

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Albemarle, North Carolina Reverend Cathy George, Transitional Pastor Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbell Music Stan Scheer, Organist

Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship & Congregational Care Gina Martin, Interim Director of Christian Education

**Kyle Lambert, Office Manager** 

Pam Knighten, Secretary

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### February 2022

From Where I Sit

Dear Friends,

With Valentine's Day approaching, I've been thinking a lot about love. Specifically, I've been thinking about how often we, how often I use the word love. I love extra sharp cheddar and twizzlers. I love TV shows 'Survivor' and 'The Walking Dead'. I love football and college basketball. I love musicals and I love good action and dystopian movies. I love blueberries on my cheerios. I love it when the sky is Carolina blue even though the weather is oh so cold. And I guess I'm in the right profession, because I always think about how much I love the church. One thing that irritates me about the over use of the word 'love', though, is that it's reduces the word to something that can become almost meaningless....there's even a diaper with that name, for cat's sake. Just some of my thoughts on 'love'.

As I think about the past few months of serving with you, I've have come to appreciate the love this congregation has for our Lord, for serving Christ in the world, and for the ways you love and care for one another. With the death of my mother, I've been humbled beyond words by the love and care I've received. For calls, texts, emails, cards, donations in my mom's name, flowers, and lots of delicious food, your love and care have carried me and strengthened me in ways I could only imagine.

You didn't know my mom but she was what I call a 'church rat'...by that I mean she was always at the church, serving in whatever way was needed...as a deacon, an elder, a Sunday school teacher, Bible study leader for the Presbyterian Women, singing soprano in the choir, helping to create a Prayer Shawl ministry, and setting an example for caring for her brother and sisters in the faith. She would be most gratified and impressed with the care you've shown her daughter and granddaughter. On behalf of my mom, I say 'thank you and may God continue to bless you and guide you in your caring ministries'. And I thank you, too.

"Greater love hath no one..." (John 15:13) And that's the view from where I sit.

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

If there is a question about Sunday schedule changes due to weather, call the church (704-982-2722). Changes will be made on the answering machine, on social media, and by mass email to those who receive the newsletter electronically.

# IMPORTANT COVID UPDATED INFORMATION UPDATED ON DECEMBER 8, 2021

For the health and welfare of our members and our community, the COVID Task Force Committee has set the following guidelines with the following updates:

## FROM THE COVID TASK FORCE (JANUARY 6, 2022)...

- 1.We will continue worship with our guidelines in place.
- 2. We will hold activities for youth under 12 (youth club on Wednesday, Sunday School) for at least the month of January and then reevaluate.
- 3. High School youth activities continue with masking (SNL, Monday Night High School Faith Conversation at Debby's).
- 4. Adult activities continue with guidelines in place (Sunday School, Men's Prayer Breakfast).
- **UPDATE:** Masks are REQUIRED for ALL FPC indoor functions/activities/SS/Worship, etc.
- ❖ Masks will always be provided at the church for adults and children in case they are needed.
- ❖ Hand sanitizer is available. Please use it.
- ❖ If you are sick, please stay at home.
- **UPDATE:** Singing will continue. Congregation encouraged to wear masks. Choir members may remove masks for singing and are socially distanced from congregation.
- Communion will be given with prepackaged elements.
- All volunteers and paid employees involved in any children's program(s) are required to be vaccinated.
- **UPDATE:** Church building and Gym may be used for outside groups that are already using the facility but no more outside groups may reserve the facility until positivity rate improves.
- **UPDATE:** Any small groups having meals/snacks (SNL, Youth Club, Men's Prayer Breakfast) may continue but should social distance while eating and wear masks when not eating
- All toys, chairs, tables and bathrooms, (used that day) are to be wiped clean with a Clorox wipe or sprayed and wiped clean.
- First Family meals will be drive-thru.
- All surfaces (chairs and tables and bathrooms if used) have to be wiped clean (with spray or wipes) after any committee/group meets.

Your patience and flexibility are appreciated as we continue to deal with the pandemic.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office (704-982-2722).

