



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

Gina Martin, Director of Christian Education

Pam Knighten, Secretary

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

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November 2016

Dear Friends,

In the church, perhaps more than anywhere else, we speak of *call*. Too often our thinking about *call* is limited to pastors and church educators. Yet, the biblical understanding of *call* is far broader than that. As people of God, we are called, first of all, to Christian discipleship and secondly, to serve God in particular ways. One of my roles as your pastor is to help each member of the congregation live into their particular call - perhaps as a musician, or cook, or teacher, or attorney, or parent, or administrative assistant, or childcare provider, or pray-er, or medical provider, or student, or Finding one's call and pursuing it is a great joy.

In this stewardship season, I invite you to think carefully about the ways you are *called* to serve Christ in the congregation and community. I ask that you respond faithfully to the perpetual call to all disciples - that we give generously out of our abundance to support the work of Christ's church. The biblical mandate is for each person of faith to offer 10% of what they have for the work of the temple/church. If we each give 10%, we will be able to grow our programs and our commitment to mission dramatically. Will you?

Grace and Peace,
Elizabeth



CELEBRATE GENEROSITY



CONSECRATION SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6

Consecration Sunday, November 6, is the day we will celebrate generosity – God’s generosity toward us, our families, and our church. During the church service, your completed 2017 pledge card will be collected. If you are unable to attend church that day, please return your pledge card to the church office by that date. This will allow the members of the Stewardship Committee to prepare the 2017 budget.

Even though the stewardship campaign officially concludes in December, I hope the spirit of celebrate generosity lives on throughout the upcoming years. I have posted on my office door the following quote I got from the CARE Chronicle June 2012 newsletter...

*If today you only had the things that you thanked God for yesterday,
what would you have?*

My friends – God has richly blessed each and every one of us...let us give thanks.

Submitted by: Debbie Bennett, Stewardship Chair



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

Deadline: Sunday, November 13

This is a good time to pack a shoebox for a Samaritan's Purse child overseas! This box that you lovingly fill with little gifts for either a boy or a girl will bring that child great joy. Use this opportunity to help Samaritan Purse spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Instructions for packing are also available. **Pack a box or two and bring them to church on Sunday, November 13!**

Alternative Christmas Gifts

On November 27 and December 4, 11, and 18, there will be opportunities to purchase alternative gifts in the Pit Stop. You will be able to select from among both local and international recipients. Charities sponsored this year are: The Community Care Clinic, Esther House, Homes of Hope, and Montaña de Luz. For each purchase, you will receive one of several holiday-themed acknowledgement cards that were designed by artist Leslie Carter.



Hanging of the Christmas Greenery & Chili Luncheon

The first Sunday in Advent is November 27th. Following worship on that day, we will have lunch (prepared by church officers) and proceed with decorating the church for the season. While children enjoy seasonal activities, plan to spend the afternoon getting to know other families while decorating the chrismon tree.

Does it seem like Advent gets crowded with things completely unrelated to the birth of Jesus?

Step back and immerse yourself in a community seeking the Christ Child.



Advent Study: A Season of Hope & Anticipation
Mondays at 12:15 p.m.

November 28, December 7, 14, & 21

We'll meet for one hour each week and focus on Advent themes in the gospels.
Bring your lunch if you like. Drinks will be provided.

Contemplative Advent Worship
Tuesdays, November 29, December 6, 13, & 20
at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel



COMMUNITY ADVENT WORSHIP AT CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH ON WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

Join in worship with others from the downtown churches during Advent at Christ Episcopal Church (428 Pee Dee Avenue). We will gather there on the following Wednesdays at noon in Advent: November 30, December 6 & 13. A light lunch will follow worship. Working folks can be on their way by 1:00 p.m.



Angel tree

During November, the *Angel Tree* will be in the pit stop with the names of our *angels* from Central Elementary School. These children and siblings will receive Christmas gifts from our church. Each family or group of friends may select *angels* from the tree and purchase gifts for those children. The gifts are to be returned to the pit stop under the tree no later than Tuesday, November 29. They should be unwrapped and in a clear plastic bag. Please add some gift wrap for the parents. Keep your eyes and ears open for when these *angels* are available to be selected.



JOY Gift Program Sunday, December 11

*The program will be led by children in Youth Club.
Look for details in the December bulletins and newsletter.*



From the First Presbyterian Church Community Christmas Dinner Committee...

Community Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 25 at First Presbyterian Church

We are well on the way to hosting the 27th Annual Community Christmas Dinner at First Presbyterian Church. Thanks to each of the following Committee Chairpersons who are working hard in their area of responsibility:

Committees

***Children's Activities
Clean-Up
Dining Room Management
Food
Food Receiving
Logistics
Publicity
Set-Up
Table Decorations
Take-Out
Volunteers***

Committee Chair(s)

***Rebekah Ayscue
Debbie Wainwright
Hugh and Debbie Wainwright
Hugh Wainwright
Jim Hesley
Lee Snuggs
John & Anne Montgomery
Lee Snuggs
Ann Snuggs
Skeet Ayscue
Jim Carter and Lori Ivey***

Check the bulletin board for food and volunteer sign-up opportunities. We are looking forward to food, fun, fellowship and celebration on Christmas Day. Come out and bring your family...you will be blessed by the sharing of the season!

