



# 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

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Pam Knighten, Secretary

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April 2020

Dear Friends,

In these tumultuous and uncertain times, the words of Psalm 46 have been running through my head. I offer them to you as a source of comfort and strength.

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

*Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,*

*though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;*

*though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.*

*The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

It has indeed felt as though the mountains have been shaking and the earth has been changing. In the midst of this change, God's words renew my hope. The Lord is, indeed, our refuge and our strength. Now, as always, we place our trust in God.

This month's newsletter will be somewhat different than those you have received in the past. We are able to tell you about some short-range plans, we are less certain about long-range plans. But, we hope to give you an idea of how you can remain engaged as part of the First Presbyterian Church family. I hope to see you through one of our virtual platforms as we continue to maintain community, and I look forward to returning to in-person ministry with you soon. For now, trust in these words:

*The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge."*

Grace and Peace,

Matt

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*Easter Sunday*

*April 12*

**Join us for virtual worship at 11:00 a.m.  
Shout to those with whom you worship...  
Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!**

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**In accordance with the governor's *stay-at-home* order,  
all members of the church staff are working at home  
unless it is necessary for them to be at church.**





Join us virtually at 8:00 p.m. on April 10 for the  
Tenebrae Good Friday Worship

This solemn service focuses on the declining loyalty of the disciples and  
the fading light of the world as Jesus departs from it.

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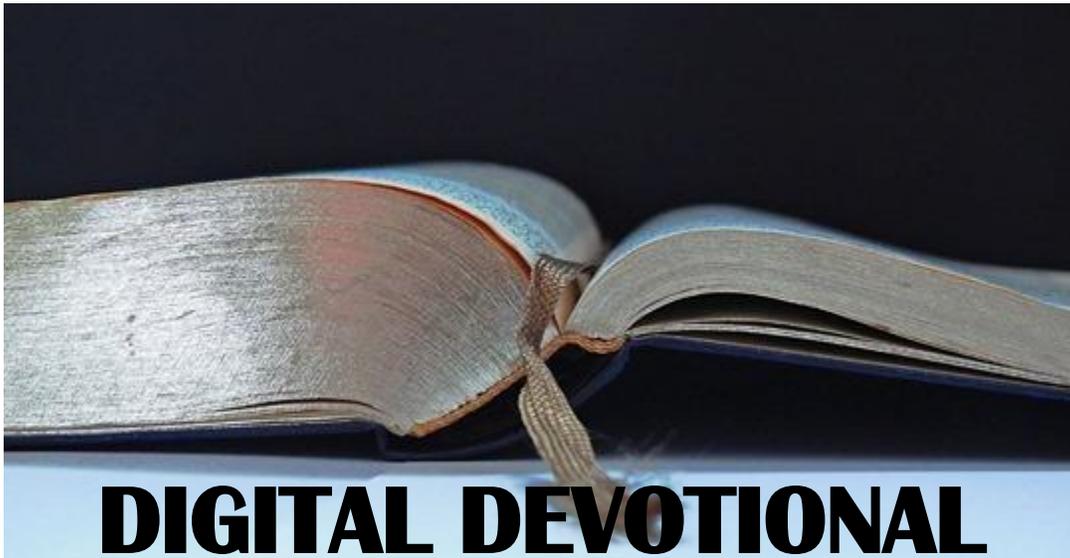


Matt and Elizabeth will lead Morning Prayer on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom.

You can also find the link through the Facebook event and by clicking the banner on the website.

Join on a Zoom call to participate in a time of Scripture reading and prayer to start your day.

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First Presbyterian Church Digital Devotional begins at 12:15 p.m.  
on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Go to the First Presbyterian Church website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)) and  
click on the Digital Devotional banner.

# STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...FEBRUARY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

## GENERAL FUND

<b>Actual:</b>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget-to-Date</u>
Total Income Received:	110,488.00	92,393.00
Total Expenses:	<u>107,079.00</u>	<u>108,946.00</u>
(Shortage)/Surplus	3,409.00	(16,553.00)

## GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2020

Pledges:	512,746
Total Income:	561,860
Total Expenses:	561,860

Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: \$10,805

We are ahead \$25,979 in pledges.

Average Weekly Amount Received in February: \$19,043

Ten-Cents-A-Meal for February: \$422.00

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## Stewardship in this Season

Most expenses of the church are fixed and continue though we are worshipping and connecting with each other and our community in new ways. Please be mindful of these expenses and of the extra offerings that are vitally important to our community locally and globally.

We receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on the first Sunday of each month. These funds support programs that feed folks who are hungry in Stanly County and throughout the Presbytery of Charlotte.

