



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722 Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

April 22, 2018

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

Every Saturday, when I wind our old Seth Thomas mantel clock, I feel the passage of time, O God. Perhaps it is good that the clock keeps ticking though – to remind us that we haven't got forever. Help us turn our time to good account in acts of loving-kindness, in caring for others, and in praising you for the many blessings of life – even the humble, humdrum ones. So may we glorify you every waking hour. Amen.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

ANTHEM

*There Is a Redeemer
Who Can Do Anything*

Melody Green
Sally Goodwin

Gabriel Beamon, Elizabeth Bryson, Ollie Henkenjohann, Thora Kilde,
Merrin Kinley, Addison Marks, Natalie Niederer, Jackson Palmer,
Danny Saltzman, Lily Snyder, and Caroline West

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He lays down his life for his sheep.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He knows us, and we belong to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God, our Shepherd and Ruler, you give us life and joy; you know our names and provide for us all that we need. Teach us to trust in you alone and listen for your voice. Guide us in the teachings of your apostles, who devoted themselves to breaking bread and prayers. May we, like them, be surrounded by the goodwill of others and praise your name in acts of love. In the name of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen. Amen.

***HYMN 248**

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

Hymn to Joy

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

Merciful God, when we stray from your ways and listen to other voices, you find us and bring us back. Forgive us when we cling to possessions and neglect those in need. Forgive us when we fail to act for the good of all. Forgive us when we hesitate to welcome those from another fold. Help us to stand before you as one flock, healed by Jesus' wounds, and trusting in his name alone.

Dr. Sibley Towner,
Retired Professor
of
Biblical
Interpretation at
Union Presbyterian
Seminary

Youth Club
Faith Explorers

Based on
Psalm 23:1
and John 10:14-16

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

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

ANTHEM

*Everybody Ought to Love Jesus
God Gave to Me a Life to Live
Go Now in Peace*

Harry Dixon Loes
Michael Praetorius
Natalie Sleeth

Youth Club
Trusty Travelers

Cooper Atwater, Ari Beamon, Zi'Yonna Brown, Hugh Carpenter, Russ Carpenter, Ashley Deese, Emily Deese, Cidney Eudy, Nathaniel Eudy, Carter Gibson, Melanie Hendrix, Leni Henkenjohann, Jordan Hesley, Maddox Jolly, Gavin Larson, Stella Marks, Leo McLeod, Anya McSwain, Ellie Niederer, Sanah Patel, Mason Pickler, Sophie Poplin, Kemarian Redfearn, Kezia Redfearn, Seth Richards, Thomas Shedd, Corbin Smith, Claire Stokes, Eston West, and Jake Whisnant

The congregation is invited to participate in the prayer with the children.

Based on
Psalm 23:3,6
and John 10:16

Sermons are posted to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org). You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

From
A Declaration of Faith

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Mr. Drumheller

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord God, good shepherd, by the leading of your Spirit, help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days of our lives; in Jesus' name. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

[Psalm 23](#)

Pew Bible, page 474

The congregation will read in unison.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

[John 10:11-18](#)

Pew Bible, page 97

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Welcoming Space

Mrs. Ayscue

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In Christ, God gave us a glimpse of the new creation he has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time, we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new. The fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now, he is Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 301**

Let Us Build a House

Two Oaks

During the hymn, ushers will collect your written prayers to be included in the Prayers of the People.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Elizabeth Wilson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mr. Drumheller

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

With gratitude for the Word of Life, let us offer our lives and gifts to God.

Offertory

Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness

Johannes Brahms

*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 724

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Angel's Story

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Road Rise to Meet You

Mark Schweizer

*POSTLUDE

Postlude

Frank Bridge

*All who are able may stand.

We rejoice that you are worshipping 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.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of the birthdays of Alexis Poolos, Jacqueline Poolos, and Nicole Poolos by Beth and Frank Poolos.

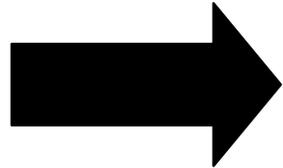
Thanks to the Youth Club Faith Explorers and Trusty Travelers for sharing their musical leadership in worship.

Ushers: Jim Marshall, captain; Duncan Bryson, Elizabeth Bryson, Keith Bryson, Lachlann Currie, Kyle Marks, Laura Beth Marks, Mark Mabry, Mike McLeod, Chris Whitley **Outside Ushers:** Mark Andrew; Jack Morton **Elder Greeters:** Jim Marshall; David Whitley **Nursery:** Sara Kate Thomas **Preschool Partners:** Laura & Mike McLeod **Nana & Papa Team:** Bede & Russell Karr **Children's Church:** Michelle Cumming

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: John Montgomery (hip replacement), Pam Myers (awaiting heart valve replacement), Tommy Murrell, Ben Kierstead (nephew of Leslie Carter; recovering from surgery), Michelle Honeycutt Cole (stage 2 Hodgkins Lymphoma; friend of Katie Carpenter), Diane Marks (breast cancer; mother of Kyle Marks). **See newsletter for complete list.**

Session has called a congregational meeting following worship on April 22. The purpose of the meeting is to act on the report of the Congregational Nominating Committee. At that time, they will nominate Jeff Robertson to fill a term on the Diaconate in the class of 2020. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Before placing a name in nomination, please determine that person's willingness to serve.

