



The Weekly Bulletin  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

Elizabeth McNair Ayscue, Pastor  
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February 3, 2019

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

**MORNING MEDITATION**

*Christ be beside me, Christ be before me, Christ be behind me, king of my heart.  
Christ be within me, Christ be below me, Christ be above me, never to part.*

**PEALING OF THE BELLS**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

**GATHERING SONGS**

Hymn 250	<i>Hymn of Promise</i>	all stanzas
Hymn 53	<i>O God, Who Gives Us Life</i>	stanzas 1 and 3

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;  
**Let me never be put to shame.**  
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;  
**Incline your ear to me and save me.**  
Be to me a rock of refuge.  
**A strong fortress, to save me,**  
For you, O Lord, are my hope,  
**My trust, O Lord, from my youth, and my praise is continually of you.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**God of life, death, and resurrection, we are grateful for life and all its gifts.  
Increase in us, the gifts of life – faith, hope, and love – that we may abide in  
harmony with your people and eternally with you through Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

**\*HYMN 321**

*The Church's One Foundation* Aurelia  
*The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence  
Unison  
**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep  
to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no  
longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set  
us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we  
can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness  
and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

From the Iona  
Community in Iona,  
Scotland

*Psalm 71:1-6*

*I Corinthians 13:13*

Glory to God hymnal  
page 582

The congregation is encouraged to participate in the prayer with the children.

*Jeremiah 1:4, 9*

Sermons are posted on the church's website ([www.fpcalbemarle.org](http://www.fpcalbemarle.org)). You can usually find the previous Sunday's sermon by Wednesday.

From  
*A Brief Statement of Faith.*

**\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN**

Mike McLeod

*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-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.*

**ANTHEM**

*Hear My Prayer*

Moses Hogan

O Lord, please hear my prayer, in the mornin' when I rise.  
It's Your servant bound for glory. O dear, Lord, please hear my prayer.

O Lord, please hear my prayer, keep me safe within Your arms.  
It's Your servant bound for glory, O dear, Lord, please hear my prayer.

When my work on earth is done, and You come to take me home,  
Just to know I'm bound for glory, and to hear You say well done.

Done with sin and sorrow, Have mercy, mercy, Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Holy Spirit, as the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah in his time, bring this word now to us. Touch our mouths and our hearts with your word today, that we may build on it in our lives, in the church, and in your world. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

[Jeremiah 1:4-10](#)

Pew Bible, page 656

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*A Calling and Sending*

Reverend Ayscue

**\*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. 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 175**

*Seek Ye First*

Lafferty

*During the hymn, ushers will collect your prayers to be included in the Prayers of the People.*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Skeet Ayscue

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.**

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

*Offertory*

César Franck

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 462

*I Love to Tell the Story*

Hankey

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*God's Wonderful Peace Be with You*

William M. Runyan

\*POSTLUDE

*Epilogue on 'Dix'*

William H. Harris

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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 Andy McLeod.** After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

**We will receive the Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering** for hunger today.

**Ushers:** Jill Niebler, captain; Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Katherine Jolly, and Dona Lisk  
**Outside Ushers:** Lee McManus; Chris Whitley **Elder Greeters:** Lee McLaurin; David Whitley **Nursery:** Cortney Brown **Kids Care Crew:** Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson **Children's Church:** Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

**We ask that you keep these people in your prayers:** The family of Harold McKeithan, John Taylor (international mission worker), Brinn Andrew (daughter of Kellie and Jason Andrew; diagnosis and treatment for neuroblastoma), Maddie McRae (daughter of Renee & Keith McRae; diagnosis & treatment for a brain tumor), Debra Barnard (daughter of Gloria Bryson; neuroendocrine carcinoma). **See newsletter for complete list.**

**Hurray For Breakfast Bunch!!!**

Who can come? 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders  
What? Breakfast...muffins, fruit, yogurt, milk, juice, etc.  
When? Sunday, February 3 from 9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.  
Where? Media Room  
Why? To pray together & build a strong community of faith



Please let Jill Niebler ([jlniebler@gmail.com](mailto:jlniebler@gmail.com)) know if you are able to join us.

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**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3**



Our church will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 3rd. More than 20 years ago, this ministry began with a single youth group that prayed a simple prayer:

*Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.*

**Our youth will collect money and cans of food at the doors of the sanctuary following worship. They are hoping for at least \$1.00 per worshipper.**

Pewsitters on the right side (choir loft side) of the middle section, the right section, or the balcony, are asked to bring chicken noodle soup.

Pewsitters on the left side of the middle section, the left section, or the section near the sound board, are asked to bring tomato soup.

See designated spaces in the Pit Stop for your soup! Let's see which section can collect the most soup for SCCM! All money will also be donated to SCCM.

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**The Fellowship Committee invites you to enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and some cookies to be served between Sunday School and worship each Sunday in February.**

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**WORSHIP MINI-RETREAT ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3  
FROM NOON-2:00 P.M. WITH LUNCH PROVIDED**

The Worship Committee will spend time visioning and thinking creatively about worship life at First Presbyterian Church. Many voices are welcome. If you want to share in this conversation, let Steve Cumming know ([stevecumming68@yahoo.com](mailto:stevecumming68@yahoo.com) or 704-724-2174), and we will have a place at the table for you.



