

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM
"Downtown by history and by choice"
Newsletter
January 24, 2017

From the Associate Pastor

Dear friends,

"Never alone!" Did you hear those words as we affirmed our 16 confirmands this past Sunday, and sang the beautiful hymn to them, "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone." As we conclude this *Week of Christian Unity*, perhaps that should be our Christian motto: "Never Alone," just as the Marine motto is Semper Fi. If the confirmands learn nothing else this year, I would be happy if they moved on to high school with those words inscribed upon their hearts, "Never Alone."

And for some of you who are having a very difficult week, I hope you hear it for yourselves, too: Never Alone. I may be dealing with some serious medical issues and tough decisions, but I am "never alone." I may have flunked an exam last week, and will have to repeat a course, but I am "never alone." I may be flushed with resentment over the workload I am having to shoulder at my job, but I am "never alone." I may have lost the most beautiful person in my life, but I am "never alone." I heard it loud and clear on Sunday, in the hymns, in the liturgy, and in the sermon. I hope that we can take those words to heart, and find strength and hope.

Peace,
Marilyn

OUR SYMPATHIES:

The love and concern of the congregation are extended to the following:

Sue and John Fricks on the death of Sue's cousin, **Ted Wish**, who died January 19 in Piscataway, NJ and on the death of John's cousin, **Stanley Fricks** of Watkinville, GA, who died on January 22;

Jim and Margot Johnson (Rosie, Carrie, and Samuel) on the death of Jim's niece, **Ellie Johnson**, who died January 23.

A **Service of Witness to the Resurrection** will be held for **Jean Moore** at Croasdaile Village on Sunday, January 29 at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel there. **Laurie Coffman** and **Denise Waters** will be presiding. Interment will be in Mobile, AL. If you wish to express your condolences to Jean's family, please contact the church office for family addresses.

A **Memorial Garden Service** will be held for **Jerry Tyren** on Saturday, February 11 at 2:00 p.m. at FPC.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, says the Spirit. They rest from their labors, and their works follow them." (Revelation 13:13)



Added this week:

Nancy Kost

Chuck Barenchi, home after a brief hospital stay

Susan Hamlin, mother of Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey

Mildred Bolen, grandmother of Leslie McDow

Janice Rattray, friend of Robert and Jane Brawley

Jaymen Lourensz (request from a Walk-in Ministry family), on life support at Duke Hospital

Carolyn Wolfe

Sarah and Pete Finbow

Brookdale Senior Living (Durham): Julian Boswell

Eno Pointe Assisted Living (Durham): Helen Garrison

Croasdaile Village: Joanne Harrar, Betty Jelstrup, Bob Keever, Bob Rankin

Hillcrest: Randall McLeod

Forest at Duke: Fran Bryant, Ken Goldner, Peaches McPherson

- **Doug Hervey**, son of Jeanne Hervey
- **Mike Hugo**, friend of Tom Bloom
- **Margaret Pfeiler**, grandmother of Julie Maxwell

ADDRESS UPDATE:

Jeanne Hervey
614 Millstream Dr.
Durham, NC 27705

Jeanne's phone and email information are unchanged.

~ NOTES ~

More than 20 **Daytimers** gathered for a wonderful lunch at Neo China today. Thanks to **Carol McKnight** for arranging!

Congratulations . . . to Tom Carsey, who has won the **Manning Dauer Award** from the **Southern Political Science Association**, an award presented biennially to a political scientist for exceptional service to the profession.



Sunday, January 29, 2017 - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fifth Sunday Intergenerational Sunday School

Our last 5th Sunday intergenerational event was a huge success! This 5th Sunday, January 29, our theme will be **Epiphany Light**. Stations will be set up in Watts-Hill Hall where children, youth, and adults can gather around tables to make Epiphany and Valentine cards for our house-bound friends, make origami stars, follow a star through a black light maze, and make Chinese lanterns to celebrate the new year of the rooster. This is a great chance to get to know the whole people of God who constitute the body of Christ at FPC. **Activities begin in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45 a.m. sharp. All Sunday School classes will be participating.**

11:00 a.m. Worship

Sermon: "Focus Candle"
Marilyn Hedgpeth, preaching

Worship Texts:

Hebrew Scripture: Micah 6:1-6
Psalm Lesson: Psalm 15
Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

New Children's Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Children who wish to participate in Children's Choir will now meet in the choir room for practice on Sunday mornings immediately following "A Time with Children" (except on Communion Sundays). The children will practice in the choir room until the end of worship. If your children have interest in Children's Choir or if you have questions about children's choir, please contact **Kathy Parkins** at k.parkins@firstpres-durham.org.

