

# First Presbyterian News

APRIL 5, 2011



ESTABLISHED 1871

While we offer young people opportunities to commit their lives to Christ, we do so knowing that God is at work in all our lives and that any commitment is not an end-all in itself but one step in the journey called faithfulness and discipleship. Presbyterians are notorious for being involved in the community and for trying to bring about changes in government and in society. We are active being the church today for all people. John Calvin transformed the city of Geneva and dedicated the last chapter of his final book to the Christian's relationship to the civil magistrates.

– *Rodger Nishioka*, The Roots of Who We Are

## SUNDAY, APRIL 10



Rodger Nishioka holds the Benton Family Chair in Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary. He is a graduate of Seattle Pacific University, McCormick Theological

Seminary, and Georgia State University. Prior to his joining the faculty at Columbia, he served as the Coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the General Assembly Council of the PC(U.S.A.). The son of a retired Presbyterian pastor, Rodger is evidence that you can be a pastor's kid and still love Jesus.

### 9:45 a.m. – Sunday School "The Once and Future Church"

Adult classes combined

Many persons who study the church are arguing that the 21<sup>st</sup> century church has more in common with the first century church than the 20<sup>th</sup> century church. What does that mean for us today? In this conversation, we will explore eight trends that are challenging and changing what it means to be in ministry in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. Join us in Watts-Hill Hall for discussion.

### 11:00 a.m. Worship & Baptism Sermon:

"Is there life in these old bones?"  
(Text: Ezekiel 37:1-14)

*Rodger Nishioka*, preaching

### 6:00 p.m. A Conversation with Parents and Caregivers "Will Your Faith Have Children?"

Retired Duke Divinity school professor John Westerhoff was fond of saying that the pressing question of the day is not "Will our children have faith?" but rather "Will our faith have children?" In this conversation, Rodger will explore what we as parents and caregivers do in response to both questions. We will examine ways we help our children grow in faith and ways our faith can grow thanks to the gifts that children offer.

### Monday, April 11

"Leadership with Courage and Nerve"  
10:00 a.m. A Conversation  
with Pastors and Educators

Drawing upon the work of the late Edwin Friedman (Failure of Nerve) and Peter Steinke (Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times), Rodger will talk about what it means to be leaders of the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We will explore how we hinder leadership and shy away from the essence of Christ's demand to "lead a life worthy of the calling" to which we have been called.

## SECOND EFFORT REPORT

To date there have been **86 second-effort pledges for our \$25,000 budget deficit**. Thanks to your generosity we are very close to securing the pledges we need for the 2011 budget. If you would like to join the effort please send your pledge to **Tom Bloom** or bring it on Sunday. Your generous support of FPC is greatly appreciated.

## LENTEN WORSHIP AND HOLY COMMUNION

6 p.m., Wednesday, April 6  
Led by the Confirmation Class  
6:30 p.m., dinner

Tomato-basil cheese-baked pasta, salad, bread, cookies prepared by *Marilyn Hedgpath, Bill and Marcia Lorimer*

## EASTER LILIES will

grace our sanctuary again this year on Easter Sunday. Members are invited to donate (any amount) 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. **Lily donor cards will be available at the church through the deadline of Sunday, April 17.**



## LANDSCAPING WORKDAY Saturday, April 9

(Rain date: April 16)

Please join us from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon for weeding and tidying up around the grounds at FPC. Contact **Barbara Buckley** (bjbuckley1@frontier.com) or **Kate Busa** (katebusa@gmail.com) for details.

FPC's annual youth sponsored **Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt at Duke Gardens will be held on Sunday, April 17 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** on the lawn near the pond at the Gardens. All families with young children, and anyone else who'd love to come along, are invited to attend this fun family event! Please join us!



## SERVING APRIL 10

Acolytes: **Jenna Leonard, Carter Momsen-Hudson**

Crucifer: **James Compton**

Greeters: **Maxie Honeycutt, Hilda Bradshaw**

After Worship Greeters: **Lesley Curtis** (font); **Leslie Strohm** (Narthex/Main St)

Ushers: **Delia Kwon** (head usher), **Joy Kerner** (flowers), **Jon Kimball, David Lorimer, Mary-Jo Keenan, Cecelia Moore**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Among church people these days there is anxiety about the future. Change is all around us and there is no clear road map as to where God is leading us. While we can rest assured that God is on the journey with us, our faith communities are evolving and require able leaders.

This Sunday, our guest will be **Rodger Nishioka**, professor of Christian Education and a much respected leader and speaker in the church. When Rodger speaks, people listen, because of his insights into what is happening in our culture especially among young adults and youth and his sound Reformed Theology. The theme for his visit is "Ancient-Future Church: Will the 21<sup>st</sup> century church look more like the early church?" Let me encourage you to be present for as much of his presentations as possible. Rodger is insightful and inspiring.

On Sunday, we shall also celebrate baptism, welcome new members, and receive two confirmands. I look forward to continuing our journey toward Holy Week and Easter.

