



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor

Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music

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March 2017

Dear Friends,

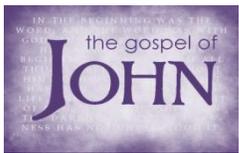
Lent, the 40 days before the celebration of the resurrection of Christ, begins on March 1. We will mark the day with ashes (which remind us of our humanity) and new commitments to follow Jesus more faithfully. Plan to be part of Ash Wednesday worship at noon or 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Please pick up a Lent brochure which will give you detailed information about some of the ways we will be together in this season. Since the gym is being renovated and out of commission at this time, our mid-week gatherings will be quite different than in past years. Instead of classes, we will have family-friendly worship in the sanctuary at 5:50 p.m. on Wednesdays. Instead of dinner in the gym, we'll have *table hosts* at a variety of local restaurants. Small discussion groups will gather at a variety of times and places.

I hope we will find our way to greater faithfulness as we journey through Lent together.

Grace and Peace,  
Elizabeth

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## Daily Scripture Reading and Prayer for Lent

Whether alone or with another, you are invited to read the gospel of John during Lent. Sermons and small group conversations will be based on texts from John.

Suggested scripture readings for the Lenten days in March:

March 1	John 1:1-28	March 14	John 6:1-15	March 27	John 11:1-27
March 2	John 1:29-42	March 15	John 6:16-21	March 28	John 11:28-57
March 3	John 1:43-51	March 16	John 6:22-40	March 29	John 12:1-26
March 4	John 2:1-2	March 17	John 6:41-59	March 30	John 12:27-50
March 5	John 2:13-25	March 18	John 6:60-71	March 31	John 13:1-20
March 6	John 3:1-21	March 19	John 7:1-24		
March 7	John 3:22-36	March 20	John 7:25-52		
March 8	John 4:1-26	March 21	John 8:1-30		
March 9	John 4:27-42	March 22	John 8:31-39		
March 10	John 4:43-54	March 23	John 9:1-23		
March 11	John 5:1-18	March 24	John 9:24-41		
March 12	John 5:19-29	March 25	John 10:1-21		
March 13	John 5:30-47	March 26	John 10:22-42		

Questions to consider each day:

*What is God saying to me through these words?*

*How will I respond?*

# WORSHIP NOTES

- Sunday, March 5 **First Sunday of Lent**  
Gospel Reading: John 2:1-12  
We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering and celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
- Sunday, March 12 **Second Sunday of Lent**  
Gospel Reading: John 4:46-54  
The Youth Club Trusty Travelers will sing in worship.
- Sunday, March 19 **Third Sunday of Lent**  
Gospel Reading: John 5:1-18  
The Youth Club Faith Explorers will sing in worship.
- Sunday, March 26 **Fourth Sunday of Lent/Youth Sunday**  
Gospel Reading: John 11:1-6, 17-27  
Worship will be led by our youth in grades 6-12, and our high school seniors will lead the sermon. The Youth Club Cubs will sing, and the Youth Club Ensemble will play ORFF instruments.

As Lent is a 40 day season used to prepare Christians for the resurrection of Jesus, we will highlight its importance by observing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper each Sunday.

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**Ten-Cents-A-Meal...**We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on March 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!

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**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.

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**COMMUNITY LENT WORSHIP SERVICES**  
**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5**  
**AT NOON IN THE SANCTUARY**  
**THEME: BUILDING THE KINGDOM**

**LUNCH FOLLOWING IN THE GYM...COST: DONATION**

Central United Methodist Church is hosting the Community Lent Worship Services on Wednesdays, March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 at noon. An offering will be received each week in support of Habitat for Humanity Faith Build.

- Wednesday, March 8 Preacher: Dr. Andy Jung, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Albemarle
- Wednesday, March 15 Preacher: Reverend Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle
- Wednesday, March 22 Preacher: Reverend Dr. James B. Bernacki, Rector of Christ Episcopal Church, Albemarle
- Wednesday, March 29 Preacher: Reverend Dr. Lamont Foster, Pastor of Union Chapel AME Zion Church, Albemarle
- Wednesday, April 5 Preacher: Pastor Ray Sipe, Chaplain at Trinity Place

**\*First Presbyterian Church will prepare and serve lunch on March 15. If you would like to help and/or contribute a dessert or some other assistance, contact Ann Duckwall (704-983-3498).**

# Lent 2017



Our excellent Lent planning team (Rebekah Ayscue, Laura McLeod, Ronnie Michael, and Lynn White) has been hard at work planning a Lenten season that will bring the congregation and friends together around scripture, the table, meals, and in worship.

The theme for Lent is *Awakening*.

