



## 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

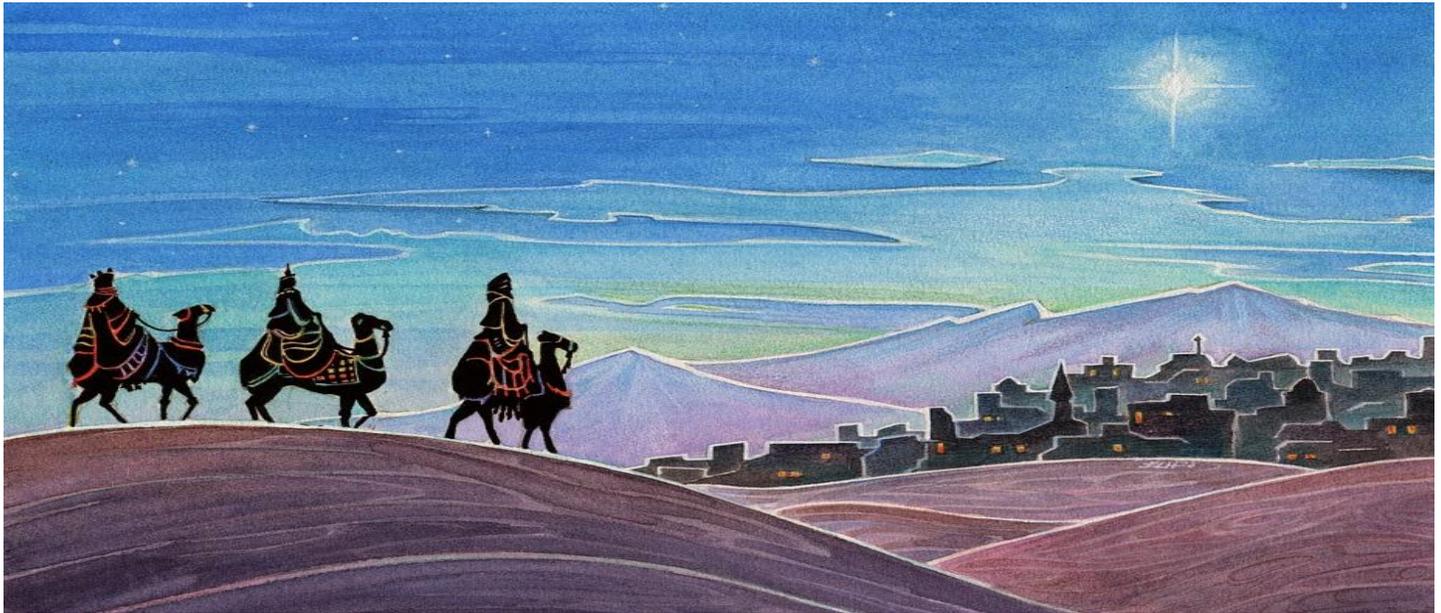
Pam Knighten, Secretary

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Church Office: (704) 982-2722

Website: [www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)

E-mail: [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)



January 2017

Dear Friends,

***In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.*** John's gospel speaks to the origin of Jesus Christ and the most important certainty in our world: Jesus came to earth as God with us. Because of that, we have an opportunity to fully see God and to know Jesus as God in the flesh.

We had a wonderful Advent season which culminated in the birth of Jesus and our celebrations on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Now, we live into the 12 days of Christmas which culminate with Epiphany when we remember the visit of the magi (wisemen) to baby Jesus. We'll celebrate together on January 4 at the First Family Dinner and during a worship moment on that evening.

You have shown the love of Christ in so many ways in the past month. Thank you for the ways you have loved one another and the stranger in our midst as you have baked, bought, wrapped, served, cooked, cleaned, sung, prayed, packed, and touched one another with the love of Christ.

Grace and Peace,  
Elizabeth

# WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday, January 1

## Moravian Lovefeast

11:00 a.m.

We'll worship in the gym around a roaring fire and celebrate some of the traditions of the Moravian Church, including the Love Feast (hot apple cider and a slightly sweetened bun). We'll sing carols, read scripture, and remember God's covenant with his people in this new year.



