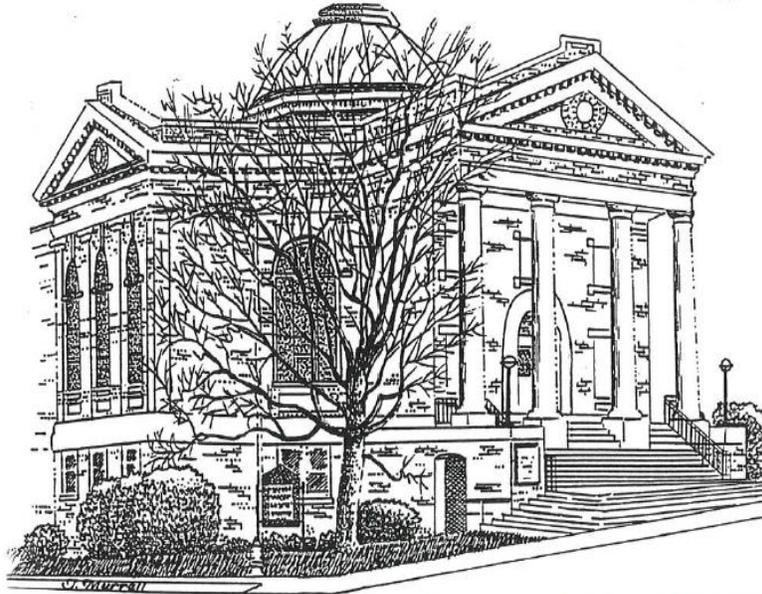


*First Presbyterian Church  
Albemarle, North Carolina*



*PO Box 1578  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
704.982.2722  
[www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)*

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 4, 2022

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

**GATHERING**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign the Friendship Register and pass it on*

PRELUDE

“O God, You Search Me and You Know Me”

Bernadette Farrell

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Leo McLeod, acolyte

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 139

Jim Hesley, liturgist

O Lord, you have searched me and known me, and are acquainted with all my ways.

**Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! I try to count them – they are like the sand.**

I come to the end.

**I am still with you.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may one with Christ our Lord, and serve as faithful disciples, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN 645

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*10 Cents-A-Meal Hunger Offering Received*

*Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning glow or evening shade, God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.  
Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! All is just and all I right:  
To God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,  
An ever present help and stay. our peace and joy and blessing,  
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory!*

*This all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises,  
That all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body take your part:  
To God all praise and glory!*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

*Silent Confession and Reflection*

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**\*RESPONSE 232**

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” (stanza 4)

**EASTER HYMN**

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God’s love. Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

**THE WORD**

**SOLO**

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”  
Craig Taylor, Bass

Charles H. Gabriel

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Gracious God, 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 this day. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

[Psalm 139: 1-18](#)

pew Bible, page #66

**SERMON**

“There’s No Place That Far”

**\*HYMN 29**

“O God, You Search Me”

**O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME**

*O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.  
When I walk or lie down you are before me: Ever the maker and keeper of my days.*

*You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar,  
And with love everlasting you besiege me: In ev’ry moment of life or death, you are.*

*Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have known its meaning through and through.  
You are with me beyond my understanding: God of my present, my past and future, too.*

*Although your Spirit is upon me, Still I search for shelter from your light.  
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you: Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.*

*For you created me and shaped me, Gave me life within my mother's womb.  
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you: Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER BY PROFESSION OF FAITH

Presentation

Profession of Faith and Questions

*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 on 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 ins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Welcome

Thora, by professing your faith publicly, you have expressed your intention to grow in the covenant God made with you in your baptism. May the Spirit continue to strengthen and sustain you in the worship and mission of the church.

**Amen. Alleluia!**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### 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.**

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Mike King

### RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

"How Blessed Are They"

Johannes Brahms

\* Response 606

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDRETH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

**God of all creation, your claim on us is total; your desire for us complete. We ask that you would receive us this day and use what we bring. Keep sending your Spirit into our hearts, until we yield all that we love and all that we fear to your holy purpose. Amen.**

### SENDING

\*HYMN 65

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDDA

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty; Hold me with thy pow'rful hand;  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more. Feed me till I want no more.*

*Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be thou still my Strength and Shield. Be thou still my strength and shield.*

*When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee. I will ever give to thee.*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE 748

“Go with Us, Lord”

TALLIS CANON

*Go with us Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,  
That in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.*

\*POSTLUDE

“Postlude on "Ora Labora””

Hal H. Hopson

\*Please stand as you are able.

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

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**Thank you** to Stan Scheer, Craig Taylor and Jim Hesley for their leadership in worship today.

**The acolyte today is** Leo McLeod.

**Ushers for September: John Howell**, captain: Derrick Huneycutt, Ken Knight, Natalie Neiderer, Chris Whitley, David Whitley.

**Outside Ushers for September 4: Tom Norwood, Jim Marshall.**

**Elder Greeters** Al Andrew, Ellen Snyder.

**Sound:** Evan Sanges    **Film** Andy McLeod                      **Nursery:** Bailey Mitchell

**There is no Children's Church during the summer.** Children are encouraged to remain in worship. **We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering** for hunger today.

\*\*\*\*\*

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Ruth Cotton-surgery, Claude Harwood-surgery, Wayne Palmer-(home), Penny Welling (friend of the congregation), Gloria Bryson (Bethany Woods), Ann Byrd (Home), Tim Rodgers, Doris Forte-Spring Arbor, Brayden Enzor (grandson of Gus & Pam Holbrook); 2 brain tumors, starting six weeks radiation in Boston), Carole Yost (home), Don Abernathy, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Nancy Jolly, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler, Elizabeth Wilson, Polly Moose-recovering from hip surgery. The Bryson Family upon the death of Debra Bryson Barnard, daughter of Gloria Bryson, sister of Keith Bryson. See newsletter for complete list.

