



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722

Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

March 13, 2022

Second Sunday in Lent

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PRELUDE

My Song Is Love Unknown

Charles Callahan

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Ellie Niederer

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Laura McLeod, liturgist

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I asked of the Lord, to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Come, my heart says, seek the face of the Lord. Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Let us worship God!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Loving God, you save all who seek refuge in you. Grant that we who know your salvation, may walk always in your light, take courage in your faithfulness, and rejoice in your amazing goodness to us. Through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty about hidden sins. Yet, you know the desires of our hearts and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world.

Silent Confession and Reflection

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE

hymnal 39, stanza 3

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

(The response will be sung by choir and congregation.)

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, open your Word by your Holy Spirit, so that we, like Abraham, may believe your promise to us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Genesis 15:1-2; 17-18](#)

Pew Bible, page 11

[Luke 13:31-35](#)

Pew Bible, page 72

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Jim Hesley

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-3 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Light

Patti Drennan

The Lord is my light, God is my salvation, author of creation.

My enemies may surround me, but I will never fear.

The Lord is my light, He is always near.

The Lord is my light, God is my salvation, ruler of the nations.

When troubles come, He will hold me in His everlasting arms.

The Lord is my light, keeping me from harm.

Only one thing I ask: to dwell in the house of the Lord.

Beholding His beauty and holiness,

Singing with joy of His faithfulness, praising God in His sanctuary.

The Lord is my light, God is my salvation.

The Lord is my light, God of confirmation.

False witnesses speak against me, but I will trust the Lord.

The Lord is my light, Christ the Living Word. Amen.

SERMON

The Fox and the Hen

Reverend Cathy S. George

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION 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. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. 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.

From
*A Brief Statement
of Faith,*
PC(USA)

Since the Lord is my salvation, Is there anyone to fear?
As a citizen of heaven why should I feel worry here?
In a world that's lost and broken and where sin and death abound,
We rejoice for God has spoken: we are safe, on solid ground.

God will hide me in the shelter when the days of trouble come.
Though a war may rise against me, God's own tent will be my home.
I will trust what God has given, I will trust God's word to me:
I'm a citizen of heaven and it's what I'll always be.
Even when I hear the warning, *Find a safer, easier way,*
I'll be faithful in the morning and at noon and close of day.

As a citizen of heaven, I have nothing I should fear;
For in Christ, I am forgiven, and I'm called to service here.
You, O Lord, are my salvation; make me strong to live for you.
May I care for your creation, love the stranger, speak what's true.
May I share what you have given; may I see each person's worth.
As a citizen of heaven, make me useful here on earth.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

Doxology

Lord, Who throughout these Forty Days

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

(The response will be sung by choir and congregation.)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Malcolm Archer

hymnal 606

Old Hundredth

*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands, and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 846

Fight the Good Fight

Duke Street

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Mark Schweizer

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you,

The Lord lift up His eyes to you and be gracious unto you and give you peace.

Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Toccata in a minor

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

*All that are able may stand.

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Thank you to the Chancel Choir, Frank Poolos, Stan Scheer, Jim Hesley, and Laura McLeod for their leadership in worship today.

The acolyte today is Ellie Niederer.

Ushers for March: Myron Lowder (captain), Al Andrew, Emily Andrew, Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, and Jack Morton

Elder Greeters: Al Andrew; Kim Marshall

Outside Ushers for March 13: Ronnie Michael; John Earnhardt **Sound:** Evan Sanges; Leah Kilde

Film: Andy McLeod **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Sarah Michael

Children's Church: Laura McLeod

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Ken Frazier, Helen Melton (niece of Elizabeth Wilson), Carole Yost (Trinity Place), Tim Rodgers (friend of Thomas Hahn), Bill Cotton (brother of Andy Cotton), Debbie Hinson (mother of Melissa Eudy), Terry Morgan, Robin Howell, Don Abernathy, Jean Rabe, Anita Gower, Gloria Bryson, Nancy Jolly, Claude Harwood, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.



