



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALBEMARLE

April 2015

Dear Friends,

Holy Week is the most significant week in the life of the Christian church. It provides opportunity for the people of God to live into the story of our faith beginning with the triumphal entry of Jesus and his disciples into Jerusalem and continuing through the week. The betrayal of Jesus by Judas, the denial of Jesus by Peter, and the falling away of all the disciples on the day of crucifixion gives us pause as we reflect on our own discipleship. The week ends in deep grief for the disciples, but on the third day, God raises their (and ours) Lord from the dead. On Easter morning, we will celebrate the truth of the empty tomb and the reality of a risen Lord.

I urge your faithfulness to the events of Holy Week as we recall our story and what the risen Christ means for our lives.

Easter Sunday is made more meaningful by participation in worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. I hope to see you there.

Grace and Peace,
Elizabeth



PALM SUNDAY...MARCH 29

We will welcome Jesus to Jerusalem with palm branches and shouts of praise.

9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Fair in the Gym

11:00 a.m. Worship

NOON PRAYER IN THE CHAPEL... MONDAY-FRIDAY (MARCH 30-APRIL 3)

Twenty minutes of prayer and scripture will focus our minds and hearts on the meaning of the week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY ON APRIL 2 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE GYM

We'll have a covered dish dinner and worship around the tables in the gym. Please bring a couple of your family's favorite dishes to share. Drinks provided. After dinner, we will share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and foot and hand washing as Jesus did with his disciples. Plan to share in the evening with your church family. Childcare provided for infants and toddlers.

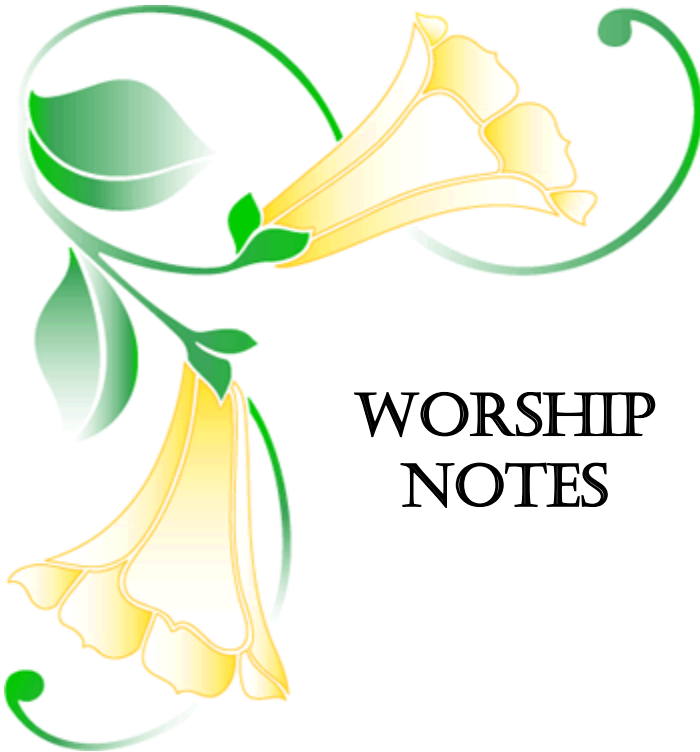
GOOD FRIDAY...APRIL 3

10:30 a.m. Cross Walk (Meet outside the sanctuary on North Street). We'll follow the cross through Albemarle and pray together where people gather.

12:00 p.m. Noon Prayer in the Chapel

8:00 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

The choir will lead this solemn service which focuses on the declining loyalty of the disciples and the fading light of the world as Jesus departs from it. We will share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Childcare provided.



WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday, April 5

Easter

Join us for a joyful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

7:00 a.m. Dress for the weather and come to Morrow Mountain to see the sun rise and to worship together. We'll be in the shelter at the top of the mountain.

Scripture: John 20:1-18

11:00 a.m. Worship will be filled with music and the affirmation that *He is Risen!* Guest musicians will provide brass and tympani accompaniment. We'll celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and receive the monthly Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger and the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

Scripture: Mark 16:1-8

Sunday, April 12 The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus continues.
Scripture: John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 19 The Faith Explorers and Trusty Travelers will provide music for the day.
Scripture: Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday, April 26 The Youth Club Handbell Ensemble will play.
Scripture: John 10:11-18

Ten-Cents-A-Meal

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on April 5. This monthly offering is used by the Presbytery of Charlotte to fund hunger programs and agencies (including SCCM) throughout the presbytery. Ten cents per person per meal is just \$9.00 per month and helps provide people both nourishment and hope. If you don't have a Ten-Cents-A-Meal container, you can find one in the pit stop. Checks and/or coins are welcome! We received a total of \$421.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal in February. Our goal is to receive an average of \$600.00 per month.



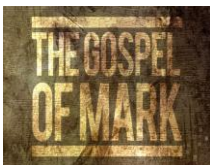
2015 Flower Calendar

The 2015 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 florist, but are most often ordered from Harwood's.** Contact Frankie Palmer (704-982-1757 or fpalmer3@carolina.rr.com) for more information.