Coordinators for this event are:

***Martha Sue Hall
Mary Kesselman
Sandy Saunders***

***(704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com)
(704-982-6754 or manapier@msn.com)
(704-982-3845 or swsaunders63@gmail.com)***

-Submitted by Martha Sue Hall

STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...SEPTEMBER 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	352,315.00	421,495.00
Total Expenses:	<u>423,969.00</u>	<u>422,307.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus:	(71,654.00)	(812.00)

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

	<u>2016</u>	
Pledges:	505,070	Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: <u>\$10,866</u>
Total Income:	565,035	Average Weekly Amount Received in September : <u>\$8,807</u>
Total Expenses:	565,035	

We are behind \$39,037 in pledges. (\$14,305 of 2016 pledges was prepaid in 2015)

Ten-Cents-A-Meal September: \$53

RETURN YOUR 2017 PLEDGE CARD

Through your deep commitment to Christ and your church we have been able to continue and broaden the missions, ministry and work of First Presbyterian Church throughout 2016. Please take the time to pray, fill out and return the 2017 pledge card you received in the mail in mid October. The timely return of this pledge card will make it possible for the stewardship committee to plan and budget appropriately. It continues to take the faithful commitment and generosity of all of us (young and old) to help others come to know Christ and strengthen our own faith.

CELEBRATE GENEROSITY



Thank you for supporting our music program. Because of you,

- **we are able to purchase new choral and handbell music for our various choirs to sing and ring,**
- **the chancel choir is able to have a choir retreat each year to learn our Christmas music,**
- **we can have guest musicians for our special seasonal services,**
- **we are able to pay for maintenance services on our organ,**
- **we have an incredible Music and Arts Camp each summer, and**
- **we have the BEST organist and music director in all of Stanly County!**

Submitted by: Marlene Sanges, Generosity Committee

VETERANS DAY FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

On Veterans Day, the flowers in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of veterans. **Each name is \$2.00.** Please mail, deliver or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **no later than Sunday, November 6.** Please make your check payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and designate for Veterans Day Arrangements. The names of donors and those being remembered/honored will be listed on Sunday, November 13. Any money collected over the cost of the arrangements will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.



VETERANS DAY ARRANGEMENTS

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

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

NEWS and NOTES

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Music Fund:

In memory of J. Frederick Bennett, given by The Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church.

In memory of J. Frederick Bennett, given by Martha & Lynn White.

In memory of Jim Ivey, given by Wade & Marian McSwain, Jr.

Scholarship Endowment:

In memory of Mary Lou Andrew, given by Sharon Baker.

In memory of Mary Lou Andrew, given by Dr. & Mrs. Whit Smith.

Session Notes

Changes to the church's Endowment Funds and Endowment Committee documents were approved by Session. These changes were to better provide information and hopefully increase Planned Giving to the church. All Saints Day (remembrance of souls/saints who have passed) Service will be held November 6th. Daisies will be available at the church entrance for congregation to bring forth during worship. The church will host this year's Community Thanksgiving service on November 20th at 7 PM. Currently the church is behind in pledged giving \$39,000+. Members are encouraged to keep up with giving, and if planning to do their giving at the end of the year, to consider giving all or part now. The church's lawns have recently been reseeded and sprinkler system repaired. Bids for the gym renovation are out and due back later this month. Members are encouraged to come to Sunday school. Classes are held for all ages.

Lynn White, Clerk of Session

Circle #5

Circle 5 will meet with Polly Moose (24875 South Business 52, Albemarle) on Monday, November 7 at 7:00 p.m.



Congratulations to our Newly Elected Officers

Deacons (Class of 2019)

Leah Beamon, Laura Beth Marks, Jack Morton, Brett Richards, Rose Saltzman, and Shirley Welch

Ruling Elders (Class of 2019)

Adam Jolly (1 year term), Steve Cumming, Joyce Lambert, Jim Marshall, Lee McLaurin, Debbie Wainwright, and David Whitley

Nominating Committee 2017:

Nancy Joines, Bill Jolly, Frankie Palmer, and Witt Snuggs

Officer Training will conclude in November and new officers will be ordained and installed in worship in January.

Community Table on Saturday, December 3

First Presbyterian Church will host the Saturday lunch at the Community Table on Saturday, December 3. Volunteers are needed to prepare food ahead of time and to help serve and clean-up on December 5. For more information as to how you can help or to volunteer your services, contact Linda Anderson (704-982-3723) or refer to the Mission Bulletin Board in the pit stop area.



NEWS and NOTES



Check out the Trusty Travelers' artwork in the educational building. Many thanks to Leah Beamon (Youth Club art leader) and her staff for the framed art, and to Lynn Poplin and the Youth Cubs for their representation of a child of God.

December Newsletter Deadline...Tuesday, November 15.
Early submissions are always welcome!
If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email them as an attachment to: pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org.



Thanks to the following people for assisting in the church office in September:
Ann Duckwall, Donna Gaither, Ruth Goodwin, Sally Grantier, Barbara Lindley, Judy Murrell, Tommy Murrell, Sandy Rogers, Ruth Ann Rogers, Marlene Sanges, Shirley Welch, and Martha White.

