



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Albemarle, North Carolina

Reverend Cathy George, Transitional Pastor

Dr. Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music

Interim, Organist

Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship & Congregational Care

Melissa Eudy, Part-Time Transitional Director of Christian Education

Shawn Graeff, Part-Time Director of Facilities Maintenance

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Beth Poolos, Part-Time Secretary

Church Office: (704) 982-2722

E-mail: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

January 2023

From Where I Sit

Happy New Year! I went back and read my article from last January and it seemed right to offer and update. Time still flies, that's for sure, and I continue to pray you have a healthy and blessed new year and I look forward to our continued ministry together in the coming days. I also still have a long list of 'I don't knows' that have to be accounted for. One of the 'I don't knows' from last January's article is 'what-in-the-world is happening with the search for an Installed Pastor'. While there's still a whole lot about that that remains unknowable, there are a few things that are now knowable. Here are the 'code' words for the process: COM = Committee on Ministry; PNC = Pastor Nominating Committee; MIF = Ministry Information Form (church's resume); PIF = Personal Information Form (candidate's resume).



And here are the Steps of the Installed Pastor Search:

1. Transitional Pastor Called
2. ~~When the church wants to form a PNC, these questions are asked by COM:~~
2. ~~COM approves the formation of the PNC.~~
3. ~~Once elected, COM liaison conducts orientation/training of PNC.~~
4. Creation of Ministry Information Form. (In process)
5. MIF must be approved by the Session of the church and by the COM.
6. MIF posted on the PCUSA Church Leadership Connection.
7. Review of potential candidates.
8. When the PNC narrows to a few candidates and begins planning face to face visits, General Presbyter the performs an "exec check".
9. PNC selects final candidate and conducts interviews and extends a call.
10. The COM approves the transfer of the candidate, reviewing the PIF and the terms of call.
11. The PNC gets permission to go to their Session to request a congregational meeting be held to vote on their recommendation.
12. Installed Pastor is called and installed.

You should know that the PNC meets weekly to conduct this important work. Further on in the newsletter, you will find a fuller explanation of the PNC's work. If you catch yourself worrying about the speed of the search process, might I suggest you look into some of the amazing, ongoing ministries here at FPC. New Committees are being formed and there's a place for your God-given gifts to be put to work for the building of God's kingdom and new ideas are always welcome. Surprise an officer by letting her or him know you'd like to serve. If you know of something that is NOT happening during this transitional time, please bring it to my attention or to the attention of one of the officers. In the meantime, let's continue to be faithful to God's call to us to tend to the work of ministry at hand, trusting God's guidance, leadership, and grace.

Have a blessed New Year! And that's the view from where I sit. *Cathy*

Worship Notes

- Sunday, January 1 First Sunday of Christmas - Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for Hunger
- Sunday, January 8 Baptism of the Lord
- Sunday, January 15 Second Sunday after Epiphany
- Sunday, January 22 Third Sunday after Epiphany
- Sunday, January 29 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany- Faith on the Fifth – Congregational Meeting

10 CENTS A MEAL

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on January 1. This monthly offering is used by the Presbytery of Charlotte to fund hunger programs and agencies (including SCCM) throughout the presbytery.

2023 Flower Calendar



The 2023 flower calendar is posted in the pit stop. If you wish to put flowers in the church in honor or memory of someone or just to provide beauty to the service, please sign up on the calendar. **Flowers may be ordered from any local florist.** Contact Ellen Whitley (704-982-1837 or EllenWhitley9@gmail.com) for more information and to make arrangements for the flowers



to be delivered to the church on Saturday or Sunday morning before worship.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 FOLLOWING WORSHIP



Session has established the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 29. The meeting will be held immediately following worship.



Faith on the Fifth Offering Sunday, January 29

The Mission Committee will receive a Faith on the Fifth Offering on Sunday, January 29 to help those in our community with heating assistance through SCCM.

NOVEMBER 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	431,095.62	461,930.62
Total Expenses:	<u>443,356.82</u>	<u>463,838.90</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus	(12,261.20)	(1,908.28)

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

	<u>2022</u>
Pledges:	494,764
Total Income:	503,697
Total Expenses:	503,697

Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: \$ 9,687

Ten-Cents-A-Meal for November: \$308

Average Weekly Amount Received in November: \$11,193

We are behind (13,126) in pledges.