COVID TASK FORCE: Ellen Snyder, Debbie Bennett, Ben Jolly, Bob Johnston



### **2022 Flower Calendar**

The 2022 flower calendar is posted in the pit stop. If you wish to put flowers in the church in honor or memory of someone or just to provide beauty to the service, please sign up on the calendar. **Flowers may be ordered from any local florist.** Contact Emily Andrew (704-322-5510 or em.andrew21@gmail.com) for more information and to make arrangement



Sunday, February 6 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany/The Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger will be received.

Sunday, February 13 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

The Youth Club Trusty Travelers and Faith Explorers will sing in worship.

Sunday, February 20 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 27 Transfiguration of the Lord/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

10 CENTS A MEAL We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger on February 6. 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 \$476.00 for Ten-Cents-A-Meal for December 2021.

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### **COMING SOON FOR LENT 2022**

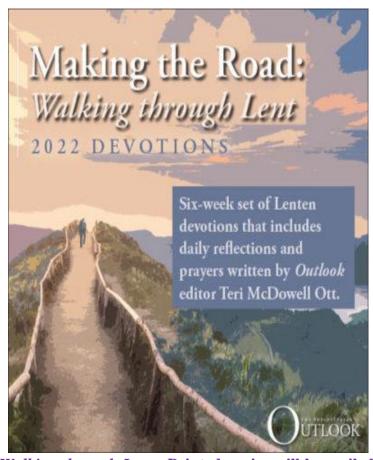
# Making the Road: Walking through Lent

These devotions are based on the Spanish poet Antonio Machado's poem, Walker. Machado writes: Walker, there is no road, the road is made by walking.

Machado's poem resonates because it feels as if there is no road in front of us. The soil of our well-worn Lenten path has been overturned by the pandemic. If we want to follow Christ this Lent, we'll need to prepare the way and make the road. We'll need to rethink and recreate our Lenten practices.

This 6-week set of Lenten devotions includes daily reflections and prayers written by *Outlook* Editor, Teri McDowell Ott. Each week, we will make the road to Jerusalem through the following themes:

Walking through Lent
Walking in the Wilderness
Walking in Prayer
Walking with Others
Walking in Hope
Walking through Holy Week



You will receive an email copy of *Making the Road: Walking through Lent*. Printed copies will be mailed to those who do not have access to the internet, and some will be available at both entrances to the church for visitors.

### STEPS OF THE INSTALLED PASTOR SEARCH

You'll see that nothing new has been crossed off of the list to this point but that doesn't mean that important stuff isn't happening. Even now, God is working; preparing the hearts of those who will be called to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee; preparing the heart of your next pastor to hear, receive, and accept the call to serve with you; preparing your hearts to receive, welcome, and be willingly lead by that new pastor. So, pray. Pray for that person who will be your next installed pastor. Pray for the soon-to-be-elected Pastor Nominating Committee. Pray for this congregation as it continues its important ministry during this transitional time.



**COM** = Committee on Ministry; **PNC** = Pastor Nominating Committee

MIF = Ministry Information Form (church's resume); PIF = Personal Information Form (candidate's resume).

And here are the Steps of the Installed Pastor Search:

- 1. Transitional Pastor Called
- 2. COM approves the formation of the PNC.
- 3. Once elected, COM liaison conducts orientation/training of the PNC.
- 4. Mission Study/Creation of MIF.
- 5. MIF must be approved by the Session of the church and by the COM to determine that it accurately reflects who the congregation is and the nature of the call.
- 6. MIF posted on the PCUSA Church Leadership Connection and one of the COM co-moderators will approve the MIF to upload.
- 7. Review of potential candidates.
- 8. When the PNC narrows to a few candidates and begins planning face to face visits, General Presbyter the performs an "exec check".
- 9. PNC selects final candidate and conducts interviews and extends a call.
- 10. The COM approves the transfer of the candidate, reviewing the PIF and the terms of call.
- 11. The PNC gets permission to go to their Session to request a congregational meeting be held to vote on their recommendation.

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12. Installed Pastor is called and installed.



