



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Albemarle, North Carolina

Matt Drumheller, Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music

Stan Scheer, Organist

Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship

Dorothy Hart, Youth Director

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Pam Knighten, Secretary

Church Office: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

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February 2021

Dear Friends,

As we approach the beginning of the season of Lent in mid-February, I cannot help but reflect back on the past year. It was halfway through the season of Lent in 2020 when we were forced to abandon many of the plans made due to the onset of the COVID-19 virus. We have endured many painful losses and difficult changes in the past year, and the loss of our Lenten practices is counted among those.

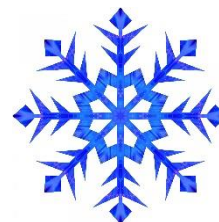
This year, we face a very different challenge. As we prepare for Lent, we know many of the restrictions that will be in place, and we hope for a season that will end with a return to *normalcy*. Though we cannot know when we will be in a position to safely return to in-person gatherings, our Lent Planning Team has been putting together engaging themes and activities for this season, no matter what the circumstances. My prayer is that this Lenten season will mark not only a change for our nation and for the world, but a personal change for you in your faith practice.

Grace and Peace,

Matt

COVID-19 UPDATE

At its January meeting immediately following the officer's retreat, the session decided to keep in place the plans that were made in December for online worship. We will not return to in-person worship until at least March 7. Session will reevaluate the conditions in Stanly County at their meeting in February and make a decision about the feasibility of returning to in-person worship in March at that time.



INCLEMENT
WEATHER
INFORMATION



If there is a question about church office hour changes due to weather, call the church office (704-982-2722). Changes will be on the answering machine. A mass email will also be sent to those who receive the newsletter electronically.



Sunday, February 7

**Souper Bowl of Caring Drive-Thru Drop-Off Donations following worship
Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger**

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger will be received.
Scripture: Mark 2:1-12

Sunday, February 14

Transfiguration Sunday

Guest Preacher: Claire George Drumheller
Scripture: Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, February 21

**First Sunday in Lent
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Scripture: John 13:31-35

Sunday, February 28

**Second Sunday in Lent
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-6



Bigger than the Bowl

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING DRIVE-THRU DONATIONS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 AT FIRST FAMILY & SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

On Wednesday, February 3 at the First Family Drive-Thru and Sunday, February 7 following worship, please join with us in the Souper Bowl of Caring! Our congregation will be supporting those facing food insecurity this winter by donating canned soups to SCCM. Donations of soup and other canned items may be dropped off at the church.

10 CENTS A MEAL

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on February 7. This monthly offering is used by the Presbytery of Charlotte to fund hunger programs and agencies (including SCCM) throughout the presbytery. We received a total of \$435.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal for December 2020.



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

Members of FPC have been gathering on Zoom each Monday and Wednesday morning to share joys and concerns, to pray, and to spend time *together*. This has become an important way to see and speak with one another. We invite you to join us in these regular meetings. See your weekly email update for the link to join us on Zoom.



Bible Study and Conversation

Meets via Zoom on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Join Catherine and Matt Moeller for fellowship and biblical reflection. The material for this online discussion will be selected from pieces of scripture from which Matt is preaching. Each Monday, you will receive an email with the selected devotional for the week. Discussion will focus on the significance and application of the scripture. Topics will include how this challenging time impacts our faith, our spiritual gifts, our compassion, and our charity. This should be a great opportunity for Bible study and connecting with a cross-section of our church family. If you need help with Zoom, contact the church office (704-982-2722). Please email Matt Drumheller (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org) or Catherine Moeller (mattandcatherine@hotmail.com) to say you are interested or need more information. Please join us!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Drive-Through
Tuesday, February 16 from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
RSVP by 2:00 p.m. Monday, February 15

Unfortunately, we are unable to safely gather together this year for Shrove Tuesday. If you would like a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meal, please RSVP by Monday, February 15 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Tuesday, February 16 between 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while packaging your plates. Keith Bryson is coordinating the cooking, so call him if you want to help (704-984-0254). All proceeds will be used to fund the *10-Cents-a-Meal* program.

Menu:

Pancakes and Syrup, Link Sausage. and Fruit

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per 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, and
 if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).**



Wednesday, February 17

Due to COVID, our normal Ash Wednesday schedule will change slightly this year. You will still have two opportunities to observe this important holiday.

Noon Ash & Communion Elements Drive-Thru

At 12:00 p.m., you are invited to come drive through the church parking lot to receive a container with ashes. You can take this container with you and place ashes on your own head in observance of the holiday and in recognition of our need for God's forgiveness. Communion elements will also be available in preparation for evening worship.

5:30 p.m. Ash & Communion Elements Drive-Thru

and

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Online Worship

If you are unable to come get ashes during the day, come drive through the church parking lot before the evening worship service. There will also be communion elements available.

