

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

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

Volume 47, No. 2

February 2012

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Welcome and Thank You to Our New Elders

How and where can we Best Serve God?

This is the crucial question that will be guiding your session over the next two months. It is a question that leads to others: Where is Christ in our community setting and how would He have us join Him in His ministry? I absolutely believe that if such questions are asked prayerfully and earnestly, we will find ourselves on a very exciting journey as a church. ARPC's session will be aided with the help of In Christ Support Ministry (a validated ministry of Charlotte Presbytery) as we ask these vital questions. Please know we will endeavor to keep you promptly informed as we move into God's future.



Grace and Peace,
Pastor Ron

ARPC is grateful for those men and women called to serve as elders.

Beth Cameron	Steve Parker
Don Blackmon	Eddie Sells
Art Parker	Diann McGuirt

2012 Confirmation/Commissioning Class

ARPC celebrates this great group of young people meeting every Sunday afternoon to prepare to profess their faith before God's people in June. They are:

Skylar Bunn	Daniel Williams
Harrison Gerrard	Lauren Denton
Matthew Silipigni	Gloria Okundji
Dillon Williams	Alex Disser
Payton Hall	Christopher Jackson

Our Faithfulness for 2011

Our Faithfulness for December 2011	12/04/11	12/11/11	12/18/11	12/25/11
2011 Budget to date	\$395,852.38	403,931.00	412,009.62	*420,088.24
Received on Budget to date	\$349,731.11	357,807.36	368,276.11	375,973.36
Received on Budget per Sunday	\$14,423.12	8,076.25	10,468.75	7,697.25
Needed per Sunday	\$8,078.62	8,078.62	8,078.62	8,078.62
Church School Attendance	147	180	140	---
Worship Attendance	193	231	208	111
2011 Building Maintenance Fund:				
Received toward pledge to date	\$28,095.75	28,316.50	29,203.25	29,998.00
Received per Sunday	\$730.75	220.75	886.75	794.75

December 10¢-a-Meal Offerings (thru December 31) \$270.50. **Total for 2011:** \$3,202.96

Christmas Eve Attendance - 5:00 p.m. 120
 7:30 p.m. 199

Good Samaritan Offering \$2,719.31
Joy Offering 245.00

* 2011 Budget to date + miscellaneous income (12/31/11) - **\$390,526.67**

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rhett and Lindsey Blackmon on the birth of their daughter, Hannah Elizabeth Blackmon, on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. Hannah weighed 7 lbs 12 oz and was 19 1/2 inches long. Don and Martha Blackmon are her very proud grandparents!

It's a Boy! Ross and Kim Shearer celebrate the birth of their son, Asa James Shearer, born at 12:32 p.m. Thursday, January 19, 2012, in New York City, and weighing 8 pounds, 12.2 ounces. His big brother is Caleb and proud grandparents are Dan & Lee Shearer! Dan & Lee report: "Everyone is fine and Caleb is quite inattentive."



Thank You

Dear Friends at ARPC,

Scott and I would like to express our sincerest gratitude for all the wonderful support and kindness you've shown us since the passing of my mother. The power of prayer is so real and we've really benefited from so many of you keeping us in your prayers. We're also so very grateful to Annette and Sandy for singing at the service for us, Diann for helping out so much during the service and those behind the scenes that we may not even know about. Also thanks to Marilyn Michue and Mary Beth Walls for bringing us some fabulous meals. Of course, I am also so very touched by those who attended the service even though they never met my mother and for all the thoughtful cards. Really, your support has been more helpful than we can adequately express!

Humbly,
Robbi and Scott Walls

Recent Illnesses

Myrt Lambert
Ed Schweiger
Daniel Williams

Serving ARPC in January

Sunday School

Feb. 5 Diann Pallman, Debra Stavrakas
Feb. 12 Katie Nelson, Neil Morgan
Feb. 19 Kim and Mike Hall
Feb. 26 Brandy and Marty Margeson

Worship

Feb. 5 Tom and Pam Troutman
John Fleming
Feb. 12 Polly and Jason Rowell
Karin and Phil Boling
Feb. 19 Mary Ann Ogle
Kim and Adam Jackson
Feb. 26 Eric and Melissa Troutman
Peggy Woods

Children's Church

Feb. 5 Nichole and Troy Disser
Feb. 12 Rosalie Chriss, Frances Blackwelder
Feb. 19 Jan Myers, Katie Nelson
Feb. 26 Robin and Joe Silipigni

HEAD USHERS AND ASSISTANTS

Feb. 5 Martie White, Nancy McLemore
Feb. 12 Eddie Sells, Mike Shroyer
Feb. 19 Eddie Sells, Mike Shroyer
Feb. 26 Dan Shearer, Rick Williams

Elder of the Month: Dan Shearer

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 January 2012	01/01/12	01/08/12	01/15/12	01/22/12
2012 Budget to date	\$7,742.81	15,485.62	23,228.43	30,971.24
Received on Budget to date	\$5,245.40	20,995.22	25,271.38	30,489.51
Received on Budget per Sunday	\$5,245.40	15,749.82	4,276.16	5,218.13
Needed per Sunday	\$7,742.81	7,742.81	7,742.81	7,742.81
Church School Attendance	89	157	166	156
Worship Attendance	148	189	177	188
2012 Building Maintenance Fund:				
Received toward pledge to date	\$2,410.75	2,646.50	2,932.25	3,093.00
Received per Sunday	\$2,410.75	235.75	285.75	160.75

January 2012 10¢-a-Meal Offerings (thru January 22) total \$180.08

February 2012 10¢-a-Meal Offerings will be collected Sunday, February 5, 2012

GAME NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Think you've got game?