#### **Facilities Maintenance Coordinator**

The church is in great need of a Facilities Maintenance Coordinator. This position recently received a pay upgrade and requires approximately 10 hours per week. The ideal person would be able to open/prepare and close the church on Sundays and as needed for scheduled events. The position involves operating and assisting in routine maintenance of the building systems including lighting, heating, air conditioning, plumbing, etc. The coordinator will work closely with the Property Committee chair, minister, and office

manager to determine long-term maintenance needs. A job description for this position can be requested from the church office. If you know someone who might be interested, please contact the church office (704-982-2722).

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Pfeiffer Pfriends Are Needed...The Health Sciences Program of Pfeiffer University continues its presence in downtown Albemarle. Students from across the United States and the world are working on a degree in the Physician's Assistant or Occupational Therapy Programs. First Presbyterian, along with some other churches in downtown, are in partnership with these students-which is similar to our Silent Partner program for our college students. The main difference is the length of the relationship (each program is 27 months long), and the Pfeiffer student will know who their friend is. It is the hope that there will be communication at least once a month between the friend and the student. Your willingness to be a Pfeiffer Pfriend would be a blessing. For more information, please email Martha Sue at hallmsh@hotmail.com or call her at 704-985-5821. Currently, we have

volunteers from First Baptist, First Lutheran, Central UMC, The Gathering, and some community volunteers. The Pfeiffer Pfriends Committee is reaching out to other churches in the community.

### STEWARDSHIP AND SUCH...DECEMBER 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### GENERAL FUND

 Actual:
 Year to Date
 Budget-to-Date

 Total Income Received:
 512,981.82
 523,978.00

 Total Expenses:
 431,755.88
 523,978.00

 (Shortage)/Surplus
 88,225.94
 0

GENERAL FUND BUDGET
Pledges: 466,936
Total Income: 523,978
Total Expenses: 523,978

Weekly Amount Needed to Keep Commitments: \$10,076 We closed the year ahead \$1,458 in pledges. Average Weekly Amount Received in December: \$23,914 Ten-Cents-A-Meal for December: \$476.00

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First Presbyterian Church continues to provide dinner on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month at the Community Inn. The next date to serve is February 4 at 6:30 p.m. Volunteers gather at 6:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Ruth Cotton (hugawolf@hotmail.com).

### **Central School Backpack Food Program Donations Needed**

Oatmeal Packets, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Bags of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Saltine Crackers, Tuna Helper, Cans of Tuna, Chicken Helper, Cans of Chicken, Snack Crackers, Pineapple, or Fruit Cocktail Cups



Donations may be dropped off in the Pit Stop at the church.

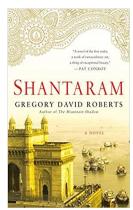


Quarter Ministry for The Mary & Martha Center for Women & Community Care
The Mary & Martha Center for Women & Community Care is collecting quarters to assist women
with laundromat expenses. Your donation of quarters can be dropped in jars located at the sanctuary
entrances. Your quarters make a difference!

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### Sunday School Book Study for January 30 through April 3

The Book Study Sunday School class will be reading and discussing Shantaram by Gregory David Roberts.



Here is the schedule:
January 30...Pages 1-99
February 6...Pages 100-199
February 13...Pages 200-285
February 20...Pages 286-346
February 27...Pages 347-442
March 6...Pages 443-540
March 13...Pages 541-629
March 20...Pages 630-721
March 27. Pages 722-817

March 27...Pages 722-817 April 3...Pages 818-933



### **Memorials and Honorariums**

### Minister's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Russell Forte, given by Debbie & John Hahn.

In memory of Bill Rogers, given by Debbie & John Hahn.

In memory of Joan Sharp, given by Debbie & John Hahn.

### **Moeller Family Endowment:**

In honor of Catherine and Matt Moeller, given by Craig & Marilee Eerkes.

### **Music Fund:**

In memory of Martha Elson, given by Mildred Andrew.

In honor of Ruth Ann Rogers, given by The Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church.

### **Sympathy**

To Sandy Rogers and family upon the death of her sister, Martha P. Elson, on December 24.

To Mike Shedd and family upon the death of his mother, Paula Shedd, on December 27.

To Cassie and Daniel Lambert upon the death of her sister, Katie Holmes, on December 30, 2021.

To Michelle Cumming and family upon the death of her father, Fred McInturff, on January 12.

To Rev. Cathy George and family upon the death of her mother, Joan Sharp, on January 13.