Sunday, January 8

We'll celebrate the Baptism of the Lord Sunday.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:15-17

Sunday, January 15

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 49:1-7  
John 1:29-42

Sunday, January 22

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4  
Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday, January 29

Newly elected deacons and elders will be ordained and installed. While we celebrate their particular call to service, we will also focus on the call of each person to serve God with their particular gifts.

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### Ten-Cents-A-Meal

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on January 1. This monthly offering is used by the Presbytery of Charlotte to fund hunger programs and agencies (including SCCM) throughout the presbytery. We received a total of \$296.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal in November. 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!

### 2017 Flower Calendar

The 2017 flower calendar is posted in the pit stop. If you wish to put flowers in the church in honor or memory of someone or just to provide beauty to the service, please sign up on the calendar. **Flowers may be ordered from any local florist.** Contact Frankie Palmer (704-982-1757 or [fpalmer3@carolina.rr.com](mailto:fpalmer3@carolina.rr.com)) for more information and to make arrangements for the flowers to be delivered to the church on Saturday or Sunday morning before worship.



## MANGER OF WARMTH

Bring warm items to the manger in the pit stop for children and adults this winter. New and gently used scarves, mittens, gloves, socks & toboggans are welcome. We will collect through Wednesday, January 4 and place these gifts at the manger during the Epiphany Worship Service that evening. Warm items will be given to children at Central Elementary School and the Clothing Closet.

# ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION

Session has established the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 22. The meeting will be held immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to receive annual reports and to transact other business as may properly come before the meeting. We will also have a congregational meeting for the purpose of reviewing and approving the pastors' terms of call.

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## OFFICER'S RETREAT AND ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

The annual officer's retreat will be held at the church on:

Friday, January 27                      6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.  
Saturday, January 28                    8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The following Deacons and Elders will be ordained and installed in worship on Sunday, January 29:

### Deacons

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

### Elders

Steve Cumming, Adam Jolly, Joyce Lambert, Jim Marshall,  
Lee McLaurin, Debbie Wainwright, and David Whitley

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## Church Officers – Coming & Going

Many thanks to the following people who have faithfully served this congregation as leaders for the past three years:

### **Class of 2016**

#### **Diaconate:**

Taylor Johnston, Liz Jolly, Heather Kilde, Penny Morton, and Lee Snuggs

#### **Session:**

Debbie Bennett, Jim Carter, Peggy Finley, Lee McManus, Tom Norwood, and Marshall Rogers

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## 2017 Committee Reorganization

Each year in January, committees reorganize and every member of the congregation has an opportunity to be part of the work of the church by saying **YES, I want to help.**



Contact Matt ([mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)/704-982-2722) or  
Elizabeth ([eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org)/704-982-2722)

to learn more about the Diaconate and Session Committees  
and engage in the work of one or more.

### *Diaconate Committees which need you!*

- Childcare
- College & Military
- Fellowship
- Membership
- Senior Care
- Ushering

### *Session Committees which need you!*

- Christian Education
- Mission
- Property
- Stewardship
- Scholarship
- Worship

**STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...NOVEMBER 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**GENERAL FUND**

<b>Actual:</b>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	472,384.00	518,313.00
Total Expenses:	<u>515,326.00</u>	<u>517,684.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus:	(42,942.00)	629.00

**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 November: <u>\$14,394</u>
Total Expenses:	565,035	

**We are behind \$20,623 in pledges. (\$14,305 of 2016 pledges was prepaid in 2015)**

**Ten-Cents-A-Meal November: \$296**

**Alternative Gifts: \$1,895**

**Thanksgiving Offering (Children's Hope Alliance): \$380**

**Disaster Relief for Eastern North Carolina: \$3,237**

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## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE GRANTS

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until January 15. Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)).

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### FAITH on the FIFTH OFFERING

#### Sunday, January 29

December reminded us about the chill that winter can bring. We can pray for those in our community who struggle to stay warm during this season. We can also put our faith into action by contributing to the special offering on the last Sunday in January. Donations will go to SCCM's Heating Assistance Fund.

