

# First Presbyterian Church

## Fifteenth Annual Report

2013 – 2014



305 East Main Street  
Durham, North Carolina 27701

Organized 1871

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

*FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*

**305 EAST MAIN STREET**

**DURHAM, NC 27701**

**AUGUST 2014**

## **PREFACE**

This report presents to the congregation a summary by the church leadership of main events and committee activities that have taken place at First Presbyterian Church, Durham, during the 2013-2014 year. This is the fifteenth annual report distributed to church members since approval by the Session (February 6, 2000) of a new organizational plan that charged the church's leadership with this task.

The clergy and current active officers hope that you will find this report informative. We also welcome your comments about its content and suggestions for future reports. Together we could improve this document to serve in years to come as a concise and accurate record of our congregational life and the actions of the Diaconate and the Session.

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**MARK E. DIEHL**  
**Interim Minister, Head of Staff**

The past year for First Presbyterian Church has been a time of transition! **Joe Harvard** retired in May 2013, and I made my *début* September 1<sup>st</sup>. Fortunately the life of the church and the work of God's Spirit are so much deeper and richer than who happens to be the "Head of Staff" at FPC!

In this time frame, much has been initiated, some things have been completed, and more is yet to come. Here are some of the milestones that were reached and the issues addressed during the past year.

- It was a joy to meet this great congregation of FPC, to learn of your commitments and passions, and to hear your hopes for the future! I am grateful to **Marcia Lorimer** who coordinated nearly a dozen dinners in homes where many of these conversations took place.
- Upon joining the staff, I quickly found that they were gifted, competent, and dedicated to the tasks and requirements of ministry in this interim period. This congregation is truly blessed to have such folk, and I am blessed to get to work beside them.
- The Walk-in Ministry Task Force completed the work it had begun, and made recommendations that would better serve the needs of people at risk in downtown Durham while also more effectively utilizing resources of staff and direct aid.
- In accordance with the expressed wishes of the hiring committee, I maintained a high level of involvement in community organizations for social service, non-profit, and civic affairs in which FPC has historically been active. The purpose of this involvement is for the Head of Staff to maintain continuity between FPC and the concerns of the Durham community for communication, leadership, awareness, and congregational participation.
- The Stewardship Season was planned, conducted and completed. As often happens in an interim period, financial resources fell short of needs and expectations. A "second ask" campaign was initiated and 81 members responded with 62 contributions raising another \$60,000. The budget was reduced by 10% from its original amount, and reserve resources were called upon to complete the 2014 budget.
- The McPherson Lectures were successfully completed thanks to the diligent planning efforts of the committee and McPherson family, and the excellent presentations of **Dr. Emilie Townes**.

- In conjunction with the Personnel Committee, all staff job descriptions were reviewed and updated, and an evaluation of staff performance was conducted.
- The committees of the Session completed a review of their assigned tasks and rewrote their descriptions, as well as provided a calendar of planning events for each year.
- Interim committees were recruited in early 2014 and these committees [the History-to-Our-Story Team (HOST) and the Mission Study Committee (MSC)] began their work. The Mission Study Committee has actively engaged the congregation as well as community leaders, and will continue its discussions with the congregation before proceeding to complete its report.
- An experiment was initiated during the summer for the staff to strive to attain a 60-minute Sunday worship experience, and to assess its impact this fall.
- And the pastoral ministries at FPC continue as we rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep, serving the needs and concerns of this congregation.

The strength and depth of leadership within the congregation is most impressive and provides a foundation of both stability and agility. Traditions and core values for ministry remain consistent while flexibility for adapting to new situations, addressing challenges, and seizing opportunities are being embraced. These characteristics are necessary for making a positive shift as the congregation opens a new chapter in its life. The quality and dedication of staff, Elders and Deacons, committees, involved and participating and prayerful laity — all of these have provided continuity in the midst of change, and for that we can be grateful!

I look forward to continuing ministry with you in the months ahead!

Grace and peace,  
Mark Diehl

P.S. The Annual Report includes a document on The Interim Process and progress made thus far (pp. 57-58).

**MARILYN T. HEDGPETH**  
**Associate Pastor**

As part of John's vision of the new heaven and new earth in the book of Revelation, a voice from heaven is heard to say, "Behold, I am making all things new" (Rev. 21:5). It's been that kind of year for me, as opportunities keep coming up that are part of my renewal.

\*May- August 2014 – Serving as interim Head of Staff until FPC's Called Interim Minister arrived. It was a fascinating time for me of tapping into the deep bench of FPC members to find preachers, teachers, planners and caregivers who would help keep our church vital. The good news was encouraging: people actually stepped up and pitched in to help. I found it to be a totally engaging and exciting exercise of the whole people of God. That was one new experience for me.

\*September 2013 – Welcoming Mark Diehl, our Interim Pastor, and arranging house dinners where members could gather in small groups and get to know him. Actually all I had to do was mention the concept and **Marcia Lorimer** took the ball and ran with it, organizing the dinners. Thanks to all who opened their homes to Mark and our church family. We may use this model again when another new person joins the staff. Working to prepare for and welcome a new pastor has been another new experience for me.

\*January 2014 – Agreeing to be part of an Investigative Committee for the Presbytery of New Hope. That was an eye-opener! As you may know, the church is not immune to incidents of unfortunate action or to acts of poor judgment. It was a privilege, however, to work closely with a wise group of people seeking to ascertain the truth as closely as possible. We hope our work is done, and that our efforts were helpful to the larger church. It made me realize our continual need for Christ's grace and appreciate those of you who practice law professionally. Being part of an Investigative Committee was a first for me.

\*June 2014 – Serving as a commissioner (voting member from New Hope Presbytery) to the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly in Detroit, MI. It was wonderful to glimpse the big picture of the PC(USA) and to see how multi-faceted we are as we try to be "the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world"(F-1.0304 –The Great Ends of the Church). The process of discernment was exhilarating, with a balanced and diverse body of people, voicing opinions, advising, and voting their consciences. I came away feeling uplifted by the fairness of the process and was not as confident, however, about how decisions would play out in the wider God-family of the PC(USA). I knew that some

would rejoice, some would weep, some would stay, some would leave. It's weighty to be part of that dichotomy. But once again, the need for Christ's grace in the church is great. I was especially encouraged by the welcome of our new PC(USA) hymnal, *Glory to God*, which includes oldie goldies, praise hymns, multi-cultural hymns, Taizé and Iona hymns, service music and contemporary hymns, ALL IN THE SAME BOOK. My prayer is that the PC(USA) can be as diverse and as interesting as *Glory to God*, and still remain together in the same book/church! Being a commissioner to GA was a first for me.

\*November 2013 and July 2014 – Personal firsts: becoming a grandmother to **Spencer Nolan Schauer** and participating in the marriage of our son, **Stuart Hedgpeth**, to **Mimi Zhan**. I'm enjoying new territory on both counts.

\*May 2013 – Present – Performing a significant number of funerals for long-time members of our church without Joe. Not that I wasn't well assisted by our other ministers; I think we all did a good job of witnessing to the resurrection on behalf of each saint whom we honored. But it was difficult, and felt doubly sad to me, to honor some very special individuals and pillars of the church without Joe alongside. I hope we, the church, were able to provide comfort and convey hope to each family during this time of transition. All will be well, I am confident of that.

\*May 2014 - Creating an infant/toddler nursery upstairs near our children's classes, and closer to their parents. It has been a goal of mine to make this move since I came here, and it's great to see it finally happen. It took moving the resource room across the hall, along with a dip in the demographics of other classrooms, to make this possible. I am thankful to **Kate Busa**, **Tom Bloom**, and the **Property Committee** for making arrangements for painting and carpeting. And now with the nursery upstairs, the Day School downstairs can be renovated as well. I think all will benefit in the end. I am grateful for everyone's patience during all of these changes.

Whenever I became stressed out this year, my husband would say, "Quit trying so many new things!" I don't really want to quit. The new song, the new hymnal, the new nursery, the new experience, the new leadership, the new creation, the new heaven and new earth are all signs of God's transforming presence. I wish to be a part of that in whatever form it takes.

Grace and peace,  
Marilyn T. Hedgpeth



**SAM R. MIGLARESE**  
**Associate Pastor for Christian Formation**

**Prayer and Worship**

I participated in prayer and worship on Sundays and other days assigned as liturgist, leader of prayer, preacher, and presided at sacraments including weddings and funerals.

**Pastoral Care**

I made myself available to members during times of life challenges, deaths and celebrations.

**Christian Formation/Education**

***Faith and Community:*** I assisted in the planning and leadership of the adult Sunday School programs on a variety of topics, including discussions of contemporary films and interfaith dialogue with the Jewish community on the meaning of Messiah. I joined **Sarah Finbow** and **Larry Peaden** in teaching Middle School youth Sunday School this past year as assigned.

**Religious Studies and Divinity School Departments at Duke University:**

- Work continues on a volume to be published by University of North Carolina Press next year called **The Long Shadow of Vatican II: Authority, Faith and Church since the Second Vatican Council (1962-65)**.
- **Duke in Venice:** I directed 20 Duke University students for a study abroad experience in Venice, Italy, for the month of June around the topic of **The Religion of Empire**. The course focused on the religious sensibilities and pieties that permeated imperial Venice in the high renaissance period.
- **Second Reader** for DMin dissertation entitled **Breaking New Ground: Pastoral Leadership in the Roman Catholic Church through the Lens of Bowen Systems Theory** by Mark G. Reamer.

**March 5<sup>th</sup> Group:** Teaching Elders **Katie Owen, Bob Dunham**, and I served on a program committee for this monthly lay and clergy Presbyterian gathering. There is now a full discussion on the future direction of this group, and no decision will be made until Fall 2014.

## **Continuing Education**

As part of my continuing education and professional development, I spoke at several venues on civic engagement issues in higher education. I planned and coordinated a civic engagement team from Duke University, February 3-4, 2014 for **Campus Compact Institute at UNCW**, gave opening remarks and led a workshop on the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership. I spoke on diversity and equity in community engagement at the **Ivy Plus** conference held at Duke on March 20, 2014, as well as a presentation on future directions of Duke's commitment to Durham, to the University **Council for Civic Engagement** on March 28, 2014.

## **Church Staff and Structure:**

To the extent my Duke work-schedule allowed, I attended staff meetings, joint officer and Session meetings, Stewardship Committee meetings, retreats and other councils as so directed. I also participated in Presbytery meetings for New Hope Presbytery as a voting Teaching Elder delegate.

## **Stewardship: Generosity Changes Lives (2013-14 Theme)**

Stewardship spirituality as a way of life continues to be an important dimension of reformed theology as applied to the **annual appeal** for commitments of Time, Talent, and Treasure. The campaign season of 2013 did again succeed in measurable results (pledges on budget) though it did require a second ask in yet another very difficult environment economically as well in our Church leadership transition. I was staff liaison working with **Tom Bacon**, chair of the Stewardship Committee to implement stewardship season and the annual congregational dinner. Tom coordinated the season and dinner with many helping hands. He reported that the congregation had responded with great generosity to both appeals. Inclusive of both appeals 197 pledges, plus 4 one time gifts, resulted in \$807,000 dollars committed to the ministry and life of the Church. Plans were made to separate the appeal for treasure from the appeal for volunteer opportunities of time and talent.

