

# First Presbyterian News

MARCH 9, 2010



The beauty of a really good parable—in the case of the prodigal son, perhaps the most beloved parable of all time—is that it meets generations of listeners wherever they are: in first-century Palestine, in fourth-century Rome, in sixteenth-century Geneva, or in twenty-first-century Chicago. Everyone has a weird family. Everyone has at least thought about running away from home. And whether or not you happen to have one yourself, almost everyone knows what a pain a sibling can be—especially when there are only two of you, so that the “good child/bad child” thing hovers over you no matter which one you happen to be at any given time. For these reasons and more, the parable of the prodigal son stays young no matter how old it is, giving all kinds of people all kinds of ways to make the story their own.

- *Barbara Brown Taylor*, Fourth Presbyterian Church (2007)

## SUNDAY, MARCH 14



9:45 a.m.  
Sunday School

11 a.m. Worship

**Sermon: "A Surprise Party"**  
*Joseph S. Harvard*, preaching

### Lectionary Texts

Old Testament	Joshua 5:9-12
Psalms Lesson	Psalms 32
Epistle Lesson	2 Cor. 5:16-21
Gospel Lesson	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Acolytes: **Parker Klinck, Leo Kerner**

Crucifer: **Matthew Hirsch**

Narthex Greeters: **Maxie Honeycutt  
Hilda Bradshaw**

After Worship Greeters:

**Dawn Carsey** (side, font)

**Henry Njoro** (Narthex/Main St)

Ushers: **Jon Kelley** (head usher), **Delia Kwon** (flowers), **Mac McCorkle, George Kirschmann, David Lorimer**

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Faith and Community Class

#### Lord, Teach Us to Pray

The posture and persistence of prayer is crucial to Luke's portrayal of Jesus. Jesus teaches us to pray by example, his example and by pointing us to positive and negative ways of praying.

**Sam Miglarese** will lead the class assisted by **Joe Harvard**. Join us in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45 a.m.

### Lectionary Class

It is hard enough for us to forgive one another. How is it possible for God, whom we have offended much more seriously, to forgive us? That kind of extravagant forgiveness seems almost unfair. Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

### Hand In Hand Class

The Hand in Hand class is discussing Richard Foster's Christian Reflections on Money, Sex & Power. Join us at 9:45 in the Wilson Parlor.

### Journeys Class

Journeys will discuss chapter 17, Greed and Prophecy - Numbers 11, in the book, Getting Involved with God, this Sunday. Join us at 9:45 room at end of hall, second floor of the CE building.

### Women's Spiritual Formation

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45 in the Middle School Youth classroom for a discussion of spiritual formation topics. **Susan Dunlap** leads the discussion.

## Easter Lilies

will grace our sanctuary again this year on Easter Sunday. Members are invited to donate toward the lilies in honor or memory of a friend or family member by completing a lily card and returning it along with cash or a check made payable to First Presbyterian Church, memo: Lilies. The amount received that exceeds the money needed to purchase the appropriate number of lilies for the sanctuary will be contributed to the One Great Hour Of Sharing offering. Lilies will be taken to our homebound members, unless donors have other intended recipients. **Cards with envelopes will be available in Sunday's worship bulletin. The deadline for participating is Sunday, March 28.**



## STORIES THAT MATTER...

Thanks to everyone who participated in the congregational storytelling sessions that were held in February. The Plumb Line Committee is now taking the values stated and the ideas captured during these sessions to plan the upcoming **Joint Officers Retreat on March 27, 2010**. The retreat will continue this process of discerning our core values and strengthening the lay leadership of the church as it seeks to guide the future story and direction of our church. There is still time to submit your stories. For more information on the process or how to submit a story, contact **Scottie Seawell** at [fseawell@bellsouth.net](mailto:fseawell@bellsouth.net) or 919.918.7067.