The Faith on the Fifth offering in March was designated for Stanly County's Community Care Clinic. The clinic provides free healthcare for uninsured adults in our community.

Thank you for your faithfulness. If you anticipate a change in your ability to fulfill your 2020 pledge, please advise Kyle ([klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) or 704-982-2722).

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**From the Scholarship Committee...**Scholarship applications are available on the counter in the church office and on the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)) by clicking the Scholarship banner. **The deadline to return completed applications is Monday, April 20.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2020 are: Steve Coats, Chair, Emily Andrew, and Taylor Johnston.

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## COVID-19 Devotional

The response to the daily Lenten devotionals has been overwhelmingly positive. In addition to strengthening our faith, they have kept alive the connections that we ache for while we are apart. We would like to continue the devotions through May and will do so if writers volunteer.

Please let Elizabeth know ASAP that you will participate. Families, children, teens, groups of any type, and adults are encouraged to submit. You may write on the scripture text of your choice or request one.

**Let Elizabeth know ([eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org)) how you will help.**

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## April Book Conversation on Monday, April 27 at 7:00 pm

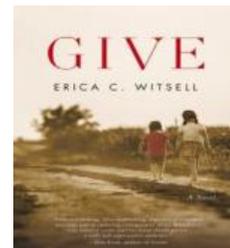
### Gather via Zoom

### The Book: *Give* by Erica C. Witsell

Witsel's debut novel digs deep into the heart and soul of family. With conflicting allegiances, Jessie and Emma learn that every loyalty has a price and that even forgiveness can take unexpected turns.

Find your copy of the book on Amazon or another source.

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## Ten-Cents-A-Meal

**We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on April 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 \$422.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal for February 2020.**



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

**BREAD FOR THE WORLD:**  
**BETTER NUTRITION, BETTER TOMORROW**

**LETTER WRITING PACKETS ARE AVAILABLE**  
**IN THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR PICK-UP.**  
**IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PACKET DELIVERED, LET US KNOW.**

**PLEASE RETURN LETTERS TO THE CHURCH**  
**FOR THE OFFERING OF LETTERS**

**OFFERING OF LETTERS**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 3 DURING WORSHIP**

Join our collective voice in urging Congress to *make nutrition a priority.*

Steps for an effective letter - handwritten letters in your own words are most effective.

- Ask for a specific action, such as *I urge you to make strong investments in nutrition programs for the most vulnerable in the U.S. and abroad, especially mothers and children.*
- Give reasons for your request – share a personal story that motivated you to write or choose something from the side bar (Hunger and Poverty Facts).
- Write your name and address on both the letter and envelope Return Address.
- See pre-addressed envelopes for names of our Congressmen.

(Sample Letter)

Date

Sen. \_\_\_\_\_ -or- Rep. \_\_\_\_\_  
 U.S. Senate U.S. House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_ or Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_

I urge you to make strong investments in nutrition programs for the most vulnerable in the U.S. and abroad, especially mothers and children.

I also urge you to support legislation that strengthens U.S. leadership on global nutrition and increases funding for global nutrition programs. Too many children are malnourished and suffer from stunting.

Sincerely,  
Your name  
Your address (city, state, ZIP)



**HUNGER AND  
POVERTY FACTS**

- **Much of the increase in hunger** is due to climate change, conflict, and economic downturn.
- **Forty-five percent** of all preventable child deaths are linked to malnutrition.
- **One in 4 of the world's children** (151 million children) suffers from physical and cognitive stunting, which is irreversible and heartbreaking for mother and child – a life sentence.
- **Good nutrition for mother and child** during pregnancy and the child's first two years is critical to brain development, health, and future well-being.
- **Premature births, pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and other illnesses** result in 5.4 million deaths of children under age 5 every year. Almost half of those children die of causes related to malnutrition.

# NEWS & NOTES

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### **General Fund:**

In memory of Cam Rogers, given by Brinn & Jeff Smith.

### **Minister's Discretionary Fund:**

- In memory of Jane Lisk, given by Ann Upchurch.
- In memory of Cam Rogers, given by Robert Boyette.
- In memory of Cam Rogers, given by Dee Dee & Ed Dalrymple.
- In memory of Cam Rogers, given by Mr. & Mrs. Whit DeBardeleben.
- In memory of Cam Rogers, given by The Niederer Family.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Mr. & Mrs. Jim Bovender, Jr.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Mr. & Mrs. Leo Hanus.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Jim Hesley.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lambert.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Mr. & Mrs. Roger Martin.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Susan Pandich.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Mr. & Mrs. Rich Schaefer.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by Ann Upchurch.
- In memory of Carolyn Sharpe, given by the Hawthorne Garden Club.
- In honor of Martha Sue Hall, given by Ellie Niederer.