Community Lent Services

Wednesdays, March 16, 23, 30 & April 6 at Noon

Central United Methodist Church (172 North 2nd Street, Albemarle)

March 16: Preacher: Pastor James Laurence, Pastor at First Lutheran Church

Lunch provided.

Donations accepted with proceeds to benefit a community organization.

Volunteer Camera Operators Needed

Training Session for All Volunteers

Sunday, March 20 at 5:00 p.m.

A training session will be held in the sanctuary for current and prospective volunteers on Sunday, March 20 at 5:00 p.m. If you are interested in assisting the church in this area of ministry, rsvp to the church office (704-982-2722 or pknighten@fpcalbemarle.org).





DRIVE-THRU LENT MEALS ON WEDNESDAYS

MARCH 16, 23, 30 and APRIL 6

FROM 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

RSVP BY 2:00 P.M. ON THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE MEAL

Lenten Meal Pick-up or Delivery is on Wednesdays during Lent: March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6. If you would like a Lenten meal, please RSVP by 2:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the meal. We will have your meal ready for pick-up or delivery between 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For your safety, kitchen staff will wear masks and gloves while preparing your plates.

The menu will be emailed in advance.

Menu for Wednesday, March 16:
The Eudy's Smoked Chicken, Baked Beans, Red Slaw, & Pound Cake

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



The Talent Company presents

Annie

March 25, 26, 31 & April 1, 2 at 7:00 p.m.

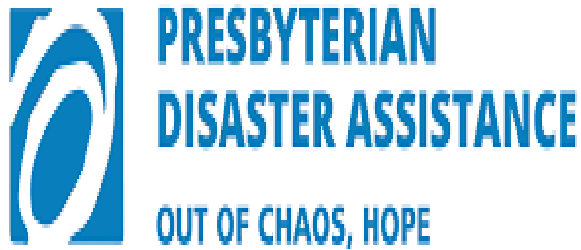
March 27 & April 3 at 3:00 p.m.

**Albemarle Neighborhood Theater
(219 East North Street, Albemarle)**

Adult Ticket (14 and up) \$10

Youth Ticket (13 and under) \$5

www.TheTalentCompany.org



In lieu of Easter lilies, memorials and/or honorariums may be given to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in emergency response to the war in Ukraine. If you would like to contribute to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in memory and/or in honor of a loved one, fill out the form below exactly as you wish the memorial or honorarium to read. Please place in the offering plate or leave in the church office no later than **Sunday, April 10. Checks should be payable to "First Presbyterian Church" and designated**

"Presbyterian Disaster Assistance-Ukraine." All memorials/honorariums received by April 10 will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 17.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance-Ukraine

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____



!!! Hurray For Breakfast Bunch for K-5th Graders !!!

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

What? Gathering as friends to enjoy breakfast

When? *** March 20, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. ***Note change of date!

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.

The Youth Club Handbell Ensemble and the Youth Club Trusty Travelers and Faith Explorers will lead worship with handbell ringing and choral music on Sunday, March 20.

**Faith Explorers' Lazy 5 Ranch Outing
Sunday, March 20 from Noon-4:00 p.m.
Emus, antelope, and zebras, oh my!!!**

Faith Explorers...Please join us on Sunday, March 20 for an outdoor animal adventure at the Lazy 5 Ranch in Mooresville. We will eat some lunch at church before heading to the ranch. Pick-up will be at 4:00 p.m. at the church. RSVP to Kate Gibson 336-301-4564 or Katherine.e.gibson@gmail.com to let her know that your Faith Explorer will attend.





The Uwharrie Players presents *The Odd Couple* by Neil Simon

Directed by Austin Coats

Remaining Show: TODAY...March 13th at 3:00 p.m.

at the Albemarle Neighborhood Theatre

219 E. North Street, Albemarle, NC

Adults \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door

Junior/Senior \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door



Advanced Tickets Available at www.uwharrieplayers.org and the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

Our own James Cotton and Melissa Eudy are actors in the play. And, Austin Coats serves as the director.



!!! Help Our Partnership School !!!

