



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

Dorothy Hart, Youth Director

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Pam Knighten, Secretary

Church Office: (704) 982-2722

E-mail: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

January 2019

THEY SAW *The Child*
WITH HIS MOTHER MARY,
AND *They Bowed Down*
AND *Worshipped Him.*
MATTHEW 2:11, NIV



Dear Friends,

We begin the new year with the joy of partnering with others on the Habitat for Humanity house now well underway. The comradirie of workers on site, and cooks in the kitchen, and folks sharing videos and excitement continues to build. Many of you have worked on site with Kendra Johnson who will soon be the proud owner of the house. Her gratitude and joy is almost palpable. We hope to have her at *home* by the end of January. Watch for more details about a *Women's Work Day* on January 21 and about how you can be involved in the final push.

Your commitment to this project and to serving others is a rich reflection of the image of God within the community of faith. 2019 will bring new opportunities to worship, serve, study, and work together. I pray God's richest blessings upon each of you as we grow together in faith.

Grace and Peace,
Elizabeth

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION 

If there is a question about Sunday schedule changes due to weather, call the church (704-982-2722). Changes will be on the answering machine by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. A mass email will also be sent to those who receive the newsletter electronically.



Sunday, January 6

Epiphany

We'll focus on the journey of the magi as they followed the star. Elders and deacons elect will be ordained and installed, and we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger will be received.

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12



Sunday, January 13

Baptism of the Lord

Scripture: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday, January 20

Scripture: John 2:1-141

Sunday, January 27

Scripture: Luke 4:14-21



Ten-Cents-A-Meal

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on January 6. 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 \$412.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal in November.



2019 Flower Calendar

The 2019 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) for more information and to make arrangements for the flowers to be delivered to the church on Saturday or Sunday morning before worship.

OFFICERS' RETREAT AND ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

Elders and deacons elect will gather for the annual Officer's Retreat on January 4-5. Please keep them in your prayers as they worship, plan, and prepare to serve God through First Presbyterian Church. Soon after the retreat, be ready to say, YES, I WILL, when asked by an elder or deacon to serve in the work of one of our committees.

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

Friday, January 4

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 5

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

The following Deacons and Elders will ordained and installed in worship on Sunday, January 6:

Deacons

Wiley Crutchfield, Melissa Eudy, John Howell, and Courtney Niederer

Elders

Debbie Bennett, Steve Coats, Ben Jolly, Jacob Palmer (1 year term), and Jim Sawyer



Church Officers – Thank You for Your Service

Thanks to outgoing deacons and elders
who have served among us for the past three years.

They are:

Class of 2018

Diaconate: Taylor Barbee, Mark Donham, Jim Hesley, Connie Wallace,
Chris Whitley, and Elizabeth Wilson

Session: Al Andrew, Lee Boone, Keith Bryson, Mary Kesselman,
Dona Lisk, Sarah Michael, and Lynn White

2019 Committee Reorganization

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



Contact Matt (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org/704-982-2722) or
Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org/704-982-2722)
to learn more about the Diaconate and Session Committees
and engage in the work of one or more.

Diaconate Committees which need you!

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

Session Committees which need you!

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



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION SUNDAY, JANUARY 27 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Session has established the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 27. The meeting will be held immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to receive annual reports and to transact other business as may properly come before the meeting. We will also have a congregational meeting for the purpose of reviewing and approving the pastors' terms of call.

STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...NOVEMBER 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	405,930.00	508,524.00
Total Expenses:	<u>474,446.00</u>	<u>512,148.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus	(\$68,516.00)	(\$3,624.00)

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2018

Pledges:	509,141
Total Income:	556,481
Total Expenses:	556,481

Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: \$10,701 We are behind \$23,392 in pledges. Thanksgiving Offering: \$495
 Average Weekly Amount Received in November: \$7,411 Ten-Cents-A-Meal for November: \$412 (Children’s Hope Alliance)

Stewardship Report

Our theme this year was *Sharing God’s Many Blessings* and I must say we are truly blessed to have such a loving and generous congregation! Fifty-five individuals/families have pledged to increase their giving in 2019. This is the largest increase we have had in many, many years! Thanks to your tremendous support Session has approved a budget for 2019 that will enable us to continue all of the programs, services, and mission work that make our church such a special place to worship and serve God.

