



# April 2011



April 2011 Issue

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**First Assembly**  
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**First Assembly**  
1501 Hwy 24/27 West  
P.O. Box 516  
Albemarle, NC 28002

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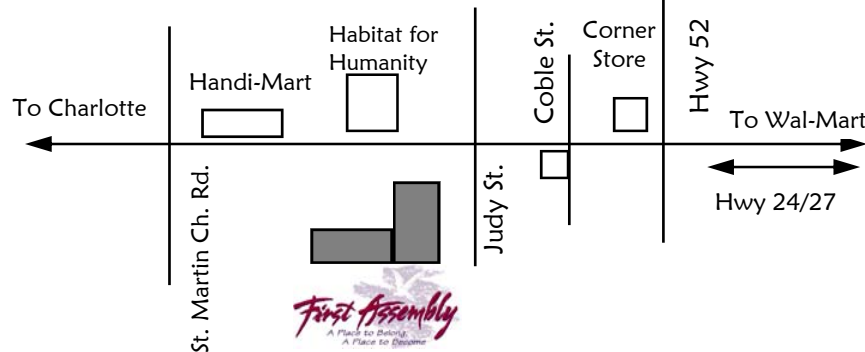
## Pastoral Staff

**Rev. Bob Gruver ~ Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. George Mullen ~ Senior Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Matt Miller ~ Youth Pastor**

## Church Office

**Hours:**  
Monday ~ Thursday  
9 AM – 5 PM  
Friday 9 AM - 1 PM  
**Phone:**  
(704) 983-3719  
**Fax:**  
(704) 982-7276

[www.albemarlefirst.org](http://www.albemarlefirst.org)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday</b> 9am: Adult, Youth & Children Sunday School 10am: Adult Worship Children's Church	<b>Sunday</b> 6pm: Worship Service FUSION MS Bible School - Youth Room	<b>Monday</b> 5:30pm - 7pm: Kid's Band Practice 7pm: Men's Prayer Meeting Visitation Ministry	<b>Tuesday</b> 6:30pm - 8:30pm: Adult Dance Team Practice (Sanctuary)	<b>Wednesday</b> 6pm - 7pm: Girls Dance Team Practice (Sanctuary) 7pm: Fusion Children's Ministries	<b>1</b>  7pm: CFC - Ch. Church	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>  Receiving New Members	<b>4</b> "Home Sweet Home" Society - 10am "How Does Your Garden Grow?" Room 99	<b>5</b> 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home  7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	<b>6</b>  7pm: Small Group	<b>7</b> 10am Connect365 1 Hour With HIM Sanctuary  6:30pm - 8pm - Choir 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	<b>8</b>  FUSION HS Boys Camp-out - 6pm - 10am - \$5 FUSION HS Girls Sleep-over - 6pm - 10am - \$5 Mpac Girls Sleep-over - Youth Room	<b>9</b> JBQ Competition  CFC Movie Night
<b>10</b> New A.C.E Classes Begin  Receiving New Members	<b>11</b>  7PM: Ladies Night Out Blue Bay Restaurant Albemarle 7pm: Stephen Ministry	<b>12</b> 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home  7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	<b>13</b>  7pm: Bible Study	<b>14</b> 10am: Connect365 1Hr With HIM Sanctuary  6:30pm - 8pm - Choir 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	<b>15</b>  7pm: CFC - Ch. Church	<b>16</b>  DC NYC Meeting 9am - 12pm - YR
<b>17</b> Palm Sunday  Communion  Nursing Home Ministry @ Forrest Oakes	<b>18</b>  7pm: Connect365 Bible Study @ Sheila Holland's	<b>19</b> 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home  7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	<b>20</b>  7pm: Small Group	<b>21</b> 10am: Connect365 1Hr With HIM Sanctuary  Senior Saints Lunch Noon @ Ryan's - Trip to Badin Historic Museum after lunch 6:30pm - 8pm - Choir 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	<b>22</b>  Good Friday Office Closed	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>  Resurrection Sunday No PM Service  Nursing Home Ministry @ Britthaven	<b>25</b>  Resurrection Monday Office Closed 7pm: Stephen Ministry	<b>26</b> 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 11:30am LunchBunch W/Char Zaxby's 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	<b>27</b>  7pm: Bible Study	<b>28</b>  10am: Connect365 1Hr With HIM Sanctuary 6:30pm - 8pm - Choir 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	<b>29</b>  FUSION Laser Tag In Charlotte 5pm - 11pm - \$10  Cleansing Stream Retreat - Charlotte	<b>30</b>  Kidz Ablaze/Kidz Rock Practice - April 30th - May 1st in Thomasville, NC

at

# First glance

April, 2011

*“Behold the Lamb of God. . .” John 1:29*

We are so used to calling Jesus the Lamb of God that we can miss the jolt that this must have given the first people who heard it. Most Jews were expecting a Messiah who would be the Lion of Judah, a new David who would drive out the Romans through military heroism. It never occurred to them that the Messiah would be a Lamb. Lambs are not exactly known for their strength and power in battle. They don't kill; they die. They were, in fact, sacrificed twice a day in the Jewish temple.

But there was a special sacrifice that happened every year in which lambs were vitally important. It was the celebration of Passover, remembering the greatest act of salvation in the Old Testament. That was the time the Jews were freed from Egyptian slavery. The angel of death would “pass over” those families who spread the blood of a lamb on their doorposts of their homes and they were to eat the flesh of this sacrificial animal in a special ritual meal.

