

# First Presbyterian News

MAY 24, 2011



ESTABLISHED 1871

"Bizarre as it is in so many parts, (John's) gospel says - in the clearest voice we have - the sentence that humankind craves from the stories - 'The Maker of all things loves and wants me.' In no other book our culture owns can we see a clearer graph of that need, that tall enormous radiant arc - the fragile creatures made by God's hand, hurled into space, then caught at least by a man in some way like ourselves, through the ark of God." - **Reynolds Price, Incarnation, "The Gospel According to St. John"**

## SUNDAY, MAY 29

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

**Sermon: "Tread Lightly"**

**Marilyn T. Hedgpeth**, preaching

### Worship Texts

Psalm Lesson	Psalm 66:8-20
Book of Acts	Acts 17:22-31
Gospel Lesson	John 14:15-21

**ACOLYTES:** *Jackson Brigman*  
*Benjamin Brigman*

**CRUCIFER:** *Corey Allen*

**NARTHEX GREETER:** *Maxie Honeycutt*

**AFTER WORSHIP GREETERS:**

*Lesley Curtis* (font/side)

*Leslie Strohm* (Narthex / Main St)

**USHERS:** *Christyn Klinck* (head),

*Susan Seahorn* (flowers), *Joy Kerner*,

*David Lorimer*, *Mary-Jo Keenan*,

*Carolyn Merritt*

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Lectionary Class

Are we alone? Must we, as Paul said, "search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him"? Or do we have a better way? 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

Journeys will finish up their reading and discussion of Hebrews. Come join us.

### 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.

## Service and Mission

### SWIMSUITS NEEDED FOR

#### VCS CAMPERS

Many of the children at Iglesia Emanuel do not have swimsuits for the summer. They often consider swimsuits to be a luxury, and cannot afford to purchase them. FPC will be glad to take your "gently used" children's bathing suits, all sizes, to distribute to our friends at Iglesia Emanuel before Vacation Church School begins on June 20. Please bring them to the church office, or give them to Marilyn. Thanks.

### Book Sales

**Allen Verhey and Joe Harvard** are pleased to have collected \$1,500 from the sale of their commentary on Ephesians. All proceeds from sales of the book before **May 31** will be matched and go to Urban Ministries of Durham for hunger relief. It's not too late to buy a book for \$30.

### CAFÉ JUSTO

One-pound bags of whole-bean "Café Justo" are available for purchase for the next several Sundays. The original Café Justo, medium roast and dark roast, is \$10. The larger bean, Marago, dark roast, is \$14. Ground and decaf coffee are also available on special order by contacting **John Fricks**, 490-0601. The Café Justo Cooperative grew out of Frontero de Cristo, a Presbyterian border ministry in Agua Prieta, Sonora, and Douglas, Arizona.

### BOOK DRIVE

FPCs Youth are facilitating a BOOK DRIVE to benefit the EDCI (East Durham Children's Initiative) now 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. Learn more at <http://eastdurhamchildrensinitiative.org/>. Donations can be left on the bookshelf in the foyer at FPC!

## FROM THE

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Well, it seems the world did not come to an end on May 21, as some had proposed. Some of us were very pleased to have awakened on May 22 intact, without having to worry about our pets. As one member reflected, "If heaven is a place where my dogs are not welcome, then I'm not sure I want to go there." But if you happen to listen to Christian radio or watch the Christian broadcasting channels, you will notice that some people are sincerely upset that the anticipated rapture did not come to pass.

By the way, in looking up a word on Merriam Webster on-line, I noticed that the #2 word most frequently requested last week was "rapture". So people are truly intrigued, even if they feign indifference. As in the Old Testament story where Zerubbabel rebuilds the Temple after the exile, "Many . . . wept aloud . . . while many others shouted for joy. No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise." (Ezra 3: 12-13)

I imagine the same is true in the Presbyterian Church, with the passage of Amendment 10-A, the revised wording for ordination standards. Some people are rejoicing at this change, and some are weeping; and all of us belong to one-another as members of Christ's body. So, how will we live into the future as God's unraptured noisy weeping/rejoicing family? I hope you will help frame the answer to this question as we seek to discern God's way for our future together. I look forward to seeing you Sunday!

Shalom,

**Marilyn**

PS - The #1 most frequently looked-up word last week, according to Merriam Webster, was "love".

**THANK YOU!!**  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
**THANK YOU!!**

Thanks to the following people who beautified the grounds on Saturday:  
**Barbara Buckley, Alice Raney, Dale Georgiade, Paul Cornsweet, Jancy Strauman and Jean Cary.** The Memorial Garden looks stunning!



## 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. 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. Summer Sunday School, "Praying in Color," will begin on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

## NOTES

- **Joe and Carlisle Harvard** are on a trip to biblical Turkey to study the early history of Christianity. They will return on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Co-leaders of the trip are **Carlisle Harvard** and **Bruce Rigdon**.
- Farewell and Godspeed, to **Gladys Gathu**, who is returning to her home in Kenya this week; and to **Jim Koehneke**, who is moving to Maine to be closer to family there.
- It was great to see **Sarah Todd** back in church on Sunday after a long period of convalescence.

## BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism was celebrated on Sunday for **Jackson Bennett Miles**, son of **Justin and Alissa Miles**.

## OUR SYMPATHIES

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to

- **John and Sue Fricks** upon the death of Sue's mother, **Charlotte D'Arcy Housum Sampson**, on May 23<sup>rd</sup> in Maine;
- **Sherry Everett, Luke and Ellie**, upon the death of Sherry's grandmother, **Doris Neighbors**, in Johnson County, NC;
- **Dawn Carsey, Tom, Simon and Jane**, upon the death of Dawn's aunt in Denver, CO.

