



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

Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship

Leah Beamon, Christian Education Program Coordinator

Pam Knighten, Secretary

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

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Website:www.fpcalbemarle.org

February 2018

Dear Friends,

As we begin the Lenten season, many of us look for opportunities to deepen our regular practice of our faith. For some, this means giving up certain things as a way to reflect on our need for the grace of God. For others, it means adding specific practices that seek to turn our eyes toward God's presence. Whatever your practice for this Lenten season, I hope you will plan to include the planned programming at First Presbyterian church in your routine.

This Lent we will be exploring some of the words that Jesus spoke as we dive into the theme, *Living the Word*. Each week's preaching and small groups will revolve around a word or two that Jesus spoke as imperatives to his disciples which challenge our practice of faith today. I encourage you to find a small group that fits your schedule for this season to have a chance to explore this theme with others. With Elizabeth on sabbatical, we will also have a couple of guest preachers who will help me explore this theme in worship.

I pray that you will have a revelatory Lenten season beginning with Ash Wednesday worship on February 14 all the way through Easter Sunday. I look forward to walking this journey with you!

Grace and Peace,  
Matt

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Breaking News from the Officers' Retreat



At its meeting, Session approved an exciting Mission initiative for summer 2018. In partnership with Locust Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church, Norwood, we will build a house with Stanly County Habitat for Humanity. Watch for many ways to be involved as we join together to demonstrate the love of God and to share it with others.

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Just a reminder...While Elizabeth is on Sabbatical, contact Matt with pastoral emergencies (church 704-982-2722; cell 540-449-5319; email mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org).

# WORSHIP NOTES

Throughout Lent, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper each Sunday. The practice of weekly communion is intended to hold together the practice of Word and Sacrament during this season of reflection on discipleship. Scripture and sermon each week will focus on our theme, *Living the Word*, as we seek to understand together the meaning of discipleship.

**Sunday, February 4** The Souper Bowl of Caring offering will be received. Participate in the soup *co-petition* by bringing in soup according to where you normally sit on Sunday mornings. The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger will also be received.

**Sunday, February 11** The Youth Club Handbell Ensemble will ring and the Youth Club Faith Explorers will sing in worship.  
Old Testament Scripture: II Kings 2:1-12  
New Testament Scripture: Mark 9:2-0

**Wednesday, February 14** **Ash Wednesday**  
There will be two opportunities to worship as we begin Lent.  
Noon-12:30 p.m. Contemplative worship in the sanctuary.  
6:30 p.m. in the pit stop. The choir will lead us as we recall our sinfulness and begin a season of devotion. We will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and ashes will be available for imposition. Childcare will be available.

**Sunday, February 18** **First Sunday of Lent**  
Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-31  
On this first Sunday of Lent, we will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Trusty Travelers will sing in worship.

**Sunday, February 25** **Second Sunday of Lent**  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-22  
On this second Sunday of Lent, we will observe the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.  
Preacher: Leah Beamon

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### Ten-Cents-A-Meal

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on February 4. 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!

### 2018 Flower Calendar

The 2018 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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### A Word from Elizabeth...

Thank you for the generous gift of Sabbatical. As the *Sabbath* is a gift for renewal, refocus, and reflection on the things of God, so the sabbatical is also. I look forward to returning to you with a renewed sense of how we can faithfully serve God and our community together. Matt will provide superb leadership and pastoral care in my absence. Blessings to you.

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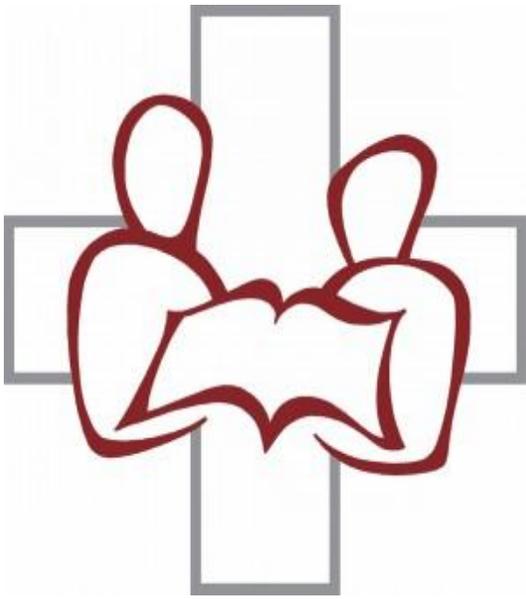
### Ash Wednesday...February 14

The Lenten journey appropriately begins in worship. This year, there are two options.

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





# Living the Word

The Lent planning committee, made up of Jim Carter, Steve Cumming, Mike King, and Gayle Russell, has planned a Lenten season that will help the congregation focus on the meaning of discipleship. Through worship, small groups, Wednesday night meals, and individual prayer, we will spend time reflecting on specific words of Jesus that give us insight into our calling.

The theme for Lent is *Living the Word*.

