



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor

Matt Drumheller, Associate 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

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February 2019

Dear Friends,

Because the date for Easter is based on the lunar calendar, it is one of those dates that shifts every year. Based on when Easter falls, the church's calendar shifts and adjusts every year, and the lectionary seeks to accommodate that. One of the effects is that the season after Christmas and before Lent (called Ordinary Time...as in *ordinal*) varies in length. This year the season after Epiphany before Lent is a rather long one.

This has helped me reflect on the ongoing Epiphanies taking place all around us. Just as this portion of Christ's life was filled with revelations of God's glory (the definition of "epiphany") so too is God's glory being revealed among us. From our progress on the Habitat for Humanity project, to the work of our Opioid Taskforce, to the beginning of our confirmation class, and the wonderful routine joy of the life of the church, God's glory is being revealed in this place.

In Christ,
Matt



Would You Like a Visit?

Matt and Elizabeth will make a number of home visits during February. If you'd like them to stop by your house, contact the church office to schedule a time (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).

**INCLEMENT
WEATHER
INFORMATION**

If there is a question about Sunday schedule changes due to weather, call the church (704-982-2722). Changes will be on the answering machine by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. A mass email will also be sent to those who receive the newsletter electronically.



Sunday, February 3 Scripture: **Jeremiah 1:4-10; Luke 4:21-30**
We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering and the Souper Bowl Offering (bring cans of soup).

Sunday, February 10 Scripture: **Luke 5:1-11**
The Youth Club Handbell Ensemble will ring and the Youth Club Faith Explorers will sing in worship.

Sunday, February 17 Scripture: **Luke 6:17-26**
The Youth Club Trusty Travelers will sing in worship.

Sunday, February 24 Scripture: **Luke 6:27-38**



Ten-Cents-A-Meal

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on February 3. 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 \$636.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal in December.



2019 Flower Calendar

The 2019 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 Frankie Palmer (704-982-1757 or fpalmer3@carolina.rr.com) for more information and to make arrangements for the flowers to be delivered to the church on Saturday or Sunday morning before worship.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3



Our church will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 3rd. More than 20 years ago, this ministry began with a single youth group that prayed a simple prayer:

Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.

Our youth will collect money and cans of food at the doors of the sanctuary following worship.

Pewsitters on the right side (choir loft side) of the middle section, the right section, or the balcony, are asked to bring chicken noodle soup.

Pewsitters on the left side of the middle section, the left section, or the section near the sound board, are asked to bring tomato soup.

See designated spaces in the Pit Stop for your soup! Let's see which section can collect the most soup for SCCM!



Matt's Sabbatical

Beginning May 20, Matt will be taking a three month sabbatical in accordance with his terms of call. He will be away for June and July and will return on August 18. During that time, he will be reading and studying about pastoral leadership in an age of increasing polarization and tribalism. He will be exploring the practice of moderating conversations of deep disagreement within faith

communities. He will also spend some time visiting colleagues, hiking with Claire in Scotland, and serving the broader church by co-directing two of the summer Montreat Youth Conferences. Stay tuned for further updates and details!



Looking Toward Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6, and concludes with shouts of *He is Risen* on Easter morning (Sunday, April 21). A planning group is already gathered to make plans for a meaningful journey through these 40 days. Details will emerge as we move closer to Ash Wednesday.

Our 2019 Confirmation Class began meeting in late January. Our seven youth, including Graham Chapman, Angus Currie, Katherine Jolly, Maci Holshouser, Leah Kilde, Andy McLeod, and Ethan Richards, are meeting weekly to explore their faith. We are using a brand new PC(USA) curriculum called *Big God, Big Questions* focused around the questions that confirmands will be asked when they join the church. Please keep these youth, their families, and their mentors in your prayers as they go through the important exploration time in their life of faith.





