



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Co-Pastor

Matt Drumheller, Co-Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music

Stan Scheer, Organist

Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship

Dorothy Hart, Youth Director

Pam Knighten, Secretary

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager

Church Office: (704) 982-2722

E-mail: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

January 2020

Dear Friends,

The *dawning* of a new year brings to mind the hopeful scripture verses from Lamentations:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)



2019 was a year of daunting challenges for many people. In the midst of those challenges and strife, God was steady and true. As 2020 begins, we know that God's mercies continue and are *new every day*. As Christians, we have opportunity to share the hope of Jesus Christ. Weekly worship, daily prayer and scripture reading, and fellowship with one another prepare us to be bearers of hope in the world. Let us be faithful to all that strengthens our faith.

Grace and Peace,
Elizabeth

Epiphany Celebration & Worship Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m.



We'll gather around tables for dinner where we'll experience the story of the magi's journey to welcome the Christ Child.

Please bring warm gifts (scarves, hats, socks, gloves) to fill the manger. We'll share them with neighbors who struggle to stay warm.



How would you like to serve the church this year? Contact Matt (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) or Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) to determine how your gifts and interests dovetail with the needs of the congregation and our ministry partners.



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.

WORSHIP

Sunday, January 5 We will begin the year by celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Elders and deacons will be ordained and installed.
Scripture: Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:10-18

Sunday, January 12 Baptism of the Lord
Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 19 Scripture: John 1:29-42

Sunday, January 26 Scripture: Matthew 4:12-23

10 CENTS A MEAL

Ten-Cents-A-Meal

We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on January 5. 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 \$403.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal for November.



2020 Flower Calendar

The 2020 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 3-4. Jan Edminston, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Charlotte, will be the guest speaker on Friday evening. Elders from Norwood, and Locust will join us for her presentation on *The Future of the Church*. Ordination and installation of First Presbyterian Church officers will be Sunday, January 5 during worship. Your prayers and support of our leaders are essential during this weekend as they prepare to serve.

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

Friday, January 3	6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 4	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Officers being ordained are: Emily Andrew and Duncan Bryson

Those being installed are deacons Emily Andrew, Martha Sue Hall, Greg Lisk, and Lee Snuggs and elders Duncan Bryson, John Earnhardt, Ken Knight, Sandy Rogers, and Ellen Snyder.



Church Officers – Thank You for Your Service

With deep gratitude, we acknowledge the contributions and leadership of elders and deacons who have completed their terms on Session and the Diaconate:
Steve Cumming, Joyce Lambert, Jim Marshall, Lee McLaurin, Jack Morton,
Penny Morton, Jacob Palmer, Brett Richards, Rose Saltzman,
Debbie Wainwright, and David Whitley.

2020 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!
Congregational Care
Fellowship
Senior Care
Ushering

Session Committees which need you!
Christian Education
Mission
Property
Stewardship
Worship



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Session has established the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 26. 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 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Actual:	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	422,113.00	507,508.00
Total Expenses:	472,506.00	510,204.00
(Shortage)/Surplus	(\$50,393.00)	(\$ 2,696.00)

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2019

Pledges:	479,500	
Total Income:	552,963	
Total Expenses:	552,963	
Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments:	<u>\$10,634</u>	We are behind \$23,253 in pledges.
Average Weekly Amount Received in November:	<u>\$8,728</u>	Ten-Cents-A-Meal for November: \$403.00

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Our theme this year was **STEPPING BOLDLY FORWARD**, and I must say, our congregation did just that with their pledges for 2020! Fifty-two individuals/families have pledged to increase their giving in 2020 and eight more individuals/families made new pledges for 2020. Thanks to your tremendous support, Session has approved a budget for 2020 that will enable us to fully fund the co-pastor model and continue all of the programs, services and mission work that make our church such a special place to worship and serve God.

We thank you, our congregation, for your very generous support. Special thanks also go to Jim Sawyer who recommended our theme, as well as several new ideas (including the beautiful brochure), that clearly contributed to the success of our campaign. We were fortunate to avoid outside printing costs of the brochure as Pam did an amazing job on the layout, and we used our copier for in-house production. Finally, thanks go to Kyle for her careful tracking of pledge results and for her diligent work with Lee McLaurin on a line-by-line review of the new budget.