Join us online at 6:30 p.m. for a time of contemplative worship together. This service will include music, Scripture, prayer, the invocation of ashes, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.



Lent 2021

Theme: Community

Throughout Scripture, the importance of community is emphasized time and time again. From the gathering of Israelites that wandered in the wilderness, to the people forced into exile, to the disciples gathered around Jesus, and the Spirit-inspired early church, community is how God's love and presence are expressed.

A year of abnormal life and church practices due to COVID-19 has revealed the importance of community. Unable to gather in the same space together as one community, we have found new and different ways to be community. We will spend this Lenten season exploring the importance of community, and why God chooses to work through community.

Lent Opportunities

Daily Scripture

During the season of Lent, you are invited to participate in a practice of daily Scripture readings. As a congregation, we will be reading through the Gospel of Mark. Each day, there will be a short reading assigned for you to participate in this intentional practice.

Community Art

There will be opportunities throughout the season for you to participate in an art project at the church. You will be able to contribute pieces to the project in a safe and socially distanced way. Please keep your eyes open for more details.

Wednesday Dinner and Gathering

On Wednesday evenings, you are invited to come by the church to pick up a simple meal. After sharing your meal together at home, you can log on to a weekly Zoom call at 7:00 p.m. There will be dedicated time for you to catch up with your FPC friends and family, and we will close each week with a time of worship and music together. Please keep your eyes open for details on how to participate in these weekly gatherings.

Prayer Vigil

As part of our Lenten practice this year, the church will host a 24-hour prayer vigil. We will begin praying as a community at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 20 and conclude with corporate prayer in worship on March 21. You can sign-up to participate in as much time as you would like for this prayer vigil. There will be an online sign-up form once the time gets closer. Unlike our prayer vigil last year, this one will take place from our homes. When you sign-up, you will receive resources and instructions to help guide your prayer. There will also be a live-stream of the church sanctuary with contemplative music to help focus your prayer time.

Daily Scripture Readings during Lent



February 17 Mark 1:1-13
 February 18 Mark 1:14-34
 February 19 Mark 1:35-45
 February 20 Mark 2:1-17
 February 21 Mark 2:18-28
 February 22 Mark 3:1-19
 February 23 Mark 3:20-35
 February 24 Mark 4:1-20
 February 25 Mark 4:21-41
 February 26 Mark 5:1-20
 February 27 Mark 5:21-43
 February 28 Mark 6:1-13
 March 1 Mark 6:14-29
 March 2 Mark 6:30-56
 March 3 Mark 7:1-23
 March 4 Mark 7:24-37
 March 5 Mark 8:1-21
 March 6 Mark 8:22-38
 March 7 Mark 9:1-13
 March 8 Mark 9:14-29
 March 9 Mark 9:30-50
 March 10 Mark 10:1-16
 March 11 Mark 10:17-34
 March 12 Mark 10:35-52
 March 13 Mark 11:1-14
 March 14 Mark 11:15-33
 March 15 Mark 12:1-12
 March 16 Mark 12:13-27
 March 17 Mark 12:28-44
 March 18 Mark 13:1-23

March 19 Mark 13:24-37
 March 20 Mark 14:1-26
 March 21 Mark 14:27-42
 March 22 Mark 14:43-72
 March 23 Mark 15:1-15
 March 24 Mark 15:16-32
 March 25 Mark 15:33-47
 March 26 Mark 16:1-8
 March 27 Mark 16:9-20
 March 28 Mark 11:1-33
 March 29 Mark 12:1-17
 March 30 Mark 12:18-34
 March 31 Mark 13:1-37
 April 1 Mark 14:1-72
 April 2 Mark 15:1-47
 April 3 *No Reading*
 April 4 Mark 16:1-20



**DRIVE-THRU LENT MEALS ON WEDNESDAYS
 FEBRUARY 24 AND MARCH 3, 10, 17, and 24
 FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.**

RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE MEAL

Lenten Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesdays during Lent: February 24, March 3, 10, 17, and 24. If you would like a Lenten meal, please RSVP by 2:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the meal. We will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

The menu will be emailed in advance.

Menu for Wednesday, February 24:

Ann Snugg's White Chicken & Bean Chili (pint size) and Pound Cake

Menu for Wednesday, March 3:

The Eudy Family's BBQ, Red Slaw and Pound Cake accompanied with Macaroni and Cheese, Baked Beans and a Roll.

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per 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 and desserts you need, and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).

STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...DECEMBER 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	520,001.00	561,860.00
Total Expenses:	<u>441,210.00</u>	<u>561,860.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus	78,791.00	0.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

	<u>2020</u>
Pledges:	512,746
Total Income:	561,860
Total Expenses:	561,860
Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments:	<u>\$10,805</u>
Average Weekly Amount Received in December:	<u>\$18,486</u>
December Faith on the Fifth Offering:	\$450.00

We closed the year ahead \$1,010 in pledges.
Ten-Cents-A-Meal for December: \$435.00



How Would You Like to Participate?