News from Our Neighboring Presbyterian Churches

We sit in the *eastern cluster* of the Presbytery of Charlotte. In our cluster (Stanly, Richmond, Anson, & Montgomery counties) there are 13 churches and 5 installed pastors (2 in Albemarle, Julie Hill in Norwood, Cathy George in Mount Gilead, and Matt Baker in Candor). All other churches depend almost entirely on leadership provided by Session members, folks who come to *fill the pulpit* regularly or occasionally and temporary pastors. That means that sometimes congregations will go months without the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper because there is no one to officiate at the table. It means congregational meetings and Session meetings are moderated by pastors from other churches, and sometimes elders preach on Sunday mornings. As an extension of their ordination vows, Matt and Elizabeth will sometimes be called upon to share in duties at the 9 churches who do not have consistent pastoral leadership, occasionally even on a Sunday morning. It is a blessing that our congregation is able to *share the wealth* in the kingdom of God.

STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...DECEMBER 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	519,112.00	556,481.00
Total Expenses:	<u>525,254.00</u>	<u>556,481.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus	(\$ 6,142.00)	(\$ 0)

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2018

Pledges:	509,141
Total Income:	556,481
Total Expenses:	556,481

Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: \$10,701

We are ahead \$6,294 in pledges.

Average Weekly Amount Received in December: \$22,626

Ten-Cents-A-Meal for December: \$636

Christmas Eve Offering (Central School Backpack Program): \$1,058

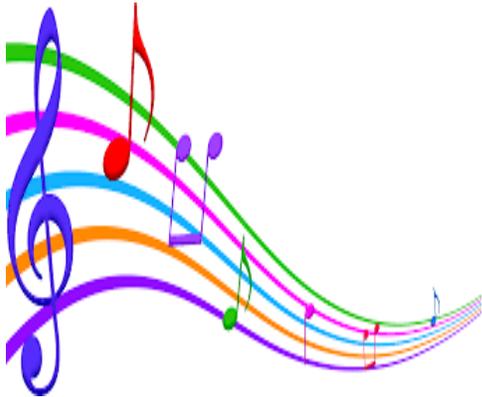
Faith on the Fifth Offering (SCCM-Heating Assistance): \$1,217

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.



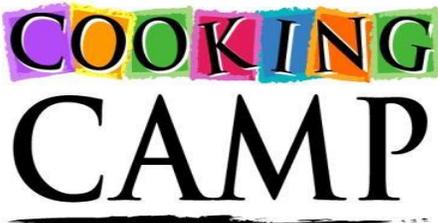
Save the Date for Music & Arts Camp Summer 2019

Plan to join in on the fun this summer for a week of music, art, recreation, drama, and fellowship as we form new friendships and cultivate our old ones.

Sunday, June 9-Thursday, June 13

For children ages 4 years through 6th grade
will enjoy a fun time!

**Volunteers...Come help us with this extraordinary event!
Volunteers of all ages warmly welcomed!**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COOKING CAMP FOR KIDS

(COMPLETED 4th - 6th Grades)

June 17-20, 2019

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40.00 per child

Camp Limit of 12 children

Do your children have a passion for cooking or love to help you prepare meals in the kitchen? Then perhaps a cooking camp is the perfect summer camp for them. This camp is offered to completed 4th-6th graders on Monday, June 17 - Thursday, June 20 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Young chefs expand their palates, learn kitchen hygiene and healthy eating habits, broaden utensil skills, master proper etiquette, and experiment with flavors and ingredients in cooking and baking. This camp will be packed with culinary excitement and tasty adventures! We will also be incorporating a field trip into the mix!

For more information, to register for camp, or to volunteer contact Jane Snyder at 704-982-2722/704-438-3358 or jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org.

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

NEWS & NOTES

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Minister's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Norman Rogers, given by Mr. & Mrs. Claude Rogers.
In memory of Norman Rogers, given by Miriam Russell.
In honor of Elizabeth Ayscue, given by Miriam Russell.
In honor of Jean Rabe's birthday, given by Mildred Andrew
In honor of Miriam Russell's birthday, given by Mildred Andrew.

CONGRATUATIONS

To Alex Wolf and Irena Liu upon their marriage on January 26 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Alex is the son of Keith and Martha Wolf.