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

A Memorial Service for **George Cox**, son of **Sarah Cox**, will be held on Tuesday, June 14 at 2:00 p.m. at FPC. **Correction:** It is George's brother David who is pictured as a child in a choir robe on the bulletin board in the foyer.

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to **Jerry Postema and Leslie Winner** upon the birth of a granddaughter, **Norah Linda Budd**, born May 19 to **Alicia and Gary Budd**. Mother and child are doing well, as are the new grandparents!

## OUR CONCERNS

**Hilda Bradshaw** is a patient at Duke  
**Joe and Carlisle Harvard** (traveling mercies)  
**Florence McDow**, patient at Duke

**Dan Banner** **Tom Howerton**  
**Carol Johnson** **David Parkins**

**Mike Atkins**, friend of Rebecca Leonard  
**Chester Bisette**, grandfather of Abi Bisette  
**Sarah McCracken Cobb**, sister of Mary Ann Compton  
**Kate Crockett**, granddaughter of Alex and Becky Crockett  
**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

## MEN OF FAITH

FPC's Men of Faith group will meet for breakfast or coffee and some good conversation this **Friday, May 27 from 7:45 – 9:00 a.m. at Nosh's Café**. New faces are always welcomed. Please stop by for a few minutes as your schedule allows. Nosh's Café is located at 2812 Erwin Road (near the Duke / VA hospitals).

## YOUTH NEWS

Friends,

Is there something about yourself that, if you could change, you would? Have you ever stopped to think why you don't like that part of yourself? Have you ever wondered if, perhaps, that thing just might be something that makes you extraordinary, different, special? On Sunday we're going to have an opportunity to discuss and celebrate our uniqueness - GLEE style. We'll watch, together - both youth groups - the Glee episode "Born that way". Then we'll discuss (in our safe space way) our own 'stuff' followed by a celebration of ourselves and each other, all of whom were created in God's image and are BEAUTIFUL children of God.

Both God Squad and Iter will meet from 6-8pm this Sunday. Hope to see you there!

**Rebecca**

## GIFTS FOR GRADUATES

Several years ago FPC started a tradition of providing high school graduates with a laundry basket filled with heart-felt gifts (poems, encouraging words, candy, items to take to college, gift cards etc.) from the community of faith here at FPC. You will find baskets in the foyer for dropping off your gifts or well wishes. These baskets will be presented to our young people on Sunday, June 5 during worship.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES . . .

**Gabriel Baldasare** - B. A. Anthropology, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio  
**Caroline Ewald** – UNC, Chapel Hill  
**Rhyne Gulley** - B.A. Environmental Studies, University of Colorado at Boulder  
**Stuart Hedgpeth** - B.S. Chemistry, Duke  
**Abby Jones**, Duke Law School  
**Seo Kim** - B. A. Illustration , Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia  
**Lewis McCorkle** - B.A. History, UNC- Chapel Hill  
**Olive Mwangi** - B. S. Finance Winston-Salem State University  
**Ian Gitata Njoroge** - B.S. Mathematics / B.A. Chemistry – St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg and B.S. Chemical Engineering – North Carolina State University, Raleigh  
**David Parkins** –B. S. Sociology UNC - Greensboro  
**Laura Sappenfield** - B.S. Biology / minor Human Health, North Carolina State University, Raleigh  
**Kriddie Whitmore** – B.S. Biology /BA Environmental Geology, Guilford College, Greensboro  
**Mattie Whitmore** –Master in Math modeling, University of Maryland, Baltimore

## CONGRATULATIONS . . .

to **Vera Cecelski**, a sophomore political science and environmental studies double major at Williams College in Williamston, MA, who was selected for the Museum Education program assistant summer internship with the Department of Cultural Resources in Beaufort, NC.

## VIOLIN RECITAL

**Rebecca Telford-Marx's** Senior Recital has been scheduled at FPC for **Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm** in the sanctuary with a reception to follow.

## PRIMETIMERS GATHERING

\*\*\* DATE CHANGE \*\*\*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18**

6:30 p.m. at the home of  
**Howard and Beth Eisenson**  
1423 Acadia Street

Please bring your favorite dish to share!  
**RSVP to Beth:** 688-5818 or  
[heisenson@aol.com](mailto:heisenson@aol.com)

## DURHAM CAN

### Public Delegates Assembly

**Sunday, June 5, 2011**  
**3:00 PM – 4:30 PM**

We start on time and finish on time  
\*\*Gathering begins at 2:30PM \*\*

**Watts Street Baptist Church**  
800 Watts Street, Durham

## RACE FOR THE CURE

Breast cancer has affected many FPC families. This year, the Race for the Cure will take place in Raleigh on Saturday morning, **June 11**. Although we are not forming an official team, a number of us will be walking and/or running in the event. If you would like to participate or make a contribution, please visit the web site, <http://www.kommenctriangle.org/> or contact **Barbara Fish**, 688-9125 or [barb2fish@yahoo.com](mailto:barb2fish@yahoo.com).

## FPC WEEK OF MISSION

**JUNE 27 - JULY 1**

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



**Allen and Phyllis Verhey** are grateful for the kind words and prayers of First Presbyterian Church over the course of the past several weeks. Allen's chemotherapy has not been burdensome, and it seems to have been effective in keeping Allen's Amyloidosis under control. Thank you!

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