## Some Highlights

### Wednesday Worship at 5:50 p.m.

It's 15-20 minutes worship for people of all ages, however they're dressed. The usual elements of prayer, song, and scripture will be present.

Meals Together on Wednesday Evenings...in restaurants (since the gym is being renovated)

### The Cross Walk on Good Friday at 10:30 a.m.

The scripture used on Sundays, Wednesdays, and for small gatherings will be taken from John's gospel and point toward people whose encounters with Jesus have *Awakened* them to life in the kingdom of God.

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**The forty day journey to Easter begins on March 1.  
There will be two worship opportunities.**

### **Worship at Noon:**

### **Music and Meditation**

For thirty minutes, the sanctuary will be filled with instrumental music, prayer, and scripture reading. Come for this contemplative time together. Ashes will be available.

### **Worship at 6:30 p.m.**

### **in the Sanctuary**

Plan to begin this season of penitence and preparation in worship. We will be reminded of our sin by the imposition of ashes and will feast at the table of our Lord Jesus Christ. Childcare provided.



**Beginning the week of March 5, each group will gather weekly for discussion and prayer around the gospel reading and the theme of Awakening. Some groups will be stationary and others on the move.**

**Hiking Posse**

Led by Connie Wallace and Ken Knight, this group will meet on Sunday afternoons (rain or shine) at 3:00 p.m. at Morrow Mountain State Park.

**Taste & See Cooking Crew**

Led by Gayle Russell and Jane Snyder meets on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. in the church kitchen. This group is limited to 9 people.

**Foodie Fans**

Led by Jane Boone, this group will meet at local restaurants on Thursdays at noon.

First Stop: March 9 at Noon in the Meeting Room at the Rosebriar Restaurant (528 Wiscasset Street)

**Yoga Peeps**

Led by Anissa Chapman and Nancy Joines, this group will meet on Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the church chapel.

**Classic Discussion Groups**

Led by Elizabeth, this group will meet on Sunday afternoons at her home (1611 Bellamy Circle) at 4:00 p.m.

Dona & Greg Lisk will lead a group meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. in the church kitchen. They will gather around a light dinner.

Led by Matt Drumheller, this classic group will meet on Mondays at noon in the parlor. Bring your lunch!

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**Wednesday Worship at 5:50 p.m.**

Using the familiar elements of word, song, prayer, and response, worship will take on new life as we explore John's gospel in new ways.

Worship is family-friendly and interactive. Come in a suit, jeans, or gym gear for 20 mid-week minutes focused on the power of God and the importance of our faith community.



**Wednesday Dinner Out**

No gym?...No problem.

Table hosts will be available at local restaurants to welcome you to the common table. You need only show up for these Dutch treat dinners with friends.

Participating restaurants will be announced at Wednesday worship and may include Second Street Sundries, Little Tokyo, Ly Cuisine, and El Ranchito.



# ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16

Started in 1949, One Great Hour of Sharing is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster. What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years, varying from 8 to 29 participating denominations, and has become the most participated-in offering in the PC(USA). Today, projects supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are underway in more than 100 countries.

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. One Great Hour of Sharing, received during the season of Lent (March 1 - April 15), makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

**Thank you for your support of this life-changing offering.**

**Please give generously.**

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# Do One Thing

## SPRING 2017

As spring approaches, let's think back to the fall when we were encouraged to DOT...*Do One Thing*...to make the world a better place or at least get involved with the Christian Education Program during the year. It's not too late!!! If you are looking for a DOT experience, doing one thing could be attending a small group during Lent, joining a Sunday School class, chaperoning a Faith Explorer Sunday afternoon outing, or volunteering to work at Music & Arts Camp this Summer. However it plays out, you will certainly be appreciated and hopefully grow spiritually with any choice you make. So sign up, walk in, or give the church a call and we will steer you in the right direction...

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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 [mrdumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mrdumheller@fpcalbemarle.org). **Payment in full should be made to the church by March 15.**



## **Palm Sunday (April 9)**

**9:30 a.m. Journey to the Cross**

*Walk Christ's journey during those final days...*

*Enjoy foods typical of those eaten in the time of Jesus.*

*Shepherds will guide you on the journey.*

**11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship**

Worship will include a palm parade and the presentation of the 2017 Confirmation Class.

**4:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt at City Lake Park**

**Monday-Friday 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Perk & Pray**

Drive through the parking lot on First Street for a cup of coffee/juice box and a prayer.

**Maundy Thursday (April 13)**

Watch for all the details as we plan an opportunity to engage with another congregation for dinner and The Lord's Supper.

**Good Friday (April 14)**

**10:30 a.m. Cross Walk (for all ages)**

Meet outside the sanctuary (on North Street). We'll follow the cross through downtown Albemarle and pray for the people of our community.