At the annual officers' retreat in January, the Diaconate and Session organized themselves around a variety of work areas/committees. Every member of our worship community is invited to participate in the work of these committees. To find out more about what's happening and how you can share in ministry, contact the committee chair.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Christian Education	Kim Marshall	980-621-6577 bookworm284@live.com
	Gayle Russell	704-438-2779 gayleruss@gmail.com
Congregational Care	Martha Sue Hall	704-985-5821 hallmsh@hotmail.com
Fellowship	Michelle Cumming	704-984-0435 michellecumming85@yahoo.com
	Melissa Eudy	704-439-6747 the5eudys@gmail.com
Mission	Steve Coats	704-985-5780 semc7778@gmail.com
Property	John Earnhardt	704-438-0922 johnearnhardt@windstream.net
Senior Care	Laura McLeod	704-796-0487 mcleod2@windstream.net
Ushering	Greg Lisk	704-519-5932 liskgreg@aol.com
Worship	Ellen Snyder	704-991-5560 ellens@carolina.rr.com



Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:
Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies,
Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers,
Tuna Helper, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups
Donations may be dropped off at the church.
Packing Date: Wednesday, February 17 at 10:30 a.m.



ITEMS NEEDED

- PANCAKE SYRUP
- CANNED LIMA BEANS
- GREAT NORTHERN BEANS
- CANNED NAVY BEANS
- CANNED BLACK BEANS
- CANNED BLACK EYED PEAS
- CANNED MIXED VEGETABLES

**PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO
506 S. FIRST ST.
MONDAY - THURSDAY
9AM - 4PM**



87 warm items were collected for our annual Warm Gifts of Winter and given to the Clothing Closet for distribution. Thank you for your generosity to help our community.

NEWS FROM MWANDI

Mwandi United Church of Zambia (UCZ) Hospital has been designated as an official Area Covid-19 Treatment Center for Zambia and has refurbished a portion of the TB Ward into a Covid ward. Limited sources of PPE and oxygen have hampered treatment. With limited PPE, this has led to the hospital staff being hard hit by Covid. Zambia is currently experiencing a spike with the virulent South Africa strain. It is interesting to note that it is mandatory to wear a mask in Zambia.

Keith and Ida Waddell will soon be leaving their current positions as UCZ Education and Health Secretaries and returning to Mwandi as Mission Support for Health and Special Needs at Mwandi. The Mwandi community will greatly benefit from the Waddell's return. Special Needs is an area of concern that is not often addressed in 3rd world countries. Physical and mental issues carry a stigma that results in persons being concealed within the home. The Waddell's adopted son, Mubita, is on the autism spectrum and has benefited greatly from Keith's background in education. Keith and Ida will bring a much needed service to southwestern Zambia.

Each of the Mwandu OVC Center (Orphan and Vulnerable Children) students sponsored by First Presbyterian Church recently sent letters accompanied by their pictures. The letter and picture below is from Parity Mukuli.



20th October, 2020

Dear Friend,

How are you by this lovely moment? as for me back here I'm just fine.

My name is MUKULI PARITY I'm in grade 10 and I was born on 25th April, 2004 at Batakai Hospital in Livingstone.

My mother is still alive so I only lost my father when I was 2 years old I don't even know him.

I'm from a family of 1 child which is me alone. With no brother or sister I grew up only with my mother and my Grandmother.

My mother doesn't work she finds money every difficult to pay for my school fees.

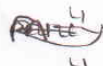
I normally go to church every Sunday. I congregate at U.C.Z church at Mwandu.

At school I normally participate in ball games which is volleyball. I enjoy playing volleyball alot.

My hobbies are dancing, playing volleyball, baking and reciting poems at school.

I really appreciate you for what you have done for me in my life let's not easy to find someone like you to help me with paying for my school fees.

YOURS faithfully,
MUKULI PARITY



NEWS & NOTES

Minister's Discretionary Fund:

- In memory of Cathryn Harwood, given by Mary Ellen Austin.
- In memory of Cathryn Harwood, given by Stephen Perry.
- In memory of Cathryn Harwood, given by Miriam Russell.
- In memory of Dortha King, given by Ruth Ann & Bill Rogers.
- In memory of Dortha King, given by The Stanly Health Foundation.
- In memory of Helen & Jack Wallace, given by Mr. & Mrs. Art Rogers.
- In memory of Yoder Whitley, given by Mark & Pat Sasser.
- In honor of Reverend Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, given by Miriam Russell.
- In honor of Reverend Matt Drumheller, given by Miriam Russell.

Music Fund:

- In memory of Yoder Whitley, given by Lynn Burleson.

