

First Presbyterian News

NOVEMBER 20, 2012



ESTABLISHED 1871

The principle of transfiguration says nothing, no one and no situation is "untransfigurable," that the whole creation, nature, waits expectantly for its transfiguration, when it will be released from its bondage and share in the glorious liberty of the children of God, when it will not be just dry inert matter but will be translucent with divine glory. – *Archbishop Desmond Tutu, God Has A Dream*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

"INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH"

As we approach Thanksgiving Day it gives us an extra opportunity to pause and reflect on blessings for which we are thankful. Perhaps you will include thanks for your FPC family. But have you ever thought about people who do not attend a place of worship, who do not have a church home? Do you know someone whom you can invite to come to worship at FPC? Sunday, November 25, is "Invite a Friend to Church Sunday". Won't **YOU?**



9:45 a.m.
Sunday School
11:00 a.m.
Worship

The Hunger for Change Offering will be received during worship.

Sermon:

"Dreams of Kingdoms and Kings"
Marilyn T. Hedgpeth, preaching

Worship Texts

Old Testament	2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalms Lesson	Psalms 132:1-18
New Testament	Revelation 1:4b-8

Acolytes: *Griffin Momsen-Hudson*,
Sigfried Fullenkamp

Crucifer: *Rachel Boyle*

Crossdaile Driver: *Dan Hudgins*

Narthex Greeters: *Sarah Todd, Linn Lopez*

After Worship Greeters:

Andy Widmark (side)

Anthony Kamau (rear/narthex)

Ushers: *Karen Romines* (head), *Keith Merritt* (flower delivery), *David Lorimer*,
Margaret Wabera, Alex Bethune

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

FAITH AND COMMUNITY CLASS

The Faith and Community Class **is not** meeting this week. You are encouraged to join the Lectionary Class or Family Matters Class at 9:45 for discussion. See you on December 2!

LECTIONARY CLASS

On the last Sunday before Advent, we celebrate Christ as King. What does it mean to be subject to a king? What do we owe to our king? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

JOURNEYS CLASS

Journeys **will not meet** this Sunday. Please join another class discussion during the Sunday School hour.

FAMILY MATTERS CLASS

Family Matters gathers in room 203 of the CE building at 9:45 to discuss matters of faith and our journey as parents.



STEWARDSHIP SEASON

Our Stewardship Campaign has been an inspiring experience for us. Images of sheep have reminded us of God's shepherding love in music and messages to encourage our faithful response. We want to take this opportunity to express our tremendous gratitude for the warm and encouraging response from all of you over these past weeks. Our Congregational Dinner was a delightful event, attended by a record 148 people. The music was beautiful, the food delicious and abundant, and our guest speaker, *Dr. Will Willimon*, was outstanding. We are sorry that every member of our congregation was not able to be there to enjoy that time of special celebration of God's goodness in our lives.

This past Sunday, we were incredibly moved as we watched our members go forward to place their pledge cards, offerings, and Time and Talent sheets on the Communion Table. Those who walked nimbly, as well as those for whom walking is a significant challenge, all participated in that symbolic act of dedication and giving thanks. We know that when we give of ourselves and of our resources from hearts full of gratitude, God is able to multiply our efforts in ways we could never imagine. It will be very exciting to see how our church body grows as a result of the beautiful commitment of our members to reach out and share God's love in even greater ways.

What a privilege it is to be a part of this community of believers! Let us move forward with joy and boldness as we continue to follow the instructions of Jesus to "Feed my Sheep."

Most gratefully,

Margaret and Miguel

We have received **95 pledges** for a total of **\$507,327**. Over half the pledges were increases, and there were **9 new**

PLEDGE



REPORT

pledges. Please join us as we work to reach our goal. If you need materials or information, please contact the church office. This is a great beginning. Thanks for your good support.

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Perhaps we should sing *Auld Lang Syne* this Sunday, for old time's sake, as we end our liturgical year with proclamations of Christ as King. It's a Sunday that gathers up all the hopes, dreams, disappointments, experiences and relationships of the past year, and tops them off with the affirmation that at the end, as at the beginning of the year, from omega to alpha, Christ's love reigns transcendent over all. Christ the King Sunday leans into Advent, when we wait for the second coming of the One, the King of Love, who will bring his kingdom into fullness, on earth as in heaven. Never should we underestimate the hymns that we have sung over and over, or the prayers that we have prayed over and over, or the meals that we have shared at the Lord's Table, until kingdom comes. The power of these rituals keeps believers strong through many ordeals.

Recently, *Joe* and I had the privilege of taking communion to a few of our friends at The Forest at Duke. *Phyllis Supple* and *Jean Wilson* accompanied us as elders. When we began to consecrate the elements with the familiar phrase, "On the night in which he was betrayed . . .," 100-year-old *Margaret Davis* chimed in and could have completed the liturgy without us. And when we went next door to take communion to *Mozette Rollins*, who now is almost completely blind, she perked up and sang the whole first verse of "For All the Saints" for us without prompting. These things run deep, and their power should never be underestimated. I look forward to stepping into these high holy days with you.

Blessings,

Marilyn

NOTES

Happy Thanksgiving from the church staff! **The Church Office will be CLOSED on Thursday – Friday, November 22-23** in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

CONGRATULATIONS to *Katy Loeblich* who has been nominated for a regional Emmy award in the category Director/News of the Nashville/Midsouth Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Katy directed the show *NC Now: Hurricane Irene*. The awards banquet will be held January 26, 2013 in Nashville. Good luck, Katy!

