

# First Presbyterian News

MARCH 23, 2010



What do you make of Palm Sunday? Is this day good news or bad news? On the one hand, on the first Palm Sunday all kinds of people clearly recognized something about who Jesus was and either acclaimed him or abhorred him, depending on who they were and whether they perceived him as good news or bad news. On the other hand, the very same folk in the very same week came together and colluded to kill Jesus. You almost have to fasten your seatbelt, so abrupt is the transition from celebration to crucifixion, from waving palms at Jesus to nailing him on a cross. – *Kate Penfield*, "Doing and Dying" in Pulpit Digest, March/April 1997, p. 45

## SUNDAY, MARCH 28

### PALM / PASSION SUNDAY



9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Foot-washing  
10:30 a.m. Palm Procession  
10:45 a.m. Blessing of the Palms  
11 a.m. Worship (**Pennies for Hunger offering** will be received during worship.)

#### Sermon:

"Ride on! Ride on! King Jesus!"  
**Joseph S. Harvard**, preaching

#### Lectionary Texts

Old Testament	Isaiah 50:4-9a
Epistle Lesson	Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel Lesson	Luke 19:28-40

Acolytes: **Benjamin and Caleb Conner**

Crucifer: **James Compton**

Narthex Greeters: **Sarah Todd, Judy Pidcock**

After Worship Greeters:

**Jody Maxwell** (side, font)

**Joseph Ngumi** (Narthex/Main St)

Ushers: **Delia Kwon** (head usher), **Judy Pidcock** (flower delivery), **Jon Kimball, Jon Abels, Doris Smith**

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Faith and Community Class

"When did we see you in prison?"

This Sunday **Anne Wagoner** will continue the conversation about the biblical call to visit those in prison. She will discuss Luke 4 as a framework for restorative justice practices that the Church can (and already does) engage in. The class meets at 9:45 in Watts-Hill Hall.

### Lectionary Class

The one who entered the city in triumph, with public honor and acclamation, is humiliated, betrayed, and executed just a few days later. How can this happen? Who would allow this to happen? 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 conduct readings in the spirit of the Lenten season and discuss their next activities which will likely include an exploration of the philosophy of Reinhold Niebuhr and some guest speakers. Join us at 9:45 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the CE building, classroom at the end of the hall.

### 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.

## LEAPS AND BOUNDS

### DANCE THEATRE

Please join us on **Thursday, March 25 at 6 p.m.** for dinner and a show: *Leaps and Bounds*, a one-woman show which explores the intersection of faith, ecology and the global economy. **The performance begins at 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary, with childcare provided. The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring this event in honor of **Ella Fountain Pratt**, who was a patron of the performing arts in Durham. Dinner will be lovingly prepared by **Jami Moss Wise**. **RSVP to the church office for the meal: 682-5511.**

## INVITE A FRIEND

**Palm Sunday**, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of March, coincides with our designated "Invite a Friend" Sunday. What a great opportunity for you to share the message of the Lenten season with a new friend, colleague or neighbor! Won't YOU share this special service of Song and Praise marking Jesus' triumphant entry into the city of Jerusalem by inviting someone to church this coming Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Easter lilies** will grace our sanctuary again this year on Easter Sunday. **The deadline for returning cards for memorials and honorariums is Sunday, March 28.**



## FOOTWASHING THIS SUNDAY

As we enter Holy Week, we encounter the story in John 13 of Jesus washing the disciples' feet, and his command that we do likewise for those whom we love. Therefore during the Sunday School hour we will have a footwashing station in the Chapel for the children during Sunday School, and for any others who would like to have their feet washed, or wash other's feet. The water will be warm, the towels will be dry, and the experience will be biblical. All are invited to participate from 10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

The FPC Youth invite all FPC families of youth and young children to a

## Spring Picnic

(with Easter Egg Hunt)

**Sunday, March 28**

after worship at

**Duke Gardens**

Please bring filled plastic Easter eggs to share, your lunch and a blanket to sit on. After eating, the youth will entertain the children and facilitate the egg hunt.



## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Lent has often been described as a journey. It begins with temptation and ashes and moves toward Jerusalem and a cross. It should be obvious that this is not a pleasure trip. It is not for the faint of heart. Rather the journey challenges us to deepen our faith and commitment to Christ.

We are getting ready to make the trip with Jesus who entered the holy city riding on a donkey. It is an amazing trip! Every year we gather on Palm Sunday morning on the courthouse steps with neighbors to bless the palms. Our service in the sanctuary begins as a procession and ends with a reading of the Passion Narrative and stripping the church.

On Wednesday of Holy Week we will gather with neighbors for lunch at noon and worship at 12:30 p.m. with the **Reverend Micky Efrid** as our speaker. Maundy Thursday will be observed at St. Joseph AME Church at 7 p.m., preceded by supper at 6 p.m. Stations of the Cross begin on Friday at 12 noon at St. Philip's Episcopal Church and ends in our sanctuary. There is a program of lessons and music on Friday evening at 7 p.m. My hope is that in making this journey together, our devotion and dedication to Christ and his ministry will be strengthened.

*Joe*

## NOTES

- **Valentine Ndambiri**, a junior at Riverside High, has been nominated for membership in the National Society of High School Scholars.
- The **CROP Walk** was an inspiring experience! Over 60 FPC folks made the walk. Thanks to all who participated by walking or sponsored walkers.
- **Phyllis and Wes Kort** will represent FPC on Saturday at the Memorial Service for **John Lyons** at the First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. John's grandfather was pastor of that church when they built the current sanctuary.

## Donations Needed

Iglesia Emanuel and Northgate Presbyterian continue to supply 30 families per week with groceries, while feeding 80+ people a hot meal. We are involving food bank recipients as volunteers, who are enthusiastically pitching in to cook the hot meal and organize bags of food to be distributed. There are two ways to contribute: we always appreciate your donations of canned food, rice, beans and other staples. Alternatively, a monetary donation of \$20 is enough to provide packages of food for about five families. Thank you so much for your continued support of this ministry!

– **Rev. Julio Ramirez-Eve**

## OUR SYMPATHIES

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to:

- **Harry and Ellen Young** on the death of Harry's brother, **Walter Young**, in Roanoke Rapids on March 4<sup>th</sup>, and to
- **Beth and Larry Brockman, Catie and Matthew**, on the death of Beth's grandmother, **Elizabeth Michalko**, in Pittsburgh, PA on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

*"Jesus said,*

*'I am the resurrection and the life.'"*

## OUR CONCERNS

**Muriel Kirkland** **Trish Cates**  
**Florence McDow** **Josh Stanek**  
**Carolyn Wolfe**

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

### Added this week:

**Mary Hanson**, grandmother of Laura Hanson

- ♦ **Mary Booth**, friend of FPC
- ♦ **George Cox**, son of Sarah Cox
- ♦ **Brad Holbrook**, 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**, sister of Beth Neece
- ♦ **Stephen McAllister**, son-in-law of Bill and Debbie Mathews

## JOINT OFFICERS' RETREAT

**SATURDAY, MARCH 27**

(9:00 a.m. – Noon)

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The deadline for submitting nominations for the **Class of 2013 elders and deacons** is **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. Nomination forms are available from the Church office.

Regular and large print copies of the **These Days** devotional book are available from the table in the foyer.

## REGISTRATION FORMS

... are available in the church foyer and online via the church website.

Registration **deadline** for FPC members is **April 1**.



## MEN OF FAITH

### BREAKFAST / CONVERSATION

at Nosh's Café

**Friday, March 26**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**Monday, April 12**

10:30 – 12 Noon

Please note this is a date change.

We **will not meet** on Easter Monday.

## YOUTH NEWS

Friends,

Sunday's Durham CROP Walk was a fantastic community and church event! I want to thank each of you who gave up your Sunday afternoon to walk to alleviate hunger and poverty in Durham and around the world. I know I was deeply moved by the whole event! So thanks again.