SYMPATHY

To Martha Chapman and family upon the death of Joe Kluttz on December 31, 2018.
To the family and friends of Harold McKeithan who died on January 27, 2019.

SESSION NOTES

At its stated meeting on Saturday, January 5, 2019, Session welcomed new elders: Steve Coats, Jim Sawyer, Debbie Bennett, Ben Jolly, and Jacob Palmer. Session then heard reports from Stewardship, Endowment and Mission committees. The Stewardship committee reported that a 3% bonus was paid to eligible staff in December. The Mission committee reported a need for supplies for the Backpack Program. The Endowment committee reported that Gaither Endowment requests are due by January 15. Session elected Mary Kesselman as Clerk of Session, Lee McLaurin as Treasurer, Mark Mabry as Assistant Treasurer, Ben Jolly as President of the Corporation, and David Whitley as Nominating Committee Representative from Session. A regular meeting time for Session was set for the third Sunday of every month at 8:30 a.m. Letters about the co-pastor model were mailed to the congregation during the week of January 7. Meetings to discuss the co-pastor model have been scheduled during January for members of the congregation. Members of Session will be present at the meetings to discuss any concerns and answer questions. A congregational meeting and the annual meeting of the corporation will be held on January 27. At that meeting, the congregation will vote on the co-pastor model. The next stated Session meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 17, at 8:30 a.m.

Submitted by Mary N. Kesselman, Clerk of Session

Circle #5

Circle #5 will meet at the home of Gloria Bryson (811 Smith Street, Albemarle) on Monday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. Bible Study will be on Lesson 3.

Thanks to:

Gloria Bryson, Ann Duckwall, Melissa Eudy, Donna Gaither, Ruth Goodwin, Ruth Ann Rogers, and Martha White for assisting in the church office in January.

Thank You to January's First Family Dinner Volunteers

THANKS to everyone that helped make this southern style meal a success! Rebekah Ayscue, Gloria Bryson, Andy and Ruth Cotton, Ann Duckwall, Donna Gaither, Margaret Ivey, John and Debbie Hahn, Bill Hall, Martha Sue Hall, Peter Henkenjohann, Jennifer Hesley, Nancy Joines, Penny Morton, Ken Knight and Connie Wallace, Greg Lisk, Mark Mabry, Ronnie Michael, Jeff and Kim Robertson, Ned and Gayle Russell, Sandy Saunders, Jim Sawyer, Terri West, Faith Explorers and all those who helped break down the tables and chairs and clean up the gym! I just can't thank everyone enough for being so generous with their time and talents!!

Thanks

Thanks to Mark Mabry and Tom Norwood for assisting with some extra de-decorating from the Christmas season.



March Newsletter Deadline on Tuesday, February 19.

Early submissions are always welcome!

If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email them as an attachment to:

pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org.



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; diagnosis & treatment for neuroblastoma.

Doug Archer, cancer.

Debra Barnard, daughter of Gloria Bryson; neuroendocrine carcinoma.

Dale Benson, brother of Ann Crutchfield.

Ted Biggers, friend of Martha Sue Hall & Dan Samples.

Margaret Brooks, friend of Debbie Hahn.

Joan Bunn, friend of Gina Martin; health concerns.

Mike Burke.

Michelle Honeycutt Cole, friend of Katie Carpenter; in remission-stage 2 Hodgkins Lymphoma.

Katherine Cox, mother of Sherrie Richards; health concerns.

Sara Dyer, mother of Martha White; ongoing health concerns.

Lindsey Efird, daughter of Karen Efird and Mark Efird; battling MPS.

Jeanette Eudy, friend of Liz Davis; peritoneal cancer.

Veronica Fraser, friend of Debby Johnston; pancreatic cancer.

Kathy Miles Gordon, friend of Ruth Goodwin; pancreatic cancer.

Marty Goforth, treatment for melanoma.

Steve Granger, brother of Laura McLeod; stage 4 lung cancer.

Calvin Hall, kidney cancer.