We did face some headwinds in our campaign for 2019 as some members passed away, some relocated and others had difficult personal financial situations. All together, these resulted in a much larger than normal loss of pledged income. This made it difficult to budget salary increases for paid staff in 2019. However, Session found a solution at their December meeting as they approved using budget favorability in 2018 to award 3% bonus payments to all paid staff.

Thanks again for your generous support! Special thanks also go to the McLeods, Brysons, Johnstons, and Ella Cumming for sharing wonderful stories of what our church means to them. Finally, we thank the *engine room* of our church where everything gets done. Kyle Lambert and Pam Knighten have done an exceptional job making this campaign and our budgeting process so successful.

Submitted by: Rich Schaefer, Stewardship Committee Chairperson

Gaither Endowment Grant Applications



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



- **50 children enjoyed a brighter Christmas through the Helping Hands program.**
- **\$2,000 was raised through Alternative Gifts. The Community Care Clinic, Homes of Hope, SCCM’s Clothing Closet, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Project were the recipients of your designated gifts.**
- **\$1,528 was raised through the Youth Group’s Christmas Kitchen. These funds will provide scholarships for youth programs.**

NEWS & NOTES

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Minister's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Norman Rogers, given by Wade & Marian McSwain.

Scholarship Endowment:

In memory of Margaret Dick, given by Keith & Martha Wolf.

In memory of Jack Dickerson, given by Kristan & Scott Baker.

In memory of Jack Dickerson, given by Dr. & Mrs. Frank Green.

In memory of Jack Neel, given by Keith & Martha Wolf.

In memory of Norman Rogers, given by Patsy & Park Davidson.

In memory of Norman Rogers, given by The Robert Phelps Family.

SYMPATHY

To Lynn White and family upon the death of his brother, Ronnie White, on November 28.

SESSION NOTES

At its stated meeting on December 16, 2018, Session examined incoming deacons and elders who will begin their terms in January 2019. Session then heard reports from Worship, Personnel, Stewardship, Property, and Mission committees. The Worship committee asked for volunteers to serve communion at the 11 p.m. service on Christmas Eve and on January 6. Session approved a recommendation from the Personnel committee to award a 3% bonus to paid staff in 2018. The Stewardship committee presented the proposed budget for 2019. Session approved that the budget be presented to the congregation. The Property committee recommended that Waste Management be hired for church recycling. Session approved a recommendation from Property to hire Weatherguard to proceed with roof repairs above the sanctuary. The committee also reported that work is continuing on the doors to the sanctuary. The Legacy committee is awaiting word from the acoustics contractor on the specifications for the panels in the gym before moving forward with repairs to the gym ceiling. The Mission committee reported that the SERRV sale was very successful, and that Ann Duckwall still has some items available upon request—coffee, tea, candy, soup, jams and chutney. A mission trip to Montana de Luz is planned for July 24-31, 2019. December 16 was the last day for alternative gifts. Total collected through December 16 was \$1,995. The Community Table was held on December 15. The backpack program has averaged packing 25-30 backpacks during the months of October and November. The committee reported a shortage in backpack food supplies and a need for all food items. Supplies have been purchased through First Presbyterian's designated account for the backpack program. Funds may be donated to the designated account. Questions about the backpack program may be directed to Sandy Saunders. Supplies that are needed are listed in the weekly bulletin. Session approved a recommendation from the Mission committee to designate the Christmas Eve offering for the backpack program funds. In other business, January 27, 2019, has been designated as the date for a congregational meeting and the annual meeting of the corporation. Session approved the re-appointment of Mary Kesselman as Clerk of Session for 2019. Reverend Ayscue thanked and recognized members of Session whose terms are ending at the end of 2018: Keith Bryson, Al Andrew, Lynn White, Dona Lisk, Sarah Michael, and Lee Boone.