To Matt Carpenter and family upon the death of his father, Larry Carpenter, on January 14.

To Nancy Feather and family upon the death of her husband, Rev. Augustus (Gus) S. Feather, III, on January 17. Gus Feather served First Presbyterian Church as pastor from 1989 to 2001.

### **Congratulations**

To Isabel McLeod and Taylor Barr upon their marriage on December 31 in Marion, Ohio. Isabel is the daughter of Laura and Mike McLeod.

### **New Address & Contact Information**

Ruth Ann Rogers 5800 Old Providence Rd. Apt. 3315

Charlotte, NC 28226

704-985-5178 (Cell Phone) rabrogers.rogers@gmail.com (email address)

### **Session Notes**

At its stated meeting on Sunday, January 23, 2022, Session elected Lee McLaurin as Treasurer, Mark Mabry as Assistant Treasurer, Bill Jolly as President of the Corporation, Mary Kesselman as Clerk of Session, and Lee Snuggs as Nominating Committee Representative from Session. Session voted to call the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation for January 30, 2022. The Christian Education Committee reported that a new Sunday School class for young adults is meeting at Glory Beans at 9:30 on Sunday mornings, and that attendance has been down at Youth Club and Sunday School. The property committee has a preliminary estimate for the plaster repair in the sanctuary and will provide more details at the next Session meeting.

Mary Kesselman, Clerk of Session



Thanks to the following people for helping at the church recently: Linda Anderson, Mildred Andrew, Ann Duckwall, John Earnhardt, Donna Gaither, John Hahn, Jim Hesley, John Howell, Ken Knight, Lee McLaurin, Frankie Palmer, Evan Sanges, Rich Schaefer, and Elizabeth Wilson.

Thanks to Andy Cotton for making the chair for our video ministry.

# Volunteer Thanks from Jane Snyder (Director of Fellowship & Congregational Care) for First Family Drive-Thru Meal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Drive-Thru Meal, and Tiffany's Lunch Drive-Thru Meal

These are the amazing volunteers who showed up AGAIN to help make our drive-thru meals a success! Linda Anderson, Duncan Bryson, Ruth Cotton, Ann Duckwall, Peggy Finley, Susan Garrison, Jennifer Hesley, Jim Hesley, Gus Holbrook, John Howell, Margaret Ivey, Chris Mabry, Kim Marshall, Lee McLaurin, Frankie Palmer, Gayle Russell, Ned Russell, Jim Sawyer, Lee Snuggs, and Ann Upchurch. Thank you so much for your help, your energy, your ideas, and your generous spirit. Your presence and enthusiasm are a rich blessing to our church! We appreciate you!!!

Jane Snyder, Director of Fellowship & Congregational Care

In an effort to keep the prayer list updated, we would appreciate your help. Please notify the church office (704-982-2722 or pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org) or Martha Sue Hall (704-985-5821 or hallmsh@hotmail.com) of changes.

Thank you.



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:**

**Debra Barnard**, daughter of Gloria Bryson; chemotherapy treatment for liver cancer.

David & Marsha Bell, friends of Debbie & John Hahn; David has cancer.

Tom Bonekemper, cousin of Linda Anderson; pancreatic cancer.

Lindsey Clark, wife of Mark Clark, friend of Debbie Hahn; metastatic breast cancer.

**Calvin Hall,** friend of Ruth Goodwin; kidney cancer – physical therapy for stroke.

Lindsey (Whitley) Harward, daughter of Carolyn & Mel Whitley.

**Anna Hartsell,** daughter of Janet & Gary Hartsell; colon cancer.

Ann Hatcher, mother of Ann Snuggs.

Debbie Hinson, mother of Melissa Eudy.

Betty Hunsucker, mother of Gina Martin; Hospice Care.

Denise LaBoube, half-sister of Martha White; Glioblastoma.

Molly Amelia Lowder, low immunity health concerns.

Wendy McInturff, mother of Michelle Cumming.

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, nephew of Billie Jean Snuggs; continuing health concerns.

Sally Ormand, friend of Ruth Goodwin; cancer treatment.

Susan & John Prevatte.

