



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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August 4, 2019

Gracious
compassionate

Healer

Incomprehensible

Forgiving

Loving

Omnipresent

Accepting

Forgiving
powerful
constant

Loving

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

When somebody you've wronged forgives you, you're spared the dull and self-diminishing throb of a guilty conscience. When you forgive somebody who has wronged you, you're spared the dismal corrosion of bitterness and wounded pride. For both parties, forgiveness means the freedom again to be at peace inside their own skins and to be glad in each other's presence.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING SONGS

Hymn 375

Shall We Gather at the River

stanzas 1 and 2

Hymn 384

Soon and Very Soon

stanzas 1 and 2

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I will praise you, my God and King,

And bless your name forever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

God's greatness is without limit.

God's hand opens,

Satisfying the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is just in all ways,

And kind in all doings.

The Lord is near to all who call,

God hears the cry of those who love him and fulfills their desire.

My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,

And all flesh will bless his holy name.

We have come to worship our God, far above us, and always near to us.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of your name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

*HYMN 610

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Azmon

The Ten-Cents-A-Meal offering for hunger may be brought forward at this time.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

God of past, present, and future, we confess that we live casual lives. Too often, we commit ourselves to things of little consequence and ignore what matters most to you. We are a people of many words, and yet ignorant in the ways of your Word. We are busy with many things, yet slow to respond to others with the love of Jesus Christ. Forgive us. By the power of your Holy Spirit, increase in us a faith sufficient for our time, give us hope whose roots grow deep, and enlarge our hearts so we may love others as you love us.

From
Wishful Thinking
by
Frederick Buechner

Based on
Psalms 145

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***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

Melissa Eudy

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word, may your Spirit rest upon us. Make us steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

[Psalm 51:1-12](#)

Pew Bible, page 492

The leader will read the odd numbered verses; the congregation will respond by reading the even numbered verses.

ANTHEM

Blessed Assurance

arr. John Ness Beck

Ann Crutchfield, Soprano

NEW TESTAMENT READING

[Luke 18:9-14](#)

Pew Bible, page 76

SERMON

Loving the Sinner

Reverend Ayscue

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

How do you understand the words *he will come again to judge the living and the dead?*

Like everyone else, I too must stand in fear and trembling before the judgment seat of Christ. But the Judge is the one who submitted to judgment for my sake. Nothing will be able to separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus my Lord. All the sinful failures that cause me shame will perish as through fire, while any good I may have done will be received with gladness by God.

Will all human beings be saved?

No one will be lost who can be saved. The limits to salvation, whatever they may be, are known only to God. Three truths above all are certain. God is a holy God who is not to be trifled with. No one will be saved except by grace alone. And no judge could possibly be more gracious than our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN 286**

Breathe on Me Breath of God

Trentham

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

Glory to God hymnal
page 582

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

Romans 10:8b
Psalm 91:9

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

From the *Belonging to God* Catechisms. In the question and answer format of the Westminster Shorter Catechisms, the *Belonging to God* Catechisms were adopted by the General Assembly of the PCUSA in 1998. Using the language of the catechisms in worship makes explicit the faith commitment of the church.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER Joyce Lambert, liturgist

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Sarabande

George Frederick Handel

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 435

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

In Babilone

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Allegro

Arcangelo Corelli

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

Thanks to Ann Crutchfield, soloist, for sharing her musical talents with us today.

Thanks to Joyce Lambert for serving as liturgist today.

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

There is no Children’s Church in the summer. School-aged children are encouraged to remain in worship. Nursery is available for newborns-preschoolers.

Thanks to Sarah and Ronnie Michael for hosting lemonade on the lawn today.

Ushers: Jack Morton, captain; Kyle Barbee, Taylor Barbee, John Earnhardt, Brent Lisk, Grant Lisk, Greg Lisk, Penny Morton, Jeff Robertson, Kim Robertson **Outside Ushers:** Greg Lisk; Kyle Marks **Elder Greeters:** Ben Jolly; Debbie Wainwright **Nursery and Kids Care Crew:** Kristie Bryson; Elizabeth Bryson

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Cam Rogers, David Morgan, Don Joines, Jim Sawyer, Mark Mabry, Jane Pickler (pancreatic cancer), Davis Fort. **See newsletter for complete list.**



Save the Date for Vespers & Homemade Ice Cream
Sunday, August 11 at 7:00 p.m. At the home of Connie Wallace & Ken Knight
(45118 Byrd Road, Albemarle)



Due to the painting of the GHA Autism Supports office,
their parking lot is closed until further notice.
The GHA staff requests that First Presbyterian Church
friends and members not park in the lot
until the painting is complete...this includes Sundays.
We will notify you when GHA opens the parking lot. Thank you.

Central Elementary School Supplies List

The 2019-2020 school year will be here soon and school supplies are in stores ready for purchase. Please take the list below and begin shopping for much needed supplies for our partner school, Central Elementary. A designated bin in the pit stop will receive your donation.

Monetary donations for uniform shirts would be greatly appreciated.

Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and in the memo put: CES uniform donation

Your donations are needed in the pit stop by Sunday, August 18.

If you shop at OfficeMax/OfficeDepot, Central Elementary School will receive 5% back. At checkout, present ID number 70060235.