NEWS & NOTES

Memorials and Honorariums

Scholarship Endowment:

In memory of Mike Laton, given by Roger & Gina Martin

In memory of Don Abernathy, given by Roger & Gina Martin

In memory of Don Abernathy, given by Chris & Pat Bramlett

Minister's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Jane Pickler, given by Dr. & Mrs. Tom "Fred" Norwood

In memory of Jane Pickler, given by Lendell & Peggie Smith, Jr

In memory of Jane Pickler, given by Jan Everton, Jo Beck Stanley & Sherry Beck Blalock

In memory of Jane Pickler, given by John & Helen Stonestreet

In memory of Don Abernathy, given by Mildred Andrew

In memory of Joe Russell Jr, given by Banks & Susan Garrison

In memory of Joe Russell Jr, given by Mildred Andrew

In memory of Peggy & Poppy Howard (John E. Howard), given by Matt & Phyllis Howard

General Fund:

In memory of James W. Ivey, given by Dale & Larry Stoehr

Music Fund:

In honor of Margaret Ivey for her dedication and love for the FPC choir & music family, given by Dale & Larry Stoehr.

In honor of Margaret Ivey, given by FPC Chancel Choir

In honor of Stan Scheer, given by Mark & Kim Andrew

In honor of Stan Scheer, given by Kent Harkey & Edna Lipe-Harkey

In honor of Frank Poolos, given by Mark & Kim Andrew

In honor of FPC Chancel Choir, given by Mark & Kim Andrew

Sympathy

To the family of Miriam Russell upon the death of her son Joseph Russell Jr.

Congratulations

To Frank Poolos who received his Doctor of Music Education degree with honors from Liberty University.

NEWS & NOTES

SESSION NOTES STATED SESSION MEETING December 18, 2022

At the stated session meeting on Sunday, December 18, 2022, the stewardship committee presented the proposed church budget for 2023 for session review and approval. The budget includes the salary range for the new minister. The proposed budget and salary range for the new minister were approved. The Christmas Eve offering will be donated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to be used for Ukraine relief. Session heard updates on the progress of the Pastor Nominating Committee. The property committee reported that heating and cooling systems in the church continue to need attention and repairs. Rev. George recognized outgoing elders—John Earnhardt, Ken Knight, Andy McLeod, Sandy Rogers, and Ellen Snyder—and thanked them for their dedication and faithful service. New officers will be installed on January 8, 2023. The next session meeting will be held on January 8, 2023. A meeting of the congregation and corporation is scheduled for January 29, 2023.

Submitted by Mary N. Kesselman, Clerk of Session



Thanks to: Ann Duckwall, Donna Gaither, Linda Anderson, Mildred Andrew, Ruth Goodwin, Donna Gaither, John Hahn, Jim Marshall, Roger Martin, Gina Martin, Barbara Lindley, Chris Whitley, Martha Sue Hall, Ken Knight, and John Earnhardt for helping at the church in December.

FIRST FAMILY AND THIRD WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS-

The holidays are busy but these folks still took the time to volunteer! Linda Anderson, Ruth Cotton, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Susan Garrison, Jennifer and Jordan Hesley, Jim Hesley, Margaret Ivey, Stephen and Leslie Kinley, Myron and Nancy Lowder, Chris Mabry, Sarah and Ronnie Michael, Lee McLaurin, Frankie Palmer, Ned and Gayle Russell, Lee and Billie Jean Snuggs, Connie Wallace and Ken Knight. Thank you!! We appreciate you so much!!!

The Mission Committee would like to thank the following people who donated food items and those who helped prepare and serve at the Community Table on Saturday, December 10th: Linda Anderson, Mildred Andrew, Debbie Bennett, Ruth and Andy Cotton, Ann Crutchfield, Liz Davis, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Nancy Joines, Ken Knight, Margaret Ivey, Heather Kilde, Cathy King, Beth Poolos, Gayle Russell, Marlene Sanges, Jane Snyder, Teresa Taylor, and Debbie Wainwright. We served 109 appreciative guests. You all are a blessing!