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).

NEWS & NOTES

Sympathy

To Gloria Bryson upon the death of her brother, Frank Breisch, on December 14.

To Marshall Rogers and family upon the death of his wife, Cam Rogers, on December 16.

Congratulations

Homes of Hope will celebrate the retirement of Skeet Ayscue, Executive Director, with a reception on January 9 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Homes of Hope office (1816B East Main Street, Albemarle). Shanta Watkins, currently Development Director, will assume the role of Executive Director upon Skeet's retirement.

Thanks to:

Linda Anderson, Ann Duckwall, Donna Gaither, Ruth Goodwin, and Martha White for helping in the church office in December.

Thanks to Mary Kesselman who served as recording clerk for Session in 2019. Though not a member of Session, she faithfully attended meetings and participated in many projects of Session.

Thanks to Janice Abernathy, who has faithfully prepared the sanctuary for worship each Sunday since 2015, often checking several times each week to make sure pencils were sharpened, hymnals in place, and so much more.

December's First Family Dinner

For our December First Family meal, much thanks goes to: Mildred Andrew, Andy and Ruth Cotton, Michelle Cumming, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Susan Garrison, John and Debbie Hahn, Bill Hall, Jennifer Hesley, Jim Hesley, Stephan Kinley, Ronnie Michael, Frankie Palmer, Kim and Jeff Robertson, Ned and Gayle Russell, Sandy Saunders, Jim Sawyer, Abby Snuggs, Lee Snuggs, Lily Snyder, the Faith Explorers, and all those who helped break down the tables and chairs and clean up the gym! THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION©

Jane Snyder, Director of Christian Education & Fellowship

Thank You for Helping with Angel Tree 2019

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 for transporting the gifts to the Helping Hands distribution site.

Thank You for Your Contributions to the Youth Group Christmas Kitchen

On December 15, members of our church donated all kinds of food to be sold for our annual Christmas Kitchen fundraiser. \$488.00 was raised for our youth missions and programming! We would like to thank everyone who prepared the wonderful dishes and desserts as well as everyone who supported our youth ministry.

STATED SESSION MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2019

At its stated meeting on December 15, 2019, Session examined incoming deacons and elders who will begin their terms in January 2020. New deacons are Emily Andrew, Martha Sue Hall, Greg Lisk, and Lee Snuggs. New elders are Ellen Snyder, Ken Knight, Sandy Rogers, John Earnhardt, and Duncan Bryson. Session then heard reports from Stewardship and Mission committees. The Stewardship committee presented the proposed budget for 2020. Session approved that the budget be presented to the congregation at a congregational meeting in January. Session approved a recommendation from the Mission committee to designate the Christmas Eve offering for the backpack program funds. First Presbyterian is partnering with First Presbyterian of Norwood and Locust Presbyterian to participate in a day of food packing on February 23, 2020, at 3 p.m. in the gym. Volunteers will be needed to pack approximately 20,000 meals which will be shipped worldwide. A grant application has been submitted to the Charlotte Presbytery for assistance with this project. The Faith on the Fifth offering on December 29, 2019, will be donated to SCCM for heating assistance. In other business, January 26, 2020, has been designated as the date for a congregational meeting and the annual meeting of the corporation. On December 29, 2019, worship service will be held in the gym. Rev. Drumheller has been asked to preach and moderate a congregational meeting at Star Presbyterian Church on January 19, 2020. Rev. Ayscue will lead worship and a congregational meeting at Macedonia Presbyterian Church on January 12, 2020. The officers' retreat will be held on January 3, 2020, from 6-10 p.m. and on January 4 from 9-1 p.m. Rev. Jan Edmiston, General Presbyter, will speak at the officers' retreat on Friday, January 3. Session approved the appointment of Steve Cumming as Clerk of Session for 2020. Reverend Ayscue thanked and recognized members of Session whose terms are ending at the end of 2019: Steve Cumming, Joyce Lambert, Jim Marshall, Lee McLaurin, Jacob Palmer, Debbie Wainwright, and David Whitley. Session approved scheduling monthly meetings for Diaconate and Session beginning in January 2020.

