



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor  
Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

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February 17, 2019

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

**MORNING MEDITATION**

*Grant, O Lord Jesus, that the ears which have heard the voice of your songs may be closed to the voice of dispute; that the eyes which have seen your great love may also behold your blessed hope; that the tongues which have sung your praise may speak the truth in love; that the feet which have walked in your courts may walk in the region of light; and that the bodies which have received your living body may be restored in newness of life. Glory to you for your inexpressible gift. Amen.*

Liturgy of Malabar  
5<sup>th</sup> Century

**PEALING OF THE BELLS**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

**GATHERING SONGS**

Hymn 14                      *For the Beauty of the Earth*                      stanzas 1 and 4  
Hymn 687                      *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*                      stanzas 1, 3, and 4

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

This is the day the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Holy God, you challenge the powers that rule this world and show favor to the oppressed. Instill in us a true sense of justice, that we may discern the signs of your kingdom and strive for right to prevail for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 32**                      *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*                      Ellacombe

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence  
Unison

**Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.**

**\*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                      *Trust in the Lord*                      Ruth Elaine Schram  
   *A Gift from God*                      Joseph M. Martin  
   *I've Got Peace Like a River*      arr. Anna Laura Page  
   Trusty Travelers

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

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN                      Reverend Drumheller  
*Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of the Faith Sharing with Children, 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

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING                      [Psalm 1](#)                      Pew Bible, page 463

ANTHEM                      *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*                      Michael McCarthy  
   arr. S.R. Scheer

The anthem was composed for the 2007 funeral of President Gerald Ford at Washington National Cathedral by organist-choirmaster, Michael McCarthy. It was sung in 2018 at the service for President George H. W. Bush. This arrangement was made for four-part *divisi* choir and organ from the original version composed for two choirs.

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living waters flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth,  
And, oh what transport of delight from thy pure chalice gloweth.

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never.  
Good shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

GOSPEL READING                      [Luke 6:17-26](#)                      Pew Bible, page 60

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON                      *Plain Truth*                      Reverend Ayscue

Sermons are posted on the church's website ([www.fpcalbeamarle.org](http://www.fpcalbeamarle.org)). You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

\*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.**

In 180 A.D., a form of this creed was written by Roman Christians. It reached its final form in the 8<sup>th</sup> century.

\*HYMN 697 *Take My Life* Hendon

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend 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.**

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory *Intermezzo* Hermann Schroeder

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 *Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* Sicilian Mariners

\*POSTLUDE *Postlude* Hermann Schroeder

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\*All that are able may stand.

**We are grateful for your presence 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 Natalie Niederer.** After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

**Thanks to** the Youth Club Trusty Travelers for their musical leadership in worship today.

**The flowers in the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Reverend Elizabeth McNair Ayscue by Dr. Frank and Mrs. Mary Green.

**Ushers:** Jill Niebler, captain; Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Katherine Jolly, and Dona Lisk  
**Outside Ushers:** Matt Carpenter; Eric Niederer **Elder Greeters:** Lee McLaurin; David Whitley **Nursery:** Cortney Brown **Kids Care Crew:** Chris Mabry; Greg Lisk **Children's Church:** Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** Mary Gladys (mother of Ann Crutchfield), John Taylor (international mission worker), Brinn Andrew (daughter of Kellie and Jason Andrew), Maddie McRae (daughter of Renee & Keith McRae). **See newsletter for complete list.**

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**The Fellowship Committee invites you to the enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and some cookies to be served between Sunday School and worship each Sunday in February.**

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**FROM CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE**

The Central Elementary School Administration and Staff are requesting donations of:

- Dial Liquid Soap (Individual & Refill sizes)
- Soft Soap Liquid Soap (Individual & Refill sizes) and
- Paper Towel Rolls

in an effort to provide the necessary tools for handwashing during cold & flu season. All donations would be greatly appreciated.

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**Book Conversation  
on**

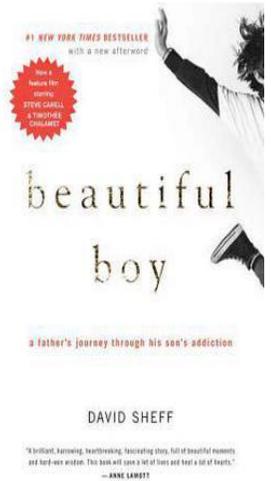
***Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction*  
By David Sheff**

This memoir provides a window into addiction and its effects on families and communities.

**Book Conversations (each one is a stand alone event)  
Sunday, February 17 at 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, February 24 at 5:00 p.m.**

As the faith community reaches out to folks in our community affected by addiction, you are invited to share in conversation.

**If you still need a book, contact the office  
for the names of folks who may have one you can share.**



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**JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 FROM NOON-1:00 P.M.  
IN THE PIT STOP**

**Bring Your Lunch & A Friend...Drinks & Dessert Provided  
Speaker: Jennifer Layton, Health Educator at the Stanly County Health  
Department**

Jennifer will provide an overview of the issue, with particular attention to Stanly County. Questions? Call the church office (704-982-2722).

## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday, February 17

*Trusty Travelers sing in worship*

8:30 am Session

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

5:00 pm *Beautiful Boy* Book Conversation

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

### Monday, February 18

8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt

### Tuesday, February 19

12:00 pm March Newsletter Deadline

12:00 pm-1:00 pm Opioid Lunch and Learn (Pit Stop)

### Wednesday, February 20

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

8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

### Thursday, February 21

10:00 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm-9:00 pm Youth Group Board Game Night

### Sunday, February 24

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

5:00 pm *Beautiful Boy* Book Conversation

5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

\*childcare provided

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY! FEBRUARY

17- Amy Whitley

20- Ashley Deese

Peter Henkenjohann

21- Nora Carpenter

22- Will Lentz

Ben Lisk

## SCCM CHALLENGE FOR FEBRUARY

Canned Soup & Crackers



## BOARD GAME NIGHT

**Youth Group**

**Board Game Night**

**\*\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\*\***

**Thursday, February 21**

**from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

The youth are invited to participate in a fun night of various board games. Bring your favorite game and a snack to share!



### **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 Backpacking Date: Wednesday, February 27 at 10:30 a.m.**