October's First Family Dinner

Thanks to all the people that chose to spend time with me in the kitchen: Rebekah Ayscue, Leah Beamon, Keith Bryson, Katie Carpenter, Ruth and Andy Cotton, Michelle Cumming, Ann Duckwall, Melissa Eudy, Sandy Kilde, Laura Beth Marks and the Faith Explorers, Susan Garrison, John and Debbie Hahn, Bill Hall, Margaret Ivey, Greg Lisk, Leslie, Stephan, and Morgan Kinley, Mark Mabry, Kyle Marks, Sarah Michael, Sandy Saunders, Mary Louise and Jim Sawyer, Lee, Billie Jean and Witt Snuggs, Ann Upchurch, and all those who helped break down the tables and chairs and cleaned up the gym!! YOU ARE A BLESSING TO ME!! I just can't thank everyone enough for being so generous with their time and talents!! I LOVE YOU PEOPLE☺
Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship Services





STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY CHALLENGE FOR NOVEMBER: Peanut Butter & Jelly



Please return your filled yellow Caring & Sharing cups for SCCM to the church office as soon as possible.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6.
REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS
BACK ONE HOUR!**





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.
- Jim Barringer**, friend of Martha Sue Hall; heart issues.
- Ted Biggers**, friend of Martha Sue Hall & Dan Samples.
- Alice Brooks**, family friend of Nancy & Don Joines; bone cancer in leg.
- Margaret Brooks**, friend of Debbie Hahn; at an assisted living facility.
- Bob & Bessie Burris**, grandparents of Kim Caudle.
- Rachel Darling**, friend of Dona Lisk; ovarian cancer.
- Mike Dearstyne**, brother of Holly Norwood; medical concerns.
- Roy & Katie Dearstyne**, parents of Holly Norwood.
- Sara Dyer**, mother of Martha White; ongoing health concerns.
- Lindsey Efird**, daughter of Karen Efird and Mark Efird; battling MPS.
- Gay Ellington**, former co-worker of Martha White; lung cancer.
- Cemita Gibbs**, friend of Laura McLeod.
- Elizabeth Howard**, cousin of Mary Kesselman; health concerns.
- Tonia Icenhour**, friend of Kim Caudle; lymphoma.
- Jeannette Isenhour**, sister of Frankie Palmer; COPD.
- Jackie Lynn Kruis**, seven year old great-niece of Gloria Bryson.
- Pat Long**, aunt of Roger Martin; on-going health concerns.
- Bryanna Medlin**, nine year old diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma.
- Ray Michue**.
- Sam & Melanie Obermiller**, friends of John & Debbie Hahn.
- Barbara Petillo**, friend of Peggy Finley; disabling health problems.
- James Brian Rogers**, son of Jane Rogers; recovering from heart & kidney transplant.
- Karen Russell**, First Baptist Church Wee Care Teacher; breast cancer.
- David Sanges**, brother of Nathan Sanges.
- Garin Stepp**, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.
- Connie Watson**, sister of Dan Samples; recovering from a stroke.

Members of the Congregation:

- Blue Honeycutt**.
- Greg Johnson**.
- June Johnson**.
- Anne Montgomery**, auto-immune disease.
- Carolyn Sharpe**.
- Pete Smith**.

Church Website Address & Email Addresses



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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 01- Brody Campbell
Donna Gaither | 15- Blue Honeycutt |
| 03- Bailey Holshouser
Barbara Overcash | 16- Reese Dombrowski |
| 04- Connie Wallace | 17- Taylor Johnston |
| 06- Shannon Newport | 18- Lee McManus |
| 07- Joyce Burris | 19- Gus Feather |
| 08- Leni Henkenjohann
Nancy Joines
Elworth Plyler
Mary Louise Sawyer | 21- Tom Rabe
Debbie Wainwright |
| 09- Ann Duckwall
Ross Holshouser
Sarah Newport | 23- Meredith Moses
Gayle Russell
Thomas Taylor |
| 11- Rose Saltzman
Bill Stevenson | 24- John Earnhardt |
| 12- Jay Andrew
Blake Taylor | 25- Shirley Hinson |
| 13- Lori Ivey | 26- Jane Rogers |
| 14- Carol Sasser | 27- Charles McLaurin |
| | 28- Shirley Welch |
| | 29- Janice Abernathy
Matt Drumheller |
| | 30- Bill Hall
Diane Stevenson |

November Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|--|
| 03- Matt & Katie Carpenter | 22- Ned & Gayle Russell |
| 17- Steve & Michelle Cumming
Richard & Joyce Lambert
Bounthanh & Panh Linthavong | 26- Mark & Kim Andrew
27- George & Judith Gilbreath
29- Skeet & Elizabeth Ayscue |

MISSION NEWS...

Backpack Food Program Updated Donations List

Needed:

Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish,
Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Canned Tuna,
Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups
A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next packing date: Tuesday, November 22



Time for the Homes of Hope fall... **HEARTY BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER**

Donations Accepted!

Stanly County's homeless housing program serving more than 800 since 2005.