Elizabeth Howard, cousin of Mary Kesselman; health concerns.

Jackie Lynn Kruis, eleven year-old great-niece of Gloria Bryson.

Denise LaBoube, half-sister of Martha White; diagnosed with brain cancer-Astrocytoma.

Junior Lambert, uncle of Danny Lambert; stage 4 lung cancer.

Molly Amelia Lowder, continuing health concerns.

Diane Marks, mother of Kyle Marks; treatment for breast cancer.

Maddie McRae, daughter of Renee & Keith McRae; diagnosis & treatment for a brain tumor.

Bryanna Medlin, nine year old diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma.

Sam & Melanie Obermiller, friends of John & Debbie Hahn.

Frank Osborne, brother of Lillie Hancock.

Hilda Perry, sister of Cathryn Harwood; continuing health concerns.

Karen Russell, First Baptist Church Wee Care Teacher; breast cancer.

David Sanges, brother of Nathan Sanges.

Judy Smith, friend of Meredith Moses; pancreatic cancer.

Betty Stancik, sister of Bill Hall; continuing health concerns.

Garin Stepp, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

John Taylor, International Mission Worker.

Judy Toney, sister of Jim Hesley; chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer.

Sally Warburton, friend of Debbie & John Hahn.

Eddie Wilson, brother of Elizabeth Wilson; health concerns.

Members of the Congregation:

Blue Honeycutt.

Dick Liles.

Tommy Murrell.

Linda Richards.

Cam Rogers.

Pete Smith.



01- Jean Rabe
Caroline Smith
02- Lee Boone
Penny Morton
03- Kellyn Poole Luna
04- Hugh Carpenter
05- Keith Byrd
Robin Howell
06- Melissa Eudy
Bob Johnston
07- Jennifer Mabry
08- Mellanie Morgan
09- Debbie Bennett
10- Susan Pandich
11- Davis Fort
Katherine Jolly

12- Karen Hinkle
14- Hunter Matthews
15- Emily Deese
Richard Griffin
Pete Smith
16- Miller Morgan
17- Amy Whitley
20- Ashley Deese
Peter Henkenjohann
21- Nora Carpenter
22- Will Lentz
Ben Lisk
25- Robbie Stevenson
Ann Upchurch
26- Calvin Huneycutt
28- Carroll Holbrook
29- Cathryn Harwood



06- Steve & Laura Blalock
09- Bill & Diane Stevenson
12- Ernie & Jane Borders



Habitat for Humanity Project Update

Our Habitat for Humanity project is quickly nearing completion! With the exterior of the house totally completed, drywall has been hung, painting has begun on the inside of the house, and the end is in sight! Volunteers are particularly proud of a yard shed that was built in the back yard in a very short amount of time by some of the hardest working members of our congregation. Thanks so much to all who have already made this such a successful project!



SERVING MEALS TO THE HOMELESS

First Friday Meals at the Community Inn

Want to help in a mission project, but don't have a lot of free time? Consider assisting with the meal at the Community Inn on the first Friday of each month. First Presbyterian Church has a long history of providing meals at the Community Inn, Homes of Hope's overnight emergency facility, since it opened in 2009. The current commitment is providing a meal from 6:15 PM until about 7:00 PM on the first Friday of each month. There has been a faithful group who regularly help with this outreach, but we would love to get more people involved. There are usually four parts to each meal; a main dish, a vegetable, a fruit, and a dessert. You can sign up to provide just one of the items, or multiple parts. You can prepare the items at home and someone can pick it up, or you can come help serve. If you don't feel your cooking prowess is something you want to share, you can volunteer to serve the meal. Just email Skeet Ayscue at aayscue1@live.com and

he will put you on the monthly list. You will be contacted via email each month and you can just help when you can. That's just 12 meals for the entire year as we find ways to reach out to the homeless. Please help!



Montaña de Luz

There will be a meeting after worship on February 10 for all those interested in the Mission Trip to Honduras this summer, July 24-31. Please come and learn the latest about Montaña de Luz and what a mission trip there entails. This will be the 13th trip to MDL sponsored by First Presbyterian Church. It is a life changing and life affirming trip! If you cannot attend, please let Skeet know of your interest right away.