**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.



**Easter Sunday  
April 16**

**6:40 a.m.**

Gather at the shelter at the top of Morrow Mountain to celebrate the risen Christ. Dress for the weather and linger for fellowship and a light breakfast following worship.

**9:45 a.m.**

Sunday School for all ages.

**11:00 a.m.**

Worship will include seasonal music, guest musicians, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

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**Easter Eve Camping at Morrow Mountain  
on April 15**

Some folks are interested in camping at Morrow Mountain on Easter Eve (April 15). If you would like to be part of this group, contact Ken Knight (704-985-6277 or [kbknight17@gmail.com](mailto:kbknight17@gmail.com)). We'll have a great evening of fellowship and trek to the sunrise service together.

# It's a New Sunday School Class!



When? Starting Immediately  
 Where? In the Gathering Room on the Second Floor  
 What? Any adult is welcome to attend. You'll find newcomers to the church and many young adults and those who are young adults at heart will be there.  
 What happens? Conversation about the Scriptures and encouragement for living the faith. Sometimes, there's also food!

Leadership comes from the class – especially Greg Lisk & Wes Eudy.

For more information, contact Greg Lisk (704-519-5932 or liskgreg@aol.com).

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## New Face to the Childcare Staff

This month we want to welcome a new face to the Childcare Staff. Brianna Little will be working the second Sunday of each month in the toddler room. Brianna will graduate in May from Stanly Community College with her high school degree and plans to continue on at SCC and eventually pursue a degree in child psychology. She has much experience with nieces and nephews ranging in age from one to 6 years old. Reading and writing are areas of interest that Brianna enjoys when she is not in class or babysitting. Stop by and greet Brianna and join the childcare staff, parents, Nana & Papas as they welcome her as part of our exceptional childcare team.

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### STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...JANUARY 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### GENERAL FUND

<b>Actual:</b>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	38,623.00	44,976.00
Total Expenses:	<u>37,667.00</u>	<u>43,724.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus:	956.00	1,252.00

#### GENERAL FUND BUDGET

**2017**

Pledges:	507,476	Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: <u>\$10,544</u>
Total Income:	548,314	Average Weekly Amount Received in January: <u>\$7,725</u>
Total Expenses:	548,314	

**We are ahead \$12,837 in pledges. (\$20,488 of 2017 pledges was prepaid in 2016)**

**Ten-Cents-A-Meal December: \$221**

**Faith on the Fifth Offering: \$966**

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### Easter Lilies...Deadline: Sunday, April 9

If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Easter Lilies as an Easter Memorial or Honorarium, please fill out the form below exactly as you wish the memorial or honorarium to read, **attach a check in the amount of \$15.00** and place in the offering plate or leave in the church office no later than **Sunday, April 9**. Checks should be payable to "First Presbyterian Church" and designated "Easter Lilies." All memorials/honorariums received by April 9 will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 16.



#### Easter Lilies

**In honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to take my lily after worship on Easter.

I will leave my lily for delivery to a homebound member.

# NEWS and NOTES

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### Minister's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Joan Belsan, given by Diane & Bill Stevenson.

### Faith on the Fifth Fund:

In memory of Joyce Burris, given by Dick Liles.

### Our Living Legacy:

In memory of Joyce Burris, given by Margaret Ivey.

In honor of Mary Louise and Jim Sawyer, given by Margaret Ivey.

### Scholarship Endowment:

In memory of Joyce Burris, given by Doris R. Forte.

In memory of Joyce Burris, given by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Mattison.

In memory of Joyce Burris, given by Central Elementary School.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Katie and Matt Carpenter upon the birth of their daughter, Nora Lynn, on February 21. She joins older brothers Hugh and Russ. Proud grandparents are Kyle and Danny Carpenter.

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### Session Notes

As of February 21st, the church has received 71 pledges totaling \$126,415 towards the gym renovation. Our goal is \$130,000. If you are still considering pledging towards this campaign, please return your pledge card or contact the church office, as soon as possible. Lenten season starts on March 1st, Ash Wednesday, with services being held at Noon and 6:30 p.m. A variety of weekly small group discussion groups will also be offered. During Lent, communion services will be held each Sunday. Faith on the Fifth donations for April will go to the Crisis Assistance Fund. Coordinators for the Mission committee programs at Central School, are needed for the Book Fair and for proctoring. If you can help with these programs, please contact Joyce Lambert. Donations of large (family size) cans of soup and crackers are also needed for the Central School Backpack program (contact Sandy Saunders). In mid-March, the church will again host Bucknell College student volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. January's Financial Reports were in good shape, as we start a new year. Please keep up with your pledging.