**Judy Ross,** friend of Tom & Holly Norwood; diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

Jane Scheer, spouse of Stan Scheer; Spring Arbor.

Johnny Sharp, father of Cathy George.

Brad Slusher, half-brother of Martha White; pancreatic cancer & COPD.

Betty Stancik, sister of Bill Hall; continuing health concerns.

Garin Stepp, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

#### Members of the Congregation:

Don Abernathy, multiple myeloma.

Gloria Bryson.

Anita Gower.

Claude Harwood.

Gus Holbrook.

Ross Holshouser.

Robin Howell.

Don Joines.

Nancy Jolly, Trinity Place.

Dick Liles.

Terry Morgan.

Jane Pickler.

Jean Rabe.



### **BIRTHDAYS**

- 01- Jean Rabe
- 02- Lee Boone Penny Morton
- 03- Kellyn Poole Luna
- 04- Hugh Carpenter
- 05- Keith Byrd Robin Howell
- 06- Melissa Eudy Bob Johnston
- 08- Mellanie Morgan
- 09- Debbie Bennett
- 10- Susan Pandich
- 11- Katherine Jolly
- 12- Karen Hinkle

- 14- Hunter Matthews
- 15- Emily Deese
- 16- Miller Morgan
- 17- Lily Snyder
- 20- Ashley Deese Peter Henkenjohann
- 21- Nora Carpenter Spence McIntyre
- 22- Will Lentz Ben Lisk
- 25- Robbie Stevenson Ann Upchurch
- 26- Calvin Huneycutt
- 28- Carroll Holbrook



06- Steve & Laura Blalock

09- Bill & Diane Stevenson



### Sunday Night Live

Sunday, February 6	SNL Youth	6:00 p.m8:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 13	SNL Youth	6:00 p.m8:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 20	SNL Youth	6:00 p.m8:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 27	The Bigger Church	6:00 p.m8:00 p.m.



# The Bigger Church Activity Sunday, February 27 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Come join with other church youth groups to experience the church at its larger level. More details to come.)

High School Faith Conversations for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders with Steve Cumming & Debby Johnston at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Drive, Albemarle) Mondays from 8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. For more information, contact Debby Johnston. (704-322-8139 or debbyjohnston@hotmail.com)



**High School Montreat: July 10-16 Middle School Montreat: July 20-24** 

This amazing youth conference is an amazing experience that you do not want to miss. Come learn more about your faith, spend time with youth from our church, and meet new friends from all over! If you are interested, please let Melissa (704-439-6747 or the5eudys@gmail.com) or Liz Jolly (704-699-6699 or jollymom2@gmail.com) know. A \$100 deposit is needed to reserve your space.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Wednesday, February 2 at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Please contact Peggy Finley at 704-985-1136 or maf447@windstream.net if you have questions.





### FIRST FAMILY MEAL

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 FROM 5:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL
RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 31

First Family Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, February 2! Unfortunately, we are still unable to gather for First Family. If you would like a First Family meal, please RSVP by Monday, January 31 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

### Menu:

Potato Soup with Shredded Cheese and Bacon (on the side), Mixed Green Salad, Sweet Potato Cake, Pound Cake and Brownies

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family. Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

All we need you to do is:

call Anne Montgomery at 704-796-5841or email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com and let her know how many plates you need,

if you would like sweet potato cake, pound cake or brownies for each meal, and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).

Though we will not share the meal at the same table, we will delight in the opportunity to share the same meal at our own tables. A prayer and table ritual will be included for each household. Sharing the meal and the ritual will bind us together as the one body of Christ.

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Circle 5 will meet Wednesday, February 9 at 1:30 p.m. in the Pit Stop. We will study Lesson 5.

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### **Brunswick Stew and Vegetable Soup For Sale**

1 quart = \$5.00 1 gallon = \$12.00

The soup and stew is in the Pit Stop Closet Freezer. Help Yourself! Money can be left in the freezer or put in the mail slot on the office door.

The March Newsletter Deadline is Tuesday, February 15.
Early submissions are always welcome! If you type your items in Microsoft Word, please email them as an attachment to: pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org.