Enjoy a Hearty Breakfast of:

Scrambled Eggs, Cereal, Bacon, Biscuits, Pancakes, Juice, Fruit, Coffee, Gravy, Grits, & Sausage

6:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. on Friday, November 4

Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (172 N. Second Street, Albemarle)

Homes of Hope is a United Way agency.



United Way
of Stanly County



The 9th Annual Empty Bowls Project "Help Fight World Hunger at the Local Level"

When: Friday, November 4th, 4:30-7:30 PM

**Where: Central United Methodist Church
172 North Second Street, Albemarle**

Advance Tickets may be purchased for \$20 at the following locations:

SCCM Assistance Center, 506 South First Street (704-982-7915)

or SCCM Clothing Closet, 1324 E. Main Street (704-982-0246)

\$10 tickets for the meal only (no bowl included) will also be available.

A ticket allows you to share in a wonderful meal of soup, bread, dessert and beverage, plus you will receive a hand-crafted bowl made by a local potter.

As a reminder that there are always "empty bowls" in our world.

Advance Tickets guarantee you will receive a professionally- turned bowl.

There will also be doorprizes and a silent auction during the meal.





Happy Fall! This is such a great time of year with changing leaves, cooler temperatures, and lots of great youth activities at First Presbyterian Church. Please plan to join us for some great fall events!

Sunday, November 6	5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	Middle School Youth Connection No High School Youth Connection
Sunday, November 13	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.	Youth Connection
Sunday, November 20	3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Ecumenical Youth Rake 'n Run
Sunday, November 27		No Youth Connection



Rake & Run

This year's Rake & Run will be a joint initiative by the downtown churches to rake yards of some of our community's shut-ins. We will be teaming up with First Lutheran, First Baptist, and Central United Methodist to serve our neighbors. Please join us on November 20 at 3:00 p.m. Location: TBD



**Monday Night Bible Study at 8:30 p.m.
with Elizabeth Ayscue & Jack Morton**

Location: 1611 Bellamy Circle (Elizabeth's house)

Come for fellowship, study of the Scriptures, and prayer. Bring a Bible and a friend. Please contact Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org) with any questions.



11-12 Blake Taylor

11-16 Reese Dombrowski



YOUTH UPDATE

Our youth began the year with a fantastic lock-in. Both the middle school group and the high school group beat the breakout rooms which they were given at Exit Strategy in Charlotte. They spent the night hanging out, playing games in the church, and crashing on the floor in the education building. Everyone had a great time!

SOMETIME SINGERS & PLAYERS

Are you interested in leading our congregation in song on occasion, but unable to make a weekly commitment to the choir? Do you have some hidden musical talent you might be able to offer to the congregation every now and then? Do you enjoy a variety of musical styles? If you answer YES to any of these questions, plan to meet briefly with Frank Poolos following worship on Sunday, November 13.



Lectionary-Based Bible Study

Mondays from 8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m

Location: Off the Square (114 South 2nd Street, Albemarle)

Matt hosts a weekly Bible study on Monday evenings from 8:00 – 9:00 pm at Off the Square. Anyone is welcome to join Matt for this lectionary-based study.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2 AT 12:00 P.M. IN THE PARLOR

FEEL FREE TO BRING A BAG LUNCH

For more information, contact Miriam Russell (704-982-3025).



Young Adult Lunch

Thursday, November 3 at Noon

El Ranchito

We will be continuing our Young Adult lunches during the fall. We try to visit a variety of restaurants. If you have any requests, let Matt know (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org). Plan to meet at noon on the first Thursday of November at El Ranchito. We will meet December 1 at Ly Cuisine.

Volunteers Needed for First Family Gathering

- Dessert Crew: Tuesday, November 1 at 10:00 a.m.
- Salad & Fruit Crew: Wednesday, November 2 at 10:30 a.m.
- Set-up Crew: Wednesday, November 2 at 3:45 p.m.
- Final Touches Crew: Wednesday, November 2 at 5:00 p.m.
- Clean-up Crew: Wednesday, November 2 at 6:45 p.m.

Please join us as a volunteer or just as our guest! We have such a good time together. Please call Jane Snyder at the church (704-982-2722) or on her phone (704-438-3358) if you would like to help.





First Family Gathering

Wednesday, November 2

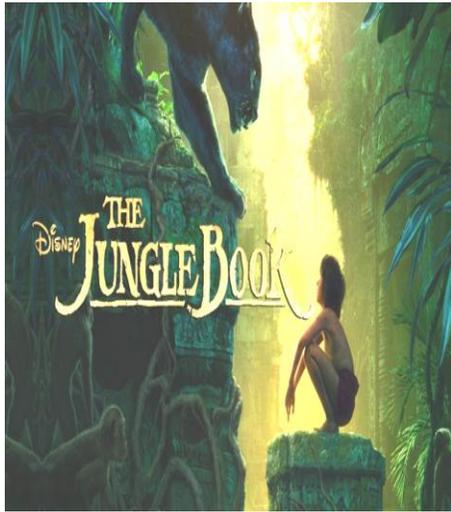
Evening Prayer at 5:45 p.m. in the chapel

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the gym

Menu:

Brunswick Stew, Mixed Green Salad, Fresh Fruit, Cornbread,
Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Station, Assorted Desserts,
Tea, Lemonade, & Coffee

Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by noon on Tuesday, November 1 to say you're coming.