Here are some things you won't want to miss:

- Wednesday Night Food for Body and Soul: Including evening prayer, dinner, and time to reflect together on our Lenten theme using both words and art.
- Worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.
- The Cross Walk on Good Friday at 10:30 a.m.
- Camping at Morrow Mountain on Easter Eve.

## Lenten Small Groups

Beginning the week of February 18, small groups will gather weekly for discussion and prayer around our theme, *Living the Word*. Some groups will be stationary and others will be on the move. All groups meet for approximately 1 hour each week.

### Cooking Group

Led by Gayle Russell and Jane Snyder, this group will discuss (and cook with) seeds that nourish your spirit, mind, and body. This group will meet on **Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.** in the pit stop and kitchen. There will be a \$10 per person supply fee.

### Film Group

Led by Nancy and Don Joines, this group will meet on **Mondays at 7:00 p.m.** in the church theatre. They will use clips from films to explore the theme, *Living the Word*.

### Fruit of the Vine

Led by a variety of couples in the congregation, this group will spend time learning about and tasting the *fruits of the vine* as they gather around the Word. The gathering will rotate between a variety of homes and meet on **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** If you enjoy wine, or would like to learn more about wine, this is the group for you!

### Hiking Group

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

### Reading Group

Led by Courtney Niederer and Kim Marshall, who became friends through their love for reading. The group will read the book, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. The church will have books available for purchase for those who sign-up for this group on February 4. The group will meet on **Sundays at 3:00 p.m.** in the church parlor.

### Walking Group

Led by Mary Louise Sawyer, this group will gather in the church gym on **Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.** They will have group discussions *on the go* as they incorporate walking into their study.

### Yoga Group

Led by Rebekah Ayscue and Alexis Poolos, this group will meet on **Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.** at the church in Classroom 2 (Basement).

### Traditional Discussion Groups

Led by Steve Cumming, this early morning group will meet on **Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m.** in the church parlor. They will have breakfast (available for \$5) together as they explore our theme.

Led by Skeet Ayscue, this group will meet on **Sundays during the Sunday School hour (9:45 a.m.-10:40 a.m.)** in the Media Room (basement).



# Lenten Season Prayer Partners

During Lent, everyone who is interested will trade information with another random member of the congregation. Throughout the season, you will be lifting that person up in prayer on a regular basis. You can choose to speak with that person about their prayer requests, or you can pray for them from a distance. This is a great chance to engage in intentional regular prayer, and to know that you are being prayed for. You will have a chance to pick up prayer partner cards on Sunday, February 4 and 11, and we will exchange the cards on Sunday, February 18.

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COMMUNITY  
*Lenten Services*

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES  
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALBEMARLE  
THEME: JESUS' QUESTIONS  
WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21, 28, MARCH, 7, 14, and 21  
AT NOON IN THE SANCTUARY

LUNCH FOLLOWING IN THE GYM...COST: DONATION

First Presbyterian Church is hosting the Community Lent Worship Services this year. An offering will be received to support a local helping agency.

- Wednesday, February 21 Preacher: Rev. Bob Gruver, Pastor of Albemarle First Assembly Church  
Worship Leader: Rev. Ray Sipe, Chaplain at Trinity Place
- Wednesday, February 28 Preacher: Rev. Earl Bradshaw, Pastor of Central United Methodist Church  
Worship Leader: Rev. Ray Sipe, Chaplain at Trinity Palce
- Wednesday, March 7 Preacher: Rev. James Lawrence, Pastor of First Lutheran Church  
Worship Leader: Rev. Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church
- Wednesday, March 14 Preacher: Rev. Jacob Waldrip, Associate Pastor of First Baptist Church  
Worship Leader: Dr. Andy Jung, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church
- Wednesday, March 21 Preacher: Rev. Dr. Jim Bernacki, Rector of Christ Episcopal Church  
Worship Leader: Rev. Ben Sloan, Pastor of Bethany United Methodist Church

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# Palm Sunday Fair

Sunday, March 25  
9:30 a.m.~10:45 a.m.  
in the Church Gym

This is an intergenerational event for ALL! Please join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for Holy Week through educational stations and spirituality centers geared towards all ages. A continental breakfast will be served in the gym prior to the fair.

