

TO MAKE KNOWN THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST

FOCUS

Albemarle Road Presbyterian Church

6740 Albemarle Road • P. O. Box 25903 • Charlotte, NC 28229-5903 • Telephone 704-537-1204
Fax 704-537-1284 • www.arpcusa.org • Email: newsletter@arpcusa.org

Communion Worship - 8:00 a.m. * Praise Breakfast - 8:30 a.m. * Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. * Worship 10:30 a.m.

Volume 44, No. 10

October 2009

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Fall is here! It is perhaps my favorite season (but "I hate to see October go," as Nancy Wilson used to sing. All seasons are great! Fall finds the ARPC family very busy and we are excited with all that God is gifting us with...

World Communion — Crop Walk — Chancel Choir's Montreat Workshop — Alpha — Saints Alive — Communion Worship at 8 o'clock — Praise Breakfast — Weddings...

And let's not forget to go apple picking up in the mountains. Let us thank God for all God's good gifts.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Ron

Volunteers Needed

Our children need you to serve in the Nursery - Not just on Sundays, but for all the other occasions during the year. These include Alpha meetings, Christmas Eve Service, Annual Meeting, Ash Wednesday, Lenten Bible Study, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Committee meetings, and Workdays. There are many opportunities: One (or two) of them is right for you. Sign-ups will be in the narthex before and after church, or call Nancy Parker at 704-536-3384, Brigitte McLemore or Martha Blackmon.



New Sunday School Schedule

for 4-year-olds through 5th graders

Sunday School begins 9:15 a.m.
Choir begins 9:20 a.m.
Return to Sunday School 9:40

Choir practice will take place in the 4-K classroom.

The teachers for these grades are:

Three-year-olds:

Mrs. Jane Killough and Mrs. Peggy Woods.

Four-year-olds and Kindergarteners:

Mrs. Mary Ann Ogle, Mrs. Brenley Ogden and Mrs. Fran Williams

First- through Fourth-graders:

Mr. Paul Williams will teach this group with the help of Shepherds.

KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE



Join us for a series of sermons based on the Apostles' Creed in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin and in celebration of the Alpha ministry.

- October 4 World Communion, Pastor Al Denson preaching.
- October 11 Jesus Christ Suffered, Crucified, Buried
- October 18 The Third Day He Rose from the Dead
- October 25 JOHN CALVIN SUNDAY - The Holy Spirit
- November 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY - Ordination of Brian Daoust to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament
- November 8 The Holy Catholic Church - Guest Preacher
- November 15 The Forgiveness of Sins
- November 22 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY - The Resurrection of the Body and the Life Everlasting

We are Family Retreat

Load up the bus and come to the mountains to enjoy God's out-of-doors and fellowship with your church family. Mark your calendars for October 30, 31, and November 1. See the enclosed brochure and sign-up form. Fill it out and return it to Rob after you have decided to get away with 'the family.'



Sympathy

The congregation of ARPC extends love and sympathy to:

- Carolyn Tansey on the death of her mother, Hazel Logue, of Sanford, NC, on Sunday, August 30, 2009.
- Sylvia Weedman and her family on the death of Roy Weedman on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. Roy and Sylvia joined ARPC in 2005.

Thank You

Dear ARPC Family,
Please accept my thanks and eternal love for all of the visits, the cards, and most especially the prayers for Roy during his 32-day battle and following his death. Your kindness and thoughtfulness will never be forgotten. Roy loved and appreciated ARPC and I look forward to being back in worship with you as soon as I am able.

Sylvia Weedman

Congratulations

ARPC celebrates new births in the extended church family!

- Andrew Finnegan McDonald, son of Ben and Melissa Ashcraft McDonald, born Thursday, September 10, in Charlotte. Andrew weighed 8 pound, 6 ounces. His proud grandparents are James and Bleeka Ashcraft.
- Caleb Ross Shearer, son of Ross and Kim Shearer, born Friday, September 11, in Pennsylvania. Caleb weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 20^{1/2} inches long. His delighted grandparents are Dan and Lee Shearer.
- Alanna Rose Fleming is the granddaughter of John Fleming and the niece of Tori. Alanna is the daughter of Stephanie, and she was born August 27, weighed 5 lb, 8 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.



Serving ARPC in October

NURSERY

Sunday School

- Oct. 4 Nancy McLemore, Martha Blackmon
- Oct. 11 Diann Pallman, Debra Stavrakas
- Oct. 18 Kim and Mike Hall
- Oct. 25 Katie Blackwelder, Jane Hutchko

Worship

- Oct. 4 Eric and Melissa Troutman
John Fleming, Brigette McLemore
- Oct. 11 Dana Baker, John Walls, Peggy Woods
- Oct. 18 Troy and Nichole Disser
Katy and Joe Leischner
- Oct. 25 Jenks Mackay, Jeni Carder
Erik and Maggie Blackwelder

Children's Church

- Oct. 4 Kim and Adam Jackson
- Oct. 11 Melissa and Eric Troutman
- Oct. 18 Polly and Jason Rowell
- Oct. 25 Mindi Gerrard, Fran Williams

HEAD USHERS AND ASSISTANTS

- Oct. 4 Dan McLemore, Nancy McLemore
- Oct. 11 Dan McLemore, Nancy McLemore
- Oct. 18 Bob Saye, Pam Saye
- Oct. 25 Bob Saye, Pam Saye

Deacon of the month: Bob Saye

Elder of the month: Dan McLemore

Recent Illnesses

Jane Hutchko

Pam Saye

Eva Helms

FOCUS DEADLINE

Items are due on the
20th of each month at 10 a.m.
Mark this on your calendar
for each month.

