

**March 9, 2025**

**Pennies for Hunger: April 6**

**March Special Missions Offering:  
Comfort Zone Camp**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Vimeo live-streamed services may be accessed from [www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org).

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION of officers during worship today will see Steve Starr and Tommie Lynn Sullivan installed as Elders, Class of 2027; Beth Pulliam and David Wray ordained and installed as Elders, Class of 2027; and Grant Smith ordained and installed as Youth Elder, for a one-year term.

SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING in **March** is for Comfort Zone Camp. See insert for details. Several personal testimonies will be featured during worship, throughout the month.

KIDS R.O.C.K.: **Tonight, Mar. 9, 5-6:15p:** Meet in Kids R.O.C.K. room (upper level, Education building). Program: *Donut Holes (John 3:1-16, Nicodemus Visits Jesus)*. Kids Reaching Out to Christ's Kingdom fellowship group is for grades 2-5.

YOUTH GROUPS: **Tonight, Mar. 9, 5-6:15p:** Regular meeting, in the Youth Room (lower level, sanctuary building).

UPCOMING EVENTS: Potters' House meal is **Sat., Mar. 15**. Holy Week is **Apr. 13-19**. Maundy Thursday worship at Community in Christ is **Thurs., Apr. 17**. Good Friday worship is **Apr. 18**. Easter Sunday is **Apr. 20**. Last day of Youth Group and Kids R.O.C.K. for this school year is **May 4**. Vacation Bible School is **July 6-10**.

POTTERS HOUSE: Since 2004, APC has fed Greensboro Urban Ministry guests on the **third Sat. of each odd month**. **Mar. 15** is next date. Contact Dave Purvis to offer your assistance.

STATED SESSION MEETING is **Sun., Mar. 23, immediately after worship**, in the Bible Seekers classroom. (Note:

this is a change in *time of day*, from the usual **fourth Sun.** at **2p.**)

SENIORS & FRIENDS: Fellowship group meets and eats on **first Mon. of even months** at **11:30a**, in the Coble House — unless otherwise noted. Next event: **Mon., Apr. 7**.

ORDER FORM for Easter flowers is in **today's** bulletin packet. Deadline to order a live geranium plant to enhance worship on Easter Sunday is **Mon., Apr. 7**.

EASTER EGG HUNT is at **4:30p** on **Palm Sunday, Apr. 13**. Dir. of Children's Ministries Joy Thomas issues her yearly plea for donations of individually-wrapped candies for the event. There's a large bin in the breezeway stairwell, into which thou mayest deposit donations of such items. Thank you.

CHURCH NURSERY is now in room #313 (top floor, Education Building). Sign up to spend an hour or two on any given Sunday, tending the nursery (Children's Ministries Volunteer). Contact Dana Adams to request a background check, if you've not already passed one. ([dana@alamancechurch.org](mailto:dana@alamancechurch.org)).

ALAMANCE FIRE DEPARTMENT offers barbecue for \$12 a container. All proceeds go to help Western NC. Pick up from the station **anytime** (4108 Presbyterian Road).

LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) invites women to join them at **7p on the second Tues. of each month**, in the Coble House. This Presbyterian Women Circle is a small-group fellowship, offering hospitality and uplifting others in the community. Sherri Frazier is contact for this group.

*Questions & Answers with Kyle*

This Sunday school class for adults, led by Pastor Kyle Goodman, meets **every Sunday at 9a** in the Parlor. You are welcome to join at any time.

*Read the Bible in Two Years*

This new Sunday school class meets in the Uffman classroom from **9-9:30a** on the **first Sunday of each month**. Bobbie Black leads. **Next class is on Sunday, April 6**.

**Food Pantry**

**March special collection:  
Peanut butter and jelly**

The APC Food Pantry serves up to 30 families a week. Your contributions of food, money, and volunteer hours make this vital mission to our local community possible. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS ESSENTIAL: sign up at [https://signup.com/group/987658676044?utm\\_source=group-badge-volunteer-green](https://signup.com/group/987658676044?utm_source=group-badge-volunteer-green).

Give us your clean, dry, plastic bags.

We have more than enough egg cartons now. Please, no more!

ONLINE GIVING:

Easy Tithe charges APC a monthly fee to accept online giving, *in addition* to a processing fee for each transaction. Easy Tithe recommends that donors use the ACH payment type with online donations: this makes processing fees significantly lower.

**To give by text:** Text the word "give" to 336-396-6133. Follow prompts to set up an account and make donations. [www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org) has instructions to sign up with Easy Tithe for online giving.

To make changes to your account, contact Dana Adams (336-697-0488 x 127, [dana@alamancechurch.org](mailto:dana@alamancechurch.org))

**The Men's Group** meets at **6:30p** on the **third Tuesday of each month** (unless otherwise noted). Next meeting is on **Tues., Mar. 18**.

Presbyterian Women Circles meet:

**Red Hat: Mon., Mar. 10, 6:30p** in the Coble House.

**Agapé: Tues., Mar. 11, 11a** go out and eat; **12:30p** in Uffman room for Bible study and business meeting.

**L.I.F.T.: Tues., Mar. 11, 7p** in the Coble House.

OPEN MEETING: 12-step recovery program (AA); **7p every Thursday** in the Gathering Place. All are welcome.