## **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING DRIVE-THRU MONETARY DONATIONS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13 FOLLOWING WORSHIP & WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16** AT FIRST FAMILY DRIVE-THRU

On Sunday, February 13 following worship and Wednesday, February 16 at the First Family Drive-Thru, please join with us in the Souper Bowl of Caring! Our congregation will be supporting those facing food insecurity this winter by making a monetary donation to SCCM.



DRIVE-THRU MEAL WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16 FROM 5:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON MONDAY. FEBRUARY 14 PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OF THE MEAL

Drive-Thru Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesday, February 16! Please RSVP by Monday, February 14 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Wednesday, February 16 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

Menu: Barbeque Chicken Taco, Rice, Black Beans, and Strawberry Cheesecake Cookie Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family. Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

PLEASE BRING SOUPER BOWL MONETARY DONATION TO DROP-OFF AS YOU DRIVE-THRU TO PICK-UP YOUR MEAL.

All we need you to do is:

call Anne Montgomery at 704-796-5841 or email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com and let her know how many plates you need, and if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).



SNL CHILI FUNDRAISER IN THE PIT STOP FOLLOWING WORSHIP OR DRIVE-THRU SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20 12:15 P.M.-12:45 P.M.

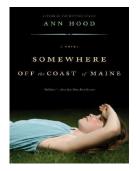
MENU: CHILI, CORNBREAD, & DESSERT

Contact Melissa Eudy at 704-439-6747 to place an order. Proceeds go to SNL summer mission trips.

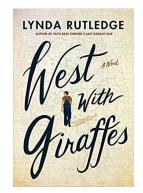
# February Book Conversation Monday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor

The February book is *Somewhere Off the Coast of Maine* by Ann Hood. We will meet in the parlor at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 28.

In 1969, as Peter, Paul and Mary croon on the radio and poster paints splash the latest antiwar slogans, three young friends find love. Suzanne, a poet, lives in a Maine beach house awaiting the birth of a child she will call Sparrow. Claudia, who weds a farmer during college, plans to raise three



strong sons. Elizabeth and her husband marry, organize protests, and try to rear two children with their hippie values. By 1985, things have changed: Suzanne, now with an MBA, calls Sparrow "Susan." Claudia spirals backward into her sixties world—and madness. And Elizabeth, fatally ill, watches despairingly as her children yearn for a split-level house and a gleaming station wagon. *Somewhere Off the Coast of Maine* is Ann Hood's stunning debut novel about the choices we make when we are young, and the changes brought about by the passing of time.



zoom

# March Book Conversation Monday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor

The March book is *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. We will meet in the parlor at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 28.

Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave. It's 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing

the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Behind the wheel is the young Dust Bowl rowdy Woodrow. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes. Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, *West with Giraffes* explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time, and a story told before it's too late.

# Prayer & Bible Study Opportunities

Morning Prayer on Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Morning Prayer meets on Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10 am via Zoom. For the Zoom link, please email Debbie Hahn at hahnjdt@ctc.net. Please use this email address also to prayers for both joys and concerns.

# Bible Study and Conversation Meets via Zoom on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Matt and Catherine Moeller continue to lead Bible study on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on Zoom. Each week, we discuss the Scripture that will be used as the basis for the sermon the following weekend. We analyze the Scripture reading itself and



discuss how to apply it in our lives. We also have a time in prayer. Please join us. If you have any questions, please contact Matt and Catherine (MattandCatherine@hotmail.com).



# Youth Club Shares the Love in February!!!

Youth Club Children will begin the month of **February** with a new unit, *Living in Community*. Communities are made of different people; those of different ages, genders, races, and life experiences. This *diversity* is a beautiful part of community.

Using the words of Paul from I Corinthians, the children will see that they bring unique and important gifts to the communities that they are a part of, and that all gifts and all people are needed. THE BIBLE STORY... This story is Paul's familiar metaphor of comparing the body of Christ, the church, to the parts of the human



body. By reminding his readers that the eye needs the hand and the head needs the feet, Paul reinforces that people are gifted in different ways. Through a variety of activities, the children will identify their own spiritual gifts as well as name the gifts that they see in one another.

**Trusty Travelers ...K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders** will spend time learning about *Bread from Heaven* and *Feeding the 5000* and lessons will focus on how helping those who are hungry is part of **Living in Community** with one another.

