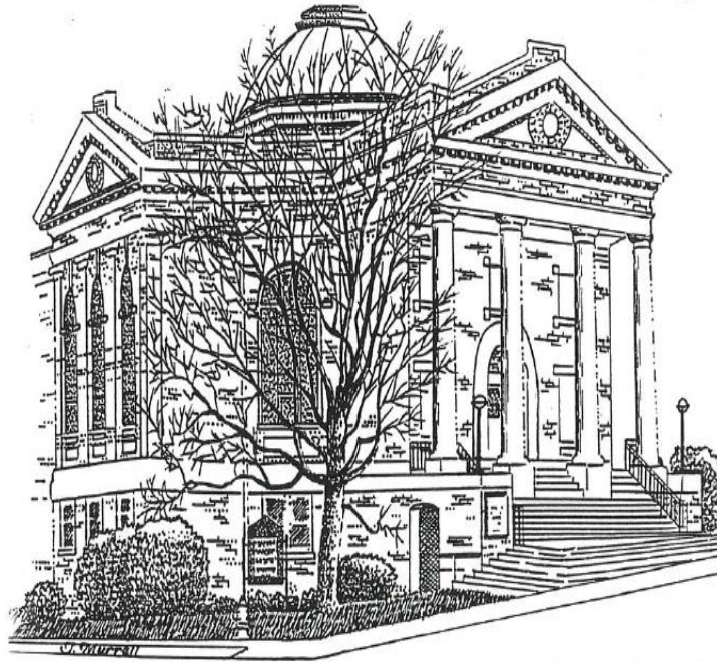


First Presbyterian Church Albemarle, North Carolina



PO Box 1578
Albemarle, NC 28001
704.982.2722
www.fpcalbemarle.org

Morning Meditation: Maybe prayer isn't the way in which we manipulate God but is simply the posture in which we finally become worn down by God's persistence—God's persistence in loving us. God's persistence in forgiving and being known. And God's persistence in being faithful and always, always, always bringing life out of death.

Nadia Bolz-Weber

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 16, 2022

19TH Sunday After Pentecost

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please register your online presence with us

PRELUDE

“Voluntary”

John Stanley

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Melanie Hendrix, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 121

Katherine Jolly, liturgist

From where does our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Who keeps us in our going out and our coming in?

The Lord is our keeper.

Who is with us always?

The Lord Jesus Christ is with us and for us in all things

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, who writes on our hearts, you have never abandoned us. In amazing and persistent grace, you have kept covenant with us. We thank you for loving us even when we have not loved you. We long to behold the day of your appearing, even as we stand now in view of your kingdom, promised and present in Christ Jesus, in whose name we wait and pray. Amen.

*HYMN 49

“The God of Abraham Praise”

LEONI

*The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above, the ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
The Lord, the great I Am, by earth and heaven confessed, we bow before your holy name, forever blest.*

*Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will. In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand, deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.*

*Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest, a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound, and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.*

*You have eternal life implanted in the soul; your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name: the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same.*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others, while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would have us be.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Those coming forward for Faith Sharing are invited to move to the chancel area during the Response.

*RESPONSE

“Glory Be to the Father”

MEINEKE

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Jim Hesley

ANTHEM

“I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes to the Hills”

Leo Sowerby

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. The Lord is my keeper; thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil, He shall preserve thy soul, The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth,

and even for evermore. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON
SERMON

Luke 18:1-8
“Persistent Prayer”

pew Bible, page 76
Rev. George

*HYMN 749

“Come! Live in the Light!”

WE ARE CALLED

*Come, live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God*

*Come, open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless so all hatred and blindness will be no more.
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God*

*Sing, sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *A Brief Statement of Faith*, PC(USA)

In life and in death we belong to God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. 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.

