



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor  
Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Matt Drumheller, Co-Pastor  
Website: [www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)

November 17, 2019

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

MORNING MEDITATION

*It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is good.

**His steadfast love endures forever.**

Psalms 100:5

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 367                      *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*                      stanzas 1 and 2  
Hymn 36                        *For the Fruit of All Creation*                      stanzas 1 and 3

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come let us praise God together!

**For God is great, and worthy of our praise!**

Let us tell stories of God's power and majesty, of God's mighty acts throughout history:

**For God is great, and worthy of our praise!**

Let us remember the compassion God has shown toward us; God's mercy and unfailing love, generation after generation:

**For God is great, and worthy of our praise!**

Indeed, God is great and worthy of our praise.

**Let us worship God together!**

Psalms 145

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Ever-living God, before the earth was formed and even after it shall cease to be, you are God. Break into our short span of life and show us those things that are eternal, that we may serve your purpose in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN 409

*God Is Here!*

Abbot's Leigh

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

**O God, still creating, we hear your promise of a new day of joy and peace, and yet we are anxious about the future. We are afraid that nothing will change, but we are more afraid that everything will change. Forgive our lack of faith, and our tendency to believe that you do not hear us. We pray you will bring newness to our hearts and hope to our everydays so we may be glad and rejoice in your abundant care; through Jesus Christ.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

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

*Glory to God* hymnal  
page 582

**\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

The congregation is encouraged to participate in the prayer with the children.

**FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN**

Penny Morton

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

**ANTHEM**

*We Thank You Lord*

Lloyd Larson

We thank you, Lord, and worship you with gladness;

We praise your name and lift our hearts in song.

For you are good, your love endures forever,

Our faithfulness continues all day long.

You've lavished us with every spiritual blessing,

We thank you, Lord, and praise you now in song.

We thank you, Lord, for everyday provisions,

For daily food, for clothes, and shelter, too;

For health and strength and grace for every trial,

For this free land where we can worship you.

You crown each day with your abundant goodness.

We thank you, Lord, and lift our praise to you.

We thank you, Lord, for giving us salvation,

You sent your Son that we might be forgiven.

From the east and west, our sins are vanquished;

Now justified, we're citizens of heaven.

You've sealed us with Your promised Holy Spirit;

We thank you, Lord, for love so freely given! Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God of the earthquake and the silence, quiet in us any voice but your own, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we might hear, and in hearing we might believe, and in believing we might act, making way for your new creation.**

**Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

[\*Isaiah 65:17-25\*](#)

Pew Bible, page 654

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Keeping Hope Alive*

Reverend Ayscue

Sermons are posted to the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)) . You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God, Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted; eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. 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.**

\*HYMN 378

*We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom*  
*During the hymn, ushers will collect your prayers*  
*to be included in the Prayers of the People.*

Merle's Tune

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Martha Sue Hall

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Drumheller

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

TITHES AND OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

Doxology

*Now Thank We All Our God*  
*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
**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.**

Georg Kauffmann  
hymnal, page 606

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN 837

*What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

Showalter

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

Stanley R. Scheer

\*POSTLUDE *Chorale Improvisation on 'Nun danket alle Gott'* Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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\*All that are able may stand.

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**We are grateful for your presence 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 Cooper Atwater** After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

**Ushers:** Brett Richards, captain; Mark Donham, Judy Kilgore, Ethan Richards, Seth Richards **Outside Ushers:** Jim Marshall; Chris Whitley **Elder Greeters:** Jim Marshall; Jacob Palmer **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael **Children's Church:** Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Sean Hickey (brother-in-law of Lori Ivey; colon cancer), The family of Faye Eury (sister-in-law of Joyce Lambert), Jean Rabe (rehab from hip surgery; at Trinity Place), Jane Scheer (Spring Arbor), Catherine Johnson (niece of Elizabeth Wilson; diagnosed with breast cancer), Rin Gannon (friend of Isabel McLeod; recovering from a stroke), Barbara Whitley (recovering from back surgery), Don Joines, Mark Mabry, Jane Pickler. **See newsletter for complete list.**

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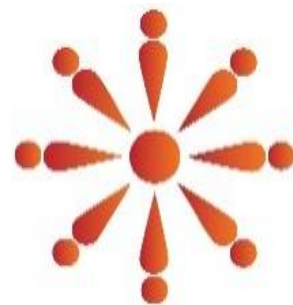
**Faith Explorers' Outing on Sunday, November 17 following worship**

The Faith Explorers will journey into the great outdoors for a hike at Morrow Mountain. We will meet at the church following worship on Sunday, November 17. Bring comfortable walking shoes and pack a lunch to enjoy at our halfway point. Sign-up via google form or by contacting Dorothy ([dhart@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:dhart@fpcalbemarle.org) or 828-244-3824).