Submitted by Mary N. Kesselman, Clerk of Session



Elizabeth, Matt and several FPC members have started meeting recently to discuss how we as a Faith Community can help address the Opioid Crisis in our community. Education is one area we know we can begin, so we will be including some "Did You Know?" information in our bulletins and newsletters.

Did You Know?

- Stanly County has approximately 4300 residents (12+ years) in need of substance use disorder treatment
- Stanly County has had the highest rate of opioid (heroin and prescription) overdoses in the state of NC from June-Oct 2018
- Prescription drug abuse in many cases leads to heroin abuse, due to the high availability and low cost of heroin and the chemical similarities between both opioids

What Can You Do?

The Stanly County Health Department is participating in the Lock Your Meds Campaign.

- * If you have prescribed opioid medications, count and safely store them
- * Dispose of all medications responsibly: Stanly County has THREE medication drop boxes located at the Albemarle Police Department, Norwood Police Department, Oakboro Town Hall
- * Spread the word about Lock Your Meds (<http://www.lockyourmeds.org/nc>)

NEWS & NOTES

THANK YOU 
Just isn't enough

Thank You

Thank you to all of those who sent cards, food, and prayed for me while I was recovering from a broken leg.

Love,
Robin Howel

Thanks to:

Ann Duckwall and Martha White for assisting in the church office in December.

Thank You to December's First Family Dinner

THANKS to everyone that helped make this dinner fabulous! Mildred Andrew, Rebekah Ayscue, Andy and Ruth Cotton, Steve Cumming, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, John and Debbie Hahn, Bill Hall, Jennifer Hesley, Debby Johnston, Don and Nancy Joines, Mary Kesselman, Stephan and Leslie Kinley, Ken Knight and Connie Wallace, Greg Lisk, Mark Mabry, Sarah and Ronnie Michael, Jeff and Kim Robertson, Ned and Gayle Russell, Jim Sawyer, Terri West, Faith Explorers and all those who helped break down the tables and chairs and clean up the gym! I just can't thank everyone enough for being so generous with their time and talents!!

Angel tree

Thanks to all those who fulfilled the Christmas gift wishes for 50 of the children in the Central Elementary School family. A special thanks goes out to Bob Johnston who, each year, faithfully collates the children's information and creates the angel tree tags. Thanks also to Joe Snuggs and Harold Sharpe for transporting the gifts to the Helping Hands distribution site.

From the Mission Committee

The Mission Committee would like to thank the following people who helped to prepare food and/or helped to serve at the Community Table on December 15: Linda Anderson, Mildred Andrew, Elizabeth Ayscue, Rebekah Ayscue, Ruth and Andy Cotton, Heather Deese, Ann Duckwall, Cathy King, Ruth Ann Rogers, Gayle Russell, Rose Saltzman, Marlene and Nathan Sanges, Janet Schaeffer, Carolyn Sharpe, Shelley Shedd, and Martha White.

Christmas Kitchen Recap

On December 16, members of our church donated all kinds of food to be sold for our annual Christmas Kitchen fundraiser. The Youth Group raised \$1,528 for youth missions and programming! We would like to thank everyone who prepared the delicious baked goods, as well as everyone who supported our youth ministry by volunteering or purchasing items!



February Newsletter Deadline on Tuesday, January 22.

Early submissions are always welcome!

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

pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org.