Daily Scripture Reading for Lent

Whether alone or with another, you are invited to read the gospel of Mark during Lent. Suggested scripture readings for the remaining Lenten days in April:

April 1	Mark 15:1-20	April 4	Mark 16:12-13
April 2	Mark 15:21-47	April 5	Mark 16:14-20
April 3	Mark 16:1-11		





EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
Morrow Mountain State Park
Sunday, April 5 at 7:00 a.m.

We'll gather in the early dawn at the shelter at the top of the park. A roaring fire and hot coffee will greet you. Dress for the weather (blankets are welcome). Bring a flashlight and a lawn chair. A light breakfast will be available on the mountain following worship.

EASTER WORSHIP
In the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m.

The choir will lead us in singing praise to God whose mercies are always new. We'll celebrate the power of God in raising Jesus from the dead. We will have Sunday School as usual on Easter morning.



The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit

First Presbyterian Church Music & Arts Camp June 14-18, 2015

Children and adults will delight in the exciting story of David and Goliath, where the message of the story comes alive in a fresh, new way. There is plenty of humor in the musical comedy, *Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit*, by Allen Pote & Tom Long, with the timeless power of the message: *Our great God is worthy of trust, and His power is victorious if we trust Him with every challenge.* Music & Arts Camp promises to provide a fun-filled week of entertainment for the camper and volunteers!

FOR WHOM?

For you if you are age 4 (must turn 4 before June 30) or older - - all the way through completed 6th grade AND if you love to create, sing and have fun with others. Everyone is welcome.

WHAT WILL WE DO?

We'll sing and dance, create sets, play percussion instruments, study the Bible in new ways, act and play. It will be a full and exciting week.

WHEN WILL WE DO IT?

It all begins on Sunday, June 14 at 2:00 p.m. ('til 5:00 p.m.). On June 15-18, these are the hours:

Ages 4-5

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Grades K-6 (completed)

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

WHAT ELSE?

Early Bird Registration Fee is only \$30.00 (by May 29).

Late Registration Fee is \$35.00 (after May 29).

Children who have completed grades K-6 should bring a lunch each day. Drinks will be provided.

The camp's grand finale will be a performance of on Thursday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m.

(Ice Cream follows)

Name _____	Age _____	& Grade Completed (as of June 10) _____
Address _____		
Phone _____	Email Address _____	
Parent's Name _____		
Emergency Contact during hours of Music & Arts Camp _____		
Food or other allergies _____		
T Shirt Size: YX-Small (2-4) YSmall (6-8) YMedium(10-12) YLarge (14-16) YXLarge(18-20)		
Adult S M L XL		
Other things we should know about this child _____		

Return registration form to:
First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1578 126 West North Street
Albemarle, NC 28002

Questions? (704) 982-2722
or email Gina Martin (gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org)

Welcome New Members

**Leah Beamon
Gabriel & Ari
38399 Hardy Road
Norwood, NC 28128
704-474-3282
leahmbeamon88@gmail.com**

My name is Leah Beamon and I was born and raised in the Appalachian mountains in a small town near Asheville, NC. My husband Eric and I met when we both attended college at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and moved to Cottonville about 6 years ago where we have lived ever since. I am currently a stay-at-home mother to our two children, Gabriel and Ari. We also have a Shiba Inu named Miles. In my spare time I love to read, write, and practice using my sewing machine.

**Paula & Mark Donham
350 Pee Dee Ave., #302
Albemarle, NC 28001
919-702-8733
mdonham1@nc.rr.com**

Mark was born in Casper, WY – August 30, 1955; he was raised in Lafayette, LA in the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Paula was born in Lake Charles, LA - July 23, 1960; she was raised Catholic in Lafayette, LA.

Paula and Mark were married December 27, 1980; they joined the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Baton Rouge, LA.

Mark graduated from LSU 1982 with a Master of Public Administration and Paula graduated from LSU with Bachelor degree in Education in 1983. Their son Erik was born March 30, 1987; Erik married Katrina Benton in 2009. They recently moved to New York City. Their daughter Paige was born March 5, 1989. She married Wil Sessions in November 2014 and they are expecting their first child in August 2015. They live in Greensboro, NC.

Mark and Paula are excited about joining the Albemarle Presbyterian Church.

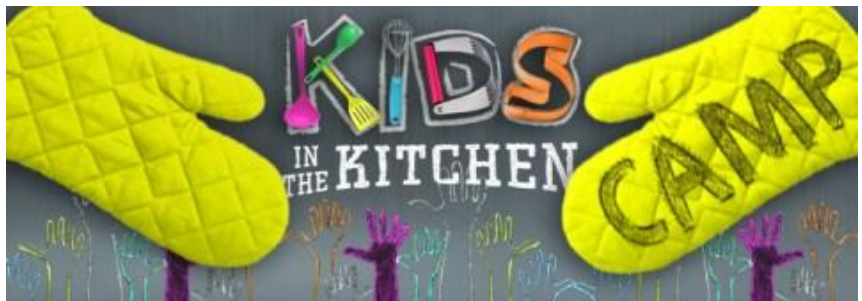
Lenten Small Groups Recap

Small study groups during Lent provided an opportunity for conversation and study about several texts from Mark’s gospel. In each one, participants experienced the *face of Jesus* in a variety of ways.