A special note from Stan

Many, many thanks to all of you for the comments, cards, and best wishes that you have conveyed to me in recent weeks. It has been a pleasure to serve on the staff at First Presbyterian Church for the years that have flown by all too quickly. Normally one would say that it was great to work for an employer, but I must admit that my tenure at the church never seemed like “work”. I am so thankful that “two months” continued a little longer than any of us anticipated. I want to thank you too for becoming and being my “church family” over these years. You have truly made me, and my family feel a part of this wonderful community. Please accept my sincere gratitude for the most generous gift that you presented during worship on December 11. Words are inadequate to express how truly blessed my life has been during our time together. Love to you all.

Stan

Thank you Church Officers

Thanks to outgoing deacons and elders who have served among us the past three years.

Diaconate: Emily Andrew, Martha Sue Hall, Lillie Hancock, Lee Snuggs

Elders: John Earnhardt, Ken Knight, Andy McLeod, Sandy Rogers, Ellen Snyder



NEWS & NOTES

A Message from the Pastoral Nominating Committee

We want to give you an update on what we are doing and what the potential timing might be to call a new pastor.

If you are like most of us, we deeply appreciate the terrific job Cathy is doing as Transitional Pastor, but we are also looking forward to having a new “permanent” pastor in place.

Since the Pastor Nominating Committee was elected in mid-October we have met every week except for Thanksgiving week and Christmas week, and we have done homework in between meetings.

For those of you who have not been through the process of hiring a Pastor in PCUSA, it is a very detailed and disciplined process that just takes time. Our first meeting involved two members of the Presbytery Committee on Ministry providing training on what we need to do and how we need to do it.

The first and by far largest task has been to draft the Ministry Information Form (MIF), a ten-page form that includes many key facts about our church, some specifics about the job we are trying to fill and five lengthy essay questions related to our vision for ministry, our emerging needs, how a new pastor can help us, the characteristics of the person we are looking for and the pastor’s specific responsibilities. It also lists 33 different leadership competencies and asks us to select the 10 that are most important to our church. By the time you read this newsletter we hope to have a draft of the MIF virtually complete. Our plan is to submit the draft to Session in January for their approval. It then goes to the Presbytery Committee on Ministry for their approval. If any revisions are required, they must be made and reapproved by both groups. We are hopeful that will not happen.

After those approvals are given, the MIF is sent to PCUSA and can go live on their website. Well, what does that mean? Most PCUSA pastors who are open to a call to another church will have filled out a lengthy Pastoral Information Form which indicates their experience, their geographical preferences, and their salary requirements. They also must select the ten leadership competencies that they believe are their strengths. This information is fed into the PCUSA computer system and we are provided with the names and Information Forms of potential pastors where there is a computer “match”. Pastors also get our Information Form so they can know more about us.

After a few weeks in the system we hope to have a pool of potential candidates and we can then begin the screening and interviewing process. We may conduct one round of interviews via Zoom, and then narrow down to finalists who we would invite for personal meetings with the Nominating Committee. When we believe there is a terrific candidate and a good match, we will make a conditional offer. That individual will need to be background checked and approved by the Presbytery and then presented for a vote by you, our members, in a congregational meeting. It is impossible to forecast when that will be, but if there is a good pool of candidates we would like to be able to call a new pastor sometime later in the Spring. Importantly, you should know that all the work described above in this paragraph must be done in total confidentiality.

We wish this could be done faster, but the process will really be a huge help to ensure that there is a good match between the skills and experience of a pastor and the needs and interests of our church. In the meantime, we ask that you keep our team and our work in your prayers. We appreciate the trust you have put in each and every one of us.

Your Pastor Nominating Committee,

Emily Andrew

Peggy Finley

Katherine Jolly

Gayle Russell

Rich Schaefer

Jim Sawyer

Chris Whitley

NEWS & NOTES

Sunday School News and Updates

ANNOUNCEMENT: We will begin serving breakfast on Sunday mornings at 10:00 in the Pit Stop. In order to make this happen, we need a group willing to help out.