**Faith Explorers...4**th & 5th graders will share their unique gifts with the community as they go on a Scavenger Hunt for SCCM & Backpack Program with a mission to collect non-perishable food items and toiletries for these important ministries.

Both groups will enjoy music with Mr. Frank as they prepare to sing in church on Sunday, February 13.



Faith Explorers Scavenger Hunt for Food Sunday, February 20 from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Scavenger Hunt for the Backpack Program & SCCM

### How It Works!

The children will have a list of items needed and will go out to the church members' houses to collect the items.

In order to pull this off, we need people to be willing to donate an item or two and let the organizer know which house to drop by.

Here are the items needed:

### **Backpack Program**

Oatmeal Packs, Breakfast Cookies, Individual Packs of Goldfish, Large Cans of Soup, Saltines, Tuna Helper, Cans of Tuna, Chicken Helper, Cans of Chicken, Snack Crackers, & Fruit Cups

### **SCCM**

Peanut Butter and Jelly, Cleaning Supplies, Lysol Wipes

### NO DONATION WILL BE DENIED AND WE WILL FIND A USE!

Please contact Kate Gibson at 336-301-4564 or Katherine.e.gibson@gmail.com to let us know if you want us to make our way to your home! Front porch pick up available if you cannot be home. Thank you for helping us make this a success!



### !!! Hurray For Breakfast Bunch for K-5<sup>th</sup> Graders !!!

Who can come? K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders

What? Gathering as friends to enjoy breakfast

When? February 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Where? Stage in the gym – We can spread out for eating. Why? To pray together & build strong community of faith

Please let Gina Martin (gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org) or Katherine Jolly (kat6420@gmail.com)

know if you are able to join us. \*Muffins, yogurt, fruit and juice provided.



### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Drive-Thru Tuesday, March 1 from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. RSVP by 2:00 p.m. on Monday, February 28

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Pick-up or Delivery is on Tuesday, February 16! If you would like a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meal, please RSVP by Monday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m., and we will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery on Tuesday, March 1 between 5:00 p.m.-6:00pm. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while packaging your plates. Keith Bryson is coordinating the cooking – contact Keith if you want to help (704-984-0254). All proceeds will go toward the *10-Cents-a-Meal* program.

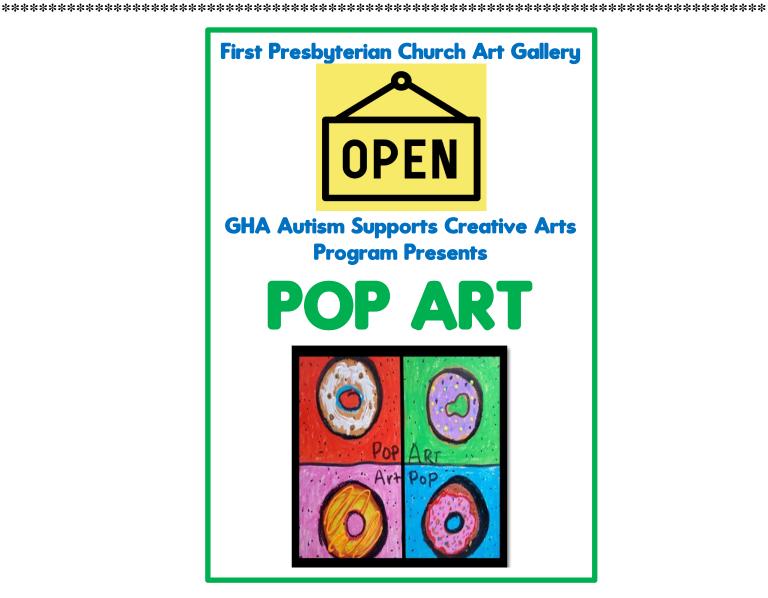
Menu: Pancakes and Syrup, Link Sausage and Fruit

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person....Maximum of \$15 per family. Please come with correct change or a check written to First Presbyterian Church.

All we need you to do is:

call Anne Montgomery at 704-982-7823 or email Anne at johnandannemontgomery@yahoo.com and let her know how many plates you need, and

if it will be a pickup or delivery (include address and any special instructions).





