



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

November 7, 2021

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE *O How Blessed Are They Who Rest in the Lord* Johannes Brahms

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Jordan Hesley

PEALING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES

O magnify the Lord with me,
And let us exalt his name together.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Courtney Niederer

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

And I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

And they cried out with a loud voice:

Victory belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

And the angels fell facedown before the throne and worshipped God, saying:

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son, Christ our Lord. Give us grace to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in everlasting glory. Amen.

*HYMN 610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Azmon

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. We confess that we are indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we're silent. You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we're afraid. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Revelation 7

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE**

Glory to God

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
**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

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Rebekah Ayscue

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery.

ANTHEM

Pie Jesu from 'Requiem'
Ann Crutchfield, Soprano

Andrew Lloyd Webber

*Blessed Jesus, who takes away the sin of the world, grant them rest.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant them rest, everlasting rest.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit, so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Hebrews 11:1-3; 12:1-2](#)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Surrounded

Reverend Cathy George

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LITANY FOR THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

Gracious God...God of the ages, we praise you for all your servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For apostles and martyrs and saints of every time and place, who in life and death have witnessed to your truth,

We praise you, O God.

For all your servants who have faithfully served you, witnessed bravely, and died in faith, who still are shining lights in the world,

We praise you, O God.

For those no longer remembered, who earnestly sought you in darkness, who held fast their faith in trial, and served others,

We praise you, O God.

For those we have known and loved, who by their faithful obedience and steadfast hope have shown the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and especially for those members of First Presbyterian Church who have, in the year just past, finished their race and are now at rest with you...Cathryn Harwood...Jack Boling...and Bede Karr. We give you thanks, O God, and for these your servants,

We praise you, O God. Keep us grateful for their witness and, life them, eager to follow in the way of Christ. Then at the last, bring us with them to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING AND PLEDGE CARDS

Offertory

Meditation

Peter Hurford

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

LITANY OF CONSECRATION

Gracious God, we come before you in prayer on this Consecration Sunday.

We praise your name and remember your faithfulness in every generation. You are our creator and redeemer, the Lord of all life.

Our times are in your hands – past, present, and future.

Amid the cares of our daily lives, make us attentive to your voice and alert to your presence.

Help us to live each day for you – to give you the honor and the glory.

Consecrate our lives so that even our ordinary moments will be holy.

May our lives be an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you. Holy God, we present ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, pleasing to you. Help us to bring our hearts and minds in line with yours. In transformation and renewal, help us to have the confidence to give of ourselves, trusting in the sufficiency of God's grace proclaimed in Christ's church. In Christ's name, we consecrate these pledges for your use in the kingdom. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God...Now hear us as we are bold to pray together the prayer taught to us by our Lord, saying,

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.

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

*HYMN 326

For All the Saints

Sine Nomine

During the singing of the hymn, the congregation is invited to place a flower in the basket in memory of the saints of their lives.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.

God be in mine eyes and in my looking.

God be in my mouth and in my speaking.

God be in mine heart and in my thinking.

God be at my end and in my departing.

*POSTLUDE

Chaconne

Louis Couperin

*All that are able may stand.

Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Ann Crutchfield, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, Rebekah Ayscue, and Courtney Niederer for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Jordan Hesley.

Ushers for November: John Earnhardt (captain), Bob Johnston, Jim Marshall, Kim Marshall, Jack Morton and Penny Morton

Elder Greeters: Mike King; Ellen Whitley

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It's a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs" (Te Deum). It's a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation.

To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time. In this context, it's appropriate for a congregation on All Saints' Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year.

Cathryn Harwood
Jack Boling
Bede Karr

December 3, 2020
January 21, 2021
February 13, 2021

Outside Ushers for November 7: Wes Eudy; Ronnie Michael

Sound: Evan Sanges; Leah Kilde **Film:** Andy McLeod

Nursery: Kate White

Kids Care Crew: Becky Andrew; Emily Andrew

There is no Children's Church today. School-aged children are encouraged to participate in worship.

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger today.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: The family of Russell Forte (son of Doris Forte), Bill Rogers (husband of Ruth Ann Rogers), Lindsey Clark (wife of Marty Clark, friend of Debbie Hahn; metastatic breast cancer), Banks Garrison, Robin Howell (chemotherapy for return of lymphoma), Don Abernathy (multiple myeloma), Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Gloria Bryson, Ann Snuggs, Nancy Jolly (Trinity Place), Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.

 **NAME TAG ALERT! Upon entering the sanctuary, we are requesting that everyone make a name tag. Stick-on name tags are available at both entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you!**

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TOGETHER, CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP



Consecration Sunday...November 7

Plan to return your pledge card.

