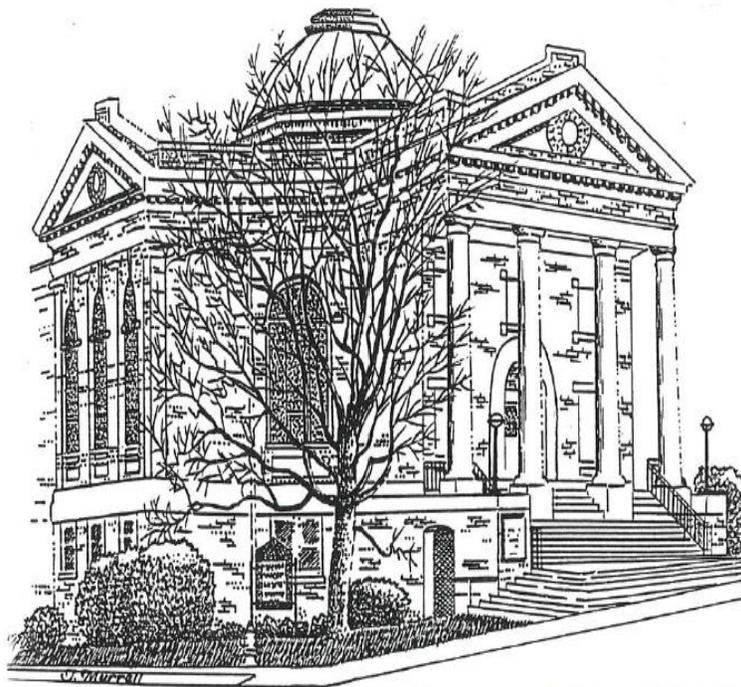


First Presbyterian Church Albemarle, North Carolina



PO Box 1578
Albemarle, NC 28001
704.982.2722
www.fpcalbemarle.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 25, 2022

16th Sunday After Pentecost

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Register through the link

PRELUDE

“O Day of Peace”

Charles Callahan

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Melanie Hendrix, acolyte

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 91

Martha Sue Hall, liturgist

You who live in the shelter of the Most High will say, “My God in whom I trust.”

No evil shall befall those who make the Lord their refuge, the Most High their dwelling place.

God will deliver those who love the Lord and call on God's name.

When they call, God will answer, be with them in trouble, and show them salvation.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, how many voices we carry within, and how hard it is to silence them. You know us – you know how fragmented our lives are, how powerful the many calls. We’re here to worship, to praise, to pray, and to acknowledge you as our one God. Still all other voices and prepare us to worship you with our whole being. May we hear your voice only, in and through our worship. In simple trust we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 275

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

EIN’ FESTE BURG

*A bulwark never failing: Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work his woe; His craft and power are great,
And armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth is his name,
From age to age the same, And He must win the battle.*

*And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,—we tremble not for him; His rage we can endure,
For lo! His doom is sure,—One little word shall fell him.*

*That word above all earthly powers—No thanks to them—abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also: The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, you have given us the power of imagination, through which the future grasps our lives today. We confess that we do not give our lives over to the transforming power of your spirit. We choose not to hear you calling us. We deny the gifts you grant us. We fail to live in ways that build up the life of your whole creation. Forgive us, and give us courage, that we may open ourselves to the new creation you seek to bring within and among us. Draw us into the future toward the new world you are creating through the grace of Jesus the Christ.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Those coming forward for Faith Sharing are invited to move to the chancel area during the Response.

*RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE 232 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

(stanza 4)

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Ann Crutchfield

ANTHEM

“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.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, in the reading of the scripture, may your word be heard; in the meditations of our hearts, may your word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15](#)
[Luke 16:19-31](#)

pew Bible, page 692
pew Bible, page 75

SERMON

“The Field of Hope”

Rev. George

*HYMN 373

“O Day of Peace”

JERUSALEM

O day of peace that dimly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
Guide us to justice, truth, and love, delivered from our selfish schemes.
May the swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release,
Till by God's grace our warring world shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce devour the small;
As beasts and cattle calmly graze, a little child shall lead them all.
Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord;
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*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 on 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Martha Sue Hall, Deacon

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Offertory

“The Day Thou Gavest, Lord”

Charles Callahan

* Response 606

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” OLD HUNDRETH
*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.*

*Prayer of Dedication

God who gives life to all things, and richly provides us with everything, use these, our offerings, to take hold of, and show us the life that really is life. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN

“Outside My Gate, Outside My Door”

O WALY WALY

*Outside my gate, outside my door, is someone there who's lost or poor?
Is someone there I do not see — that I walk by — who has a need?
Is there a child who longs for care? An older friend who needs a prayer?
Someone who seeks a helping hand? A refugee new to this land?*

*Outside our church, is someone near who cries in pain, who lives in fear?
Is someone close who has no way to buy the food she needs this day?
Some gates are made of wood or stone, and some are made of sin alone.
Some doors are made of greed and pride; they also keep the poor outside.
As we look out, Christ, may we see our common, shared humanity.
May we kneel down and serve you more outside our gate, outside our door.*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

“A Gaelic Blessing”

John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the quiet earth to you, Deep peace of the shining stars to you. deep peace of the gentle night to you, Moon and stars pour light on you, deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you, Deep peace of Christ to you.

*POSTLUDE

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

Charles Callahan

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Bold print indicates places where congregation reads or sings.

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Thank you to Stan Scheer, Frank Poolos, Ann Crutchfield and Martha Sue Hall for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Melanie Hendrix.

Ushers for September: John Howell,captain: Derrick Huneycutt, Ken Knight, Natalie Neiderer, Chris Whitley, David Whitley.

Outside Ushers for September 25: Jim Ivey; John Earnhardt.

Elder Greeters Al Andrew, Ellen Snyder.

Sound: Evan Sanges **Film:** Jackson Palmer **Nursery:** Bailey Mitchell

There is no Children’s Church during September. Children are encouraged to remain in worship.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Claude Harwood-surgery, Wayne Palmer- (Atrium Stanly), Penny Welling (friend of the congregation), Gloria Bryson (Bethany Woods), Ann Byrd (Home), Tim Rodgers, Doris Forte-Spring Arbor, Brayden Enzor (grandson of Gus & Pam Holbrook); (Home), Carole Yost (Home), Don Abernathy, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Nancy Jolly, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler, Elizabeth Wilson, Polly Moose-recovering from hip surgery, Joyce McLeod (ICU Wilkes Medical Center), Ann Snuggs, Susan Pandich-breast cancer, Witt Snuggs (Home), the family of Davis Bailiff. See newsletter for complete list.

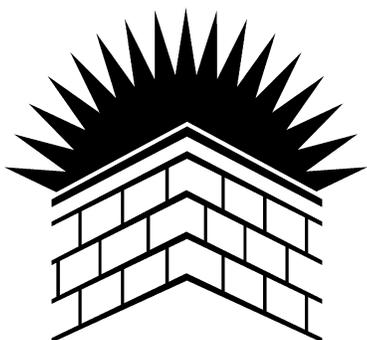
The Nominating Committee is in the process of discerning a slate for the Pastor nominating Committee, which will be elected in October. If you would like to submit a name or names, please make sure that person will serve if elected and then pass the name on to Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Ken Knight.



**IN-PERSON FIRST FAMILY MEAL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 AT 6:00 P.M.
RSVP BY NOON ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4**

Menu: Chicken Pot Pie, Green Beans, Mixed Fruit, Homemade Rolls, Assorted Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water and Lemonade.

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Tuesday, October 4 to say you're coming. You may also indicate in the Friendship Register how many will be attending. Please call Jane Snyder at 704-438-3358 or email her at jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org if you would like to help. We will have activities for kids after dinner! Detailed info will be in the October Newsletter.