Submitted by Mary N. Kesselman, Clerk of Session

THANKS
FOR
BEING
AWESOME

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:

Brinn Andrew, daughter of Kellie & Jason Andrew; immunotherapy treatment.
David Bailiff, friend of Debbie Hahn; kidney transplant complications.
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.
Rin Gannon, friend of Isabel McLeod; recovering from a stroke.
Calvin Hall, friend of Ruth Goodwin; kidney cancer – physical therapy for stroke.
Sean Hickey, brother-in-law of Lori Ivey; colon cancer.
Elizabeth Howard, cousin of Mary Kesselman; health concerns.
Catherine Johnson, niece of Elizabeth Wilson; diagnosed with breast cancer.
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.
Maddie McRae, daughter of Renee & Keith McRae; diagnosis & treatment for a brain tumor.
Bryanna Medlin, Hodgkins Lymphoma.
James Nunn, 19 year old nephew of Billie Jean Snuggs; hospitalized following surgery on optic nerve.
Sally Ormand, friend of Ruth Goodwin; cancer treatment.
Katie Regner, daughter of Meg Connell Watson; pregnancy with triplets.
David Sanges, brother of Nathan Sanges.
Jane Scheer, spouse of Stan Scheer; Spring Arbor.
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.
Jason Washburn, friend of Jessica & John Palmer; pancreatic cancer.

Members of the Congregation:

Sally Grantier.
Don Joines.
Mark Mabry.
Jane Pickler.
Jean Rabe.
Linda Richards.
Carolyn Sharpe.
Pete Smith.



BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM



The backpack program at Central Elementary School provides food to approximately 50 children each weekend. These students are identified by their teachers as living in homes where they are likely to have little access to healthy food. First Presbyterian

church is responsible for filling and packing backpacks every third week. Each time we pack the backpacks we need the following items:

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.

Packing Date: Wednesday, January 15 at 10:30 a.m.

Your on-going support of this important mission is essential. Each time you're at the grocery store, please pick-up an extra item or two to replenish our shelves.

We are also in need of several people who would like to do any of the following:

- use donated money to shop for last minute items,
- organize food for packing, and
- pack food.

Each task will need to be done only once every three weeks. If you can help regularly (or one time only!), contact Debby Johnston (704-322-8139).

SCCM NEED FOR JANUARY
Canned Fruit – Lite Syrup or No Sugar Added



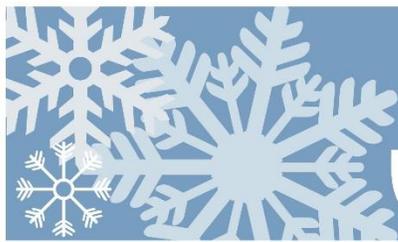
About the Work & Life of Our Ministry Partners in Stanly County

From Stanly Community Christian Ministry in the calendar year...

- ❖ 1534 people received clothing through the Clothing Closet. The retail value of the clothing was slightly less than \$10,500.00.
- ❖ 662,000 pounds of food was distributed to clients.
- ❖ Nearly 24,000 meals were served at the Community Table in Albemarle.

In addition...CARE CAFÉ is a group respite program which provides respite for caregivers. Operating three days each week, the program provides a stimulating and fun environment for adults while their caregiver has time away from the daily responsibilities.

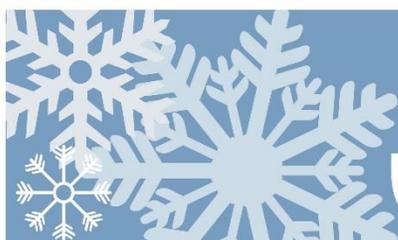




JANUARY

Birthdays

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



JANUARY

Anniversaries

05-John & Debbie Hahn



In December, our children presented the story of Christmas in our Joy Program called, *O Come Let Us Adore Him*. 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. Our Youth Club will begin the year by continuing to explore important stories and people in Scripture by following the seasons of the church year.

The 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.

The Faith Explorers (4th & 5th Graders): Our Faith Explorers are eagerly anticipating the next section of our Big Faith Questions curriculum, as this is the topic the majority of the questions were tied to. In the new year, we will be learning more about life after death. We will be discussing questions such as, *What happens when you die?*, *How do you make sure you get to heaven?*, and *What do we do in heaven?*. We look forward to having more enlightening conversations together and adding even more questions to our list.

Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!

2nd & 3rd graders

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

Sunday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m.

Media Room

To pray together & build strong community of faith

Who can come?

What?

When?

Where?

Why?

Please let Jill Niebler (jlniebler@gmail.com) know if you are able to join us.



Urban Air Trampoline Park Sunday, January 12 following worship

On Sunday, January 12, 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).**





Youth Group News & Information

Happy New Year! As we begin a new year and a new semester, we look forward to growing deeper in our faith and friendships. Come find warmth in the fun programs, good food, and great friends!

Sunday, January 5

Youth Group

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 12

Youth Group

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 19

Youth Group

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 26

Youth Group

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

High School Bible Study Returns

When?

Monday nights at 8:30 p.m. beginning January 6

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



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 12:00 P.M. IN THE PARLOR
FEEL FREE TO BRING A BAG LUNCH

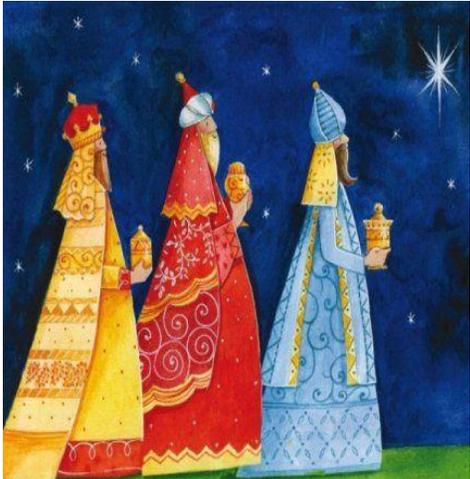
For more information, contact Peggy Finley (704-985-1136 or maf447@windstream.net).



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, socks, and toboggans to the tree in the Pit Stop. We will collect through Wednesday, January 8. We will donate these warm gifts to children at Central Elementary School and the SCCM Clothing Closet.



ETIPHANY WORSHIP & FIRST FAMILY GATHERING IN THE GYM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 6:00 P.M.

Youth Club children will help lead us in worship
to celebrate the revelation of Jesus to the world.

Come join us for dinner and a brief worship service in the gym.

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

Menu:

Pasta Bar, Mixed Green Salad, Fruit, Garlic Bread, Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich
Station, King's Cake, Tea, Lemonade, Coffee and Water.

Contact the church office by Tuesday, January 7 to make reservations:
704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org.



Volunteers Needed for next First Family Gathering

Dessert Crew: Tuesday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m.

Sauce Crew: Wednesday, January 8 at 10:00 a.m.

Set-up crew: Wednesday, January 8 at 4:30 p.m.

Clean-up crew: Wednesday, January 8 at 6:45 p.m.

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her 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 2 at Ly Cuisine (807-A North 2nd Street, Albemarle)

February 6 at Dickie's BBQ (720 NC 24/27 Bypass East #20, Albemarle)



PRIMETIMERS' LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9 AT NOON IN THE PIT STOP

SPEAKER: TREY GIBSON OF ELECTRONICS RECYCLERS INTERNATIONAL

MENU: SOUP, SALAD, AND DESSERTS

Come and enjoy this time together with friends, good food, and an informational
presentation by Trey Gibson! Contact the church office (704-982-2722 or
klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by Monday, January 6.



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING!

SKEET AYSCUE

Retired

SKEET'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION
 Thursday, January 9, 2020
 drop-in between 11am-2pm
 at Homes of Hope
 1816 B East Main St.
 Albemarle, NC 28001



Coffee House at Norwood Presbyterian Church
 Sunday, January 12 at 4:00 p.m.
 In the Fellowship Hall

What is it?

Norwood Presbyterian Church is hosting an informal coffeehouse, with music provided by Leslie and Steve Gretz.

What else?

The Gretzs are singer/songwriters whose music is influenced by folk, gospel, and contemporary genres.

Come for an afternoon of fellowship with Stanly County Presbyterians of all ages. Refreshments will be provided.

Grandparent & Child Retreat

Sunday, January 26, 2020

Noon-2:30 p.m.