If you did not have a chance to participate in a small group during Lent, stay tuned for another opportunity.

Many thanks to small group leaders: Elizabeth Ayscue, Matt Drumheller, Debby Johnston, Mary Kesselman, Ken Knight, Greg Lisk, Billie Jean Snuggs, and Connie Wallace.





**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COOKING CAMP FOR KIDS
(completed 4th - 6th Grades)
June 22-25 (Monday-Thursday) 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Cost: \$30.00 per child Camp Limit of 12 children
Contact Jane Snyder (704-438-3358 or jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)
for more information and/or to sign-up OR to volunteer.**

STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...FEBRUARY 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	68,598.00	93,085.00
Total Expenses:	<u>105,930.00</u>	<u>91,885.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus:	(37,332.00)	1,200.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

2015

Pledges:	477,515	Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: <u>\$10,825</u>
Total Income:	562,887	Average Weekly Amount Received in February: <u>\$8,717</u>
Total Expenses:	562,887	

We are behind \$2,015 in pledges. (\$14,838 of 2015 pledges was prepaid in 2014)

February Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering: \$421

Zambia Well Project: \$19,133



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING BANKS

All members (and especially those with preschool and school-aged children) are encouraged to pick-up a Sharing Calendar and a One Great Hour of Sharing bank in the pit stop. **Please return your filled bank on Easter Sunday (April 5).**

MEMORIALS

Minister's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Betty Lynn Fort, given by Jane & Frank Winecoff.
In memory of Johnsie McIntyre, given by Ruth Ann & Bill Rogers.

Scholarship Endowment:

In memory of Sheila Flowe, given by Mary & Frank Green.
In memory of Sheila Flowe, given by Jim & Margaret Ivey.
In memory of Betty Lynn Fort, given by Jim & Margaret Ivey.
In memory of Peggy Howard, given by Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale, and Door LLP.
In memory of Johnsie McIntyre, given by Mr. & Mrs. John Earnhardt.
In memory of Johnsie McIntyre, given by Jim & Margaret Ivey.
In memory of Johnsie McIntyre, given by Carole Yost.



SYMPATHY

To Lee McManus and family upon the death of his mother on March 22.

THANK YOU

To: Mildred Andrew, Gloria Bryson, Ann Duckwall, Ruth Goodwin, Sally Grantier, Margaret Ivey, Judy & Tommy Murrell, Frankie Palmer, Ruth Ann Rogers, Rich Schaefer, and Martha White for assisting in the office during February.

For many years, Keith Bryson has served an essential role in making Stanly County Youth Breakfast happen. He assists everyday in set-up & clean-up, helps in planning, and is often the first person in the building in the dark hours of the morning. He also cheerfully tends to a variety of essential details. Thank you, Keith!

WORDS OF THANKS FROM BUCKNELL STUDENTS!

The Bucknell University students, who spent the week of March 8 – 14 at First Presbyterian Church and worked on a Habitat for Humanity house, wanted me to express their deep appreciation to the church for allowing them to use the building and our facilities. They said that they felt warmly welcomed and truly enjoyed the hospitality and kind gestures extended to them. They had a good work week and look forward to coming back again.

Don Joines, Contact person for Bucknell students

Thanks for Volunteering at the Central School Book Fair

Thanks to the following people for volunteering at the Central School Book Fair March 2-6: Elizabeth Ayscue, Andy Cotton, Ruth Cotton, Lauren Cranford, Jim Hesley, Lee Johnson, Liz Jolly, Heather Kilde, Catherine Moeller, Matt Moeller, Anne Montgomery, Sandy Rogers, and Carroll Sitton.

Session Notes

At its stated meeting on March 8, 2015, Session discussed the upcoming special services for the Lenten season. Communion servers were appointed for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter services. We will have the sunrise service at the top of Morrow Mountain again this year. We heard a report from the Christian Education Committee following their "mini retreat". The property committee is still assessing the repairs that need to be made throughout the church. The Session was excited and pleased with the amount and quality of the activities that are present in our church.



Circle #5 Monthly Meeting

Circle #5 meets at the home of Gloria Bryson (811 Smith Street, Albemarle) on Monday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. Lesson #6: *The Aroma of God Among Us* will be discussed.

Muffins & More

When? Thursday, April 2 at 9:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 16 at 10:00 a.m.
What? An opportunity for good kitchen fellowship and to share in the joys and sorrows of the First Presbyterian Church congregation.
Where? In the church kitchen.
Contact Gloria Bryson (704-982-8030) to find out how you can get involved.