SYMPATHY

- To Martha Wolf and family upon the death of her father, Edward Simpson, on December 28.
- To Doris Forte and family upon the death of her daughter-in-law, Jan Ballard Forte, on January 6.
- To Mike King and family upon the death of his mother, Dortha R. King, on January 6.
- To Judy Kilgore upon the death of her brother, Jim Forbis, on January 19.
- To Joan Boling and family upon the death of her husband, Jack Boling, on January 21.

Session Notes

Session met virtually after the officer's retreat on January 9, 2021. Matt introduced new ruling elders and discussed new and continuing roles. As discussed and approved at the December 2020 session meeting, in-person worship will not take place until March 7, 2021 at the earliest. The meeting of the congregation and corporation was set for Sunday, January 31 after worship. Please make plans to attend virtually via zoom. Lee McLaurin was approved to be the church treasurer for 2021. Mark Mabry was approved to be the assistant treasurer, and Ben Jolly was approved to be the chairman of the corporation, both for 2021. The meeting of the Charlotte Presbytery will happen virtually for the February 2021 meeting with hopes of meeting again in person later this year.

Steve Cumming, Clerk of Session

Thanks to Frankie Palmer and Rich Schaefer for helping in the church office.

January's First Family Dinner

Thanks to all that stepped up and made January's First Family a success! Covid put Jane down but couldn't stop First Family because of all the wonderful volunteers! We served 97 plates! This would not have been possible without Linda Anderson, Elizabeth Bryson, Keith Bryson, Andy Cotton, Ruth Cotton, Ann Duckwall, Cidney Eudy, Julian Eudy, Melissa Eudy, Nathaniel Eudy, Wes Eudy, Jim Hesley, John Howell, Leslie Kinley, Merrin Kinley, Morgan Kinley, Stephan Kinley, Catherine Moeller, Anne Montgomery, Gayle Russell, Ned Russell, and especially Greg Lisk. Thank you so much for sharing your time and talents with us and for helping Jane out during her time of need! I love you!

Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship

Thank You

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

I want to thank you all for the prayers and support. I am not able to write you all individually, but it's very important that you know how appreciative I am. I want to thank you all for the cards, letters, and most importantly, the prayers. A special thank you to everyone in the Toby Webb Prayer Breakfast group. I always realized prayer helps, but I didn't know the magnitude of prayer until my recent illness. I feel like God said to himself, *Who is this clown?* Ha ha. But, he really went into action and made me well. Thank you again, and may you all stay happy and healthy. I look forward to the day when I can come back and worship with you all.

Love,
Dick Liles

Volunteer Reception – Postponed Until Further Notice

Our annual Volunteer Reception is postponed until we can meet in person. The staff wants to celebrate your time and efforts to the ministry of FPC in person once it is safe to do so. Look for more information in upcoming publications. We hope to see you soon!

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

Thank you.



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:

- Brinn Andrew**, daughter of Kellie & Jason Andrew.
- David Bailiff**, friend of Debbie Hahn; previous kidney transplant concerns & immunity issues.
- David & Marsha Bell**, friends of Debbie & John Hahn; David has cancer.
- Tom Bonekemper**, cousin of Linda Anderson; pancreatic cancer.
- Joan Bunn**, friend of Gina Martin; health concerns.
- Gus Feather**.
- Debbie Gabriel**, sister of Gayle Russell; breast cancer.
- Calvin Hall**, friend of Ruth Goodwin; kidney cancer – physical therapy for stroke.
- Lindsey (Whitley) Harward**, daughter of Carolyn & Mel Whitley; treatment for Myeloid Lukemia.
- Ann Hatcher**, mother of Ann Snuggs; recovering from a fall.
- Sean Hickey**, brother-in-law of Lori Ivey; colon cancer.
- Catherine Johnson**, niece of Elizabeth Wilson; diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Mary Kratz**, friend of Linda Anderson; diagnosed with breast and ovarian cancer.
- Denise LaBoube**, half-sister of Martha White; diagnosed with brain cancer-Astrocytoma.
- Bailey Long**, friend of Linda Anderson; recovering from snowboarding accident.
- Molly Amelia Lowder**, low immunity health concerns.
- 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**, 19 year old nephew of Billie Jean Snuggs; hospitalized following surgery on optic nerve.
- Sally Ormand**, friend of Ruth Goodwin; cancer treatment.
- Judy Portner**, sister of Billie Jean Snuggs; stage 4 brain tumor (Glioblastoma).
- Clay Price**, cousin of Steve Cumming; cancer.
- Lauren Reder**, niece of Laura & Mike McLeod.
- Mark Rodgers**, son of Laura and Tim Rodgers; recovering from surgery related to Ewing’s sarcoma.
- Sam Roper**, father-in-law of Marsh Rogers; cancer diagnosis.
- Judy Ross**, friend of Tom & Holly Norwood; diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.
- David Sanges**, brother of Nathan Sanges.
- Jane Scheer**, spouse of Stan Scheer; Spring Arbor.
- Betty Stancik**, sister of Bill Hall; continuing health concerns.
- Garin Stepp**, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.
- Jason Washburn**, friend of Jessica & John Palmer; pancreatic cancer.