SCCM NEED FOR FEBRUARY: Canned Soup & Crackers



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
A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Packing Date:

Wednesday, February 27 at 10:30 a.m.





Our Youth Group is looking forward to some fun service events in February! I hope you will join us at our Souper Bowl event and the Night to Shine prom. Our Youth Group topics for February will include listening to God's call on our life and navigating healthy relationships.

Sunday, February 3
Friday, February 8
Sunday, February 10
Sunday, February 17
Friday, February 22
Sunday, February 24

Souper Bowl of Caring
Night to Shine Prom
Youth Group 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Youth Group 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Youth Group Board Game Night 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Youth Group 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.



High School Bible Study
When? Monday nights at 8:30 p.m.
Where? At Elizabeth's house (1611 Bellamy Circle)
What else? All 9th-12th graders are invited to participate in this group for fellowship, prayer, and the study of God's word.
Jack Morton and Elizabeth will gently lead the discussions.

Youth Group Participation Needed for Night to Shine

The Tim Tebow Foundation *Night to Shine Joy Prom* is on Friday, February 8 at Carmel Baptist Church in Charlotte. It is a full-scale dance for special needs individuals in our community. They get all dressed up in formal attire, arrive on a red carpet to cheering fans, and get their makeup done, shoes shined, and photos taken. A dessert buffet is served for all guests and is followed by an evening of dancing the night away with their friends. Each year, we seek to provide an enchanting evening for the guests while letting them know they are loved by Jesus and precious to Him. We will leave FPC at 4:15 p.m. on February 8. Let Dorothy know if you have registered for this event (dhart@fpcalbemarle.org or 828-244-3824)!



Coming Soon...Youth Group Lock-In on March 1!

!!!Youth Breakfast will be March 18-22!!!

The Stanly County Youth Breakfast will be held here at the church the week of March 18-22. The theme is *Mirroring God's Image*. FPC's day to provide food will be Thursday morning. We need contributions of muffins (any flavor)!





Women's Workday at Habitat House Saturday, February 2

We are looking for a complete team of willing women for this day. Skilled and unskilled workers are welcome! Let Elizabeth Wilson (704-982-3625 or ewilson1927@carolina.rr.com) know you can be there.

The Fellowship Committee invites you to enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and some cookies to be served between Sunday School and worship each Sunday in February.



WORSHIP MINI-RETREAT ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 FROM NOON-2:00 P.M. WITH LUNCH PROVIDED

The Worship Committee will spend time visioning and thinking creatively about worship life at First Presbyterian Church. Many voices are welcome. If you want to share in this conversation, let Steve Cumming know (stevecumming68@yahoo.com or 704-724-2174), and we will have a place at the table for you.



The Prayer Shawl group plans to meet on **Wednesday, February 6 at noon in the church parlor.** (Bring your lunch if you like!) All are welcome to join in crocheting and knitting prayer shawls...a tangible representation of the unconditional embrace of a sheltering God. This ministry reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. **Did you know?**



133 prayer shawls made by members of our group, have been given away. For more information on how you can be part of this ministry, contact Peggy Finley (704-985-1136 or maf447@windstream.net).



FIRST FAMILY GATHERING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 EVENING PRAYER AT 5:45 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE GYM

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Tuesday, February 5 to say you're coming.

Menu:

- Mexican Rice Bowls (Mexican Rice, Black Beans, Jalapeño, Avocado, Tomato, Chicken, Ground Beef, Shredded Cheese, Salsa, Sour Cream, Cilantro, Crushed Tortilla Chips)
- Thai Rice Bowls (Brown Rice, Bean Sprouts, Cucumbers, Carrots, Edamame, Chicken, Peanut Sauce, Yogurt Sauce, Crushed Peanuts)
- Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Station, Assorted Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water and Lemonade.