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**Membership Event on Sunday, November 17 at 5:00 p.m.  
at the home of Anne & John Montgomery  
(506 Muirfield Dr., Albemarle)**

Are you a regular visitor and participant at First Presbyterian Church? Have you thought about joining the church? John and Anne Montgomery are hosting a gathering at their home on November 17 at 5:00 pm for folks interested in meeting some other visitors and learning more about church membership. If you are interested in coming please contact Matt ([mrdumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mrdumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)) or call the church office (704-982-2722).



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**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

**!!! Greatest Need is Breakfast Bars & Saltines !!!**

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

**Packing Date: Wednesday, November 20 at 10:30 a.m.**

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**2019 Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance  
Sunday, November 24**

The mission of Children's Hope Alliance is to provide a safe, healing journey for hurting children and families – creating hope now and in the future. All of the services provided by Children's Hope Alliance create hope for hurting children and families in three ways...

- ❖ *Healing the hurt*
- ❖ *Providing a safe home and*
- ❖ *Encouraging a healthy start*

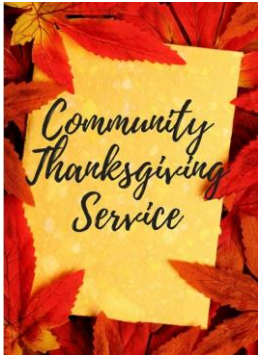
Your generous donation will make an impact on each child.

Bring your offering on Sunday, November 24.

*This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

John 15:12 (NSRV)





**Community Thanksgiving Worship**

**Date: Sunday, November 24**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Location: Central United Methodist Church  
(175 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Albemarle)**

**Other area pastors will assist in worship.**

Nina Miller, pastor of Bethany United Methodist Church, will preach. An offering will be received for the CARE Café which provides scheduled respite for those who care for elderly family members. Refreshments and fellowship will follow worship.

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*Angel Tree 2019*



There is an ornament waiting for you or your group on the Christmas tree in the Pit Stop. Please stop by and select one or more with the name of a Central Elementary School student or their sibling. You will be provided with not only their Christmas gift wish-list but guidelines for how best to bring delight to that child on Christmas Day. **Be sure to fill in your name or the name of your group/ family on the appropriate lines (s) on the sign-up sheet. Each child's name is linked to a specific number on the sheet. The unwrapped gifts need to be returned to the church in a large bag by Sunday, December 1.** Should you have any questions, contact Peggy Finley at 704/985-1136 or maf447 @windstream.net.

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**First Presbyterian Church...**



**EVENT**

*It's the Sweetest Time of the Year!*

*You're invited to the Christmas Cookie Decorating Workshop!*



Sunday, November 24 following worship in the kitchen

We'll have lunch in the pit stop, and then Matt will teach you how to decorate cookies.

Matt will provide the cookies.

You can take a dozen cookies home or donate them to the Youth Group Christmas Kitchen.

Cost: \$5.00

Participation is limited to 10 people.

RSVP to Matt Drumheller (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) by Thursday, November 21.

## **OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, November 17**

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers' hike & lunch at Morrow Mountain
- 5:00 pm Prospective Member Gathering at the home of Anne & John Montgomery  
(506 Muirfield Dr., Albemarle)
- 5:00 pm-6:30 pm Youth Group – Middle School
- 6:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group – High School

### **Monday, November 18**

- 8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's  
(1611 Bellamy Circle, Albemarle)

### **Tuesday, November 19**

- 12:00 pm December Newsletter Deadline

### **Wednesday, November 20**

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, November 21**

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting

### **Sunday, November 24**

*Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance  
Youth Group Friendsgiving Dinner & Service (Time TBD)*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Worship at Central UMC (172 North 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Albemarle)

**\*childcare provided**

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 17-Taylor Johnston
- 18-Lee McManus
- 19-Gus Feather
- 21-Debbie Wainwright
- 23-Meredith Moses  
Gayle Russell  
Thomas Taylor
- 24-John Earnhardt

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 17-Steve & Michelle Cumming  
Richard & Joyce Lambert
- 22-Ned & Gayle Russell

### **SCCM CHALLENGE FOR**

#### **NOVEMBER**

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