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**DEPOSIT USED TEE SHIRTS IN THE BIN IN THE PIT STOP  
BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

**ANY SIZE, ANY COLOR, ANY CONDITION**

The Faith Explorers will make dog toys from the donated t-shirts to give to the Stanly County Humane Society. Thank you in advance for your donation!

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**Montaña de Luz Mission Trip Interest Meeting  
Sunday, February 10 following worship**

There will be a meeting after worship on February 10 for all those interested in the Mission Trip to Honduras this summer, July 24-31. Please come and learn the latest about Montaña de Luz and what a mission trip there entails.



This will be the 13<sup>th</sup> trip to MDL sponsored by First Presbyterian Church. It is a life changing and life affirming trip! If you cannot attend, please contact Skeet Ayscue of your interest.



**FIRST FAMILY GATHERING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6  
EVENING PRAYER AT 5:45 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL  
DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE GYM**

**Menu:**

- **Mexican Rice Bowls (Mexican Rice, Black Beans, Jalapeño, Avocado, Tomato, Chicken, Ground Beef, Shredded Cheese, Salsa, Sour Cream, Cilantro, Crushed Tortilla Chips)**
- **Thai Rice Bowls (Brown Rice, Bean Sprouts, Cucumbers, Carrots, Edamame, Chicken, Peanut Sauce, Yogurt Sauce, Crushed Peanuts)**
- **Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Station, Assorted Desserts, Tea, Coffee, Water and Lemonade.**

Contact the church office 704-982-2722 or [klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org) by noon on Tuesday, February 5 to say you're coming.

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**Volunteers Needed for next First Family Gathering**

Dessert and Sides Crew: Tuesday, February 5 at 10:00 a.m.  
 Set up crew: Wednesday, February 6 at 3:45 p.m.  
 Clean-up crew: Wednesday, February 6 at 6:45 p.m.

Please call Jane Snyder at the church 704-982-2722 or on her phone 704-438-3358 if you would like to help☺!

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**You are invited to the  
 First Presbyterian Church Volunteer Reception  
 Thursday, February 14  
 10:00 a.m.-Noon in the church parlor**  
 RSVP to Pam Knighten ([pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:pknighnten@fpcalbemarle.org)) or  
 Kyle Lambert ([klambert@fpcalbemarle.org](mailto:klambert@fpcalbemarle.org)) or  
 call the church office (704-982-2722).

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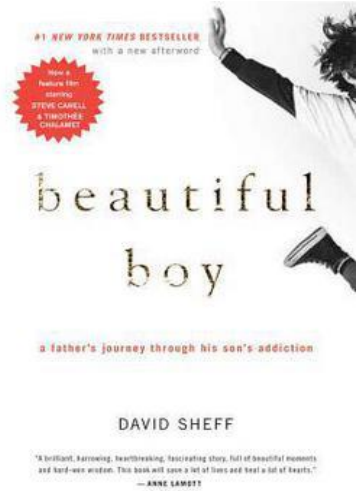
**The Opioid Task Force invites you to participate in an  
 all church read of the book  
*Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction*  
 By David Sheff**

This memoir is brilliant, fascinating, and enlightening. It provides a window into addiction and its effects on families and communities. It will broaden personal understanding and challenge stereotypes.

**Book Conversations (of your choice) will take place at the following times:**  
**Sunday, February 17 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday, February 24 at 5:00 p.m.**

Choose a date and join in the conversation as we learn together and think about the role of the gospel in the lives of those held captive by addiction and brings peace to families in turmoil.

**Books are available in the church office for \$12.00.**



## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

### Sunday, February 3

*Souper Bowl of Caring/Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger*

- 9:00 am \*Session & Diaconate Committee Chairs Meeting
- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee
- 12:00 pm-2:00 pm Worship Mini-Retreat

### Monday, February 4

- 7:00 pm Circle #5 meets at the home of Gloria Bryson  
(811 Smith Street, Albemarle)
- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

### Tuesday, February 5

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 10:00 am First Family Dessert & Sides Crew

### Wednesday, February 6

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 3:45 pm First Family Set-Up Crew
- 5:45 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm First Family Dinner (Gym)
- 6:45 pm First Family Clean-Up Crew
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

### Thursday, February 7

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Young Adult Lunch at Ly Cuisine  
(807A North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Albemarle)

### Friday, February 8

- 4:15 pm Youth Group departs for *Night to Shine* Prom

### Sunday, February 10

*Handbell Ensemble rings & Faith Explorers sing in worship*

- 8:45 am \*Diaconate
- 9:45 am \*Sunday School
- 11:00 am \*Worship
- 12:00 pm Montaña De Luz, Honduras Mission Trip Meeting
- 12:00 pm Faith Explorers Lunch/Stanly County Humane Society
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

\*childcare provided

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### FEBRUARY

- 03-Kellyn Luna
- 04-Hugh Carpenter
- 05-Keith Byrd  
Robin Howell
- 06-Melissa Eudy  
Bob Johnston
- 07-Jennifer Mabry
- 08-Mellanie Morgan
- 09-Debbie Bennett
- 10-Susan Pandich

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

### FEBRUARY

- 06-Steve & Laura Blalock
- 09-Bill & Diane Stevenson
- 12-Ernie & Jane Borders

## SCCM CHALLENGE

### FOR

### FEBRUARY

Canned Soup & Crackers

## Backpack Food Program Donations Needed:

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.

**Next Backpacking Date:**

**Wednesday, February 27 at 10:30 a.m.**