## Which Ministry Is Right for You?



Many of our committee chairs are putting together groups to share in ministry. Please prayerfully consider how you might be involved in the work of one of these committees. Contact the folks below to say, *Here I Am!*

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Contact (email, phone number)</u>
Childcare	Laura Beth Marks	lbmarks4@gmail.com 704-202-9334
Christian Education	Sarah Michael Gayle Russell	scmichael@windstream.net 704-982-5730 gayleruss@gmail.com 704-438-2779
College & Military	Kate Gibson	katherine.e.gibson@gmail.com 336-301-4564
Fellowship	Jim Hesley Connie Wallace	jimhesley@yahoo.com 704-985-4271 connie.wallace59@gmail.com 704-982-8260
Membership	Chris Whitley	sfcwhitley53@gmail.com 704-982-3784
Mission	Joyce Lambert	barotseland3000@aol.com 704-982-6142
Property	Lynn White	g_lynn_white@yahoo.com 704-983-2384
Scholarship	Lee McLaurin	lcovingtonm.20@gmail.com 704-305-3984
Senior Care	Tom Norwood	fnorwood@vnet.net 704-983-3647
Stewardship	Rich Schaefer	richard.schaefer@gmail.com 614-579-2475
Worship	Dona Lisk	liskdona@gmail.com 704-591-5934
Ushering	Jack Morton	jackmmorton@gmail.com 704-982-0011

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## SAVE THE DATE FOR MUSIC & ARTS CAMP SUMMER 2018

Plan to join in on the fun this summer for a week of music, art, recreation, drama, and fellowship as we form new friendships and cultivate our old ones.

**Sunday, June 10-Thursday, June 14**

For children ages 4 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will enjoy a fun time!

Volunteers...Come help us with this extraordinary event!

Volunteers of all ages warmly welcomed!

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COOKING CAMP FOR KIDS

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

June 18-21 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40.00 per child...Camp Limit of 12 children



Do your children have a passion for cooking or love to help you prepare meals in the kitchen? Then perhaps a **cooking camp** is the perfect summer camp for them. This camp is offered to rising 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders on **Monday, June 18 - Thursday, June 21 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** Young chefs expand their palates, kitchen hygiene and healthy eating habits, utensil skills, proper etiquette, cooking and baking and will experiment with flavors and ingredients. This camp will be packed with culinary excitement and tasty adventures! We will also be incorporating a field trip into the mix! **For more information, to register for camp, or to volunteer contact Jane Snyder at 704-982-2722/704-438-3358 or [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)**.

*Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. - 1 Corinthians 10:31*

STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...DECEMBER 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Table with 3 columns: Actual, Year to Date, Budget-to-Date. Rows include Total Income Received, Total Expenses, and (Shortage)/Surplus.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2017. Rows include Pledges, Total Income, and Total Expenses.

Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: \$10,544

Average Weekly Amount Received in December: \$37,861

We are ahead \$11,555 in pledges. (\$20,488 of 2017 pledges was prepaid in 2016)

Ten-Cents-A-Meal December: \$281.00

Faith on the Fifth Offering (SCCM Heating Assistance): \$2,050.00

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MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Minister's Discretionary Fund:

- In memory of Toby Webb, given by Richard & Deborah Davis.
In memory of Toby Webb, given by Robert & Linda Emory.
In memory of Toby Webb, given by Robin & James Page.
In honor of Rev. Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, given by Miriam Russell.

SYMPATHY

- To Peggy Finley upon the death of her mother, Peg Verdello, who died on January 1 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
To Derek Moses upon the death of his grandmother, Helen Moses, who died on January 12 in Irmo, South Carolina.
To Jim Sawyer upon the death of his aunt, Betsy Ivey Sawyer, who died on January 16 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Peggy & Ross Finley upon the birth of their granddaughter, Rowen Odette Kuchenbrod, on January 16. Proud parents are Lauren and Mark Kuchenbrod.

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Circle #5 will meet at the home of Joyce Lambert (750 Pee Dee Ave., Albemarle). Lesson #4 will be discussed.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 AT 12:00 P.M. IN THE PARLOR FEEL FREE TO BRING A BAG LUNCH For more information, contact Miriam Russell (704-982-3025).

DEADLINE DAY March Newsletter Deadline on Tuesday, February 13. Early submissions are always welcome! If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email them as an attachment to: pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org.

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Thanks for helping in the office in January: Donna Gaither, Ruth Goodwin, Sally Grantier, and Judy & Tommy Murrell.

Thanks for your help with the Epiphany dinner... The Epiphany service was wonderful as well as the food and company. Thank you to all our incredible volunteers: Rebekah Ayscue, Linda Anderson, Mildred Andrew, Jane Boone, Kristie and Keith Bryson, Andy and Ruth Cotton, Michelle Cumming, Ann Duckwall, Susan Garrison, John and Debbie Hahn, Mary Kesselman, Margaret Ivey, Leslie, Stephan and Morgan Kinley, Greg Lisk, Mark Mabry, Sarah Michael, Gayle and Ned Russell, Sandy Saunders, Jim Sawyer, the Faith Explorers along with Kim Robertson, Meredith Moses and Rose Saltzman and all those who cleaned up the gym! I just adore my sweet volunteers! If you haven't ever joined us, please do!! We have such a good time. It doesn't feel like work when we are all together. Thanks again for all the helping hands!



