

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, December 11 Third Sunday of Advent

- 7:45AM Staff Meeting
- 9:30AM Children's Choir (in choir room)
- 9:30AM Youth Choir (in sanctuary)
- 11:00AM Worship
- 4:00PM The Ark Encounter Informational Meeting
- 5:00PM Deacon's Meeting
- 5:00PM Youth

TUESDAY, December 13

- 6:00PM Property Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY, December 14

- 12:00PM Community Advent Service at Christ Episcopal Church
- 5:15PM Fellowship Meal – Christmas Meal
- 6:00PM Blue Christmas Service
- 7:00PM Sanctuary Choir

SUNDAY, December 18 Christmas Cantata

Sunday School Attendance 12/04	168
Worship Attendance 12/04	188
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$11,144.04
Budget Receipts 11/27	\$8,382.68
YTD Budget Receipts 11/30	\$485,944.73
YTD Expenses thru 11/30	\$528,600.31
Capital Campaign Receipts (thru 11-27)	\$202,285.00
Capital Campaign Commitments	\$278,595.00

Want to take a trip to the Ark? An information/interest meeting will be held in the fellowship hall on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 4pm for a 4 days/3 nights trip to Williamstown, KY to visit The Ark Encounter created by the Amish community. If you have questions, please contact Lina Chandler at [704-982-8877](tel:704-982-8877).

SCCM need for December is toiletries.

ANGEL TREE

A few Angle Tree names are still available. They are posted on the bulletin board behind the sanctuary. Help make Christmas joyous for a local student in need. Please return gifts to the church office by Monday, December 19.

MEMORIALS

General Fund

Christine Snuggs by Jack & Susan Phillips
Ethel Still by Jack & Susan Phillips
Ramelle Faulkner by Don Bennett
Christine Snuggs by Don Bennett
Jim & Sadie Sanges by Jane Sanges

Organ Fund

C. B Crook, Jr. by Jack Cooper
Buck Hill by Jack Cooper

HONORARIA

Music Fund

The Music Program by Priscilla Perry

General Fund

Todd Kimrey by Don Bennett

Organ Fund

Pat Wilson by the Gleaners Sunday School Class
Ann Brewer by the Gleaners Sunday School Class

Here is your *TIE* to



Church Office: 704-982-2111. 982-2119(fax). info@fbc-albemarle.org
Andy Jung, Senior Pastor, (704-985-3103) andy@fbc-albemarle.org
Michael Furr, Assoc. Pastor of Family Ministries,
(704-984-1232) michael@fbc-albemarle.org
Aza Hudson, Director of Music Programming, aza@fbc-albemarle.org
Sandra Stone, Financial Secretary, sandra@fbc-albemarle.org
Judy Fraley, Food Service Director, judy@fbc-albemarle.org
Todd Kimrey, Facility Manager, (704-791-0431) todd@fbc-albemarle.org

Deadline for submissions is Tuesday noon.

Volume 63

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2016 GOAL: \$9,000.00
Given thru 12/4: \$8,415.00

Please continue to pray for our missionaries around the world! Missions offering will be collected through the end of the year.



December 14, 2016
6:00PM

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Non-Profit Org.

From the Desk of Andy Jung...

For many people, the approaching Christmas holiday does not bring with it the joy and happiness that is advertised on television or in greeting cards. They may be facing a holiday after the death of a loved one or after a divorce. Perhaps they have been unable to have a child, or have suffered through an emotional trauma. Or perhaps they feel pressured and overwhelmed by holiday preparations.

Many of us are grieving or are in some kind of pain. We need a sacred space to acknowledge and release their hurts to the One who promises to bind up the broken hearted. The Blue Christmas Service provides a safe place for all to express our hurts to God who gives us comfort and hope.

The God of strength moves within us;

The God of courage hears our distress.

The God of hope reveals wholeness to us;

The God of healing touches us when we are broken.

When the pain overwhelms us, when the burden is too heavy,

We turn to our God, who is sustaining and redeeming.

When there is loneliness, when there is isolation,

We turn to our God, who is loving and present.

For God created us, redeemed us and sustains us,

And we are not alone.

Lead us in your ways, O God, and bring us your healing touch.

Do you know someone who can benefit from a sacred space to express their hurts and their distress? Pray for those who are “blue” this Christmas season and consider inviting those you know to this special service on Wednesday, December 14 at 6pm in the sanctuary.

This Sunday, we continue in our Advent journey, we will consider how the birth of Jesus was the beginning of the reclamation of humanity. Join us as we prepare our hearts for the coming of the King of kings and Lord of lords. See you on Sunday. Andy

Deacon of the Week

Bill Burnside

December 11 – December 17

Our Church Family

Continual Care: Mildred Archer, Mildred Cooper, Joan English, Mary Furr, Ann Gaskin, Frances Newton, Helen Mauldin, Jack Bane, Max Clayton, Aileen Taylor, Herman Faulkner, Helen Lockamy, Barbara Hicks, Mary Sullivan, Carl Bowen, Mary Whitley, David & Sandy Young, David Sanges, Lu Phelps, Bear Knotts, Pete Johnson, Peggy Hill, Frank Crisco, Geraldine Causby, Don Bennett

PRAYER LIST

Steve Sasser, Sue Hunsucker, Linda Hall, Don & Carol Brummitt, Jim Mauney, Bonnie Herring, Bill & Lois Greene, Helen Lockamy, AnDe Dick, Linda Carter, Kurt Kitchener, Adam, Beth & Grayson Boysworth, Mary Sue Lynch, Jackie Harward, Tonia Icenhour, Jack Neel, Jane Pendergraft, Nancy Brigman, Keith Garber, Bud Morton, Gay Hayer, Sylvia Scholl, Jont Johnson, Diane Huneycutt Powell

Community Christmas Dinner

FBC has committed to preparing food for the Downtown Community Christmas dinner. The sign up sheet has been and will continue to be distributed in the Sunday School classes. The sheet details what has to be prepared and cooked and how much. The food can be taken to First Presbyterian Church on Friday, December 23rd, between 1 and 4PM or Saturday, December 24th, between 8 AM and noon. The sign up sheet also allows you the opportunity to volunteer to help out at the luncheon. Thank you for your consideration.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Foreign Missions Offering with the purchase of the Christmas bags the Girls in Action decorated. Your donations totaled \$180!

YOUTH SCHEDULE

Dec. 11 5pm Regular Youth

Dec. 18 5pm Youth Progressive Dinner

Dec. 25 NO Youth – Christmas Day

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

I love Christmas. It is a wonderful time of year. It provides a time to be with friends and a time for food and family. It is a time to think of others and exchange gifts. As we navigate through this time of advent and approach the Christmas holiday, let us also take time to remember the meaning of this holiday. We are preparing for and then celebrating the arrival of our savior.

One of the major suggestions coming from the Sticky Faith study is for families to establish rituals. Practices that keep the family connected to faith together. Although this wonderful time of year is extremely busy, it seems to me that it can offer a perfect opportunity to begin refocusing your family’s spiritual direction by adding some new traditions that are Christ centered. Whether you pray together before opening your presents or find time to read scripture before going to bed on Christmas Eve, I believe that every family can find simple ways to bring faith into their Christmas celebrations. Michael

Ecclesia Communities are learning groups that will



meet on Wednesday nights for the months of January and February. Five different communities are available for you to choose from. These communities will take the place of the

regular Wednesday night Bible study. An information brochure and registration table is located outside of the church office. Sign up for an Ecclesia Community!