



**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

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Volume 49

January 24, 2016

No. 04

**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

*Antiphon*

Marcel Dupré

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

**People: God calls us to be builders as well.**

Leader: God calls us to build our lives;

**People: To restore broken places and continue to grow.**

Leader: God calls us to build our faith:

**People: To study the Word and ponder its meaning.**

Leader: God calls us to build community:

**People: To build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.**

Leader: God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

**People: To preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.**

\*CHORAL INTROIT

*O Worship the Lord*

Robert McCutchan

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Great God, your mercy is an unexpected miracle. Help us to believe and obey, that we may be filled with the wine of new life, promised in the power of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN 41

*O Worship the King, All Glorious Above*

Lyons

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silent  
Unison  
**God of our restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to right relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Believe the good news,

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\*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

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 the chapel for Children's Church.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**We have gathered before your Word, O God. By the power of your Holy Spirit at work in the word read and proclaimed, make the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts acceptable to you, our rock and redeemer. Amen.**

ANTHEM

*He Comes to Us*

Jane M. Marshall  
Text: Albert Schweitzer

He comes to us as one unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside,  
He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us, He speaks the same word: "Follow thou me!" and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time.

He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple,  
He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who He is.

O Morning Star, how fair and bright thou beamest forth in truth and light.  
O Sovereign meek and lowly. Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son,  
My Lord and master, Thou hast won my heart to serve Thee.  
Thou are holy, fair and glorious, all victorious, rich in blessing.  
Rule and might o'er all possessing.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*

Pew Bible, page 416

SERMON

*Finding Our Center*

Mrs. Ayscue

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*From A Brief Statement of Faith*

**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 612

*We Praise You, O God*

Kremser

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Heather Kilde

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mr. 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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Aria

Noel Rawsthorne

\*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 39

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Faithfulness

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sevenfold Amen*

John Stainer

\*POSTLUDE

*How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*

Dietrich Buxtehude

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\*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 Morgan Kinley.** After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

**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:** Misty Honbarrier **Toddler Room:** Salem Taylor **Preschool Partners:** Leah Beamon; Jill Niebler **Nana & Papa Team:** Sarah & Ronnie Michael **Children's Church:** Dona Lisk

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** The family of Pam Brafford, The family of Jim Fitzgerald, Connie Watson (sister of Dan Samples; recovering from a stroke), Ray Michue (awaiting a heart transplant), Jeff Underwood, Dexter Efird. **See newsletter for complete list.**

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**IN MEMORIAM**  
Pamera (Pam) H. Brafford  
December 1, 1946 – January 19, 2016

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**Congratulations to Mark Andrew, Gloria Bryson, and Robert Land** for achieving 50 years of membership at First Presbyterian Church. Their names have now been added to the membership plaque.

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**Please help replenish supplies for students at Central Elementary School.**

Supplies needed are:

#2 pencils

Notebook paper (wide-ruled & college-ruled)

24 count Crayola crayons

Tissues

Hand sanitizer

**Our collection will continue until January 24.**



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: Old Session Room



Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat
Sunday, January 24
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)



FAITH ON THE FIFTH
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31
The Faith on the Fifth offering on Sunday, January 31, will be donated to SCCM's Winter Heating Assistance Fund. With many cold weeks ahead of us, and many folks coming into SCCM for assistance, SCCM's funds will be depleted quickly. The Mission Committee asks that you give from your heart to help those in need.

There are a limited number of the 2016 Children's Art Calendars still available in the church office for \$8.00. These calendars, with artwork by our own children, are a reminder of their importance in the life of the church.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

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.



**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

Sunday, February 7 is not only the day of the big football game, it is also the Souper Bowl of Caring. Youth will be collecting money and cans of food at the doors of the sanctuary following worship. We are also having a *co-petition* this year to increase our giving to SCCM. Depending on where you typically sit in the sanctuary, you are encouraged to bring in a certain kind of canned soup.

*Choir-side half of sanctuary & balcony: Chicken Noodle Soup*

*Pulpit-side half of sanctuary & rear section: Tomato Soup*

*Youth will also be collecting canned food and money following worship.*

Bring your cans of food to the pit stop on Sunday, February 7!

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# **Habitat for Humanity Barbeque Chicken Fundraiser**

½ BBQ Chicken, Slaw, Chips, Roll, and Dessert

**Thursday,**

**February 25, 2016**

**11 am – 7 pm**

Advance tickets up to \$2.00 off

TICKET PRICES:

**\$8.00 Purchase tickets by 1/31/2016**

**\$9.00 Purchase tickets by 2/24/2016**

**Day of Event \$10.00**

**Drive Thru, Take-Out,  
Delivery, & Dine-in**

**(Delivery available with orders of 5+ plates)**

Location: Centerview Baptist Church

508 Northeast Connector Albemarle

*Catered by Port-A-Pit BBQ  
Purchase your tickets at  
Habitat ReStore or Office  
1506 Hwy 24/27 West  
Albemarle*

*To assist with ticket distribution or to  
volunteer, please contact Habitat at  
(704) 985-1050*

Ticket Prices will change by dates above.

**TICKETS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE!**

## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday, January 24

- 9:30 am ENGAGE Café (pit stop)
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School/ENGAGE!
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm-2:30 pm Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat
- 5:00 pm-6:15 pm SNL at First Presbyterian Church

### Monday, January 25

- 8:30 pm Sr. High Bible Study at Elizabeth's

### Tuesday, January 26

- 10:00 am Covenant Bible Study

### Wednesday, January 27

- 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 28

- 9:30 am \*Pray & Play
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

### Friday, January 29

- 6:00 pm-10:00 pm \*Officer's Retreat

### Saturday, January 30

- 9:00 am-1:00 pm \*Officer's Retreat

### Sunday, January 31

*Ordination & Installation of New Officers*

*Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation*

- 9:30 am ENGAGE Café (pit stop)
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School/ENGAGE!
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation
- 5:30 pm-7:00 pm SNL @ Central UMC

**\*childcare provided**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### JANUARY

- 24-Dennis Gower
- 27-Linda Richards
- 28-Kim Andrew  
Dona Lisk  
Gus Holbrook
- 30-Linda Anderson  
Brittany White
- 31-Garrett Chapman

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

### Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

- Oatmeal Packets
- Breakfast Cookies
- Individual Bags of Goldfish
- Large Cans of Soup
- Saltine Crackers
- Hamburger Helper
- Snack Crackers

Pineapple or Fruit Cocktail Cups

A bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Next Backpack Food Program Packing Date is: Wednesday, February 3 at 10:30 a.m.