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:

- Dale Benson, brother of Ann Crutchfield.
- Ted Biggers, friend of Martha Sue Hall & Dan Samples.
- Margaret Brooks, friend of Debbie Hahn; at an assisted living facility.
- Rachel Darling, friend of Dona Lisk; battling cancer.
- Mike Dearstyne, brother of Holly Norwood; medical concerns.
- 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.
- Glenn Fowler, possible nerve damage and failed rotator cuff surgery.
- Marty Goforth, treatment for melanoma.
- Calvin Hall, kidney cancer.
- Elizabeth Howard, cousin of Mary Kesselman; health concerns.
- Jackie Lynn Kruis, ten year-old great-niece of Gloria Bryson.
- Molly Amelia Lowder, continuing health concerns.
- Bryanna Medlin, nine year old diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma.
- Sam & Melanie Obermiller, friends of John & Debbie Hahn.
- Nic Presson, brother of Dona Lisk.
- Karen Russell, First Baptist Church Wee Care Teacher; breast cancer.
- David Sanges, brother of Nathan Sanges.
- Garin Stepp, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Members of the Congregation:

- Blue Honeycutt.
- Myra Land.
- Polly Moose.
- Linda Richards.
- Marlene Sanges.
- Pete Smith.

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**Backpack Food Program**

**UPDATED LIST OF DONATIONS NEEDED:**

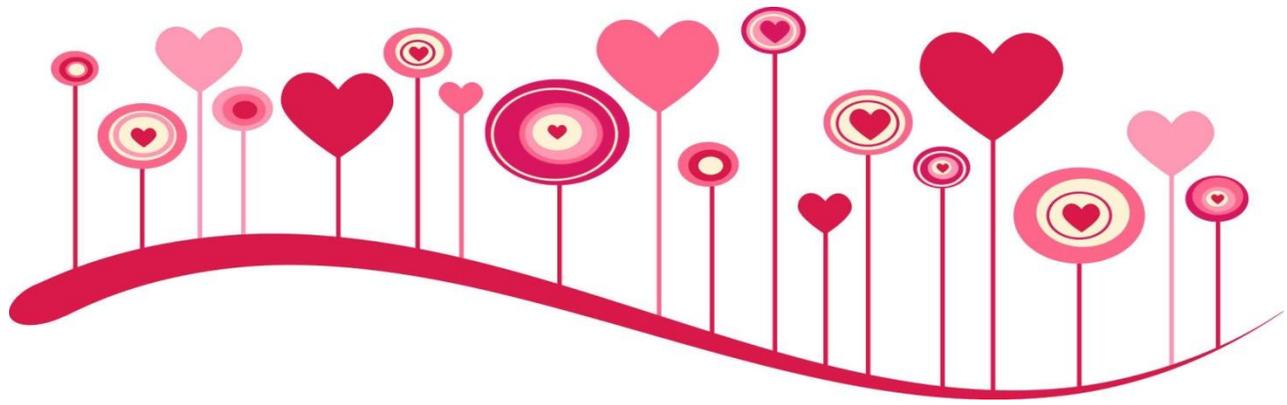
Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Canned Tuna, and Saltine Crackers. A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

**Packing Dates/Times:**

**Wednesday, February 28  
at 10:30 a.m.**



STANLY COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN  
MINISTRY  
FOOD CHALLENGE FOR  
FEBRUARY:  
Canned Vegetables  
Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, Peas,  
Beans, Canned Tomatoes,  
Mixed Vegetables (Vegall)