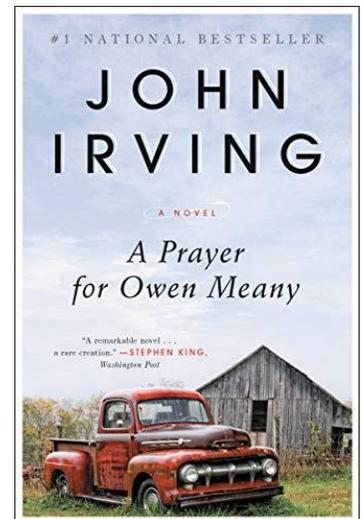


Do you enjoy preparing food for others and hanging out in the kitchen? Come be a part of the Kitchen Crew Sunday School class. Contact Jane Snyder for more information or to sign up!

Sunday School Sharing Knowledge Through Stories class just started *A Prayer for Owen Meany*.
By John Irving. If you have questions, please contact Courtney Niederer (980-622-7435 or ccniederer@yahoo.com) or Kim Marshall (980-621-6577 or bookworm284@live.com).
Hope to see you there!

A Prayer for Owen Meany Reading Schedule:

- January 8- pg 1-109
 - January 15- pg 109-210
 - January 22-pg 211-311
 - January 29-pg 312-422
 - February 5-pg 423-518
 - February 12-pg 519-627
 - February 19- no meeting
- This class will not meet on January 1.



5

Circle members will meet in the Pit Stop on
January 11 at 1:00 pm. We will study Lessons 3 and 4 of "Celebrating Sabbath".

5

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Wednesday, January 4 at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Please contact Peggy Finley at 704-985-1136 or maf447@windstream.net if you have questions.

February Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, January 17.

Early submissions are always welcome!

If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email

them as an attachment to:

bpoolos@fpcalbemarle.org.





Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Cans of Tuna, Chicken Helper, Cans of Chicken, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date: Wednesday, January 25 at 10:30 a.m.



Warm Gifts of Winter

This winter, please help us spread the warmth to our friends in the community by bringing new and gently used scarves, mittens, gloves, and toboggans to the First Family Dinner on Wednesday, January 4 or place them in the manger in the Pit Stop. We will donate these warm gifts to the SCCM Clothing Closet.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS THE
WINTER ART GALLERY EXHIBIT BY
BADIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

We are so excited that Badin Elementary School student work will be featured in the art gallery for the month of January! Thank you so much for supporting and encouraging our young artists at Badin Elementary! Students have the opportunity to use many different mediums and themes in art throughout the year. For this particular display students focused on various winter themes. Students got to experiment and create with blending oil pastels and mixing different types of paints. They focused on drawing techniques and breaking pictures down into simple shapes as their starting foundation. There will be a variety of artwork on display, showcasing pieces from each grade level K-5th.

Candi Russell teaches art at Badin Elementary

**The congregation of First Presbyterian Church is invited to meet
the Badin Elementary artists at the Art Gallery Reception
on Wednesday, February 1 from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
in the church common area.**



!!! PFEIFFER PFRIENDS ARE NEEDED !!!

The Health Sciences Program of Pfeiffer University continues its presence in downtown Albemarle. Students from across the United States and the world are working on a degree in the Physician’s Assistant or Occupational Therapy Programs. First Presbyterian, along with some other

churches in downtown, are in partnership with these students which is similar to our Silent Partner program for our college students. The main difference is the length of the relationship (each program is 27 months long), and the Pfeiffer student will know who their friend is. It is the hope that there will be communication at least once a month between the friend and the student. As of January 1, 2023 there will be approx. 100 students on campus.

Your willingness to be a Pfeiffer Pfriend would be a blessing.

For more information, please email Martha Sue at hallmsh@hotmail.com or call her at 704-985-5821.



Pfeiffer Pfriends Informational Sheet.

You are appointed for such a time as this!

Thank you for your interest in the *Pfeiffer Pfriends* Program at the Pfeiffer Health and Science Building in downtown Albemarle. As of to date, there are approximately 150 plus students on campus for our graduate programs. Some of the students are in Albemarle every day while others may be in “rotation” at some point in their 27-month journey.

The *Pfeiffer Pfriends* program is designed to “encourage, support, and friend” students that are many miles away from their home base. The *Pfeiffer Pfriends* are collectively appointed individuals from local churches and the community. There is a special “vetting” process before a student and an individual is paired together.

It is the expectation that the *Pfeiffer Pfriend* will contact the student at least one time a month during the student’s 27-month period at Pfeiffer University. This contact can be in many forms: text, emails, cards, gifts, and the list goes on.