Newsletter Deadline: The deadline for the May 2015 Newsletter is noon on Tuesday, April 14. Early submissions are always welcome! If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email them as an attachment to: pknighten@fpcalbemarle.com.



**STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY
APRIL FOOD CHALLENGE: CANNED FRUIT**
Just one food item each month for each member of your family.

**Place your non-perishables in the basket in the pit stop.
Together, we can make a difference!**

MUSIC AND ARTS CAMP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Music and Arts Camp will be **June 14-18**. Volunteers are an essential part of the camp, and we need YOU to step up to the plate and help (teenagers and adults). If you would like to volunteer, contact Gina Martin (704-982-2722 or gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org).





**!!! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COOKING CAMP !!!
JUNE 22-25**

We will need volunteers to work everyday from 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. with the campers and 6 volunteers everyday (these 6 volunteers do not have to be the same ones everyday) from 1:00 until around 3:00 to help clean up and set-up for next day. For more information, to register for camp, or to volunteer contact Jane Snyder at 704-982-2722/704-438-3358 jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org.



Prayer List Connection

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.

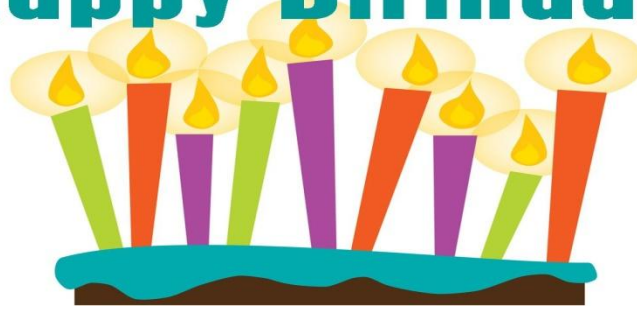
Friends of the Congregation:

Chrissy Adams, friend of Shannon & Kent Newport; Hodgkin's disease.
Sheila Kirkland Breisch, sister-in-law of Gloria Bryson; Atrial fibrillation.
Amy Brinson, friend of Doris Forte.
Margaret Brooks, friend of Debbie Hahn; at an assisted living facility.
Bob & Bessie Burris, grandparents of Kim Caudle.
Millie Campbell, friend of Melissa Lemons; receiving treatment for breast cancer.
Lathan & Katherine Cox, parents of Sherrie Richards.
Rachel Darling, friend of Dona Lisk; ovarian cancer.
Roy & Katie Dearstyne, parents of Holly Norwood.
Rich Drye, nephew of Barbara Whitley; Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
Sara Dyer, mother of Martha White; continuing health concerns.
Barbara Earnhardt, friend of Shannon & Kent Newport; battling ALS.
Lindsey Efird, daughter of Karen Efird and Mark Efird; battling MPS.
Mary Ann Greene, recovering from surgery.
Sandra Helms, friend of Sarah Michael; Crohn's disease.
Herman Hinson, father of Carolyn McLaurin; cancer.
Tonia Icenhour, friend of Kim Caudle; lymphoma.
Jeannette Isenhour, sister of Frankie Palmer; COPD.
Randall Kimrey, father of Bryce Kimrey.
Jackie Lynn Kruis, seven year old great-niece of Gloria Bryson.
Bryanna Medlin, nine year old diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma.
Louise Medlin, mother of Dona Lisk; diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma.
Charles Miller, battling cancer.
Craig Morgan, recovering from heart surgery.
Karen Niebler, mother of Jill Niebler; waiting for liver transplant.
Shannon Newton, diagnosed with cancer; friend of the Johnston family.
Sam & Melanie Obermiller, friends of John & Debbie Hahn.
Barbara Petillo, friend of Peggy Finley; disabling health problems.
Brian Rogers, son of Jane Rogers.
Karen Russell, First Baptist Church Wee Care Teacher; breast cancer.
David Sanges, brother of Nathan Sanges; receiving bone marrow transplant for Acute Myloid Leukemia.
Charles Schinck, brother-in-law of Peggy Finley; recurrence of cancer.
Garin Stepp, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.
Claudine Stone, friend of Laura Wheeler.
Lachlann Tannery, 2 year old with JMML (a rare form of leukemia); friend of Shannon & Kent Newport.
Ashley Teeter, niece of Robin Howell; diagnosed with breast cancer.
Ethel White, sister-in-law of Lynn White; diagnosed with mesothelioma.

Members of the Congregation:

Becky & Joe Carter.
Hessie Clark.
Anita Gower.
Peter Henkenjohann.
Blue Honeycutt.
Greg Johnson.
June Johnson.
Fran Mabry.
Ed Myers.
Bill Palmer.
Pete Smith.
Rita Whitley.

