 12:41-44](#)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

No Greater Cause

Rev. George

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN 712

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

Forest Green

As those of old their first-fruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field
To God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,
So we today our first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
Of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give,
To make our life an offering that all may truly live.
The church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true:
A world redeemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,
To serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Sandy Rogers

PASTORAL PRAYER 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 708

We Give Thee but Thine Own

Schumann

We give thee but thine own, whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
And gladly, as thou blesset us, to thee our first-fruits give.

The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;
Whate’er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Charles Callahan

*All that are able may stand.

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Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, Emily Andrew, Gina Martin, and Sandy Rogers for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Sophie Poplin.

Ushers for October: Melissa Eudy (captain), Campbell Bullard, Desmond Bullard, Scott Bullard, Shannon Bullard, Walker Bullard, Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, Cidney Eudy, Julian Eudy, Nathaniel Eudy, and Wes Eudy

Outside Ushers for October 17: Jim Marshall; TBD

Sound: Evan Sanges; Bob Johnston **Film:** James Cotton

Nursery: Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Laura McLeod **Children's Church:** Billie Jean & Lee Snuggs

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Banks Garrison, Debbie Gabriel (sister of Gayle Russell; steadily improving with COVID treatment), Brad Slusher (half-brother of Martha White; pancreatic cancer & COPD), Robin Howell (chemotherapy for return of lymphoma), Don Abernathy (multiple myeloma), Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Gloria Bryson, Ann Snuggs, Nancy Jolly (Trinity Place), Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.



SCCM Thanksgiving Food Items Needed
Cranberries, Fruit in Light Syrup, Dried Potatoes,
Gravy, Stuffing, Rice, Pie Filling, Canned Vegetables
Other Items Needed: Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Hand Soap

SERRV 2021...CATALOG SALE ONLY



This year, we plan to have only a **SERRV catalog sale only**. There will be no food, coffee, or tea items for sale in the Pit Stop as we have had in the past. Catalogs are available in the church office during the week and in the pit stop on Sunday mornings, for you to review and fill out an order form. You can also place an order online at: <https://www.serrv.org/category/shop>. We plan to place the combined order on Thursday, November 4.

VETERANS DAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS



On Veterans Day, the flowers in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of veterans. **Each name is \$2.00.** Please mail, deliver or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **no later than Sunday, November 7.** Please make your check payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and designate for Veterans Day Arrangements. The names of donors and those being remembered/honored will be listed on Sunday, November 14.

VETERANS DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Please print below the information exactly as it is to appear in the bulletin.

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Book Conversation on Monday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor

Book: *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent

Set against Iceland's stark landscape, Hannah Kent brings to vivid life the story of Agnes, who, charged with the brutal murder of her former master, is sent to an isolated farm to await execution. Horrified at the prospect of housing a convicted murderer, the family at first avoids Agnes. Only Tóti, a priest Agnes has mysteriously chosen to be her spiritual guardian, seeks to understand her. But, as Agnes's death looms, the farmer's wife and their daughters learn there is another side to the sensational story they've heard. Riveting and rich with lyricism, *Burial Rites* evokes a dramatic existence in a distant time and place, and asks the question, how can one woman hope to endure when her life depends upon the stories told by others?

We will meet in the parlor at 7:00 p.m. on October 25. Please wear your mask.



**You're Invited to View the First Presbyterian Church Fall Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring the artwork of John Williams, Jack Williams, and Eli Williams
Located in the Basement Office Hallway**



SNL

October 17

The Little Mermaid presented by The Talent Company
Meet at the church at 2:15 p.m. to walk to the theater.
Tickets: \$10 for ages 14 & up; \$5 for ages 13 and under

October 24

Corn Maze Outing

Meet at the church at 3:45 p.m. to travel to the corn maze.
Admission for youth is covered. Bring money for extras!

October 31

Trick-or-Treating...in REVERSE!

We're giving out the treats! Meet in the church parking lot at 5:00 p.m.

We will deliver treats, then all meet up for dinner at Jalapenos!

Pick-up from the restaurant at 7:00 p.m.

