



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina
Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor
Matt Drumheller, Associate Pastor
Frank Poolos, Director of Vocal and Handbells
Stanley Scheer, Organist
Gina Martin, Director of Christian Education

Kyle Lambert, Office Manager
Church Offices: (704) 982-2722
Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

Pam Knighten, Secretary

E-mail: klambert@fpcalbemarle.org

Volume 49

January 10, 2016

No. 02

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.

PRELUDE

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

Max Drischner

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The voice of God echoes on the dry land and resounds over the waters.

People: The Spirit of the Lord dwells in our midst and hovers over the stream.

Leader: The Son of God is come among us and is named, *Beloved*.

People: And all who worship shout out, *Glory!*

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord all majesty and strength.

People: Let us worship the Lord our God.

*CHORAL INTROIT

As with Gladness, Men of Old

15th Century Carol
arr. S. R. Scheer

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silent

Unison

Lord, we know we are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant. We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world. We are sorry, and we want to change. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

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 the chapel for Children's Church.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Glorious God, may your Spirit so burn in us that we hear your word translated into deed and follow Jesus in paths of justice, right relationship, and peace. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 3:1-17, 21-22

Pew Bible, page 56

ANTHEM

A Welcome Song

Thomas Pavlechko

Welcome newborn lambs, who in his pastures dwell;
Where caring shepherds bring them gently to the well;
For living waters will their thirst relieve.

Leading to the waters, wondering shepherds sing
The songs of new creation; every living thing,
When drinking deeply, will this song receive.

Heard in Eden's garden when the world was new.
Heard again in Bethlehem by a thirsty few.
And those who hear the song of Life, believe.

Here the newborn lambs may see the Savior's face.
With heads bent low, partaking of his perfect grace.
And finally rising from the water, live.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

Pew Bible, page 631

SERMON

The Waters

Mr. Drumheller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Confession of 1967*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN 463

How Firm a Foundation

Foundation

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mrs. Ayscue

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

The Old Year Has Now Passed Away

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

Wer nur den lieben Gott

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

William G. Tomer

*POSTLUDE

If Thou But Trust God to Guide You

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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 Andy McLeod. 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 Jacob Palmer and Vance Cole.

Ushers: Phillip Brown, captain; Brad Boone, Lee Boone, Mandy Brown, Wes Eudy, Don Joines, Nancy Joines, and Mary Kesselman **Elder Greeters:** Jim Carter; Ellen Whitley **Nursery:** Jana Sanderson **Toddler Room:** Misty Honbarrier **Preschool Partners:** Stephanie & Josh Campbell **Nana & Papa Team:** Susan & Banks Garrison **Children's Church:** Melissa & Wes Eudy

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Connie Watson (sister of Dan Samples; recovering from a stroke), Ray Michue (awaiting a heart transplant), Jeff Underwood, Dexter Efird, Mary Green, Carroll Sitton (knee replacement), Dexter Efird, Jeff Underwood, Michael Corl & family (UPS delivery employee), Rowena Warren, Janet Gardner Fleming (stepdaughter of Ruth Ann Rogers), David Sanges (brother of Nathan Sanges); Struggling families. **See newsletter for complete list.**

The flower calendar for 2016 is posted on the bulletin board in the pit stop. If you wish to put flowers in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of someone or to provide beauty to the service, please sign-up on the calendar.

MISSION COMMITTEE MINI-RETREAT
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

The Mission Committee will host a mini-retreat on Sunday, January 10 following worship. Its purpose will be to evaluate the various mission activities in which it has been engaged and develop a plan for 2016. All current and prospective members are invited to participate. Lunch will be provided.

Covenant Bible Study

Tuesday Mornings beginning January 12 at 10:00 a.m.

This excellent study continues with Part II beginning on January 12. If you want to get on board, contact Elizabeth (704-982-2722 or eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org) for more information.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE GRANTS

The Endowment Committee will accept applications for grants from the Gaither Endowment until January 15. Applications are available in the church office. If you have questions, contact the church office (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).



Sunday Mornings
ENGAGE CAFÉ at 9:30 a.m.
ENGAGE TOPICS begin at 9:45 a.m.