Happy Birthday!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

01- Leslie Kinley
Kent Newport
02- Judith Gilbreath
04- Wes Eudy
05- Steve Blalock
06- Ed Myers
07- Angie Earnhardt
Russell Karr
08- Joyce Lambert
09- Ashley Maust
10- Murphy Hall
Holden Taylor
11- Annie Ruth Kelley
Marlene Mittendorf
12- Laura Blalock
Jake Davis
Holly Norwood
14- Anissa Chapman

17- David Kilde
20- Peggy Finley
22- Kim Caudle
Marshall Rogers
23- Emma Gibson
Polly Moose
24- Liz Davis
Anita Gower
Alexis Poolos
Jacqueline Poolos
Nicole Poolos
25- Emma Grace Lemons
Tommy Murrell
26- John Kilde
27- Ethan Richards
28- Aaron Whisnant
29- Harold Sharpe

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

02- Michael & Kristen Laton
Lynn & Martha White
07- Thomas & Salem Taylor
13- Gus & Nancy Feather
16- Kyle & Laura Beth Marks
19- Robert & Myra Land
22- Jim & Lori Ivey
24- Robin & Melissa Lemons
Vanhna & Pine Sydalack
25- Steve & Kate Melone
28- Kevin & Adrienne Averette
29- Steve & Elaine Coats





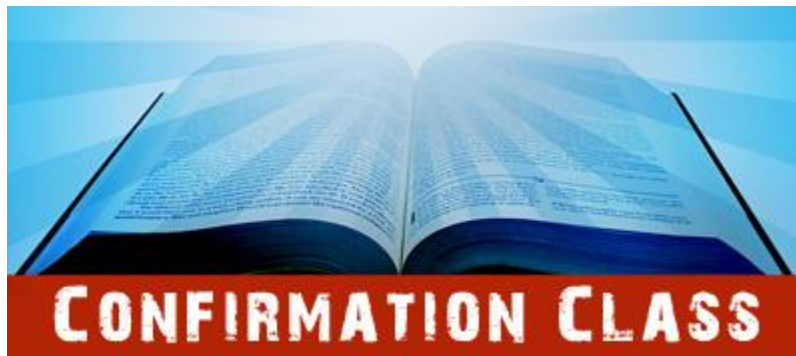
SNL SCRIPT

Happy Easter! As the seasons change and we adjust to the warmer weather, I invite you to re-commit to joining us at SNL. I look forward to seeing you each Sunday, so join us for some fun events and great conversation.

Sunday, April 5	Easter	No SNL
Sunday, April 12	4:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.	SNL
Sunday, April 19	4:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.	SNL
Sunday, April 26	4:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.	SNL

Youth Breakfast

Stanly County Youth Breakfast was a huge success this year. Almost 200 youth and adults gathered in the gym from 6:30 – 7:30 am the week of March 16-20 to eat, pray, learn, and discuss the challenges of faith. They explored the topic of unity and the way our communities embody unity. Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make this ambitious project a reality!



UPDATE

The Confirmation class is well under way and the confirmands are engaged in a number activities. They are meeting as a group for an hour and a half on Tuesday evenings to learn and discuss topics of faith. So far they have discussed the Trinity and its role in our faith. Please keep our confirmands and their confirmation partners in your prayers during this season of spiritual growth.



Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday will take place on May 10. Please come out to support our youth and our youth programs as they lead worship.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 AT 12:30 P.M. IN THE PARLOR
 FEEL FREE TO BRING A BAG LUNCH
 For more information, contact Miriam Russell (704-982-3025).

Easter Eve Camping at Morrow Mountain on April 4

Some folks are interested in camping at Morrow Mountain on Easter Eve (April 4). If you would like to be part of this group, contact Ken Knight (704-985-6277 or kbknight17@gmail.com). We'll have a great evening of fellowship and trek to the sunrise service together.





One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Easter Sunday...April 5

By supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, you are sustaining programs that provide disaster relief, food, clean water, training, and resources to people all over the world. **When you give, you are changing lives!**

A disaster can devastate entire communities. It strikes anywhere and at any time, often leaving residents without food, water, shelter, clothing, or medical supplies. Your gift supports programs in our church that offer both immediate aid and ongoing development assistance long after the media attention fades away.

Give to One Great Hour of Sharing to support these Presbyterian Mission Agency ministries as they strive to help all of God's people find resilience, hope, and faith in the face of challenging circumstances. Please give generously.

So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all.

Galatians 6:10

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.



Next Date & Location: Wednesday, April 8 at Noon at Little Tokyo (Hwy. 52 Location)



Scholarships

From the Scholarship Committee...

Scholarship applications are available on the counter in the common area outside the church office. **The deadline to return completed applications is Thursday, April 9.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2015 are: Ruth Cotton, Chair, Phillip Brown, Heather Deese, and Lee McLaurin, ex-officio. **Recipients will be recognized in worship on May 17.**

The Faith & Family Sunday School Class Welcomes You!

This class meets in the parlor and is a group of adults (most of whom have children in elementary and/or high school) who gather to study scripture and reflect on what it means to live faithfully as Christians in the 21st century.