We read that story in **Exodus 12:1-30**. Pharaoh let the Israelites go, and they celebrated Passover each year.

It was no accident that Jesus was arrested and put to death during Passover. In the Gospel of John, Jesus breathes his last at the very same moment that the Passover lambs were being sacrificed in the Temple.

All the words and events of the Old Covenant had great value, meaning and dignity in and of themselves. But they also pointed forward to a greater covenant, to a person who was the Word made flesh, to a Lamb who saved Israel from a deeper slavery than Pharaoh's, to an event that would be the culminating moment in human history. The Word came as a spotless Lamb to offer the perfect sacrifice of love that would outweigh all human evil and therefore take away all sins. **The Shepherd offered his blood for our sins and his body as our new Passover meal, to give his sheep the strength to become lambs like him who offer our lives for the life of the world (Romans 12:2).**

Behold the Lamb of God!!!

For His Glory,  
Pastor Bob

**First Assembly . . .  
a place to belong  
a place to become**

## FUSION FACTS

April for FUSION and First Assembly is going to be a great month! We as a church venture on a very important evangelistic excursion this month. Easter (Resurrection) Sunday is one of those Sundays where people who usually don't come to church do. We need to play a big role in that and invite as many people as we can to church! Albemarle First Music and Pastor Bob are orchestrating a phenomenal illustrated message Resurrection Sunday that your unsaved friends, family, and co-workers do not want to miss. I encourage you to fast, pray, and invite those who need Jesus. No one is out of reach of the Father.

Also in April the high school boys are camping, the high school girls are having a sleepover and all of FUSION is going to play an awesome game of laser tag! I am really excited about these events. It will be a great opportunity for our students to get together and get to know each other. Get a FUSION Upcoming Events Sheet to see what is planned this spring/summer.

Don't forget FUSION High Schoolers are going to the beach in May. The weekend of May 13th-15th is when we are going and your student will not want to miss it! Please see me if your student is interested!

Well that is all I got to say for this month. I pray that God richly blesses you this month as you seek to bless Him!

**God bless,  
Pastor Matt**

### Music Notes

I can't believe Easter is almost here! The music ministry has been working hard to get ready to celebrate Resurrection Sunday. It's going to be a time of worship and reflection on the question, "Why do you follow Jesus?" through personal testimonies and song. "Then He called the crowd to Him along with His disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.' Mark 8:34. Be sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, April 24th and be prepared to worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who died on the cross for our salvation.

**In Him,  
Mary Story**

## Firestorm Ministries

Things are really heating up in the next couple of months in the children's ministries. On Saturday, April 9th our Junior Bible Quiz team will be competing in the State Finals. This will be a very exciting time as our children compete. On Saturday and Sunday, April 30th and May 1st our Do-Wads will be at Hope Outreach in Thomasville, NC preparing for Kidz Rock in Youngstown, Ohio. We will be ministering to the kids of Youngstown from Thursday, May 12th to Sunday, May 15th. This is going to be a great opportunity for the kids to touch other lives. On Saturday, May 21st we will hold our third annual Holy Spirit Conference for the children. This year we will be concentrating more on the power that the Holy Spirit instills in us. We will see how the Holy Spirit enables us to become more of a powerhouse for Him. From the laying on of hands, not just a filled vessel, to an overflowing vessel, being in the flow of the Holy Spirit, how the anointing breaks the yoke to spread the fire. It will be an awesome Saturday! Mark your calendar and be prepared to see what God does for His kids as we chase after Him

**Because He Lives,  
Lilly Wilson**

**Couples For Christ**  
CFC Small Group  
Friday, April 1st & 15th, @ 7pm  
Children's Church

Movie Night  
Saturday, April 9th @ 7pm  
Youth Room

**Senior Saints**  
Lunch at Ryan's Restaurant  
Thursday, April, 21st @ Noon  
Trip to Badin Historic Museum after  
Lunch

**Victorious Overcomers**  
Tuesdays, April 5th - 26th @ 7pm  
Rooms 101/102

## April Birthdays

1st	20th
Barbara Culpepper	Elsa Poplin
Brianna Helms	Phyllis Rush
Chris Robinson	21st
3rd	Danny Alexander
Jamie Kerns	Jonny Wilson
6th	22nd
Ty Barringer	Julie Hughes
Becky Herlocker	23rd
7th	Jacob Jones
Laura Aney	David Wilson
Drew Kidd	24th
Randy Morton	Eunice Cullingford
Lisa Shank	Keith Lantz
Bryan Shaver	Lawrence Stewart
10th	Logan Waldt
Gary Basinger	28th
Tyler Morgan	Vivian Bridges
11th	Aaron Conklin
Greg Jones	30th
Cheryl Olsen	Sharon Gadd
16th	Lester Teets
Brodie Gruver	
Molly Shank	
19th	
Vickie Love	

### Connect365 Women's Ministry

Home Sweet Home Society  
Monday, April 4th @ 10am  
"How Does Your Garden Grow?"  
Room 99 - Beside the Kitchen

One Hour With Him  
Thursdays, April 7th - 28th @ 10am  
In Sanctuary

Ladies Night Out  
Monday, April 11th @ 7pm  
Blue Bay Restaurant - Albemarle

Connect365 WM's Bible Study  
Monday, April 18th  
7pm @ Sheila Holland's Home  
433 Lindsey Lane, Oakboro, NC

LunchBunch With Char  
Tuesday, April 26th @ 11:30am  
@ Zaxby's Restaurant