Our Faithfulness for September 2009

	09/06/09	09/13/09	09/20/09
2009 Budget to date	\$335,856.60	345,185.95	354,515.30
Received toward Budget to date	266,557.00	273,480.25	279,041.25
Received on Budget per Sunday	11,871.55	6,923.25	5,561.00
Needed per Sunday	9,329.35	9,329.35	9,329.35
Church School Attendance	75	***	93
Worship Attendance	185	167	181
2009 Building Maintenance Fund:			
Received toward pledge to date	\$23,727.46	24,037.96	24,241.46
Received per Sunday	543.50	310.50	203.50

September 5¢-a-Meal Offerings (thru September 20) total \$106.19

October 5¢-a-Meal Offerings will be collected Sunday, October 4, 2009



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

by Rob Chambers

Please Pray for Alpha!

If you have never taken the Alpha course before you are missing something. Alpha is an eleven-week study of the basics of Christianity. It is a great evangelism tool. It is a great way to introduce people to Christianity. It is a great way to motivate people who have left the Church to come back to it. And surprisingly, it is a very good discipleship tool as well. Numerous ARPC church members have been through the program, including elders, Sunday School teachers, and staff members; and the overwhelming majority have given very good feedback. Surveys are passed out at the end of each Alpha course, and the responses are always extremely positive.

This time around with Alpha, we have made a determined effort to invite people from outside the church. The plans are going very well, and it looks like we will have at least three small groups lined up, with many of the guests coming from outside the church. Please pray for Alpha. They will be meeting Monday nights, beginning September 28, and ending November 30. There will be a weekend away, November 7 and 8. This is the "Holy Spirit weekend," and is a significant part of the

program. Please pray for the leaders, Dan and Lee Shearer and their young adult Bible study group, that they will continue to be faithful and be used by God. Please pray for our guests, that they will hear the gospel, believe, and receive the Holy Spirit.

If you wanted to participate but missed your chance, pray that Alpha will be presented again in the near future. Alpha is labor intensive, with people needed to be small group leaders and helpers, to prepare and serve the meals, to keep children in the nursery, to lead worship and to coordinate the whole thing. If you are interested in attending or helping out with future Alpha, tell Dan Shearer or Rob Chambers (who is not responsible for planning or leading this one).

If you act quickly, you can still invite a friend to Alpha. If you missed your chance to invite a friend to this one, keep praying for your friends, and hopefully you can invite them to the next one. And pray about how you might volunteer to help out on the next one. It is an exciting process in which to be involved.

ARPC Youth Mission Statement: Our mission is to pursue a growing relationship with God daily as we pray, worship, study, fellowship, serve and witness.



Youth News

If you are in the 5th through 12th grades, come join us on Sunday nights 5 - 7 p.m., and learn to walk by faith. That is our theme this fall. It describes the journey of discipleship, walking with Jesus day by day. That is a walk we need to take together. As Christians we need one another. Our goal is to be a committed group of disciples. Come and join the journey of faith, and let us encourage one another.

Ask your friends to walk or sponsor you in the CROP Walk. Raise money for those in need.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 4

CROP Walk - Lunch will be provided for the walkers after worship in the FLC. Join us for lunch and fellowship. The walk begins at 2:00, and we should be back to the church between 3:30 and 4:00.

Sunday, October 4

CROP Walk - No Youth meetings

Sunday, October 11

Regular Youth Schedule

Saturday, October 17

MYC Fun Trip - Stay tuned for details.

Sunday, October 18

Regular Youth Schedule

Sunday, October 25

Regular Youth Schedule



Order Your Christmas Poinsettias/ Wreaths

It's time once again to plan the decoration of our church for the celebration of Advent and Christmas. As part of this effort, we invite you to share in the joy as we place beautiful Poinsettias and fresh Wreaths in the church and on the campus in honor or memory of a friend or loved one. Please fill out the form below and drop it in the offering plate or return it to the church office with your check if you are interested in participating. The cost per plant is \$7.50 and per wreath is \$15.00. Make checks payable to ARPC marked for "Poinsettias" or "Wreaths." Orders and money should be turned in by Sunday, November 8. Wreaths will be placed on the campus on November 28. Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on December 6. A list of all memorial and honor gifts will be published in the December 6 bulletin. Poinsettias can be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

Poinsettia/Wreath Order Form

I will give _____ Poinsettias at \$7.50 each.
 I will give _____ Wreaths at \$15.00 each
 In honor of _____

 In memory of _____

 Given by _____

Operation: Christmas Child in Need of Shoe Boxes

Operation Christmas Child is short on shoe boxes this year. The Mission Committee asks that you begin collecting shoe boxes and/or plastic containers (found at the dollar store) for packing our Christmas Child boxes. Please bring them to Marilyn Michue so she can make them available to share with the congregation.