Jeff Robertson is nominated to serve as a deacon. Following a 33 year career with Wyeth Pharmaceuticals and Pfizer Vaccines, Jeff has retired and is residing in Norwood with his wife, Kim. They have one daughter, Kate, who lives in Chattanooga, TN. During his career, Jeff, Kim, and Kate had many great experiences living in North Carolina, Georgia, and Pennsylvania. At First Presbyterian Church, Jeff is active in the Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast group, serves as an usher, serves on the Property Committee, and assists with the children's Cooking Camp for a week in the summer. In the community, Jeff participates in the Albemarle Rotary Club (2018-19 Club Director and serves on the Scholarship Committee), in the Patient and Family Advisory Council at Atrium-Stanly, and is a Blood Drive Ambassador for the American Red Cross.



Join Matt and Elizabeth on April 22, for lunch and conversation for those who have been worshipping at First Presbyterian Church and would like to know more about the mission and ministries of the church. Call or email to let us know you're coming (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).

**BBQ FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON
WITH YOUR FAVORITE FIXINS' & HOMEMADE DESSERTS
FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 22 IN THE CHURCH GYM**



**DONATIONS FOR LUNCH SUPPORT
THE JOHN P. MURRAY COMMUNITY CARE CLINIC AND
ALBEMARLE PARKS AND RECREATION.**

**LUNCH PROVIDED BY
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM & FAN BASE.**

!!! DON'T MISS IT !!!



ON MISSION WITH STANLY COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

On April 29, we will receive a *Faith on the Fifth* offering to support Habitat for Humanity. This collection will kick-off our fundraising efforts as we join with Presbyterian churches in Norwood and Locust to sponsor the construction of a home in Stanly County. Our three churches will join together to both fund the house and provide many labor hours for the construction process. We expect construction on this project to begin late summer or early fall. Please help support this important ministry in Stanly County. Our financial commitment to this project is \$10,000.



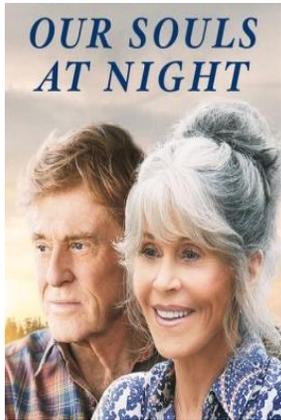
breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

Question: Who are the people who benefit from SNAP (food stamps)?
Answer: **About 2/3 of SNAP recipients are children, the elderly, or disabled.**

Question: Who benefits from earned income tax credit and the refundable portion of the child tax credit?
Answer: **These are *working* people whose jobs do not pay a living wage.**

Bread Bakers Needed...Bread bakers (and shoppers) are needed for the April 29 bread sale to be held on Letter Writing Sunday. If you bake quick bread, sourdough, or yeast breads, call Ann Duckwall (704-983-3498) to tell her how you can help. Donations from the sale will be given to SCCM.



Movie Night
Sunday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m.
in the church theatre
Our Souls at Night

Come for a fun movie night for adults. We'll gather in our very own theatre to watch *Our Souls at Night*. The movie (which has received excellent reviews) is based on the book of the same title by Kent Haruf and stars Robert Redford and Jane Fonda. Heartbreak and hope are partners in this story which brings long-time neighbors, widow Addie Moore, and widower Louis Waters, together. Watchers of the movie say the movie has a more satisfying ending than the book does! Come and see for yourself. Childcare provided if needed; contact the church office by April 25 to let us know.

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS



On Mother's Day, the arrangements in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of mothers. Each name is \$2.00. Please mail, deliver, or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 6**. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and designate for *Mother's Day Arrangements*. The names of donors and those being honored/remembered will be listed on **Mother's Day, May 13**. Any money collected over the cost of the arrangements will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Please print below the information exactly as it is to appear in the bulletin.

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 22

Earth Day/Trusty Travelers & Faith Explorers Sing in Worship/

Around the Clock Softball Fundraiser Luncheon for

The John P. Murray Community Clinic and Albemarle Parks & Rec

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm *Congregational Meeting

12:00 pm Lunch & Learn for those interested in knowing more about
First Presbyterian Church (Parlor)

12:00 pm-5:00 pm Faith Explorers to the Greensboro Science Center

3:00 pm Stanly County Chorale Concert

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, April 23

7:00 pm Book Conversation (Parlor)

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Wednesday, April 25

Administrative Professionals Day

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

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

10:30 am Backpack Food Program

3:00 pm-5:00 pm Youth Club/Youth Cub End-of-the-Year Cookout
at the YMCA Park

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 29

Bread for the World Letter Writing & Bread Sale

Youth Club Handbell Ensemble Rings

Faith on the Fifth Offering for Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

9:00 am-11:00 am Bread for the World Letter Writing & Bread Sale
in the Pit Stop

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm-1:00 pm Bread for the World Letter Writing & Bread Sale in the
Pit Stop

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group SCCM Food Collection

7:00 pm Movie Night in the church theatre – *Our Souls at Night*

***childcare provided**

SCCM CHALLENGE

APRIL

Toiletries & Household Items:
Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant,
Toothpaste, Laundry Detergent,
Bar Soap, Feminine Hygiene

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

APRIL

22-Marshall Rogers

23-Emma Gibson

Polly Moose

24-Liz Davis

Anita Gower

Alexis Poolos

Jacqueline Poolos

Nicole Poolos

25-Emma Grace Lemons

Tommy Murrell

26-Ella Averette

John Kilde

27-Ethan Richards

28-Aaron Whisnant

29-Harold Sharpe

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

APRIL

22-Jim & Lori Ivey

24-Robin & Melissa Lemons

25-Steve & Kate Melone

28-Kevin & Adrienne Averette

29-Steve & Elaine Coats

Backpack Food Program

UPDATED LIST OF DONATIONS NEEDED:

Breakfast Cookies

Individual Bags of Goldfish

Large Cans of Soup

Canned Tuna

Saltine Crackers

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.