### **Music Fund:**

In honor of Stan Scheer, given by Ruth & Andy Cotton.

### **SYMPATHY**

- To Sam Shepherd upon the death of his grandmother, Phyllis Shue, on February 28.
- To Harold Sharpe and family upon the death of Carolyn Sharpe on March 27.
- To the Garrison and Lisk families upon the death of Jane Lisk on March 29.

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Many thanks to all who helped make the lunch at First Baptist Church on March 11, 2020 a special meal. Those who prepared and/or served were: Linda Anderson, Elizabeth Ayscue, Skeet Ayscue, Ruth Cotton, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Donna Gaither, Susan Garrison, Sally Grantier, Debbie Hahn, Margaret Ivey, Sandy Saunders, Jane Snyder, Bill Stevenson, and Diane Stevenson.

Thanks to all the bread bakers and delivery teams who made virtual communion on Palm Sunday a shared experience. Particular thanks to Rebekah Ayscue for dreaming the dream and making it come true with a lot of work behind the scenes.

Thanks to James Cotton for generously sharing his filming expertise with us in this season.

Thanks to the many musicians, readers, and others who have graciously participated in worship during March and April.

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**May Newsletter Deadline... Tuesday, April 21**  
**Early submissions are always welcome!**  
**If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please**  
**email them as an attachment to:**  
**[pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org).**



# 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.  
**Debbie Gabriel**, sister of Gayle Russell; breast cancer.  
**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.  
**Bern Morehead, III**, son of Sally Pleasant & Dr. Bernard “Bernie” Morehead; diagnosed with brain tumor  
**James Nunn**, 19 year old nephew of Billie Jean Snuggs; hospitalized following surgery on optic nerve.  
**Sally Ormand**, friend of Ruth Goodwin; cancer treatment.  
**Judy Portner**, sister of Billie Jean Snuggs; stage 4 brain tumor.  
**Katie Regner**, daughter of Meg Connell Watson; pregnancy with triplets.  
**Mark Rodgers**, son of Laura and Tim Rodgers; mass on his femur.  
**David Sanges**, brother of Nathan Sanges.  
**Jane Scheer**, spouse of Stan Scheer; Spring Arbor.  
**Herb Smith**, cousin of Nancy Lowder.  
**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:

**Frank Green.**  
**Don Joines.**  
**Cathy King.**  
**Jane Pickler.**  
**Jean Rabe.**  
**Linda Richards.**  
**Pete Smith.**

**Linda Richards is now at home at:  
1234B Columbus Avenue  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
704-982-0560**



## **BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM**



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 Dates: Wednesday, April 8 at 10:30 a.m. and  
Wednesday, May 6 at 10:30 a.m.**

February 26 Backpack Update...16 bags were packed...40 children served  
March 19 Backpack Update...25 bags were packed...75 children served



### SCCM NEEDS

**Peanut Butter & Jelly**

**Canned Pasta Meals**

**Canned Meats**

**Canned Fruit**

**Canned Vegetables**

**Boxed Macaroni & Cheese**

Keep checking the Stanly Community Christian Ministry  
Facebook page for updates.



# APRIL

## Birthdays

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 01- Leslie Kinley<br>Kent Newport                | 18- Elizabeth Wilson  |
| 04- Wes Eudy                                     | 19- Cooper Atwater  |
| 05- Steve Blalock                                | 20- Peggy Finley  |
| 07- Angie Earnhardt<br>Russell Karr              | 22- Marshall Rogers   |
| 08- Joyce Lambert                                | 23- Emma Gibson<br>Polly Moose  |
| 09- Ashley Maust                                 | 24- Liz Davis<br>Anita Gower<br>Alexis Poolos<br>Jacqueline Poolos<br>Nicole Poolos |
| 10- Murphy Hall<br>Holden Taylor                 | 25- Emma Grace Lemons<br>Tommy Murrell  |
| 11- Maddie Averette<br>Marlene Mittendorf        | 26- Ella Averette<br>John Kilde   |
| 12- Laura Blalock<br>Jake Davis<br>Holly Norwood | 27- Ethan Richards  |
| 13- Matt Moeller                                 | 28- Aaron Whisnant  |
| 14- Anissa Chapman<br>Paul Hinkle                | 29- Harold Sharpe   |
| 17- David Kilde                                  |   |



# APRIL

## Anniversaries

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 02- Michael & Kristen Laton<br>Lynn & Martha White | 24- Robin & Melissa Lemons    |
| 13- Gus & Nancy Feather                            | 25- Steve & Kate Melone       |
| 16- Kyle & Laura Beth Marks                        | 28- Kevin & Adrienne Averette |
| 19- Robert & Myra Land                             | 29- Steve & Elaine Coats      |
| 22- Jim & Lori Ivey                                |                               |

**Around the Clock Classic Softball Tournament  
May 29-30**

**Supporting the John P Murray Community Care Clinic  
& Albemarle Parks and Recreation**

First Presbyterian Church will have a team playing in this tournament – and we'd love for you to join us!

