

# First Presbyterian News

NOVEMBER 15, 2011



ESTABLISHED 1871

Praise is the duty and delight, the ultimate vocation of the human community. . . . All of life is aimed toward God and finally exists for the sake of God. Praise articulates and embodies our capacity to yield, submit, and abandon ourselves in trust and gratitude to the One whose we are. Praise is not only a human requirement and human need; it is also a human delight. We have a resilient hunger to move beyond self, to return our energy and worth to the One from whom it has been granted. In our return to that One, we find our deepest joy.

- **Walter Brueggemann, Israel's Praise**

## NOVEMBER 20, 2011



**9:45 a.m.**  
Sunday School  
**11:00 a.m.**  
Worship and Baptism

**New members will be received during worship. Join us in Watts-Hill Hall following worship for lunch.**

Sermon: *"Surprised by Jesus"*  
**Joseph S. Harvard**, preaching

Worship Texts	
Old Testament	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalms Lesson	Psalms 100
Epistle Lesson	Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel Lesson	Matthew 25:31-46

Acolytes: **Almira Mbah, Neil Peterson**

Crucifer: **Graeme Peterson**

Crossaids Driver: **Jean Cary**

Narthex Greeters: **Hilda Bradshaw, Minnie Cameron**

After Worship Greeters:

**Jean Cary** (rear / narthex)

**Jean Wilson** (side, front)

Ushers: **Susan Seahorn** (head), **Alec Bethune** (flowers), **Dale Gaddis, Nancy Kost, Leslie Shaw, Mary Jo Keenan**

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Faith and Community Class

#### "Living Faithfully in Uncertain Times"

This week we shall continue our series on how we might respond to the challenging economic times in which we live. **Carl Rist**, who is vice-president for program at the Corporation for Enterprise Development, will lead the discussion. How do we respond to those with the least in terms of material wealth? Please join us at 9:45am in Walls-Hill Hall.

### Lectionary Class

If you're going to be judged, don't you want to know the criteria ahead of time? It's not fair to be condemned for something you didn't know was wrong, is it? How could you possibly know that compassion was so important? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

### Adult Discussion Class

We are currently studying The True Story of the Whole World: Finding Your Place in the Biblical Drama. This book unfolds Scripture in six "acts" from the establishment of God's kingdom to the "return of the King." Join us at 9:45 in the Wilson Parlor.

### Starting from Scratch

The *Starting from Scratch* series for young adults meets in room 203. This Sunday we will be looking at different types of psalms over the next few weeks and learning the language of prayer.

### Women's Spiritual Formation

**Susan Dunlap** leads this class on spiritual formation on Sundays at 9:45 in the Middle School classroom located below the sanctuary. New faces always welcome!

## SUNDAY AT FPC

Sunday is a special day at FPC. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving we gather to give thanks and express our gratitude with our pledges for 2012. We come together to the Lord's Table, building the body of Christ together. Following worship you are invited to lunch in Watts-Hill Hall. **Please let us know you will join us by calling the church office today, or emailing: v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org**

## STEWARDSHIP SEASON

### Building the Body of Christ Together

(1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

The youth of First Presbyterian Church have an integral place in our community.

You might think of us as the future of the church, but we are the present. *"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body and each member belongs to all the others."* (Romans 12: 4-5)

Youth at FPC don't just sit through services. We participate fully, strengthening our relationship with the church and with Christ. As young children, we are assimilated into the church through Sunday School and the Children's Choir. A little older, and we consider confirmation, and Youth Group activities. Older youth have taken upon themselves to fulfill vital roles in the church, such as acolyte, crucifer, elder and deacon. A few brave souls have even preached! Outside the church walls, youth from FPC have done service projects such as youth builds for Habitat for Humanity and working the Souper Bowl fundraiser to provide food for those in need in our Durham Community.

The youth members of FPC have dedicated great energy and many hours of service to our church, and to building the body of Christ. We will continue to do so, and hopefully inspire others (younger and older than us) to do the same through their faith and their own actions. - **Guy Cecelski**



## NOTES

- **Durham Congregations in Action (DCIA)** met at FPC today for lunch. Gratitude was expressed to participants of last year's CROP WALK. FPC was recognized for raising over \$5,000. Of the monies raised, over \$37,000 remained in Durham to address the needs of our neighbors. During the meeting, there was good discussion of ways congregations can address the growing hunger crisis including participation in Bread for the World.
- The **Church Office will be CLOSED on Thursday and Friday, November 24-25** in observance of Thanksgiving.

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Almost every Sunday in worship at FPC, you are invited to stand and "say what we believe." This invitation precedes the *Affirmation of Faith*. This Sunday we shall all be invited to bring our pledges of resources, and time and talents with our tithes and offerings to the Lord's Table in gratitude for God's goodness towards us. Each year this is a significant moment for Carlisle and me. It is an opportunity for us to express our thanksgiving to God and to reaffirm our commitment to the work of Christ's church in Durham and around the world. This week you will receive a letter from the church with a pledge card and Time and Talent sheet. Please take some time to reflect on your response.

The life and ministry of the congregation that gathers at Roxboro and Main needs our support especially this year to enable us to continue the work Christ calls us to do in these uncertain times. The need is great. It is important that we all participate, and I hope that you will consider increasing your pledge so that we can respond to the growing needs around us. Your response is important to the life of the church. It is also important for you in your relationship with God. Jesus told his followers that where our treasure is, our hearts will be also (Matthew 6:21). Your gift is an affirmation of faith.