On April 12, we will begin a new study using a book entitled, *The Answer to Bad Religion is Not No Religion* by Martin Thielen.

Using engaging language and stories from his ministry, Thielen invites the people of God (whether seeker, skeptic, or believer) to practice a faith that makes a difference and calls others to share in it.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).



WORLD CAFÉ

MONDAY, APRIL 13 7:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALBEMARLE



The presbytery of Charlotte is hosting a series of *conversations* throught the Presbytery. One of these will take place at First Presbyterian Church on April 13. Known as *The World Café*, we will be guided through a series of questions and share conversation with folks from other congregations. The *Emmaus Team*, made up of teaching and ruling elders (including our good friend, Julie Hill) will use this information to help guide the

Presbytery in the coming years. Everyone is welcome to attend and childcare will be provided if requested in advance. We hope to have a large turn-out for this important evening.

Theology Lite

Thursday, April 16

at 8:00 p.m. at Little Tokyo on Hwy. 52

Theology Lite

On April 16, young adults are invited to **Theology Lite** at Little

Tokyo on Route 52. Matt will host a conversation over your choice of drink about a topic of theology. We will gather at 8:00 pm in the back room. Please feel free to invite friends (members or non-members) to join in the conversation!

Spring Art Gallery Exhibit presents...

Our Great State of North Carolina

Children of Central School

Opening & Reception on Tuesday, April 21 from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

All of the students created artwork based on our great state of North Carolina. We learned that Carolina is always on our minds from the mountains to the sea. Kindergartners listened to James Taylor's song and created collages of the state. We also learned that Raleigh is our state capital and that's where our government business happens. First graders created paintings of our state bird, the cardinal, sitting silently in a snow shower. Second graders learned about skylines, Van Gogh, and starry nights over Charlotte. Third graders discovered the brook trout is a native North Carolina fish and painted beautiful watercolors of the specimen. Fourth graders discussed the famous lighthouses on the coast and chose their favorite to paint. Fifth graders learned about the Statesville Hot Air Balloon Festival and were given creative freedom to express what they learned with different mediums and their own compositions.

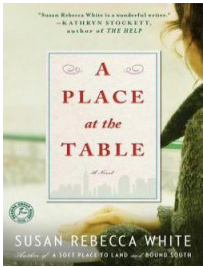
First Fellowship on Sunday, April 26

in the Pit Stop

between 10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.



Come straight from Sunday School or arrive for worship a few minutes early for First Fellowship on Sunday, April 26. Enjoy a beverage and a savory bite to eat while sharing conversation with friends. The Fellowship Committee looks forward to visiting with you in the pit stop between 10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.!



APRIL BOOK STUDY MONDAY, APRIL 27 AT 7:00 P.M.

A PLACE AT THE TABLE
By Susan Rebecca White

Books are available in the church office for \$12.00

Troubled souls are bound by their love of good food and the magic of New York City. This novel speaks from three perspectives about lost love, betrayal, fear, family ties, the *other*, and the south. It is both grace-filled and provocative.

Stanly County Chorale presents...

An Evening on...



Thursday, April 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

The Stanly County Chorale will present their Spring concert, *An Evening on Broadway*, featuring a collection of Broadway show tunes. They will perform under the direction of Angela Chestnut Moore with Zoey Brouthers as accompanist. The Concert is scheduled for Thursday evening, April 30, at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center at 7:00 pm. Admission is free. Donations are accepted.

SAVE THE DATE

Prime Timers Picnic
Thursday, May 21 at Noon
City Lake Park



Please save the date of Thursday, May 21 for the next Prime Timers Luncheon. The luncheon will be held at City Lake Park at the double shelter closest to the lake. The menu will be fried chicken, potato salad, green beans, deviled eggs, fruit salad, and dessert. Speakers will be the birds, wind and waves!

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS



On Mother's Day, the arrangements in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of mothers. Each name is \$2.00. Please mail, deliver, or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 3**. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and designate for *Mother's Day Arrangements*. The names of donors and those being honored/remembered will be listed on **Mother's Day**,

May 10. Any money collected over the cost of the arrangements will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

MOTHER'S 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: _____



Youth Club

The month of April brings about many new happenings at Youth Club. During Holy Week, the children will be encouraged to visit the **Lenten Spirituality Center** with their parents or leaders, where conversation with God is encouraged in a quiet, meditative, child-friendly environment. Special emphasis will be placed on caring for all God's creation in recognition of **Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22**. The children will sing songs of God's wonderful world on **Sunday, April 19**. Youth Club will enjoy the last gathering for the year on **Wednesday, April 29**. We will celebrate the year end with a family cookout at the **YMCA Park from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.** Please join us for this fun outing with games for the children and yummy hotdogs and hamburgers.

Trusty Travelers: They will learn about Paul's encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus and how he repented, changing his heart, mind and direction. As the children learn about his witness through the scripture in Acts 9 and 16, they will be reminded that their actions and words witness to others that they are all followers of Jesus.