The Christian Education Corner

If you are not on the SPOND app please download it. That is the easiest way for all of us to keep in touch.

Here is the link to join <https://group.spond.com/LTOXZ>

Thanks to all who helped make Rally Day possible and to all of those who attended. What a great morning at FPC!
Thanks to Mean Mug coffee for starting our day off with their awesome drinks.

Join us for SUNDAY SCHOOL !

- ❖ Children (K-5th graders) meet in the childcare area downstairs
- ❖ Youth (6th-12th graders) meet upstairs in the Youth Room
- ❖ The Wired Word meets in the Parlor
- ❖ Dr. Jolly's Discussion Class gathers in the Old Session Room
- ❖ Those who Love to Read meet in the Gaither Classroom.
- ❖ Questions & Conversations will meet upstairs in the Conversation Room.

Monday Night Bible Study 9th-12th graders at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr.) Mondays at 8:30 pm.



We will have a communion workshop for children grades K-2 on October 9 after worship. Children will learn more about the Lord's Supper and symbols of this sacrament. Please let Melissa know if you plan to attend.

For Central Elementary School...Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

It's that time again! We are collecting food to send home with Central School students on weekends. Our needs for this important Backpack Program for the month of September are-saltine crackers, large cans of soup, fruit cups, peanut butter crackers, canned tuna and tuna helper. Thank you for your generous support.



Packing Date: Wednesday, September 28 at 10:30 a.m

Zoom Morning Prayer

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



We are a small but dedicated group who pray for the needs of our church and its members as well as our country and world. We invite you to join us. Please email Deb Hahn at wolflady520@gmail.com or text her at 704 985-9419 for the URL to our meeting.

our meeting.

We also welcome your requests for prayers of thanks for God's blessings and prayers of concerns or needs. Please send those to the email above or text them to the above telephone number.

SCCM's CARING and SHARING CAMPAIGN



It is time for SCCM's 2022 Caring and Sharing campaign! This campaign began in 2010 and has tremendously impacted our available funds to help our neighbors. This year, our campaign will kick off on **Sunday, September 25. Yellow cups are in the Pit Stop. Please return them by Saturday, December 31.**

Proceeds from this collection will be used to purchase food and supplies for the Community Tables and Food Pantry and will provide assistance with client needs.

We appreciated your help so we can continue to provide services to people in need in our community in the future.

Everyday Essentials
Community Care Closet

When money is tight, and food and gas consume all the money people have, these items are often low on a person's list of priorities. The JPM Community Care Clinic strives to take care of people, not just their medical needs. Consider donating some of these "Everyday Essentials" to our Care Closet.

All donations stay here in Stanly County.
 For online, monetary donations, visit our website at www.communitycareclinicbemarle.org.

Soap	Toothbrush	Paper Towels
Shampoo	Deodorant	Dish Detergent
Conditioner	Lotion	Toilet Paper
Toothpaste	Clothes Detergent	

Your help is needed for collecting essential care items for the Essential Care Closet
Please drop off items in the designated bin in Pit Stop.
Thank you for your generous support!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

The Session has called for a meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, September 25th at the close of Worship for the purpose of acting on a recommendation from the Officer Nominating Committee and the election of new Officers.



GOD WINKS - Do you see or hear God in this world? Where? When? How? Why? We will share our God experiences and learn how to see more of God in our world. Please join Gayle Russell and Jane Snyder on Mondays at NOON in the Pit Stop during the month of October. Lunch will be served.

Please let Jane Snyder know you are coming! 704-438-3358 jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org



World Communion Sunday, October 2.

Children coming forward for the Faith Sharing Time are invited to move to the chancel area of the sanctuary after the Assurance of Forgiveness, during the singing of the Response.