Acolytes: **Charlie Kelley, Aiden James**
Crucifer: **Peter Compton**
Narthex Greeter: **Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey**
After Worship Greeter: **Libby Gulley** (side/font); **Delia Kwon** (narthex/rear)
Ushers: **Chris Brown** (head), **Michael Honeycutt** (flowers), **Sharon Hirsch, Carolyn Merritt, Grace Abels, Miriam Morey**

LAST CALL: MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY LUNCH

Are you interested in exploring what membership involves at First Presbyterian Church? If so, you are invited to a **Membership Inquiry Lunch on Sunday, January 29, following worship in the East Parlor**. At that time you will meet others who are interested in membership, and will learn about upcoming new member classes being offered during the Sunday School hour in February and early March. Please RSVP to the church office, 919-682-5511, or to **Marilyn Hedgpeth** (m.hedgpeth@firstpres-durham.org), if you will be eating with us that day, so we can have enough food for everyone.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

You are reminded to **sign up** for the **Habitat Build this Saturday for the Muslim family**, and to **bring snacks** to share for the **Peaceful Assembly with our Muslim friends on Saturday from 2:00-3:30 p.m.** On Sunday, we will join with the church in the intergenerational Sunday School event in Watts-Hill Hall.



We return to our regular Youth Group schedule this Sunday: **Middle Schoolers meet at 5:00 p.m. and high schoolers meet at 6:30 p.m. Supper is provided for both groups from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.** Hope to see you there!

Contact **Sarah Finbow** (s.finbow@firstpres-durham.org or 919-682-5511) for info on youth activities at FPC!

Weekly Bible Study: Parables

How do we read the parables in such a way that we are held accountable by them? This is what Richard Lischer asks in his new book, *Reading the Parables*. Using Lischer's book, Amy Jill Levine's book, and our primary Kerygma resource, we will study categories of parables together, and discuss how they hold us accountable, and to what they hold us accountable. **The class meets each Friday from 10:30 - noon upstairs in the Education Building. Women and men are welcome!**

Stewardship 2017

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." –Luke 12:34

As of January 24, 2017, we have received 181 pledges totaling \$778,330.

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible so that we can finalize our mission spending for 2017. Every pledge counts.



Service and Mission Opportunities

Please continue to bring non-perishable food for Iglesia Emanuel's food pantry and supplies for blessing and toiletry bags. **We especially need bottled water and also travel sizes of soap, shampoo, deodorant, and body lotion for the toiletry bags.**



YOUTH "SOUPER BOWL" FUNDRAISER

Sunday, February 5

We are having our second annual chili cook-off for "Souper Bowl Sunday" on February 5th.

Please sign up to bring a pot of your favorite chili by going online to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094ea5ae29a57-2ndannual> or call **Sarah Finbow** at the church: 919-682-5511 ext 213.



Chili will be available for purchase after worship. **All proceeds from the sale of the chili will go to combat hunger right here in Durham!**

The FPC Youth Council will announce a winner that morning.

You can drop off your pot of chili starting during the Sunday School hour.

Your participation and support are very much appreciated!

UPCOMING MEETINGS and EVENTS

Investment Committee: Monday, January 30 at 2:00 p.m. in the East Parlor

Membership Committee: Sunday, February 5 after worship in the East Parlor

CHURCH LEAGUE BASKETBALL BEGINS SOON . . .

FPC has two teams playing in the Hope Valley Baptist Church Men's Basketball League in 2017.

Games are played on **Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in the Hope Valley Baptist Church gym** (corner of Hope Valley and Garrett Roads).



FPC's two teams will face each other on opening night, Thursday, February 2 at 8:00 p.m. Westminster PC and Hope Valley BC will face off in the first game at 7:00 p.m.

Look who's playing basketball for FPC . . .