PW Coordinating Team



The Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet at 7 p.m. in the FLC on Monday, October 26, 2009

Small Group News

The Covenant Small Group will meet on October 22, 2009. Sam and Gloria Jones will host this meeting.



Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings

Circle #1 will meet on **Monday, October 12, in Calvin Hall at 10:30 a.m.**

Circle #3 will meet on **October 14, 2009, at 9:45 a.m.** in the church parlor. The Moderator will be Martie White and our Hostess is Karin Boling. We will be collecting money for school uniforms.

Circle #4 will meet **Thursday, October 1, at the home of Martha Blackmon.** Carol Edwards will have our Bible Study on Joshua. Our October mission will be desserts for Alpha. Please bring desserts on Sunday, September 27, or Monday, September 28, clearly marked for Alpha. Bring a sandwich and join us for study, fun and fellowship.

Circle #5 will meet on **Monday, October 12, at 7 p.m.** The meeting will take place in the Family Life Center, as the Alpha program will be using the Chapel Building. Please remember to participate in the Crop Walk, either as walkers or sponsors, which is on October 4. Also a reminder that several of our members will be bringing desserts for the Alpha program for that Monday night. Susan Culbreth will be the Moderator and will lead us in Lesson 9. Hostesses will be Gloria Jones and Marilyn Michue.

Circle #6 will meet on **Thursday, October 8, 2009, at 7 p.m.**

How to Get the Newsletter Before the Mailman Arrives

Here at ARPC, we publish the *Focus* newsletter online each month. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter in this fashion, we would be pleased to send you a notification via email when it is published: You would no longer receive the *Focus* through the mail. To receive this service, you will need to send a message to Treva at Treva@arpcusa.org with your email address and a note.

If you prefer to receive the *Focus* through the mail as usual, you do not need to do anything!

Thank you for allowing us to be so flexible. This will allow us to 'go green' by reducing paper use and miles traveled.



Albemarle Road Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 25903
Charlotte, NC 28229-5903

Address Service Requested



We walk because they walk.
Charlotte CROP Walk
Sunday, October 4, 2009

Walkers, join us after worship in the Family Life Center for lunch before going to the CROP walk. Lunch will be provided.

If you have not signed up, please see Bleeka Ashcraft for forms.

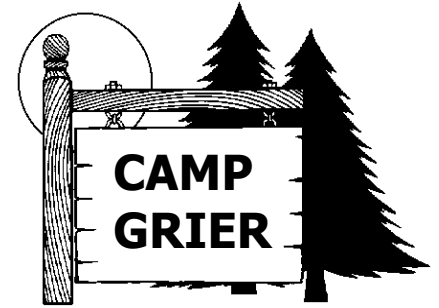
If you do not plan to walk, please sponsor a walker.

Twenty-five percent of the funds raised each year stays in Charlotte and is directed to three local agencies: Loaves & Fishes, Crisis Assistance Ministry, and Second Harvest Food Bank. The balance of the money goes to International Aid agency, Church World Service, to provide disaster and hunger relief around the world.



Seventeenth Annual
**We Are Family
Retreat**

A CELEBRATION OF CHURCH FAMILY



Friday, October 30, 2009
Saturday, October 31, 2009
Sunday, November 1, 2009

Camp Grier
The Place to Be!

865 Camp Grier Road
Old Fort, NC 28762

“We are all parts of one body, we have the same spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future.”

Ephesians 4:4 (Living Bible)

What to Bring:

Personal toiletries
Bed linens (sheets and blankets or sleeping bags.)
Pillow
Soap, towels, wash cloths
Flashlight
Quilt or folding chairs
Bible
Grandma Ogle cookies
Change of clothes

What to wear:

Old, comfortable clothes

Optional Items:

(Be ready in case it rains)
Snacks to share
Board games
Cards
Books, Sports equipment

Lodging:

Oak Cabin

Directions:

Take I-77 north to I-40. Go west on I-40 to Old Fort exit #73. Turn right onto Catawba Avenue. Go ½ mile to Hwy. 70 and turn left. Go about ¼ mile and turn right at the red, white and blue Camp Grier sign. Go about another mile and turn right at the Camp Grier sign.

If you can't find a ride call Rob Chambers.

Registration Form

Please list the names and ages of your family members who will be attending the retreat.

Name (adults and children)

Age (children only)

Money due with registration form; please turn in to church office by October 25. Our space is limited, so register early!
(over)