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***From the Stewardship Committee...***

Thank you for a successful stewardship campaign. We received pledges of \$507,476 which was a slight increase over 2016 pledges. In spite of this increase, the 2017 budget (which was approved by Session at its December meeting) is less than the 2016 budget. The reason for the decrease in the budget is that we are relying less on funds from our reserves.

To achieve a re-balancing of the budget, all church program budgets were decreased by at least 10%. There will be no salary increases for staff and there are several decreases for staff continuing education. We look forward to a belt tightening year that will move us toward a more sustainable budget.

Our stewardship emphasis in 2016 was highlighting the generosity of this church – your generous contributions to this church and community through sharing your skills, talents, time, and tithes. A Generosity Committee was established to convey this message. The Stewardship Committee wishes to thank members of this committee – Rebekah Ayscue, Steve Cumming, Jack Morton, and Marlene Sanges – for their outstanding effort, commitment, and good humor. The committee is also thankful for all those of the congregation who shared their generosity stories with the congregation. We would be remiss in not acknowledging the outstanding effort of the church staff involved with the preparation and development of the 2017 budget – Kyle Lambert and Pam Knighten.

The Stewardship Committee thanks you for your part in making this a successful stewardship campaign. The 2017 budget is the result of many people working together for a common cause – responsible use of the resources God has entrusted to us to spread the word of God.

Debbie Bennett, Stewardship Committee Chairperson

# NEWS *and* NOTES

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### **Minister's Discretionary Fund:**

In memory of Mary Lou Andrew, given by Kent & Shannon Newport.

In memory of Joan Belsan, given by Sandy Saunders.

In memory of Dennie Carpenter, given by Kent & Shannon Newport.

In memory of Jeff Covington, given by Sandy Saunders.

In memory of David Hancock, given by Sandy Saunders.

In memory of Jeanette Isenhour, given by Sandy Saunders.

In memory of Jim Ivey, given by Kent & Shannon Newport.

In memory of John Rodda, given by Sandy Saunders.

In honor of Elizabeth Ayscue, given by Gina Martin.

### SYMPATHY

To Steve Coats and family upon the death of his father, Bruce Coats, on November 26.

To Holly Norwood and family upon the death of her mother, Katie Dearstyne, on December 10.

### Session Notes

Newly Elected Class of 2017 Deacons and Elders were examined by the Session and approved. Proposed Budget for 2017 was presented to the Session and approved. Congregation is encouraged to complete their 2016 pledged giving to the church by the end of this year. Report from the Membership Committee was given to the Session on a list of non-active names to be removed from the church's roll, as outlined by the *Book of Order*. A Moravian Love Feast service will be held January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. January 29<sup>th</sup>'s Faith on the Fifth Offering will go towards the Stanly Community Christian Ministry's (SCCM) Heating Program.

Lynn White, Clerk of Session



### **Thanks to the following people for assisting in the church office in November:**

Ann Duckwall, Gloria Bryson, Donna Gaither, Ruth Goodwin, Sally Grantier, Sandy Rogers, Ruth Ann Rogers, and Martha White.

**Thank you to our wonderful congregation** who provided Christmas to 55 children who otherwise would not have that pleasure. Also special thanks to Bob Johnston, Harold Sharpe, Joe Snuggs, and Larry Sitton who once again helped deliver the gifts. Extra thanks to Bob Johnston who prints the angel tree information every year.

**The Mission Committee would like to thank the following people** who helped purchase, prepare and/or serve food at the Community Table on Saturday, December 3rd: Mildred Andrew, Gloria Bryson, Ruth and Andy Cotton, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Debbie and John Hahn, Martha Sue Hall, Margaret Ivey, Polly Moose, Jane and Bill Pickler, Rose Saltzman, Marlene and Nathan Sanges, Sandy Saunders, Carolyn Sharpe, Carroll and Larry Sitton, and Elizabeth Wilson.

### **A special thank you to**

Leah Kilde and Thora Kilde for their donation of a dollhouse to the preschool room.

This will be enjoyed by all!