Bring money for dinner. Costumes optional.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY



The green and red shoeboxes are available for pick-up on the pew in front of Jane's office. A brochure is included in the box with the most recent information about packing a box. **Please read what gifts can be included in the box. Boxes need to be returned to the church by Sunday, November 14.** Remember that shoeboxes are distributed by churches in over 100 countries who will nurture the child in their faith.

As you pack your box, pray for the child who will receive it along with the gospel printed in their own language. It has been estimated that thirty or more family members and friends will also read and receive the good news through the booklet. It will be the greatest GIFT they ever receive! (And we ever share!)

For Central Elementary School...Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

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

Donations may be dropped off in the Pit Stop at the church.



Reformation Sunday & Kirkin' o' the Tartans

October 31

Through familiar words and sounds, we will celebrate both our denominational Scottish heritage and the history of the Protestant Reformation. We will include the tartans that we use every year, and we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. **If you would like to be part of this day by baking shortbread, please contact the church office.** We will plan to have shortbread individually packaged for pick-up in the Pit Stop. Keep your eyes open for more information.

Faith on the Fifth Offering...Sunday, October 31

Our Faith on the Fifth offering will benefit Esther House. Esther House provides shelter and services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Please consider giving to this organization.



TAILGATING WITH CATHY & 3RD WEDNESDAY DRIVE-THRU MEAL WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20 FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M. RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 18 PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL

After you pick-up your food from church, cruise on over to the GHA upper parking lot, pull out your tailgating gear, and join Cathy and other parishioners for a tailgating party! We will provide bottled water. Feel free to bring your own tailgating food if you are not ordering from the church.

Please let Jane Snyder know if you would like to volunteer in any capacity. For your safety, the kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu: Eudy's BBQ, Red Slaw, Baked Beans, Mac and Cheese, Roll, and Pound Cake

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family.

Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

All we need you to do is: call Anne Montgomery at 704.796-5841 or

email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com and let her know how many plates you need, and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).

Community Table on Saturday, November 6 from 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

On Saturday, November 6, FPC will be providing lunch for the guests at the Community Table. Recently they have been serving anywhere from 80-100 people on Saturdays. Our menu will be sloppy joes, marinated beans, fruit, chips, and dessert. We will need donations of the following items for this lunch.

- Sloppy joes (enough to serve 20)
- Individual bags of chips
- Individual fruit cups
- Hamburger buns
- Homemade or bought cakes, brownies, or cookies (no icing)
- Money to be used to help buy whatever is not donated (money may be given to Kyle in the church office).

If you wish to donate any food items, please contact Linda Anderson in order to avoid too much of any one item. If you plan to donate money, please let Linda know that as well. All donations need to be in the church kitchen by Thursday afternoon, November 4. Please label your donation with a CT sign. **When dropping off donations, call the church office to be sure someone will be there to let you in.** We will need 5 people to help on that Saturday. If you are able to help us assemble the takeout containers and hand them out on that Saturday, please call Linda Anderson at 704-982-3723.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

Session has called a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 17. The purpose of the meeting is to elect deacons and ruling elders to the Class of 2021 and to elect members of the congregational Nominating Committee. The congregation will hear and act on the report which will be presented by Nominating Committee member, Ken Knight. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Ken Knight, Chair, Bob Johnston, Andy McLeod, Sarah Michael, and Gayle Russell. Once the committee has presented the slate of officers, the floor will be open for additional nominations. As a matter of courtesy, please check with any person whose name you plan to place in nomination prior to doing so.

DIACONATE

Shannon Bullard... My family and I relocated to Stanly County in June of 2019. My husband, Scott, and I are grateful to have found a church home at First Presbyterian Church for us and our four children - Judson (who began at Baylor this fall), Desmond (10th grade at GSDS), Campbell (9th grade at GSDS), and Walker (7th grade at GSDS). When I'm not ferrying my children to school or soccer, I teach first grade at Endy Elementary.

Wes Eudy... I have been a member of this church since 2008. I am married to Melissa Hinson Eudy and have three children...Nathaniel 13, Cidney 11, and Julian 6. First Presbyterian hosted our marriage ceremony and the baptism of all three of our children. This will be my second term on the Diaconate.

