

First Presbyterian News

MARCH 1, 2011



ESTABLISHED 1871

"This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" (Matthew 17: 5 (NRSV))

In the New Testament, Jesus inspires love, hatred, and fear but never boredom. The political and religious authorities conspire to kill him. He challenged some of his contemporaries' most basic assumptions about God and how to live one's life, and he continues to challenge many of the most pervasive assumptions of our culture. He particularly welcomed the outcasts and oppressed of his society into his company. He calls on those who would follow him to take risks. Many imagine the Bible a conservative book that comforts those who want to preserve the status quo. But the Jesus it presents shook up his society and would shake up ours.

- *William Placher*, Jesus the Savior

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

9:45 a.m.

Adult Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and
Holy Communion

Sermon:

"Living into the Mystery"

Joseph S. Harvard, preaching



Transfiguration
of the Lord

Worship Texts

Old Testament	Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2
New Testament	Matthew 17:1-9 2 Peter 1:16-21

Acolytes: *Jane Carsey, Rose Fisher*

Crucifer: *Corey Allen*

Greeters: *Edward and Delia Kwon*

After Worship Greeters: *Dawn Carsey* (side, font)
Diane Standaert (Narthex/Main St)

Ushers: *Joy Kerner* (head usher), *Alice Raney*
(flowers), *Christyn Klinck, Susan Seahorn, Keith
Merritt, Kennedy Wilkins*

Communion Elders:

Bread: *Dawn Carsey* (Process), *Andy Henry,
Lanny Pratt, Bill Hendrickson*

Cup: *Mac McCorkle* (Process), *Carl Rist,
Sharon Hirsch, Leslie Strohm* (Head elder)

Shepherds: *Henry Njoroge* (Pulpit aisle)

Jane Brawley (Center aisle)

Joseph Ngumi (Font aisle)

Replenish Elements: *Lesley Curtis*

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith and Community Class

*Exploring a role for all of us
in Durham Public Schools*

On Sunday, the conversation about public education will continue with a panel moderated by *Scottie Seawell*. Other panel members will be *Ann Majestic*, a school board attorney, *Steve Martin*, former school board member, and *Doris Smith* who taught for 30 years in Durham Public Schools. These panelists also had children in the public schools. Please join us at 9:45 a.m. in Watts-Hills Hall.

Lectionary Class

Have you had a mountaintop experience? What made it memorable and meaningful? Were there any eyewitnesses? Was their experience the same as yours? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Journeys Class

Journeys will discuss Joseph's reunification with his family in Genesis. The class meets at 9:45 on the second floor of the CE building. Please join us.

Hand in Hand/ Crossroads

We are discussing the gospels in a study guided by John Timmer's Four-Dimensional Jesus. Please join us at 9:45 in room 203 of the education building.

Women's Spiritual Formation

Susan Dunlap invites women to come for a time of prayer, sharing and exploring the practices of Christian spirituality at 9:45 on Sundays. We meet in the Middle School Youth Room, below the sanctuary.

TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT NIGHT
(sponsored by Christian Education Committee)

MARDI GRAS/SHROVE TUESDAY

DINNER AND PRESENTATION

(Menu: seafood gumbo (okra free), jambalaya, dirty rice and salad)

Tuesday, March 8

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Rupert Nacoste,

Alumni and undergraduate professor of psychology at NCSU, Raleigh, will speak about

"Being Intentionally Inclusive"

RSVP to: 682-5511. Childcare provided.



Lent begins

ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 9

Downtown Community Worship

Join FPC for a service of prayer, song, and the imposition of ashes, marking the beginning of the Lenten season. *Jimmie Hawkins*, pastor of Covenant Presbyterian, will preach for this service. A light lunch will be served at noon. Worship begins at 12:30 p.m.



Evening Worship

Join us for a service of worship in the sanctuary at 6 p.m., including the imposition of ashes on our foreheads, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Childcare will be provided. Then at 6:30 we will gather around tables for a light supper and a time of fellowship. *Susan Dunlap* is graciously providing the meal.

A LENTEN STUDY

The Practice of Forgiveness

During Lent, FPC will offer an 8-week course on the practice of forgiveness using the *Companions in Christ* curriculum. A **Friday morning class** with childcare will run from **March 4 – April 22** from 10:30 - noon. A **Sunday evening class at Croasdaile** will run from **March 6 – April 17** from 3- 4:30 pm. If you would like to order a book, contact *Marilyn Hedgpeth* at 682-5511 or via email.