Student Supplies

Crayons – 8, 16, or 24 count Crayola brand only
Glue Sticks
#2 Pencils
#2 Beginner Jumbo Pencils (for Kindergarten students)
Composition Hard Cover Wide-Ruled books (not spiral bound)
Scissors (child & youth sizes)
Pink Pearl Eraser
Card Stock Paper
Dry Erase Markers (small size)
Notebook Paper (wide-ruled & regular-ruled)
Small Zipper Pencil Pouch or Pencil Box
Dividers with pockets
Spiral Notebooks with pockets
Plain Solid 2-pocket folders
Pocket folders with prongs
2” 3-ring binders
Pencil top erasers
1 pk. Highlighters
Colored Pencils
Colored Paper
3x5 index cards
Ear Buds
Ear Phones
Small Pencil Sharpener
Sticky Notes

Classroom Supplies Needed Include:

Lysol or Clorox Wipes, Kleenex, Baby Wipes, Hand Sanitizer, Paper Towels, Band-aids, and Ziplock Sandwich Bags (Quart and Gallon)



**Welcome Back Brunch for Matt
Sunday, August 18 in the Gym**

Bring your favorite breakfast or brunch food, and we'll enjoy a casual meal together following worship.

**BACK TO SCHOOL LUNCHEON FOR CENTRAL SCHOOL TEACHERS & STAFF
MONDAY, AUGUST 19 AT 11:45 A.M. IN THE CHURCH GYM**

Please sign-up to help and/or serve with food (salad and/or dessert) on the Mission bulletin board.
Food needs to be in the church kitchen by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, August 19.

OPIOID LUNCH & LEARN

Topic: Breaking Free...Hope & Restoration Found Through Recovery
Speaker: Treena Norwood from Bridge to Recovery
Tuesday, August 20 from Noon-1:00 p.m. in the Pit Stop
Bring your lunch! Drinks and dessert provided!



**Worship Workshop for Rising 3rd-5th Graders
Sunday, August 25 beginning at 3:00 p.m.**



If you are the parent of a rising 3rd-5th grader, please be on the lookout for your invitation for our Worship Workshop on Sunday, August 25. Fun activities designed to introduce the elements of worship will be enjoyed by parents and children together. This workshop prepares your child to experience a deeper relationship with God through regular worship. For more information, contact Elizabeth (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).

Would You Like To Be A Silent Partner?

First Presbyterian Church college students will soon begin the 2019-2020 school year. We need people to serve as a Silent Partner to these college students. The Silent Partner remains anonymous to the student but maintains contact by sending cards, and/or small packages of helpful college items such as favorite snacks, small school supplies, or gift cards for fast food or coffee, etc.

The feedback each year from the college students is very positive. Won't you support one of our students in this way?

Contact the church office at 704-982-2722 to sign-up to be a Silent Partner.





**Save the Date
Back-to-School
Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, August 25 during worship**

Book Conversation

Monday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor

Books available in the church office for \$12.00.

The Book: *Sold on a Monday* by Kristina McMorris

This New York Times bestselling novel is set during the Great Depression and chronicles the way in which a moment's fateful choice can result in a lifetime of harrowing consequences. Themes of loss, redemption, love, and grace abound.

Thanks for your Generosity

Through your generosity, 447 pounds of food and staple items were donated to SCCM during Circle the Sanctuary in July. Thank you for your help in meeting needs in Stanly County.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY FLOWERS



On Grandparents' Day, the flowers in the sanctuary will be in honor/memory of grandparents. Each name is \$2.00. Please mail, deliver, or place in the offering plate your money with the form below **NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and designate for *Grandparents' Day Flowers*. The names of donors and those being honored/remembered will be listed on **Grandparents' Day, September 8**. Any money collected over the cost of the flowers will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY FLOWERS

Please print below the information exactly as it is to appear in the bulletin.

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 4

Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger

10:00 am *Worship

11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (pit stop)

11:00 am Mission Committee

Monday, August 5

8:00 pm Bible Study at Off the Square

Wednesday, August 7

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, August 8

10:30 am Staff Meeting

Sunday, August 11

8:45 am Diaconate

10:00 am *Worship

11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn (pit stop)

7:00 pm Summer Vespers at the home of

Connie Wallace & Ken Knight (45118 Byrd Rd., Albemarle)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

AUGUST

04-Terrie Holshouser

05-Caroline McLeod

07-Greg Lisk

Keith Wolf

08-Leslie Carter

Martha Sue Hall

Mellanie Hendrix

09-Hugh Wainwright

10-Judy Murrell

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

AUGUST

06-Gus & Pam Holbrook

11-Bob & Debby Johnston

*childcare provided

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR AUGUST

Canned or Dried Beans, Canned Tomatoes, Rice



**LEMONADE ON THE LAWN
SUNDAYS FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN THE PIT STOP**

Stop by to connect with your church family
over lemonade and tasty treats!

Gardening for SCCM



If you have extra garden produce, consider sharing it at the designated table in the Pit Stop. Church members who need it can take some for a donation. Contributions and extra produce will be donated to SCCM.

DINNERS FOR 7



Dinners for 7 will return in the fall. These dinner groups will gather (in home, restaurants, or around a picnic table in the park) once a month through the fall. Sign-up to be part of one and make new connections.

Consider this call – We are seeking folks to serve in several areas of our Christian Education program. Would you be willing to share your faith and life experience with children or teens for a couple hours each month? Please pray about this opportunity and let Elizabeth know how you might help (eayscue@fpcalbemarle.org or 704-982-2722).