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

Emily Andrew, Deacon

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

“Adagio”

Benedetto Marcello

* Response 612

“We Praise You, O God: (stanza 1)

KREMSER

*We praise you, O God, our redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.*

*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church, and the Lord of our lives. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 757

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

KINGSFOLD

*Today we are all called to be disciples of the Lord, to help to set the captives free, make plow-share out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.*

*God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race to live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud, we sow not peace but strife,
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.*

*Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream, with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for a harmony of peace.*

*May we in service to our God act out the living word, and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE 746

“Send Me, Jesus”

THUMA MINA

*Thuma mina. Thuma mina, thuma mina, Somandla.
Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.
Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me, Lord.
Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus, fill me, Lord.
Thuma mina. Thuma mina, thuma mina, Somandla.*

*POSTLUDE

“Toccata on ‘Old Hundredth’”

Robert Lau

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

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Thank you to Stan Scheer, Frank Poolos, Katherine Jolly, Emily Andrew, and Jim Hesley for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Melanie Hendrix.

Ushers for October : Jim Hesley,captain: Myron Lowder, Elizabeth Bryson, Jim Ivey, Lee Snuggs, Leo McLeod.

Outside Ushers for October 16: Tom Norwood, Jack Morton.

Elder Greeters Ellen Whitley, Ken Knight.

Sound: Evan Sanges **Film:** Elizabeth Bryson **Nursery:** Bailey Mitchell

There is no Children’s Church during October. Children are encouraged to remain in worship.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Claude Harwood, Wayne Palmer, 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); (Home), 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, Ann Snuggs, Susan Pandich-breast cancer, Witt Snuggs (Home), Jason Miller (friend of the congregation). See newsletter for complete list.

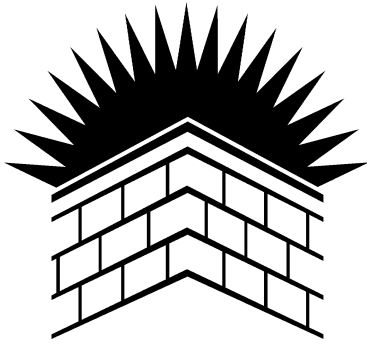


DRIVE-THRU MEAL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19 FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 17
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL

Menu: Teriyaki Chicken, Rice, Broccoli, Caesar Salad, and Chocolate Chip Cookies

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 -if you would like dessert- and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions)

Thanks to Debbie Wainwright, Deb Hahn, Ann Crutchfield, Nancy Joines, Linda Anderson, and Ruth Cotton for the Community Inn meal on Friday October 7, 2022.



The Christian Education Corner

Join us for SUNDAY SCHOOL !

- ❖ Children (K-5th graders) meet in the childcare area downstairs (music 9:45-10:05 in choir room)
- ❖ Youth (6th-12th graders) meet upstairs in the Youth Room
- ❖ The Wired Word meets in the Parlor
- ❖ Dr. Jolly’s Discussion Class gathers in the Old Session Room
- ❖ Those who Love to Read meet in the Gaither Classroom.
- ❖ Questions & Conversations will meet upstairs in the Conversation Room.

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>



Do you love handing out candy to kiddos at Halloween? We have a task for you! We are looking for 10 cars or stations for our Trunk or Treat on Sunday, Oct 30 at the YMCA park. If you are willing to help, please let Melissa know (meudy@fpcalbemarle.org; 704-439-6747).

Monday Night Bible Study 9th-12th graders at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr.) Mondays at 8:30 pm.



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

It’s that time again! We are collecting food to send home with Central School students on weekends. Our needs for this important Backpack Program for the month of October are-saltine crackers, large cans of soup, fruit cups, canned chicken and chicken helper, canned tuna and tuna helper. Thank you for your generous support.



Packing Date: Wednesday, November 2 at 10:30 a.m



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Boxes will be in the Pit stop October 9 and need to be returned to the sanctuary on November 6.

The cost this year to cover the shipment for a OCC shoebox is \$10. When you pick your shoebox up from the pit stop, check the inside for a “How to Pack a Shoebox” pamphlet. This pamphlet shows you how to pack a box, has boy and girl labels (to be put on the top of the box) and the envelope for the \$10 check/cash is also included.

SERRV Bazaar on Sunday, October 16, 23 and 30

On Sunday mornings in the Pit Stop: October 16, 23, 30, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Review the Fall/Christmas catalog and place your order!

Also, catalogs will be available for your review in the church office during regular business hours.