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## **STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN MINISTRY CHALLENGE FOR MARCH:**

### **Canned Soup & Crackers**

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

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

### February's First Family Dinner

Thanks to all the people that make my job fun and enjoyable: Rebekah Ayscue, Mildred Andrew, Leah Beamon, Jane Boone, Cheryl & Dave Bristol, Keith and Kristie Bryson, Katie Carpenter, Ruth & Andy Cotton, Michelle Cumming, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Susan Garrison, John & Debbie Hahn, Bill Hall, Leslie, Stephan, and Morgan Kinley, Ken Knight and Connie Wallace, Mark Mabry, Sarah Michael, Polly Moose, Gayle Russell, Sandy Saunders, Jim Sawyer, Lee Snuggs, Elizabeth Wilson, all those who helped break down the tables and chairs and clean up the gym. I depend heavily on my First Family volunteers and am so thankful for your presence. I love spending time with you!!

Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship Service

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Souper Bowl of Caring by donating food or money. It was a wonderful event. We collected over \$400.00 and about 395 pounds of food. This will go a long way toward helping members of our community!



# NEWS and NOTES

## Circle #5

Circle #5 will meet on Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Polly Moose (24875 Hwy 52 Business South, Albemarle). Ann Duckwall will lead lesson 5.

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**April Newsletter Deadline... Tuesday, March 21**

**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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**Remember to *spring forward* one hour in the early morning hours of March 12 (or before you go to bed on March 11).**

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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)

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## **Gym Renovation Plans !!! Renovation has begun !!!**

Contractor: Stokes Construction Company

What will be done to the gym?

- New windows will be installed.
- The drop ceiling will be removed and new lighting installed.
- Electric darkening shades will be installed at each window.
- New (electric) basketball goals will be installed; the goals will have the capacity to be lowered to 5 feet.
- The door at the back of the gym will be reconfigured so the chair racks will easily move in and out of the gym.
- The gym and stairwell will be painted.
- The floor (gym, stage, and storage closets) will be repaired, refinished, and lines repainted.
- Under stage doors will be updated.
- The metal stairs leading to the parking lot will be replaced.

How long will the work take? If all goes precisely according to plans, the work will take 56 business days. No matter what, the gym will be available for Music & Arts Camp in June.

What is the projected cost? \$230,000.00...though unexpected issues may cause an increase in the price.

How are the fundraising efforts going?

Thanks to your generosity, we are well on the way to having pledges to cover the basic cost. It's not too late for you to make a pledge.

# PRAYER requests

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:

**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.  
**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.  
**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.  
**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**.  
**Linda Richards**.  
**Pete Smith**.



# MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- |     |                |     |                    |
|-----|----------------|-----|--------------------|
| 02- | Al Andrew      | 16- | Steve Coats        |
|     | Jordan Davis   | 17- | Bob Gaither        |
|     | Luke Davis     |     | Frank Green        |
|     | Ellen Snyder   | 18- | Kendall Taylor     |
| 05- | Becky Andrew   | 19- | Catherine McIntyre |
| 06- | Keith Andrew   |     | Chris Whitley      |
|     | Robert Ivey    | 20- | Bo Andrew          |
| 07- | Chris Mabry    |     | Lee McLaurin       |
| 09- | Cidney Eudy    | 21- | Sherrie Richards   |
|     | Ginny Marshall |     | Laney Smith        |
|     | David Whitley  | 22- | Jane Hartsell      |
| 10- | Russ Carpenter | 24- | Sam Holshouser     |
| 11- | Jim Carter     | 26- | Philip Welch       |
|     | Nancy Jolly    | 27- | Lachlann Currie    |
| 12- | Morgan Kinley  | 29- | Claude Harwood     |
| 14- | Leah Kilde     |     |                    |
| 15- | Kate Melone    |     |                    |



# MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- |     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| 10- | David & Carroll Holbrook |
| 13- | Bill & Ruth Ann Rogers   |
| 24- | Nathan & Marlene Sanges  |
| 28- | Larry & Carroll Sitton   |

# Youth Ministry Script for March



We have a busy March before us. We will continue to explore our theme (Do Something!) while we also engage in all sorts of mission, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Please join us for a great month!

March 3-5	Asheville Youth Mission	No Youth Connection
Sunday, March 12	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.	Youth Connection
Sunday, March 19	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Trivia Night
Sunday, March 26	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.	Youth Sunday & Youth Connection

**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.**



- 06- Robert Ivey**
- 12- Morgan Kinley**
- 14- Leah Kilde**
- 24- Sam Holshouser**
- 27- Lachlann Currie**



## **Asheville Youth Mission**

Our youth will be traveling to Asheville March 3-5 for our youth mission trip. They will spend the weekend working with local assistance agencies that address poverty and homelessness in Asheville. They will also spend time learning about homelessness, exploring the city, and bonding! If you would like to join us, please contact Matt to sign up. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they participate in this important program!