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:

Doug Archer, cancer.
Dale Benson, brother of Ann Crutchfield.
Ted Biggers, friend of Martha Sue Hall & Dan Samples.
Margaret Brooks, friend of Debbie Hahn.
Joan Bunn, friend of Gina Martin; health concerns.
Michelle Honeycutt Cole, friend of Katie Carpenter; in remission-stage 2 Hodgkins Lymphoma.
Katherine Cox, mother of Sherrie Richards; health concerns.
Sara Dyer, mother of Martha White; ongoing health concerns.
Lindsey Efird, daughter of Karen Efird and Mark Efird; battling MPS.
Jeanette Eudy, friend of Liz Davis; peritoneal cancer.
Veronica Fraser, friend of Debby Johnston; pancreatic cancer.
Kathy Miles Gordon, friend of Ruth Goodwin; pancreatic cancer.
Marty Goforth, treatment for melanoma.
Steve Granger, brother of Laura McLeod; stage 4 lung cancer.
Calvin Hall, kidney cancer.
Elizabeth Howard, cousin of Mary Kesselman; health concerns.
Joe Kluttz, spouse of Martha Chapman; Hospice House (Raleigh).
Jackie Lynn Kruis, eleven year-old great-niece of Gloria Bryson.
Denise LaBoube, half-sister of Martha White; diagnosed with brain cancer-Astrocytoma.
Junior Lambert, uncle of Danny Lambert; stage 4 lung cancer.
Molly Amelia Lowder, continuing health concerns.
Diane Marks, mother of Kyle Marks; treatment for breast cancer.
Bryanna Medlin, nine year old diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma.
Sam & Melanie Obermiller, friends of John & Debbie Hahn.
Frank Osborne, brother of Lillie Hancock.
Hilda Perry, sister of Cathryn Harwood; continuing health concerns.
Karen Russell, First Baptist Church Wee Care Teacher; breast cancer.
David Sanges, brother of Nathan Sanges.
Judy Smith, friend of Meredith Moses; pancreatic cancer.
Betty Stancik, sister of Bill Hall; continuing health concerns.
Garin Stepp, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.
Judy Toney, sister of Jim Hesley; chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer.
Sally Warburton, friend of Debbie & John Hahn.
Eddie Wilson, brother of Elizabeth Wilson; health concerns.

Members of the Congregation:

Blue Honeycutt.
Dick Liles.
Tommy Murrell.
Linda Richards.
Cam Rogers.
Pete Smith.



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 03- Mike McLeod | 19- Ken Frazier |
| Sandy Rogers | 21- Drew Melone |
| 04- Sandy Saunders | 22- Jaycee Barbee |
| 05- Austin Coats | 23- Susan Garrison |
| Miriam Russell | Kim Marshall |
| 06- Shannon Lisk | Ronnie Michael |
| 09- Isabel McIntyre | 24- Dennis Gower |
| 10- Rita Morgan | 26- Thomas Shedd |
| Jacob Palmer | 27- Linda Richards |
| 12- Ruth Ann Rogers | 28- Kim Andrew |
| 13- Jane Borders | Gus Holbrook |
| 15- Julian Eudy | Dona Lisk |
| 16- Debbie Hahn | 30- Linda Anderson |
| 19- Nancy Feather | 31- Garrett Chapman |



05-John & Debbie Hahn



Habitat for Humanity Project Update

Volunteers working in Badin on the Habitat for Humanity have made an incredible amount of progress in a short amount of time. Despite weather setbacks, members of Presbyterian churches in Albemarle, Locust, and Norwood have teamed up to build a new home for the Johnson family in Badin. The siding is almost complete. Professionals will do several tasks



(roofing, insulation, drywall installation). We'll be back to work on January 5. We are praying a prayer of thanksgiving for all of the time, commitment, money, and prayer that so many people have given to this project. Special thanks to Margaret Ivey, Sandy Rogers, Ann Upchurch, and Elizabeth Wilson, for their roles in planning and coordination.



SCCM NEED FOR JANUARY: Toiletries & Household Items:

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Laundry Detergent
- Bar Soap
- Feminine Hygiene Products



Warm Gifts of Winter

This winter, please help us spread the warmth to our friends in the community by bringing new and gently used scarves, mittens, gloves, and toboggans to the tree in the Pit Stop. We will collect through Sunday, January 6. We will donate these warm gifts to children at Central Elementary School and the SCCM Clothing Closet.

Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

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

Next Packing Date:
Wednesday, January 2 at 10:30 a.m.





The youth group spent December studying the meaning of the season of Advent and how we can focus on preparing our hearts for Christmas. We discussed the trials God's people went through and the long period of preparation they had for Jesus' birth. Youth took home an *Alternative Advent Calendar* with tasks each day to help them be more present in their daily lives.

Sunday, January 6	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 13	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 20	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 27	Youth Group	5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

High Schoolers...The date for Montreat in the summer of 2019 will be July 14-20.

Middle Schoolers...The date for Massanetta in the summer of 2019 will be June 25-28.

An information session on both retreats will be held in January (TBA) if you'd like to learn more.

High School Bible Study Returns

- When? Monday nights at 8:30 p.m. beginning January 7
- Where? At Elizabeth's house (1611 Bellamy Circle)
- What else? All 9th-12th graders are invited to participate in this group for fellowship, prayer, and the study of God's word.

Jack Morton and Elizabeth will gently lead the discussions.



January 10
Jacob Palmer



Mark Your Calendars for February 8
Night to Shine Joy Prom
!!! More information to come !!!



FIRST FAMILY GATHERING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

EVENING PRAYER AT 5:45 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL

DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE GYM

Menu: Boston Butt, Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean, Corn, Mixed Green Salad, Rolls, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Station, Assorted Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water and Lemonade

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org by noon on Monday, December 31 to say you're coming.

Volunteers Are Needed for First Family Gathering

- Set-up Crew: Wednesday, January 2 at 3:45 p.m.
- Clean-up Crew: Wednesday, January 2 at 6:45 p.m.

Please call Jane Snyder at the church (704-982-2722) or on her cell phone (704-438-3358) if you would like to help!

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

January 3 at Dickey's Barbecue Pit (720 NC 24/27 East #20, Albemarle)

February 7 at Ly Cuisine (807A North 2nd Street, Albemarle)





Confirmation Class Meeting

Sunday, January 6

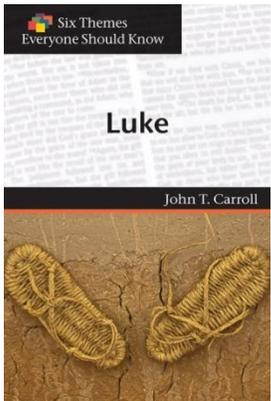
In the parlor following worship

Eighth and ninth graders and their parents are invited to meet with Matt Drumheller on January 6th to discuss plans for the 2019 Confirmation Class. We will meet briefly in the parlor following worship.

Our 2019 Confirmation Class will be meeting in late January. We will use a new PC(USA) curriculum called *Big God, Big Questions* focused around the questions that confirmands will be asked when they join the church. Please keep these youth, their families, and their mentors in your prayers as they go through the important exploration time in their life of faith.

Decorating Committee Meeting

If you like to decorate, we would love for you to join our Decorating Committee!!! We decorate for all the major events at the church (about 14 times a year). Each person usually decorates 2-3 times a year with a team. This is our one and only meeting! We will meet in the Session Room on Wednesday, January 9 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring your calendars. It will be short and sweet. For more information, contact Jane Snyder (jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org).



Adult Bible Study Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. Beginning January 8

The lectionary gospel for most of 2019 is Luke. We'll focus our attention on a new study resource, *Six Themes in Luke Everyone Should Know* written by John T. Carroll, professor at Union Presbyterian Seminary. Join us for six weeks of study and fellowship as we focus on Luke's gospel.