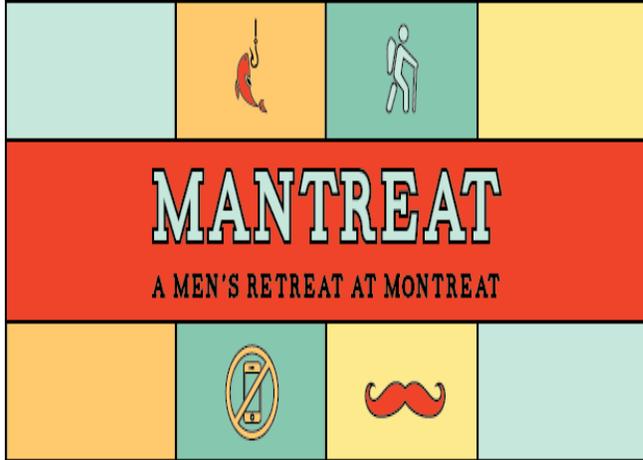
### December's First Family Dinner

Thanks to all of the EXTRAORDINARY volunteers that helped make this dinner so nice! Linda Anderson, Mildred Andrew, Rebekah Ayscue, Leah Beamon, Lisa, Jenna and Cameron Biddle, Keith and Kristie Bryson, Katie Carpenter, Ruth and Andy Cotton, Michelle and Steve Cumming, Ann Duckwall, Melissa Eudy, Peggy Finley, Susan Garrison, John and Debbie Hahn, Bill Hall, Sandy Kilde, Leslie, Stephan and Morgan Kinley, Mark Mabry, Laura Beth Marks, Sarah Michael, Gayle Russell, Sandy Saunders, Jim Sawyer, Ann Upchurch, Ken Knight and Connie Wallace, and the Faith Explorers and all those who helped clean up the gym! YOU ARE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST TO ME!! I just can't thank everyone enough for being so generous with their time and talents!! I LOVE YOU☺

Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship Service

# NEWS *and* NOTES

## Read This



## MANTREAT AT MONTREAT APRIL 21-23

Men from our church will be participating in the Mantreat at Montreat over the weekend of April 21-23. This will be a great opportunity to get to know some of the other men in the church and to gather with men from all over the region to worship, pray, and fellowship together. There is still time to sign up and we would love to have YOU join the group! The price is \$257.50 per person for a double-occupancy room and \$337.50 per person for a single-occupancy room. Please sign up with the church office or by emailing Matt at [mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org).

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**February Newsletter Deadline...Tuesday, January 17.**

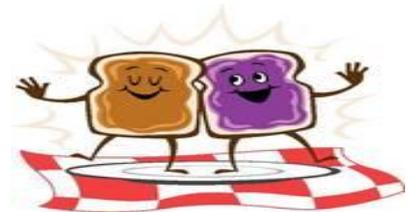
Early submissions are always welcome!

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

[pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org).

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## STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY FOOD CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY: Peanut Butter & Jelly



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## Backpack Food Program Donation 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: Wednesday, January 4 at 10:00 a.m.**



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 Dearstyne**, father 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.
- Beth Harris**, sister-in-law of Martha Sue Hall; health concerns.
- Elizabeth Howard**, cousin of Mary Kesselman; health concerns.
- Tonia Icenhour**, friend of Kim Caudle; lymphoma.
- 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.
- Linda Richards.**
- Carolyn Sharpe.**
- Pete Smith.**

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**Church Website Address & Email Addresses**



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



# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

02- Pine Sydalack

03- Mike McLeod

Sandy Rogers

04- Sandy Saunders

05- Austin Coats

Miriam Russell

06- Shannon Lisk

09- Isabel McIntyre

10- Rita Morgan

Jacob Palmer

11- Drew McManus

12- Ruth Ann Rogers

13- Jane Borders

15- Julian Eudy

Brittany Mallory

Greta Jane Mallory

16-Debbie Hahn

19-Nancy Feather

Ken Frazier

20-Larry Sitton

23-Susan Garrison

Kim Marshall

Ronnie Michael

24-Dennis Gower

27-Linda Richards

28-Kim Andrew

Dona Lisk

Gus Holbrook

30-Linda Anderson

Brittany White

31-Garrett Chapman



# JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

05-John & Debbie Hahn



## Youth Ministry Script

Happy New Year! For the month of January, as we kick off a new semester at First Presbyterian Church, we will be moving into a new theme for our youth ministry programming. This spring we will be exploring the theme: **Do Something**. Over the course of the spring we will be both actively participating in mission programs around our community as well as discussing what we as individuals can do to participate in God's work. Please join us as we look at discipleship from a practical angle and as we continue to grow in life and faith together!

