

# The Weekly Bulletin FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina Matt Drumheller, Pastor

Church Offices: (704) 982-2722 Website: www.fpcalbemarle.org

November 8, 2020

#### **GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

MORNING MEDITATION

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.

PRELUDE In Christ There Is No East or West Healey Willan

PEALING OF THE BELLS

**OPENING SENTENCES** 

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Ellie Niederer

The Lord watches over the strangers;

God upholds those who are in need.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP Gayle Russell, liturgist

Let us open our minds to God's teaching;

And tune our ear to God's Word.

Let us listen to the stories of the faith of our ancestors;

And share our stories with our children.

We put our trust in God;

We worship the one who gives us life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of heaven and earth, God of the sunrise and the sunset, God of the highest mountain and the deepest valley, hear our prayers as we come before your throne of glory. Declare your message to us and grant us the courage to listen. May our listening turn to action. May our actions touch the hearts of those who need to hear your voice. We put our trust in you knowing that it is well placed in your gentle and caring hands. Amen.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Psalm 146:9

Psalm 78

Psalm 78

First Presbyterian Church Worship Archive January 26, 2020 **HYMN 401** 

#### Here in This Place

Gather Us In

Here in this place the new light is streaming; Now is the darkness vanished away; See in this space our fears and our dreamings Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; Here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

> Not in the dark of buildings confining, Not in some heaven, light years away: Here in this place the new light is shining; Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Leviticus 19:18

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silence

God, you call us to love our neighbor, to care for the widow, the orphan, and the weakest among us. Yet, far too often, we tend to our own selfish needs rather than caring for those in need. You have charged us to do the difficult work of love, but we would rather care for and about ourselves. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us for abandoning love for selfishness.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

First Presbyterian Church Worship Archive May 17, 2015 RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri

Meineke

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

At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, children in grades K-2<sup>nd</sup> are encouraged to join Duncan Bryson, Elizabeth Bryson, and Kristie Bryson for Children's Church via Zoom. The link for the Zoom call can be found in yesterday's worship email.

**ANTHEM** 

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

Leo Sowerby

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:

He that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

The Lord is my keeper; thy shade upon thy right hand.

The sun shall not smite thee by day, not the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil,
He shall preserve thy soul,
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in
From this time forth, and even for evermore. Amen.

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 27:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON** 

*Justice* – *An Act of Love* 

Reverend Drumheller

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged. God calls the church to follow Him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps the orphans and widows, and blocks the path of the ungodly. The church must, therefore, stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

First Presbyterian Church Worship Archive October 20, 2019

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

This affirmation is based on a section of the Confession of Belhar. This confession was written in Apartheid-era South Africa. First Presbyterian Church Worship Archive March 11, 2018 **HYMN 756** 

## O God of Every Nation

Llangloffan

O God of every nation, of every race and land, Redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand. Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled, In love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right, From trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night, Form pride of race and station and blindness to your way, Deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.

Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release From fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; When hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard; With faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.

Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, When hatred and division give way to love and peace, Till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign And Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory Magnificat, Op. 18, No. 14

Marcel Dupré

Prayer of Dedication

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

First Presbyterian Church Worship Archive June 10, 2018 BENEDICTION RESPONSE New Testament Benediction Christian Gregor
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen.

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PERMISSIONS: In Christ There Is No East or West from 36 Short Preludes and Postludes on Well-known Hymn Tunes for Organ, Set 1, Music: St. Peter, Healey Willan (1880-1968) © 1960, C. F. Peters Corp., Used with permission under One License A-709512. Here in this Place, Text and music: Gather Us In, Marty Haugen, 1979 (b. 1950) © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission under One License A-709512. Glory Be to the Father, Text: Lesser Doxology 3rd - 4th century, Music: Meineke. Charles Meineke (1782-1850). Public domain. I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes, Text: Psalm 121, Music: Leo Sowerby (1895-1968). © 1920, Boston Music Company. Public domain. Magnificat, Op. 18, No. 14, Marcel Dupré (1886-1971) © 1920, H. W. Gray. Used with permission under One License A-709512. O God of Every Nation, Text: William Watkins Reid (1923-2007), © 1958, ren. 1986, The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company), All rights reserved. Used by permission under One License A-709512. Music: Llangloffan, Welsh folk melody; Llwybrau Moliant, 1872, harm. The English Hymnal, 1906. Public domain. New Testament Benediction, Text: 2 Corinthians 13:14, Music: Christian Gregor, 1763, (1723-1801). Public domain.

Thank you to Ken Knight and Andy McLeod for helping to create this morning's video, and to Gayle Russell for her participation in worship.

The acolyte today is Ellie Niederer.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Ann Hatcher (mother of Ann Snuggs; recovering from fall), Gus Feather, Judy Ross (diagnosis of pancreatic cancer; friend of Tom & Holly Norwood), Lauren Reder (niece of Laura & Mike McLeod), Bede Karr, Sandy Saunders, Ann Upchurch, Banks Garrison, Yoder Whitley, Jean Rabe, Jane Scheer, Don Joines, Jane Pickler. See newsletter for complete list.



# **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 Donations may be dropped off at the church.

Packing Date: Wednesday, November 11 at 10:30 a.m. 



# The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, November 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the Pit Stop. Please contact Peggy Finley 704-985-1136 or maf447@windstream.net if you have questions. 

## **Angel Tree 2020**

There is an ornament waiting for you or your group on the Christmas tree in the Pit Stop. Beginning Tuesday, November 10, you are invited to stop by and select one or more with the name of a Central Elementary School student or their sibling. The building is usually open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9 am to 5 pm, but please call ahead to be sure someone will be there to let you in. If you are unable to stop by the church building when it is open, please contact Peggy Finley to make other arrangements.