## CONGRATULATIONS

to **Valentine Ndambiri**, who has been selected by the National Student Leadership Conference to participate in a national leadership conference on medicine and health care this summer. Valentine is a student at Riverside High School and the daughter of **Mercy Ndambiri**.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

We are currently accepting nominations for the **Class of 2013 Officers** (elders and deacons. Think of those members you know who have shown a special dedication to the church, who would bring a needed talent or expertise, or who might like to serve but have been hesitant to step forward. Or, if you yourself feel called to serve, do not hesitate to include your own name. A nomination form will be included in Sunday's worship bulletin. **Please submit your list of nominees to the church office by March 31<sup>st</sup>.**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

It is time for us to sign up as walkers and/or sponsors. The CROP WALK will take place on Sunday afternoon, March 21. **Robinson Everett**, a lifelong member of FPC, who died last year, was a dedicated "CROP Walker". He was an inspiration to me. We often walked together as we appreciated each other's pace. I will miss Robinson this year so I am dedicating my walk in 2010 to **Robinson O. Everett**. Will you join me by being a walker or a sponsor? Let me know by email of your support: [j.harvard@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:j.harvard@firstpres-durham.org).

The money raised is used to alleviate world hunger and respond to natural disasters like the recent earthquakes in Haiti, Chile and Turkey. The need is so great this year so I am hopeful our response as a congregation will be our best ever. Every night one billion people go to bed hungry. The theme this year is "ENOUGH FOR ALL". Our challenge is to make sure the food reaches the hungry.

I was deeply moved by the young Presbyterians from four congregations in Durham who gathered at FPC to fast for 30 hours on Friday and Saturday. The meal on Saturday night in Watts-Hill Hall, where family and friends came to support them, was joyful, as they identified with those who hunger in Durham and around the world. Every step counts and every dollar matters. Thank you in advance for your support.

*Joe*

## WELCOMING CHILDREN



KUDOS to the 19 second and third graders who were part of a Welcoming Children to the Lord's Table workshop on Sunday. Students who participated in the workshop were joined on Sunday evening by their parents for a dinner prepared by **Lesley Curtis** and **Dawn Carsey**. The children will be recognized in worship before communion on Sunday, March 21. They are: **Isabel Brown, Graham Curtis, Dabney Moore, Charlotte Maxwell, Maddy Brigman, Elsie Gatheca, Jack Kost, Camille Kerner, Joseph Boulden, Matthew Brockman, Matthew Dickerson, Sam Henry, Caesar Ramirez, Joheim Council, Shaka Ombongi, Nino Ombongi, Isabelle Dummer, Sigfried Fullenkamp, and Deanna Dickerson.**

## OUR CONCERNS

**Cherrie Henry** is on a mission trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico with students from Duke and ECU. They are serving meals to day laborers and transients with Amigos del Parque, working with a local synagogue in an Emergency Shelter that serves the homeless, doing some community gardening and helping clean up a river. They will also take a hike in the high desert, visit the Georgia O'Keefe Museum, and visit the brothers at Christ in Desert Monastery.

**Miguel and Margaret Rubiera** are on a Habitat mission trip building homes in Honduras.

**Elinor McCorkle**, recovering from eye surgery

**Margaret Davis**                      **Susan Ewald**  
**Kerry Holbrook**                    **Steve Martin**  
**Florence McDow**                   **Josh Stanek**  
**Jerry Tyren**                         **Carolyn Wolfe**

**Gregory Dickerson** (Matthews, NC)  
**Leigh Knauert Family** (Denver, CO)

- ◆ **Mary Booth**, friend of FPC
- ◆ **George Cox**, son of Sarah Cox
- ◆ **Pete Fricks and family**, son of John and Sue Fricks
- ◆ **Brad Holbrook** (at Spring Arbor), father of Kerry Holbrook
- ◆ **Joe Juarez**, Vern Neece's niece's husband
- ◆ **Joan B. King**, sister-in-law of Mal King
- ◆ **Susan and Frank Kozoman**, friends of Ellen Young
- ◆ **Elizabeth Leathers**, daughter-in-law of Anne Leathers
- ◆ **Anne Martin** (at Hillcrest), sister of Beth Neece
- ◆ **Mambwe Mbilika**, daughter of Margaret Mubanga
- ◆ **Stephen McAllister**, son-in-law of Bill and Debbie Mathews