This Sunday, we will gather on the Duke campus again, this time for our annual **Spring Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt at Duke Gardens**. This fun lunch is open to all families of FPC especially those with young children. Youth, our job at the picnic will be to entertain the little ones while the eggs are hidden and then to help them with the egg hunt. Should be a 'hopping' good time! ☺ I Hope you all will join us. Please bring some filled plastic eggs to share with our young friends along with your picnic. We will gather near the grassy area/pond in the gardens after worship.

*Rebecca Leonard*

**CROP WALK**

helped make a difference!

So far we have raised **\$2,509** and funds continue to come in daily. Thanks to all the FPC walkers and sponsors who have

**Jodi, Julie, Ben and Charlotte Maxwell**  
**Emily, Kennedy and Sophie Wilkins**  
**Kathy, Caleb and Benjamin Conner**  
**Juliana and Sheila Miglarese**  
**Rebecca, Maryn and Jenna Leonard**  
**Joe and Carlisle Harvard**  
**Sharon and Steve Hirsch**  
**Caroline and Jane Rourk**  
**Carter Momsen-Hudson**  
**Jane and Dawn Carsey**  
**Lenore and Megan Champion**  
**Cheri, Andy and Sam Henry**  
**Cecelia and Colin Moore**  
**Andy and Ginny Widmark**

**Talitha and Delia Kwon** **Anna Currie**  
**Judy and David Smith** **Jane Wettach**  
**Alex and Kayla Buck** **Mary Gitata**  
**Lanny Pratt** **Joyce Houk**  
**Catherine Sapp** **Shirley Frederick**  
**Tim Strauman** **Corey Allen**  
**Marki Watson** **Sydney Curtis**  
**Paul Baldasare** **Beth Eisenson**  
**Anna Kasibhatla** **Susan Dunlap**  
**Emily Walter Ryan** **Abi Bisette**  
**Phyllis Verhey** **Marilyn Hedgpeth**  
**Tom Bacon** **Harriett Mitchell**

... along with a number of their friends!



## Wednesday, March 31

**12:30 p.m. Midweek Worship**

*at First Presbyterian Church*

A service of prayer, scripture, and song marking the conclusion of the Lenten season. **Dr. James (Mickey) Efird** will be preaching. A light lunch will be served at noon.

## Thursday, April 1

### Maunder Thursday

**7:00 p.m. Worship / Holy Communion**

at St. Joseph's AME Church

(Dinner served prior to the service)

## Friday, April 2 Good Friday

**12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross**

(Beginning at St. Phillips Episcopal Church and ending at FPC)

**7:00 p.m. Evening Vespers**

A service of music and prayer appropriate to Good Friday. **The St. Ambrose's Choir of Raleigh** will join us again this year.

## Sunday, April 4 Easter Sunday

**9:00 a.m. Communion Service**

(FPC Memorial Garden)

**9:45 a.m. Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. Worship and Communion**

(The **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** received during worship.)

*Save the Date!*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28**

## SENIOR LUNCHEON

More details forthcoming!



Thank you to the FPC congregation for all you have been doing during my transition and difficulties.

Please keep praying for me.

– **Carol Johnson**

## CRUTCHES FOR HAITI

The organization Physicians for Peace ([www.physiciansforpeace.org](http://www.physiciansforpeace.org)) has requested help with collecting assistive walking devices for amputees as part of the recovery process. **Ian Dolejs**, a Life Scout in Troop 400 in Durham, is collecting **crutches, walkers and canes** for the more than 6,000 amputees in Haiti as his Eagle Scout project. **Drop off your donations at FPC by March 31**. For more info contact Ian at 382-8944 or [ian@dolejs.com](mailto:ian@dolejs.com).

## FEED MY SHEEP . . .

Remember to bring your **Pennies for Hunger offering** this Sunday.

On **Easter Sunday, April 4**, the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** will be received. This annual offering helps provide life necessities (especially food and water) to disaster survivors throughout the world. *Please give generously!*

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