



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Albemarle, North Carolina

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February 24, 2019

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

We are weaned from our timidity in the flush of love's light. We dare be brave, and suddenly we see, that love costs all we are, and will ever be. Yet it is only love which sets us free.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

PRELUDE

Intermezzo for Violin and Organ
Sarah Womack, Violin

Peter Mathews

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

You shall be holy

For the Lord your God is holy.

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Love your enemies; bless those who curse you.

Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

In Christ, the promises of God are fulfilled. In Christ, we are sealed by the Holy Spirit.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you have taught us that all our deeds without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts the gift of love, the very bond of peace and of all goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

***HYMN 401**

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

Unison

Merciful God, forgive us when we fail to live in the light of your good news: when we choose politeness instead of kindness, fear instead of love, and routine instead of revelation. Help us to hear your Spirit calling us to new life, and move us to feel your presence wrapping us in love.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

From the poem
Touched by an Angel
by Maya Angelou
(1928-2014).

Leviticus 19:2, 18
II Corinthians 1:20, 22
Luke 6:27-28, 37

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

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

Adapted from
The Confession of 1967.

***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

Penny Morton

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken to our ancestors: through the voices of your prophets, the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your Son, so that we may live according to your word. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING [Genesis 45:3-11, 15](#) Pew Bible, page 40

ANTHEM

Think on These Things
(Philippians 4:8-9)

Craig Courtney

Martha Sue Hall, Handbells

Sarah Womack, Violin

Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest,
Whatsoever things are just and pure, lovely, of good repute;
If there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things,
And the God of peace shall be with you. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING [Luke 6:27-38](#) Pew Bible, page 60

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Tough Love

Reverend Drumheller

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed, and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all. Amen.

***HYMN 300** *We Are One in the Spirit They'll Know We Are Christians*
During the hymn, ushers will collect your prayers
to be included in the Prayers of the People.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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 *Air from the Suite in D* Johann Sebastian Bach

Doxology *P raise 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 372 *O For a World* Azmon

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Peace I Give to You* Craig Courtney

*POSTLUDE *Allegro from ‘Sonata in F Major’* George Frederick Handel

*All that are able may stand.

We are grateful for your presence 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 Thora Kilde. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

Thanks to Martha Sue Hall and Sarah Womack for sharing their musical leadership in worship today.

Ushers: Jill Niebler, captain; Ella Cumming, Steve Cumming, Heather Deese, Katherine Jolly, and Dona Lisk

Outside Ushers: Brad Boone; John Earnhardt **Elder Greeters:** Lee McLaurin; David Whitley **Nursery:** Cortney Brown **Kids Care Crew:** Gayle & Ned Russell **Children’s Church:** Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Mary Gladys (mother of Ann Crutchfield), John Taylor (international mission worker). **See newsletter for complete list.**

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



Central School Book Fair Volunteers Needed

March 4-8

If you are interested in helping Central School with the Book Fair, please sign-up on the Mission Bulletin Board or contact Ruth Cotton (704-983-2481 or hugawolf@hotmail.com).

The Fellowship Committee will meet following worship in the parlor on Sunday, February 24.

**LENT BEGINS ON MARCH 6
SIGN-UP FOR SMALL STUDY AND CONVERSTATION GROUPS
BEGIN ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24.
SEE JIM CARTER OR LILLIE HANCOCK IN THE PIT STOP
BEFORE OR AFTER WORSHIP FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

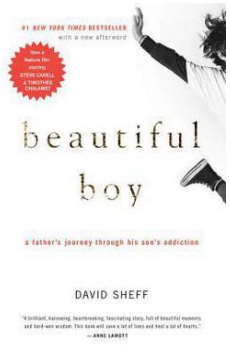
**All Church Read
Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction
By David Sheff**

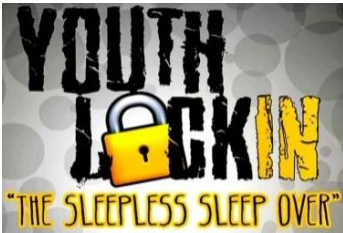
This memoir provides a window into addiction and its effects on families and communities.

**Come for Conversation
Sunday, February 24 at 5:00 p.m.**

As the faith community reaches out to folks in our community affected by addiction, you are invited to share in conversation.

**If you still need a book, contact the office
for the names of folks who may have one you can share**





**Youth Group Lock-In
Friday, March 1-Saturday, March 2**

Plan to arrive at the church at 5:30 p.m. on Friday with pick-up at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. We will be going out for dinner so plan to bring some money. This will be fun night you will not want to miss! For more information and/or to let Dorothy know you are coming, contact her at 828-244-3824 or dhart@fpcalbemarle.org.



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.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 24

- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Fellowship Committee Meeting (Parlor)
- 5:00 pm *Beautiful Boy* Book Conversation
- 5:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Group

Monday, February 25

- 3:30 pm Lent Planning Committee
- 7:00 pm February Book Study – *The Storyteller's Secret*
- 8:00 pm Bible Study w/Matt
- 8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's

Wednesday, February 27

- 6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:30 am Backpack Food Program
- 3:15 pm-5:45 pm Youth Cubs/Youth Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm-9:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, February 28

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting

Friday, March 1

- 5:30 pm Youth Group Lock-In

Saturday, March 2

- 9:00 am Pick-up from Youth Group Lock-In

Sunday, March 3

Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger

- 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch
- 9:45 am *Sunday School
- 11:00 am *Worship
- 12:00 pm Mission Committee

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

FEBRUARY

- 25-Robbie Stevenson
- Ann Upchurch
- 26-Calvin Huneycutt
- 28-Carroll Holbrook
- 29-Cathryn Harwood

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

- 02-Al Andrew
- Jordan Davis
- Luke Davis
- Natalie Niederer
- Ellen Snyder

**SCCM CHALLENGE FOR
FEBRUARY**

Canned Soup & Crackers

**SCCM CHALLENGE FOR
MARCH**

Rice, Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta, Instant Potatoes