



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor

Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbells

Stanley Scheer, Organist

Gina Martin, Director of Christian Education

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Volume 48

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No. 47

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Please sign and pass the Register of Friendship during this time.

PRELUDE

Prelude on 'Rejoice the Lord Is King'

Charles Callahan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God crowns our year with bounty. The hills and valleys sing for joy.

People: God brought our ancestors to a good land, and we have benefitted from their labors.

Leader: Praise is due to God who has answered our prayers, who fills all the ends of the earth with hope.

People: God has provided every blessing in abundance so we have more than enough to share.

Leader: We will not forget the source of our plenty or take for granted what God entrusts to us.

People: We shall eat and be full, and thank God.

*CHORAL INTROIT

Give Praise to the Lord

Laudate Dominum

*PRAYER OF THE DAY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mr. Drumheller

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN 367

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

St. George's Windsor

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Unison

Almighty God, we confess we have not put you first in our lives. We have lived without gratitude and misused the good gifts you make available. We forget that you are the source of all things and imagine that we have come to the place where we are by our own efforts. Draw us back to yourself, O God, not to chasten, but to lead. Have mercy on us, and receive our thanks.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Believe the good news,

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the Children's Greeting, parents may take preschool children to the nursery. Children in grades K-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Presentation

Renunciation and Affirmation

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

hymnal, page 35

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Baptism

Introduction to the Congregation

Anthem

Feed My Lambs

Natalie Sleeth

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, you have so made us that we cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from your mouth. Give us a hunger for your Word, and in that food satisfy our daily need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PSALM READING

Psalm 30:1-5, 11-12

Pew Bible, page 478

ANTHEM

King of Glory, King of Peace

David Ashley White

King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;
And that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast, Thou has spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art, I will sing thee,
And the cream of all my heart I will bring thee,
Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me;
And alone, when they replied, thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;
In my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll thee;
E'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 15:1-6

Pew Bible, page 153

SERMON

With One Voice

Mrs. Ayscue

*HYMN 643

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun danket alle Gott

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING

Mr. Drumheller

Leader: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,

People: So we lift our hearts up to you, God, in praise and thanksgiving.

Leader: As we count our blessings, and acknowledge your goodness,

People: Our hearts go out to those who do not have, and who are in need.

Leader: We thank you for plentiful harvests and full refrigerators,

People: And ask that you supply the needs of those who are hungry.

Leader: We thank you for jobs that provide for our families and supply the needs of our society,

People: And pray that you would care for those who have no work, or the dignity and purpose it brings.

Leader: We thank you for opportunities and choices, for meaning and challenges,

People: And pray that you would give a sense of purpose to those who feel trapped.

Leader: We thank you for family and friends who love us and care for us

People: And pray that you would befriend those who are alone.

Leader: The abundance of the harvest is a symbol of the abundance of your love in our lives.

People: May we live in a spirit of gratitude to you and generosity to our neighbor.

Leader: Loving God, in this season and all year long, give to us the gift of a thankful heart,

People: So that we may acknowledge you as the giver of all that is good in our lives.

Leader: In the name of Jesus we ask it.

People: Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Martha Sue Hall

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Now Thank We All Our God*

Georg Kaufmann

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

hymnal, page 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN 37

Let All Things Now Living

Ash Grove

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

A Clare Benediction

John Rutter

*POSTLUDE

Choral Improvisation on 'Nun danket alle Gott'

Sigfried Karg-Elert

*All that are able may stand.

We rejoice that you are worshiping with us today. If you are a member of this church, please seek out those who are visiting and welcome them to this family of faith. If you are visiting and would like to know more about the church and membership here, please speak with one of the ministers following worship.

The acolyte today is Graham Chapman. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Elliott Joy Efird and Harrison Brooks Efird, daughter and son of Courtney and Shane Efird, will receive the Sacrament of Baptism today. Elder Gayle Russell is participating in the baptism.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our daughter, Jody Oliver, and her husband, Jacob Oliver, by Cathryn and Claude Harwood.