EFIRD LECTURES ON ISAIAH

Thursdays, March 10 – April 14

10:30 a.m. – 12 Noon in Watts-Hill Hall
The lectures are free and open to the public.

MIDWEEK COMMUNION

Wednesdays, March 23, April 6, April 20

Join us at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for a service of Lenten scripture readings, prayers and Holy Communion. Childcare will be provided. A light supper will be served at 6:30 in Watts-Hill Hall.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

It was Reynolds Price who said that Christians have the best stories. The stories we will read in worship on Sunday are incredible. They are full of mystery and intrigue. They are about mountaintop experiences which provide insight for living in the valleys of our lives.

A good reason to show up for worship on Sunday is to listen to these stories together. They challenge us to pause and consider who and whose we are from a perspective of faith.

In the story of the transfiguration, a voice encourages us to listen to Jesus. What does Jesus have to say to us about the troubled times in which we live? How are we to make live life faithfully?

Listening to Jesus is the task before us as we enter the Lenten season.

I invite you to live into the mystery of God's presence and purpose in our lives. There are numerous opportunities for worship, reflection and service during this season. Please join me in seeking to observe a holy Lent.

Joe

OUR CONGRATULATIONS

... to FPC's **basketball team** for another successful season in the Hope Valley Baptist Church men's league. In addition to winning the league tournament championship at the buzzer last week, the team also won the sportsmanship trophy and finished second in the regular season. Team members include: *Michael Bacon, Walt Barron, Bill Brown, Adam Buchanan, Rob Everett, Adam Ewald, Julio Ramirez-Eve, Jared Rist, Carl Rist, Reuben Stob, Frankie Thompson, and Gray Wilson.*

... to **Elizabeth Sudduth**, who has accepted a job as Assistant Professor of Biology at Georgia Gwinette College in Lawrenceville, GA. We rejoice with Elizabeth, but are sad that she will be moving to the metro-Atlanta area this summer.

NEWCOMERS' CLASS

The **final session** of the Newcomers' / Inquirers' Class will be held on **Sunday, March 6 at 9:45 a.m.** in the Wilson Parlor of the Church House. **New members will be received during worship.** If you plan to join FPC and missed the classes, please contact *Shirley Frederick* at 682-5511 or by email: s.frederick@firstpres-durham.org no later than Friday, March 4.

OUR CONCERNS

Katherine Carr is having surgery today at Duke Hospital.

Sue Fricks is recovering from surgery at home.

Barbara Gerwe is recovering at home from a fall that resulted in a broken elbow.

Carol Johnson has returned to the Pavilion at Croasdaile after a brief hospital stay.

Sarah Todd has returned home to Durham after a month's stay with her daughter in NY.

Please continue to keep the **McDow family** in your prayers and deeds of love, as little **Florence** recovers at home, and as Leslie's father, **Jim Goff**, receives chemotherapy.

Joyce Houk's sister, **Betty Morgan**, has had a stroke in Florida. Joyce's brother-in-law and Betty's husband **Don Morgan** is under hospice care there, too.

Lenore Champion's brother lives in Christchurch, New Zealand - prayers to all there.

Hillcrest: **Tom Howerton**
Croasdaile Pavilion: **Don Jenkins**

Betty Jelstrup

Chester Bisette, grandfather of **Abi Bisette**
Denise Duffy, sister of **Andy Henry**
Jesse D. Smith, Jr., son of **Doris Smith**

*** CORRECTION ***

Email address for **Joyce Houk**
joyce.houk@nc.rr.com

CROASDAILE DRIVERS

The following persons have agreed to pick up members at Croasdaile Village and bring them to worship on Sundays:

March 6 – **Miriam Morey**
March 13 – **George Danser/Jean Cary**
March 20 – **Dan Hudgins**
March 27- **Dan Hudgins**.

CROSSROADS

Crossroads (Young Adults Fellowship) is going to lunch at Cuban Revolution after worship on **Sunday, March 6**. We invite any interested young adult visitors to join us! During lunch we will be discussing a possible service project of preparing a meal for the residents of Genesis Home. For more information contact **David Lorimer**: lorimer06@gmail.com

WORK DAYS AT FPC

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

9:30 a.m. - Noon

The Landscaping and Gardening Committee invites you to join us for pruning and other adventures. Please bring work gloves, clippers, trowels, shovels and rakes. We will also need a weed-wacker and chain saw. For further information contact **Barbara Buckley** (bjbuckley1@frontier.com) or **Kate Busa** (katebusa@gmail.com).

