



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor

Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal & Handbell Music

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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.

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 36

For the Fruit of All Creation

stanzas 1 and 3

Hymn 137

He Came Down

all stanzas

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give praise to God!

People: Praise the Lord for it is God who loves.

Leader: It is God who forgives and God who redeems us.

People: Let us give thanks and praise the Lord.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, our source and our salvation, in love you made us and by love you have redeemed us. Make your love for us bear fruit in our forgiveness of others, that in this life we may know your all-embracing compassion, and in the world to come receive the everlasting joy of fellowship you share with your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*HYMN 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

Unison

Gracious and loving God, you lived for us, but we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us, but we have not forgiven others. You have loved us, but we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another. Forgive us, God. Help us to live for you. Help us to forgive for your sake. Help us to love through Christ our Lord.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Matt Drumheller

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

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

God of comfort and hope, we pray your blessing upon these shawls...warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing. May they be a safe haven...a sacred place of security and well-being, of mercy and meaning, sustaining and embracing those who receive them. May those who receive these shawls be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in your love. Amen.

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

Jesus Loves Me

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

[Matthew 18:21-35](#)

Pew Bible, page 19

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision

Mark Hayes

SERMON

70 x 7

Mrs. Ayscue

*HYMN 444

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Detroit

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Dona Lisk

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matt 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Andante

William Harris

*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 442

Just as I Am, without One Plea

Woodworth

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

William G. Tomer

*POSTLUDE

Postlude

William Mathias

*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 Katherine Jolly. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the sixth wedding anniversary of Peter and Morgan Hall Schultz, the baptism of Tucker Jett Moses, and to those who receive comfort and peace from the prayer shawls by Martha Sue Hall and Dan Samples.

Many thanks to the folks who have lovingly and prayerfully crafted the shawls which are being blessed today.

Tucker Jett Moses, son of Meredith and Derek Moses, will receive the Sacrament of Baptism today. Laura McLeod is assisting as Elder.

Ushers: Steve Cumming, captain; Brad Boone, Michelle Cumming, Jim Ivey, Mark Mabry, Kyle Marks
Outside Ushers: Tom Norwood; Lee Snuggs **Elder Greeters:** Adam Jolly; Jim Marshall **Nursery:** Cora Harrison **Toddler Room:** Sara Kate Thomas **Preschool Partners:** Laura Beth & Kyle Marks **Nana & Papa Team:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael **Children's Church:** Melissa & Wes Eudy; Grace Richards

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Molly Amelia Lowder (in neonatal intensive care with blood sugar spikes), Glynn Fowler (possible nerve damage and failed rotator cuff surgery), Cathy Dunlap (sister of Jill Freshley; recovering from heart attack), Dale Benson (brother of Ann Crutchfield), Marlene Sanges. **See newsletter for complete list.**

Fall Art Exhibit at First Presbyterian Church

Mixed Media Madness...Featuring works by GHA Autism Supports

The congregation is invited to attend an Art Gallery Reception on Tuesday, September 19 from 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. to meet the artists. Refreshments will be served.

Live a Generous Life



Live a generous life! We are blessed by God's boundless love and generosity. Your generosity makes it possible for First Presbyterian Church to continue to offer enriching programs for all ages and meaningful and powerful ministries. Stewardship season will be underway soon. We will be hearing about personal perspectives on generosity from members of the congregation over the next few weeks.

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (II Corinthians 9:7)

What is it?

A gathering for preschoolers & their parents.

When?

Wednesdays at 9:15 a.m.

What happens?

Parents will meet in the parlor for prayer and study while children are supervised in the childcare areas. And then, parents and children will play together in the gym.

Starting Date:

Wednesday, September 13





**QUARTER MINISTRY
FOR THE MARY & MARTHA CENTER FOR WOMEN**

Our Quarter Jar is in the pit stop. Quarters will be donated to the Mary & Martha Center for their clients to use at the laundromat. Want to know more about this new ministry for women in our community? Contact Kim Marshall (704-983-1378 or bookworm284@live.com).

**Communion Workshop for Children
Sunday, September 24
Noon-2:30 p.m.**



A Communion Workshop is planned for children in Kindergarten – 2nd grade and their parents for the afternoon of Sunday, September 24. During this time, children and families will learn more about the Lord’s Supper and symbols of this sacrament. Plan to stay for lunch and conversation. Please contact the office (704-982-2722; klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) to let us know you’ll be here.

**INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?**

If you have been visiting this congregation for a while (or just showed up) and want to know more about the privilege and responsibility of ministry, plan to join Matt and members of the Membership Committee for a very brief meeting.

When? Following worship on Sunday, September 17
Where? In the Parlor
Can’t make the meeting? Contact Matt Drumheller (704-982-2722 or mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org).
We’ll share brief conversation and set a date to talk about the Presbyterian Church and this congregation specifically.

Lectionary-based Bible Study with Matt Drumheller...Continuing on September 11, Matt will host a weekly Bible study this fall on Monday evenings from 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Off the Square. Anyone is welcome to join Matt for this lectionary-based study.

What about Dinner Together?

Yearning to get to know some people in our church you don’t already know well?
Do you like to eat? Tired of same ole, same ole? Want to have a good time with others?



Just might be for you!

Adults of all ages, single or paired, are invited to sign-up by September 17.
Each person will be assigned to a group of eight, and the group will gather at homes or restaurants for dinner once monthly for the next four months.

To sign-up, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).

Riding the Tides of Faith in Sunday School

All Classes Begin at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, September 17

Birth-17 months...Nursery...Cora Harrison, Kaitlyn Massey, and Jana Sanderson are the caregivers for our youngest children.

18 months-2 year olds...Toddler Room...Cora Harrison, Kaitlyn Massey, McKenzie Hinson, and Sara Kate Thomas lead these children.

3 year olds & 4 year olds...Preschool Room...Taught by Kate Gibson, Jill Niebler, and Rose Saltzman.

Preschool Music...Preschool Music will be led by Martha Sue Hall and Ken Knight.

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade...Art Room...Teachers: Leah Beamon, Heather Deese, and Salem Taylor.

3rd-5th Grades...3rd Floor Classroom...Teachers: Taylor Jolly, Penny Morton, and Brett Richards

6th-12th Graders...Teen Room 3rd Floor...Teachers: Our middle school and high school Sunday School classes will combine the fall to spend our Sunday mornings together. We will use a resource called “Read Scripture” to explore Scripture, its broad themes, and how it informs our lives. Steve Cumming and Matt Drumheller will be leading this class.

Fall Sunday School for Adults

The practice of studying scripture and theology with other Christians pre-dates the church as we know it. It remains as one of the best ways for people of faith to encourage one another and to grow in faith. Why not take advantage of this opportunity?

B.A.S.H. Led by Wes Eudy & Greg Lisk Location: Classroom 2 (Basement)
(aka Bible and Study Hour)

The Wired Word Led by Rich Schaefer Location: Parlor (First Floor)

The Seekers' Class Led by Dr. Bill Jolly Location: Old Session Room (Basement)
The class will study Paul's letter to the church in Rome.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 17

The Sacrament of Baptism/Dedication of Prayer Shawls

Deadline to sign-up for Dinners for 8

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Prospective Members Meet in the parlor

12:00 pm-3:00 pm Faith Explorers (4th-5th Graders) Back to School Pool Party
at the home of Penny & Jack Morton (40313 Hoops Ct., Albemarle)

Monday, September 18

7:00 pm September Book Study (Parlor)

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

Tuesday, September 19

1:00 pm-3:00 pm Art Gallery Reception for GHA Artists
(Congregation Invited)

7:00 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 20

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

9:15 am-11:00 am *Pray & Play

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)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Friday, September 22 *Women's Retreat at William Black Lodge (Montreat, NC)*

Church Office Closed

Saturday, September 23 *Women's Retreat at William Black Lodge (Montreat, NC)*

Sunday, September 24

Women's Retreat at William Black Lodge (Montreat, NC)

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm *Communion Worship for grades K-2

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! SEPTEMBER

17-Peggy Rogers

18-Sam Davis

Nathaniel Eudy

19-Becky Miller

20-Angus Currie

Brent Lisk

Grant Lisk

21-Ben Andrew

Oliver Henkenjohann

24-Aidyn Osborne

SCCM CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER:

Canned or Dried Beans

Canned Tomatoes

*childcare provided

**BACK TO SCHOOL
POOL PARTY!**

Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders)

Sunday, September 17 from Noon-3:00 p.m.

At home of Jack & Penny Morton

Cook out burgers and hotdogs!

Bring swim suit, towel and sunscreen!

Transportation from church to Morton's home provided.

Contact Jane Snyder (jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org or text/call 704-438-3358).