This is not a “silent” program as you are encouraged to reach out to your student and develop a relationship with him/her so that they know they can count on you to answer questions about our community; keep them updated on activities in our community, and most of all “*be there to support them.*” Be on the lookout for “mixer events” where we invite the students and the *Pfeiffer Pfriends* to come together at the campus as a safe way to meet. Our first event was a huge success. Many students and *Pfriends* felt very comfortable with this opportunity to get to meet one another.

You, as a *Pfeiffer Pfriend*, will be given an information sheet that the student has personally filled out. Some students are very forthcoming and detailed with their responses, whereas others are vague, and it might take some time for them to warm up to the idea of sharing what they like.

Things to remember as a *Pfriend*:

- This is **NOT A SILENT** partner program – they will know your name as you will know theirs.
- You are encouraged and asked to stay connected in some form or fashion with your student.
- Remembering that most if not all students are new in town and have a tough curriculum to sort through – they have been reminded and encouraged to respond to any kind of gesture on your part with a simple acknowledgment (thank you) – but do not be discouraged if they do not respond or forget. There is a great deal on their plate.
- Items are given or contacts can be made by:
 - Mail
 - Drop off at the campus through Kelly – just text (704-956-5556) and let her know you are there to drop off a gift and she will come downstairs on the side of the building and receive your gift. (kelly.loflin@pfeiffer.edu)
 - This program is **NOT** about bringing these students to church, but rather whatever you have done to the least of these you have done it unto me. We are to be his hands, his feet, and planting seeds wherever we go.

We want to encourage these students in their studies as they prepare for the journey that lies ahead. We welcome them into our rural community in hopes they will choose to work in our rural community healthcare system.

You are appointed for such a time as this – be their *Pfriend*!

Warm Regards –

Martha Sue Hall 704-985-5821

In an effort to keep the prayer list updated, we would appreciate your help. Please notify the church office (704-982-2722 or bpoolos@fpcalbemarle.org) or Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com) of changes.

Thank you.

prayer Requests



Do you ever see a name on the prayer list and think, *Now who is that?* Or forget what the relationship is? You are not alone as many folks have asked for help with this. The *Prayer List Connection* will refresh all our memories. Folks with chronic needs will be listed for a month in the bulletin. Following that month, we will keep them on the newsletter's *Prayer List Connection* for as long as we are requested to do so. Critical prayer concerns will be added weekly to the prayer list in the bulletin.

Friends of the Congregation:

David & Marsha Bell, friends of Debbie & John Hahn; David has cancer.
Lindsey Clark, wife of Mark Clark, friend of Debbie Hahn; metastatic breast cancer.
Brayden Enzor, grandson of Gus & Pam Holbrook; at home and returned to school after out for eight months.
Calvin Hall, friend of Ruth Goodwin; kidney cancer – physical therapy for stroke.
Lindsey (Whitley) Harward, daughter of Carolyn & Mel Whitley.
Anna Hartsell, daughter of Janet & Gary Hartsell; colon cancer.
Ann Hatcher, mother of Ann Snuggs.
Mikayla Hege, friend of Elizabeth Bryson.
Debbie Hinson, mother of Melissa Eudy.
Anna Lashua, friend of Martha Sue Hall; breast cancer.
Molly Amelia Lowder, low immunity health concerns.
Taylor Blalock Mauldin, nurse at Atrium-Stanly; cancer.
Joyce McLeod, mother of Mike McLeod.
Wendy McInturff, mother of Michelle Cumming.
Maddie McRae, daughter of Renee & Keith McRae; diagnosis & treatment for a brain tumor.
Bryanna Medlin, Hodgkins Lymphoma.
Bern Morehead, III, son of Sally Pleasant & Dr. Bernard “Bernie” Morehead; diagnosed with brain tumor.
James Nunn, nephew of Billie Jean Snuggs; continuing health concerns.
Susan & John Prevatte.
Tim Rodgers, cancer.
Jane Scheer, spouse of Stan Scheer; Spring Arbor.
Johnny Sharp, father of Cathy George.
Garin Stepp, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Members of the Congregation:

