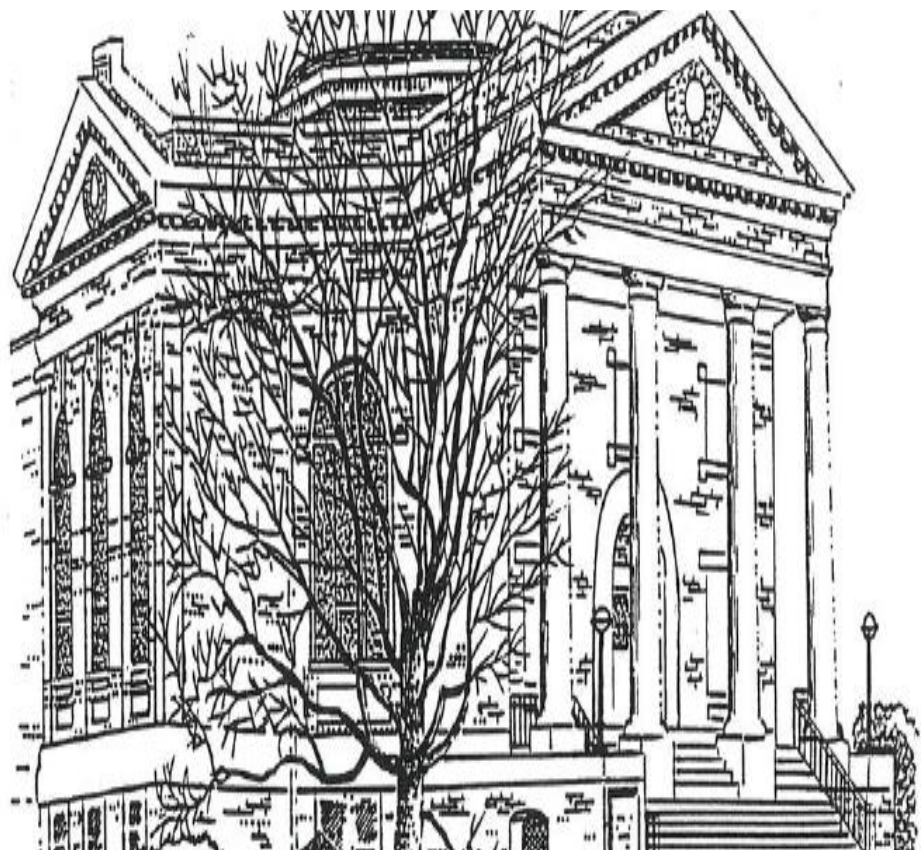


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P O Box 1578
Albemarle, North Carolina 28001

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org



THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

July 3, 2022

4th Sunday After Pentecost

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Register

PRELUDE

Voluntary

John Stanley

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Ella Cumming, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 77

Debby Johnston, liturgist

I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.

I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the people.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN

Praise with Joy, the World's Creator
(see insert)

Lauda Anima

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete. Day by day we fail to grow into your likeness; yet you are slow to be angry with your children. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior, do not hold our sins against us, but in your tender love, forgive.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE

Jesus Loves Me!

Hymn 188

*Jesus loves me! This I know; for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong.
They are weak but he is strong.*

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Steve Cumming

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 sees 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!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light, we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Sweet Freedom’s Song” Reverend Cathy S. George

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Confession of 1967*

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. We believe that God has revealed God’s self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way, the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that in following Christ, the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others. We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence. Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN 337

My Country, ‘Tis of Thee

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

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Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, and Debby Johnston for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Ella Cumming

Ushers for July: Myron Lowder, captain: Al Andrew, Emily Andrew, Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming and Jack Morton

Outside Ushers for July 3: Tom Norwood, Jim Marshall

Elder Greeters John Earnhardt, Mike King

Sound: TBD **Film:** Jackson Palmer **Nursery:** Bailey Mitchell

Kids Care Crew: Gayle & Ned Russell

There is no Children's Church during the summer. Children are encouraged to remain in worship.

Thanks to Martha Sue Hall for playing the chimes today This set of chimes are from the original organ installed in 1924. They were removed from the interior of the organ following the acquisition of the tubular bells presently hanging on the wall next to the organ.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Robin Howell, Gloria Bryson (Bethany Woods), Ann Byrd (Home), Banks Garrison (Home), Tim

Rogers (friend of Lee and Billie Jean Snuggs,cancer), Doris Forte-Atrium Health, Brayden Enzor (grandson of Gus & Pam Holbrook; 2 brain tumors, currently undergoing chemo and then radiation), Carole Yost (home), Bill Cotton (brother of Andy Cotton), Don Abernathy, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Nancy Jolly, Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

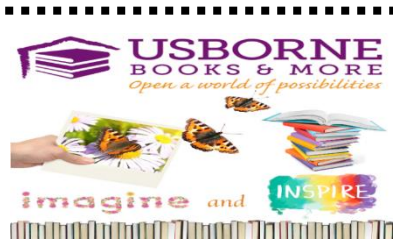
IN MEMORIAM
Robin Pridgen Howell
 February 5, 1961 – June 29, 2022

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Worship during the months of June, July, and August will take place at 10:00 a.m.