## **Men of Faith**

The monthly breakfast fellowship continues to be organized by **Larry Brockman, Andy Henry** and me on the last Friday of the month. Throughout the course of the year, 5-10 men of the Church gathered at a local restaurant to share their lives and deepen their friendships. Toward the end of last year, the men had an evaluation and the venue was changed to Parker and Otis, though later back to Nosh's Cafe. Retreat planning resulted

in a **Men of Faith Retreat** held at the Avila Retreat Center in Durham on March 21-22, 2014 with **Mel Williams**, retired pastor of Watts St. Baptist, facilitating the retreat around this theme: *Fully Alive: Energy for Mission and the Spiritual Life*. Fifteen men attended and participated. **Andy Henry** coordinated this retreat with me.

### **Outreach to Durham**

I was assigned to facilitate and coordinate two events in January to commemorate the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The annual City/County Celebration at First Presbyterian on January 15, 2014 and the march and concluding rally/service at First Presbyterian on January 20, 2014. Representing faith-based organizations, I worked with the Closing the Achievement Gap committee in planning and implementing a Literacy Summit held at Brogden Middle School, May 3, 2014.

As Director of Community Engagement for the Office of Durham and Regional Affairs, Community Affairs at Duke University, I represented our Church in many ways, especially with the African-American churches of Walltown, Crest Street, Lyon Park neighborhoods. Whether my involvement was with Durham Rotary Club, or with the non-profits of Durham, I connected my commitment to civic engagement with my pastoral office at First Presbyterian Church.

### **Church in Transition**

**Joe Harvard**, our senior pastor for 33 years, officially retired May 5, 2013. We all celebrated, with gratitude, Joe's gift to this church and Durham. At the same time, **Homer Ashby** led us in a process with Presbytery to develop the next steps for interim leadership. **Marilyn Hedgpeth**, our senior Associate Pastor was appointed Head of Staff while the Session appointed a search committee that completed its work with the call to **Rev. Mark Diehl** as our Interim Minister. I attended those meetings and assisted as directed and worked closely with Marilyn under her leadership and now under Mark as our Interim Minister.

### **Thank You**

I am grateful to **Mark Diehl, Marilyn Hedgpeth, and Tom Bacon, Andy Henry** and the entire staff and the committed congregation of First Presbyterian for their prayerful support of my ministry among you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sam Miglarese

**CHERYL BARTON HENRY**  
**Parish Associate**

**Report of Young Adults and Scratch Fellowship**



Though it's been many years in the making, it is a welcomed and joyful surprise of God's good grace this year to wake up to the reality that as much as 20 percent of our First Presbyterian Church membership is between the ages of 21 and 39! (Thanks Mission Study Committee!)

That's twenty percent of our congregation that we all rejoice is alive with the Spirit of God in our midst and growing strong before our eyes. Here is a sampling of what has gone on this year with the Young Adults in general and "Scratch group" in particular during 2014:

- Ten of our Young Adults served this year as church staff, Elders, Deacons and Candidates for Ministry.
- Twelve served on committees of the church.
- Young Adults of FPC served as Church School teachers and as youth group advisors and youth trip chaperones.
- In worship, this mighty 20% strengthened our worship leadership as they sang in the choir, played the bells, conducted the Junior Choir, played in the Wind Ensemble, chanted, sang solos, read scripture, served as liturgist and ushers and even preached a time or two.
- Beyond our own church fellowship our Young Adults led in organizing our Beloved Community Garden worship services this summer with St. Philip's Episcopal Church and the our immediate neighbors. In addition, they served in the Community Kitchen, gleaned sweet potatoes, volunteered with the Florence Forth Race, helped with fellowship meals and Durham Habitat for Humanity. A very dedicated group of

young adults has even come together to form a Caring Circle around a financially struggling family.

- Nurturing the bonds of fellowship, the Scratch group pot-lucked monthly with the best of them! Not only did they enjoy each other, but also times with Primetimers, First Friends, and the Family Matters class. In September, they will rally Young Adults from Presbyterian congregations across Durham for a picnic in Duke Park. They also met informally together over a glass of coffee or tea or beer or for a hike.
- In January, Scratch met for a three-hour planning retreat where they mapped out their year, and in August they will go on their second 2-day overnight retreat of spiritual formation and renewal at Camp Don Lee.

In short, our Young Adults are doing more than going to church. They are being church. They are, like the sign above suggests, taking what they need from our community and generously posting their own giving-back signs, too. There's just so much love, faith, forgiveness, patience, freedom, courage, healing, etc., available around FPC these days! It has us all giving thanks to God!

Grace and peace,  
Cheryl Barton Henry

**KATHRYN C. PARKINS**  
**Minister of Music**

*New songs of celebration render to God who has great wonders done;  
Love sits enthroned in ageless splendor; come and adore the mighty One.  
God has made known the great salvation which all the saints with joy confess,  
God has revealed to every nation truth and unending righteousness.*

(from Hymn No. 371 *Glory to God*)

Singing is an expression of faith and belongs to ALL of God's people, not just special choirs. Believe it or not, many congregations rarely use hymnals and thousands of Christians have never opened one. Our new hymnal, *Glory to God* is a tangible sign that the larger church is committed to a book which unifies our denomination, connects us to the past, and helps us move forward into the future. In preparation for the introduction of the hymnal, **Dewey Lawson** and **David Smith** taught classes for the Faith and Community Class. Our thanks to them for their clarity in helping us understand more about hymnody and the history of the Presbyterian Church's use of it. We put the hymnal into the pews in January and have just begun to explore the great riches of the old and new music that is contained within its covers.

We currently support four choirs: the Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, the Adult Handbell Choir, and the Youth Handbell Choir. The singing choirs both participated in ecumenical gatherings which were great opportunities for us to get to know other singers in the area and be exposed to some new ways of doing things. The Children's Choir, conducted by **Kirsten Santos Rutschman**, had a joint venture with the Children's Choir of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. They rehearsed together and then sang at the service at St. Luke's one Sunday and then at First Presbyterian on the following Sunday. The Chancel Choir presented a joint choral concert to the community with the Watts Street Baptist Church Choir in May. It was marvelous fun and we all enjoyed working on the Vivaldi *Gloria* as well as anthems by Mozart, Paul Manz, Craig Courtney, and John Rutter. We are planning to do this again in 2016. In addition to the choirs, we have an active wind ensemble which is coordinated by **David Smith** and they have added another dimension to our world of sound.

We continue to share our glorious room for music making with the greater community and consider it part of our mission to the City of Durham. We bring people to downtown Durham for these events and give them a moment of solace in a beautiful space as they listen to wonderful music. This year we hosted a concert of Baroque Music by the Mallarme Players, Vox Virorum (a men's choir), Women's Voices, SONAM (Singers of New and Ancient Music), as well as recitals by some of our members.

This year we introduced a summer Music and Arts Camp which was the same week as Vacation Church School. This helped the working families in our church by providing a full day of activities for elementary-age children. The children learned about rhythms and put this to use by ringing handbells. We also studied a bit about architecture and learned about the history of the buildings used by our congregation. We spent time singing and watching videos about musical instruments and made cookies in the shapes of musical instruments. This model worked, and we plan to do it again next year. Many thanks to **Aurelia Klinck, Dawn Carsey, Li-Chen Chin, and Caroline Pritchett** for all their help with the Music and Arts Camp.

Special thanks also to **Kate Busa** for her diligent work and many hours given to the church as the choir librarian.

We look forward to another year of discerning God's path for us and praising God through the gift of music.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Parkins

**SARAH J. FINBOW**  
**Youth Minister**

The 2013-2014 youth year was a busy one! During the year we engaged in several service projects, engaging discussion, fun fellowship, many trips, and another successful Youth Sunday!

The youth participated with the Society of St. Andrew gleaning program again this year. We gleaned sweet potatoes with the help of the First Presbyterian Young Adults in an effort to help combat hunger in North Carolina. The youth also helped pack blessing bags, wrote letters to North Carolina inmates at Christmas, created beautiful crosses which have and continue to be given to those facing difficulties, caroled at Hillcrest, in addition to many more service projects.

During the year we focused on the theme "Current Faith" to lead our discussions. We talked about our faith right now, what is facing our youth in their lives right now, what is happening in the world, and how all of these things relate.

This year also saw our youth room greatly updated! This updated room will be put to great use in the coming year!

This summer the youth traveled on three challenging, exciting, and rewarding trips! Ten youth and four adults traveled to eastern Tennessee in June to participate with the Appalachia service project. We worked on two homes repairing rotten floors, replacing a roof, installing fascia and soffits to keep critters out and replacing drywall and insulation. It was a daily lesson in patience, problem solving, and team work. We learned about and bonded with the families with whom we worked. These precious people gave us all insight into what it means to live in poverty but to love and care for one another. We will be presenting about our work on September 28<sup>th</sup> and we look forward to more opportunities to serve next summer.

Three middle school youth along with three adults traveled to the Massanetta Spring Middle School Conference. As always the Massanetta Springs Conference proved to be one of great insight, challenging messages, and much learning. We had so much fun engaging with 360 of our fellow middle school youth and their adult leaders while contemplating what it means to take God's great gift "Beyond the Manger." Workshops with crafts, music writing, silent prayer, service, and so much more helped us truly engage with the topic. We also participated in service with Stop Hunger Now during which our conference created 11,000+ meals in just a few hours!



Twelve high school youth and three adults traveled to Montreat, NC to participate in the Montreat Youth Conference at the end of July. There we engaged with 1100+ of our fellow high school Presbyterian Youth in small groups, recreation time, fantastic worship and keynotes! We were blessed to be able to have both the conference Preacher, **Christopher Edmonston**, as well as keynote speaker, **Jarrett McLaughlin** join us for lunch and conversation at our house!

We truly have an awesome group of youth, and I look forward to more learning and growing in the 2014-2015 year!

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Finbow

## REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION

Active Ruling Elders: September 2013 through August 2014

### Class of 2014

Jon Abels

Kate Busa

Jean Cary

\*Sydney Curtis

Luke Everett

\*Anna Kasibhatla

Mal King

Lisa Rist

### Class of 2015

Tom Bacon

Wes Carson

Beth Eisenson

Mary Gitata

Dan Hudgins

Marcia Lorimer

Phyllis Supple

### Class of 2016

Harold Dunlap

Barbara Gerwe

Laura Hanson

Edward Kwon

Marie Sappenfield

Kristin Meade

Michael Schultz

\*Youth elected to serve a one-year term

Session Moderators: Interim Minister Mark E. Diehl  
Associate Pastor Marilyn T. Hedgpeth

Clerk of Session: Barbara Gerwe

The Session held six Called Meetings primarily for the business of approving new members plus examination of new officers. The Session held 11 Stated Meetings.

The Stated Meetings of the Session were primarily devoted to receiving reports from committee chairs. The work of the committees is reported elsewhere in this Annual Report. Other actions of the Session included the following:

- Oversaw the work of the Interim Process under Interim Minister **Mark E. Diehl**,
- Had good success in getting committee reports to Session members in advance of meetings to allow more thoughtful consideration of action items coming before the Session,
  - Approved formation of a **History-to-Our-Story Team**,
  - Approved formation of **Mission Study Committee**,
  - Heard regular progress reports from these two committees
  - Organized home dinners under the leadership of **Marcia Lorimer** and **Shirley Frederick**, giving **Mark Diehl** and congregants opportunities to meet in small groups to get acquainted,
    - Approved communion dates for the year,
    - Approved the changes to the Walk-In Assistance ministry,

- Completed a very successful McPherson Lectureship with **Dr. Emilie Townes**, speaker,
- Authorized credit cards for four staff members, including guidelines regarding use,
- Supported **I Sil Yoon's** year-long internship at FPC and endorsed her decision to become a candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament in New Hope Presbytery,
- Confirmed new member **Alex Brewington** as a candidate for ministry in New Hope Presbytery, and
- Renewed contract of Interim Minister for an additional six months.