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

01- Jean Rabe

Caroline Smith

02- Lee Boone

Penny Morton

03- Kellyn Poole Luna

04- Hugh Carpenter

Holly Holbrook

05- Keith Byrd

Robin Howell

06- Melissa Eudy

Bob Johnston

07- Jennifer Mabry

08- Mellanie Morgan

09- Debbie Bennett

10- Susan Pandich

11- Davis Fort

Katherine Jolly

12- Karen Hinkle

14- Hunter Matthews

15- Emily Deese

Richard Griffin

Pete Smith

16- Miller Morgan

17- Amy Whitley

20- Ashley Deese

Peter Henkenjohann

21- Nora Carpenter

22- Will Lentz

25- Robbie Stevenson

Ann Upchurch

26- Calvin Huneycutt

28- Carroll Holbrook

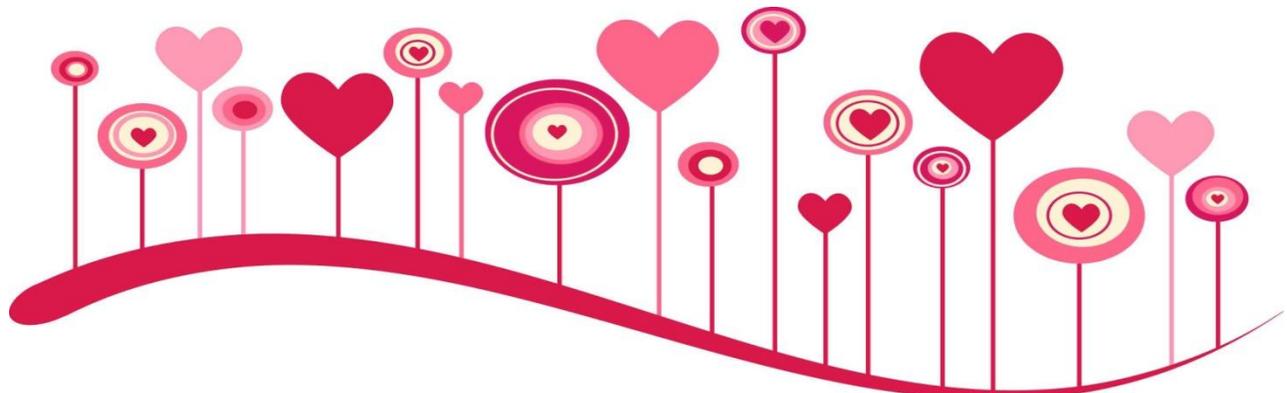
29- Cathryn Harwood

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

06- Steve & Laura Blalock

09- Bill & Diane Stevenson

12- Ernie & Jane Borders





Here is our schedule of activities for this month. As we begin Lent we will focusing with the rest of the congregation on living the words of Jesus. We hope you will join us as much as you can to spend time together for food, fellowship, and fun!

Sunday, February 4  
Sunday, February 11  
Sunday, February 18  
Sunday, February 25

Souper Bowl Sunday (no evening program)  
5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.  
5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Family Night with Steve Cumming  
Youth Group  
Youth Group



Youth Group Annual Ski Trip  
March 2-4

Plan to come enjoy a wintery weekend of skiing, games, and fun!  
Contact Matt ([mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)) for more information.

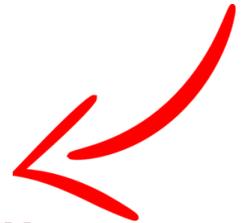
### Montreat/Massanetta

If you would like to participate in one of the summer conferences this year, let Matt know as soon as possible ([mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)). The Massanetta conference (for middle schoolers completed grades 6-8) will be June 26-29. The Montreat conference (for high schoolers completed grades 9-12) will be July 8-14. Would love to have you attend!



**SAVE THE DATE  
YOUTH BREAKFAST  
APRIL 16-20**

**AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



**FEBRUARY  
02-Lee Boone  
11-Katherine Jolly**



# SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Please help feed our Stanly County neighbors by participating in this year's Souper Bowl competition.

As you face the sanctuary...

Bring chicken noodle soup if your usual worship seat is on the right side (choir loft side) of the middle section, the right section, choir loft, or the balcony.

Bring tomato soup if your usual worship seat is: on the left side of the middle section, the left section, or the section near the sound board.

Our youth will collect both soup and money on February 4. Please support our neighbors.

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## FIRST FAMILY GATHERING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 Evening Prayer at 5:45 p.m. in the Chapel Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Gym Menu for Build Your Own Bowl:

Choose your base, protein, toppings, and sauce

**Base:** Jasmine Rice, Cous Cous, Lettuce, Black Beans, Tortillia Chips

**Protein:** Shredded Chicken or Ground Beef

**Toppings:** Avocado, Tomato, Charred Corn, Cilantro, Shredded Cheese, Jalepeno, Lime, Onion

**Dressing/Sauces:** Cilantro Yogurt, Salsa, Sour Cream, Cheese Sauce

**Desserts:** Sweet Potato Cake, Brownies, Cookies

Contact the church office to make reservations (704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)).

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### Volunteers Needed for First Family Gathering

- |                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Dessert Crew:          | Tuesday, February 6 at 10:00 a.m.   |
| Toppings & Sauce Crew: | Wednesday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m. |
| Set up crew:           | Wednesday, February 7 at 3:45 p.m.  |
| Final Touches crew:    | Wednesday, February 7 at 5:15 p.m.  |
| Clean-up crew:         | Wednesday, February 7 at 6:45 p.m.  |

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

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## Come & Join Us for the Young Adult Lunch Thursday, February 1 at Five Points Public House (304 East Main Street, Albemarle)

Each month, young adults from the church and the community are invited to gather for lunch on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at a local restaurant. We rotate around to a number of restaurants.



**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner  
February 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the gym**

Come for pancakes hot off the griddle and some pre-Lent fun (including pancake decorating and races for the children)! Keith Bryson is coordinating the cooking so call if you want to help (704-984-0254). All proceeds will benefit the Backpack Program which provides weekend food for needy children at Central Elementary School.



You are invited to the  
**First Presbyterian Church Volunteer Reception**  
Thursday, February 15

10:00 a.m.-Noon in the church parlor

RSVP to Pam Knighten (pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org) or  
Kyle Lambert (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) or  
call the church office (704-982-2722).

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**PARTNERS IN CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**

Mark your calendars for the annual...  
**Christian Education Mini-Retreat**  
Sunday, February 18  
Noon-2:30 p.m.