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 25

16th Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Congregational Meeting

6:00 pm SNL

Monday, September 26

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study 9th-12th grade –Home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr)

Wednesday, September 28

6:45 am Men’s Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10:30 am Backpack food Program

6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 29

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

Sunday, October 2

17th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion/ Ten Cents a Meal Offering

Peace & Global Witness Offering

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm SNL

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September

27- Carter Gibson

28- Desmond Bullard

Ruth Goforth

30- Kennady Atwater

Jordan Morgan

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

September

26- Joe and Ann Snuggs

27- John and Jessica Palmer

Church Staff

Transitional Pastor, Rev Catherine George

Office Manager, Kyle Lambert

Secretary, Beth Poolos

Transitional Director of Christian Ed, Melissa Eudy

Director of Fellowship/Congregational Care, Jane Snyder

Music Director, Frank Poolos

Organist, Stan Scheer

Facilities Manager, Shawn Graeff

Elders

Al Andrew, John Earnhardt, Bill Jolly, Mary Kesselman, Mike King, Ken Knight, Kim Marshall, Andy McLeod, Catherine Moeller, Sandy Rogers, Ellen Snyder, Chris Whitley, Ellen Whitley

Deacons

Emily Andrew, Keith Bryson, Shannon Bullard, Michelle Cumming, Wes Eudy, Martha Sue Hall, Lillie Hancock, Jim Hesley, Liz Jolly, Myron Lowder, Laura McLeod, Lee Snuggs

The offering as part of our worship is a response to God's grace. The plates will be passed by the ushers or you may make your gift by scanning the QR Code here. Thank you for your generosity.

Tithes and offerings maybe
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.

September 18, 2022



Consecration Sunday is November 6th

A Stewardship Moment

On Sunday, September 18, Emily Andrew, Deacon described how our stewardship giving helps to feed the hungry.

“Your faithful and generous giving directly impacts the work and mission of our church! This July, 359 pounds of food, paper goods, and sanitary supplies were collected in our annual “*Circle the Sanctuary*” program and taken to Stanly Christian Community Ministry. SCCM Executive Director and valued First Presbyterian Church member, **Heather Kilde**, estimated that our July collection directly served ten families.

“Stanly Christian Community Ministry is a vital agency in this community and has been so for many years. Our church is credited with its initial beginnings. There are deep and historic ties to the agency, and it is a key recipient of this church’s outreach and financial support.

“The congregation supports SCCM in myriad ways through special church offerings throughout the year, responding to specific food item requests, and in hundreds of donated hours of church members’ time. The ministry is also supported financially by an annual operating budgeted amount that comes directly from our weekly gifts of tithes and offerings. A KEY agency position that is partially funded through this church contribution is that of the *Warehouse Manager*. This employee is responsible for collecting, sorting, and inventorying food and other donated goods that come to the agency from throughout the county and patiently organizing, cataloging, and stocking the Food Pantry so our most vulnerable neighbors can be served and find more easily the items they need. Over 350 people came to the Food Pantry in July!

“We give to the First Presbyterian Church because the church at its best promotes a world where everyone is loved and fed. On November 6, each of us will have that opportunity to contribute our time, talent, and treasures to First Presbyterian Church of Albemarle. For now, take the time to reflect and pray about how we can meet the mission of our Church, advance the Word of God, and consider responding to Jesus Christ who said, “I was hungry and you fed me.”

Every Sunday until October 30, there will be a Church leader “painting the stewardship picture” during the Offertory. We will connect how giving of your time and money make a difference in the lives of those we serve... children, hungry, homeless, elderly, youth, each other, and the Lord. Providing our time, talent, and treasures

through pledging to our Church is a way that we can respond.

You may have seen baskets of marbles around the Church. Please take a marble if you don't have one or another for someone else and let it serve to remind you of the call to respond to God's Word and the way that Christ lived. Keep and carry that marble with you....in your pocket or in your purse.... anywhere to remind you that our stewardship call is a response to "such a time as this."

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Session has called for a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 25 at the close of worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect deacons and ruling elders. The congregation will hear and act on the report which will be presented by Nominating Committee member, Ken Knight. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Ken Knight, Chair, Bob Johnston, Ellen Snyder, Lee Snuggs, and Gayle Russell. Once the committee has presented the slate of officers, the floor will be open for additional nominations. As a matter of courtesy, please check with any person whose name you plan to place in nomination prior to doing so.