Sunday, January 1		no Youth Connection
Sunday, January 8	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Youth Connection
Sunday, January 15	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Youth Connection
Sunday, January 22	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Youth Connection
Sunday, January 29	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Youth Connection

## Confirmation Interest Meeting

Eighth graders and their parents are invited to meet with Matt Drumheller on January 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for the 2017 Confirmation Class. We will meet briefly in the parlor following worship.

**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](mailto:eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org)) with any questions.**




### Ski Trip

Our Youth Ministry will have its annual ski trip the weekend of February 3-5. Please keep your eyes open for further details.



10- Jacob Palmer



### Youth Breakfast

March 20-24  
First Lutheran Church



## Walking Anyone?

Would you like to get some exercise in a warm (relatively!), level environment with friends? Mary Louise Sawyer is coordinating a walking group which will meet in the church's gym a couple of times each week in the new year. Folks will walk as little (or as much) as they like at their own pace. If you want to know more, contact Mary Louise Sawyer (704-986-6320).

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*First Presbyterian church*

## WINTER ART EXHIBIT

*Featuring works by  
the late E. Hendry Morris  
Opening Sunday, December 4*

*mother & grandmother  
of the First Oak Studio artisans,  
Leslie Carter, Olivia Keirstead,  
Benjamin Riddle, and J. Harrison Carter, II*

Growing up, Erne' Hendry Morris was inspired by her father and grandfather to appreciate the marvels of nature and God's creation. This exhibit will take a retrospective look at those and other influences, techniques, and changing styles of her work over the decades of her artful journey. Limited edition prints of Morris' work will be available for a donation to the First Presbyterian Church Alternative Gifts program.

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## YOUTH MINISTRY



On **December 11**, members of our church donated all kinds of food to be sold for our annual Christmas Kitchen fundraiser. About \$1400 was raised for our youth missions and programming! We would like to thank everyone who prepared the wonderful dishes and desserts as well as everyone who supported our youth ministry.

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### Lectionary-Based Bible Study

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

**Location: Off the Square (114 South 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



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### Volunteers Needed for First Family Dinner

- |                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dessert Crew:          | Tuesday, January 3 @ 10:00 a.m.   |
| Fruit and Veggie crew: | Wednesday, January 4 @ 10:00 a.m. |
| Set up crew:           | Wednesday, January 4 @ 3:45 p.m.  |
| Final Touches crew:    | Wednesday, January 4 @ 5:00 p.m.  |
| Clean-up crew:         | Wednesday, January 4 @ 6:45 p.m.  |

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358 or email her at [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org) if you would like to help☺.



Epiphany occurs on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas, January 6. It is the day the church has historically recognized the visit of the wise men to the manger. Our Youth Club Handbell Ensemble, Orrf Ensemble, and Choir will participate in worship. Come share dinner and a brief worship celebration in the gym!

***First Family Dinner***  
***Wednesday, January 4***  
***6:00 p.m. in the gym***

You're invited to bring *warm* gifts to place in the manger – mittens, scarves, hats, socks, and gloves will be donated to the Clothing Closet.