Wednesday, February 2	Wedr	esday.	. Februar	v 2
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6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

1:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)

3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5<sup>th</sup> Graders)

5:00 pm-6:00 pm First Family Drive-Thru Meal

5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos

6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, February 3

10:00 am Staff Meeting

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

### Friday, February 4

6:00 pm Meal for the Community Inn

### Sunday, February 6

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Ten Cents a Meal Offering for Hunger

9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House

(134 West Main Street, Albemarle)

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL

### Monday, February 7

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

### Wednesday, February 9

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

1:30 pm Circle #5 meets in the Pit Stop

3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5<sup>th</sup> Graders)

5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos

6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, February 10

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

### Sunday, February 13

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Youth Club Trusty Travelers & Faith Explorers sing in worship Souper Bowl of Caring Offering

8:45 am Diaconate Meeting

8.43 am Diaconate Meeting

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch for K-5<sup>th</sup> Graders (Gym)

9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House

(134 West Main Street, Albemarle)

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL Youth

### Monday, February 14 Valentine's Day

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

2:00 pm RSVP 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Drive-Thru Meal

8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

### Tuesday, February 15

12:00 pm February Newsletter Deadline

### \*childcare provided

### Wednesday, February 16

Souper Bowl of Caring Offering at 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Drive-Thru

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer

3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5<sup>th</sup> Graders)

5:00 pm-6:00 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Drive-Thru Meal

5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos

6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, February 17

10:00 am Staff Meeting

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

### Sunday, February 20

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 am Session Meeting

9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House (134 West Main Street, Albemarle)

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

12:00 pm-3:00 pm Faith Explorers Scavenger Hunt for Food

12:15 pm-12:45 pm SNL Chili Fundraiser (pick-up or drive-thru)

6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL

### Monday, February 21

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

2:00 pm RSVP Deadline for 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Drive-Thru Meal

8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

### Wednesday, February 23

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5<sup>th</sup> Graders)

5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos

6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, February 24

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

### Sunday, February 27

Transfiguration of the Lord

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House (134 West Main Street, Albemarle)

9:45 am \*Sunday School

11:00 am \*Worship

6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL The Bigger Church

### Monday, February 28

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

2:00 pm RSVP Shrove Tuesday Pancake Drive-Thru

7:00 pm Book Conversation in the Parlor

8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations at the home of Debby Johnston (1212 Heritage Dr., Albemarle)

### \*childcare provided

### THOSE WHO SERVE IN FEBRUARY

Ushers: Jim Hesley, Elizabeth Bryson, Ella Cumming, Jim Ivey, Myron Lowder, Lee Snuggs

February 6: Madelyn Taylor February 13: Leo McLeod

February 20: Jordan Hesley February 27: Emily Deese

Sound:

February 6: Evan Sanges; Bob Johnston February 13: Evan Sanges; Bob Johnston February 20: Evan Sanges; Bob Johnston February 27: Evan Sanges; Bob Johnston

Nursery:

February 6: Kyle Lambert

February 13, 20, & 27: Kate White

February 13: Melissa Eudy; Cidney Eudy February 20: Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

February 27: Gayle & Ned Russell

Kids Care Crew: February 6: Kristie Bryson

**Children's Church for February** 

February 6: Lillie Hancock February 13: Lillie Hancock February 20: Lillie Hancock

Outside Ushers:

Filming:

February 6: John Howell; TBD

February 20: Jim Marshall; TBD

February 6: Leah Kilde

February 13: Katherine Jolly

February 20: Andy McLeod

February 27: James Cotton

February 13: John Earnhardt; Jack Morton

February 27: Wes Eudy; Tom Norwood

February 27: No Children's Church

**Church Website Address & Staff Email Addresses** 

**Church Website Address:** www.fpcalbemarle.org **Church Email Address:** klambert@fpcalbemarle.org **Rev. Cathy George:** cgeorge@fpcalbemarle.org **Kyle Lambert:** klambert@fpcalbemarle.org Pam Knighten: pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org Jane Snyder: jsnyder@fpcalbemarle.org **Stan Scheer:** sscheer@fpcalbemarle.org Gina Martin: gmartin@fpcalbemarle.org

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