



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

July 1, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

O gracious God, we pray for your holy Church universal, that you would be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where anything in it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, establish it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of him who died and rose again, and ever lives to make intercession for us, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 331 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand* all stanzas
Hymn 340 *This Is My Song* all stanzas

CHURCH CORRESPONDENCE

***CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

Hymn 390 *Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!* Louez le Seigneur
(This hymn will be sung by the choir and congregation.)

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN 321** *The Church's One Foundation* Aurelia

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

Loving God, you call us to repent and turn fully toward you. We want to respond in faith; yet, we are unable to turn away from the things that separate us from you. We hold on to grudges. We harbor malice toward our enemies. We are quick to judge others and slow to forgive. We are insincere in our commitments. Our faith is fragile. Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance so that we may grow into the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ.

***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.

From *Ministry Matters*

This Is My Song was written between the 20th century's two world wars and focuses on the hope of international peace.

Throughout this sermon series, we will listen in on conversations between *modern Christians* and *early Christians* as they explore faith in the church.

Glory to God
hymnal
page 582

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Barbara McManus

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

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Pew Bible, page 535

[Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19](#)

ANTHEM

An American Hymn

Cecil Effinger

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet whose stern impassioned stress,
A thoroughfare of freedom beat across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that see beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

NEW TESTAMENT READING

[Acts 2:36-42](#)

Pew Bible, page 112

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Repent

Mrs. Ayscue

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 702

Christ Beside Me

Bunessan

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

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

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

*Doxology

Offertory

June Nixon

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 838

Standing on the Promises

Promises

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

America the Beautiful

Cecil Effinger

*POSTLUDE

Festival Toccata

Percy Fletcher

*All who are able may stand.

My Offering cards are in the pews. As a regular practice, you are invited to take one, reflect on your giving, and place it in the offering plate when it comes to you.

Worship continues with fellowship in the Pit Stop. Join others for lemonade and conversation.

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 Ethan Richards. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

There is no Children's Church during July and August. School-aged children are encouraged to remain in worship.

Thanks to Rebekah Ayscue and Lee McManus for their role as letter writers in worship this morning.

Ushers: Brett Richards, captain; Jim Hesley, Judy Kilgore, Grace Richards, Danny Saltzman, and Rose Saltzman **Outside Ushers:** Wes Eudy; Ronnie Michael **Elder Greeters:** Keith Bryson; Taylor Johnston **Nursery:** Sara Kate Thomas **Preschool Partners:** Penny & Jack Morton **Nana & Papa Team:** Barbara & Chris Whitley

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Dick Liles (sciatica pain), Ruth Ann Rogers, Betty Stancil (sister of Bill Hall; continuing health concerns), Doug Archer (cancer), Frank Osborne (brother of Lillie Hancock), Rodney Morgan. **See newsletter for complete list.**

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 2 for the annual staff retreat. It will be open on Tuesday and Thursday of this week.

**FELLOWSHIP
&
LEMONADE
ON THE
LAWN
EVERY
SUNDAY
FOLLOWING
WORSHIP
IN THE
PIT STOP**



**First Presbyterian Church
Congregational Retreat
October 12-14**

Morrow Mountain State Park

It's not too early to sign-up for First Presbyterian Church's congregational retreat on October 12-14 at Morrow Mountain State Park. See the bulletin board in the pit stop for more information.

Summer Sermon Series

This summer, Matt and Elizabeth will lead us in taking a look at the life of the early Christian church – its challenges and practices – through the lens of the New Testament book of Acts. Sermons now through July 29 will focus on texts in Acts.





Will You Check Your Bookshelves? We are looking for several more copies of Jan Karon's book, *Shepherds Abiding*, for the August book conversation. If you have one to loan, please let Kyle know (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) or drop it by the church.

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until **July 12**. 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: Steve Cumming, Chair; Lee McLaurin, ex-officio, Laura Blalock, Patrick Currie, Bob Gaither, and Mary Kesselman.



We will Circle the Sanctuary for the SCCM food pantry in July!
You may bring non-perishable food items to designated areas in the sanctuary between now and July 22.

Let's fill the shelves!

Most Needed Items Are:

Canned Fruit (No Sugar Added), Canned Vegetables (Low Sodium), Canned Meats, Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles, Macaroni & Cheese, Oatmeal/Grits, 11b bag of rice



**- Coming in August-
Christmas!**

We'll celebrate this holy season without the distractions of shopping, baking, gift wrapping, etc.

- ❖ August 14 Bible study on the gospel accounts of the birth of Jesus
- ❖ August 19 Advent Worship with brunch & Chrismon making for all ages
- ❖ August 20 Book Conversation on *Shepherds Abiding*
- ❖ August 26 Christmas Worship

In addition, we will have a Movie Night (*The Star*) and collect items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

**Summer Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring Works By Lilley Brookshire**

First Presbyterian Church is excited to have on display during the summer months the original paintings, drawings, and sculpture of Lilley Brookshire. Lilley is a junior at Gray Stone Day School. She is 17 years old and has been painting and drawing for 6 years. In her free time, she enjoys playing tennis, the piano, and the ukulele. Visit the Summer Art Gallery located in the basement of the church!



The 2018 Nominating Committee

welcomes your suggestions of persons to be considered for service as Deacon or Ruling Elder.

In thinking of folks who may be qualified to serve, please consider the following:

- Worship attendance
- Participation in church activities
- Service rendered to the church
- Christian living in daily life
- Ability to work cooperatively with others

Suggestions for Deacon

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Suggestions for Ruling Elder

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please return suggestions to the church office or to Keith Bryson, Nominating Committee Chair, by August 5. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Keith Bryson, Robert Ivey, Taylor Johnston, Nancy Joines, Bill Jolly, Jack Morton, and Frankie Palmer.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 1

Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering

- 9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am *Worship
- 11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Pit Stop)
- 11:00 am Mission Committee (Session Room)

Monday, July 2

Staff Retreat

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, July 4

Independence Day

Church Office Closed

Sunday, July 8

Circle the Sanctuary

- 10:00 am *Worship
- 11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Pit Stop)

Wednesday, July 11

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, July 12

Deadline for Gaither Endowment Grant Forms

Sunday, July 15

Circle the Sanctuary

- 10:00 am *Worship
- 11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (Pit Stop)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! JULY

- 01-Gina Martin
Ben McLeod
- 03-Addison Marks
- 04-Don Abernathy
- 05-Rodney Morgan

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR JULY

- Canned Meats
- Tuna, Chicken, Spam, Salmon

***childcare provided**