There will be no Sunday School during the summer months.



Usborne Book Facebook Party from June 1- June 30

To Benefit the Children’s Rooms at Church

Usborne Books and More has a wide variety of fun and educational books, puzzles, and activities! All would greatly benefit the children’s’ rooms at church. There will be a virtual Facebook party held for those that have one, but also the option to help even without having a Facebook! **All rewards from the party and shopping link will go toward purchasing books for the church.**

Are you wondering how you could help?

1. Purchase books for your children’s bookshelves using the link provided.
2. Purchase books off of the wishlist for the bookshelves in the children’s rooms at First Presbyterian Church.

Shopping link: <https://x11508.myubam.com/2375439> (wishlist can also be found at the top left once this link is clicked)

Wishlist link: <https://x11508.myubam.com/wishlist/cea842ca-9878-48d2-a469-ae7b00f22fad>

Thanks to Teresa Samples for coordinating this opportunity for our church to get new educational books in the preschool rooms.

INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP



AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

Are you looking for a church home? Have you been visiting for a while and think you might like to put down roots? Are you simply interested in learning more about what it means to be a member of First Presbyterian Church? We would love to talk to you about what being a member looks like! Please contact Rev. Cathy George (cgeorge@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722), or Sandy Rogers (sandyrogers119@msn.com or 704-244-1191), chair of the Membership Committee!

The Surveys Are Here

The Congregational Surveys are here and we would like for each member and regular visitor to complete one. They will be available in the Pit Stop beginning Monday, June 27. You can complete a paper copy there OR you can find it online at <https://surveys.pcusa.org/s3/USCVS-Care-Generations>

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Lemonade on the Lawn Volunteers Needed



We need volunteers to sign-up for Lemonade on the Lawn. Lemonade on the Lawn hosts provide a nice refreshment following worship during the summer months. If you are interested in hosting with cookies and lemonade, contact Michelle Cumming (704-984-4035 or michellecumming85@yahoo.com) and sign-up in the Pit Stop on the Bulletin Board next to the Church Parlor.



Everyone is invited to join us on the first and last Wednesday of each month for a *splashing* good time in Christian Education this summer!

Water is such a powerful substance. It keeps us alive, helps grow foods we eat, and allows us times of enjoyment. What better theme for a summer of growth in Christian Education. As we enjoy the ability to come back together as a unified church family, please make note of the events in your Summer Newsletter.



Join us Thursday, June 30 (NOTE DATE CHANGE) as we learn about how water sustains us. We will meet at 10am at Spring Lake Farms for a tour of their facility and learn how they use aquaponics to grow crops. After, we will go to Second Street Sundries for lunch. Bring \$5 for the tour and money for lunch. Please RSVP to Melissa so we know how many we will have (meudy@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-439-6747).

Circle the Sanctuary

We will circle the sanctuary for the SCCM Food Pantry again this summer. You may bring non-perishable food items to the designated areas in the sanctuary during the weeks of July 10th, 17th, and 24th.

Requested items are: jelly and jams, canned fruits (in lite syrup), canned meats, canned vegetables (navy beans, limas, mixed vegetables, carrots), 2 lb. bags of flour and sugar, condiments (mayo, mustard, catsup), toiletries, diapers, feminine hygiene products, toilet tissue and paper towels.

Pop top cans are helpful for those who are homeless. **No Ramen Noodles at this time.**

Thank you for thinking of our neighbors as you do your own shopping.

Lunch Out Join us for lunch at *Sweet Meadows Cafe* for some yummy food. and fellowship on **Thursday, July 14.** Sweet Meadows Café is a farm to fork, eclectic bistro located in **Historic Downtown Salisbury.** After lunch feel free to stroll through nearby Bell Tower Green at Stanback Square, Salisbury's newest downtown park and historic bell tower. Meet in the church parking lot at 11:00 am to carpool. Please let Gina Martin (704-244-0186) or Stan Scheer (704-322-0455) know if you will attend.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

4th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am * Worship

Monday, July 4

Church Office Closed/Independence Day

Wednesday, July 6

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

4:00 pm-8:00 pm Summer Splash Fun on the Lake
(1194 Lake Shore Dr., New London)

Thursday, July 7

10:00 am Staff Meeting

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

Sunday, July 10

5th Sunday after Pentecost

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Elders

Al Andrew, John Earnhardt, Bill Jolly, Mary Kesselman,
Mike King, Ken Knight, Kim Marshall, Andy McLeod,
Catherine Moeller, Sandy Rogers, Ellen Snyder,
Chris Whitley, Ellen Whitley

Deacons

Emily Andrew, Keith Bryson, Shannon Bullard,
Michelle Cumming, Wes Eudy, Martha Sue Hall,

03-Addison Marks
04-Don Abernathy

07-Barbara Lindley
Stella Marks
09-Shannon Bullard

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! JULY

10-Don and Janice Abernathy

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.

**Tithes and offerings may be
mailed to:
First Presbyterian Church**

**Online giving can be done
through the church's
website**