Faith Explorers: This year Youth Club is focusing on the theme Grounded & Growing. The youth memorized the inspirational traits found in Galatians 5:22 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control*. In April, the Faith Explorers will focus on Colossians 2:6-7 *So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing in thankfulness*. We will spend the final month with the youth focusing on the theme of faithfulness. The Faith Explorers will display their Lenten Journey stories as well as the Spiritual Growth Trees in the pit stop. Each leaf on the tree represents ways in which their lives became more full and colorful due to their spiritual growth during Lent.

YOUTH CUBS

The Easter story, while beautiful, can be very confusing to preschoolers. Therefore, I simplified the story in a way that they hopefully would understand. One of these ways was to compare a stuffed white bunny to the characteristics of Jesus that each of us should have. Examples are white as snow because Jesus takes all our sins away, big ears that are quick to listen, big feet to go tell others about Jesus, big eyes to look and choose what is good, etc. Resurrection Eggs provide an activity to delight their imaginations while helping to understand the Easter story. We also enjoyed Easter art and flannel board stories. We decided that Easter is a birthday for us all, to joyfully celebrate our new birth through God's most astonishing miracle, the resurrection and promise of eternal life. April will include more Bible stories and the celebration of spring.



Submitted by: Lynn Poplin



Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

Who can come? 2nd graders & 3rd graders
What? Breakfast...muffins, fruit, juice, etc.
When? Sunday, April 19 at 9:00 a.m.
Where? Media Room
Why? To pray together & build a strong community of faith

Please let Gina Martin know if you are able to join us...(ginamartin@fpcalbemarle.org) ***Parents...there will be coffee & muffins for you in the parlor, so please take advantage of this opportunity to relax with other moms & dads while your children are spending quality time together each month.**



Faith Explorers' Sunday Outing Trip to Lucky Clays Fresh Aquaponics Greenhouse Sunday, April 19

**Bring bag lunch for picnic at Rock Creek Park.
Return to church for pick up at 3:00 p.m.**

Tour the greenhouse and learn about how the aquaponics system produces a flawless, natural cycle, in which, a hydroponic system uses nitrates and nitrites to break down fish by-products, providing nutrients for our vegetables. Then, the clean water is recirculated to the aquaculture system, starting the cycle anew. **What a great way to prepare for Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22 and learn about conservation of natural resources in God's great big world. Contact gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org to sign up your Faith Explorer today!**

MISSION NEWS...

CENTRAL SCHOOL BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

First Presbyterian Church, in conjunction with other downtown churches, is sponsoring the Central School Backpack Food Program. **First Presbyterian Church is responsible for filling backpacks with food on Wednesday, April 22 at 10:30 p.m.**

Items needed are: Large Cans of Soup, Hamburger Helper, Saltine Cracker, Individual Packets of Grits, Fruit Cups, Breakfast Cookies/Granola Bars.

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donations. **If you would like to volunteer to help pack the backpacks, contact Debby Johnston (704-982-6006 or debbyjohnston@hotmail.com).**



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

LETTER WRITING ON SUNDAY, APRIL 26 in the Pit Stop

(9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.)

OFFERING OF LETTERS ON SUNDAY, MAY 3

You can help protect child nutrition programs in the United State. Join Bread for the World in urging our nation's decision makers to protect child nutrition programs from cuts and harmful policy changes and improve children's access to these programs.

Please send a personal letter or email message to our members of Congress. You may wish to use the language in the sample letter below as a guide for preparing your own letter written in your own words.

Date

Sen. _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

or

Rep. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator _____,

or

Dear Rep. _____

As you consider renewing child nutrition programs this year, I urge you to make sure children at risk of hunger can get the healthy meals they need to learn and grow.

Specifically, I urge you to protect child nutrition programs:

(1) from cuts and harmful policy changes,

(2) to improve children's access to these programs, while not cutting other safety-net programs.

Child nutrition programs serve as a lifeline for America's vulnerable children and their families. As your constituent, I urge you to protect and improve child nutrition programs.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

_____ (your name)

_____ (your address)

Please write your name and return address on the envelope. It is important!



From the Earth Care/Green Group...

Why Is It Important to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle?

Reduction, Recycling and Reusing save natural resources, reduce damage to the environment and save money. Reduction means using as little of substance as necessary. For instance think about the packaging that comes on most children's toys and electronics. By ordering online (such as through Amazon) you can select the environmentally friendly packaging alternative. This reduces the amount of plastic (which is always difficult to remove) and substitutes a recyclable package (such as cardboard). Recycling takes an object that has served its initial usefulness and puts it to use in another manner. It saves energy and by saving energy reduces global climate change by the mere reduction of fossil fuel use. It reduces waste in landfills and therefore extends their useful life span. It saves money. In part by saving energy there is an obvious reduction in production costs plus the transportation costs of raw material to the factory is eliminated. The third component of this environmental wheel is reusing. Taking out grown clothes to the Clothing Closet or using them for the next child are perfect examples of reusing. Buying reusable plastic bottles for water is also an excellent example. As Christians we can protect the environment and save money by considering the reduce, reuse, and recycle wheel.