Don Abernathy, multiple myeloma.
Gloria Bryson, Trinity Place.
Doris Forte, Spring Arbor.
Laura Frazier
Anita Gower
Claude Harwood
Don Joines
Nancy Jolly, Trinity Place
Polly Moose
Rita Morgan
Wayne Palmer, home
Susan Pandich, Stage IV metastatic breast cancer. New address: 336 Middleton Place, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Jean Rabe, Trinity Place
Carole Yost, home



BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 03- Mike McLeod | 21- Drew Melone |
| Sandy Rogers | 22- Jaycee Barbee |
| 04- Sandy Saunders | 23- Susan Garrison |
| 05- Austin Coats | Kim Marshall |
| Miriam Russell | Ronnie Michael |
| 06- Shannon Lisk | 24- Dennis Gower |
| 09- Isabel McIntyre | 26- Thomas Shedd |
| 10- Rita Morgan | 28- Kim Andrew |
| Jacob Palmer | Gus Holbrook |
| 12- Ruth Ann Rogers | 30- Linda Anderson |
| 15- Julian Eudy | 31- Garrett Chapman |
| 16- Debbie Hahn | |
| 19- Nancy Feather | |



ANNIVERSARY

05- John & Debbie Hahn

Childcare Information

Bailey Mitchell is in our childcare every Sunday for ages birth-K. Older children are welcome to join in.



Children's Church



Children in K-3 are encouraged to remain in worship. Worship bags are located in the two entrances to the sanctuary with interactive tasks to keep them engaged.

Kindergarten - Fifth Graders

Sunday School

We look forward to seeing you each Sunday morning at 9:45. Mr. Frank will get us started with some music, then Mrs. Kim & Mrs. Angie will share a story with us. We look forward to seeing you each Sunday morning!

Breakfast Bunch

This year Breakfast Bunch will be included in Children's Sunday School (K-5th graders). For the month of January, this will be on the 15th. Please join us for muffins and prayer during Sunday School time (9:45 am) downstairs following music with Mr. Frank.



Kids' Kirk

Join us for Kids' Kirk (formerly known as Children's Church) on January 15 as we explore the elements of worship and what they mean.



Faith Explorers

Join us on Sunday, January 22 after worship as we bake goodies to deliver to our friends and families who are shut-in. We will work in the church kitchen to prepare goodies and then deliver them to very special folks. Please RSVP to Melissa if you can attend.



YOUTH CLUB RETURNS

When: January 18

Times: 3:30-5:30

Join us for time of Bible study, arts, recreation, snack, music, and more. Most importantly, we will have lots of fun with our friends!

Please let Melissa know if your child can attend!!



YOUTH NEWS



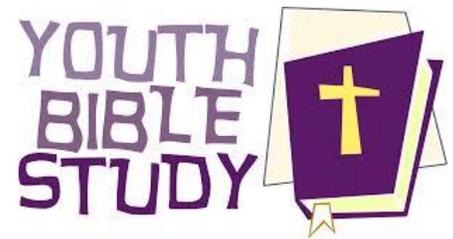
January 1 NO YOUTH
8 SNL 6-8 pm
15 NO YOUTH
22 SNL 6-8 pm
29 SNL 6-8 pm

Monday Night Bible Study

Who: 9th-12th graders

When: Monday nights at 8:30pm

Where: Debby Johnson's House (1212 Heritage Dr.)





January 26 - Thomas Shedd



Montreat Deposits Due

Save your spot for Montreat Youth Conference this summer. In order to reserve your space, please submit your \$100 deposit to Melissa or Kyle by Jan 22.

Sr. High Dates: July 9-15

Middle School Dates: July 19-23





Christmas Kitchen a HUGE success!

Thanks to all who helped support this year's Christmas Kitchen! We are grateful to all who cooked, baked, and contributed goodies. We are also super grateful for all of the shoppers! A huge thank you goes out to Dr. Jolly who donated the Christmas Village items. None of this could have happened without the organizational gifts of Liz Jolly and Laura McLeod. All of these combined efforts helped raise over \$2500 for summer trips for youth!!

Prayer & Bible Study Opportunities



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

First Presbyterian's Zoom Morning Prayer meets on Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am. We welcome your participation and invite you to email Deb Hahn at hahnjdt@ctc.net for the information needed to join our prayer group. We pray for our state, nation and world. If you would like to make a prayer request please email Deb Hahn at hahnjdt@ctc.net or text her at 704 985-9419. Occasionally we do not meet but we keep in touch via email and texts and pray for whatever needs or thanks are brought to our attention.