Members of the Congregation:

- Don Joines.**
- Bede Karr.**
- Dick Liles.**
- Jane Pickler.**
- Jean Rabe.**
- Sandy Saunders.**
- Pete Smith.**

Updated Address for Lindsey (Whitley) Harward

MUSC
Lindsey S. Harward
ART 7 – Hope Unit, Room 7016
25 Courtenay Drive
Charleston, SC 29425

FEBRUARY



- 01- Jean Rabe
- 02- Lee Boone
Penny Morton
- 03- Kellyn Poole Luna
- 04- Hugh Carpenter
- 05- Keith Byrd
Robin Howell
- 06- Melissa Eudy
Bob Johnston
- 08- Mellanie Morgan
- 09- Debbie Bennett
- 10- Susan Pandich
- 11- Katherine Jolly
- 12- Karen Hinkle

- 14- Hunter Matthews
- 15- Emily Deese
- 16- Miller Morgan
- 17- Lily Snyder
- 20- Ashley Deese
Peter Henkenjohann
- 21- Nora Carpenter
- 22- Will Lentz
Ben Lisk
- 25- Robbie Stevenson
Ann Upchurch
- 26- Calvin Huneycutt
- 28- Carroll Holbrook

FEBRUARY



- 06- Steve & Laura Blalock
- 09- Bill & Diane Stevenson

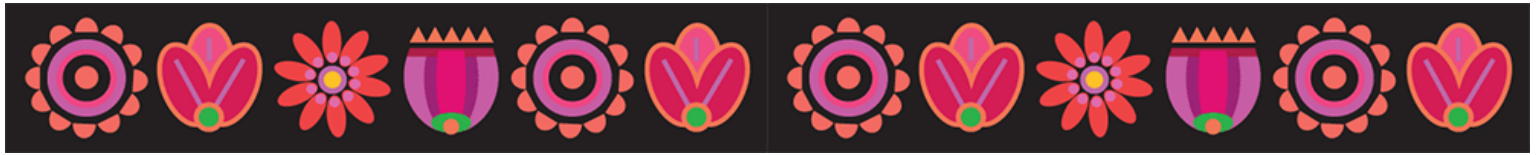


Youth Club News

Our Youth Club children continue to gather on Wednesday afternoons for time of fellowship, singing, and faith reflection with their peers. We are continuing to explore the Beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Each session stands alone, so we're always happy to welcome any K-5th graders who would like to join us!

The **Trusty Travelers** meet with Matt and others on Zoom each Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Our **Faith Explorers** continue to meet on Wednesday afternoons for discussion and lessons. We will continue our study of the Lord's Prayer as we learn about what the words mean and why they are important. We are also talking about different types of prayer and practicing praying aloud.



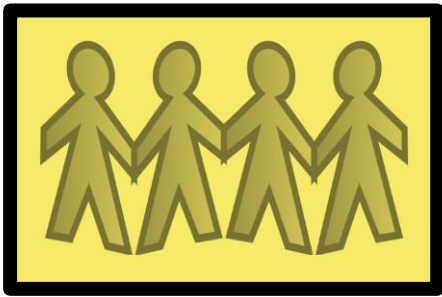
Youth Group News & Information

We hope you will join us for some youth events, both in-person and virtual, this month. Some of our youth group meetings will be moved to outdoors if weather allows! Check your email and our Instagram page for updates.

Sunday, February 7	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 14	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 18	Virtual Game Night	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 21	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 28	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.

High School Bible Study
with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton
Mondays at 8:30 p.m.





PFEIFFER FRIENDS

Last fall, the Health Sciences Program of Pfeiffer University opened its doors in downtown Albemarle. As of the January enrollment, there are approximately 90 students from across the United States and the world who are working on a degree in the Physician's Assistant or Occupational Therapy Programs. Many of these students are a long way from home and they have taken a leap of faith to be in this program.

Several downtown churches, including First Presbyterian Church, are moving forward with a partnership with these students similar to our Silent Partner program. There are two main differences: the relationship will last about 27 months (the length of each program) and the Pfeiffer student will know who their friend is. We hope that there will be communication at least once a month between the friend and the student.

We will match a member of one of our churches with a Pfeiffer student. The student understands that this relationship is not a "pull into church" but rather a friendly connection with someone in the community. To support these hard-working students, the community member will send notes of encouragement, gift cards, gift boxes, or anything to support them. For your convenience, these items can be dropped off at the Pfeiffer campus in downtown Albemarle or mailed directly to your student.

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

The Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, February 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the Pit Stop. Please contact Peggy Finley 704-985-1136 or maf447@windstream.net if you have questions.