Ushers: John Howell, captain; Al Andrew, Jay Andrew, Brad Boone, Lee Boone, Kalyn Caudle, Bill Hall, Robin Howell, Adam Jolly, Greg Lisk, Ben McLeod, Isabel McLeod, and Joe Snuggs **Elder Greeters:** Peggy Finley; Marshall Rogers **Nursery:** Misty Honbarrier **Toddler Room:** Salem Taylor **Preschool Partners:** Leah Beamon; Heather Deese **Nana & Papa Team:** Teresa Taylor; Shirley Welch **Children's Church:** Anna Wainwright; Jacob Palmer

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Michael Corl & family (UPS delivery employee), Banks Garrison, Lynn White, Rowena Warren, Rose Saltzman, John McIntyre, Janet Gardner Fleming (stepdaughter of Ruth Ann Rogers), David Sanges (brother of Nathan Sanges); Struggling families. **See newsletter for complete list.**

The Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance (formerly Barium Springs Home for Children) will be received on Sunday, November 22. Your support will help meet the needs of children through various programs such as residential care, childcare, clinical services, educational services, and campus ministry.

SERRV... Peanuts, coffee, and some food items from SERRV will be available in the pit stop on Sunday, November 22 before and following worship. Our participation helps children attend school when their parents receive a fair price for their crop or craft.

Community Thanksgiving Worship...Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church (230 S. 2nd Street, Albemarle)... Once again, we will gather with churches throughout the community to give thanks for all God's blessings. Plan to join with the community in worship and to remain following worship for fellowship. Paul Jenkins, Lead Pastor of The Gathering Church, will be preaching.



**Names Available on the Angel Tree
Return gifts Sunday, November 29**

During November, the Angel Tree will be in the pit stop with the names of our Angels from Central School. These children and siblings will receive Christmas gifts from our church. Each family or group of friends may select Angels from the tree and purchase gifts for those

children. **Please note date change: The gifts are to be returned to the pit stop under the tree no later than Sunday, November 29.**



Alternative Christmas Gifts

On November 22 and 29 and, December 6 and 13, there will be opportunities to purchase alternative gifts in the pit stop before and after worship. This year, Alternative Gift cards are offered for donations directed to: **The Community Care Clinic, Homes of Hope, Crisis Assistance Fund, and Montaña de Luz.** The minimum gift is \$10 per card. For each purchase, you will receive one of several holiday-themed acknowledgement cards that were designed by artist Leslie Carter.



**Hanging of the Greenery & Chili Luncheon
Sunday, November 29**

The first Sunday in Advent is November 29. We'll enjoy the day with a chili luncheon prepared and served by Session. Following lunch, we'll decorate the Chrismon tree and participate in a variety of Advent activities for children and families.

26TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER
!!! NEW THIS YEAR....ENTERTAINMENT !!!

We are responsible for entertainment from 1:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. If you would like to provide festive music or some other entertainment, please let Jim Sawyer, (H) 704-986-6920 (C) 980-621-1929, or email: jameshardinsawyer@gmail.com, know of your interest and availability. Your reply before Sunday, December 6, would be greatly appreciated!!



ENGAGE CAFÉ at 9:30 a.m.

ENGAGE Groups begin at 9:45 a.m.

Sundays, November 22 & 29...December 6, 13, & 20

ENGAGE! TOPICS

Old Testament Location: Session Room

Utilizing a video series developed by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish scholar who teaches at Vanderbilt University, Bill Jolly and Larry Sitton will lead this class. Levine presents a commentary on the origins, meanings, and interpretations of the stories in the Old Testament, in a thought-provoking and stimulating way. Interesting class discussion will follow.

Wired Word Discussion Group Location: Classroom 2

Patrick Currie and Debby Johnston will lead this group which bring scripture to bear on the life of the world.