The high school youth of Albemarle Road are challenging the congregation to a night of gaming to raise funds for our summer activities. Join us in the gym on February 19, 2012, at 4 p.m. to see if you can best us in Rummy, Wii Bowling, Mexican Train Dominoes, Ping-Pong, Checkers or Bridge. Winners will receive a trophy, along with the satisfaction of knowing they're the champ. We will be asking for donations to raise money for activities like our summer youth trip and our mission trip. Please join us for a night of games, and help us put the "fun" in fundraising.



Good News!

Xan Innes, ARPC's minister to youth, will have weekly office hours beginning the week of February 12. Xan will be in the office from 1 - 4 p.m. every Thursday. Xan would welcome anyone who would like to drop by for a chat.



Save Your Treasures

The Presbyterian Women will hold the Churchwide Yard Sale on Saturday, April 21, 2012, in the Family Life Center.

Please start saving your "treasures" for the sale. If you have large items that need to be picked up please contact Marilyn Michue at 704-542-6354.

HUNGER

What are we doing about it?

The number of Americans living in poverty is the highest it has been in 52 years. One in seven households in our nation is food insecure, affecting more than 16 million children.

ARPC is making a difference in tackling this problem - Room in the Inn, Fellowship Breakfast, Crop "Hunger" Walk, Food Drives, Albemarle Road Elementary Food Pantry: The list goes on and on.

On January 10, Albemarle Road Presbyterian Church was recognized as a top fundraiser at the Crop "Hunger" Walk Recognition Dinner. Of congregations with 0-399 members, ARPC raised the second highest contributions, totaling \$4,570. The Charlotte Crop "Hunger" Walk is the largest in the nation. The 2011 Walk raised \$276,000, exceeding its goal by \$16,000. Contributions are still coming in. One quarter of that will stay in Charlotte. The rest will go to projects around the world including building sand dams. Congratulations to you for being a part of this important mission and especially for making the world a better place for those in need.

Souper Bowl of Caring

It began in 1990 with a simple prayer - "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat." The Mission Committee is sponsoring a food drive which began January 22, two Sundays before Super Bowl Sunday, and will end February 12, one Sunday after Super Bowl Sunday. Bring your cans of soup and other nonperishable food items to fill the three barrels that are located in the narthex. Monetary contributions can be made to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. Thank you for all your help in tackling the problem of hunger.



PW Coordinating Team



The PW Coordinating Team will meet on Monday, February 27, 2012, at 7 p.m. in Calvin Hall.

Honorary Life Membership

An Honorary Life Membership in the Presbyterian Women is given to an individual in recognition of their faithful service to our church. These people stand out because of their endless and untiring devotion to ARPC. Do you know someone who fits this description?

Nominations are now being taken for this high honor. Please turn in your nominations to Nancy Parker, Nancy McLemore, Martie White or the church office by March 25, 2012.



Values We Affirm as a Church

Jesus-Shaped Identity - We believe Jesus Christ must be at the center of our lives and making disciples of Jesus at the core of our ministry.

Biblical Integrity - We believe the Bible is the unique and authoritative Word of God, that teaches all that is necessary for faith and life. The prominence of God's Word over our lives shapes our priorities, and the unrivaled authority of the Bible directs our actions to be in concert with Christ's very best for our lives.

Thoughtful Theology - We believe in theological education, constant learning, and the life of the mind: celebrating this as one of the treasures of our Reformed heritage.

Accountable Community - We believe guidance is a corporate spiritual experience. We want to connect leaders to one another in healthy relationships of accountability, synergy, and care.



Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings

Circle #1 will meet on Monday, February 13, 2012 in Calvin Hall. Dot Davidson will be the hostess. The circle project for the month is school uniforms.

Circle #3 will meet on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at 4:30 p.m. in the FLC to help with RITI. The Moderator will be Roxanne Hoots.

Circle #4 will have its February meeting on Thursday, February 2 at 10 a.m. in the Church Parlor. Rayona will be our Bible Moderator and Emily and Myrtle are our Hostesses.

Circle #5 will meet on Monday, February 13, 2012, at 7 p.m. in Calvin Hall. Gloria Campbell, our moderator, will be covering lesson #12. Our hostesses are Frances Blackwelder and Lal Chhuangi. Our project this month is to support the Mission Committee's food drive for Souper Bowl Sunday.

Circle #6 will meet on Thursday, February 9, 2012, at 7 p.m. at the home of Beth Cameron. The moderator is Cindy Eccleston. Please read chapters #6, 7 and 8. Mission project this month is Albemarle Road Elementary School.

Egalitarian Ministry - We believe in unleashing the ministry gifts of women, men, and every ethnic group.

Missional Centrality - We believe in living out the whole of the Great Commission - including evangelism, spiritual formation, compassion and redemptive justice - in our communities and around the world.

Center-Focused Spirituality - We believe in calling people to the core of what it means to be followers of Jesus - what "mere Christianity" is and does - and not fixate on the boundaries.

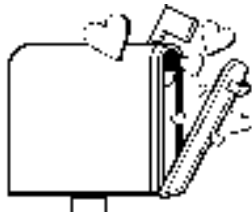
Leadership Velocity - We believe the work of identifying and developing gospel-centered leaders is critical for the church, and a great leadership culture is risk-taking, innovative, and organic.

Kingdom Vitality - We believe congregations should vigorously reproduce new missional communities to expand the Kingdom of God.



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Address Service Requested



Crossing the Threshold: An Exploration of Transforming Worship



**Begins Tuesday, February 14, 2012,
(the week before Ash Wednesday)
from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in Calvin Hall**

**Taught by gifted teacher Leslie Hand, we will explore the
crucial question: What does it mean to worship God?**



LENT 2012



Don't Forget! Ash Wednesday Worship on February 22, 2012, at 7 p.m. in Calvin Hall