Two Congregational Meetings were held during the year, on March 16, 2014, and May 18, 2014. At the March meeting, the congregation elected members to the officers' Nominating Committee. At the May meeting, new officers for the Class of 2017 were elected.

The 2013 Annual Church Record, submitted to the Presbyterian Church USA in early 2013, reflected 585 active members, a net gain of 10 from the previous year. In 2013-2014, First Presbyterian Church conducted seven child baptisms and one adult baptism. The age distribution was very balanced with 160 members aged 25 and under, and 121 members over age 65. The church congregation also enjoys a diverse ethnic background. The 2013 Church Report for First Presbyterian Church of Durham to the Presbytery of New Hope is included with this report (pp. 52-53).

The First Presbyterian Church congregation once again participated in the annual Crop Walk to raise money for hunger relief. More than 50 congregants walked, supported by many more members of the congregation through financial gifts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Gerwe

## Christian Education Committee

Chair: Marcia Lorimer

Members: Jon Abels, Dawn Carsey, Harold Dunlap, Sarah Finbow (Youth Minister), Lorraine Hall, Marilyn Hedgpeth (Associate Pastor), Bill Lorimer, Marcia Lorimer, Katharine Whitmore, I Sil Yoon (FPC Intern)

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month

- Sunday School – There continued to be 14 Sunday School classes this year serving more than 150 children, youth and adults. Teacher training took place on August 18<sup>th</sup> followed by an August 24<sup>th</sup> kick-off, which we call Promotion Sunday. The theme was “Many Gifts but the Same Spirit.” Those attending chose or made hats and visited booths where they had pictures taken. All ages seemed to enjoy this special day as the new Sunday School year began.

- **Christian Education classes** include:

- Adult Lectionary

- Journeys

- Faith & Community

- Family Matters

- Women’s Spiritual Formation

- Scratch

- Toddlers

- 3s/4s

- K/1st

- 2nd/3rd

- 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

- Middle School

- High School

- Bible Studies – Presbyterian Women studied Exodus with Susan Dunlap. During Lent, participants studied Stations of the Heart: Parting with a Son written by Dr. Richard Lischer (from Duke Divinity School)

- **Children’s Sabbath** – This was held on October 20<sup>th</sup>. The children sang in worship and the youth hand bell choir played. Bibles were distributed to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. After church, all enjoyed an outdoor picnic lunch and a youth fundraising cupcake walk.

- **Try Something New** – We held a program on Empathy, which was presented by community psychologist, **Cindy Sortisio**, who is also the Girl Scout leader for the troop that meets at FPC and includes some of our youth members. We also held an intergenerational program on using yoga for Family Stress Relief, which was taught by **Brianna Honea**, a FPC deacon and local yoga instructor.
- **Advent Festival** – The festival was held on December 8 this year, which was the second Sunday of Advent. Crafts and giving opportunities continue to be the focus of the day, and it was well attended as usual. Participating organizations included: Threshold, SAF Unite-Student Action with Farmworkers, Genesis Home, Housing for New Hope, Habitat for Humanity, Our Children’s Place, FPC Prayer Shawl Ministry, Human Kindness Foundation, FPC Service and Mission Committee, Café Justo, and Wheels4Hope.
- **Child Protection Plan** – This remains in draft format and is being reviewed for adoption by the Session.
- **Renovation of Nursery and Youth rooms with the Property Committee** – Both spaces have been painted with great success. The nursery moved upstairs and has new furniture and equipment. We plan to assess the viability of an accordion door that will divide the large youth room. Once in place, this would allow for the middle school class to relocate to the newly created space. Furniture will be needed to fill that space.
- **Crayons2Calculators** – The committee chose to donate its unspent budget surplus to this organization, which provides materials to Durham Public Schools’ teachers.
- **Souper Bowl Sunday** – This yearly event raised almost \$700, designated for Backpack Buddies.
- **Communion Sunday** – Children at the Lord’s Table event took place on April 6<sup>th</sup> for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.
- **Youth Sunday** – This took place on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Thirty-six youth and two preachers participated in *Being God’s Flock*.
- **Summer Sunday School** – This had a movie theme this year with a curriculum developed by **Katharine Whitmore** and **Dawn Carsey**. The curriculum was distributed to the Sunday School teachers in advance of the lesson. Students viewed clips of the movies in their classes prior to discussion.

- **Teacher Appreciation** – This took place on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Children wrote something on a note card that they appreciated about their teacher or class and presented this at our breakfast gathering.
- **Vacation Church School** – This was a great success with five churches, 145 campers and 100 volunteers. FPC had the largest number of youth volunteers. The theme was *Welcome*.
- **Post-Vacation Church School Music Camp: Kathy Parkins** offered a music camp for FPC children as an extended day program. Content included *Peter & the Wolf*, *Carnival of the Animals*, stained glass windows in sanctuary, being a church detective/learning architectural terms for the church, learning about the orchestra.
- **Women's Retreat** – This took place July 25-26 at Avila with 11 women participating in *Centering Prayer*. Due to its success, another retreat is planned for January 30-31, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Lorimer

### **Nominating Committee**

Chair: Jon Abels

Committee: Marie Sappenfield (ruling elder), Johanna Bernhardt (deacon), and four at-large members Rob Everett, Diane Standaert, Andrew Henry and Parker Morton.

At the January Stated Session Meeting, Marie and Johanna were selected by the Session to serve on the Nominating Committee. A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for the four at-large members was issued in the weekly newsletter and bulletin on January 28. The four members —**Rob Everett, Diane Standaert, Andrew Henry** and **Parker Morton** —were presented at the Congregational Meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> and were unanimously approved.

Simultaneously, the job descriptions for ruling elder and deacon were revised and submitted to the Session. A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for seven ruling elders and 8 deacons for a three-year term and two youth ruling elders and two youth deacons for a

one-year term was issued in the weekly newsletter and bulletin on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for nominee submissions was April 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Nominating Committee met on April 7<sup>th</sup> to review the list of names nominated by members of the congregation for both offices. The committee made initial contact assignments for elder and deacon candidates. In the following weeks, committee members spoke with candidates and updated the committee on the progress.

The Nominating Committee met again on April 27<sup>th</sup> to review the progress and to select additional names to contact if needed from the list. All positions were filled, and the list was finalized by May 11<sup>th</sup>. A Congregational Meeting was called two weeks in advance for May 18 when seven ruling elders and eight deacons for the Class of 2017 were unanimously approved. In addition two youth ruling elders and two youth deacons for the Class of 2015 were unanimously approved.

### **Ruling Elder, Class of 2017**

**Bob Breitweiser**, 704 Derby Court, recently moved back to Durham with wife Sheila after living in South Carolina for the past 18 years. Bob was born in Montgomery, AL but spent his childhood in many states as his father pursued a career in the Air Force. Bob's professional career was with BlueCross/Blue Shield. During his years at FPC from 1965 to 1996, Bob served as a youth leader, deacon and elder, and Bob enjoys singing in the choir. Bob and Sheila are the parents of three adult children and have six grandchildren.

**Kate Busa**, 8106 Willardville Station Road, Bahama, born in 1952 in Massachusetts, was raised in Southern California, and has lived in Maryland and Pennsylvania. She is married with two grown children and one grandson. Kate has been a Montessori teacher, kennel manager for a pet store, worked as a carpenter building fences, decks and patio covers. She has been a stay at home mom, a church secretary, and is now self-employed as a horse trainer and riding instructor. Kate moved to Durham from Butler County, PA in 2007, and joined First Presbyterian that same year. She sings in the Chancel Choir, plays with the Bell Choir, is the librarian for the music department, served as the church's Wedding Coordinator before becoming a member of the Property Committee which she has chaired for the last three years. Kate lives in Bahama, 20 minutes north of Durham, with her husband Bill and their two dogs and four horses.

**Emily Durham**, 1920 Bedford St Apt. 12-O, was born in Greensboro, NC, and has been a member since 2013. She currently works at Duke University with the DukeEngage program and is a graduate of Pomona College and U Penn. At FPC, Emily has been involved with the Scratch group for Young Adults. She and her fiancé, Carlo Diy, are

getting married at FPC in September. Emily loves continuing to discover new places in NC from the beach to the mountains, cooking Korean food, and spending time outdoors.

**Will McDow**, 920 Urban Avenue, grew up in Rock Hill, SC, and has been a member of FPC since 2002. He is married to Leslie and together they are raising daughter Laura Mishler (10). As a family, they continue to celebrate the life of Florence McDow through formation of the Autoimmune Encephalitis Alliance and the Florence Forth road race. Will works for a national environmental group and enjoys running, hiking and generally being outdoors. He has been a deacon including moderator of the Diaconate, an usher and liturgist.

**Joseph Ngumi**, 1315 Morreene Rd, #7-E, moved from Kenya to Durham in 2001 at which time he joined First Presbyterian Church. He transferred his membership from the Presbyterian Church of East Africa where he had chaired the Christian Education Committee. Music is one of his particular interests. Joseph's family in Kenya includes adult sons Erick, Anthony, and Lee.

**Alice Girvin Raney**, 2104 Wilshire Drive, is a third generation member of First Presbyterian Church. Although widowed now, she is also the third generation in her family to get married at FPC. Alice is employed at Duke, works for the Medical Director of the Abdominal Transplant Program. She sang in the Carols Choir when Mr. Bentel was here, taught Sunday School, and worked with Vacation Bible School. She is a Deacon (Class of 2011) and chaired the Fellowship Committee for two years. Alice is currently on the Membership Committee, Landscape Committee and as part of Worship and the Arts Committee, is in charge of church beautification at Christmas and Easter. On the third and fifth Sundays of every month, Alice greets members and visitors in the narthex.

**Phyllis Verhey**, 11 Plumas Drive, has been a member of FPC for 10 years since moving to Durham from Michigan. She has previously served as Elder (twice) and served on the Service and Mission Committee. She was married to Allen Verhey for 48 years and has three children and five grandchildren. Leisure interests are spoiling grandchildren, reading, gardening, and volunteering.

#### **Ruling Youth Elder, Class of 2015**

**Peter Compton**, 509 Lyndenbury Drive in Apex, was born in Chapel Hill and baptized at FPC as an infant in 1999. He has been a member of the Youth Group since 2009, has helped with Vacation Church School, and was confirmed in 2013. Peter is a rising sophomore at Panther Creek High School and his interests include competitive



swimming and playing the piano.

**Gwen Dilworth**, 113 East Lynch Street, has been a member of FPC since 2005 and attends Durham School of the Arts (11<sup>th</sup> grade). Gwen has been an active member of the FPC Youth Group throughout middle and high school, and has served on the Session Nominating Committee. Gwen runs cross country and swims for her school's athletic teams, has been a Girl Scout for ten years and has earned her bronze and silver awards in girl scouting. Gwen's interests include photography, documentary film, and art.

### **Deacon, Class of 2017**

**Abi Bisette**, 1208 Cornell St, became a member of FPC in 2000. She is the daughter of Cherrie and Andy Henry and sister of Sam Henry. Abi finished her Master of Social Work degree at UNC Chapel Hill in May 2013 and currently works with teenagers with eating disorders. Abi's hobbies include knitting, running, and failing to keep plants alive. She has served the FPC community by volunteering with the Youth Group and doing casework with the Walk-In Ministry.