Fall Movie Night

The Jungle Book

Friday, November 4

6:30 p.m. in the church gym

Enjoy a remake of one of Disney's finest adventure tales and see how friends

of all shapes, sizes and species join together to save a little boy...

Bring the entire family out to a movie with friends, popcorn, candy & drinks!

*Cozy up in your chair or blanket and plan to relax and laugh out loud!!!



Chancel Choir Retreat

Saturday, November 5

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Henry Pfeiffer Chapel

Pfeiffer University



Saturday, November 5th

10 – Noon

OASIS TEA PARTY & PURSE AUCTION



Join us @ First Presbyterian Church

100% of the proceeds will enable OASIS to provide services to help your neighbors maintain independence and dignity while avoiding premature nursing home admittance.



Tickets are \$25/person

Or \$200/Table

(Group Tables can be Decorated for a \$50 Donation)

PRIZES Will be Awarded for: Best Hat, Best Table Décor, & a Hidden Gem in a Purse

Thank You to our Generous Sponsors:

James
Marshall, OD



for Empty Nesters

Join us on Saturday, November 12 from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church (gym) for fun and recreation. Learn to play a new game! The Gaither Endowment Fund recently purchased a pickle-ball set for our use.

Pickle-ball is a game invented in 1965 on Bainbudy Island, a resort outside Seattle, Washington. It is easy to learn and play regardless of your age.

Do you want to learn to play or just be entertained watching others? Come out Saturday, November 12!

Bring your favorite pick-up food. Enjoy the evening with us.

SANCTUARY POINSETTIAS & HOLIDAY GREENERY



If you would like to purchase a poinsettia(s) or contribute to the holiday greenery fund as a Christmas memorial/honorarium, please make a check for \$20.00 for the poinsettia or for the amount you wish for the greenery payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and designate for poinsettias or greenery. Please return the **check along with the form below to the church office by Monday, December 12.** A complete list will appear in the bulletin on Sunday, December 18.

SANCTUARY POINSETTIAS & HOLIDAY GREENERY

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

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

I plan to take my poinsettia(s) after the 5:30 p.m. service on December 24.

I will leave my poinsettia(s) for delivery to a homebound member.

This is the place to find...

- ❖ Gifts with meaning – helps children go to school, helps with community development
- ❖ **Environmentally sensitive gifts – some organic or shade grown products which are shipped in recyclables**
- ❖ Fair trade gifts – artisan’s and farmer’s cooperatives have input in setting a fair price for their products
- ❖ **Gifts for under \$10.00 – coffee, tea, chocolates, baking cocoa, nuts, soup mix, jams, mango chutney, spice mixes, olive oil, and other food items**

Question:

Why do we at First Presbyterian Church support this mission?

Answer:

Small cooperatives who receive even a small, but steady income through fair trade have more food to eat, develop their communities, and send their children to school. It makes a huge difference in their lives – whether their cooperative is located in the United States or in a developing nation.

Women in areas where SERRV works often suffer astonishing degrees of discrimination and lack of opportunity, so by support this mission, we emphasize the empowerment of women artisans and support for their development in leadership skills, self-sufficiency, and independence.

Will you help support this mission?

We'll be in the pit stop from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

and

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 13.

Bring your Christmas shopping list!

2016 Thanksgiving Offering on Sunday, November 20
for Children's Hope Alliance



The mission of Children's Hope Alliance is to provide a safe, healing journey for hurting children and families – creating hope now and in the future. This year, the organization is taking some time from their fast-paced expansion to celebrate an important achievement. This year marks the 125th year the historic Barium Springs campus has been serving children. What an historic milestone of helping and meeting need of children.

Did you know that last year?...

- *Children's Hope Alliance cared for more than 3600 children and families throughout North Carolina.*
- *Outpatient Therapeutic Services cared for over 1,300 individuals.*
- *Almost 450 children were cared for in our foster care program.*
- *33 families were made whole last year with adoption and post-adoption services.*
- *More than 150 youth were helped through our TASK program.*

Your generous donation will make an impact on each child. Bring your offering on Sunday, November 20.

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

John 15:12 (NSRV)

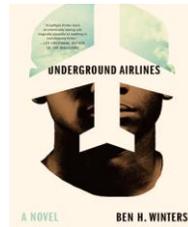


Community Thanksgiving Reception

First Presbyterian Church is hosting the Community Thanksgiving Worship Service for Albemarle churches on Sunday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m. As host church, we will coordinate a reception following the service. We need your assistance in bringing a dessert or two and/or a fruit dish. Please contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) and let them know what you want to bring (dessert and/or fruit).

Fall Book Study
When: Monday, November 21 at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Church Parlor

The Book: *Underground Airlines* by Ben H. Winters



It is the present day and the world is as we know it; smartphones, social networking, Happy Meals. Save for one thing: the Civil War never occurred.

A gifted young black man calling himself Victor has struck a bargain with federal law enforcement, acting as a bounty hunter for the U.S. Marshals Service. He's got plenty of work. In this version of America, slavery continues in four states, the Hard Four. On the trail of a runaway known as Jackdaw, Victor arrives in Indianapolis knowing that something isn't right – with the case file, with his work, and with the country.