(Three games between 6:00pm - 12midnight Friday, May 29)

**PLEASE DONATE TO OUR TEAM!**

All FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT

THE COMMUNITY CARE CLINIC & ALBEMARLE PARKS AND REC!  
**(SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19)**



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**Music & Arts Camp  
Summer 2020**

**Sunday, June 14-Thursday, June 18**

Though we are uncertain if conditions will allow us to have Music and Arts Camp this year, we are proceeding with our planning as though it will happen. If you would like to register your child(ren) who have completed K-6<sup>th</sup> grade to participate in the camp, please contact Matt Drumheller ([mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:mdrumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)). We will not collect registration fees at this time, but plan to if we are able to have this year's Music and Arts Camp.

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**COOKING  
CAMP**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COOKING CAMP FOR KIDS**

**(COMPLETED 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

**June 22-25, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**Cost: \$50.00 per child**

**Scholarships Available Upon Request**

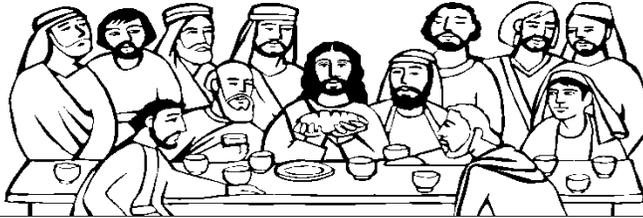
**Camp Limit of 12 children**

Though we are uncertain if conditions will allow us to have Cooking Camp this year, we are proceeding with our planning as though it will happen. We will not be collecting any registration fees at this time, but plan to if we are able to have this year's Cooking Camp. For more information, to register for camp, or to volunteer contact Jane Snyder at 704-982-2722/704-438-3358 or [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)).  
**(SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO DUE COVID-19.)**

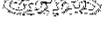
# PUZZLE

## Picturing the Lord's Supper

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.



Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.

And he took , gave  and  it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my  given for you; do this in  of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This  is the new  in my blood, which is  out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

Answer: bread, thanks, broke, body, remembrance, cup, covenant, poured

# PUZZLE

## Jesus gives us *life*

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)

Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)

Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)

This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)

Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)

Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)

Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)

While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)

This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)

These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)

These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)

Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)



Answer: palm branches, perfume, crown of thorns, dice, cross, nails, vinegar jar on a sponge, stone, spices, linen, silver coins



**Wednesday, April 1**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

**Sunday, April 5**

*Palm Sunday/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/One Great Hour of Sharing Offering/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger*

11:00 am Online Worship

**Monday, April 6**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

**Tuesday, April 7**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Wednesday, April 8**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10:30 am Backpack Food Program

**Thursday, April 9**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Friday, April 10**

*Good Friday*

8:00 pm Online Tenebrae Worship Service

**Sunday, April 12**

*Easter*

11:00 am Online Worship

**Monday, April 13**

*Easter Monday*

**Tuesday, April 14**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Wednesday, April 15**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

**Thursday, April 16**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Sunday, April 19**

9:00 am Session Meeting via Zoom

11:00 am Online Worship

**Monday, April 20**

*Deadline for Scholarship Applications*

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

**Tuesday, April 21**

12:00 pm May Newsletter Deadline

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Wednesday, April 22**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

**Thursday, April 23**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Sunday, April 26**

*Bread for the World Letter Writing*

11:00 am Online Worship

**Monday, April 27**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

7:00 pm April Book Conversation via Zoom

**Tuesday, April 28**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Wednesday, April 29**

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

**Thursday, April 30**

12:15 pm Online Digital Devotional

**Watch**



**your email for  
additions and changes  
to this schedule.**

## Church Website Address & Staff Email Addresses

**Church Website Address:** [www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Church Email Address:** [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Elizabeth Ayscue:** [eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Matt Drumheller:** [m drumheller@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:m drumheller@fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Dorothy Hart:** [dhart@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:dhart@fpcalbemarle.org)

**Pam Knighten:** [pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Kyle Lambert:** [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Stan Scheer:** [sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org)  
**Jane Snyder:** [jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org)

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