Inserts in today's bulletin:

**Song sheet**, with hymns and sung responses.

**Comfort Zone Camp:** Special Missions collection for **March**.

**Questions with Kyle:** Sunday school class schedule through **mid-March**.

**Easter flowers** order form.

**336-697-0488**

Church Staff

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We welcome all to the community of Jesus: to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025 10 a.m.



Gathering

**Welcome and Announcements**

Lay Reader today is Ed Gonzalez.

**Minute for Mission**

Comfort Zone Camp

**Centering Music**

\* **Call to Worship**

One: When we are tempted to think of our immediate needs and turn our backs on others, Jesus draws us back to reality.

**All: All we truly need is you, O Christ.**

One: When we think that wealth, power, and status are the answers to life's dilemmas, the Lord draws us back to reality.

**All: All we truly need is you, O Christ.**

One: When we want to really find out if God means what God says, when we are tempted to create tests of faithfulness, God draws us back to reality.

**All: All we truly need is you, O Christ.**

One: Let us worship the One who draws us into a better life.

**All: Let us worship the One who is all we truly need.**

\* **Opening Hymn**

*Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

Song sheet

Confession and Reconciliation

**Call to Confession**

## Prayer of Confession

**As Lent unfolds before us, great God, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem. The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy. We can't imagine new life, Easter life, because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts. Meet us in our weakness. Take up our sins. Ease our burdens. Carry us on the way. Bring us to Jerusalem, at last. Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold. Amen.**

## A Promise of Forgiveness and Peace

### Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of the Lord be with you. **All: And also with you.**

We invite everyone to share Christ's peace with your neighbors, both now and after the service. If you are with us on-line, we invite you to send a message or make a call to share peace. If you are here in person, we invite you to greet those near you.

\* **Sung Response** *Lamb of God* Song sheet

## The Word Proclaimed

### First Scripture Reading *Luke 4:1-13*

One: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** *I Surrender All* - arr. Victor C. Johnson

### Children's Message

Children from age 4-5th grade may now go to Children's Church, for a time of worship designed especially for them.

### Second Scripture Reading *Mark 8:27-38*

One: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Message** *Who Do You Say I Am: 1. The Best of Us*  
Dr. Kyle Goodman

**Words of Reflection** from *May It Be So: Forty Days with the Lord's Prayer*  
- Justin McRoberts and Scott Erickson

I am often compelled to pray because circumstances have convinced me that I am alone in my struggle and that the only honorable way to move ahead is to do so alone. These trials are mine. These burdens are mine. These fears are mine. I have them, and they have me.

These lies begin to unravel with the words "Our Father." I am invited to see myself as part of the family of God, which means I can choose to see the burdens I carry as burdens also carried by others to whom I belong. Sisters. Brothers. Mothers. Fathers. Neighbors [...].

*Ours* is not just a plural pronoun; it's a plural possessive. Which is to say, just as I share these burdens and trials with you, I also share and even possess a place with you in the One who lifts burdens and who triumphs over trials.

## Ordination and Installation of Officers

### Invitation to Ordination

### Statement on Ordination

### Constitutional Questions

### Prayer of Ordination and Installation

### Declaration of Ordination

## Thanksgiving and Offering

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** King James Version

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowéd be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in 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.**

Pray with the words that hold the most meaning for you, even if they differ from your neighbor's.

### Call to Offering

### Sharing of Offering

We invite you to prayerfully donate to the continued life and work of our congregation. You may mail gifts directly to the church, or use our online giving platform, at <https://www.alamancechurch.org/online-tithing>.

## Offertory

\* **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Song sheet

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Sending

**Sending Hymn** *Beautiful Things* Song sheet

Feel free to come forward during the closing song to light a candle, as a public sign of an inward commitment to life in the light of Christ. If your religious tradition includes crossing yourself, feel free to do that here. You may kneel on the steps to the pulpit platform, should you wish to take an attitude of deeper prayer.

### \* Charge and Benediction

### Closing Music

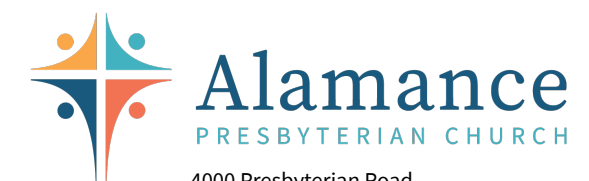
\* One asterisk means to stand, as you are able.

The nearest restrooms are out the sanctuary side door, through the breezeway, and into the alcove on the long wall of the Thin Place Gallery.

Citations for references used during worship are available from the ministers, upon request. The New Revised Standard Version (Updated Edition) of the Bible is used during worship, unless otherwise noted.

Lectionary Year C, First Sunday of Lent, **March 9: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13.**

Lectionary Year C, Second Sunday of Lent, **March 16: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:38-36, 13:31-35.**



4000 Presbyterian Road  
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(336)-697-0488  
[www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org)

We are an ecumenical congregation in a Presbyterian Church, USA form.  
We are a **Matthew 25** Church.  
We are a Hunger Action Congregation.  
We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

We welcome all to the community of Jesus:  
to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.