The Christian Education Committee is carefully evaluating all programs and looking at new and old ways to strengthen them. If you would like to share in their work and conversation, plan to join them by contacting the church office (704-982-2722) or Jane Snyder (jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org) by Thursday, February 13.



**Tea & Conversation**  
Tuesday, February 20  
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  
In the Church Parlor

Join us for tea and lively conversation with our Associate Pastor, Matt Drumheller.

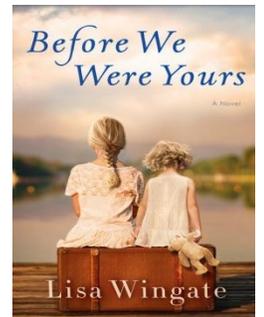
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**February Book Discussion**

**Monday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor**

***Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate**

This novel, based on one of America's most notorious real life scandals, follows Rill Foss and her four younger siblings from their magical life aboard their family's Mississippi shanty boat to the Tennessee Children's Home Society and into adulthood. It is a story of a family lost and found, a tale of sibling love, and the toll of secrets. Debby Johnston will be the discussion leader.



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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 \$9,787.00. Funds were distributed to:

**The Technology Committee** for the purchase of new computers for personnel and one stand-up desktop desk.

**The Property Committee** for the purchase of a new refrigerator for the kitchen.

**The Christian Education Committee** for Cooking Camp food and supplies and the Youth Club End-of-the-Year picnic.

**The Worship Committee** for the purchase of completion nativity scene pieces.

**The Fellowship Committee** for the purchase of 3 Opticlean racks for the dishwasher in the kitchen.

Steve Cumming, chair; Laura Blalock, Patrick Currie, Bob Gaither, Mary Kesselman, and Lee McLaurin (ex-officio).

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Breakfast



Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Albemarle First Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall

7:00am-9:00am

Serving Pancakes, Sausage, Coffee,

Milk, & Orange Juice

Cost: Donation (No Ticket Needed)

All proceeds benefit the CARE Café.

## Stanly County Habitat for Humanity®

### BBQ Chicken Fundraiser

½ BBQ Chicken, Slaw, Chips, Roll, and Dessert

Thursday, February 22, 2018

11 am – 7 pm

Advance tickets available...

TICKET PRICES:

\$9.00 Advance tickets

\$10.00 Day of Event

Drive Thru, Take-Out, Delivery, & Dine-in



More Info ONLINE – [www.stanlyhabitat.org/bbq](http://www.stanlyhabitat.org/bbq)

Delivery available with orders of 5+ plates  
\*\*\*\*\* (Delivery must be scheduled before 2/20/18)\*\*\*\*\*

Location: Centerview Baptist Church  
508 Northeast Connector Albemarle

Catered by Port-A-Pit BBQ

Purchase your tickets at  
Habitat ReStore or Office  
1506 Hwy 24/27 West - Albemarle

To assist with ticket distribution or to  
volunteer, please contact Habitat at  
(704) 985-1050 ext. 21

[www.stanlyhabitat.org/bbq](http://www.stanlyhabitat.org/bbq)

Habitat fundraiser tickets are available in the church office.



DO YOU ❤️ TO DECORATE?? We would love for you to join our Decorating Committee!!! We decorate for all the major events at the church (about 12 times a year). Each person usually decorates 2-3 times a year with a team.

We would ❤️ for some new people to join us. If interested please contact Jane Snyder at 704-982-2722 or email her at [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org).

### Community Participation Needed

You are requested to complete the 2018 Community Health Assessment survey. This is the survey the Stanly County Health Department and Carolinas HealthCare System Stanly conduct to determine what our major priorities are for the next three years by analyzing community responses and State data. The information in this report is, also, used to get grants for agencies and non-profits. The survey can be done through February 28. For more information, contact Debbie Bennett at [dbennett@stanlycountync.gov](mailto:dbennett@stanlycountync.gov) or 704-982-9171.

The link is:

<https://goo.gl/forms/u0c06jntFJeY1Sc32>

or visit the Stanly County Health Department website at [health.stanlycountync.gov](http://health.stanlycountync.gov)



### INVITATION TO FILM NIGHT AT CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

#### An Inconvenient Sequel: Speaking Truth to Power

Adults and youth from your church are invited to attend a special evening with a feature-length documentary film on **Thursday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m.** at Christ Episcopal Church, Albemarle.

The film, An Inconvenient Sequel: Speaking Truth to Power, is Al Gore's 2017 sequel to An Inconvenient Truth, produced over 10 years ago and which Christ Church shared with a large group of interested people at that time.

Not shown to date in Stanly County, the sequel is an opportunity to learn about the progress that humanity has made over the past 10 years to address our profound environmental concerns. The message is one of hope as people are waking up to the reality and responding in new ways.

As people of faith who are called to be stewards of God's good Earth, we should all know that hope abounds in this critical time of human history, despite the challenges that remain.