**Richard (Dick) Boulden** has been a member of First Presbyterian since 1989. Dick, Shirley, and their son, Joseph (Joey), live at 4 Summer Ridge Court. Dick is the attorney for the NC Human Relations Commission, which enforces the Fair Housing Act. He has been an elder, a deacon, a member of the choir, and a Youth Group adviser; he currently teaches the 1st & 2nd Grade Sunday School class. He has been a member of First Friends so long that it was called "Young Adults" when he joined.

**George Danser** lives at 2023 W. Club Blvd in Durham with his wife, Jean Cary. They raised their 35-year old twin sons there. Both boys are now professional luthiers. One lives in Durham with his wife and daughter, the other lives in Austin, TX. George and Jean joined FPC about 15 years ago, and George has been both a deacon and an elder at FPC. With a career in stained glass behind him, George has turned his sights on being a general artisan in a broad range of materials and a dealer/collector of American coinage. George and Jean are now preparing to break ground on a sustainable summer house next to a lake in Minnesota.

**Celia Dickerson**, 4412 Sunny Court, has been a member since 2000. She has served as elder, member of both Property and Finance Committees, and Sunday School teacher. She is the widow of Ed and mother of Meg, Phoebe, and Scott and grandmother of six. She works as a financial advisor after a career in education. She enjoys reading, movies, gardening, and going to blues, bluegrass and chamber music events.

**Sherry Honeycutt Everett**, 1014 Minerva Ave, joined First Presbyterian in 2003. Sherry is currently a staff attorney at Legal Aid of North Carolina, where she works primarily to assist victims of domestic violence and their families. She is also an adjunct assistant professor at UNC Law School. Since joining First Presbyterian, Sherry has served on the Membership and Stewardship Committees and has sung in the choir. She has one daughter, Ellie, and is married to Luke Everett, a lifelong member of the church.

**Lucie House**, 615 Churchill Drive, Chapel Hill, is married to Wayne and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina. She has been a member of FPC for three years. At FPC, Lucie is a member of the Scratch group and the Pastoral Care Committee. Lucie is active in our community through the Genesis Home of Durham as well as Urban Ministries of Durham. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, exercise, and refereeing local women's lacrosse matches.

**Jacqueline Mbah**, 3 Corktree Court, was raised and grew up in a big family in Granville County, the youngest of nine children. She graduated from South Granville High School, in a very small city called Creedmoor, and completed her nursing degree at NC A&T State University in Greensboro. She married Raymond Mbah here at FPC in 1997; now mother of three wonderful children: Sharron, Almira, and Ariel. She works often but finds time to enjoy reading and spending time with her family. She has previously served as a deacon at FPC (Class of 2009).

**Ben Neece**, 209 W. Murray Avenue, is a lifelong member of FPC. Ben has been a Confirmation mentor, played on FPC's basketball team, and served as an usher. He is in the process of earning a J.D./M.B.A. from North Carolina Central University's School of Law, and in his free time he enjoys playing basketball, golf, and spending time with his friends and family.

### **Youth Deacon, Class of 2015**

**Aurelia Klinck**, 3224 Pinafore Drive, was born in Durham and has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since she was born in 1999. She is an active member of the Youth Group and regularly serves as an acolyte and crucifer. She is in the Youth Handbell Choir. She attends high school at Durham School of the Arts (9<sup>th</sup> grade). She loves to play sports and enjoys a hobby of photography, and plays many musical instruments in her spare time.

**Talitha Kwon**, 10 Bravehart Ct in Durham, was born in Southern California and has been a member since she was about nine. She is currently a student at Charles E. Jordan High School, 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and enjoys writing, drawing and listening to music.

## **Job descriptions for Ruling Elder and Deacon**

### **Ruling Elder**

According to the Book of Order, ruling elders are to be “persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they ‘lord it over’ the congregation, but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with teaching elders, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships.” (G-2.03)

### **Expectations of a Ruling Elder (3-year term)**

Participate in the life of the church that includes attending worship, funerals, congregational meals and other sponsored activities on a regular basis. Collectively, the ruling elders form the Session that is charged with the governance of the church, its spiritual, financial and operational sustainability. In this position, an elder is expected to attend Session meetings (monthly), serve on at least one committee each year and possibly chair a committee in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Other duties of ruling elders are to serve communion and serve as greeters (on a rotating basis) and to preside over baptisms and serve home communion (on request). Over the three year period, each elder is requested to represent FPC at least once at a Presbytery meeting. Session committees include the following: Property, Stewardship, Finance/Investment, Service and Mission, Nominating, Worship and the Arts, Personnel, and Christian Education.

### **Deacon**

According to the Book of Order, “the ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick and lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.” (G-2.0201)

### **Expectations of a Deacon (3-year term)**

Participate in the life of the church that includes attending worship, funerals, congregational meals and other sponsored activities on a regular basis. Collectively the deacons form the Diaconate that is charged with the health and well-being of the congregation. In this position, a deacon is expected to attend Diaconate meetings (monthly), serve on at least one committee each year and possibly chair a committee in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Other duties of deacons include but are not limited to serving as an usher and delivering flowers after worship (on a rotating basis monthly), assisting with

congregational meals and other social activities, welcoming new members and visitors, and attending to pastoral needs of the congregation. Diaconate committees include the following: Fellowship, Membership, and Pastoral Care.

Respectfully submitted  
Jon Abels

### **Personnel Committee**

**Chair:** Luke Everett

**Clergy:** Mark Diehl, Interim Minister; Marilyn Hedgpeth, Associate Pastor

**Members:** Laura Hanson; Dan Hudgins; Lea Bingham; Barbara Buckley

The Committee met as needed to assist the Session in its duties to “provide for the administration of the program of the church, including employment of non-ordained staff, with concern for equal employment opportunity, fair employment practices, personnel policies and the annual review of the adequacy of compensation for all staff, including all employees.”

The work of this year’s Committee focused on the following major areas:

1. **Personnel Manual Update:** The Committee finalized revisions to the Personnel Manual. The revisions were wide-ranging, but notably included a clarification of the annual staff review processes.
2. **Job Description Updates:** The Committee updated the job descriptions for every staff position. The process for these updates was as follows: (1) Each staff member reviewed her or his own job description and made recommendations for the way the description could be amended; (2) Members of the staff who worked closely with another staff member reviewed that position’s job description and provided input. This review was not evaluative of the individual holding that position, but instead considered the description of the position itself; (3) **Luke Everett**, as chair of the Committee, met with **Mark Diehl** and **Marilyn Hedgpeth** to discuss both sets of recommendations for each job description. And (4), the Committee made appropriate amendments to the job descriptions.

3. **Annual Staff Review:** The Committee created a form to guide self-evaluation and a review by the Interim Minister for every staff position. The Interim Minister engaged in a job review of each individual staff member and reported back to the Personnel Committee.
4. **Review of Interim Minister:** The Committee gathered feedback about the job performance of the Interim Minister from a broad cross-section of members of the church community, including committee chairs, other members of the congregation, and three staff members. **Luke Everett**, as chair of the Committee, then met with **Mark Diehl** to discuss the feedback that the Committee had received and wrote a job performance review using the same form used for other staff reviews.
5. **Recommendation for Six-Month Extension for the Interim Minister:** The Committee, in consultation with Mark Diehl, met to discuss Mark's future with the church. It recommended that the church contract to extend Mark for six months after the conclusion of his current contract, from September 2014 to February 2015. The Session unanimously approved the recommendation in a specially-called July meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Luke Everett

### **Property Committee**

Chair: Kate Busa

Secretary: Andy Henry

Business Administrator: Tom Bloom

Members: Chris Brown, Barbara Buckley, Paul Cornsweet, George Danser, Celia Dickerson, George Kirschmann, Krisitn Meade, Julie Whiddon, Chuck Wilson

The Property Committee is to see to the day-to-day maintenance of the church and grounds and to anticipate, prepare for, and oversee major repairs and improvements.

Above and beyond the regular maintenance and cleaning and some deep cleanings over the year we saw to the following items with the invaluable leadership of **Tom Bloom**.

- **Day School Renovation:** The FPC Day School is being renovated with:
  - all new floors and paint;
  - new windows that slide open and close, lock securely and are much more efficient.
  - a new prep room for the nursery with kitchen cupboards and sink.
  - new toilets and sinks in the classroom bathrooms.
  - new electrical outlets where needed.
  - The floors in classroom bathrooms have been steam cleaned and sealed.
  - There are new programmable thermostats in all zones of the Day School.

Most of this work will be completed by the beginning of September. In 2015 we plan to replace windows in the Day School office, teachers' lounge, and Deacons' office. We will also have reflective film installed on all windows in the lower education wing. This will drastically reduce our air-conditioning costs for this wing.

- **New Sunday School Nursery:** We have created a new nursery for the Sunday School on the second floor of the CE building. It is located in Room 203 in the inner corner of the building across from the Teachers' Resource room. This puts all of our children in the same area of the building and eliminates the need to set up and tear down the Sunday School Nursery class in the Day School. New bright paint and equipment make this a very inviting space
- **New Look for Youth Room:** The large youth room in the basement has been painted white and is much brighter and more inviting. **Sarah Finbow** has been decorating it and it looks great. We are in the process of installing an accordion divider for the room so it can be used for both Middle School and High School Sunday classes. Some new furniture will be purchased so both spaces will be comfortable.
- **Elevator pit moisture control:** A new stainless steel grate has been fabricated and installed.
- **Upgrade lighting in the parlors:** We have purchased two new chandeliers for the West Parlor. These have up-lights in them for a non-glaring full coverage light. They have rheostat switches. If they work well for the space, as anticipated, we will order two more for the East Parlor.
- **Signage:** All the parking lot signs have been replaced with new, easy-to-read, friendlier signs. All mention of towing has been removed and we have cancelled arrangements with the towing company for proactive towing. The staff and Day School staff parking areas are well-marked, as well as the handicapped and visitor

parking for Sundays. The monument sign at the corner of Roxboro and Main has been cleaned, sealed, and painted to match the accent stone on the church. The letters were removed, cleaned and painted, then reinstalled. It looks wonderful. Some ornamental grasses planted in front of it are growing too tall; they will be kept trimmed for now and replanted elsewhere in the fall. Indoor signage is being reviewed for additions and revisions.

- **Animal control:** Animals Be Gone came and did a thorough inspection from cellar to attics. They found and closed several areas where squirrels and other animals had been getting into the church. We are now critter free.
- **New Thermostats:** Programmable thermostats have been installed in the CE building, the kitchen and the sanctuary. These thermostats will be remotely accessed both by facilities staff and by Comfort Engineers (HVAC). Comfort was able to correct a problem from their office quickly without a site call being necessary.
- **Landscaping upgrade:** The landscape plantings have done marvelously well. The irrigation system is keeping them healthy and our wonderful Landscape and Gardening Committee under the leadership of **Barbara Buckley** has kept everything looking wonderful. On one of their workdays, they planted some Azaleas in the Memorial Garden in memory of **Joyce Houk**. They are looking for an appropriate place to plant a donated Dogwood tree. Thank you Barbara and your wonderful volunteers.
- **Refinished Sanctuary Floor:** The wood floor in front of the chancel in the sanctuary was refinished this year.
- **Bike Rack:** Plans are in the works to install a bike rack in the inner corner of the courtyard where there is a mulched area already set aside.
- **Ongoing Security Measures:** The door access and burglar alarm systems have been upgraded in order to allow remote access by the system administrators.
- **Ongoing Safety Improvements:** Several light fixtures have been changed to “always on” to ensure that there is always adequate light for stairwells and hallways.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kate Busa

## Service and Mission Committee

Co-Chairs: Beth Eisenson and Edward Kwon

Members: Pat Ashby, Alec Bethune, Tom Bacon, Lea Bingham, Paul Cornsweet, John Fricks, Sue Fricks, Dale Gaddis, Sharon Hirsch, Rebecca Leonard, Margaret Rubiera, Marie Sappenfield and Michael Schultz.

