

# First Presbyterian News

MAY 10, 2011



ESTABLISHED 1871

What shall it be? What shall we choose: to live half alive and preserve the illusions of a Good Friday world, or live fully alive the Easter truth that Christ is risen, love never dies, not with God, not even with us, and because Christ is risen we too are risen? - **William Sloane Coffin**, *Collected Sermons: The Riverside Years*

## SUNDAY, MAY 15

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m.

Worship and Sacrament of Baptism

**Sermon:**

**"With Glad and Generous Hearts"**  
**Joseph S. Harvard**, preaching

### Worship Texts

Acts of the Apostles	Acts 2:42-47
Psalm Lesson	Psalm 23
Epistle Lesson	1 Peter 2:19-25
Gospel Lesson	John 10:1-10

Acolytes: **Catie Brockman**, **Neil Peterson**

Crucifer: **Eli Miller**

Narthex Greeters: **Abby Jones**,

**Minnie Cameron**

After Worship Greeters:

**Jean Wilson** (side, font)

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

Ushers: **Joy Kerner** (head usher), **David Lorimer** (flowers), **Pat Dillon**, **Lin Bentel**, **Alex Crockett**, **Ellie Dilworth**

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith and Community Class

**"Reporting Our Work"**

The theological commentary on Ephesians by **Allen Verhey** and **Joe Harvard** began with conversations in the Faith and Community Class. The authors will report back to you on the work done. Allen and Joe will share themes and answer your questions. Please join us at 9:45 a.m. in Watts-Hill Hall.

Lectionary Class

As Easter people, we expect to enjoy the good things that have been promised: abundant life, fellowship, and so on. But what's all this about suffering? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Hand In Hand Class

We are currently studying John Timmer's Four-Dimensional Jesus. Please join us at 9:45 in the Wilson Parlor.

Journeys Class

What is the Trinity? How did Christ's message change Judaism? Journeys will read and discuss Hebrews to help answer some of these questions. Join us at 9:45 on the second floor of the education building.

Women's Spiritual Formation

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

Thanks to **Joe Robinson** for the documentary presentation to a full house on Sunday evening. He and **Mary Kay** leave for Washington State on Wednesday until December.

## SERVICE AND MISSION

~ GREET THE AUTHORS,  
HELP FEED THE HUNGRY ~

Come celebrate the publication of *Ephesians: A Theological Commentary* by **Joe Harvard** and **Allen Verhey** after church on **Sunday, May 15**, in Watts Hill Hall. The book will be available for \$30 (a \$5 discount) and all the proceeds from the sale of the book on that day will be donated to Durham Urban Ministries, where they will be matched by other funds. Each book sold will provide \$60 to feed the hungry.

The **Service and Mission Committee** is sponsoring the event as part of its effort to help feed the hungry. Coffee and cookies will be provided. Joe and Allen will be available to sign copies of the book, which is a commentary on Ephesians in the new series of commentaries being published by Westminster John Knox Press. Joe and Allen wrote the first draft of this commentary while they taught the adult Sunday School class in the fall of 2008. As they acknowledge in the preface, their work was significantly enriched by those conversations at FPC.

~ JUST(ICE) COFFEE ~

**Beginning Sunday, May 15**, the Service and Mission Committee will have one-pound bags of whole-bean "Café Justo" available for purchase for several weeks. You'll be able to enjoy excellent Arabica coffee grown in the Chiapas highlands near the Guatemalan border and roasted just before shipment from Agua Prieta, in Sonora, next to the US border and Arizona. You'll be invited to learn about economic and immigration issues that led the *Presbyterian Self Development of People* program to provide start-up funds for this south-of-the border enterprise.

Café Justo is the result of years of planning by Daniel Cifuentes, a migrant from Chiapas, Mexico; Pastor Mark Adams, U.S. coordinator of the Presbyterian border ministry, Frontera de Cristo; and Tommy Bassett, a Roman Catholic layperson.

~ BOOK DRIVE ~

FPC is facilitating a BOOK DRIVE to benefit the EDCI (East Durham Children's Initiative) **beginning THIS Sunday** (May 15<sup>th</sup>) until June 19<sup>th</sup> in which contributions of gently used children's books, picture books, parenting books and monetary donations toward refurbished computers will be accepted and greatly appreciated. Now's the time to dust off and clear out your old bookshelves and give those unused books to the children and families of the EDCI who really need them! Learn more about EDCI by visiting their website: <http://eastdurhamchildrensinitiative.org/>. Donations can be left on the bookshelf in the foyer at FPC! Thanks everyone!