Bible Study and Conversation via Zoom on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

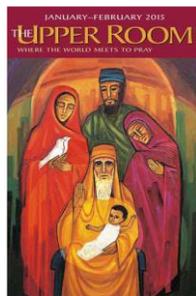
Matt and Catherine Moeller continue to lead Bible study on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on Zoom. Each week, we discuss the Scripture that will be used as the basis for the sermon the following weekend. We analyze the Scripture reading itself and discuss how to apply it in our lives. We also have a time in prayer. Please join us. If you have any questions, please contact Matt and Catherine (mattandcatherine@hotmail.com or 509-539-9482).





NEW BEGINNINGS – What is it that God is calling you to change? Are there things that you cannot change that need a change in attitude or perspective? How do I gain wisdom from God to help guide me in what I can and can't change? Please join Gayle Russell and Jane Snyder on

Mondays at NOON in the Parlor during the month of January. We will NOT meet Monday, January 1. Our meeting days will be January 9, 16, 23 and 30th at NOON. 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 UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide exists to:

- offer resources that encourage daily spiritual practice,
- call Christians to a life of living prayer,
- create meaningful, transformational experiences and studies for individuals, small groups, and congregations,
- help people grow deeper in love with God and neighbor,
- support churches in becoming centers of prayer and spiritual formation,
- inspire spiritual leaders to lead with a listening heart, and
- invite the “spiritually curious” to living waters.

The Upper Room devotional guide is available for your use. Daily readings will help Focus your prayer and study.

The Upper Room can be found in the pit stop, the church office, and the narthex



**FIRST FAMILY GATHERING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 6:00 P.M.
DINE IN GYM**

IN-PERSON FIRST FAMILY GATHERING on Wednesday, January 4 at 6:00!

Mark your calendars:

- **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN-PERSON**
- **THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH DRIVE-THROUGH**

January Menu: Roast Beef, Potatoes, Broccoli, Italian Salad and assorted Desserts, Tea, Water and Lemonade.

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Tuesday, January 3 to say you're coming.

Due to the cost of food our Suggested Donation is \$6 per person....

Maximum of \$20 per immediate family.

Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

KID'S ACTIVITIES - We will have activities for the kids after dinner!

You're invited to bring *warm* gifts to place in the manger – mittens, scarves, hats, socks, and gloves will be donated to the Clothing Closet.



Volunteer's Needed for IN-PERSON First Family Gathering

Tuesday Morning Crew: January 3 @ 9:30am

Wednesday Morning Crew: January 4 @ 9:30am

Final Prep Crew: Wednesday, January 4 @ 5:00pm

Clean-up crew: Wednesday, January 4 @ 6:45pm

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help☺



**DRIVE-THRU MEAL
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 16
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL**

Take a break from cooking on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of every month and just **DRIVE-THRU** the church parking lot and pick up a plate of food! Please RSVP by Monday, January 16 by 2:00 p.m. Let Jane Snyder know if you would like to volunteer in any capacity.

This will not work without volunteers!

We will have your meal ready for pick-up between 5:00-6:00 pm

Menu:

Brunswick Stew, Cornbread and Texas sheet cake

Due to the cost of food our Suggested Donation is \$6 per person....

Maximum of \$20 per immediate family.

Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

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**
- **if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions)**



Volunteer's Needed for DRIVE-THRU-

Tuesday Morning Crew: January 17 @ 9:30 am

Wednesday Morning Crew: January 18 @ 9:30 am

Plating Crew: Wednesday, January 18 @ 4:00 pm

Drive-Thru crew: Wednesday, January 18 @ 5:00 pm

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help ☺

First Presbyterian Church

**Lunch Outing to THE LANTERN
Thursday, January 12th
at 11:30 am**



Let's get together for lunch – Dutch Treat! We will meet at The Lantern in Norwood at 11:30 am. If you would like to carpool, meet at the church at 11:00. Let us know if you can join us! Jane Snyder 704-438-3358



JANUARY

Sunday, January 1

*1st Sunday of Christmas/Ten Cents a Meal Offering/
New Year's Day*

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am *Worship

Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
8:30 pm High School Bible Study –home of Debby Johnson