The Service and Mission Committee, together with the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, continues to seek ways to answer God's call to serve those in need around us and in the world. With ever-increasing state and federal budget cuts, the needs in our community continue to rise. Our committee has prayerfully studied and struggled to weigh best options to try to meet these needs. A considerable amount of time was spent in creating and then revising our budget to balance programs we wished to support and need requests with our available resources. We have continued to use newsletter articles and Minutes for Mission to share with the congregation the many ways First Presbyterian Church has and can respond to God's call with opportunities for service.

A big focus for the committee was on our **Walk-In Ministry Program** which had grown considerably over the past few years. A task force comprised of **Michael Schultz, Lea Bingham, Pat Ashby, Dan Hudgins, Mark Diehl and Beth Eisenson** met regularly to examine and analyze needs of our neighbors in crisis, the time spent by our staff and volunteers and the amount of money we were spending in trying to meet these needs. The decision was made to set up a fund with Durham County Social Service for our neighbors with crisis housing, utility or medical needs. FPC members **Mary-Jo Keenan, Marie Sappenfield** and **Jo Bernhardt** joined **Bob Yoder** in volunteering to meet with our walk-in neighbors on Mondays and Thursdays to offer a caring ear and Blessing Bags of food and water, bus passes or DERC vouchers for necessities. They will continue to make referrals to Social Service or Presbyterian Urban Ministries and other agencies for crisis intervention. This change has greatly relieved the burden on our church staff and office volunteers and when fully implemented will hopefully provide a more cost effective way to minister to those with crisis needs.

Efforts to address social justice have been worked on by many FPC members through Durham CAN. FPC members **Sharon Hirsch** and **Susan Dunlap** took on leadership roles with this organization. FPC members worked on the Affordable Care Act Outreach to educate and sign up folks in Durham through the health care exchanges. Durham CAN worked to get affordable housing promised near the proposed light rail lines. FPC members attended the Delegates Assembly to listen to and evaluate candidates running



for the Durham Public School Board and afterwards participated in the Souls to the Polls walk to the Board of Elections for early voting in support of Voter's Rights. Some of our congregation attended the Durham Literary Summit to learn how to volunteer for summer reading camps for children. Another way many members advocated for social justice in health care, public education, voter's rights, unemployment benefits etc. was in participating in the Moral Monday rallies and march in Raleigh and one rally recently in Durham.

We continue to work with former and new partners in Durham to address local needs. FPC members donated professional women's clothing for Dress For Success, donated school supplies for Crayons to Calculators, rang bells for the Salvation Army, donated food and clothing to the pantry at Emanuel Iglesia, participated in a car blessing for Wheels for Hope, ran/ walked or assisted with Florence Forth and prepared breakfasts and lunches for our neighbors at Urban Ministries. We helped start a new program through Project Access and Lincoln Community Health Center to help provide school children with reading glasses. Instead of our former Summer Month of Mission we sponsored Summer Service Opportunities so the congregation could have a more flexible time to put their faith into action. FPC volunteers could help with Vacation Church School, youth conferences, FPC Day School, Youth Summer Service Week, Durham Public Schools Reading Camp, Genesis Home, Iglesia Emanuel food pantry and youth transportation, Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association, Habitat for Humanity, Urban Ministries or at our church office or making blessing bags. We plan to organize future Weeks of Service throughout the year. Many FPC members attended the Blessing of the Mowrey Habitat House and have supported the building of this home sponsored by **Joe Harvard** to honor his wife **Carlisle**. Work on this house is still ongoing at this time. Last year, **Margaret Rubiera** organized Habitat for Humanity's Pink Ribbon Build, honoring all of those medical professionals in our community who care for women undergoing breast cancer treatment. Another Pink Ribbon House will be started this fall that FPC members can participate in. Our budget supports many local partners in addressing needs for shelter, food, clothing, medical care, mental health and many other necessities.

First Presbyterian members continued to volunteer and support international mission projects as well. During January and February, **Miguel and Margaret Rubiera** led three Habitat for Humanity trips to Honduras. **Beth and Howard Eisenson, Rebecca Leonard** and **Guy Cecelski** joined the ranks of FPC members who have made this meaningful trip. The First Quilters made beautiful baby blankets that were lovingly delivered to the baby orphanage there. **John Fricks** also continued to sell Café Justo to support sustainable and free trade coffee growers as part of the Presbyterian Church Border Mission. **Rebecca Leonard** led many of our members in the annual CROP Walk this past April to

help end hunger. We provide support for missionary workers **Jeff and Christy Boyd** in the Congo and the **Vis family** in Brazil. We are in the process of applying to get a speaker from the Presbytery's International Peacemaker's Conference this fall. At the national level we supported our church's youth Appalachia Mission trip.

Here at home, **Tom Admay, Pat Ashby, Harold Dunlap, Margaret Keller, George Telford** and **Marilyn Hedgpeth** serve on the First Presbyterian Day School Board. FPC provides scholarships and subsidies for about 25 children in the five-star rated Day School.

During special offerings throughout the year, members of the congregation provided additional community as well as worldwide support. The Christmas Concerns fund provided support for the Food Bank of Eastern NC and Meals on Wheels. Local portions of the Pentecost Offering went to Partners for Youth / YO:Durham, local portions of the Peacemaking Offering went to support Iglesia Emanuel's Music Academy, and our Christmas Eve offering supported the Welcome Baby program. Our generous Hunger for Change donations have been the highest of any church in our Presbytery this year!

As part of FPC's interim period process, we have rewritten our committee description and our yearly planning calendar to make them more in line with what we are or plan to be doing as we go forward.

The Service and Mission Committee is privileged to work with FPC's generous and supportive congregation as we all try to educate ourselves and be critically thoughtful of ways to respond to needs in our community and the world.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Eisenson

### **Stewardship Committee**

Chair: Tom Bacon

Committee members: Margaret and Miguel Rubiera, Lisa and Carl Rist, Wayne House, Amy Wilson, Lisa Gabriel, and Pastors Mark Diehl, Marilyn Hedgpeth, and Sam Miglarese.

The theme of the 2013 Stewardship Campaign was "Generosity Changes Lives." Our hope was that the theme would challenge the members of our congregation to think in creative and comprehensive ways about how we as individuals and as the body of Christ respond in gratitude to the teachings of Christ, and how both the giver and those who

are recipients of our generosity are transformed by that process. We made a considerable effort to bring to the attention of our congregation some practical ways that we can act upon those instructions, both with our financial contributions and the gifts of our time and talents.

The committee decided that in reflecting on recent stewardship campaigns that ran well into the holiday season and beyond, we would start the stewardship campaign approximately a month earlier. The Stewardship Campaign began on Sunday, September 29, and officially ended on our Dedication Sunday, October 27. Each week during the campaign, a congregant wrote an article for the newsletter, and another congregant gave a brief message during the service on Sunday. Both **Mark Diehl** and **Sam Miglarese** included stewardship themes in their sermons during these weeks as well.

The annual Congregational Dinner took place on October 24, in the Parish Hall of St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Approximate 120 people attended what proved to be a delightful and inspiring event. **Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove**, who leads the intentional Christian community, Rutba House in Durham, was the featured speaker. An excellent dinner was catered by Durham Catering Company. **Margaret Rubiera** chaired the committee planning and hosting the dinner, and a faithful group of volunteers helped decorate the tables to reflect the theme, while others helped serve and clean up. **Marilyn Hedgpeth** organized pizza and child care for the children whose parents were attending the dinner. The congregational dinner is a major undertaking and went very smoothly thanks to the participation of many people.

The day after the dinner, stewardship packets were mailed to all members of our congregation. These packets included a letter written by the committee chairperson, a pledge card, and an envelope in which to return the pledge card for those not able to be in church on Commitment Sunday. The following Sunday, October 27, was Commitment Sunday. During that special service, members were encouraged to bring their pledges to the communion table in a symbolic act of commitment and response to the message that had been reiterated throughout the previous weeks.

The enthusiasm and generosity of the congregation was most encouraging, yet we fell short of our goal. The initial response and follow up generated approximately 180 pledges and less than \$750,000 in pledges, compared to \$854,000 the prior year. Since we were considerably below our goal, it was decided to do a second mailing in January encouraging those who had not pledged to do so and asking those who had already pledged to consider making an additional commitment to help meet the projected budget for the coming year. After the second mailing a large number of members

responded either with new pledges or with increases in their pledge total. We ultimately received 199 pledges totaling \$812,265. Although the number of pledges was down as well as the total dollars pledged, the average pledge per giving unit rose to \$4,082.

Approximately 30 families who had pledged in previous years chose not to make a pledge for 2014, and the total amount pledged fell by about 5%. There may be several reasons for the decline in pledges, including First Presbyterian being in transition between Senior Pastors, the loss of several key members during the year, both due to deaths and to moves out of town, and the fact that the earlier Stewardship Season did not allow us to have a completed Needs Budget in place at the time of the campaign.

The committee decided not to do the Time and Talent Sheets together with the financial pledges this past year. Instead, the Time and Talent forms were distributed in May and collected and dedicated on Pentecost Sunday, June 8.

The committee also added a Stewardship Corner to the weekly church newsletter this past year. Members of the committee agree to write a brief paragraph, or use an inspirational quote, to highlight stewardship issues, to provide the spiritual basis for generous giving, or to tell the story of how the generosity of the congregation is changing lives of those we serve.

The committee also took the initial steps to explore adding a program of planned giving for the church. **Lisa Gabriel**, a member of the committee and a professional financial advisor, led two adult Sunday School classes on giving and how we may wish to make an impact with our lives and with our financial resources. During the coming year we plan to add a more formal program of planned giving that may include ways to recognize and honor those individuals who have included First Presbyterian in their wills.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Bacon

### **Worship and the Arts Committee**

Co-Chairs: Jean Cary and Phyllis Supple

Clergy: Marilyn Hedgpeth and Mark Diehl

Minister of Music: Kathy Parkins

Youth Minister: Sarah Finbow

Committee members: Wes Carson, Peter Fish, Mary Gitata, Dewey Lawson, Ruth Roberson, David Smith, Carol Wills, Jean Wilson

**NEW HYMNALS:** 350 copies of *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal* were delivered late September. The youth scanned the bookplates in the blue (former) hymnals so all dedications could be transferred to the new hymnals. Members were invited to make new dedications. Bookplates were designed and completed by **Lyn Francisco**. **Dewey Lawson** and **David Smith** led Faith and Community classes on hymnody and some of the special hymns available in the new hymnal. In January the WATA committee organized the transition, putting bookplates in the new hymnals and moving them into the pews.

**EXTENDED COMMUNION:** Extended Communion, led by **Peter Fish** and **Wes Carson**, was offered to members at the Forest at Duke, Croasdaile Village, and Hillcrest. The committee has evaluated the procedure and approved a plan to continue offering Extended Communion on the Sundays in November and March when communion is served in the sanctuary.

**ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS:** Youth have been trained and serve as acolytes and crucifers each Sunday except during summer months. Black cassocks in multiple sizes have replaced the choir robes that had been previously worn.

**COMMUNION:** Communion continues to be the major focus of the committee. After an experiment to serve gluten-free bread at all stations, it was decided to serve gluten-free bread at the station closest to the font and regular bread at the other three stations. **Marila Stone** continues to generously contribute the processional bread for each communion service.