- **the FPC youth**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Friends,

On his way out of the sanctuary on Sunday, **Parker Morton**, a longtime member of FPC said to me, "We do not have to worry about the future of this church. With leadership like the youth gave in worship today, we are in good hands!" I heartedly agree. Thanks to the young people and the youth leaders for the worship service on Sunday. Our gratitude is also extended to the Fellowship Committee for the Mother's Day luncheon.

Another sign of the strength of our congregation is your response to the request for additional funds to support the ministry of FPC in 2011. **Carl and Lisa Rist** announced at the Congregational Meeting that 93 households responded with \$27,735 additional, making our pledge for 2011, \$843,000. At the last meeting of the Presbytery of New Hope it was reported that our congregation gives more to benevolence than any other Presbyterian Church in Durham and we are 5<sup>th</sup> in the Presbytery out of 137 churches. I am deeply grateful for your generosity and commitment to the work of Christ's church at Roxboro and Main.

**Allen Verhey** and I are grateful for the opportunity in cooperation with many of you to write a theological commentary on Ephesians. We are excited about celebrating the book's publication after worship on Sunday. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to feed the hungry.

## NOTES

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Anna and Bill Currie** who recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## OUR SYMPATHIES

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to **Sarah Cox** and family on the death of her son, **George Cox**. A Memorial Service will be held on a future date.

**"Jesus said,  
'I am the resurrection and the life.'"**

## OUR CONCERNS

**Kate Crockett**, granddaughter of Alex and Becky Crockett

**Florence McDow**, patient at Duke Hospital

**Tom Howerton**

**Carol Johnson**

**David Parkins**

**Ann Prospero**

**Allen Verhey**

**Mike Atkins**, friend of Rebecca Leonard

**Chester Bisette**, grandfather of Abi Bisette

**Sarah McCracken Cobb**, sister of Mary Ann Compton

**Donald Davis**, brother of Lorraine Davis

**Denise Duffy**, sister of Andy Henry

**Jim Goff**, father of Leslie McDow

**Frances Kennedy**, mother of Emily Wilkins

**Mary Russell Roberson**, daughter of Ruth and Russell Roberson

**Jesse D. Smith, Jr.**, son of Doris Smith

**Karen Wolcott**, cousin of Jean Wilson

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18  
SENIORS SPRING LUNCHEON



Program: **Margaret and Tom Keller** will present a report on their recent trip to Morocco. Please join us!

**11:30 A.M. – RECEPTION**  
**12 NOON – LUNCHEON**  
RSVP: 682-5511

THIRD FRIDAY EVENT

First Presbyterian returns to Third Friday Durham with a series of summer concerts. The first on **May 20 at 7 PM** features **Andrew Snee** and **Robert Graham** of the acoustic rock duo **Sad Magazine**. They are both guitarists/songwriters with a rich history in the Triangle music community. (Andrew is also a member of the Durham group **Sea Cow** with our own **Jody Maxwell**, drummer). The concert is free and open to the public. Please plan to come (children are welcome) and invite your friends and colleagues.

The **Landscaping and Gardening Committee**

invites you to join us for a Workday on **Saturday, May 21 from 9 a.m. till noon**. Please bring tools for weeding and pruning. We are also seeking a strong individual to dig out two small dead trees in the Memorial Garden. For further information contact **Barbara Buckley** ([bjbuckley1@frontier.com](mailto:bjbuckley1@frontier.com)) or **Kate Busa** ([katebusa@gmail.com](mailto:katebusa@gmail.com)).



NEW BIBLE STUDY

"JONAH"

A new, short-term Bible study will look at the book of Jonah. Our only curriculum will be the Bible this time, so come prepared to dig into the text.

The **Friday morning class** will meet from 10:30 a.m. – noon, **beginning on May 13**, and run through June 3. Childcare can be arranged for the Friday class if you will let **Marilyn Hedgpeth** know.

The **Sunday class at Croasdaile** will meet on Sunday afternoons from 3:30–5:00, **beginning May 22** – June 12.