Volunteers Needed for next First Family Gathering

- Dessert and Sides Crew: Tuesday, February 5 at 10:00 a.m.
- Set up crew: Wednesday, February 6 at 3:45 p.m.
- Clean-up crew: Wednesday, February 6 at 6:45 p.m.



Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358 if you would like to help! 😊



Young adult lunches are a chance to gather in the middle of the work week to enjoy each other's company and some local dining. The schedule for the beginning of the new year is:

February 7 at Noon at Ly Cuisine (807A North 2nd Street, Albemarle)

RECIPE EXCHANGE

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
TIME: 5:00 P.M.
WHERE: PIT STOP



QUESTIONS: CALL, TEXT OR EMAIL JANE SNYDER (704-438-3358 or jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)

Are you tired of making the same meals? Do you need some more meal ideas? Let's get together and exchange recipes! Bring two of your favorite 30-minute meal recipes, one with meat and one vegetarian. (If possible, bring a sampling of your recipe.) We will make copies and you can take home a new set of meal ideas.



You are invited to the
First Presbyterian Church Volunteer Reception

Thursday, February 14

10:00 a.m.-Noon in the church parlor

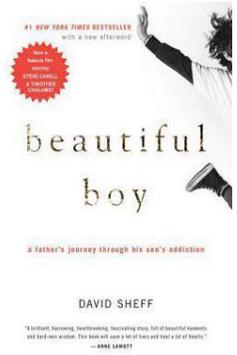
RSVP to Pam Knighten (pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org) or

Kyle Lambert (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) or call the church office (704-982-2722).

The Opioid Task Force invites you to participate in an
all church read of the book

Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction

The Author: David Sheff is an accomplished journalist and non-fiction author. In this memoir (written in 2009), he tells the heartbreaking story of his son's life – from his charming childhood to an adolescence wracked with denials, lies, and early drug use, to an adulthood that includes life on the streets. Sheff entertains many of the questions that plague those who live an addict.



- What happened to my family?
- What happened to my beautiful boy?
- Where did I go wrong?
- What did I miss?
- What if I had only...

This memoir is brilliant, fascinating, and enlightening. It provides a window into addiction and its effects on families and communities. It will broaden personal understanding and challenge stereotypes.

Book Conversations (of your choice) will take place at the following times:

Sunday, February 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 24 at 5:00 p.m.

Choose a date and join in the conversation as we learn together and think about the role of the gospel in the lives of those held captive by addiction and brings peace to families in turmoil.

Books are available in the church office for \$12.00.



COMMUNITY LUNCH AND LEARN TOPIC: THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

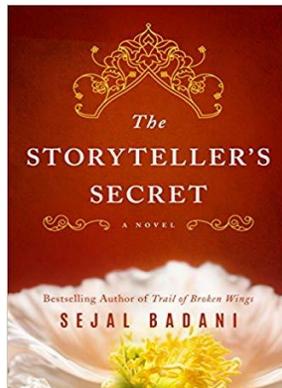
First Presbyterian Church's Opioid Task Force has been meeting together for several months focusing particular attention on educating themselves and our congregation about this widespread problem and its effect on individuals, families, churches, and the community. Now they are ready to move out and provide opportunities for others to learn more. Beginning in February, we will host a series of occasional lunchtime gatherings for the community. Come share in the first one...

LUNCH & LEARN TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 FROM NOON-1:00 P.M. IN THE PIT STOP

Bring Your Lunch & A Friend...Drinks & Dessert Provided

Speaker: Jennifer Layton, Health Educator at the Stanly County Health Department

Jennifer will provide an overview of the issue, with particular attention to Stanly County. Questions? Call the church office (704-982-2722).



February Book Study

Monday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.

In the church parlor

Book: *The Storyteller's Secret* by Sejal Badani

Cost: \$12.00 & available in the church office

Jaya, a journalist in New York City, makes a pilgrimage to her native India in the wake of personal heartbreak. There she becomes an eager student of the culture and is befriended by her late grandmother's former confidante. Jaya discovers the legacy she has inherited and a strength that gives birth to healing, hope, and redemption.