**SIGNUP GENIUS:** This electronic application is being used to schedule committee members preparing communion and serving on the Worship Team.

**ADVENT TABLE:** A beautiful table to be used at Advent was made by **George Danser** and dedicated by **Jean Cary** and **George Danser**. George made the table from oak that was left after the renovation and from an oak tree in Jean and George's back yard that was struck by lightning.

**McPHERSON LECTURE:** The **Rev. Dr. Emilie M. Townes**, Dean of the Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, was the guest lecturer on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Her topic was "Christian Ethics, Womanist Theology, and the Present Political Climate."

**FLOWERS:** **Susan Thompson** coordinates donations of flowers for the sanctuary. A list is now posted on the bulletin board in the foyer giving members an opportunity to sign up for a specific Sunday. **Alice Raney** continues to share her talents at Christmas and Easter, decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias and lilies with assistance from **Dale Georgiade** and **Phyllis Verhey**.

**MUSIC AND ARTS CAMP:** **Kathy Parkins** developed a curriculum and led a special camp that was offered during the afternoons of Vacation Church School. Five children attended. Kathy was assisted by **Aurelia Klinck**, **Dawn Carsey**, **Li-Chen Chin**, and **Caroline Pritchett**.

**CHOIRS:** The members of FPC's Children's Choir joined members of the Children's Choir from St. Luke's Episcopal Church to sing during the worship service at St. Luke's on April 27<sup>th</sup> and at FPC on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Chancel Choir joined the Chancel Choir from Watts Street Baptist Church to present a Spring Concert in the FPC sanctuary on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The joint choir and instrumentalists presented works by Vivaldi, Mozart, Rutter, Manz, Courtney, and Dawson.

**SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES:**

- October 20, 2013 - Children's Sabbath
- December 4, 11, 18, 2013 - Advent Services and Suppers
- December 24, 2013 - Christmas Eve Candle-lighting Service with Pageant and Holy Communion
- January 6, 2014 - Epiphany Service and Supper
- March 9 and April 2, 2014 - Lenten Services and Supper
- April 16, 2014 - Midday Service and Lunch
- April 17, 2014 - Good Friday Service "Songs of Darkness"
- May 11, 2014 - Youth Sunday

We greatly appreciate the wonderful work and tireless commitment of the committee members and all others who help to make worship at First Presbyterian a meaningful experience and joyful celebration.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Cary and Phyllis Supple, Co-chairs

## REPORT OF THE DIACONATE

**Moderators:** Karen Romines and Julie Maxwell

### **Class of 2014**

\*Lily Abels  
Torrell Armstrong  
Pat Ashby  
Alec Bethune  
John Cowden  
Tamzin Kinnett  
\*J. L. Klinck  
Julie Maxwell  
Tyler Momsen-Hudson

### **Class of 2015**

Kathy Conner  
Kit Law  
Keith Merritt  
Karen Romines  
Lyn Williams  
Carol Wills  
Grey Wilson

### **Class of 2016**

Jo Bernhardt  
Paul Cornsweet  
Carlton Gainey  
Jeanne Hervey  
Brianna Honea  
Nate Pienkowski  
Ann Prospero  
Tim Strauman

\*Youth elected to serve a one-year term

This year, the deacons have used our monthly meeting time to pray for the congregation, especially those on the prayer list.

We have also sent cards and notes to several groups in the congregation and Advent care packages and Valentines to our college students.

To encourage members to participate in Lenten activities, we prepared packages with Lenten activity information and cards for members to use to offer words of encouragement or thanks to each other, which were distributed after worship.

In June, we prepared blessing bags for use by office staff and volunteers during the summer.

Deacons also provided leadership for the ushering, fellowship, membership, and pastoral care committees. All are welcome on these committees!

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Romines

## Fellowship Committee

Co-Chairs: Carol Wills and Jeanne Hervey

Committee members: Jo Bernhardt, Kathy Conner, Carlton Gainey, Keith Merritt, Lyn Williams

The Fellowship Committee coordinated the following fellowship events:

### **Children's Sabbath picnic – Outside**

October 19, 2013 – 100 ppl - checkered table cloth

Assorted Wrapped sandwiches – turkey bacon clubs, chicken salad and arugula, roasted vegetable wraps with hummus, peanut butter and jelly, peanut butter and banana, pasta salad, black bean salad, carrots and celery with dip and hummus, Jello salad carried over from Senior Luncheon and a Dessert Cakewalk fundraiser was organized by FPC Youth

### **Monthly Fellowship after worship**

November 17, 2013 – 100ppl

Mountain apple-stuffed pork loin, local kale and quinoa salad, local collards, roasted local sweet potatoes, grilled cheese for kids, pumpkin pie bars  
(Ordered vegetables from Farmer's Food Share)

### **Advent Suppers – 30 ppl each**

December 11, 2013 - Chicken sotanghon, vegetable soup, green salad, macaroni and cheese, chili mac, and dessert

December 18, 2013 - Tomato soup, green salad, grilled cheese or quesadilla, vegan option and dessert

### **Monthly Fellowship after worship**

January 19, 2014 – 85 ppl

Chicken cacciatore, ratatouille, baked spaghetti, green salad with two dressings, apple tart, fruit salad

### **Monthly Fellowship after worship**

February 16, 2014 – 90 ppl

Chicken Creole, vegetarian jambalaya, Mardi Gras kale salad, bread pudding, fruit, and kids' pizza muffins



### **Monthly Fellowship after worship**

March 16, 2014 – 80 ppl

Chicken country captain, lentils and rhubarb curry with sweet potatoes and peas, white rice, roasted carrots with lime and cumin, macaroni and cheese, banana pudding, fresh winter strawberries

### **Monthly Fellowship after worship**

April 13, 2014 – 85 ppl

Cucumber salad, lamb moussaka, spring vegetable risotto, pizza puffs, fruit and dessert

### **Mother's Day Luncheon**

May 11, 2014 – 85 ppl

Green salad with two dressings, pasta salad, black bean salad, chicken salad, mini hot dogs and mini chicken meatball sliders, two Costco sheet cakes (1 vanilla and 1 chocolate)

We wish to thank the many volunteers who come to cut, chop, stir, mix, bake, set-up and clean-up for these fellowship events. We especially thank **Cris Rivera** and **Robert Daye** for all they do to ensure our fellowship events are a grand success!

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Wills and Jeanne Hervey, co-chairs

### **Membership Committee**

**Chair:** Brianna Honea

**Staff Member:** Shirley Frederick, Membership Coordinator

#### **Members from Governing Boards of the Church:**

Lily Abels (Diaconate), Brianna Honea (Diaconate), J.L. Klinck (Diaconate), Mal King (Session), Edward Kwon (Session), Lyn Williams (Diaconate), Gray Wilson (Diaconate)

**Members from the congregation:** Pat Dillon, John Kelley, Delia Kwon, B.J. Morton, Harriett Mitchell, Alice Raney, Susan Seahorn

**Meeting times:** Periodically held as needed following worship services on Sundays to attend to planning and volunteer assignments.

## **On-going activities and accomplishments:**

Welcomed 27 new adult members, plus one affiliate member, into the life of the congregation, along with four children as members of the new families who joined the FPC faith community.

Membership Coordinator prepares brief biographical paragraphs about new members for the weekly newsletter as a way to introduce them to the congregation.

Maintain new member bulletin boards which include photographs and brief biographical paragraphs about new members. As other new members are posted, the former photographs on display are placed in a binder which is located on a table in the foyer for all members to read.

Sunday morning responsibilities of distributing and collecting Ritual of Friendship pads, greeting and noting new visitors, and conducting follow-up contact with the visitors.

Responsible for assigning narthex and foyer greeter prior to worship service; also staff the coffee/juice table on Sunday mornings.

Organizing and staffing get-acquainted hospitality events (suppers or luncheons) and Newcomers classes for prospective members.

Encourages members of the congregation to invite visitors to worship at FPC with a monthly emphasis on "Invite a Friend to Church" Sunday

Membership Coordinator coordinates the compiling of responses to the annual Time and Talent sheets and forwards the appropriate information to Pastors and Committee Chairs.

Connect new members to fellowship groups, young adults group, youth groups, church school classes, and volunteer activities, i.e. ushering, service projects, etc. of the congregation.

Periodically contact new members to remind them of upcoming church events.

Membership Coordinator continues to update and maintain church members' addresses, phone numbers and data on the church computer; tracks births, marriages, deaths, baptisms and transfers of membership.

Track, and either contact absent members, or inform pastoral staff about members who have not participated in worship services or other church activities in recent months.

Submit periodic newspaper ads to the local newspaper inviting the community to worship at FPC; also advertise in Duke University publications.

### **Prospects for the future**

Several new projects are projected for the coming year:

--Coordinating in-house photo sessions of members for the printing of an updated Pictorial Directory. Members of the Membership Committee will help staff the photo sessions with our volunteer photographer.

--The Membership Committee will explore methods of outreach to the residents moving into the new apartments being built in the downtown community

--Compile a comprehensive list of names for Session action regarding the membership status of FPC members who no longer attend FPC.

--Continue to monitor the FPC website to keep it current and informative in order to attract visitors.

--Continue to encourage both new and longtime members to serve as ushers, greeters and at the after church coffee hour table.

--Continue to reach out to visitors from diverse backgrounds and welcome them into this faith community.

### **CHURCH CALENDAR:**

Newcomers/Inquirer's Classes and receiving of new members into the congregation scheduled periodically as needed. A continuing goal is to have classes scheduled on a regular basis and regularly-scheduled Sundays for receiving new members.

### **NEW MEMBERS: September 1, 2013-August 31, 2014**

#### **September 29, 2013**

Linda and Chuck Barenchi

Amanda and Cheryl England (daughter Regan)

Stefanie F. Gore

Randy Lang  
Ana Santos and Kirsten Rutschman  
Claire Tipton

**October 28, 2013**

Julie Whiddon

**January 26, 2014**

Sheila and Bob Breitweiser  
Sarah Finbow  
Deborah (Debbie) Hamlin-Aggrey  
Darlington Hebron  
Jenna Kneepkens  
Deborah Nyabundi  
Tatjana (Tanya) Vujic and Tom Profeta (daughter, Ana, and son, Duncan)

**February 23, 2014**

Judy and Al Arrowood  
Chris and Laurie (affiliate) Hyland (son, Brandon)

**June 23, 2014**

Ian Belle and Jennie Wilburn  
Alex Brewington  
Gary Elliot  
Amy Wilson

Respectfully submitted,  
Shirley Frederick and Brianna Honea

**Pastoral Care Committee**

Chair: Karen Romines

Committee members: Tyler Momsen-Hudson, Pat Ashby, Paul Cornsweet, Ann Prospero, Tamzin Kinnett, David Lorimer, Cris Rivera, Tim Strauman

During the past year, we have organized meals for families with new babies and other families who are going through difficult times.

We sent care packages to our college students during Advent.

We also sent a package to **Patrick Naples** and colleagues, stationed in Afghanistan, and we organized an effort to have Sunday school classes send cards and notes to Patrick.

We organized receptions after memorial services using the SignUpGenius website.

**Paul Cornsweet** coordinated our Croasdaile Village driving schedule on Sunday mornings and recruited drivers.

**Ann Prospero** led a new effort to call people on the prayer list. We kept the freezer stocked with meals for anyone who needed one.