Please view *Together, Called to Discipleship* on the church's website for the Stewardship video. The link is: http://firstpresalbemarle.org/images/Consecration_Slideshow-1080.mp4

NEW OFFICER TRAINING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 FROM 10:00 A.M.-NOON

Training for the new officers will be held November 13 from 10:00 a.m.-Noon. Please hold these folks in prayer as they prepare to serve the congregation: Shannon Bullard, Wes Eudy, Lillie Hancock, Bill Jolly, Liz Jolly, Mary Kesselman, Myron Lowder, Andy McLeod, Catherine Moeller, and Chris Whitley

Christian Education Intergenerational Event

Sunday, November 14 at 9:45 a.m. in the Gym



When people of all ages have the opportunity to share time together, wonderful things happen . . . friendships are formed, busy families spend quality time together through faith, and generation gaps narrow. The Christian Education Committee is planning an Intergenerational Event on Sunday, November 14 at 9:45 a.m. in the gym. Please plan to join us for this enjoyable time of fellowship!

VETERANS DAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS



On Veterans Day, the flowers in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of veterans. **Each name is \$2.00.** Please mail, deliver or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **no later than Sunday, November 7.** Please make your check payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and designate for Veterans Day Arrangements. The names of donors and those being remembered/honored will be listed on Sunday, November 14.

VETERANS DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Please print below the information exactly as it is to appear in the bulletin.

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

IMPORTANT COVID UPDATED INFORMATION

Beginning November 7

For the health and welfare of our members and our community, the COVID Task Force Committee has set the following guidelines with the following updates:

- ❖ **UPDATE:** Masks are **optional** for ALL FPC **indoor** functions/activities/SS/Worship, etc.
- ❖ **UPDATE:** Masks are **strongly encouraged** for unvaccinated individuals.
- ❖ Masks will always be provided at the church for adults and children in case they are needed.
- ❖ After worship, Rev. George will stand outside the door at the sanctuary so “crowding” will not take place.
- ❖ Hand sanitizer is available. Please use it.
- ❖ **UPDATE: Bibles, Hymnals, and Friendship Registers will be returned to pews.**
- ❖ Singing will continue.
- ❖ Communion will be given with prepackaged elements.
- ❖ **UPDATE: Elder greeters will resume.**
- ❖ **UPDATE: Ushers will resume passing offering plates during Worship.**
- ❖ All volunteers and paid employees involved in any children’s program(s) are required to be vaccinated.
- ❖ **UPDATE: Church building and GYM will be available for outside groups (meetings, rentals, pickleball, basketball, etc.).**
- ❖ **UPDATE: Meals may resume for SNL.**
- ❖ All toys, chairs, tables and bathrooms, (used that day) are to be wiped clean with a Clorox wipe or sprayed and wiped clean.
- ❖ First Family meals will be drive-thru.
- ❖ Church Committees, Community Committees/groups are welcome to use the main building for meetings. However, any child that might accompany a parent to a meeting must stay in the same room with the parent at all times.
- ❖ All surfaces (chairs and tables and bathrooms if used) have to be wiped clean (with spray or wipes) after any committee meets.

Your patience and flexibility are appreciated as we continue to deal with the pandemic.

The COVID Task Force and Session continue to assess the COVID situation and return to church activities with the safety of the congregation in mind.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office (704-982-2722).
COVID TASK FORCE: Ellen Snyder, Debbie Bennett, Ben Jolly, Bob Johnston



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY

The green and red shoeboxes are available for pick-up on the pew in front of Jane's office. A brochure is included in the box with the most recent information about packing a box. **Please read what gifts can be included in the box. Boxes need to be returned to the church by Sunday, November 14.** Remember that shoeboxes are distributed by churches

in over 100 countries who will nurture the child in their faith. As you pack your box, pray for the child who will receive it along with the gospel printed in their own language. It has been estimated that thirty or more family members and friends will also read and receive the good news through the booklet. It will be the greatest GIFT they ever receive! (And we ever share!)

Central Elementary School

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

Donations may be dropped off in the Pit Stop at the church.

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



Faith Explorers Sunday Outing on November 14 following worship

Take A Hike

Our 4th & 5th graders are invited to join in the outdoor fun at Morrow Mountain for an afternoon of hiking and exploring God's beautiful creation. Bring a bag lunch, and we will eat at Morrow Mountain before we hike. Transportation to Morrow Mountain provided, along with bottled water. Bring a bag lunch, comfortable hiking/walking shoes and a water bottle. RSVP to Kate Gibson (katherine.e.gibson@gmail.com or 336-301-4564 or Thomas Taylor (thomastaylor7@gmail.com or 704-467-3777 by **Wednesday, November 10** to let them know that your Faith Explorer will attend. Parents: Pick up time: 3:30 p.m. at the church.



hiking/walking shoes and a water bottle. RSVP to Kate Gibson (katherine.e.gibson@gmail.com or 336-301-4564 or Thomas Taylor (thomastaylor7@gmail.com or 704-467-3777 by **Wednesday, November 10** to let them know that your Faith Explorer will attend. Parents: Pick up time: 3:30 p.m. at the church.