Lillie Hancock (serving 1 year)... When I was a deacon before, I enjoyed working with the seniors, now boom I am one! A couple people have asked me, if I am going to retire (I have a one woman insurance agency) but who would I talk to all day? My job has given me a flexible schedule that has made it to where I can do things I love with the church, and also be a mom and grandmother. Christie and LeAnne now grown daughters are my best friends and Oh yes, Nathan-he is my heart. Eight years old and so much fun. One thing about having some age is experiences, which I feel can help me contribute. I have been awed by seeing the world from the sea and air, been loved, and experienced enormous grief. I have seen sickness, but also seen miraculous outcomes from terrible circumstances. Through all of this, I know God has been by my side. I feel God's presence so much in our church and in the hearts of the congregation.

Liz Jolly... I have been a member of First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle for 24 years and have served several terms as a deacon. My husband, Ben, and I live in Albemarle and have two children; AJ, a senior at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and Katherine, a junior at Gray Stone Day School. I work for FBIS Bankers Insurance, and in my spare time, I love to read, relax at the beach, and attend football games with my family.

Myron Lowder... I am married to Nancy, and we will celebrate our 54th wedding anniversary this year. We have two sons and five grandchildren. I managed Lowder Hardware until it closed, and then I worked with Monroe Hardware until I retired. At previous churches, I served on numerous committees and was active in various fundraisers. I have served on the board at the Senior Center and on the board of Habitat for Humanity. I have also volunteered at the Community Table and worked on numerous houses for Habitat for Humanity.

SESSION

Bill Jolly... Nancy and I joined First Presbyterian Church in September 1967. I have served on Diaconate, Session, and two pastor nominating committees. I have also led several Sunday School classes. I have been honored to work with eleven pastors and look forward to working with number twelve soon.

Mary Kesselman... I have been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 2010. I have served on Diaconate and Session and on various committees and in other volunteer roles of the church. I grew up in Albemarle and am a graduate of UNC Greensboro and Boston College. Since retirement, my husband, Steve, and I enjoy traveling. I look forward to serving another term on Session.

Andy McLeod... I am a junior at Gray Stone Day School where I participate on the Cross Country, Basketball, and Track teams. My parents are Laura and Mike McLeod, and I have been attending First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle since I was born 16 years ago. For the past two years, I have served on the Nominating Committee. This year, I served on the Transitional Pastoral Nominating Committee and look forward to serving on Session this upcoming year.

Catherine Moeller... I grew up in this church, was confirmed in this church, and was married in this church. My husband, Matt, and I live part-time in Albemarle and part-time in Amelia Island, Florida. I became a grandmom this summer! Since re-joining this church, I have enjoyed volunteering by leading a weekly Bible study, being a youth group leader, serving as a confirmation partner, and being a silent partner, a Pfeiffer friend, and a First Friend. I am honored by this nomination to serve on Session.

Chris Whitley... I am married to Barbara and have three married daughters and five grandchildren. I am a retired commercial loan underwriter from Wells Fargo and a retired officer from NC National Guard. I graduated from West Stanly High School, UNCC, and MBA from Pfeiffer University. I have served on the Stanly County Board of Education from 2000 until 2012, and Albemarle City Council from 2013 until present. I have been a member of First Presbyterian for 30+ years and served on Diaconate, Session and 15 years as Treasurer.

Nominating Committee 2022: Bob Johnston, Gayle Russell, and officers from Session & Diaconate

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 17 *Congregational Meeting following worship*

- 8:30 am Session Meeting In-Person
- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Congregational Meeting
- 12:00 pm Christian Education Meeting
- 2:30 pm SNL to Talent Company Show (meet in church parking lot)

Monday, October 18

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm RSVP deadline for 3rd Wednesday Drive-Thru Meal
- 8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston
(1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

Tuesday, October 19

- 12:00 pm October Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, October 20

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5th Graders)
- 5:00 pm-6:00 pm 3rd Wednesday Drive Thru Meal
- 5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 21

- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, October 24

- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 3:45 pm SNL meets at the church to go to the Corn Maze

***childcare provided**

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!
OCTOBER
21-Leo McLeod
22-Billie Jean Snuggs
24-Danny Saltzman
Martha White

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
OCTOBER
19-Art & Sandy Rogers
21-Keith & Christine Andrew

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.