**Stanly County Youth Breakfast  
A Stanly County Tradition Since 1967  
50 Years of Fellowship  
March 20-24 at First Lutheran Church**

Our Stanly County Youth Breakfast will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this Spring. In honor of this milestone, we are inviting members of the community who have participated in the youth breakfast throughout its 50 years to join us for breakfast. Please join us for the day when your decade is represented. If you attended in the 1960's as a youth, join us on Monday for 60s day. If you attended in the 70s, join us on Tuesday; in the 80s, join us on Wednesday; in the 90s, Thursday; and in the 2000s or 2010s, Friday. Each day will be themed for the decade it represents. This will be a fun way to celebrate the years of fellowship we have spent together.





# 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, March 1 at 10:00 a.m.**

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## Lectionary-Based Bible Study on 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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### Young Adult Lunch

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. We'll be returning to our 12:00 gathering time for this month.

Thursday, March 2 at Ly Cuisine  
Thursday, April 6 at Coach's Grille

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## Sponsored by Youth Connection

Our youth are hosting our annual spring Trivia Night fundraiser on March 19. Please join us at 6:00 pm for dinner and a great evening of trivia competition. You can come join us as an individual or you can set up a team of 6-8 people. The cost is \$15 per individual with a \$50 family maximum. Please contact Matt Drumheller to sign up a team! This is a great way to support our youth program!

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### Spring Art Exhibit

Featuring works by students at Central Elementary School

Opening Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Reception 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Who Am I?: Self-Portraiture*

Demonstrating our literal, metaphorical, and emotional selves. First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth graders dig into self-portraiture with many different ways to express their views of themselves. Using words, images, colors, lines, and photographs to reflect and share with the viewer.

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## Gaither Grants Awarded

In February, the Endowment Committee responded to the grant requests which were submitted. The amount distributed from the Gaither Endowment was \$1,078. Funds were distributed to:

**The Christian Education Committee** for the purchase of Children's Art Gallery items, End-of-the-Year Youth Club celebration at the YMCA Park, Youth Club skating rink outing in December.

**The Fellowship Committee** for the purchase of kitchen items.

Patrick Currie, chair; Bob Gaither, Lee McLaurin, Ronnie Michael, Sandy Saunders, Martha Wolf, Elizabeth Ayscue (ex-officio).



# Planned Giving...Leaving a Legacy

For nearly 18 months, a task force of Session has been meeting together to think about how best to ensure the on-going ministry of First Presbyterian Church into the 22<sup>nd</sup> century. Olanda Carr, Ministry Relations officer with the Presbyterian Foundation, has provided counsel and a variety of resources to guide the group's thinking. Now they are ready to share some of what they have learned with you.

Please join the task force and Olanda for a *lunch & learn* on Sunday, March 19 following worship. Lunch will be provided in the pit stop, and Olanda will share basic financial planning information, as well as some specifics about how to leave a legacy gift which will provide for the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church for years in the future.

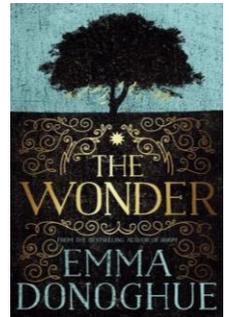
Sign-up to be part of the conversation by **Thursday, March 9** (704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)).

For more information, contact any member the Planned Giving Task Force: Larry Sitton, chair, Jane Boone, Patrick Currie, Art Rogers, Ellen Snyder, and Chris Whitley.

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## Book Conversation

Book: *The Wonder* by Emma Donoghue  
Date: Monday, March 27  
Place: The Parlor  
Cost: \$15.00 hardcover



An English nurse brought to a small Irish village to observe what appears to be a miracle – a girl said to have survived without food for months – soon finds herself fighting to save the child's life. *The Wonder* is a tale of two strangers who transform each other's lives, and a story of love pitted against evil. It poses powerful questions about faith and belief.

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### Hosting Habitat Volunteers from Bucknell University Coming Our Way



We will be hosting the Bucknell University students again this year for their spring break trip. They will arrive mid-afternoon on Sunday, March 12 and depart on Saturday, March 18. They have established an on-going relationship with our local Habitat for Humanity and are making plans to work on one of the "Faith Build" homes. There are plans for our church members to provide a dinner meal on Thursday, March 16. If you can help, please contact Dave Bristol ([dave.bristol001@gmail.com](mailto:dave.bristol001@gmail.com)) or Don Joines ([djoines@ctc.net](mailto:djoines@ctc.net)). If you encounter any of the students, please give them a warm welcome.