**On the Menu:** Boston Butt, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Corn, Mixed Fruit, Kale Salad, Rolls, Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Station, King's Cake, Tea, Coffee, Water, & Lemonade

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**Young Adult Lunch**

**Thursday, January 12 at Noon**

**Little Tokyo (1446 U.S. Hwy. 52 North, Albemarle)**

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

January 12 at Little Tokyo (1446 U.S. Hwy. 52 North, Albemarle)

February 3 at Jalapeños (1416 U.S. Hwy. 52 North, Albemarle)

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**PrimeTimers Luncheon**

**Thursday, January 19 at Noon in the Pit Stop**

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Stanley Scheer, Organist at FPC, Albemarle

Topic:

What You Always Wanted to Know About Music But Were Afraid to Ask

Please submit your questions in the box outside the church office or email Stan Scheer ([sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org)) by Thursday, January 12.

On the menu: Soup & Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Desserts, Tea, & Coffee

Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)) to sign-up and/or if you need transportation.

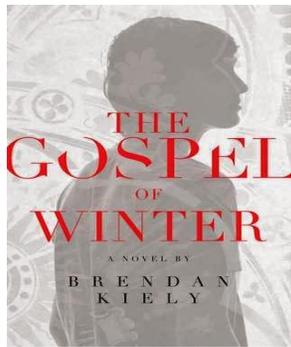
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**Celebrate Generosity with a Paint Brush**

Leslie Carter is offering a Watercolor Class on Mondays, January 23-February 20 from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. in classroom 3 on the third floor. No experience necessary; especially for beginners, those who want to refresh skills, or those who need an "attitude adjustment" on the technique of watercolor painting. Cost: Donation in the amount of your choice to Homes of Hope. Call the church office (704-982-2722) to sign-up. Space limited to 10 people. For more information, contact Leslie's studio phone (704-983-5091).





January Book Study  
Monday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m.  
*The Gospel of Winter*  
by Brendan Kiely

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

Kiely's debut novel is an emotional coming of age story which maps the ways love can be used as a weapon against the innocent, but can also, in the right hands, restore hope and even faith.

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## Tea and Conversation

**When?** Tuesday, January 24  
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Where?** Church Parlor

**What?** Join other women in the church for conversation and encouragement on a chilly afternoon.

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## Grand-Camp

Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat  
Sunday, January 29  
Noon-2:30 p.m.

Partnering in Christian Education....  
Children Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Grandparents of any age...

Lunch in pit stop followed by activities in gym.

Call 704-982-2722 or email [gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org) to sign up.

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## Save the Date

### for Music & Arts Camp Summer 2017

Your children and grandchildren will thank you for putting the following week on your calendar for...

**Music & Arts Camp 2017!**

**Sunday, June 11-Thursday, June 15**

Children ages 4 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will enjoy music, art, recreation, drama and fellowship with friends "old & new."  
For volunteers of all ages...come share the week with us.

## Youth Club

Youth Club children will begin 2017 with a celebration of Epiphany on Wednesday, January 4. Lessons on the Magi and their visit to the tiny baby Jesus in the stable will be a focus. Following a wonderful Joy Gift Program in December, the children will review the special gifts that were shared with *Jesus, King of Kings, Emmanuel, Prince of Peace* and what made each so special. They will prepare some special songs to share at the First Family Epiphany dinner. The Youth Handbells, Orff Ensemble and Youth Club choir will present these songs of joy and celebration for the service.



**Trusty Travelers (K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders)** will focus on the parables that Jesus taught, beginning with The Laborers in the Vineyard, Matthew 20, 1-16. They will also hear a “modern” version of this parable about justice and how to accept things that happen when they do not seem “fair.” The key concept for the children to learn is that God wants us to be content with what we have rather than complaining and looking at how generous He has been to others. As long as we are comparing what we have to what others have, we will never be content.

**Faith Explorers (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders)** will focus on how God wants them to be content with what they have. Following a season of giving, they will take time to slow down and identify all they have that is good in this world and learn ways to be satisfied with what God has done for them. They will also hear the parable of the The Laborers in the Vineyard, Matthew 20, 1-16 and identify similar “unfair” situations that exist in the world today. As they continue to write in their prayer journals, they will be encouraged to pray for situations of “unfairness and injustice” in the world we live in today.