SCCM's CARING and SHARING CAMPAIGN

It is time for SCCM's 2022 Caring and Sharing campaign!
Yellow cups are in the Pit Stop. Please return them by Saturday, December 31.
Proceeds from this collection will be used to purchase food and supplies for the Community Tables and Food Pantry and will provide assistance with client needs.

We appreciated your help so we can continue to provide services to people in need in our community in the future.



GOD WINKS - Do you see or hear God in this world? Where? When? How? Why?

We will share our God experiences and learn how to see more of God in our world. Please join Gayle Russell and Jane Snyder on Mondays at NOON in the Pit Stop during the month

of October. Lunch will be served. Please let Jane Snyder know you are coming!

704-438-3358 jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org If you would like to Zoom with us, please let Jane know ASAP so she can get the link to you.

The Nominating Committee places the following names in nomination for the Pastor Nominating Committee: Emily Andrew; Peggy Finley; Katherine Jolly; Gayle Russell; Jim Sawyer; Rich Schaefer; and Chris Whitley.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

The Session has called for a meeting of the Congregation today, October 16, at the close of worship for the purpose of hearing a report from the Nominating Committee and electing members to the Pastor Nominating Committee.



Nominations will be accepted from the floor. As a courtesy, please check with the person you're nominating to make sure she or he will serve if elected.

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 6.** 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 13. Any money collected over the cost of the arrangements will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.



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: _____

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 16

19th Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:30 am Session
- 9:00 am SERRV Catalogs Pit Stop
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Congregational meeting
- 6:30 pm SNL

Monday, October 17

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 12:00 pm God Wink
- 8:30 pm Bible Study 9th-12th grade –Home of Debby Johnston
1212 Heritage Dr.

Wednesday, October 19

- 6:45 am Men’s Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 5:00 pm Drive Thru Meal
- 6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 20

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 4:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, October 23

20th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00 am SERRV Catalogs Pit Stop
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 6:00 pm- SNL

***childcare provided**

Church Staff

Transitional Pastor, Rev Catherine George
 Office Manager, Kyle Lambert
 Secretary, Beth Poolos
 Transitional Director of Christian Ed, Melissa Eudy
 Director of Fellowship/Congregational Care, Jane Snyder
 Music Director, Frank Poolos
 Organist, Stan Scheer
 Facilities Manager, Shawn Graeff

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October

- 21- Leo McLeod
- 22- Billie Jean Snuggs

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

October

- 16- Keith and Kristie Bryson
- 19- Arthur (Art) and Sandy

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

Tithes and offerings maybe 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.

The offering as part of our worship is a response to God’s grace. The plates will be passed by the ushers or you may make your gift by scanning the QR Code here. Thank you for your generosity.

October 16, 2022



Consecration Sunday is November 6th

“Painting the Picture of Stewardship”

Our Youth

On Sunday, October 9, Michelle Cumming, Deacon, discussed how our giving makes such a difference in the lives of our youth. She said:

“Perhaps the most consistent and important ministry of our church is its outreach to children and young people. It is vital because of the impact on an early understanding of faith. And it is a ministry that honors a promise each of us made when these young people first joined the church; to love and nurture and be an influence for good in their lives. A thriving church **MUST** care about the future of its young people!

In July, seven of our high school youth went to Montreat to share in dynamic worship services and meet and engage with new friends. The weeks’ theme was “More Than Enough” and the participants discussed and defined the many ways they were the recipients of more than enough. In a similarly titled conference the next week, twelve junior high youth explored the theme “A Place for..... [fill in the blank] (Hope, Love, Me, etc.)”. At both conferences, these young people increased their awareness of how God graciously provides physical, spiritual, and individual gifts in abundance to each of them.

“In addition to special trips, our young people gather every Sunday night in the Pit Stop for food, study, and fellowship. On Monday nights they are engaged in Bible Study at the home of Debbie Johnson where she and Steve Cumming are leaders. On other days, as a group, they can be found helping with the Senior Games, serving dinner at the Community Inn, delivering Meals on Wheels, or assisting in assigned tasks at SCCM. Character is being shaped, values are being instilled, and an understanding of God’s admonition to love and serve our neighbors is defining their personal discipleship.

Because of your giving, our congregation is actively helping to develop, touch, and mold young lives!!