Team 1 (Old School)

Carl Rist, Wib Gulley, Tim Profeta, Gray Wilson, Wayne House, Julio Ramirez-Eve, Miguel Sanchez, Torrell Armstrong

Team 2 (Young Guns)

Casey Page, Paul Gulley, Rhyne Gulley, Lawrence Mitchell, Jared Rist, Carlo Diy, Ben Neece, Matt Susen, Tyler Adams, Matthew Dickerson

THE THINGS THAT MATTER BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m.

at the home of Jane Williams

in Cameron Woods - 2804 Ashland Drive, Durham

(RSVP: janepsychi@mac.com)

Join the discussion of Linda Hirshman's *Sisters in Law*:

How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsberg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World. **Lee Courtland** will lead the discussion.

Tuesday, February 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Book Group at the home of Lee Courtland

We will be discussing *Gratitude* by Oliver Sacks.

Beth Eisenson will lead the discussion.

New faces always welcome!

FPC HOSTING MUSLIM COMMUNITY

in a Peacemaking Event

Saturday, January 28

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. at FPC

Because there has been a surge in anti-Muslim and attacks and rhetoric since 2015, FPC has invited our Muslim neighbors to an **open house and reception Saturday, January 28, from 2:00–3:30 p.m.** to affirm bonds of friendship, and to have some discussion about working together as agents of peace and good-will. Last year they hosted us, and this year it is our turn to return the favor. It would be wonderful to welcome our friends, and reassure them that FPC will not tolerate words or deeds of bigotry, intolerance or hate. The Confirmation Class will provide food for the reception. All are welcome to attend.

FIRST FRIENDS AND FAMILIES GAME NIGHT WITH POTLUCK SUPPER

Saturday, January 28 at 6:00 p.m.

at FPC in Watts-Hill Hall

Hosted by the Klinck family

Please respond to the EVITE.

Not getting the EVITE but wish to attend?

Contact **Valerie** in the church office to have your email added to the listserv.

SCRATCH/Young Adults February Potluck

Saturday, February 4

6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the home of Kristin Meade

Please respond to the EVITE.

Not getting the EVITE but wish to attend?

Contact Valerie in the church office to have your name added to the listserv.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE AND BIBLE STUDY

Monday, February 6 at 10:30 a.m.

FPC's East Parlor

EL FUEGO Early Music Ensemble in Concert

Friday, February 10

7:00 p.m. in FPC's sanctuary; Admission required

The concert will feature a selection of medieval chants from the Huelgas Codex (ca. 1300) and songs from "Cantigas de Santa Maria," (devotional songs to the Virgin Mary). Travel to Northern Spain through music and beautiful poetry in Galician-Portuguese to get an insight of the minds of praying souls of the 13th - 14th centuries. El Fuego Early Music Ensemble: **Malina Rauschenfels**, voice and vielle; **Laura Grimaldi**, percussion; **Salomé Sandoval**, voice, lute, and artistic direction. General admission is \$15; seniors, FPC members, and students with ID: \$10. Check El Fuego's website for more information: <http://www.elfuegofire.com/>

Primitimers' Covered Dish Supper

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 18

at the home of **Chuck and Jean Wilson**

More details forthcoming

McPherson Lectureship 2017

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, February 26

Guest Lecturer: Dr. Miroslav Volf

Dr. Miroslav Volf is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School and the Founder and Director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. His most recent book is *Flourishing: Why We Need Religion in a Globalized World*. On Sunday morning, Dr. Volf will teach the Faith and Community class and preach in worship. On Sunday evening, he will give a lecture at Duke Divinity School.



LOOKING AHEAD in 2017

April 9 – Palm Sunday Parade to neighbor churches and Easter Egg Hunt for FPC families with younger children

April 30 – Fifth Sunday Intergenerational Sunday School

May 7 – Confirmation of youth during 11:00 worship

June 11-14 – Great Big Church Family Festival, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at hosting churches (Dinner and all-family VCS; registration begins February 1)

July 6-9 – Massanetta Middle School Conference

July 23-29 – Montreat Youth Conference



A Card Shower

Our dear member, **Sarah Cox**, will turn 100 years old on **January 26, 2017**. Let's show her how special she is to us by showering her with cards for this birthday milestone! Send cards to:

Sarah Cox
Croasdaile Village Apt A224
2600 Croasdaile Farm Parkway
Durham NC 27705.



Visit our website

<https://www.firstpres-durham.org>

First Presbyterian Church
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