The Pastoral Care Committee is led by deacons, but all are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please contact **Karen Romines** or **Paul Cornsweet** if you have any interest.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Romines

## REPORT OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Moderator: Gwen Cleary

Co-Moderators: BJ Morton and Linn Lopez

Card Outreach Chair: Mary Ann Ruegg

The First Presbyterian Women's Circle (Area 1), New Hope Presbytery, met monthly on the first Monday of each month, September 2013 through May 2014 at 10:30 a.m. for Bible study and fellowship. Our average attendance was 18 members and we used the 2013-2014 Horizon Bible Study, "An Abiding Hope: The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy," taught by **Reverend Susan Dunlap**. Susan has provided us with numerous challenges and correlations between biblical times and the current world in which we live. Various questions and answers are offered by both Susan and our members. We are very thankful for Susan's guidance and expertise, as well as for the very pleasant manner in which she presents the material.

Each month, we send cards to about 20 First Presbyterian Women shut-ins, and at Christmas we deliver a beautiful poinsettia to each shut-in. We participate in: Birthday Offering, Blessing Box, and Least Coin Offerings. We make regular donations to Church World Services (blankets), Share the Warmth (Duke Energy), Barium Springs, Genesis House, Meals on Wheels, Presbyterian Urban Ministry, First Presbyterian Day School, Vacation Church School Scholarships and to Durham's Youth Summer Service Week camps. Presbyterian Women made 25 baby quilts which were taken to Honduras by **Miguel and Margaret Rubiera** on their missionary trip. The recipients were ecstatically pleased to receive one of these beautiful hand-made quilts. Many thanks to Miguel and Margaret Rubiera for delivering these quilts.

**Gwen Cleary** and **Nancy Darter** attended the Fall Gathering in Roanoke Rapids which was very rewarding, and a lovely breakfast buffet was served by the Roanoke Rapids group. **BJ Morton** and **Gwen Cleary** represented First Presbyterian at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women, the Presbytery of New Hope—Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Springhill Spring Gathering in Lucama, NC. It is always rewarding to learn of our Presbytery's accomplishments. The keynote speaker was **Lynn Kyle** and the title of her presentation was, "Lord, Help Me Continue."

It was a pleasure and a privilege to honor **Valerie McMillian** and **Mary Ann Ruegg** as Honorary Life Members of Presbyterian Women of the Presbyterian Church. Valerie has been a devoted parish administrator for 12+ years; her steadfast dedication to the responsibilities of which she performs daily is phenomenal. She is an asset to First

Presbyterian Church and the First Presbyterian Circle. In addition, she is always ready to say, yes, with a smile on her face. Mary Ann is an active member of the Church and the Circle and volunteers in numerous activities. Her monthly "Greeting Card Brigade" is non-ending. She addresses as many as 15 cards each month to our member-stay-at-homes for birthdays, deaths, holidays and special occasions. Each card is signed by the Circle Members. Anywhere you find Mary Ann, you will see she brings enthusiasm and kindness.

We are sad to report that two of our very loyal Circle members passed away: **Muriel Kirkland** and **Sarah Todd**. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gwen Cleary

## REPORT FROM THE TREASURER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

First Presbyterian Church ended 2013 under budget on both income and expenses – income was \$11,389 under the \$954,652 budget and expenses were \$21,172 under the \$974,652 budget. The Session had allowed for the use of \$20,000 in unrestricted reserves to balance the budget, but by year-end, only \$10,217 had been drawn from unrestricted reserves, leaving \$174,964 in remaining unrestricted reserves. The 2013 personnel expense included a 3% cost of living adjustment, essentially making permanent the 3% bonus staff had received in 2012. (See table below.)

On February 24, 2014, the Session approved a \$956,377 budget for 2014. All committee budgets except personnel were cut by 10%. The personnel budget increased a small amount reflecting higher health insurance premiums, but no salary increases. Budgeted revenue includes the use of \$30,000 from a bequest. Provision was made to dip into reserves if needed up to \$34,000.

First Presbyterian Church contracted with Bernard Robinson & Co to audit our 2013 books. The auditors noted three items for improvement: 1) that bank reconciliations be reviewed on a monthly basis, including old outstanding items, 2) that the Day School's financial and bank statements be reviewed by the church a regular basis, and 3) that the Church may want to re-evaluate its investment policy. The Treasurer has begun reviewing bank reconciliations, the Finance Committee is looking more closely into the relationship between the Day School and the Church, and a subgroup of the Finance Committee has been identified to focus on our current investments.

Sapere Wealth Management continues to serve as our investment advisor. We experienced investment total returns *gross of management advisory fees* for 2013 of -6.5% on Buildings and Grounds Endowment, -5.91% on Mission Endowment, -5.45% on the McPherson Endowment and -4.54% on restricted funds.

**Mal King** served as Chair of the Finance Committee. Meetings were held on September 10, October 21 (Budget), November 12, and November 19 (Sapere presentation) of 2013, and January 20, February 23, May 19 (Auditor Report), July 2, and August 11 of 2014.

Other members of the Finance Committee are **Torrell Armstrong, Jo Bernhardt, Carol Carson, Rob Everett, Jr., Reverend Mark Diehl, Tom Keller, Keith Merritt, Michael Schultz, Carl Rist, and Andy Widmark**. Thanks to all of them, and to our Business Administrator, **Tom Bloom**, for working so hard in 2013-14 on church finances.

With gratitude,

Wendy McCorkle, Treasurer



## 2013 Operating Budget

	2013 Actual	2013 Budget	Variance	
			Dollars	Percent
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>				
<i>Current Year Pledges</i>	\$847,973.60	\$861,660.79	-\$13,687.19	-1.59
<i>Unpledged Contributions (Members)</i>	\$25,956.14	\$21,000.00	\$4,956.14	23.60
<i>Plate Contributions (Non-Members; cash)</i>	\$23,424.74	\$26,000.00	-\$2,575.26	-9.90
<i>Past Year Pledges</i>	\$2,969.94	\$4,350.00	-\$1,380.06	-31.73
<i>Interest/Investment Income</i>	\$5,919.43	\$10,470.80	-\$4,551.37	-43.47
<i>Parking Lot Income</i>	\$960.00	\$6,320.00	-\$5,360.00	-84.81
<i>Building Use Income</i>	\$7,797.50	\$3,100.00	\$4,697.50	151.53
<i>Service and Mission Pass-Throughs</i>				
<i>Special Offerings</i>	\$7,320.29	\$5,000.00	\$2,320.29	46.41
<i>Joy Offering</i>	\$2,219.00	\$2,500.00	-\$281.00	-11.24
<i>One Great Hour of Sharing</i>	\$6,162.31	\$4,500.00	\$1,662.31	36.94
<i>Peacemaking Offering</i>	\$1,920.00	\$2,000.00	-\$80.00	-4.00
<i>Christmas Concerns</i>	\$4,230.00	\$4,000.00	\$230.00	5.75
<i>Hunger for Change</i>	\$6,409.69	\$3,750.00	\$2,659.69	70.93
<b>Total</b>	\$943,262.64	\$954,651.59	-\$11,388.95	-1.19
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
<i>Stewardship Committee</i>	\$3,300.51	\$2,750.00	\$550.51	20.02
<i>Session-related</i>	\$4,965.84	\$5,049.00	-\$83.16	-1.65
<i>Plant and Property Committee</i>	\$113,646.79	\$129,298.00	-\$15,651.21	-12.10
<i>Office Administration</i>	\$50,885.99	\$52,926.92	-\$2,040.93	-3.86
<i>Fellowship Committee</i>	\$4,752.34	\$2,300.00	\$2,452.34	106.62
<i>Worship and the Arts Committee</i>	\$14,763.25	\$14,850.00	-\$86.75	-0.58
<i>Christian Education Committee</i>	\$19,245.91	\$22,858.08	-\$3,612.17	-15.80
<i>Membership Committee</i>	\$4,152.91	\$4,500.00	-\$347.09	-7.71
<i>Service and Mission Pass-Throughs</i>	\$28,261.29	\$21,750.00	\$6,511.29	29.94
<i>Service and Mission Committee</i>	\$159,646.48	\$161,395.85	-\$1,749.37	-1.08
<i>Pastoral Care Committee</i>	\$475.13	\$1,700.00	-\$1,224.87	-72.05
<i>Personnel Committee</i>	\$549,383.62	\$555,274.31	-\$5,890.69	-1.06
<b>Total</b>	\$953,480.06	\$974,652.16	-\$21,172.10	-2.17
Total Income Less Total Expenses	-\$10,217.42	-\$20,000.57		
Drawn from Reserves	\$10,217.00	\$20,000.00		
Reserves (1/1/2014)	\$174,964.17			

## INVESTED RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Income</b>					
Dividends/Interest	\$4,964	\$5851	\$5,442	\$6,737	\$6,583
Gains (Loss)	\$14,875	\$7841	\$24,475	\$10,752	\$-12,605
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,839</b>	<b>\$13692</b>	<b>\$29,917</b>	<b>\$17,489</b>	<b>\$-6,023</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
Operations Budget	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Investment Expense	\$1,490	\$1758	\$1,846	\$2,252	\$2,007
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,490</b>	<b>\$1758</b>	<b>\$1,846</b>	<b>\$2,252</b>	<b>\$2,007</b>
<b>Market Value: 12/31</b>	<b>\$140,899</b>	<b>\$152,833</b>	<b>\$180,904</b>	<b>\$196,141</b>	<b>\$188,111</b>

## ENDOWMENTS

### Building & Grounds Endowment

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Income</b>					
Dividends/Interest	\$42,433	\$21,501	\$17,183	\$24,354	\$34,688
Gains (Loss)	\$295,132	\$338,279	\$214,613	\$282,585	\$-180,889
Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$337,565</b>	<b>\$359,779</b>	<b>\$231,796</b>	<b>\$306,939</b>	<b>\$-146,201</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Investment Expense	\$15,639	\$12,282	\$20,000	\$25,429	\$25,640
Repair/Improvements	\$92,119	\$99,983	\$109,847	\$128,501	\$126,389
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$107,758</b>	<b>\$112,265</b>	<b>\$129,847</b>	<b>\$153,930</b>	<b>\$152,029</b>
<b>Market Value: 12/31</b>	<b>\$2,171,031</b>	<b>\$2,418,545</b>	<b>\$2,520,495</b>	<b>\$2,673,504</b>	<b>\$2,375,274</b>

### Mission Endowment

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Income</b>					
Donations	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dividends/Interest	\$21,103	\$23,066	\$22,018	\$26,286	\$23,280
Gains (Loss)	\$80,589	\$40,017	\$100,907	\$39,694	\$-56,117
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$102,692</b>	<b>\$63,083</b>	<b>\$122,925</b>	<b>\$65,980</b>	<b>\$-32,537</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Investment Expense	\$6,033	\$6,665	\$7,068	\$7,716	\$7,633
Grants	\$25,527	\$27,949	\$28,423	\$33,023	\$35,876
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,560</b>	<b>\$34,614</b>	<b>\$35,491</b>	<b>\$40,739</b>	<b>\$43,509</b>
<b>Market Value: 12/31</b>	<b>\$612,339</b>	<b>\$640,809</b>	<b>\$728,243</b>	<b>\$753,484</b>	<b>\$677,139</b>