Underground Airlines is a groundbreaking novel, a wickedly imaginative thriller, and a story of an America that is more like our own than we may want to believe.

Books are available in the office for \$12.00.



Advent for Kids

!!! You are invited !!!

Who? Children of all ages.
 What? Advent Activities
 Where? The Pit Stop
 When? Sunday, November 27 following lunch
 Why? To celebrate the first Sunday in Advent

Activities include: painting a candle holder, creating an Advent banner, decorating cookies, and making cards for the Community Christmas Dinner.



Christmas Kitchen on Sunday, December 4

Our youth ministry is hosting a Christmas Kitchen on Sunday, December 4. In the weeks leading up to December, we are collecting dishes (not just sweets) to be sold in preparation of the Christmas season. These are dishes that can be reheated to take the burden off during the busy holiday season. Keep in mind, cookies and other sweets are very welcome, but we are going to collect your favorite dishes to be sold as well.

Make the members of FPC your kitchen elves this Christmas! Please contact Matt Drumheller (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) with questions or to sign-up your dish donation.



MANTREAT AT MONTREAT APRIL 21-23, 2017

Women's Retreat Recap

A beautiful fall week-end, First Presbyterian Church women, friends, and family from as far away as northern Kentucky, good food and shared commitments were the elements of a lovely week-end for our women. We gathered around the theme of *Time: From Famine to Feast* and savored the time we spent in prayer, study, making chrismons, enjoying chair yoga, walking in the mountains, and shopping.

Many thanks to the retreat planning team: Rebekah Ayscue, Kristie Bryson, and Ruth Cotton.

Save the Dates for Next Year's Retreat: September 22-24, 2017





Youth Club Celebrates Fall with a Generous Heart

During November Youth Club will be all about developing a “generous spirit” that supports needs in the church, community and beyond. God has given each child rich gifts and their leaders will encourage the sharing of these gifts with others. Each year the Youth Club children are given the opportunity to participate in the Angel Tree “Helping Hands” project. If each of the 49 children in K-5th grade brings in one item for the Angel tree, they can help make Christmas special for eight other children. It is this type of generosity that we will celebrate all year long. Much of the month will also be spent in music as they prepare for the Joy Gift Program that will be presented on Sunday, December 11.

Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) will learn about stewardship and God’s generosity to them as it is reflected in their individual gifts. They will learn about Intentional Generosity through the story of Boaz and how he allowed Ruth and Naomi to glean, and finish up the month with God’s Greatest Gift to us in Jesus.

Faith Explorers’ (4th-5th graders) will focus their energy on a holiday fundraiser project that will help support Montana de Luz in Honduras. Anna Wainwright shared stories from the mission work she did last summer while visiting the “mountain of light” and teamed up with the Faith Explorers for some assistance with her Sr. Project in support of that mission. Look for details about this project in the December newsletter, weekly bulletin and information boards in the pit stop.

Youth Cubs

The month of November will include the story of Joseph as it provides an amazing insight into how God sovereignly works to overcome evil and bring about His plan. Themes of trust and forgiveness are present. Also included will be the story of baby Moses as it demonstrated that God loves and cares for us. Lastly, we will celebrate God’s gift of the beauty of our fall season.

Submitted by Lynn Poplin



Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

Who can come? 2nd & 3rd graders
What? Breakfast...muffins, fruit, yogurt, juice, etc.
When? Sunday, November 13, at 9:00 am
Where? Media Room
Why? To pray together & build strong community of faith

Please let Gina Martin know if you are able to join us...gmartin@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.

OLD FASHIONED DAY

Faith Explorers’ Sunday Outing
“Old Fashioned Afternoon” at Morrow Mountain State Park
Sunday, November 6
Noon-4:00 p.m.



Join the “*Old Fashioned*” fun at Morrow Mountain on Old Fashioned Day. Enjoy lunch at church following 11:00 am worship and head out to the mountain for some gold panning, “old fashioned” children’s games and see demonstrations of flintknapping, shoe making, apple cider pressing, woodworking, blacksmithing, Native American crafts, storytelling and more.

Pick up at the church at 4:00 p.m.

Please let Gina Martin know if your Faith Explorer will be able to participate by Wednesday, November 2 gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org.

COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES 2016-2017

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Email: em.andrew@wingate.edu

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Laney Smith (Central Piedmont Community College)

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Email: laneys12@yahoo.com

Jack Snyder (Appalachian State University)

172 Clay Hodges
Boone, NC 28607

Caroline Snyder (UNC Charlotte)

Arcadia Student Living
1112 Sunshine Court
Apt. 1103A
Charlotte, NC 28213

Braden Taylor (Mississippi State University)

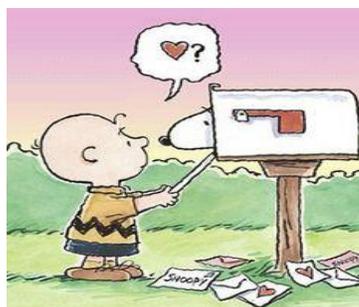
P.O. Box 2078
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Kendall Taylor (East Carolina University)

630 Cotanche Street
Apt. 204
Greenville, SC 27858

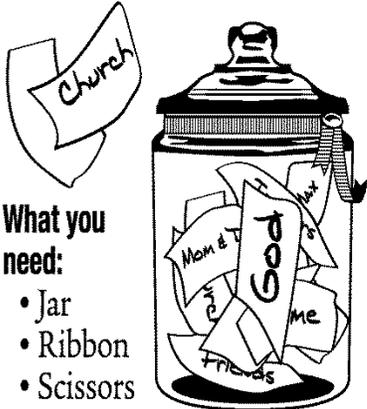
Quinton Wainwright (Stanly Community College)

511 Impala Drive
Albemarle, NC 28001



BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.