Please join us for a light supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by the film, which is about 90 minutes, and discussion after that, if attendees wish. To help us in planning, contact the church office (704-982-1428) no later than Tuesday, February 6.



# Youth Club 2018



**Trusty Travelers (K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders)**...This month, our Trusty Travelers will be learning all about how God wants us to take care of each other. They will read the story about the Lost Sheep and discuss how each and every one of us matter very much to God. They will learn more about Jesus and how he fed, healed, and cared for those who needed it. In Orff, the kids have been incorporating a lot of movement into their lesson and learning about rhythm and tempo. Our Trusty Travelers will be singing in worship on February 18<sup>th</sup>, so plan to come and hear them make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Towards the end of the month, the Trusty Travelers will start a spring fundraising project that we will share details about with you soon.

**Faith Explorers (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders)** The Faith Explorers are deep into their new program of study from the book *The Way of the Child*. Each Wednesday, the teen room upstairs is transformed into a variety of meditative spiritual stations that encourage the children to deeply explore God's presence in their lives. Last month, they enjoyed an outing to Cici's Pizza and Defy Gravity in Charlotte. On one of the coldest days of the season, it was a great day for a fun indoor activity! The Faith Explorers will be singing during worship on February 11<sup>th</sup>. The handbell ensemble will also be ringing that Sunday.

**Youth Cubs**...February lessons will focus on the theme of God's love. On Valentines Day each year, people show their love for others with cards, treats, and kindness. But, God shows us his love everyday! The Bible is God's love letter to us. A happy heart makes for a cheerful face! This is one of God's love letters to us, Proverbs 15:13. We will read the story of the good Samaritan, play a heart game, listen and react to the words God and love in a song, participate in heart themed crafts, and focus on ways to show kindness to each other.



Submitted by: Lynn Poplin, Youth Cubs Coordinator



## Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!! For 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders Sunday, February 4 at 9:00 a.m. Media Room

Breakfast Bunch is a special program exclusively for our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders designed to help cultivate lasting friendships by giving them designated time together to get to know one another in a calm but friendly setting. If you are in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, please join us on Sunday, February 4 in the Media Room (downstairs) for some delicious muffins, yogurt, and juice as we build our community of faith! Please let Jill Niebler ([jlniebler@gmail.com](mailto:jlniebler@gmail.com)) know if you are able to join us or if you have questions.



## Faith Explorers' Bake and Take Outing Sunday, February 11 Noon-4 p.m.



Following worship on February 11, the Faith Explorers (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders) will gather for a pizza lunch and then get to work baking some yummy treats to share with the Central School Apartment residents, as well as any members of our congregation that may need some cheering. We will gather at noon in the Pit Stop and pick-up is at 4 p.m. also in the Pit Stop.

# February

## Thursday, February 1

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Five Points Public House  
(304 East Main Street, Albemarle)

## Friday, February 2

- 7:00 am-9:00 am Care Café Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at  
First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, Albemarle  
(202 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street)

## Sunday, February 4

*Souper Bowl of Caring/Ten-Cents-A-Meal*

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch (Media Room)
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship

## Monday, February 5

- 7:00 pm Circle #5 at the home of Joyce Lambert  
(750 Pee Dee Ave., Albemarle)
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Bible Study with Matt at Off the Square

## Tuesday, February 6

- 10:00 am First Family Dessert Crew

## Wednesday, February 7

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 am-11:00 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:00 am First Family Toppings & Sauce 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
- 5:15 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 (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm First Family Dinner (Gym)
- 6:45 pm First Family Clean-up Crew
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, February 8

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

\*childcare provided

Love the LORD your God...  
and hold fast to him.



DEUTERONOMY 30:20, NIV

## Sunday, February 11

*Youth Club Handbell Ensemble Rings in Worship*  
*Faith Explorers Sing in Worship*

- 8:45 am \*Diaconate
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm-4:00 pm Faith Explorers' Bake & Take w/Pizza Lunch
- 5:00 pm-6:30 pm Youth Group Family Night
- 6:00 pm Worship Committee

## Monday, February 12

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

## Tuesday, February 13

*Shrove Tuesday*

- 12:00 pm March Newsletter Deadline
- 6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (Gym)

## Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday

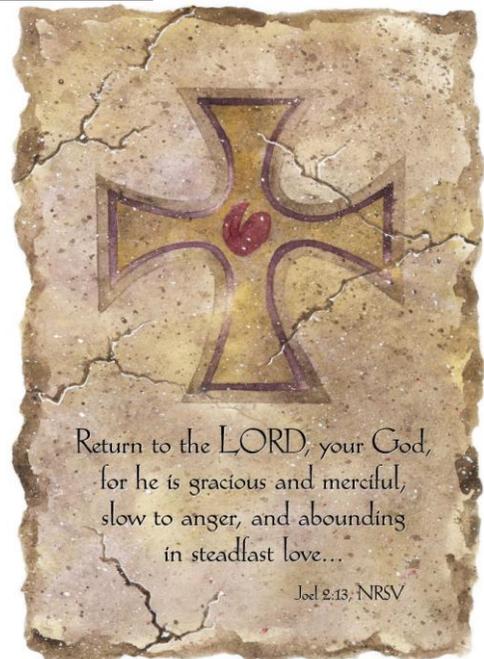
Valentine's Day

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 am-11:00 am \*Pray & Play
- 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship at Noon (Sanctuary)
- 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)
- 6:30 pm \*Ash Wednesday Worship in the Pit Stop
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, February 15