### McPherson Lectureship Endowment

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Income</b>					
Dividends/Interest	\$5,617	\$6,055	\$5,557	\$6,499	\$5,728
Gains (Loss)	\$19,829	\$8,588	\$24,997	\$10,285	\$-12,728
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,446</b>	<b>\$14,643</b>	<b>\$30,554</b>	<b>\$16,284</b>	<b>\$-7,000</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
McPherson Lectureship	\$3,797	\$6,901	\$5,078	\$9,729	\$8,256
Investment Expense	\$1,752	\$1,913	\$1,969	\$2,212	\$1,943
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,549</b>	<b>\$8,814</b>	<b>\$7,047</b>	<b>\$11,941</b>	<b>\$10,199</b>
<b>Market Value: 12/31</b>	<b>\$152,895</b>	<b>\$158,724</b>	<b>\$182,230</b>	<b>\$187,073</b>	<b>\$169,874</b>

**First Presbyterian Church of Durham, North Carolina**  
**Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances - Modified Cash Basis**  
**December 31, 2013**

	Operations & Restricted	Building and Grounds	Mission Endowment	McPherson Endowment	Total
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 435,651	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 435,651
Due from Operations Acct	\$ -	\$ 53,225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,225
Investments	\$ 396,572	\$ 2,375,274	\$ 677,139	\$ 169,874	\$ 3,618,859
Accounts Receivable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales tax receivable	\$ 3,569	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,569
Prepaid expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 835,792</b>	<b>\$ 2,428,499</b>	<b>\$ 677,139</b>	<b>\$ 169,874</b>	<b>\$ 4,111,303</b>
Land, property and equipment	\$ 15,083,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$15,083,000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 15,918,792</b>	<b>\$ 2,428,499</b>	<b>\$ 677,139</b>	<b>\$ 169,874</b>	<b>\$19,194,303</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>					
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$ 554	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 554
Due to Repairs & Improvements	\$ 53,225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,225
Prepaid Pledges	\$ 99,558	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,558
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 153,336</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 153,336</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>					
Investable	\$ 174,964	\$ 2,428,499	\$ 677,139	\$ 169,874	\$ 3,450,476
Temp. Restricted	\$ 507,491	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 507,491
Fixed assets	\$ 15,083,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$15,083,000
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 15,765,455</b>	<b>\$ 2,428,499</b>	<b>\$ 677,139</b>	<b>\$ 169,874</b>	<b>\$19,040,967</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp;     FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 15,918,792</b>	<b>\$ 2,428,499</b>	<b>\$ 677,139</b>	<b>\$ 169,874</b>	<b>\$19,194,303</b>



## Church Report 2013

**PIN Number**            21311  
**Presbytery Number**    150443

**Church**                    First Presbyterian Church  
**Address**                  305 E Main St  
**City/State**                Durham, NC 27701  
**Phone**                    919-682-5511  
**Email**                     [v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org)  
**Web Site**                 [www.firstpres-durham.org](http://www.firstpres-durham.org)  
**Fax**                        919-682-0493

**Membership**

Prior Active Members    575

**Gains**

17 & Under                12  
 18 & Over                 1  
 Certificate                14  
 Other                      1  
**Total Gains**             28

**Losses**

Certificate                5  
 Deaths                    9  
 Other                      4  
**Total Losses**            18

**Total Active Members**   585

Baptized                  121

Other Participants

Total Adherents         706

Female Members         364

**Average Attendance**    214

**Affiliate Members**       6

**Baptisms**

Child Baptisms          7  
 Adult Baptisms          1

**Officers**

Male Session             10  
 Female Session          13  
 Male Deacons            12  
 Female Deacons         12

**Age Distribution of Active Members**

		Male	Female
25 & Under	160	80	80
26 - 45	143	63	61
46 - 55	81	34	47
56 - 65	80	28	52
Over 65	121	54	67
<b>Total Distribution</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>307</b>

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**People with Disabilities**

Hearing	26
Sight	7
Mobility	12
Other	

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**Christian Education**

Birth 3	29	Grade 7	7
Age 4	8	Grade 8	4
Kindergarten	11	Grade 9	15
Grade 1	5	Grade 10	6
Grade 2	7	Grade 11	10
Grade 3	6	Grade 12	5
Grade 4	7	Young Adults	40
Grade 5	11	Over 25	61
Grade 6	11	Teachers/Officers	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>280</b>		

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<b>Racial Ethnic</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Asian	10	1	1	5	5
Black					
African American	9		2	4	5
African	53	2		25	28
Middle Eastern					
Hispanic	6			2	4
Native American					
White	507	20	21	192	315
Other					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>357</b>

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**Potential Giving Units** 299**Budgeted Income** 974,652**Budgeted Expense** 974,652

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**Receipts**

Regular Contributions	941,614	Bequests	332,459
Capital Building Fund		Other Income	8,757
Investment Income	71,634	Subsidy or Aid	

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**Expenditures**

Local Program	783,612	Per Capital Apprt	4,300
Local Mission	158,841	Validated Mission	63,191
Capital Expenditures	102,364	Theological Fund	2,500
Investment Expenditures	37,223	Other Mission	14,318

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## Worship Attendance Monthly Averages for 2013

Month	# Weeks	Average Attendance
January	4	251
February	4	218
March	5	252
April	4	234
May	4	252
June	5	177
July	4	151
August	4	190
September	5	194
October	4	180
November	4	197
December	5	214
<b>Average monthly attendance for 2013</b>		<b>209</b>

The count is made by an usher before the children enter worship at the Offertory.

## Outside Organizations Using the Church Building & Grounds

September 2013 - August 2014

1. \*Al-Anon Support Group
2. \*Alliance of Aids Services – Carolina (AASC)
3. American Guild of Organists, Durham-Chapel Hill Chapter (board meetings)
4. City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Management (meetings / luncheon)
5. Choral Society of Durham (rehearsal and performance)
6. \*Child Care Services Association (CCSA)
7. Conflict Resolution Center (Mediator Training)
8. CROP WALK Steering Committee (training)
9. \*Democracy NC
10. Duke Divinity School (seminar)
11. Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership (luncheon)
12. Duke Strings School (rehearsal and performance)
13. \*Duke's Westminster Campus Ministry
14. Durham Beloved Community Committee (meeting)
15. \*Durham CAN (Congregations, Associations and Neighborhoods)
16. Durham Central Park Co-Housing Community
17. Durham Central Park Market (meetings)
18. Durham City / County Government Employees (MLK Celebration)
19. Durham Community Concert Band Wind Quintet (rehearsals)
20. Durham Community Penalties Program Board
21. Durham Congregations in Action (DCIA) Luncheon and Circles of Support Initiative
22. \*Durham County Department of Social Services (Departmental meetings / training)

\* Denotes organizations that meet at least quarterly.

23. \*Durham County Drug Court Foundation and Sentencing Services Board
24. Durham Crisis Response Center (Board meetings)
25. Durham Gets Covered (Phone Bank)
26. Durham Habitat for Humanity (meetings, luncheon, Wills preparation)
27. \*Durham Inter-neighborhood Council
28. \*Durham Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee
29. \*Durham Partnership for Seniors
30. \*Durham People's Alliance
31. Durham Police Choir (rehearsals)
32. Durham Public Schools (training)
33. Durham Summer Services Youth Leadership Camp
34. \*EChO (Early Childhood Outreach) Training
35. End Poverty Durham (meetings)
36. \*Exchange Club Family Center Nurturing Parent Program
37. \*First Presbyterian Day School (Board, Committees and Training)
38. Paula Harrell (organ lessons)
39. Jianghai Ho / Stephanie Thurm Voice Recital
40. Lupus Foundation of America, NC Chapter (Support Group and meetings)
41. Mallarmé Chamber Players (concert)
42. \*Rebekah McKenzie Speech Therapy (for Day School children)
43. Medical Care Access Task Force (meeting)
44. National Association for the Advance of Colored People (NAACP) July meeting
45. \*North Carolina BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) Movement (planning)
46. Nutrition Plus (Regional Training)
47. North Carolina Coalition for Justice and Peace
48. Organizing Against Racism
49. \*Overeaters Anonymous (OA)
50. \*Pauli Murray Project Steering Committee
51. \*Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Brownie Troop 49
52. \*Presbyterian Campus Ministry (Duke Ministers Board)
53. Presbytery of New Hope Webinar
54. Project Homeless Connect
55. Ryan Rowe Voice Recital
56. Singers of New and Ancient Music (SONAM – concerts)
57. \*Sister Cities of Durham (board meeting)
58. Student Action with Farmworkers (training)
59. \*Triangle Sacred Harp Shape Note Choir (rehearsals)
60. UNC School of Social Work (Agency Tour)
61. \*Volunteer Center of Durham (Board meetings)
62. \*Vox Virorum (rehearsals and concerts)
63. Watts St. Baptist Church Chancel Choir (rehearsal)
64. Watts St. Baptist Church Senior Pastor Search Committee (meetings)
65. Weddings (non-members)
66. \*Women in Action Durham Mediation Center (parking only)
67. Women's Voices Chorus (concert)

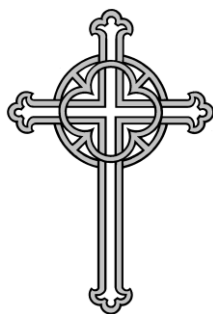


## **The Interim Process: Milestones Along the Path**

**Bold Print** indicates major milestones.  indicates completed tasks.

- Announcement of Retirement of Senior Pastor**
- Transition Team put in place
- Retirement of former Pastor, Head of Staff (May, 2013)**
- Interim Pastor Search Committee interviews candidates (June-August, 2013)
- Interim Pastor (Mark Diehl) hired (August, 2013)
- Interim Pastor joins the community at FPC (September, 2013)**
- Interim building relationships and addressing immediate issues (Fall programs, Stewardship, Budgeting, Advent/Christmas (Sept-Dec 2013)
- Recruitment and approval of two interim committees: “History-to-Our-Story” Team, Mission Study Committee (Jan-Feb 2014)**
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) plans its approach to create a mission study process and formulate mission and vision statements for the congregation
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) interviews community leaders about perceptions of FPC by the community
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) compiles community demographics and congregational statistics
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) plans congregational survey, focus groups, and facilitator training
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) receives congregational input regarding needs, opportunities, challenges, hopes, mission directions**
- “History-to Our-Story” Team (HOST) plans, enacts, and engages the congregation in the history of FPC up to the present time**
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) analyzes congregational survey results
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) develops a vision statement and completes a mission study report based on all the input received and the discernment of the MSC.

- Mission Study Committee (MSC) presents its mission study report to FPC Session for approval or revision, and then presents the Session-approved Mission Study Report to the Committee on Ministry (New Hope Presbytery) for its approval**
- Mission Study Committee (MSC) presents the finalized Mission Study Report to the congregation
- The Committee on Ministry of New Hope Presbytery authorizes FPC to nominate and elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)**
- The Session authorizes a Nominating Committee to propose a representative slate to the congregation for election to the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)
- The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is elected**
- The PNC is trained and completes its process of writing a “Church Information Form” that becomes the basis for candidates’ interest in the position at FPC. The data for the “Church Information Form” is found in the Mission Study Report.
- The Interim and the Session assess Manual of Operations processes, staffing issues, and committee structures for effectiveness and improvements
- The PNC begins receiving “Personal Information Forms” from clergy candidates and starts the process of discerning appropriate candidates
- The PNC narrows its candidates list; it begins interviews, checking references, and listening to sermons
- The PNC brings its short list of candidates for site visits
- The PNC selects one candidate and determines that person’s willingness to be called**
- The PNC presents its candidate for approval by the Committee on Ministry of New Hope Presbytery.
- Presbytery’s approved candidate is presented to the congregation at a called congregational meeting by the PNC. The congregation elects its next pastor. The Interim Pastor plans his/her departure.**
- The pastor-elect moves to FPC and is installed as its next pastor, head of staff**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**  
<http://www.firstpres-durham.org>