Sign-up by January 7.
Book cost: \$12.00

PRIMETIMERS' LUNCHEON THURSDAY, JANUARY 10 AT NOON IN THE PIT STOP PROGRAM:

SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATION OF
CHIEF SEATTLE, THE ENVIRONMENTAL SPEECH
BY ANDY COTTON

MENU: LASAGNA, SALAD, BREAD, DESSERTS

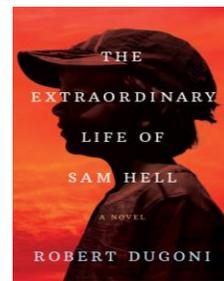
Come and enjoy this time together with friends, good food, and a wonderful slide show presentation by Andy Cotton! Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by Tuesday, January 8.

Chief Seattle's
Speech of 1854 is a
powerful statement
on the environment,
culture, and the
future of humanity.



Tea & Conversation
Thursday, January 24
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
In the parlor

Come enjoy warm conversation on a cold afternoon. Kim Robertson will share in the time by leading the group in gentle seated stretches.



January Book Study
Monday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.

In the church parlor

Book: *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*
by Robert Dugoni

Cost: \$12.00 & available in the church office

Sam Hill sees the world through different eyes. Born with red pupils, he earns the nickname *Devil Boy* or *Sam Hell*. He crafts a life with two other misfit friends, his father's practical wisdom, and his mother's devout faith. His riveting story is told in two timelines and speaks of redemption and the power of perseverance. Some have likened this novel to the work of John Irving.

Grandparent & Child Retreat

Sunday, January 27, 2019

Noon-2:30 p.m.

Partnering in Christian Education....

Children K-5th grade...

Grandparents of any age...

Lunch in gym followed by activities around the church. Call or email church office to sign up! (klambert@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).





The Senior Care Committee would like to encourage the congregation to remember our at-home and out of town members during the winter months.

Send cards, drop by for a visit, make a call, and pray for them.

Blue Honeycutt
 531 Ridge Street
 Albemarle, NC 28001
 Phone: 704-982-7272

Ruth Goforth
 Room 228C
 728 Klumac Rd.
 Salisbury, NC 28144
 Phone: 980-422-6868

Polly Moose
 c/o Brookdale Sr. Living
 745 Dilworth Lane, Apt. 124
 Rock Hill, SC 29732
 Phone: 803-372-8002

Anita Gower
 530 Avondale Ave.
 Albemarle, NC 28001
 Phone: 704-983-1832

Dick Liles
 10300 Hanging Moss Trail
 Mint Hill, NC 28227
 Phone: 980-256-4537

Linda Richards
 50015 Haven Cove Rd.
 Albemarle, NC 28001
 Phone: 704-982-0560



Our Youth Club will begin the year by continuing to explore important stories and people in Scripture following the guidance of the *Stepping Stones of Faith* resources created here at First Presbyterian Church. Last month, after having the Joy Program delayed by weather, the Youth Club presented the story of Christmas in our Joy Program called *Carriers of the Light*. Thank you to all who helped make this program possible, and thank you to the children who retold the story so wonderfully in song and word.

Trusty Travelers (K-3rd graders) will begin exploring the life of Jesus after his birth in Bethlehem and his baptism in the Jordan River. They will talk about the calling of Jesus' disciples and how he gathered all sorts of people together, including the children.

Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders) learned about the meaning of Advent and different Christmas traditions. We learned about Jesus bringing light to the world and prayed over a map for parts of the world that need healing today. We also learned more about Mary and her faith in God's promises. We talked about how God can use us as a part of His plan, too.

Youth Club volunteers will provide our youngest participants with a safe space of learning and play.

Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

- Who can come? 2nd & 3rd graders
What? Breakfast...muffins, fruit, yogurt, milk, juice, etc.
When? Sunday, January 6 from 9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.
Where? Media Room
Why? To pray together & build a strong community of faith
Please let Jill Niebler (jniebler@gmail.com) know if you are able to join us.