DIACONATE

Billie Jean Snuggs... Been a member of FPC Church Albemarle since 2007 when my family moved here. I am married to Lee Snuggs and our son Witt is attending NCSU. I am a realtor with Russ Hollins Centruy 21. I have had many rolls over the past years in Christian Education programs as art leader and class teacher. Fellowship, as decorator, planner and preparer. Worship, as preparer of special service art works and other various duties, and I love to sing in the choir when I can! My commitment to my faith is strong and I am called to volunteer at my church. I look forward to serving my church as an officer.

Carol Sasser... I have been a member of First Presbyterian Church since the early 90's. I am married to Bob and have two grown sons and one granddaughter. I retired from the public schools in 2014 after 39 years as a media coordinator at East Albemarle then Albemarle High School. I currently work part-time in the library at Stanly Community College. To keep myself out of trouble I am President of the Friends of the Stanly Co. Public Library. I have a booth in an antique mall and I am a Guardian Ad Litem.

Brett Richards... . This church has been a constant my entire life: preschool, children's church, youth club, confirmation, the creation of Sunday Night Live.... when I returned to Albemarle as a young adult to start a family, I was fortunate to serve teaching Sunday School and on the Diaconate multiple occasions. My children have assisted with children's church, ushering, and as acolytes, so I'm thrilled to see the church in their lives as it has been in mine. I'm humbled by the opportunity to serve the congregation again and do God's good work.

Frank Poolos... My wife Beth and I have been members of this congregation for over 30 years. Our three daughters enjoyed growing up in this church family. I have been blessed to be a deacon and elder previously. I enjoy directing our adult and children choirs and adult and children handbell groups. I look forward to serving again as a deacon.

SESSION

Ann Crutchfield...A recent retiree from an almost 20-year teaching career at Pfeiffer University and current REALTOR with Larry McGuire Realty, I am honored to be nominated to serve as an elder for First Presbyterian Church. I currently sing in the choir and participate in Youth Club, Cooking Camp, adult small groups, drive-by meal preparation, Book Club, children's music, handbells, Sunday school, and senior activities.

Heather Kilde...I am married to John and am the mom of David, Leah and Thora. I have previously served FPC on Diaconate and as a Sunday school teacher and youth leader on Wednesday nights. I am the Executive Director at Stanly Community Christian Ministry. I enjoy reading and watching my kids in their many activities. Thank your for the opportunity to serve once again.

Lee McLaurin...I have been a member of FPC since 2004. During this time, I have served three year terms on both the Diaconate and Session. I currently serve as Treasurer and have been in that role for several years. I worked in the banking industry for 32 years, prior to retiring in 2018. I enjoy volunteering at the church when I can. I have two adult children, Charles (33) in Nashville, TN and Christopher (30) here in Albemarle. I look forward to serving again on Session.

Ronnie Michael... I am a lifelong resident of Albemarle. I am married to Sarah Michael and we have 2 married daughters and 3 grandchildren. I have been a member of First Presbyterian Church for over 40 years having previously served on the Session and Diaconate. I am actively involved in the city serving over 40 years in city government. I have served as police officer, chief of police, city council member and currently serve as Mayor. I have been fortunate to serve on many boards and committees throughout our community.

Jackson Palmer... My name is Jackson Palmer. My family, John, Jessica, Jacob, and Frankie and I are all members of First Presbyterian Church. I am 15 years old and I attend Gray Stone Day School and have been attending since 2018. I am a sophomore in high school. I like to do track as a sport, and hopefully basketball this year as well. I love hanging out with my friends. I also love to hangout with youth group and talk at Debbie Johnston's house for conversation. I think I will be a great youth representative because I think of this church as a family and want to make healthy and responsible choices for the church.

Nominating Committee At-Large: Bob Johnston, Gayle Russell, and Ken Knight