



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

January 7, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 150

As with Gladness Men of Old

stanzas 1 and 4

Hymn 482

Baptized in Water

all stanzas

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

Leader: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

People: The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and the strips the forest bare;

Leader: And in his temple all say, *Glory!*

People: May the Lord give strength to his people!

All: May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Psalm 27

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus to hear your holy Word and to be immersed in your Spirit. Speak to us with grace and truth and pour out your love upon us so that this sanctuary may resound with joyful shouts of glory; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Genesis 1:1;
Psalm 29:9;
Acts 19:5-7; Mark
1:8

*HYMN 10

Sing Glory to the Name of God

Lasst uns erfreuen

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.

Sung to a familiar tune, this hymn uses the words of Psalm 29 to convey a sense of reverence for God's name.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Unison

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to the destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in the waters of baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: 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

Melissa Eudy

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the children's greeting, parents may take preschool children to the nursery.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM

We Three Kings

Philip W. J. Stopford

SCRIPTURE READING

[Mark 1:4-11](#)

Pew Bible, page 32

SERMON

In the Waters

Mr. Drumheller

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

By humble submission to John's baptism, Christ joined himself to people in their need and entered upon his ministry of reconciliation in the power of the spirit. Christian baptism marks the receiving of the same Spirit by all his people. Baptism with water represents not only cleansing from sin, but a dying with Christ and a joyful rising with him to new life. In baptism, the church celebrated the renewal of the covenant with which God has bound us to God's very self. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever, and ever. Amen.

***HYMN 816** *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee* Wer nur den lieben Gott

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

The Old Year Has Now Passed Away

J.S. Bach

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

The Lord's Table is open to all who trust in Jesus Christ and communion will be served. As a sign of our unity in Christ, we will partake of the elements as one body, on cue from the pastor. Gluten-free elements are available on each tray.

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Mark 1:10-11

The Confession of 1967 was the first confession adopted in three centuries. Centered around a single passage of Scripture – *In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself...* – it addressed mounting social problems in a divided society.

*HYMN 475	<i>Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	Nettleton
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
*CHORAL RESPONSE	<i>God Be with You Till We Meet Again</i>	William G. Tomer
*POSTLUDE	<i>If Thou But Trust God to Guide You</i>	J. S. Bach

*All who are able may stand.

We rejoice that you are worshipping 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 Advent candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on Sunday, January 7.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, January 7. All those who trust in Jesus Christ are invited to share in this meal of our community. Please hold each element as we will share this meal as one body, on cue from the officiant.

There is no Children's Church today. School age children are encouraged to remain in worship and to participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Nursery care is provided as usual.

Ushers: Steve Cumming, captain; Brad Boone, Michelle Cumming, Jim Ivey, Kyle Marks **Outside Ushers:** Josh Campbell; Bill Pickler **Elder Greeters:** Al Andrew; Joyce Lambert **Nursery:** Kaitlyn Massey **Preschool Partners:** Jack & Penny Morton **Nana & Papa Team:** Barbara & Chris Whitley

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Peg Verdello (mother of Peggy Finley). **See newsletter for a complete list.**

PrimeTimers' Dutch Treat Luncheon
Thursday, January 11 at Noon at the Rosebriar Restaurant
(528 Wiscassett Street, Albemarle)



Join us for a Dutch Treat lunch at the Rosebriar Restaurant on Thursday, January 11 at noon. We'll eat lunch, engage in conversation, and enjoy the company of each other on a cold January day. **Call the church office (704-982-2722) by noon on Monday, January 8 to make your reservation!**

The flower calendar for 2018 is posted on the bulletin board in the pit stop. If you wish to put flowers in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of someone or to provide beauty to the service, please sign-up on the calendar.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE GRANTS

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until January 16 Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982 2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).

Decorating Committee Meeting on Wednesday, January 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the Session Room

If you like to decorate, we would love for you to join our Decorating Committee! We decorate for all the major events at the church (about 14 times a year). Each person usually decorates 2-3 times a year with a team. This is our one and only meeting! Please bring your calendars. It will be short and sweet.

For more information, contact Jane Snyder (jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org).

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 7

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Ten-Cents-A-Meal

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers' to Cici's Pizza & Defy Gravity
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, January 8

- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Bible Study with Matt at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Wednesday, January 10

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 am-11:00 am *Pray & Play
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 5:30 pm Decorating Committee
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 11

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm PrimeTimers' Dutch Treat Luncheon at the Rosebriar Restaurant
(528 Wiscasset Street, Albemarle)

Sunday, January 14

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

***childcare provided**



**Visit the Winter Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring Paintings by Matt Moeller**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY

- 09-Isabel McIntyre
- 10-Rita Morgan
Jacob Palmer
- 12-Ruth Ann Rogers
- 13-Jane Borders

SCCM CHALLENGE

JANUARY

Canned Fruit
(Lite or No Sugar Added)



Backpack Food Program

UPDATED LIST OF DONATIONS

NEEDED:

Breakfast Cookies,
Individual Bags of Goldfish,
Large Cans of Soup,
Canned Tuna, and Saltine Crackers.

A bin in the pit stop
will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date:

**Wednesday, January 31
at 10:30 a.m.**