## ATTENTION Parents of Junior Choir members:



the kids will be singing at *A Time with the Children* on Sunday, March 21. Please make sure your children are at Junior Choir rehearsal after church **this Sunday, March 14.**

## DAYTIMERS' LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, March 23**

11:30 a.m. at

**Parizade**

2200 W. Main Street

RSVP to Jean Lazarides: 402-1428

## YOUTH NEWS

Friends,

As **Martha Moore-Keish** mentioned to us in her sermon on Sunday, 'to repent means to 'turn around'. To turn is an act of God's grace, and the promise of God's light in our lives is the gift we receive for doing the turning. This past weekend was a turnaround experience: a carousel ride of ups, downs, starts and stops, prayers, fasting, serving, laughing and nurturing of ourselves and each other. Thank you to all the youth who dedicated their weekend for this special time to be in fellowship with God and each other. A special kudos to **Jim Johnson** who helped chaperone this weekend and to the parents who stayed after the Break-the-Fast potluck supper and cleaned up and reorganized the fellowship hall. THANKS!

This Sunday, **Joe and Carlisle Harvard** will host an **ACC Tournament Party** for us at their home, 124 Monticello Ave - 27707 from 12:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. We will watch the 1 p.m. game, break bread together (bring some desserts/snacks to share) and have FUN! See you Sunday! Love,

*Rebecca Leonard*

Ps. The Food Bank called and said our donation was 128 pounds worth. THANKS.

## VINTAGE NIGHT OUT



**FIRST FRIENDS, HAND-IN-HAND, AND CROSSROADS MEMBERS** are invited to dig out old prom gowns, bridesmaid's dresses, tuxes, and business suits and wear them to the church on **Friday, March 19 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.** for a blast from the past. Come strut your stuff, but bring a change of clothes. Our evening together will benefit Kayla's Closet, a local non-profit at Northgate Mall that provides free prom gowns, tuxes, and business suits for young people who may be unable to afford them. We will wear our finery (and accessories) to the party, and then change clothes and leave our finery at the church as a donation to Kayla's Closet. This event is for adults only. Those old clothes don't fit anymore? Bring them anyway, and old prom pictures, too. Come laugh at the way we all were! **RSVP to the church, 682-5511.**

## REGISTRATION FORMS

for our 2010 Vacation Church School, God's Amazing People, to be held June 14-18 at New Hope Camp and Conference Center,



are available in the church foyer and online via the church website. **Registration deadline for FPC members is April 1.** Please get your forms in on time!

I wanted to thank the FPC congregation for providing such a wonderful church home for my father the last few years. It meant more to him than I think you can imagine. The hardest part of all for him was that after his stroke he could no longer work as a minister and participate fully in a church community. Having a church to attend where he felt welcomed and accepted and didn't just feel like the "weird guy who was disabled that people put up with" was such a gift. My dad truly treasured situations where he felt like he was accepted and valued and not just tolerated. Your congregation has truly lived Christian values through your ministry, acceptance and support of my father during his final years.

– **Mary Alicia Lyons**

**A Memorial Service will be held for John Lyons on Saturday, March 27 at 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA.**



The names are posted on the feet in the foyer of those who have already signed up to walk in this year's Crop Walk on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Please take note of who they are and approach them with a willingness to be their sponsor! There will be someone available after worship on Sunday to sign up folks and answer any questions you may have about the Walk.

## EFIRD LECTURES

**Wednesdays during Lent**

**10:30 a.m. – Noon**

If the church parking lot is full, please park across the street at the Durham Public library along Liberty St.

**REMEMBER to display your green Efird Lectures parking pass.**

## JOINT OFFICERS' MEETINGS

**MARCH 22 (6:00 – 8:30 P.M.)**

## JOINT OFFICERS' RETREAT

**MARCH 27 (9:00 A.M. – NOON)**

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