PrimeTimers' Drive-Thru Luncheon
Thursday, November 18
Pick-up your boxed lunch between 12:00 p.m.-12:30 p.m.
Menu:
Wes Eudy's BBQ, Slaw, Chips, Fruit, & Dessert
Text or Email Laura McLeod:
704-796-0487 or mcleod2@windstream.net
by Noon on Monday, November 15.

Faith Explorers Downtown Food Drive

Faith Explorers...4th & 5th graders have spent time recently learning about food insecurities and Heather Kilde from Stanly Community Christian Ministries (SCCM) came out last Wednesday and talked about needs in our community and how that organization helps meet those needs. The children, along with their leaders, Ann Crutchfield and Sarah Michael, have organized a downtown walkable food drive, to collect non-perishable food items for SCCM on Wednesday, November 3 from 4-5 pm. They will deliver and weigh the food items the following Wednesday and get a tour of the food pantry. **If you would like to donate to the Faith Explorer Downtown Food Drive, please bring non-perishable food items or toiletries to church on Sunday, November 7 and place them in the shopping cart in the pit stop area.** Thanks for helping feed our community!



FPC DRIVE-THRU LUNCH
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GLORYBEANS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 FROM 11:30 A.M.- NOON
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL

GLORY BEANS is partnering with FPC to provide lunch to you! Drive-Thru Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on **Tuesday, November 9! Please RSVP by Monday, November 8 at 2:00 p.m.,** and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on **Tuesday, November 9** between 11:30 a.m.-NOON. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates. *****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY!!!**

Menu:

**Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap (flour tortilla stuffed with grilled chicken, bacon, lettuce and tomato),
Potato Chips, and Gayle Russell's Persimmon Pudding**

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 or text Jane Snyder at 704-438-3358

**and let her know how many plates you need, and if it will be a pickup or delivery
(include address and any special instructions).**



3rd WEDNESDAY DRIVE-THRU MEAL
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 FROM 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL

Drive-Thru Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, November 17! Please RSVP by Monday, November 15 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, November 17 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, the kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

**Menu: Black Bean Cake with Yogurt Lime Sauce (on the side),
Homemade Salsa, Mixed Green Salad, Tortilla Chips, and Blondie Brownies**

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).**

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 7 *All Saint's Day/Consecration Sunday/
Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger/The Sacrament of the Lord's
Supper/Daylight Saving Time Ends/Deadline for Veteran's Day Flower Form*

- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 5:30 pm SNL Youth meet to travel to FPC, Norwood for
S'mores & Game Night

Monday, November 8

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 2:00 pm RSVP for partnership lunch with GloryBeans
- 8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of
Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

Tuesday, November 9

- 11:30 am-12:00 pm Drive-Thru Lunch with GloryBeans

Wednesday, November 10

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 1:30 pm Circle 5 meets in the Pit Stop
- 3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5th Graders)
- 5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos
- 6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, November 11 *Veteran's Day*

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 10:00 am-8:00 pm SNL Youth Veteran's Day at Morrow Mountain

Saturday, November 13

- 10:00 am-12:00 pm New Officer's Training

Sunday, November 14

Dedication of Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

- 8:45 am Diaconate Meeting In-Person
- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch (K-5th Graders – Media Room)
- 9:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class via Zoom
- 9:45 am *Sunday School & Intergenerational Event (Gym)
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers Hike at Morrow Mountain State Park with pick-up at the church at 3:30 p.m.
- 6:30 pm-8:30 pm SNL Youth at FPC, Albemarle

***childcare provided**

Your on-going support of First Presbyterian Church is essential to the mission and ministry of the church and to the well-being of our ministry partners, locally and globally.

Thank you for your generosity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
NOVEMBER
 08-Leni Henkenjohann
 Nancy Joines
 Mary Louise Sawyer
 09-Ann Duckwall
 Ross Holshouser
 Sarah Newport
 11-Rose Saltzman
 Bill Stevenson
 12-Jay Andrew
 13-Lori Ivey
 14-Carol Sasser

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
NOVEMBER
 06-Shelley & Mike Shedd



You're Invited
 to view the
First Presbyterian Church
Fall Art Gallery Exhibit
Featuring the artwork of
John Williams,
Jack Williams, and
Eli Williams
Located in the
Basement Office Hallway

Tithes and offerings may be mailed to:
First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1578
Albemarle, NC 28002

Online giving can be done through the
church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org).
Click on the GIVE button.