Leslie Shaw, former FPC member and Deacon is currently in a quantitative psychology PhD program at the University of Kansas in hilly Lawrence, KS. Leslie and I touch base by email from time to time and Leslie offers Thanksgiving greetings to all! - *Caroline Pritchett*

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to **Eric and Julie Sapp** on the birth of a son, **Beckett Sapp**, on November 12th. Eric is a former youth minister at FPC.

Congratulations to **Hank and Ann Majestic** on the arrival of a grandson. **Wesley** was born to **Michael and Nicole** on November 17th in Washington, DC

OUR CONCERNS

- **Pat Predmore**, in critical condition at The Forest at Duke
- **Kristen Meade**, recovering from surgery at Duke Hospital
- **Bette Conroy**, recovering in the Pavilion at Croasdaile after a fall
- **Steve Gavett**, a patient at UNC Hospital
- **Ruth Mary Meyer**, a patient at Duke Hospital following surgery
- **David Garrison**, at Unihealth Post Acute Care (3100 Erwin Rd, Durham)

Katherine Carr **Helen Garrison**
Jim Hedrick **Diana Huggin**
Ann Majestic **Mozette Rollins**
Chris Wehrman

Croasdaile Village

Don Jenkins (Pavilion, E-116)
Carol Johnson (Friendship, D-120)
Bob Rankin
Jerry Tyren (Pavilion, E-205)

Hillcrest Convalescent

Tom Howerton
Randall and Connie McLeod

The Forest at Duke

Peaches McPherson

Added this week:

Sophie Steiner, daughter of Nikalaus & Lucy Steiner, friends of the Abels
Betty Curtis, mother of Brent Cutis

- **George L. Bernhardt, III** (deployed to Afghanistan), son of George and Jo Bernhardt
- **Donald Davis**, brother of Lorraine Davis
- **Rick Degand**, cousin of Deborah Momsen-Hudson
- **Betsy Euler**, friend of Jeanne Hervey
- **Jim Goff**, father of Leslie McDow
- **Anne Martin**, sister of Beth Neece
- **Reeves McGee**, friend of Peter and Barbara Fish
- **Cynthia Morris**, MargEva Cole's sister-in-law, on the sudden death of her brother, David Hockenberger
- **Joyce Peel**, mother of Anna Jones
- **Nants Reynolds**, sister of Joe Harvard
- **Owen Thornton**, nephew of the late Hilda Bradshaw
- **Bob Town**, father of Kim Abels
- **Kemper Foy Zeigler**, friend of Joe and Carlisle Harvard

YOUTH NEWS

Friends,

What a great month we have had reflecting on all that we are thankful for and spreading kindness through so many service projects! I am thankful for you all and for such a loving church home!

Thank you to the **Creadick** family for providing dinner last week! **There will not be regular youth group this week.** However, if you are in town you are invited to **Jancy Strauman's** house for a movie from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Sunday evening. Please plan to eat dinner beforehand! Have a very happy Thanksgiving!

Sarah Finbow

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Confirmation Class will be back in the basement classroom discussing chapter 4 of Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt: Is Jesus Lord, or just a good guy? **Marilyn Hedgpeth** will be the facilitator. Mentors are always welcome to join us. We give thanks for such a wonderful group of youth and mentors!

BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, December 4, is the next Things That Matter Book Group meeting. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the home of **Beth Eisenson**, 1423 Acadia Street. **Dale Gaddis** will be leading the discussion of Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. RSVP to Beth by email: HEisenson@aol.com.

CARE PACKAGES

THIS IS THE LAST SUNDAY TO BRING YOUR DONATIONS. The Diaconate is assembling care packages for our college students and young adults away serving our country. The following items are needed: **gum, hot cocoa, candy, granola bars, puzzles, joke books**, etc. A collection box will be in the church foyer. Thank you for supporting the **Pastoral Care Committee** in this annual project of cheer to our college students and those serving in the military.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check the coat rack in the foyer to claim any clothes items you are missing. Any unclaimed items will be given to the Durham Urban Ministries clothes closet after December 9th.

OFFICER MEETINGS

Monday, November 26

6:00 p.m. Diaconate

6:30 p.m. Joint Officers' Supper

7:00 p.m. Joint Officers' Meeting

7:30 p.m. Session

DAYTIMERS' LUNCHEON

Tuesday, November 27

11:30 a.m. at Rick's Diner

3710 Shannon Road

Co-hosts are **Lynn Hays**

and **Harriett Mitchell**

RSVP to Lynn at 919-489-4476 or call the Church at 919-682-5511

ATTENTION ALL

BASKETBALL PLAYERS!

The annual Hope Valley Baptist Church basketball league season will soon be upon us. Anyone 16 years or older interested in playing on one of First Presbyterian Church's two teams is encouraged to come to an informational meeting on **Sunday, December 2** after church. If you have any questions, please contact **Carl Rist** at 919-688-5969 or rist@frontier.com.

FIRST FRIENDS

ADVENT GATHERING

Saturday, December 8

**6:30 p.m. at the home of
Melinda Ruley and Stewart Fisher
5301 Cabe Ford Rd, Durham**

☪

Save the date!

FIRST FRIENDS & FAMILIES

GAME NIGHT

Saturday, January 5

at the church

Hosted by the Cole family

Save the Date!

PRIME TIMERS'

COVERED DISH SUPPER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:00 p.m. at the Gerwes' home

2704 Trailwood Drive

RSVP: bebegeerwe@gmail.com

More details forthcoming

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