Topic: Old Testament (video series)
Description: Developed by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, these videos explore origins, meanings, and interpretations of familiar stories.
Faciliators: Bill Jolly and Larry Sitton
Location: Session Room

Topic: The Wired Word
Description: Group conversation based on the *Wired Word: Scripture & Contemporary Issues*
Facilitators: Anne Montgomery and Rich Schaefer
Location: Parlor

Topic: The Wired Word
Description: Group conversation based on the *Wired Word: Scripture & Contemporary Issues*
Facilitator: Skeet Ayscue
Location: Gathering Place

Topic: The Wired Word
Description: Group conversation based on the *Wired Word: Scripture & Contemporary Issues*
Facilitators: TBD
Location: Old Session Room

PrimeTimers Luncheon on Thursday, January 14 at Noon in the Pit Stop

Speaker: Pastor David Kilde

Topic:

*Vikings, Fjords, Icebergs, and the Dawn of the Electronic Age:
Magical Newfoundland*

Menu:

Vegetable Beef Soup, Vegetarian Vegetable Soup, Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Tea, Coffee, & Dessert

Please contact the church office to reserve your spot and/or if you need transportation (704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org).

The Mission Committee would like to ask the congregation to bring in schools supplies for Central Elementary School. We will run the project from January 3-24. Here is the list of supplies we are asking for:

- #2 Pencils, Pack of Notebook Paper (wide ruled & college),
- 24 count Crayola Crayons (please Crayola Crayons only),
- Kleenex, and Hand Sanitizer

2016 Children's Art Calendar

The Trusty Travelers have created these lovely works of art as they have focused on *Deepening Community through Grace & Gratitude* each Wednesday.

Calendars are \$ 8.00 each.

Proceeds will support our neighbor, Laura, in Montaña de Luz.

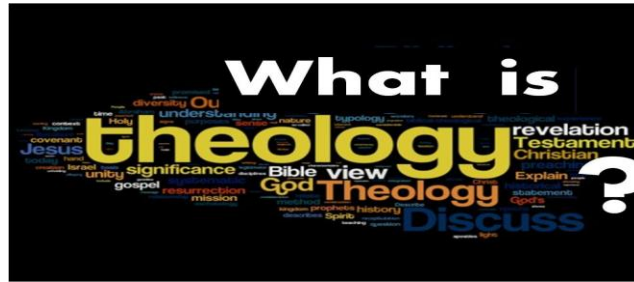
Please see Gina Martin or come by the church office.



Afternoon Tea & Conversation

On Tuesday, January 19 at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor

Join us for delicious food and door prizes as we celebrate friendship. All women are invited & encouraged to bring a friend!



Theology Lite on Thursday, January 21 at 8:00 p.m. at Off the Square

On **January 21**, young adults are invited to **Theology Lite** at Off the Square. Matt will host a conversation over your choice of drink about a topic of theology. We will gather at 8:00 p.m. Please feel free to invite friends (members or non-members) to join in the conversation!



Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat

Sunday, January 24, 2015 from Noon-2:30 p.m.

Partnering in Christian Education...Children K-5th grade...

Grandparents of any age...

Lunch in pit stop followed by activities in gym.

Call or email church office to sign up!

(704-982-2722 or klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION

Session has established the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation as Sunday, January 31. The meeting will be held immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to receive annual reports and to transact other business as may properly come before the meeting. We will also have a congregational meeting for the purpose of reviewing and approving the pastors' terms of call.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 10

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:30 am ENGAGE Café (pit stop)
- 9:45 am *Sunday School/ENGAGE!
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee Mini-Retreat
- 12:00 pm-4:00 pm Faith Explorers Bake & Take
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm SNL at First Baptist Church

Monday, January 11

- 4:30 pm Lent Planning Committee
- 8:30 pm Sr. High Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Tuesday, January 12

- 10:00 am Covenant Bible Study

Wednesday, January 13

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm Youth Cubs
- 3:15 pm-5:15 pm 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
- 8:30 pm Pick-up Basketball

Thursday, January 14

- 9:30 am *Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm PrimeTimers Luncheon

Friday, January 15

Deadline for Gaither Endowment Grant Applications

Sunday, January 17

Race Relations Sunday

- 9:30 am ENGAGE Café (pit stop)
- 9:45 am *Sunday School/ENGAGE!
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm SNL at First Lutheran Church

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY

- 10- Rita Morgan
Jacob Palmer
- 11- Drew McManus
- 12- Ruth Ann Rogers
- 13- Jane Borders
- 15- Julian Eudy
- 16- Debbie Hahn

*Visit the First Presbyterian Church
Winter Art Exhibit
Featured Artist...Judy Murrell*

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