Urban Air Trampoline Park Sunday, January 13 following worship

On Sunday, January 13, we will eat lunch at the church at 12:15 p.m., and then head to the Urban Air Trampoline Park in Mint Hill for an afternoon of fun! The cost is \$13.99 for Basic Trampolines, \$5.99 for the Parent Pass, and \$2.50 for Urban Air Socks. (No personal socks allowed). We will return to the church around 5:00 p.m. **Contact Dorothy to sign-up (dorothyhart@fpcalbemarle.org or 828-244-3824).**



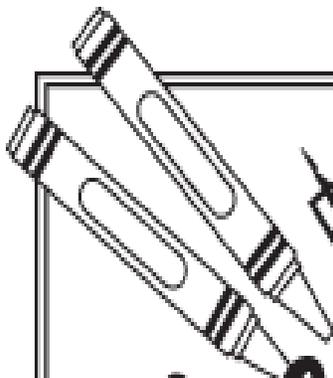
Save the Date for Music & Arts Camp Summer 2019

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 9-Thursday, June 13

For children ages 4 years through 6th grade will enjoy a fun time!

**Volunteers...Come help us with this extraordinary event!
Volunteers of all ages warmly welcomed!**



PUZZLE

A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.



We were therefore buried with him
through baptism into death in order that,
just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.



What you need:

- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

What you do:

1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.



Tuesday, January 1 *New Year's Day/Church Office Closed*

Wednesday, January 2

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 3:45 pm First Family Set-Up Crew
- 5:45 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm First Family Dinner
- 6:45 pm First Family Clean-Up Crew
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 3

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Dickey's Barbecue Pit
(720 NC 24/27 Hwy, Albemarle)

Friday, January 4

- 6:00 pm-10:00 pm Officers' Retreat

Saturday, January 5

- 9:00 am-1:00 pm Officers' Retreat

Sunday, January 6 *Epiphany/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Ordination & Installation of New Officers/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger/Bring Warm Gifts of Winter*

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Confirmation Class Meeting for 8th & 9th Graders & Parents (parlor)
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, January 7

- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, January 8

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, January 9

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 5:00 pm Decorating Committee (Session Room)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 10

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm PrimeTimers' Luncheon (pit stop)

Sunday, January 13

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:15 pm Faith Explorers eat at the church then travel to Urban Air Trampoline Park in Mint Hill
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, January 14

- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, January 15

Deadline for Gaither Endowment Grant Applications

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study

***childcare provided**

Wednesday, January 16

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 17

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

Sunday, January 20

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

Monday, January 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day/Women's Workday at the Habitat Site/Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 22

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 12:00 pm February Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, January 23

No Youth Club

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 24

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm-3:30 pm Tea & Conversation

Sunday, January 27

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm *Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation
- 12:00 pm-2:30 pm Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, January 28

- 7:00 pm Book Conversation (Parlor)
- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, January 29

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, January 30

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 31

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

***childcare provided**



THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY

Ushers: Jill Niebler, captain; Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Nancy Joines, Katherine Jolly, Ken Knight, Andy McLeod, and Shelley Shedd

Elder Greeters for January: Taylor Johnston; Joyce Lambert

Nursery:

January 6: Caroline Snyder
January 13: Emily Andrew
January 20: Cortney Brown
January 27: Cortney Brown

Outside Ushers:

January 6: Mark Mabry; Kyle Marks
January 13: Mark Andrew; Jack Morton
January 20: Steve Coats; Stephan Kinley
January 27: John Howell; Greg Lisk

Acolytes:

January 6: Natalie Taylor
January 13: Jackson Shedd
January 20: Graham Chapman
January 27: Katherine Jolly

Children's Church for January:

January 6: No Children's Church
January 13: Heather Kilde; David Kilde
January 20: Heather Kilde; David Kilde
January 27: Heather Kilde; David Kilde

Kids Care Crew:

January 6: Barbara & Chris Whitley
January 13: Jack & Penny Morton
January 20: Sarah & Ronnie Michael
January 27: Debby Johnston & Carol Sasser

Church Website Address & Staff Email Addresses

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