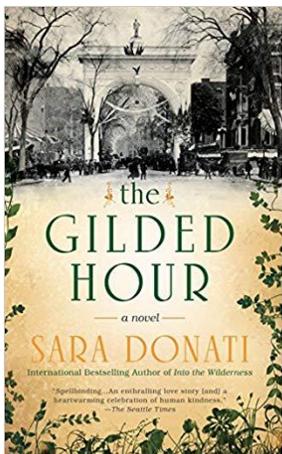
Partnering in Christian Education...

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).



January Book Study

Monday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor

Book: *The Gilded Hour* by Sara Donati

Cost: \$12.00 & available in the church office

It is 1883 and cousins, Anna and Sophie, both graduates of the Woman's Medical School, treat New York City's most vulnerable people. Doing so, forces them to make difficult choices, both personally and professionally, and thrusts them into the orbit of an anti-vice crusader. The action is non-stop, and captivating, and has been described as *a heartwarming celebration of human kindness*.

MISSING...



YARD-SQUARE TABLE COVERS IN THE FABRICS PICTURED, PLUS THE PLASTIC CONTAINER IN WHICH THEY WERE STORED. LAST USED IN APRIL 2019 FOR YOUTH CLUB SNACK TIME AND MISSING WHEN YOUTH CLUB BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER.

- 2 GREEN/WHITE CHECK
- 4 NAVY/WHITE CHECK
- 5 LIGHT BLUE/WHITE CHECK
- 5 YELLOW/GREY STRIPE
- 3 RED/WHITE CHECK
- 2 BLACK/WHITE CHECK

LENT IS ON THE HORIZON

Lent begins on February 26. We are preparing a congregational email devotional which each church member will receive on a daily basis. In the meantime, we are looking for folks who would like to stretch and share their faith by writing a brief reflection on an assigned scripture passage. If you can help, contact Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722) or Matt (mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).





Save the Date for Music & Arts Camp Summer 2020

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 14-Thursday, June 18

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!



The three Presbyterian churches in Stanly County are partnering together on our next project! On February 23rd First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle will host a meal-packing event sponsored by all three churches. We will start packing meals at 3:00 p.m. to be shipped around the world to those in need. We are planning to pack about 15,000 meals over the course of 2 hours, so we will need your help! Plan to volunteer some of your time on February 23rd or you can make a contribution to cover the cost of the meals. Please contact Matt Drumheller for more information or to sign up to volunteer.

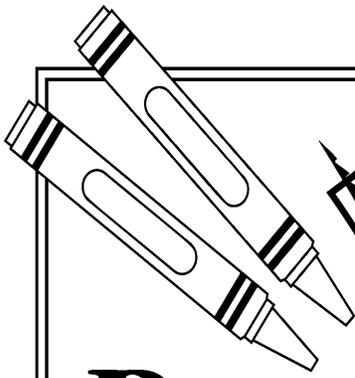
**February Newsletter
Deadline...
Tuesday, January 21.**