*Joe*

## NOTES

- The **Pennies for Hunger offering** received on **Sunday, March 27** totaled **\$228.00**. Thank you for continuing to support efforts to combat hunger.
- Congratulations to **Rebecca Telford-Marx** who is a National Merit Scholarship Finalist for 2011.

## OUR CONCERNS

- **Florence McDow**, Duke Hospital
- **Bette Conroy**, home recovering from eye surgery.
- **Allen Verhey**, begins treatment at Duke this week.
- **Gladys Gathu** began chemotherapy at UNC this week.
- **Mike Atkins**, friend of Rebecca Leonard, diagnosed with cancer.

**Carol Johnson**  
**Ann McKown**  
**Joe Robinson**

**Tom Howerton**  
**David Parkins**  
**Doris Smith**

*Sarah Todd*

- **Donald Davis**, brother of Lorraine Davis
- **Chester Bissette**, grandfather of Abi Bissette
- **Denise Duffy**, sister of Andy Henry
- **Jim Goff**, father of Leslie McDow
- **Jesse D. Smith, Jr.**, son of Doris Smith

## MEETINGS AFTER WORSHIP

The **Prayer Shawl Group** will meet in the Wilson Parlor and the **Nominating Committee** will meet in the East Parlor after worship on **Sunday, April 10**.

The Session will meet on  
**Sunday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m.**  
in the Wilson Parlor to receive new members and approve baptisms.

## YOUTH NEWS

Friends,

Howdy everyone. We've got a big weekend coming up at FPC for 'Iter' and for the parents of all the youth! From 7:00 p.m. Friday until 9:00 a.m. Saturday will be a lock-in for 'Iter' - our older youth group (grades 8th -12th). Bring a sleeping bag and your toothbrush and you'll be good to go! **We will not have youth group on Sunday evening** so that your parents can attend the special dinner and discussion with famed Dr. Rodger Nishioka.

Remember that on **April 17th** (Palm Sunday) we will host the annual Picnic and Easter Egg hunt at Duke Garden following worship. I need you all to bring filled plastic Easter eggs (of which we have hundreds in the youth room closet at church) so that we can provide this fun fellowship event for our younger FPC friends and their families. Thanks everyone and have a great week.

**Rebecca Leonard**

## CROP WALK UPDATE

Friends,

Thank you for your support of Durham's CROP Hunger Walk as a walker or a sponsor this year. So far (and the support is still coming in), we've raised over \$3,000.00 to combat hunger and thirst in Durham and around the world. Your support makes a big difference in the lives of many people. Thank you.

– **Rebecca Leonard**

To the First Presbyterian community,

Thanks so much for your kind visits, calls, and prayers which meant a great deal to Beth and to me during my recent health problems and which I truly believe have enhanced my great recovery. As some of you know, I am the Jewish half of our "mixed" marriage. I have little education in matters of religion or theology - though I am interested to learn more. I believe that Jesus' message - and it's the right message for all time, and for all people - was, and is, love. And I believe that First Presbyterian honors that message with your words and with your actions every day. I am proud to be a member of your faith community, and thank you for all you do, for so many.

Sincerely,

**Howard (and Beth) Eisenson**



## FIRST FRIENDS AND PRIMETIMERS

### SPRING GATHERING

**Saturday, April 16 at 6:30 p.m.**

at the home of

**Mac and Wendy McCorkle**

4811 Montvale Drive, Durham

(A childfree POTLUCK event)

Please RSVP to Wendy at 490-4868 or  
wenmac1@intrext.net

*(Please arrange now for childcare.)*

## BOOK GROUP

The *Things That Matter Book Group* will meet on **Tuesday, May 10** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of **Sally Ensor**, 12 Sweetbriar Lane, Chapel Hill. **Lee Courtland** will lead a discussion of Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese. RSVP to Sally at densor1736@aol.com. Newcomers and occasional participants are welcome!

*Save these Dates!*

## Daytimers' Luncheon

Tuesday, April 26 at 11:30 a.m.

(Location to be announced)

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## Congregational Meeting

The Session is calling a Congregational meeting for **Sunday, May 1** for the purpose of hearing a report from the Nominating Committee to elect Class of 2014 Elders and Deacons.

## APRIL'S

### "LEARN BY HEART"

#### The Great Commission

(Matthew 28: 19-20)

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.



## HOLY WEEK

### Sunday, April 17 - Palm Sunday

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Foot-washing
- 10:30 a.m. Palm parade to Courthouse steps
- 10:45 a.m. Blessing of the Palms
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:30 p.m. Children's Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt at Duke Gardens

### Wednesday, April 20 - Midweek Worship

- 12:30 p.m. A service of prayer, scripture, and song marking the conclusion of the Lenten season. A light lunch will be served at noon.

### Thursday, April 21 - Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
Joint service with St. Joseph's AME (at FPC)  
Supper served prior to the service

### Friday, April 22 - Good Friday

- Noon Stations of the Cross  
Begins at St. Phillips Episcopal Church; ends at FPC
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Vespers (A service of music, prayer, silence.)

### Sunday, April 24 - Easter, Resurrection of the Lord

- 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Memorial Garden)
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

(The *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering will be received during worship along with the *Pennies for Hunger* offering.)

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