Central Elementary School Tidal Wave Auto Spa

Fundraiser Ends TODAY

Proceeds from this fundraiser will assist with purchasing instructional materials, supporting incentives for PBIS, and general school needs. We hope you will help us raise funds by

purchasing a car wash certificate for yourself. They also make great gifts for friends and family! Coupons are \$10 each and are for the \$20 valued car wash! To purchase Tidal Wave Car Wash Coupons, contact Kristie Bryson (text/call 864-230-3074 or email kristie.bryson@stanlycountyschools.org).

\$20 Car Wash Includes: Triple Conditioner, Tire Shine, Rain Repellent, Wheel Shine, Dry-N-Shine, Super Polish, Tidal Wave Rinse, Sea Foam, Sea Shine, Free Vacuums



SCCM PANTRY NEEDS



- Mixed Vegetables
- Sliced Carrots
- Black Eye Peas
- Cream-style Corn
- Lima Beans
- Butter Beans
- Great Northern Beans
- Navy Beans
- Kidney Beans

Food Items Needed

- Whole or Sliced Potatoes
- Chili Beans with Meat
- Chili No Beans
- Sliced Pears
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly & Jam
- Self-Rising Flour
(2 or 3 pound bags)

Cleaning Supplies Needed:

Dish Detergent, Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, All-Purpose Spray Cleaner

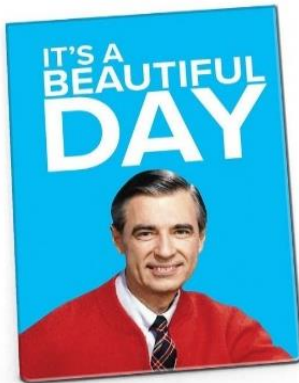
Items Not Needed: Canned Whole Kernel Corn, Canned Cut Green Beans, Pinto Beans, Sweet Peas, Spaghetti Noodles & Other Pasta Noodles, Tomato Soup & Chicken Noodle Soup, Canned Pasta, Mac & Cheese



From the Scholarship Committee...Scholarship applications will be available Tuesday, March 1 on the church website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and in the church office. **The deadline to return completed applications is Tuesday, April 5.** If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a scholarship committee member. Committee members for 2022 are: Catherine Moeller, Chair, Shannon Bullard, Wes Eudy, Kim Marshall, and Lee McLaurin.

!!! It's Mr. Rogers Day !!!

!!! Join us for an Intergenerational Sunday School !!!



- Who:** All Ages
- What:** Neighboring Sunday in honor of Mr. Rogers
- When:** Sunday, March 20 from 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
- Where:** Pit Stop

Wear a cardigan if you have one!

Join us for coffee, juice, muffins, and conversation surrounding what it means to

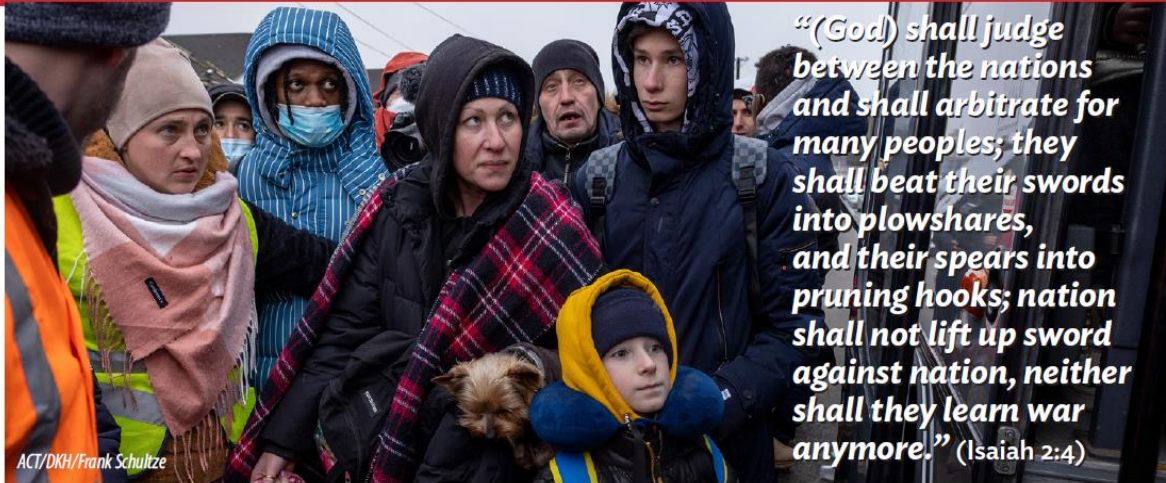
Be a Neighbor!