YOUTH NEWS

Friends,
Our season of Lent, the days between Ash Wednesday and Easter, is upon us and next Sunday we will celebrate the beginning of this spiritual time with a Mardi Gras party!!! As a way to become closer to God during Lent, we've all agreed to lead FPC in a LENTen journey of environmental awareness (Love Earth Not Trash) and to attempt to be more observant and careful about the way we treat the earth. If focused on correctly, we will be prayerful each time we abstain from buying bottled water, using plastic bags or paper towels. We need to prepare ourselves for this spiritual journey and what better way to do that than to have good old fashioned Fat Tuesday fun. So Middlers (God Squad) plan to be here Sunday from 5-7 p.m. and Sr. Highs (Iter) plan to be here from 6-8 p.m. We will make merry and eat loads of pancakes for dinner--wear or bring a mardi gras costume (we will have some costume items) for a costume ball and contest! See you Sunday! Peace,

Rebecca

REGISTRATION FORMS . . .

for Vacation Church School 2011, "Out of these Waters", which will be held June 20-24 at New Hope Camp and Conference Center, are available in the church foyer and online at the church website. **REGISTRATION deadline for FPC members is April 1st**. Please get your forms in on time!



FIRST FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

Saturday, March 5
5:30 -8:30 p.m. at FPC

Meat and veggie lasagna provided.



Please bring salads, bread, or dessert. Please also bring your favorite game. **RSVP requested via the EVITE**. Contact **Deborah Momsen-Hudson** or **Kathy Conner** for more information.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Monday, March 7
10:30 a.m. – East Parlor

MARCH'S

"LEARN BY HEART"

The Shema

(Deuteronomy 6: 4-5)

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.



Sign up to walk or plan to sponsor a walker for Durham's 37th annual CROP walk scheduled for **Sunday, March 20**

at 2:30 p.m. Sponsor sheets can be picked up after worship in the foyer OR you can join online at www.durhamcropwalk.org. Let's work together to help alleviate hunger in Durham and around the world!

- **Rebecca Leonard**

THE YOUTH AND LENT

LOVE EARTH NOT TRASH

The youth of First Presbyterian want to ask you to give up something this Lent. For the six weeks of Lent, we are asking you to give up (or reduce) your use of three items that harm our environment: **bottled water, disposable plastic bags, and paper towels**. On the first Sunday in Lent, **March 13**, we will ask you to write down how much you will reduce your use of these items. Then we will add up how much we as a congregation will save during Lent and let you know the following Sunday. We believe if we work together, we can protect this beautiful world that God has created for us to live in and care for. For more information, contact **Rebecca Leonard**.

GREAT SOUP

FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

Join **Urban Ministries of Durham** on **Thursday, March 3 between 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Durham Armory** for the 5th annual "Empty Bowls" fundraiser. There will be live music, local celebrity soup judges, tasty desserts and more. Plus, you get to help decide the Best Soup, so come and be a part of the fun and the tradition of filling "empty bowls" with hope in the heart of downtown Durham. Tickets are \$30 for soup and a beautifully handcrafted bowl from local artisans and \$15 for soup only. Children 6 and under admitted free. Purchase tickets securely online (<http://umdurham.org>) or call (919) 682-0538 ext. 124. There will be a limited number of tickets available at the door.

BOCS

JON LEVINSON TO SPEAK

Sunday, March 13, 2011
7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Judea Reform Synagogue

Jon Levinson, the Albert A. List Professor of Jewish Studies in the Harvard Divinity School, and renowned Biblical Scholar, will address the apparent contradiction between modern Reform Judaism skepticism about resurrection and its prominent place in traditional prayerbooks for daily, holiday, and Shabbat worship.

First Presbyterian Church Newsletter is published weekly on Tuesdays.

© 2011 First Presbyterian Church

♦ 305 East Main Street ♦ Durham, NC 27701 ♦ Phone: (919) 682-5511 ♦ Fax: (919) 682-0493
<http://firstpres-durham.org>