FIRST FAMILY MEAL

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 FROM 5:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.

RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1



First Family Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, February 3! Unfortunately, we are still unable to gather for First Family in February. If you would like a First Family meal, please RSVP by Monday, February 1 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, February 3 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu:

**Hugh Wainwright's Brunswick Stew with Cornbread
and
Sweet Potato Cake, Pound Cake, or Brownies**

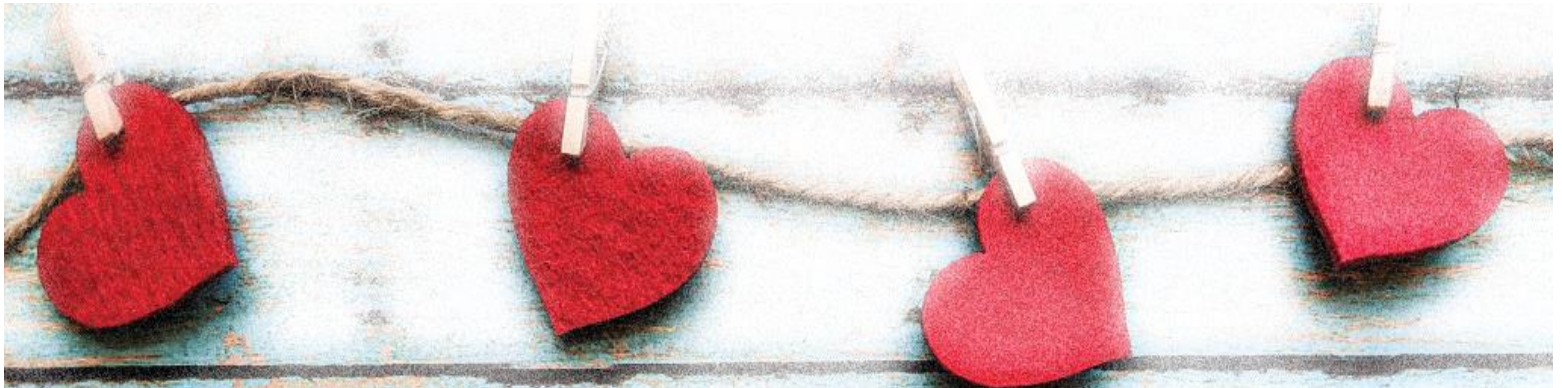
**PLEASE BRING SOUPER BOWL CANNED SOUP DONATIONS TO
DROP-OFF AS YOU DRIVE-THRU TO PICK-UP YOUR FIRST FAMILY MEAL.**

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per 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 and desserts you need,
and
if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).**



Dear Valentines,

The Fellowship Committee would like to share with you a special Valentine’s Day treat. Please plan to drive through the church parking lot on Sunday, February 14 between 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to pick-up your bag. We will also deliver bags locally to those who cannot come to the church for pick-up (or can drop-off at assisted living or nursing homes). We will have bags for children and adults.

Please complete this Google form:

<https://forms.gle/UYWSEsHjVuWa42ZJ6>

or contact Melissa Eudy (704-439-6747) or Michelle Cumming (704-984-0435) to sign-up for a bag.



Education and Conversation

Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Our congregation, along with many others, is continuing a challenging journey of educating ourselves about race in America. Members of the church have been gathering on Zoom to explore how we benefit from or are affected by systems of privilege, and how we might bring about a

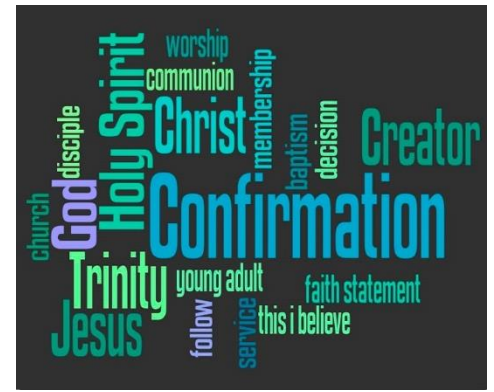
kingdom-oriented world in which, we are all one in Christ (Galatians 3:28).