ORGAN RECITAL

DAVID DURKOP

Minister of Music at Grace Baptist Church  
Sunday, May 22 at 3:00 p.m.

at Grace Baptist Church

(on Mangum Street at Trinity Avenue)

This is a free event and a reception will follow. Call (919) 688-6765 for more info.

YOUTH NEWS

Dearest youth of FPC,

I love you all. Seriously, you make me so proud time and time again and my heart just swells with gratitude and love for each of you. Thank you for your fantastic leadership of worship on Sunday. It was truly a lovely worship service and a perfect mother's day!

Extra special kudos to **James Compton** for his amazing sermon, well-written and delivered. Also, to our prayer authors and readers, **JL and Lily**, to all our scripture readers: **Anna, Parker, Aurelia and Peter**. Thanks to **Benjamin, Sydney and Corey** for their leadership and to **Ben** for his drumming! Also thanks to **Jackson and Alex** for their calls to worship and confession! Thanks to our ushers, crucifer and acolytes: **Megan, Gwennie, Talitha, Grace, Leo!** Thanks to our adult leaders: **Lenore and Brent** also! And a special thanks to those of you who lifted your voice in praise to God, including **Rosie, Jane and Ivy**. Also, KUDOS to **John Fricks** who helped with the sound system. We will plan to lead worship on Mother's Day again next year.

This Sunday, May 15 we will have regular scheduled youth group with God Squad meeting from 5-6:30 p.m., Iter meeting from 6-8 p.m. and the Wilkins family providing dinner.

**ALSO on Sunday, all of our 12<sup>th</sup> graders and youth advisors are invited to Alivia's on Main Street, near Brightleaf Square at 12:30 for a special luncheon.** Hope to see you ALL on Sunday!

**Rebecca Leonard**

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
GRAND FINALE  
AND BREAKFAST

On **Sunday, June 5**, all Sunday School classes are invited to Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45 a.m. for a congregational breakfast (free, sponsored by CE Committee) and a time of celebration and thanksgiving for FPC's educational ministry. In keeping with this year's theme, "Learning by Heart", each of the children's classes will be asked to present something they have learned by heart this year, be it song, Bible verse, prayer, or creed. All teachers, troubadours, superintendents, nursery workers, and support personnel will be recognized and will receive a small token of the church's appreciation. Please join us for this celebration.

**Sunday School will NOT end on June 5<sup>th</sup>.** Summer Sunday School, "Praying In Color", runs from June 12 - August 21. Stay tuned!

SAVE THE DATE!

WEEK OF MISSION

JUNE 27-JULY 1

Service opportunities will include community gardening, serving meals, volunteering in the Day School, Habitat and more. Look for sign-up sheets beginning June 5<sup>th</sup>. We will also be holding a non-perishable food drive!

Friends,

This year seven of our young people will be graduating from local high schools with plans to attend college in the fall. These young people are: **Simon Carsey, Adam Ewald, Elizabeth Klinck, Edwin Mwangi, Jared Rist, Kate Strauman and Rebecca Telford-Marx**. Many years ago we started a tradition of providing these graduates with a laundry basket filled with heart-felt gifts (poems, encouraging words, candy, items to take to college, gift cards etc...) from folks within the community of faith here at FPC. This opportunity will be available to you again this year.

Beginning this Sunday, you will find baskets in the foyer for dropping off your gifts or well wishes and these baskets will be presented to our young people on Senior Recognition Sunday, June 5 during worship. Thanks for your continued love and support of our young people especially as they face the daunting yet exciting transition from leaving home to undergraduate school!

- **Rebecca Leonard**



Students known to be graduating from high school or an undergraduate or graduate degree program in 2011 will be acknowledged during worship on **June 5<sup>th</sup>**. Please provide the student's name, school, and degree earned to **Valerie McMillian** or **Shirley Frederick** in the church office by **Friday, May 27**. You may also email the info to: [v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org).

**Rebecca Telford-Marx's Senior Recital** has been scheduled at FPC for **Wednesday, June 8 at 6:00 pm** in the sanctuary with a reception to follow.

My Dear Friends,

For over five years you have been praying for my son, George, who suffered from LBD – Lewy Body Dementia and died May 7<sup>th</sup>. He was made aware of your prayers for him, and our entire family thanks you. Yours in Christ,

**Sarah Cox**

**Note:** Sarah's son's picture is on the bulletin board in the foyer...the picture of the little boy in the choir robe, taken when George was a child.

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