**Early submissions
are always welcome!**

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

pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org



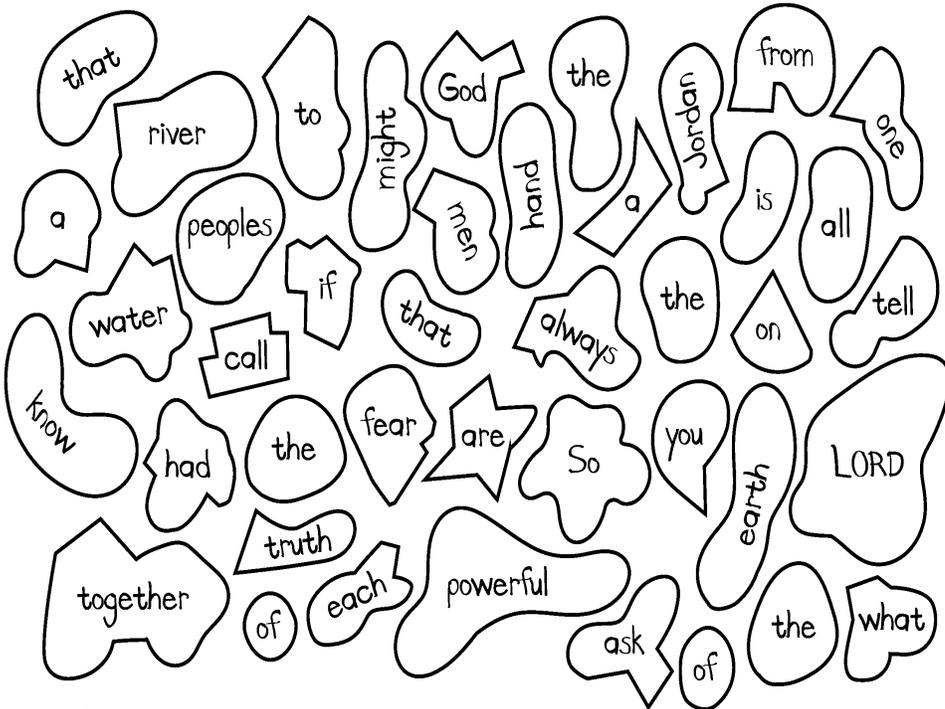


PUZZLE

Reminder rocks

When Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they set up stones for a special reason.

Directions: Shade all the rocks that aren't completely rounded. Unscramble the remaining rocks to reveal a message from Joshua 4:24, NIV.



So _____ the _____ the
_____ the
the _____ .

JOSHUA 4:24, NIV

“STEP” INTO THE NEW YEAR

Make this craft to remember God's many blessings.



What you need:

- Small stones
- Permanent markers
- Foil pan and cooking spray
- Drop cloth
- Gloves
- Quick-set concrete (and adult help)
- Bucket and paint stirrer

What you do:

1. After reflecting on the past year, use markers to decorate stones with memorable words, dates and drawings.
2. Spray pan with cooking spray. Set pan outside on a drop cloth.
3. Wearing gloves, mix concrete in a bucket, according to instructions.
4. Pour concrete into pan. Smooth top with paint stirrer.
5. Press in stones, handprints and other decorations.
6. Let dry completely. Remove from pan.
7. Place the stepping-stone outside as a reminder of God's continued goodness.

Answer: So that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful. Joshua 4:24, NIV

JANUARY



Wednesday, January 1

New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Ly Cuisine
(807-A North 2nd Street, Albemarle)

Friday, January 3

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

Saturday, January 4

9:00 am-1:00 pm Officer's Retreat

Sunday, January 5

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Ordination & Installation of New Officers

Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch (2nd & 3rd Graders in Media Room)

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Mission Committee

5:30 pm-7:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, January 6

8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's
(1611 Bellamy Circle, Albemarle)

Tuesday, January 7

10:00 am First Family Dessert Crew

Wednesday, January 8

Collection of Warm Gifts

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am First Family Sauces Crew

12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)

4:00 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club

4:30 pm First Family Set-Up Crew

6:00 pm First Family Dinner & Epiphany Worship

6:45 pm First Family Clean-Up Crew

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

10:30 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm PrimeTimers' Luncheon (Pit Stop)

*childcare provided



Sunday, January 12

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:15 pm Faith Explorers to Urban Air Trampoline Park
in Mint Hill, NC

4:00 pm Coffeehouse at Norwood Presbyterian Church
in the Fellowship Hall
(207 South Main Street, Norwood)

5:30 pm-7:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, January 13

8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's
(1611 Bellamy Circle, Albemarle)

Wednesday, January 15

Deadline for Gaither Endowment Grant Applications

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:30 am Backpack Food Program

4:00 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 16

10:30 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided

THE STEADFAST LOVE OF
THE LORD NEVER
CEASES, HIS MERCIES
NEVER COME TO AN
END; THEY ARE NEW
EVERY MORNING;
GREAT IS YOUR

Faithfulness.

-LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23 NRSV



JANUARY



Sunday, January 19

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

Monday, January 20

- 8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt

Tuesday, January 21

- 12:00 pm February Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, January 22

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

Thursday, January 23

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided

Sunday, January 26

Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation

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

Monday, January 27

- 7:00 pm Book Conversation (parlor)
- 8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's
(1611 Bellamy Circle, Albemarle)