Our February conversation will take place Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. We will be exploring a new format: the podcast. Season two of the podcast Scene on Radio is called Seeing White. This season explores several interesting aspects of race. We will be starting with episode two, but we will also open the conversation up to other episodes. All of the episodes in the relevant season can be found at <http://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>



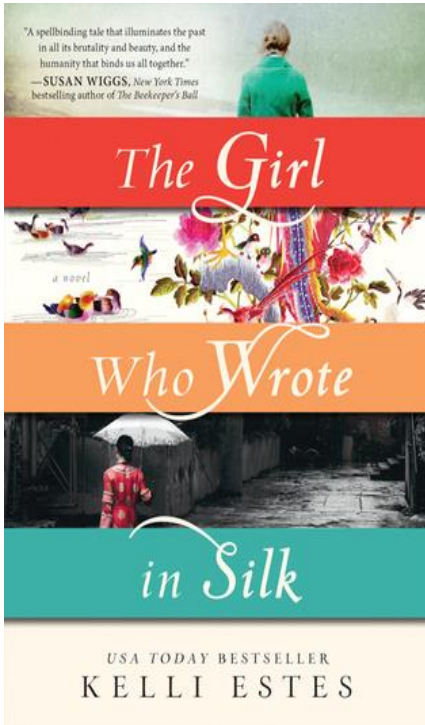
Confirmation 2021

Our eighth and ninth graders began their confirmation process in late January. Elizabeth Bryson, Campbell Bullard, Desmond Bullard, Judson Bullard, Merrin Kinley, Addison Marks, Jackson Palmer, Lily Snyder, and Natalie Taylor are spending time each week with Matt and their partners exploring faith via Zoom. Please keep these youth, their families, and their partners in your prayers as they go through this important exploration time in their life of faith.



February Book Conversation Monday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Book: *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes



A historical novel inspired by true events, Kelli Estes's brilliant and atmospheric debut is a poignant tale of two women determined to do the right thing and the power of our own stores.

The smallest items can hold centuries of secrets.

Inara Erickson is exploring her deceased aunt's island estate when she finds an elaborately stitched piece of fabric hidden in the house. As she peels back layer upon layer of the secrets it holds, Inara's life becomes interwoven with that of Mei Lein, a young Chinese girl mysteriously driven from her home a century before. Through the stories Mei Lein tells in silk, Inara uncovers a tragic truth that will shake her family to its core – and force her to make an impossible choice.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76026386946>

Meeting ID: 760 2638 6946

Passcode: Z71g4D



A Collection of Sermons of the late Reverend J. Harold McKeithen, Jr.

The children of the late Reverend J. Harold McKeithen, Jr., are compiling a collection of Harold's sermons from throughout his 57-year career into a book to be published in the future. The book will include sermons from Harold's time as pastor at FPC Albemarle: 1972-1981. The number of books published will be based on interest. The cost is estimated to be in the \$15 range. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please contact Ben Jolly at 704-984-3239 or bajollysr23@gmail.com.

The Upper Room magazine's mission is to provide a model of practical Christianity, accessible in varied formats, to help people feel invited and welcomed into God's presence to:

- listen to scripture as God's personal message, linking their stories to God's story.
- commune with God in prayer.
- see their daily choices and small acts of obedience as part of God's work.
- realize our connection through Christ as a universal family of believers.
- encounter the living Christ and be transformed into Christ's likeness.

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 and the church office.



Save the Date for Music and Arts Camp
Summer 2021

Sunday, June 13 through Thursday, June 17

Though we are unsure what the situation will be this coming summer with COVID 19, we are beginning to make plans for Music and Arts Camp with the hope that we will be able to gather together for music, art, recreation, drama and fellowship. Look for more information in the near future!



Save the Date

Monday, June 21 through Thursday, June 24
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We are planning a face-to-face Cooking Camp this year for children in completed 4th-6th grades (limited to 12 children)!

If you would like to volunteer, please let Jane know as soon as possible (704-438-3358 or jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org).

2021 Community Health Assessment Survey

Do you have an opinion about health issues and community concerns? Do you want to make a difference? If you answered yes to one or both of these questions, here is your opportunity to be heard. The Stanly County Health Department and Atrium Health Stanly are jointly conducting the 2021 Community Health Assessment. A public opinion survey is a key component of this assessment. Stanly County residents 15 years old and older are being asked to complete this survey. The survey can be accessed at the Stanly County Health Department's website <http://health.stanlycountync.gov/> or Stanly County's website <https://www.stanlycountync.gov/> through February 17. It will only take 15-20 minutes to complete a survey.



Why should you complete a survey?

1. Your input makes a difference as the results from the survey are used by the hospital and health department to help determine their priorities and develop action plans.
2. You help bring funds to Stanly County as this report is used by county municipalities, agencies, organizations and others to obtain grants. Most grantors request a community health assessment when writing grants. This community health assessment report can be used to meet that requirement.

If you would like more information about this community health assessment, please contact Debbie Bennett at 704-986-3016 or dbennett@stanlycountync.gov.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Puzzle!

Discover the identity of a biblical person. First, assign a number value to each letter, starting with M=1, N=2, O=3, ... A=15, etc. Then use the code to complete the clues.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
15 _____ 1 2 3 _____

FIRST CLUE: 15 7 15 13 3 9 2 21 1 15 2

22 19 25 23 26 26 19 18 7 3 1 19 3 2 19.

SECOND CLUE: 22 19 11 15 7 8 19 2 18 23 2 21

7 22 19 19 4 23 2 8 22 19 18 19 7 19 6 8

11 22 19 2 21 3 18 17 15 26 26 19 18 22 23 1.