Let us gather on Sunday in a spirit of thanksgiving as we worship Christ the King who gave so freely for us and for the reconciliation of the world. God has blessed us in ways far greater than we could ever ask or think. Thanks Be to God!

**Joe**

## OUR CONCERNS

- **Florence McDow** is undergoing tests at Duke.
- **Rob and Amy Harkey** are in Uganda to receive their adopted daughter.
- **Martha Howerton** is at home.
- Margaret Boswell**
- Tom Howerton**
- Carol Johnson**
- Mozette Rollins**
- Susan Thompson**
- Dub Gulley**
- Don Jenkins**
- David Parkins**
- Sarah Todd**
- Jerry Tyren**
- **Chester Bissette**, grandfather of Abi Bissette
- **Mary Causey**, sister of Ellen Bacon
- **Sarah McCracken Cobb**, sister of Mary Ann Compton
- **Kate Crockett**, granddaughter of Alex and Becky Crockett
- **Donald Davis**, brother of Lorraine Davis
- **Rolf Olsen**, friend of Bob and Lina Yoder
- **Mary Russell Roberson**, daughter of Ruth and Russell Roberson
- **Karen Wolcott**, cousin of Jean Wilson



Belated thanks to *John and Sue Fricks* for arranging the beautiful Shower of Stoles for the Covenant Network Conference, for hanging the HIV art exhibit in Watts-Hill Hall, and for audio engineering for the Conference.

Many thanks to the **Youth** for their good work on Sunday raking and bagging leaves.

**MEDICARE ANNUAL ELECTION  
IT PAYS TO COMPARE**

Senior PharmAssist, a local non-profit, is eager to help any Medicare beneficiary in Durham, regardless of age or income, review Medicare drug and medical coverage options for 2012. There can be major changes each year, especially with prescription coverage. Two-thirds of Senior PharmAssist clients during the past two years switched prescription coverage for an average savings of \$500 per person. For an appointment or more information, call (919) 688-4772. Don't delay – **Medicare's annual election period ends December 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**TIME OUT RADIO SHOW**

*Karen Romines*, founder and CEO of Pathfinder Pharmaceuticals, will be the guest discussing her work creating new cancer treating drugs. Time Out can be heard in Carrboro and Chapel Hill on 103.5 and in Durham and elsewhere on the web at wcomfm.org. The show will be heard **Monday, November 21 at 5:00 p.m.**

**DAYTIMER'S LUNCHEON**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22**

11:30 a.m.

**PAPA'S GRILLE  
1821 Hillandale Rd  
(Loehmann's Plaza)**

Hostesses: *Ann Prospero* and *Shirley Frederick*

**RSVP to Ann:** 489-8087 or [annprospero@gmail.com](mailto:annprospero@gmail.com)

**YOUTH NEWS**

Hi Everyone!

This **Saturday, November 19**, is the DPR Discovery Course, High Ropes Challenge! The middle school youth will be meeting from **8-12 noon** and the senior high youth will gather from **1-5 p.m.** Drop off and pick up will be at the Ropes Course, **1814 Stage Road, Durham. Everyone must be ON TIME to participate!** There will be water available but please bring a snack (or two) and dress appropriately for the weather. This is going to be an awesome experience for each of you individually and for the whole group! I am heading to Columbia, SC for a family wedding and am sad to be out of town for this occasion, but know I am leaving you all in the very capable hands of *Marilyn Hedgpeth, Jody Maxwell, Jon Abels, Kathy Conner and Lenore Champion!* Have a great time and if you have any questions, give me a call at 919-801-3095. There will be no regular youth group on Sunday evening in light of this day spent in fellowship!

Peace y'all!  
*Rebecca*

**SAVE THESE DATES!**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9**

7:30 P.M. AT FPC

**A CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
OF BRASS, ORGAN AND VOICE**  
featuring

**The Old North State Brass Band,  
Kathy Parkins (organ)  
and Lesley Curtis (soprano)**

Free admission. A goodwill offering will be received to benefit the *National Alliance for Mental Illness.*



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16**

**PRIME TIMERS'**

**CHRISTMAS GATHERING  
at 7 p.m. at the Gerwes' home  
2704 Trailwood Drive – 383-8787**



Carol singing with two grand pianos and four hands playing wonderful Christmas music!



Advent, our season of preparation for the Incarnation of God in Christ, is on the horizon. Advent is the purple season of waiting, of preparing, of pregnant anticipation, of delayed gratification. Three week-day communion services are planned to turn our hearts towards the coming Christ child. These are short, family-friendly services where we count the cold days together, in remembered hope that Christ has come, and that Christ will come again. Each service will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will be followed by dinner.

**Wednesday, November 30**  
led by *Bob and Lina Yoder*

**Wednesday, December 7**  
led by *Anthony Kamau*

**Wednesday, December 14**  
led by *Susan Dunlap*



**ADVENT FESTIVAL**

**Sunday, December 4**, during worship for the littlest ones, and following worship for the older children and adults. This year we will be offering metal Advent wreath candle holders for \$5, along with the candles.

**Alternative giving** guests will be present to keep the needs of the community before us.

- Fair Trade Coffee**
- Threshold**
- Prayer Shawl Group**
- Genesis Home**
- Urban Ministries of Durham**
- Habitat for Humanity**
- Church World Service**

Mark your calendars now, please!



First Presbyterian Church Newsletter is published weekly on Tuesdays.

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