Tuesday, January 3

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm PNC

Wednesday, January 4

Donations of Warm Gifts at First Family Gathering

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
1:30 pm Prayer Shawl in Parlor
6:00 pm First Family Gathering Dinner in Gym
6:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 5

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

Friday, January 6

Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8

Baptism of the Lord/ Ordination & Installation of Officers

8:30 am Session
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am *Worship
6:00 pm SNL

Monday, January 9

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12:00 pm New Beginnings
8:30 pm High School Bible Study –home of Debby Johnson

Tuesday, January 10

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm PNC

Wednesday, January 11

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
6:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 12

10:00 am Staff Meeting
11:30 am Lunch Outing at The Lantern
4:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, January 15

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

8:45 am Diaconate Meeting
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am Breakfast Bunch (K-5th graders)
11:00 am *Worship

Monday, January 16

*Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
Church Office Closed*

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12:00 pm New Beginnings
2:00 pm RSVP Deadline for Drive-thru Meal
8:30 pm High School Bible Study –home of Debby Johnson

Tuesday, January 17

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm PNC

Wednesday, January 18

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm Youth Club
5:00 pm Drive Thru Meal
6:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 19

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

Sunday, January 22

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am *Worship
12:00 pm Faith Explorers Baking in Kitchen
6:00 pm SNL

Monday, January 23

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12:00 pm New Beginnings
8:30 pm High School Bible Study –home of Debby Johnson

Tuesday, January 24

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm PNC

Wednesday, January 25

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
10:30 am Packing of the Back Packs
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm Youth Club
6:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 26

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

Sunday, January 29

*4th Sunday after Epiphany/Faith on the Fifth Offering/
Congregational meeting*

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am *Worship
12:00 pm Congregational Meeting
6:00 pm SNL

Monday, January 30

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12:00 pm New Beginnings
8:30 pm High School Bible Study –home of Debby Johnson

Tuesday, January 31

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm PNC

THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY

Ushers: Jim Hesley (captain), Liz Bryson, Steve Cumming, Ella Cumming, Lee McLaurin, Laura McLeod, Leo McLeod, Jackson Palmer
John Palmer

Elder Greeters: John Earnhardt, Sandy Rogers

Acolytes:

January 1: Jordan Hesley
January 8: Cidney Eudy
January 15: Carter Gibson
January 22: Melanie Hendrix
January 29: Holden Taylor

Streaming Coordinator:

January 1: Evan Sanges
January 8: Evan Sanges
January 15: Evan Sanges
January 22: Evan Sanges
January 29: Evan Sanges

Nursery for January:

January 1: Bailey Mitchell
January 8: Bailey Mitchell
January 15: Bailey Mitchell
January 22: Bailey Mitchell
January 29: Bailey Mitchell

Outside Ushers:

January 1: Jm Marshall, Steve Cumming
January 8: Tom Norwood, Chris Whitley
January 15: Wes Eudy, Jack Morton
January 22: Ronnie Michael, Jim Ivey
January 29: Lee Snuggs, John Earnhardt

Filming:

January 1: Andy McLeod
January 8: James Cotton
January 15: Elizabeth Bryson
January 22: Jackson Palmer
January 29: Andy McLeod

Kids' Crew:

January 1: Elizabeth Bryson
January 8: Nathaniel Eudy
January 15: Katherine Jolly
January 22: Jackson Palmer
January 29: Cidney Eudy

Elders
Al Andrew
Bill Jolly
Mary Kesselman
Mike King
Kim Marshall
Catherine Moeller
Chris Whitley
Ellen Whitley

Deacons
Keith Bryson
Shannon Bullard
Michelle Cumming
Wes Eudy
Jim Hesley
Liz Jolly
Myron Lowder
Laura McLeod

Church Website Address & Staff Email Addresses

Church Website Address: www.fpcalbemarle.org
Church Email Address: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org
Rev. Cathy George: cgeorge@fpcalbemarle.org
Kyle Lambert: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org
Jane Snyder: jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org
Stan Scheer: sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org
Dr. Frank Poolos: fpoolos@fpcalbemarle.org
Beth Poolos: bpoolos@fpcalbemarle.org