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# SAVE! the DATE!



## Bread for the World 2017 Offering of Letters: Doing Our Part Sunday, April 30

**Question:** What is the offering of letters?

**Answer:** It is a letter writing campaign which engages churches and other faith communities in writing to our congressional representatives. Each year for the campaign focus, we choose specific legislation or a legislative emphasis that can make a real difference to people struggling with hunger and poverty. *Supported with prayer, these letters are a bold witness to God's justice and mercy.* They continue to have a significant impact on the decisions made in Congress.

**Question:** What is the emphasis for 2017?

**Answer:** Our country, along with many other nations, are committed to ending extreme hunger and poverty by 2030. Our part is to urge our members of Congress to adopt and fund programs that have helped people move out of poverty and feed their families. The 2018 budget is in progress - - Congress works on budget and spending bills throughout the year - - so our advocacy for hungry neighbors, both near and far, is timely.

Watch future bulletins and the April newsletter for more information.



## Tea & Conversation Tuesday, March 21 2:00 p.m. in the parlor

Join other women in the congregation for conversation and laughter as we share life in this community.

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### From Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

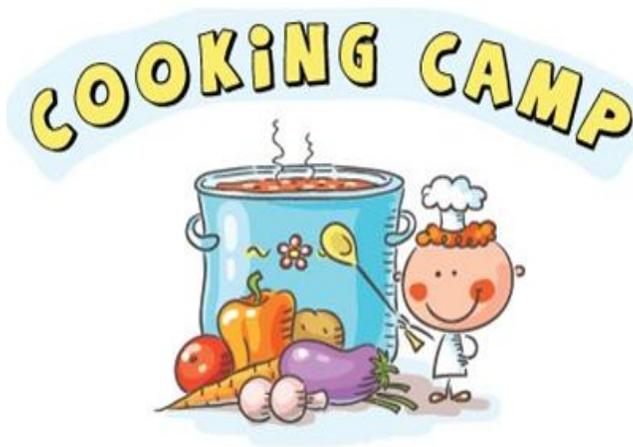
#### Confirmation Class Update

Our 2017 class of confirmands and their partners are hard at work reading Scripture, doing community and church service, and learning about what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Please continue to keep these youth (Duncan Bryson, Kimbal Chapman, Grace Dombrowski, David Kidle, and Morgan Kinley) and their partners (John Howell, Connie Wallace, Barbara McManus, Jim Hesley, and Rebekah Ayscue, respectively) in your prayers.



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### From Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship Services



## SAVE THE DATE!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COOKING CAMP FOR KIDS

(completed 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades)

June 19-22nd (Monday-Thursday)

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

Cost: \$40.00 per child

Camp Limit of 12 children

# From Gina Martin, Director of Christian Education

## Roots of Kindness Update...

Hearts were definitely in bloom last month as Youth Club children sold their goal of sixty jars with spring bulbs. Thanks to all who purchased a Roots of Kindness Jar. Your kind act helped the Trusty Travelers raise \$725.00 for Stanly Community Christian Ministry (SCCM) and will help folks heat their homes this winter.



### Thank you Gaither Endowment....

The Children's Art Gallery wants to thank the Gaither Endowment for providing additional frames and hanging system for it's recent expansion. Due to the large number of Youth Club participants, there was a need to expand in order to display more of the children's art creations. Thanks for encouraging the visual arts among our children and a deeper love and gratitude for our community. *"For you are God's Masterpiece," Ephesians 2:10* will inspire children to share the gifts God has created in them as they create their own masterpieces.

EVERY  
CHILD  
IS AN  
ARTIST  
-PICASSO



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

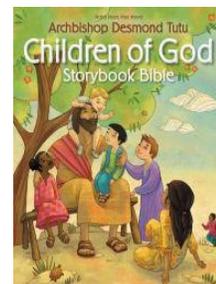
## March at Youth Club

March 1 is **Ash Wednesday** and the Youth Club children will have a special service with Pastors Elizabeth and Matt in the Chapel during their *Bible time*. They will learn about this special day as it begins the Lenten season. The imposition of the ashes in the shape of a cross on their foreheads will remind the children that they belong to Christ; and in those 40 days ahead, we will all try to live our lives growing closer to Christ. During *Music* with Mr. Frank the children will learn some new songs that will be shared with the congregation on Sundays, March 12<sup>th</sup> (Trusty Travelers) and 19<sup>th</sup> (Faith Explorers).