THIRD CLUE: 15 7 15 16 15 16 13 22 19 11 15 7

20 3 9 2 18 20 26 3 15 8 23 2 21 23 2 15

16 15 7 25 19 8 23 2 8 22 19 2 23 26 19 6 23 10 19 6.

Who is this person? _____

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Puzzle!

Search in all directions to find these words from the first seven chapters of Proverbs.

WORD LIST: covenant, delight, discipline, evil, father, fool, forsake, fountain, fruit, heart, honest, humble, insight, listen, Lord, love, neighbor, path, pleasant, poverty, protect, rebuke, sleep, son, teaching, tongue, walk, wisdom, youth

M I C W L O O F Y C C M N C T
D S K A C X J X H M K I P P N
E N I L P I C S I D A Y R E A
E J H K T O T R N T W O Y K S
D E L I G H T E N O T U R A A
E U G N O T G U A E S T C S E
H T A P N Y O N C C D H O R L
A U J L X F Z T E C H Y V O P
E Q N E I G H B O R T I E F W
T H G I S N I F L R T L N J I
H O N E S T A O E I B S A G S
E V I L I T R V I M S R N T D
V M X U H D O A U M I T T A O
O E R E Y P Y H E K U B E R M
L F R K S L E E P H C N P N R



FEBRUARY

Monday, February 1

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 2:00 pm Deadline to RSVP for First Family Meal
- 8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton

Tuesday, February 2

- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom

Wednesday, February 3

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Pit Stop)
- 3:30 pm-4:00 pm Youth Club Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) via Zoom
- 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Youth Club Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders) via Zoom
- 5:00 pm-6:00 pm First Family Meal Pick-Up & Souper Bowl Canned Soup Donations Drop-Off

Thursday, February 4

- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, February 7 *Souper Bowl of Caring Drop-Off Donations following worship/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger*

- 9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- 10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom
- 11:00 am Online Worship followed by Souper Bowl of Caring donations drop-off drive-thru
- 5:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 8

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton

Tuesday, February 9

- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom

Wednesday, February 10

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 3:30 pm-4:00 pm Youth Club Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) via Zoom
- 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Youth Club Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders) via Zoom

Thursday, February 11

- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, February 14 *Transfiguration Sunday*

- 9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- 10:15 am Children Sunday School via Zoom
- 11:00 am Online Worship
- 11:30 am-12:30 pm Valentine's Day Treat Drive-Thru
- 5:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 15

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 2:00 pm Deadline to RSVP Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- 8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton

Tuesday, February 16 *Shrove Tuesday*

- 12:00 pm March Newsletter Deadline
- 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Drive-Thru
- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom

Wednesday, February 17 *Ash Wednesday*

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Ash & Communion Elements Drive-Thru
- 3:30 pm-4:00 pm Youth Club Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) via Zoom
- 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Youth Club Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders) via Zoom
- 5:30 pm Ash & Communion Elements Drive-Thru
- 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Online Worship

Thursday, February 18

- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

- 7:00 pm Youth Group Virtual Game Night

Sunday, February 21 *First Sunday in Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

- 9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- 10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom
- 11:00 am Online Worship
- 5:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 22

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 7:00 pm February Book Conversation with Courtney Niederer via Zoom
- 8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston & Jack Morton

Tuesday, February 23

- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom
- 7:00 pm Education & Conversation via Zoom

Wednesday, February 24

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 11:00 am Staff Meeting
- 3:30 pm-4:00 pm Youth Club Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) via Zoom
- 4:00 pm-4:30 pm Youth Club Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders) via Zoom
- 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Drive-Thru Lent Meal
- 7:00 pm Lent Gathering via Zoom

Thursday, February 25

- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, February 28 *Second Sunday in Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

- 9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom
- 10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom
- 11:00 am Online Worship
- 5:00 pm Youth Group



Acolyte Schedule for February

February 7: Leo McLeod

February 14: Emily Deese

February 21: Ellie Niederer

February 28: Stella Marks

Church Website Address & Staff Email Addresses


Church Website Address:	www.fpcalbemarle.org
Church Email Address:	klambert@fpcalbemarle.org
Matt Drumheller:	mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org
Kyle Lambert:	klambert@fpcalbemarle.org
Jane Snyder:	jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org
Stan Scheer:	sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org
Dorothy Hart:	dhart@fpcalbemarle.org
Pam Knighten:	pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

All members of the church staff are working at home unless it is necessary for them to be at church. The church's answering machine is being checked periodically; however, in case of an emergency, please contact Matt (540.449.5319) directly.

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

March Newsletter Deadline is Tuesday, February 16.
Early submissions are always welcome!
If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email them as an attachment to:
pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org.



Watch



your email for additions and changes to this schedule.