- 10:00 am Volunteer Reception (Parlor)

\*childcare provided





# February

## Sunday, February 18

*First Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*  
Trusty Travelers Sing in Worship

- 8:00 am Session
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School  
\*Traditional Discussion Group with Skeet Ayscue in the Media Room (Basement)
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm-2:30 pm Christian Education Committee Mini-Retreat
- 3:00 pm Hiking Group meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 3:00 pm Reading Group with Courtney Niederer & Kim Marshall in the Church Parlor
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

## Monday, February 19

*President's Day/Church Office Closed*

- 7:00 pm Film Group with Nancy & Don Joines  
(Church Theatre-basement/children's building)

## Tuesday, February 20

- 9:30 am Cooking Group with Gayle Russell & Jane Snyder (Pit Stop/Kitchen)
- 11:00 am Walking Group with Mary Louise Sawyer in the Gym
- 2:00 pm-3:30 pm Tea & Conversation (Parlor)
- 7:30 pm Yoga Group with Rebekah Ayscue & Alexis Poolos in Classroom 2 (Basement)

## Wednesday, February 21

- 6:00 am Traditional Discussion Group & Breakfast with Steve Cumming
- 6:00 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 am-11:00 am \*Pray & Play
- 12:00 pm Community Lenten Service at FPC
- 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)
- 5:45 pm Food for Body & Soul Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Food for Body & Soul Dinner (Gym)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, February 22

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:00 am-7:00 pm Habitat for Humanity BBQ Chicken Fundraiser at Centerview Baptist Church, Albemarle (508 Northeast Connector)
- 7:00 pm Fruit of the Vine Small Group (Location: TBA)

\*childcare provided



## Sunday, February 25

*Second Sunday of Lent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

- 9:45 am \*Sunday School  
\*Classical Discussion Group with Skeet Ayscue in the Media Room (Basement)
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 3:00 pm Hiking Group meets at Morrow Mountain State Park
- 3:00 pm Reading Group with Courtney Niederer & Kim Marshall in the Church Parlor
- 5:30 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

## Monday, February 26

- 7:00 pm Book Discussion (Church Parlor)
- 7:00 pm Film Group with Nancy & Don Joines  
(Church Theatre-basement/children's building)
- 8:00 pm-9:00 pm Bible Study with Matt at Off the Square

## Tuesday, February 27

- 9:30 am Cooking Group with Gayle Russell & Jane Snyder (Pit Stop/Kitchen)
- 11:00 am Walking Group with Mary Louise Sawyer in the Gym
- 7:30 pm Yoga Group with Rebekah Ayscue & Alexis Poolos in Classroom 2 (Basement)

## Wednesday, February 28

- 6:00 am Traditional Discussion Group & Breakfast with Steve Cumming
- 6:00 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 am-11:00 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 12:00 pm Community Lenten Service at FPC
- 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)
- 5:45 pm Food for Body & Soul Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Food for Body & Soul Dinner (Gym)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

\*childcare provided



**THOSE WHO SERVE IN FEBRUARY**

**Ushers:** Jack Morton, captain, Duncan Bryson, Jim Ivey, Robert Ivey, Taylor Jolly, Greg Lisk, Penny Morton, and Jeff Robertson

**Elder Greeters for February:**

**Feb. 4:** Lee McLaurin; Gayle Russell

**Feb. 11 :** Lee McLaurin; Lynn White

**Feb. 18:** Lee McLaurin; Gayle Russell

**Feb. 25:** Lee McLaurin; Gayle Russell

**Nursery Room:**

**February 4:** Sara Kate Thomas

**February 11:** Cortney Brown

**February 18:** Kaitlyn Massey

**February 25:** Sara Kate Thomas

**Nana & Papa Team:**

**February 4:** Debby Johnston; Carol Sasser

**February 11:** Mary & Frank Green

**February 18:** Chris Mabry

**February 25:** Bede & Russell Karr

**Acolytes:**

**February 4:** Leah Kilde

**February 11:** Danny Saltzman

**February 18:** Grant Lisk

**February 25:** Addison Marks

**Outside Ushers:**

**February 4:** Greg Lisk; Tom Norwood

**February 11:** TBD

**February 18:** Jack Morton; Mark Andrew

**February 25:** John Howell; Kyle Marks

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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)

Leah Beamon: [lbeamon@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:lbeamon@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)

Stan Scheer: [sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org)

Jane Snyder: [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)

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