Experiencing Advent through the Words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Location: Parlor

Matt Drumheller will be leading a daily reflection class based on the book *God in the Manger*. This is a book of daily devotions for the Advent season based on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's reflections and sermons. Take this opportunity to read Bonhoeffer's compelling reflections...the writings of one of the most influential modern theologians, as well as one of our most inspirational models of faith.

Finishing Well: Caregiving, Medical, Legal, & Faith Issues in Later Years

Location: Old Session Room

Elizabeth and others will lead this class which will tackle such issues as funeral planning, long-term care options, legal documents relating to finances and medical care. Come for conversation and to share your experiences. Guest speakers will include Patrick & Lisa Currie, Dr. Lenny Saltzman, and someone from the Senior Center.



**26TH Annual Community Christmas Dinner
Friday, December 25 at First Presbyterian Church**

Our food and volunteer sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Pit Stop. If you sign-up for Dressing or Sweet Potato Casserole we will provide the aluminum pan and lid. This year all six churches are purchasing the non-perishable items (canned vegetables; potatoes; gravy; rolls and tea) in bulk. We will be accepting monetary donations toward our church's portion of this total amount. If you would like to make such a donation, please indicate on your check Community Christmas.

Additional volunteers will be needed to assist before Christmas Day. If you would like to help and will not be available on Christmas Day, please let Mary, Sandy or Martha Sue know.

Coordinators for this event are:

- Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com)
- Mary Kesselman (704-982-6754 or manapier@msn.com)
- Sandy Saunders (704-982-3845 or swsaunders63@gmail.com)



**Support SNL's
Christmas Kitchen
Sunday, December 6
before and after worship in the Pit Stop**

SNL needs volunteers to make their favorite casseroles, soups, BBQ, cookies, cakes, coffee cakes, candies, & pies to be sold at the *Christmas Kitchen* on December 6.

Make ahead & freeze if you like!

SNL also needs hungry members of the congregation to shop at the *Christmas Kitchen* on December 6.

Stock your freezer with holiday food from the great cooks at First Presbyterian & support our youth!

**Call Liz Jolly (704-699-6699) or Jane Boone (704-604-3836)
to let us know what delectable dish you can donate!**



**NOVEMBER
IS NATIONAL
ADOPTION MONTH!**
www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org

To give a gift, please make checks payable to Children's Hope Alliance or give online at www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org.

**Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1
Barium Springs, NC 28010**

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 22

Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance

Return SCCM Caring & Sharing Cups

Alternative Gifts Available

Men's Retreat at Camp Hanes in King, NC

SERRV Items Available for Purchase in the Pit Stop

9:30 am ENGAGE Café (pit stop)

9:45 am *Sunday School & ENGAGE! Topics

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Christian Education Committee (Session Room)

3:00 pm-5:00 pm SNL Rake & Run Event

7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service at
First Lutheran Church (230S. 2nd Street, Albemarle)

Monday, November 23

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

Wednesday, November 25

No Youth Club

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving Holiday

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 27

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday of Advent/Alternative Gifts Available

9:30 am ENGAGE Café (pit stop)

9:45 am *Sunday School/ENGAGE! Topics

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Hanging of the Christmas Greenery & Chili Luncheon/Advent for Kids

***childcare provided**

SCCM Food Challenge for November:

Peanut Butter & Jelly

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER

- 23- Meredith Hinson Moses
Gayle Russell
Thomas Taylor
- 24- John Earnhardt
- 25- Shirley Hinson
- 26- Jane Rogers
- 27- Charles McLaurin
- 28- Shirley Welch
- 29- Janice Abernathy
Matt Drumheller

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

NOVEMBER

- 22- Ned & Gayle Russell
- 24- Joseph Kluttz & Martha Chapman
- 26- Mark & Kim Andrew
- 27- George & Judith Gilbreath
- 29- Skeet & Elizabeth Ayscue