What you need:

- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen

What you do:

1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar's neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you'll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.

Thankful Hearts

Make table decorations that serve as Thanksgiving conversation-starters.

What you need:

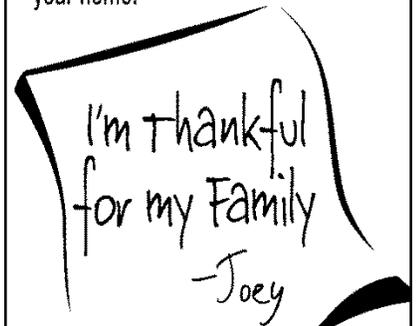
- Paper and pencil
- Scissors
- Cloth or felt
- Needle and thread
- Sewing machine (optional)
- Fiber fill, cotton balls or rice
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Cut out a heart pattern (any size) on paper. Allow 1/4" for a seam if you'll be using a sewing machine.
2. Cut out material hearts, placing pieces right sides out if sewing by hand and right sides together if using a machine.
3. For hand-sewing, use a running stitch or an overcast stitch. Leave an opening for stuffing.
4. With a machine, sew along a 1/4" seam, allowing a 1" opening so you can turn the heart inside out and insert stuffing. Trim close to seam but don't cut stitching.
5. Fill with stuffing. Sew the opening shut by hand.
6. Put a heart at each place setting. Before dinner, have guests pick theirs up and say why they have a thankful heart.

Wall of THANKS

During this season of gratefulness, create a special wall of thanks in your home.

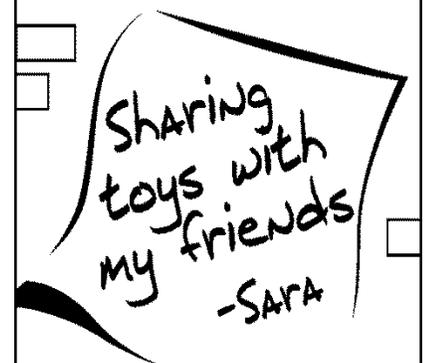


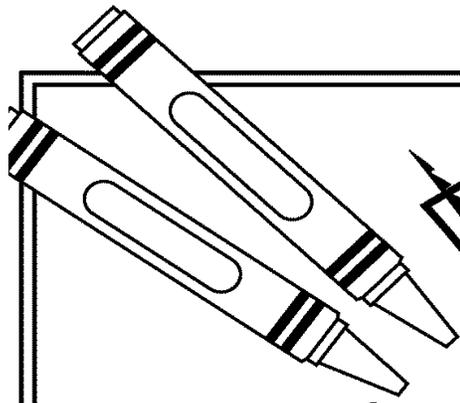
What you need:

- Sticky notes
- Pens or markers
- Poster board (optional)

What you do:

1. Every day in November, have each family member write or draw on a sticky note someone or something they're thankful for. (Try not to repeat ideas.)
2. Display your notes on a wall or on poster board.
3. Read your list every day to remind you about God's many blessings.





PUZZLE

Blessings from the Lord

Throughout the Bible, God blesses his chosen people. How can we receive these gifts?

Directions: In the word search, find all the words in the box. Then write the words in the correct order on the blanks below to complete the verse.

come you these LORD if blessings you the accompany
Deuteronomy All on your obey will God you and

I	J	T	Z	Z	L	M	X	N	W	C	I	Z	Y	H
X	V	U	B	M	O	O	O	V	I	O	L	T	R	T
N	L	V	L	I	R	A	D	S	L	M	R	H	A	T
B	F	C	E	Z	D	T	X	O	L	E	D	E	L	D
O	S	K	S	L	O	D	A	B	V	G	W	S	L	E
H	G	Y	S	L	R	A	W	E	Y	J	E	E	U	U
I	O	R	I	W	F	I	C	Y	O	U	R	L	R	T
Z	D	B	N	I	A	B	Y	C	V	M	R	X	C	E
G	K	D	G	Y	D	M	A	O	O	T	U	F	M	R
C	T	I	S	Z	O	M	T	E	Q	M	P	N	T	O
C	X	C	I	D	U	U	O	L	R	D	P	T	C	N
F	S	X	F	R	T	L	P	M	F	B	L	A	A	O
Y	Y	Y	O	U	H	T	U	A	P	A	I	U	N	M
E	O	K	N	U	E	A	Z	U	F	E	F	B	D	Y
T	Q	U	Y	N	I	N	O	O	V	E	O	T	Z	I

“ All _____ ”