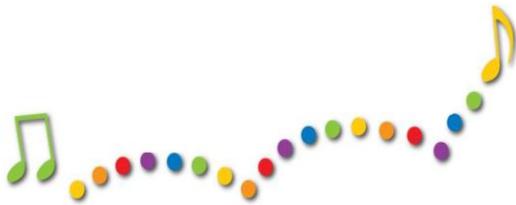


Our Youth Club began the year by continuing to explore important stories and people in Scripture following the guidance of the *Stepping Stones of Faith* resources created here at First Presbyterian Church. Thanks to the hard work of our volunteers, our young people are playing, learning, crafting, and making music each Wednesday afternoon!

Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) will continue exploring the life of Jesus by learning about some of his most important lessons. We will explore the stories of the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, and a few of Jesus' parables.

Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders)...The Faith Explorers have been studying Jesus' early life, including his family's journey to seek refuge in Egypt and his time in the temple in Jerusalem. We have been discussing how he was both fully God and fully human, and how that was revealed during his life. The Faith Explorers are also getting ready for our spring fundraising project and a day of service at the Humane Society. There is a box in the Pit Stop to donate t-shirts that will make up the materials for the dog toys we are making if you'd like to contribute. We will be making the toys in the coming weeks.

Youth Club volunteers will provide our youngest participants with a safe space of learning and play.



THE HANDBELL ENSEMBLE will ring and the Faith Explorers will sing in worship on Sunday, February 10.

THE TRUSTY TRAVELERS will sing in worship on Sunday, February 17.

Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

- Who can come? 2nd & 3rd graders
 - What? Breakfast...muffins, fruit, yogurt, milk, juice, etc.
 - When? Sunday, February 3 from 9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
 - Where? Media Room
 - Why? To pray together & build a strong community of faith
- Please let Jill Niebler (jlniebler@gmail.com) know if you are able to join us.



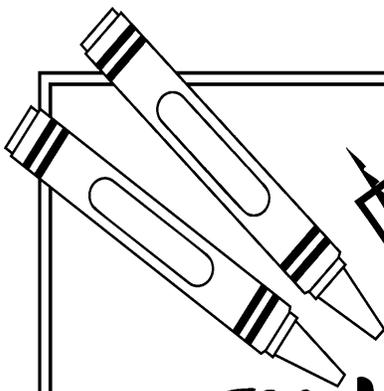
FAITH EXPLORER OUTING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

SERVICE PROJECT FOR THE

STANLY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

For our next Faith Explorer outing on Sunday, February 10th, we will be having a service day at the Humane Society. We will gather at the church at 12 p.m. for lunch, and then head to the Humane Society. We will be donating dog toys, helping out with volunteer tasks, and spending time with the animals. They have asked that we wear clothes that could get dirty. Contact Dorothy at dhart@fpcalbemarle.org or 828 244 3824 to sign up.

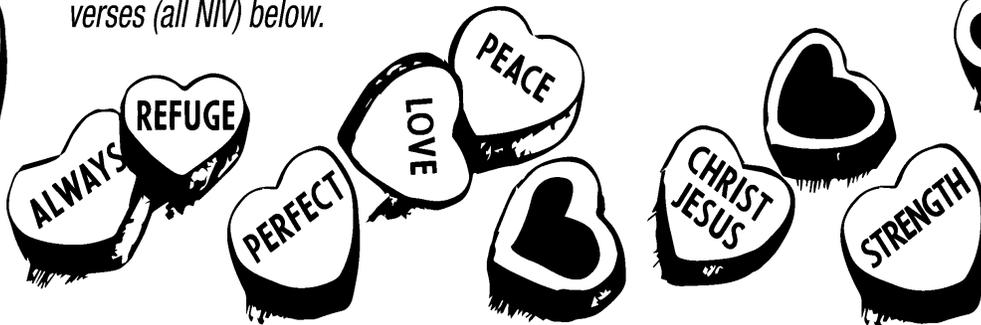


PUZZLE

WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.