Submitted by: Debbie Hahn

Recognition of Teachers and Leaders in Christian Education

Sunday, May 3

11:00 a.m. Worship

Psalm 1:3

*They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper*





May 3
*Recognition of Teachers & Leaders
in Christian Education*

May 10
*Mother's Day
Youth Sunday*

May 17
Scholarship Recipient Recognition

May 24
Pentecost

May 31
Confirmation Class Recognition



*Women's Retreat
November 13-15, 2015
William Black Lodge
Montreat, North Carolina*

**Wednesday, April 1**

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 12:00 pm Noon Prayer in the Chapel
- 12:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff/Handbells Ensembles
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2*Maundy Thursday*

- 9:00 am Muffins & More
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Noon Prayer in the Chapel
- 6:00 pm *Potluck Dinner & Worship around the tables in the gym

Friday, April 3*Good Friday*

- 10:30 am Cross Walk
- 12:00 pm Noon Prayer in the Chapel
- 8:00 pm *Good Friday Worship in the sanctuary

Saturday, April 4*Camping at Morrow Mountain; come when you can***Sunday, April 5***Easter**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering*

- 7:00 am Sunrise Service at Morrow Mountain
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship

Monday, April 6*Easter Monday – Church Office Closed*

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

Wednesday, April 8

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Little Tokyo (Hwy 52)
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 pm Pick-up Basketball

Thursday, April 9 *Scholarship Application Deadline*

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided

Sunday, April 12

- 8:45 am *Diaconate
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee
- 4:45 pm-7:45 pm SNL
- 6:00 pm Worship Committee
- 7:00 pm *Session

Monday, April 13

- 7:00 pm-8:30 pm World Café

Tuesday, April 14

- 12:00 pm May Newsletter Deadline
- 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Confirmation Class (Session Room)

Wednesday, April 15

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff/Handbells Ensembles
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 pm Pick-up Basketball

Thursday, April 16

- 10:00 am Muffins & More
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 8:00 pm Theology Lite at Little Tokyo (Hwy. 52)

*childcare provided



April

Sunday, April 19

Trusty Travelers & Faith Explorers sing in worship

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch (Media Room)
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm-3:00 pm Faith Explorers Outing to Rock Creek Park for Lunch & to Lucky Clays Greenhouse
- 4:45 pm-7:45 pm SNL

Monday, April 20

- 8:30 pm Senior High Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, April 21

- 4:00 pm-5:30 pm Art Gallery Exhibit Opening & Reception for students of Central School
- 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Confirmation Class (Session Room)

Wednesday, April 22

Earth Day

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 10:30 pm Backpacks for Central School
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff/Handbells Ensembles
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 pm Pick-up Basketball

Thursday, April 23

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided



Sunday, April 26

Bread for the World Letter Writing

- 9:00 am Bread for the World Letter Writing (pit stop)
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 10:30 am-11:00 am *First Fellowship
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm Bread for the World Letter Writing (pit stop)
- 4:45 pm-7:45 pm SNL

Monday, April 27

- 7:00 pm April Book Study
- 8:30 pm Senior High Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, April 28

- 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Confirmation Class (Session Room)

Wednesday, April 29 *Last Day of Youth Club*

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 3:00 pm-5:00 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club meet at YMCA Pavillion
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 pm Pick-up Basketball

Thursday, April 30

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided

He Is RISEN INDEED!



THOSE WHO SERVE IN MARCH

Ushers: Wes Eudy, captain; Steve Cumming, Angie Earnhardt, Greg Lisk, Ronnie Michael, Witt Snuggs, and Morgan Smet

Elder Greeters: Heather Deese; John Earnhardt

Nursery Room:

April 5: Cici Ly

April 12: Cici Ly

(Diaconate 8:30 a.m.)

(Session 6:45 p.m.)

April 19: Jana Sanderson

April 26: Jana Sanderson

Nana & Papa Team:

April 5: Joan Belsan; Carroll Sitton

April 12: Mary & Frank Green

April 19: Barbara & Bill Lindley

April 26: Chris Mabry; Elizabeth Wilson

Acolytes:

April 5: Emma Lemons

April 12: Angus Currie

April 19: David Kilde

April 26: Lachlann Currie

Toddler Room:

April 5: Lauren Cranford

April 12: Lauren Cranford

April 19: Cici Ly

April 26: Salem Taylor

Preschool Partners:

April 5: Susan Pandich; Janet Schaefer

April 12: Heather & John Kilde

April 19: Marlene & Bruce Mittendorf

April 26: Angie Earnhardt; Adrienne Averette; Kelly Lentz

Children's Church for April:

April 5: *No Children's Church*

April 12: Virginia Currie

April 19: Virginia Currie

April 26: Virginia Currie

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music

Stan Scheer, Organist

Gina Martin, Director of Christian Education

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

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