**Faith Explorers (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders)** will continue reading the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio and lessons will wrap around the questions: Who are you? What makes you unique? What gifts has God given to you? How do you see yourself? I wonder what God sees when he looks at you? These questions and answers will lead them into discovering their "self image" and they will paint self portraits, which will later be on display in the Children's Art Gallery. The scripture focus is Ephesians 2:10 "We are God's masterpiece." During this Lenten season the children will realize from their lessons that God wanted **them** to be **them**. **'He made you to be you.'** Real self-esteem comes from three facts: God created you, Jesus died for you and God's Spirit lives in you.

**Trusty Travelers (K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders)** will spend the month learning more about Jesus as he goes fishing for men and turning them into disciples (Luke 5), how these disciples learn to pray (Luke 11) and how he assures these disciples that God is in charge as He Calms the Storm (Luke 8 and Matthew 8). Through the *Children of God Storybook Bible*, **Archbishop Desmond Tutu** retells these stories, artfully highlighting God's desire for all people to love one another and to find peace and forgiveness in their hearts. Following each story and lesson, the children will write prayers, asking God to help them "follow Jesus, pray, and trust him when they are afraid."



### Youth Cubs

One of many children's favorite Bible stories is about David and Goliath. It is an amazing story! David was a hero to his people long ago. Through his faith in God, David was able to overcome what others thought was impossible. His victory over Goliath is truly a tale of strong faith and the following of God's plan for him. God has a plan for each of our preschoolers as they learn to trust Him to protect their lives. The children will participate in art activities and role playing associated with the story. The Cubs will hear about Jonah and how he tried to hide from God. They will learn that when they do wrong things, instead of trying to forget about it, or hiding from God, He wants them to tell Him about it and to ask forgiveness. We will use a blanket as an imaginary boat to act out the story, and play "Pin Jonah in the Whale" game.

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, milk, juice, etc.
- When? Sunday, March 12 at 9:00 a.m.
- 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@fpcalbecmarle.org](mailto:gmartin@fpcalbecmarle.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.

## St. Patrick's Day Snake Hunt for all Faith Explorers Sunday, March 19 Noon-2:30 pm

According to popular folklore, St. Patrick is said to have chased all the snakes out of Ireland, which is exactly what the Faith Explorers will be doing on this scavenger hunt. The 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders will eat lunch at church and begin their Snake "Scavenger" Hunt on the way to the YMCA Park, looking for clues along the way. Come dressed in comfortable clothing and bring \$5 for pizza lunch. Pick up at YMCA Park. Please let Gina Martin ([gmartin@fpcalbecmarle.org](mailto:gmartin@fpcalbecmarle.org)) know if your Faith Explorer will participate.



**Wednesday, March 1**

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Backpack Food Program
- 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals
- 6:30 pm \*Ash Wednesday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 pm \*Chancel Choir

**Thursday, March 2**

- 9:30 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Ly Cuisine

**Friday, March 3** *Church Office Closed/Asheville Youth Mission***Saturday, March 4** *Asheville Youth Mission***Sunday, March 5**

*First Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Ten-Cents-A-Meal/No Children's Church/Asheville Youth Mission*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee (Session Room)
- 12:00 pm Lunch & Conversation for visitors & prospective members
- 3:00 pm Hiking Posse Small Group with Connie Wallace & Ken Knight meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 4:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group at Elizabeth's

**Monday, March 6**

- 12:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Matt (Parlor)
- 7:00 pm Circle #5 at the home of Polly Moose (24875 Hwy 52 Business South)
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

**Tuesday, March 7**

- 9:30 am-11:00 am *Taste & See* Cooking Crew Small Group (Church Kitchen)
- 7:00 pm Confirmation Class

**Wednesday, March 8**

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Community Lent Worship at Central UMC
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals
- 5:50 pm Wednesday Worship
- 6:15 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Dona & Greg Lisk (Church Kitchen)
- 7:15 pm \*Chancel Choir

**Thursday, March 9**

- 9:30 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Foodie Fans Small Group meets at the Rosebriar Restaurant

**Friday, March 10** *Church Office Closed***Saturday, March 11**

- 9:00 am Yoga Peeps Small Group with Anissa Chapman & Nancy Joines (Chapel)

\*childcare provided

**Sunday, March 12**

*Second Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Trusty Travelers will sing in worship*

- 8:45 am \*Diaconate
- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 3:00 pm Hiking Posse Small Group with Connie Wallace & Ken Knight meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 4:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group at Elizabeth's
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Connection
- 7:00 pm \*Session

**Monday, March 13**

- 12:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Matt (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, March 14**

- 9:30 am-11:00 am *Taste & See* Cooking Crew Small Group (Kitchen)
- 3:00 pm-5:00 pm Spring Art Exhibit Opening & Reception
- 7:00 pm Confirmation Class

**Wednesday, March 15**

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Community Lent Worship at Central UMC
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals
- 5:50 pm Wednesday Worship
- 6:15 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Dona & Greg Lisk (Church Kitchen)
- 7:15 pm \*Chancel Choir