### Youth Cubs

January lessons will center on Epiphany, Daniel, Zacchaeus, and winter. We will begin with Epiphany, the visit of the wise men to the Christ Child. An art activity will be completed for display at the First Family Dinner. The biblical character, Daniel, will be introduced as a lesson on faithfulness and bravery. Zacchaeus will teach that Jesus can change lives and he loves us no matter what mistakes we make. We will discuss how God created winter, full of exciting things to celebrate and enjoy, like snow!



Submitted by Lynn Poplin



### Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

Who can come?

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders

What?

Breakfast...muffins, fruit, yogurt, juice, etc.

When?

Sunday, January 8 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@fpcaalbemarle.org](mailto:gmartin@fpcaalbemarle.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 Pet Afternoon at the Movies

Faith Explorers (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders)

Sunday, January 8

Share a favorite funny “pet” story over pizza lunch at church in the pit stop before watching this hilarious movie about what pets do all day while their owners are away. Bring \$5 for pizza and a donation of pet food to benefit Stanly County Humane Society!

Noon-2:30 pm

# january

## Sunday, January 1

*Moravian Love Feast*

*Ten-Cents-A-Meal*

*Manger of Warmth*

*New Year's Day*

*No Sunday School*

*No Children's Church*

11:00 am \*Worship

## Tuesday, January 3

10:00 am Epiphany Dinner Dessert Crew

## Wednesday, January 4

*Manger of Warmth*

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Backpack Program

10:00 am Epiphany Dinner Fruit & Veggie Crew

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

3:45 pm Epiphany Dinner Set-up Crew

5:00 pm Epiphany Dinner Final Touches Crew

5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals

6:00 pm Epiphany Worship & Dinner (Gym)

6:45 pm Epiphany Dinner Clean-up Crew

7:00 pm \*Chancel Choir

## Thursday, January 5

9:30 am \*Pray & Play

10:00 am Staff Meeting

\*childcare provided

*For surely*  
**I KNOW THE**  
**plans**  
*I have for*  
**YOU,**  
*says the*  
*Lord...*  
**TO GIVE YOU A**  
**future**  
**WITH**  
*Hope.*  
Jeremiah 29:11, NRSV

## Sunday, January 8

*The Baptism of the Lord Sunday*

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

12:00 pm Confirmation Class Interest Meeting (parlor)

12:00 pm Faith Explorers' Pet Afternoon at the Movies (church)

5:30 pm-7:00 pm Youth Connection

## Monday, January 9

8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square

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

## Wednesday, January 11

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 Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals

7:00 pm \*Chancel Choir

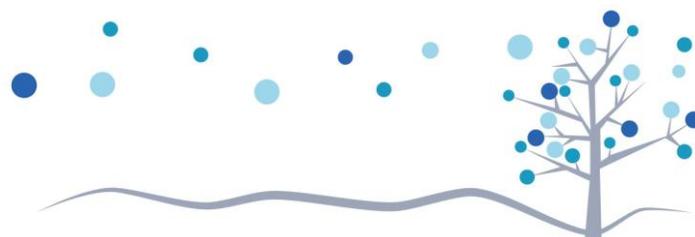
## Thursday, January 12

9:30 am \*Pray & Play

10:00 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Little Tokyo (Hwy 52 location)

\*childcare provided



# january

## Sunday, January 15

*Deadline for Gaither Endowment Grants*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Youth Connection

## Monday, January 16

*Observance Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday  
Church Office Closed*