You will be provided with not only their Christmas gift wish-list but guidelines for how best to bring delight to that child on Christmas Day. Be sure to fill in your name or the name of your group/ family on the appropriate lines (s) on the sign-up sheet. Each child's name is linked to a specific number on the sheet. The unwrapped gifts need to be returned

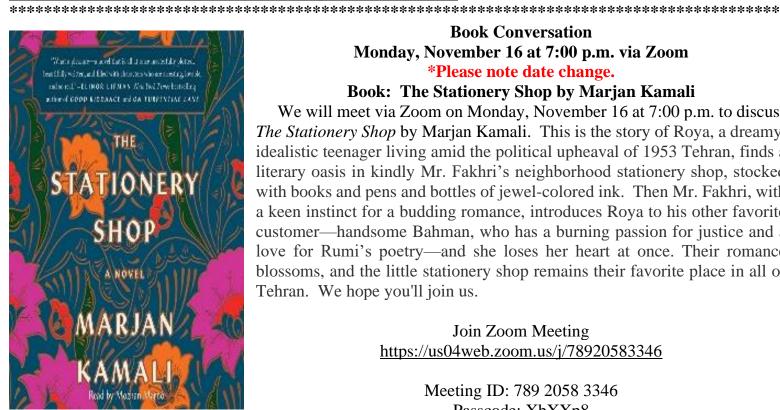


to the church in a large plastic bag by **Sunday**, **December 6**. Should you have any questions, contact Peggy Finley at 704/985-1136 or maf447@windtsream.net.

## **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

Packing a shoebox will be the best gift that you can give a child because he/she will also receive the great, good news of Jesus, our Savior. Each child who receives a shoebox also receives a colorful book in their own language which tells them the story of Jesus. It is estimated that at least 30 family members or friends will also read the book. Plastic preprinted boxes are available in the church Pit Stop. Please pick up a box with suggestions/directions for packing, fill your box, and return it to the church office by Thursday, November 12. The shoeboxes will be dedicated in worship on November 15.





# **Book Conversation** Monday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom \*Please note date change.

**Book: The Stationery Shop by Marjan Kamali** 

We will meet via Zoom on Monday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss The Stationery Shop by Marjan Kamali. This is the story of Roya, a dreamy, idealistic teenager living amid the political upheaval of 1953 Tehran, finds a literary oasis in kindly Mr. Fakhri's neighborhood stationery shop, stocked with books and pens and bottles of jewel-colored ink. Then Mr. Fakhri, with a keen instinct for a budding romance, introduces Roya to his other favorite customer—handsome Bahman, who has a burning passion for justice and a love for Rumi's poetry—and she loses her heart at once. Their romance blossoms, and the little stationery shop remains their favorite place in all of Tehran. We hope you'll join us.

> Join Zoom Meeting https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78920583346

> > Meeting ID: 789 2058 3346 Passcode: XbXXp8

# **SCCM FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:**

Peanut Butter Navy Beans

**Great Northern Beans** Jelly Mayonnaise Cannellini Beans Mustard Lima Beans Kidney Beans Ketchup Cream Corn **Evaporated Milk** Self-Rising Flour Chicken Broth

All-Purpose Flour Beef Broth

Tomato Soup Pre-Sweetened Cereal

Cream of Mushroom Soup Applesauce

Cream of Chicken Soup Canned Pineapple **Canned Potatoes Canned Peaches Canned Pears** Spaghetti

Black Eye Peas Canned Fruit Cocktail **Sliced Carrots Canned Mandarin Oranges** 

Mixed Vegetables **Beef Stew** 

Green Beans Canned Chicken

## **OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

## Sunday, November 8

9:00 am Diaconate Meeting via Zoom

9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom

10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom

11:00 am Online Worship

5:00 pm Youth Group at Pelicans

# Monday, November 9

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8:00 pm Monday Night Bible Study with Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study with Debby Johnston &

Jack Morton at the home of Debby & Bob Johnston

(1212 Heritage Drive, Albemarle)

# Wednesday, November 11

Veteran's Day

6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast Zoom Meeting

10:00 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10:30 am Staff Meeting

10:30 am Backpack Food Program

1:00 pm Online Story Time (Preschoolers)

1:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Pit Stop)

3:30 pm-4:00 pm Youth Club Trusty Travelers (K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders) via Zoom

4:00 pm-4:30 pm Youth Club Faith Explorers (4th & 5th graders) via Zoom

## Thursday, November 12

Deadline to return Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes to the church office

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study with Catherine & Matt Moeller

# Sunday, November 15

Dedication of Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

8:30 am Session Meeting via Zoom

9:45 am-10:30 am Adult Sunday School via Zoom

10:15 am Children & Youth Sunday School via Zoom

11:00 am Online Worship

1:00 pm-4:00 pm New Officer Training

3:30-5:30 pm S'mores Night (lower parking lot)

\*

All staff members are working at home whenever possible, and the church building is closed most of the time. The church's answering machine is being checked periodically; however, in case of an emergency, please contact Matt (540.449.5319) directly.

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 HAPPY BIRTHDAY! NOVEMBER

08-Leni Henkenjohann Nancy Joines Mary Louise Sawyer

09-Ann Duckwall Ross Holshouser Sarah Newport

11-Rose Saltzman Bill Stevenson

12-Jay Andrew

13-Lori Ivey

14-Carol Sasser

This week's worship video will become available at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. access the worship video, go to the church's website (www.fpcalbemarle.org) and click on the worship banner or search for the church on YouTube and click on the appropriate video.

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

Click on the GIVE button.