28:2, NIV



Tuesday, November 1

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 10:00 am First Family Dessert Crew

Wednesday, November 2

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:30 am First Family Salad & Fruit Crew
- 12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 3:45 pm First Family Set-up Crew
- 5:00 pm First Family Final Touches Crew
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 5:45 pm Evening Prayer
- 6:00 pm First Family Dinner
- 6:45 pm First Family Clean-up Crew
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 3

- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at El Ranchito

Friday, November 4

- 6:30 am-9:30 am Homes of Hope Hearty Breakfast Fundraiser
Central UMC (172 North 2nd Street, Albemarle)
- 4:30 pm-7:30 pm Empty Bowls SCCM Fundraiser at Central UMC
(172 North 2nd Street, Albemarle)
- 6:30 pm Fall Movie Night in the church gym

Saturday, November 5

- 9:00 am-3:00 pm Chancel Choir Retreat at Pfeiffer University
- 10:00 am-Noon OASIS Tea Party & Purse Auction at FPC

Sunday, November 6

All Saints Day/Consecration Sunday/Ten-Cents-A-Meal/No Children's Church/Daylight Saving Time Ends/Deadline for Veteran's Day Flower Form

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Consecration Meal
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee (Session Room)
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers' Old Fashioned Day at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 12:00 pm-4:00 pm New Officers' Training
- 5:00 pm-6:30 pm Middle School Youth Connection

Monday, November 7

- 7:00 pm Circle #5 meets at the home Polly Moose
(24875 South Business 52, Albemarle)
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, November 8

Election Day

- 7:00 pm Community Christmas Dinner FPC Committee Chairs Meeting

***childcare provided**

Wednesday, November 9

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 10

- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

Friday, November 11

Veteran's Day

Saturday, November 12

- 6:30 pm-8:30 pm Empty Nesters' Game & Snack Night (Gym)

Sunday, November 13

SERRV Bazaar in the Pit Stop

Collection of Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

- 8:45 am *Diaconate
- 9:00 am *Breakfast Bunch
- 9:30 am-11:00 am SERRV Bazaar
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm SERRV Bazaar
- 12:00 pm Sometime Singers & Players meet with Frank Poolos
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Connection
- 6:00 pm Worship Committee
- 7:00 pm *Session

Monday, November 14

- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, November 15

- 12:00 pm December Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, November 16

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 17

- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

***childcare provided**





Sunday, November 20

Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Christian Education Meeting (Session Room)
- 3:00 pm-5:00 pm Ecumenical Youth Rake n' Run
- 7:00 pm *Community Thanksgiving Worship
(reception following)

Monday, November 21

- 7:00 pm Fall Book Study *Underground Airlines* by Ben Winters
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, November 22

- 10:00 am Backpack Program

Wednesday, November 23

No Wednesday Activities

Thursday, November 24

*Church Office Closed
Thanksgiving Holiday*

Friday, November 25

Church Office Closed

***childcare provided**



Sunday, November 27

*First Sunday of Advent/Alternative Gifts Available in the Pit Stop
No Children's Church/Hanging of the Christmas Greenery*

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Hanging of the Christmas Greenery & Chili Luncheon/Advent for Kids

Monday, November 28

- 12:15 pm Advent Study
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, November 29

Return Angel Tree Gifts

- 6:00 pm Contemplative Advent Worship (Chapel)
- 7:00 pm Planned Giving Task Force (Old Session Room)

Wednesday, November 30

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Community Advent Worship at Christ Episcopal Church (428 Pee Dee Ave.)
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Orff Ensemble (Grades K-2)
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Handbells (Grades 3-5)
- 7:00 pm *Chancel Choir Rehearsal

***childcare provided**



THOSE WHO SERVE IN NOVEMBER

Ushers: John Howell, captain; Brad Boone, Lee Boone, Bill Hall, Robin Howell, Adam Jolly, Jack Morton, Penny Morton, and Ellen Snyder

Elder Greeters:

November 6: Mary Kesselman; Lee McManus

November 13: Lee McManus; Sarah Michael

November 20: Lee McManus; Sarah Michael

November 27: Mary Kesselman; Lee McManus

Nursery Room:

November 6: Samatha Wangler

November 13: Jana Sanderson (Diaconate)

November 20: Jana Sanderson

November 27: Samantha Wangler

Toddler Room:

November 6: Misty Honbarrier

November 13: Misty Honbarrier (Session)

November 20: Cici Ly

November 27: Cora Harrison

Nana & Papa Team:

November 6: Carroll Sitton

November 13: Susan & Banks Garrison

November 20: Sarah & Ronnie Michael

November 27: Teresa Taylor; Shirley Welch

Preschool Partners:

November 6: Penny & Jack Morton

November 13: Melissa & Wes Eudy

November 20: Jill Niebler; Isabel McLeod

November 27: Leah Beamon; Rose Saltzman

Acolytes:

November 6: Duncan Bryson

November 13: Leah Kilde

November 20: Angus Currie

November 27: Morgan Kinley

Children's Church for September:

November 6: *No Children's Church*

November 13: Anna Wainwright; Jacob Palmer

November 20: Laura McLeod; Andy McLeod; Jacob Palmer

November 27: *No Children's Church*