Your on-going support of First Presbyterian Church is essential to the mission and ministry of the church and to the well-being of our ministry partners, locally and globally. Thank you for your generosity.

Tithes and offerings may be mailed to:
First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1578
Albemarle, NC 28002

Online giving can be done through the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org). Click on the GIVE button.

Emergency response to Ukraine war



As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work. Our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

GIVE: To support emergency relief for those fleeing Ukraine, designate gifts to DR000156 . You can also text PDAUKR to 41444 to donate. Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/UK22, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check using the below reply device.

ACT: Urge the U.S. government to support generous aid for refugees and civilians suffering in Ukraine, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

PRAY: *May we undergird our prayers with tangible resources to help. May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly. May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy.*

May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope and peace.

And in this Lenten season, when we walk the way toward death and resurrection, repent our complicity in cultures of violence and renew our efforts toward justice and peace.

-Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



\$500 \$125 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Congregation/PIN _____

Please detach the reply form and return it with your gift to your church; or enclose it in an envelope with your check and mail it to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 13

2nd Sunday in Lent

- 8:45 am Diaconate 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 SNL Youth Bowling Outing
- 3:00 pm Hiking Group (Morrow Mountain State Park)

Monday, March 14

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 10:00 am Gratitude Group (Pit Stop)
- 2:00 pm RSVP Deadline Lenten Drive Thru Meal
- 4:00 pm Walking Group (Rock Creek Park)
- 8:30 pm-9:30 pm High School Faith Conversations

Tuesday, March 15

- 10:30 am Mission Committee Meeting (Session Room)
- 12:00 pm April Newsletter Deadline
- 6:00 pm Dinner Out Group (Jalapeños)

Wednesday, March 16

- 6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 12:00 pm Community Lent Service at Central UMC
- 3:30 pm-5:30 pm Youth Club (K-5th Graders)
- 4:00 pm-4:45 pm Confirmation Class
- 5:00 pm-6:00 pm Lenten Drive-Thru Meal
- 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Lent Fest (Church Lower Parking Lot)
- 5:30 pm-6:00 pm Youth Club Handbells with Frank Poolos
- 6:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 17 *St. Patrick's Day*

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm Tea & Conversation Group (Church Parlor)
- 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

Sunday, March 20 *3rd Sunday in Lent/Mister Rogers Day/Neighboring Sunday/Youth Club Handbell Ensemble rings in worship/Youth Club Trusty Travelers & Faith Explorers sing in worship*

- 8:30 am Session Meeting
- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch for K-5th Graders (Gym)
- 9:30 am Faith, Fellowship, & Food at Glorybeans Coffee House (134 West Main Street, Albemarle)
- 9:45 am-10:30 am The Wired Word Sunday School Class (Zoom)
- 9:45 am *Intergenerational Sunday School – Mister Rogers Day
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm-4:00 pm Faith Explorer's Lazy 5 Ranch Outing
- 3:00 pm Hiking Group (Morrow Mountain State Park)
- 5:00 pm Camera Operator Training (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 pm-8:00 pm SNL Youth

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! MARCH

- 14-Leah Kilde
Courtney Niederer
- 15-Kate Melone
- 16-Steve Coats
- 17-Bob Gaither
Eric Niederer
- 19-Catherine McIntyre
Chris Whitley

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! MARCH

- 19-Eric & Courtney Niederer



Central School Backpack Food Program Donations Needed

Breakfast Bars, Peanut Butter Crackers,
Individual Packs of Goldfish, Large Cans
of Soup, Saltine Crackers

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

Next Packing Date:

Wednesday, March 16 at 10:30 a.m.