## Tuesday, January 17

- 12:00 pm February Newsletter Deadline

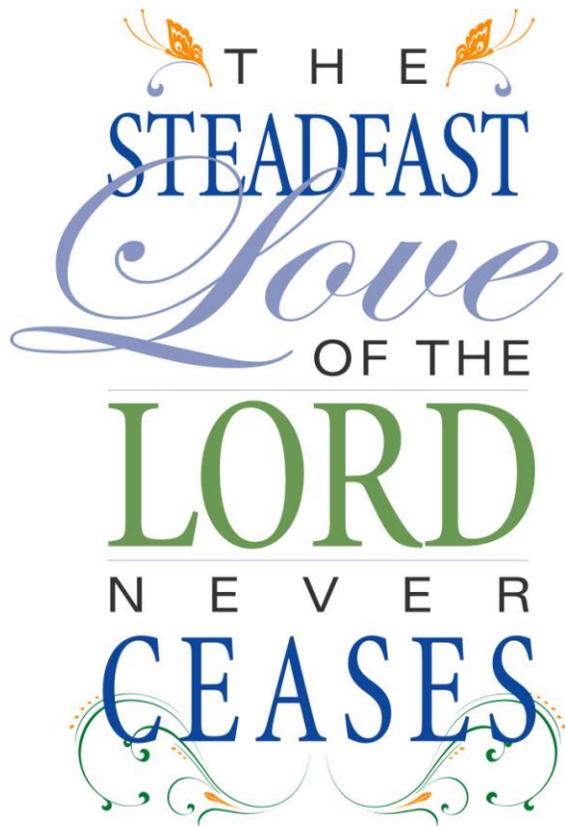
## Wednesday, January 18

- 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 Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals
- 7:00 pm \*Chancel Choir

## Thursday, January 19

- 9:30 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm PrimeTimers' Luncheon

\*childcare provided



## Sunday, January 22

*Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm \*Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Youth Connection

## Monday, January 23

- 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Celebrate Generosity with a Paint Brush  
(Classroom 3 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)
- 7:00 pm January Book Study (Parlor)
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

## Tuesday, January 24

- 2:00 pm-3:30 pm Tea & Conversation

## Wednesday, January 25

- 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 Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals
- 7:00 pm \*Chancel Choir

## Thursday, January 26

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

## Friday, January 27

- 6:00 pm-10:00 pm Officer's Retreat

## Saturday, January 28

- 8:30 am-1:00 pm Officer's Retreat

## Sunday, January 29

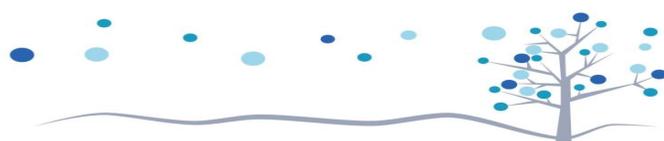
*Ordination & Installation of New Officers  
Faith on the Fifth Offering for SCCM Heating Assistance*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm-2:30 pm Grand-Camp Grandparent & Grandchild  
Retreat
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Youth Connection

## Monday, January 30

- 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Celebrate Generosity with a Paint Brush  
(Classroom 3 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

\*childcare provided



**THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY**

**Ushers:** Wes Eudy, captain; Steve Cumming, Angie Earnhardt, Don Joines, Nancy Joines, Greg Lisk, Ronnie Michael

**Elder Greeters for January:** Jim Carter; Ellen Snyder

**Nursery Room:**

**January 1:** Jana Sanderson

**January 8:** Samantha Wangler

**January 15:** Jana Sanderson

**January 22:** Cora Harrison

**January 29:** Jana Sanderson

**Toddler Room:**

**January 1:** Samantha Wangler

**January 8:** Misty Honbarrier

**January 15:** Cici Ly

**January 22:** Misty Honbarrier

**January 29:** Cora Harrison

**Nana & Papa Team:**

**January 1:** Carroll Sitton

**January 8:** Susan & Banks Garrison

**January 15:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael

**January 22:** Teresa Taylor; Shirley Welch

**January 29:** Bede & Russell Karr

**Preschool Partners:**

**January 1:** Penny & Jack Morton

**January 8:** Melissa & Wes Eudy

**January 15:** Jill Niebler; Isabel McLeod

**January 22:** Leah Beamon; Rose Saltzman

**January 29:** Laura McLeod; Ben McLeod

**Acolytes:**

**January 1:** Leah Kilde

**January 8:** Andy McLeod

**January 15:** David Kilde

**January 22:** Morgan Kinley

**January 29:** Graham Chapman

**Children's Church for December:**

**January 1:** No Children's Church

**January 8:** Dona Lisk; Jacob Palmer

**January 15:** Dona Lisk; Jacob Palmer

**January 22:** Dona Lisk; Jacob Palmer

**January 29:** Dona Lisk; Jacob Palmer



PSALM 98:4, NRSV