



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

February 18, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Oh Lord, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

stanzas 1 and 4

Hymn 697

Take My Life

stanzas 1 and 2

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sarah Michael

Psalm 139

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart.

People: Try me and know my thoughts!

Leader: See if there is any wicked way in me,

People: And lead me in the way everlasting.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Luke 6:20-31

Faithful God, source of every blessing: teach us to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us, to pray for those who persecute us, to turn the other cheek, to share our possessions, to give to those who are in need, and to do to others as we would have them do to us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***HYMN 366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

Lord, as we begin the Lenten journey, with ashes still fresh on our minds, we confess that we have not lived up to your calling for our lives. Though we have experienced your love, we have not shared that love with others. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The refrain used during the Prayer of Confession is hymn number 227 in the *Glory to God* hymnal.

Choir Sings:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Teach us how to reflect your love for us with all those we meet.

Make us slow to sin, and abounding in your steadfast love.

Congregation Sings:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** *Glory Be to the Father*

**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.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ANTHEM *God Gave to Me a Life to Live* adapted by Michael Praetorius
Come Into God's Presence Russian Folk Song
Fishers of Men Harry D. Clarke
Youth Club Trusty Travelers

Cooper Atwater, Ari Beamon, Ashley Deese, Emily Deese, Cidney Eudy,
Nathaniel Eudy, Carter Gibson, Melanie Hendrix, Leni Henkenjohann,
Jordan Hesley, Maddox Jolly, Caroline Lisk, Stella Marks, Leo McLeod,
Anya McSwain, Ellie Niederer, Sanah Patel, Sophie Poplin, Seth Richards,
Thomas Shedd, Corbin Smith, Claire Stokes, Eston West, and Jake Whisnant

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN Penny Morton

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the children's greeting, parents may take preschool children to the nursery. Children in grades K-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

ANTHEM *God So Loved the World* John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son.
That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him might be saved.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, in the words of Christ, reveal to us your truth. Help us hear your Word, that we may learn what it means to be disciples. In your Word, may we discover our hope. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING [Luke 6:27-36](#) Pew Bible, page 60

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Love* Mr. Drumheller

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham chose a covenant people to bless all families of earth. Loving us still, 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. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

This is a Scottish version of the Gloria Patri which can be found on page 580 of the *Glory to God* hymnal.

A Brief Statement of Faith was written in 1983 upon the reunification of the Presbyterian church to articulate our common identity.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Ah, Holy Jesus* Dale Wood

*Doxology *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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Hymn 525 *Let Us Break Bread Together* Let Us Break Bread

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*HYMN 300 *We Are One in the Spirit* They'll Know We Are Christians

During the singing of the hymn, anyone who is participating as a prayer partner during Lent is invited to come forward and take a card.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* Green Tyler

*POSTLUDE *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Johannes Brahms

*All who are able may stand.

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 Grant Lisk. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Thanks to Sarah Michael for serving as liturgist and to **the Trusty Travelers** for their participation in worship today.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Tommy Murrell (recovering from leg surgery), Doris Forte, Debi Medlin (breast cancer; stepsister of Dona Lisk). **See newsletter for complete list.**

Ushers: Jack Morton, captain; Duncan Bryson, Jim Ivey, Robert Ivey, Taylor Jolly, Greg Lisk, Penny Morton, and Jeff Robertson **Outside Ushers:** Jack Morton; Mark Andrew **Elder Greeters:** Lee McLaurin; Gayle Russell **Nursery:** Kaitlyn Massey **Preschool Partners:** Dona & Greg Lisk **Nana & Papa Team:** Chris Mabry **Children's Church:** Angie Earnhardt, Kelly Lentz, Adrienne Averette

The Lord's Table is open to all who trust in Christ or who want to trust in him more. Communion will be served in the pews. All of the elements are gluten free.



Tea & Conversation
Tuesday, February 20
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
In the Church Parlor

Join us for tea and lively conversation with our Associate Pastor, Matt Drumheller.

FOOD FOR BODY & SOUL
ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6:00 P.M.
BEGINNING FEBRUARY 21



This time together includes Evening Prayer at 5:45 p.m. in the chapel followed by dinner in the gym at 6:00 p.m. We will also have a time to reflect together on our Lenten theme, *Living the Word*, using both words and art. Dinner on February 21 will be sponsored by the Deacons. The menu is: Chili, Vegetarian Chili, Salad, and Desserts.



COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALBEMARLE
THEME: JESUS' QUESTIONS
WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21, 28, MARCH, 7, 14, and 21
AT NOON IN THE SANCTUARY

LUNCH FOLLOWING IN THE GYM...COST: DONATION

First Presbyterian Church is hosting the Community Lent Worship Services this year. An offering will be received to support The Mary and Martha Center for Women and Community Care.

Wednesday, February 21 Preacher: Rev. Bob Gruver, Pastor of Albemarle First Assembly Church
 Worship Leader: Rev. Ray Sipe, Chaplain at Trinity Place

Stanly County Habitat for Humanity BBQ Chicken Fundraiser

½ BBQ Chicken, Slaw, Chips, Roll, and Dessert

Thursday, February 22

11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

At Centerview Baptist Church

(508 Northeast Connector, Albemarle)

Advance tickets available in the church office.

Ticket Prices: \$9.00 in advance...\$10.00 day of the event

Drive Thru, Take-Out, Delivery, & Dine-In

Delivery Available with orders of 5+ plates

******(Delivery must be scheduled before February 20)******

Catered by Port-A-Pit BBQ



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 18

First Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Trusty Travelers Sing in Worship

- 8:00 am Session
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
 - *Traditional Discussion Group with Skeet Ayscue (Media Room-Basement)
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm-2:30 pm Christian Education Committee Mini-Retreat
- 3:00 pm Hiking Group meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 3:00 pm Reading Group with Courtney Niederer & Kim Marshall (Church Parlor)
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 19

President's Day/Church Office Closed

- 7:00 pm Film Group with Nancy & Don Joines
(Church Theatre-basement/children's building)

Tuesday, February 20

- 9:30 am Cooking Group with Gayle Russell & Jane Snyder (Pit Stop/Kitchen)
- 11:00 am Walking Group with Mary Louise Sawyer in the Gym
- 2:00 pm-3:30 pm Tea & Conversation (Parlor)
- 7:30 pm Yoga Group with Rebekah Ayscue & Alexis Poolos (Classroom 2 -Basement)

Wednesday, February 21

- 6:00 am Traditional Discussion Group & Breakfast with Steve Cumming
- 6:00 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 am-11:00 am *Pray & Play
- 12:00 pm Community Lenten Service at FPC
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 5:45 pm Food for Body & Soul Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Food for Body & Soul Dinner (Gym)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 22

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:00 am-7:00 pm Habitat for Humanity BBQ Chicken Fundraiser at Centerview Baptist Church, Albemarle (508 Northeast Connector)
- 7:00 pm Fruit of the Vine Small Group at the home of Penny & Jack Morton (40313 Hoops Court, Albemarle)

Sunday, February 25

Second Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
 - *Classical Discussion Group with Skeet Ayscue (Media Room -Basement)
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 3:00 pm Hiking Group meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 3:00 pm Reading Group with Courtney Niederer & Kim Marshall (Church Parlor)
- 5:30 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

FEBRUARY

- 20- Ashley Deese
Peter Henkenjohann
- 21- Nora Carpenter
- 22- Will Lentz
- 25- Robbie Stevenson
Ann Upchurch

SCCM CHALLENGE

FEBRUARY

- Canned Vegetables
- Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, Peas,
Beans, Canned Tomatoes,
Mixed Vegetables (Vegall)

Backpack Food Program

UPDATED LIST OF DONATIONS NEEDED:

Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Canned Tuna, and Saltine Crackers.

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date:

**Wednesday, February 28
at 10:30 a.m.**

Community Participation Needed

You are requested to complete the 2018 Community Health Assessment survey. This is the survey the Stanly County Health Department and Carolinas HealthCare System Stanly conduct to determine what our major priorities are for the next three years by analyzing community responses and State data. The information in this report is, also, used to get grants for agencies and non-profits. The survey can be done through February 28. For more information, contact Debbie Bennett at dbennett@stanlycountync.gov or 704-982-9171.

The link is:

<https://goo.gl/forms/u0c06jntFJeY1Sc32>
or visit the Stanly County Health Department website at
health.stanlycountync.gov