God is our _____ and _____,
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

“Surely I am with you _____.” Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
your hearts and your minds in
_____. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

A MESSAGE OF *Love*

Make this valentine for a family member or friend.



What you need:

- 10 wooden craft sticks
- Painter's tape
- Markers
- A photo and glue (optional)
- Craft knife (and adult help)
- Ribbon or a rubber band

What you do:

1. Set the sticks side by side. Secure with two tape strips.
2. Flip the sticks over. Draw (or glue on) a picture or write a message or Bible verse. If using glue, let dry.
3. Flip the sticks again and remove tape. If you glued on a photo, have an adult help cut the sticks (and photo) apart.
4. Secure the sticks with ribbon or a rubber band.
5. Deliver the gift and invite the recipient to assemble the puzzle.

february

Saturday, February 2

Women's Workday at the Habitat for Humanity House

Sunday, February 3

Souper Bowl of Caring/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger

9:00 am *Session & Diaconate Committee Chairs Meeting

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Mission Committee

12:00 pm-2:00 pm Worship Mini-Retreat

Monday, February 4

7:00 pm Circle #5 meets at the home of Gloria Bryson
(811 Smith Street, Albemarle)

8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, February 5

10:00 am Adult Bible Study

10:00 am First Family Dessert & Sides Crew

Wednesday, February 6

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club

3:45 pm First Family Set-Up Crew

5:45 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)

6:00 pm First Family Dinner (Gym)

6:45 pm First Family Clean-Up Crew

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, February 7

10:00 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Ly Cuisine
(807A North 2nd Street, Albemarle)

Friday, February 8

4:15 pm Youth Group departs for *Night to Shine* Prom

Sunday, February 10

Handbell Ensemble ring & Faith Explorers sing in worship

8:45 am *Diaconate

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Montaña De Luz, Honduras Mission Trip Meeting

12:00 pm Faith Explorers Lunch/Stansly County Humane Society

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 11

8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Wednesday, February 13

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club

5:00 pm Recipe Exchanges

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, February 14

10:00 am-12:00 pm Volunteer Reception (parlor)

*childcare provided



Sunday, February 17

Trusty Travelers sing in worship

8:30 am Session

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

5:00 pm *Beautiful Boy* Book Conversation

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 18

8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, February 19

12:00 pm March Newsletter Deadline

12:00 pm-1:00 pm Opioid Lunch and Learn (Pit Stop)

Wednesday, February 20

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, February 21

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Friday, February 22

7:00 pm-9:00 pm Youth Group Board Game Night

Sunday, February 24

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

5:00 pm *Beautiful Boy* Book Conversation

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 25

7:00 pm February Book Study – *The Storyteller's Secret*

8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Wednesday, February 27

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:30 am Backpack Food Program

3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, February 28

10:00 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided

LOVE IS
patient

LOVE IS
kind

— FIRST CORINTHIANS THIRTEEN FOUR —

THOSE WHO SERVE IN FEBRUARY

Ushers: Jill Niebler, captain; Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Katherine Jolly, and Dona Lisk

Elder Greeters for February: Lee McLaurin; David Whitley

Nursery:

February 3: Cortney Brown
February 10: Emily Andrew
February 17: Cortney Brown
February 24: Cortney Brown

Outside Ushers:

February 3: Lee McManus; Chris Whitley
February 10: Jim Marshall; Ronnie Michael
February 17: Matt Carpenter; Eric Niederer
February 24: Brad Boone; John Earnhardt

Diaconate Meeting
Sunday, February 10
Emily Andrew

Acolytes:

February 3: Andy McLeod
February 10: Leah Kilde
February 17: Natalie Niederer
February 24: Thora Kilde

Children's Church for February:

February 3: Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly
February 10: Lynn Poplin
February 17: Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly
February 24: Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

Kids Care Crew:

February 3: Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson
February 10: Laura Beth & Kyle Marks
February 17: Chris Mabry; Greg Lisk
February 24: Gayle & Ned Russell

Church Website Address & Staff Email Addresses

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