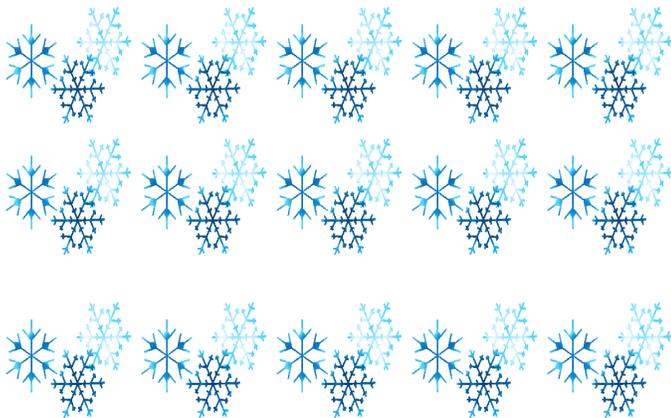
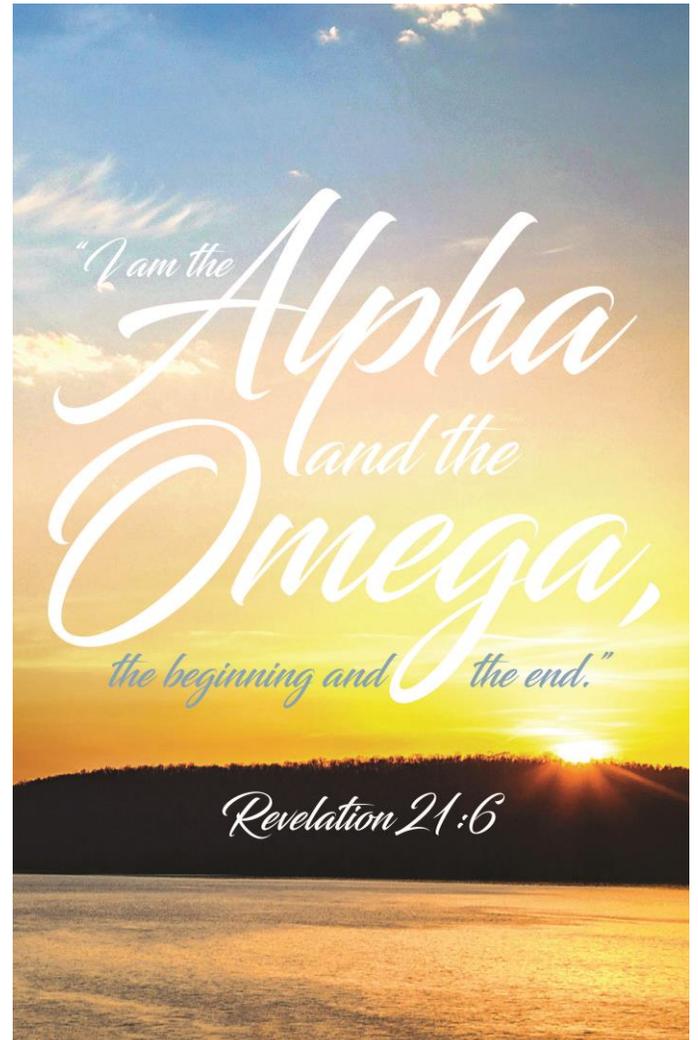
Wednesday, January 29

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 30

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting

*childcare provided



THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY

Ushers: Jim Marshall, captain; Al Andrew, Robbie Beard, Duncan Bryson, Elizabeth Bryson, Keith Bryson, Mike McLeod, Chris Whitley, and David Whitley

Elder Greeters for January: Steve Coats; Rich Schaefer

Nursery:
January 5: Kate White
January 12: Kate White
January 19: Kate White
January 26: Kate White

Outside Ushers:
January 5: Lee McManus; Ronnie Michael
January 12: Jim Marshall; Chris Whitley
January 19: Matt Carpenter; Eric Niederer
January 26: Brad Boone; John Earnhardt

Acolytes:
January 5: Natalie Taylor
January 12: Ella Cumming
January 19: Nathaniel Eudy
January 26: Stella Marks

Kids Care Crew:
January 5: Becky Andrew & Angie Earnhardt
January 12: Penny & Jack Morton
January 19: Sarah & Ronnie Michael
January 26: Debby Johnston; Carol Sasser

Children's Church for December
January 5: No Children's Church
January 12: Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson
January 19: Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson
January 26: Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson

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:	dhart@fpcalbemarle.org		