**Thursday, March 16**

- 9:30 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Foodie Fans Small Group

**Friday, March 17** *Church Office Closed/Saint Patrick's Day***Saturday, March 18**

- 9:00 am Yoga Peeps Small Group with Anissa Chapman & Nancy Joines (Chapel)

**Sunday, March 19**

*Third Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Faith Explorers will sing in worship*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Planned Giving Leaving a Legacy Luncheon
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers Lunch & St. Patrick's Day Snake Hunt
- 3:00 pm Hiking Posse Small Group with Connie Wallace & Ken Knight meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 4:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group at Elizabeth's
- 6:00 pm-8:00 pm Trivia Night

\*childcare provided



**Monday, March 20**  
 6:30 am-7:30 am Youth Breakfast at First Lutheran  
 12:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Matt (Parlor)  
 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square

**Tuesday, March 21**  
 6:30 am-7:30 am Youth Breakfast at First Lutheran  
 9:30 am-11:00 am *Taste & See* Cooking Crew Small Group (Kitchen)  
 12:00 pm April Newsletter Deadline  
 2:00 pm Tea & Conversation (Parlor)  
 7:00 pm Confirmation Class

**Wednesday, March 22**  
 6:30 am-7:30 am Youth Breakfast at First Lutheran  
 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 12:00 pm Community Lent Worship at Central UMC  
 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club  
 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals  
 5:50 pm Wednesday Worship  
 6:15 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Dona & Greg Lisk (Church Kitchen)  
 7:15 pm \*Chancel Choir

**Thursday, March 23**  
 6:30 am-7:30 am Youth Breakfast at First Lutheran  
 9:30 am \*Pray & Play  
 10:00 am Staff Meeting  
 12:00 pm Foodie Fans Small Group

**Friday, March 24 Church Office Closed**  
 6:30 am-7:30 am Youth Breakfast at First Lutheran

**Saturday, March 25**  
 9:00 am Yoga Peeps Small Group with Anissa Chapman & Nancy Joines (Chapel)

\*childcare provided

**Sunday, March 26**  
*Fourth Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Youth Sunday/Youth Cubs Sing/Youth Orff Ensemble plays*  
 9:45 am \*Sunday School  
 11:00 am \*Worship  
 3:00 pm Hiking Posse Small Group with Connie Wallace & Ken Knight meets at Morrow Mountain State Park  
 4:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group at Elizabeth's  
 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Connection

**Monday, March 27**  
 12:00 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Matt (Parlor)  
 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Lectionary Bible Study at Off the Square  
 7:00 pm Book Conversation in the Parlor  
 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

**Tuesday, March 28**  
 9:30 am-11:00 am *Taste & See* Cooking Crew Small Group (Kitchen)  
 7:00 pm Confirmation Class

**Wednesday, March 29**  
 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 12:00 pm Community Lent Worship at Central UMC  
 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club  
 5:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Club Handbells & Orff Rehearsals  
 5:50 pm Wednesday Worship  
 6:15 pm Classic Discussion Small Group with Dona & Greg Lisk (Church Kitchen)  
 7:15 pm \*Chancel Choir

**Thursday, March 30**  
 9:30 am \*Pray & Play  
 10:00 am Staff Meeting  
 12:00 pm Foodie Fans Small Group

**Friday, March 31 Church Office Closed**  
 \*childcare provided

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**THOSE WHO SERVE IN MARCH**

**Elder Greeters for February:** Steve Cumming; Mary Kesselman

**Nursery Room:**

- March 5:** Jana Sanderson
- March 12:** Samantha Wangler
- March 19:** Jana Sanderson
- March 26:** Cora Harrison

**Toddler Room:**

- March 5:** Samantha Wangler
- March 12:** Brianna Little
- March 19:** Cici Ly
- March 26:** Samantha Wangler

**Nana & Papa Team:**

- March 5:** Carroll Sitton
- March 12:** Bede & Russell Karr
- March 19:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael
- March 26:** Teresa Taylor; Shirley Welch

**Preschool Partners:**

- March 5:** Penny & Jack Morton
- March 12:** Melissa & Wes Eudy
- March 19:** Jill Niebler; Isabel McLeod
- March 26:** Leah Beamon; Rose Saltzman

**Acolytes:**

- March 5:** Angus Currie
- March 12:** Kimbal Chapman
- March 19:** Duncan Bryson
- March 26:** Morgan Kinley

**Children's Church for March:**

- March 5:** No Children's Church
- March 12:** Rose Saltzman; Jacob Palmer
- March 19:** Gina Martin; Jacob Palmer
- March 26:** No Children's Church