\*\*\*\*\*

**INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?**

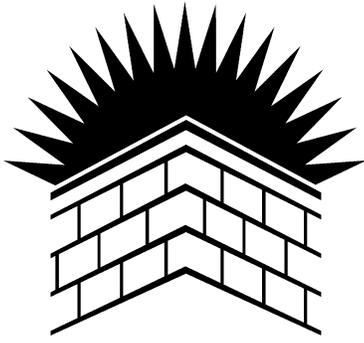


Are you looking for a church home? Have you been visiting for a while and think you might like to put down roots? Are you simply interested in learning more about what it means to be a member of First Presbyterian Church? We would love to talk to you about what being a member looks like! Please contact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

\*\*\*\*\*



**Beginning September 8, worship returns to 11:00 a.m.**



*The Christian Education Corner*

If you are not on the SPOND app please download it. That is the easiest way for all of us to keep in touch.

Here is the link to join <https://group.spond.com/LTOXZ>

**Join us for Rally Day on September 11!**  
 as we kick off our new Christian Education year:  
 9:30 am we will have the Mean Mugs coffee truck in the parking lot for you to purchase coffee or tea! Then travel to the Pit Stop for pancakes. At 10 AM we will travel to the gym for information on the coming Christian Education year.  
 Come meet your teachers and participate in our congregational art activity!



SNL kick off! Sept 11 from 6-7:30 in the Pit Stop. Youth will eat then play games in the gym while parents meet and plan for the coming months. Bring your calendars and a covered dish to share.



We will have a communion workshop for children grades K-2 on October 9 after worship. Children will learn more about the Lord's Supper and symbols of this sacrament. Please let Melissa know if you plan to attend.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GRANDPARENTS' DAY FLOWERS**



On Grandparents' Day, the flowers in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of grandparents. Each name is \$2.00. Please mail, deliver, or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and designate for *Grandparents' Day Flowers*. The names of donors and those being honored/remembered will be listed on **Grandparents' Day**,

**September 11.**

**GRANDPARENTS' DAY FLOWERS**

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

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_



The Monday Night Book Discussion Group is now a part of the Sunday School Sharing Knowledge Through Stories class. We hope you will join us on Rally Day and pick up our first book, Memphis by Tara M. Stringfellow. If you are unable to attend on Rally Day, books will be available in the church office. Our discussion of Memphis will begin September 18. If you have questions, please contact Courtney Niederer (980-622-7435 or [ccniederer@yahoo.com](mailto:ccniederer@yahoo.com)) or Kim Marshall (980-621-6577 or [bookworm284@live.com](mailto:bookworm284@live.com)). Hope to see you there!

.....

**Zoom Morning Prayer**



zoom

**Morning Prayer on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom**

We are a small but dedicated group who pray for the needs of our church and its members as well as our country and world. We invite you to join us. Please email Deb Hahn at [wolflady520@gmail.com](mailto:wolflady520@gmail.com) or text her at 704 985-9419 for the URL to our meeting.

We also welcome your requests for prayers of thanks for God’s blessings and prayers of concerns or needs. Please send those to the email above or text them to the above telephone number.

\*\*\*\*\*



**IN-PERSON FIRST FAMILY GATHERING:**

WEDNESDAY, September 7 at 6:00 in the Gym.

Menu: Taco Bar, Black Beans, Tortilla Chips and Cheese Dip, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Station, Make your own Ice Cream Sundae, Tea, Coffee, Water and Lemonade. Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by noon on Tuesday, September 6 to say you’re coming. You may also indicate in the Friendship Register how many will be attending. Please call Jane Snyder at 704-438-3358 or email her at [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org) if you would like to help. Detailed info will be in the September newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*



Congratulations and Welcome to our newest Member who will be received by Profession of Faith: Thora Kilde, daughter of Heather and John Kilde.

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**PRIMETIMERS’ BOXED LUNCHES**

Drive-Thru

**Thursday, September 15 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Menu: Turkey wrap w/lettuce, tomato and mayo, chips, apple and cookie from Glory Beans.

RSVP deadline is noon on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Laura McLeod at 704-796-0487 (text or call) or Email [mcleod2@windstream.net](mailto:mcleod2@windstream.net) \$5 donation.



## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, September 4**

*13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Ten-Cents-A-Mea Offering for Hunger*

10:00 am \*Worship

6:00 pm SNL

### **Monday, September 5**

*Labor Day*

*Church Office Closed*

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

### **Tuesday, September 6**

*Deadline for Grandparents' Day Flower Form*

### **Wednesday, September 7**

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

6:00 pm First Family Gathering Dinner in the Gym

6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, September 8**

10:00 am Staff Meeting

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

### **Saturday, September 10**

7:00 pm Dancing With the Stars- Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

### **Sunday, September 11**

*14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Rally Day*

*Commissioning of Teachers & Leaders in  
Christian Education*

*Grandparents Day*

8:45 am Diaconate Meeting

9:30 am \*Rally Day (Gym)

11:00 am \*Worship

6:00 pm SNL

**\*childcare provided**

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

#### **September**

6- Laura McLeod

10- Grace Richards

11- Kelly Lentz

Ned Russell

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

#### **September**

5- Jim and Leslie Carter

10- Richard and Janet Schaefer

### **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,  
Lillie Hancock, Jim Hesley, Liz Jolly, Myron Lowder,  
Laura McLeod, Lee Snuggs

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  
P.O. Box 1578  
Albemarle, NC 28002**

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

**([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)).**

**Click on the GIVE button.**