

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF DURHAM**
"Downtown by history and by choice"
Bi-Weekly Newsletter
May 15-28, 2018

From the Pastor . . .

Dear friends,

How do we live as followers of Christ in our world today?

Jesus teaches us to love our enemies, but too often we are tempted to hate them. How can we love those who take the lives of innocents? May we pray this day for those who choose violence. May their lives be changed to choose peace. May we love them for who they might be, with God's help. May we leave their transformation (and our own) in God's hands.

Jesus teaches us not to judge one another, but too often we are tempted to do so. May we ask God always in our prayers for humility. May we pause before we judge another. May we see the face of God in everyone.

Jesus teaches us to welcome the little children, but too often we are tempted to neglect their needs. May we pray for children and work to protect, nurture, and provide for the emotional, spiritual, educational, physical, and psychological needs of children.

Thank you, friends, for all you are doing in this world to live as followers of Jesus and for the way you encourage me to do the same. Thank you for the way you love one another, welcome the stranger, care for the sick, visit the lonely, feed the hungry, and work for justice for all God's people. Thanks be to God that we are on this journey together, seeking to follow Jesus with humility and faith.

With gratitude for you all,

Mindy



Our Joys

Congratulations to **Graeme Peterson**, who was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa at Duke University last week.

Our Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences are with the family of **Rev. Bob Keever**, who died peacefully on April 30th at Croasdaile Village. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held on **Monday, May 21 at 2:00 p.m. at FPC**. The family will greet friends at a reception in Watts-Hill Hall following the service. **NOTE:** Unused spaces in FPC's parking lot will be reserved for family parking. **Members of FPC and friends of the Keever family are asked to park at St. Philip's Episcopal** (enter lot from Dillard or Main Streets) **or at First Baptist** (414 Cleveland St, enter lot from Cleveland or Elliott Streets).

Added this week:

May Juhnke, mother of Tom Juhnke

Wally Watson, grandfather of Megan Champion, recovering from a biking accident

Carsey Family

Graham/Seawell/Boyle Family

Keever Family

Lorimer Family

Susan Seahorn

Margaret Sims

Brookdale Senior Living, Durham: *Julian Boswell*

Croasdaile Village: *Bette Conroy* (Friendship Hall)

Croasdaile Pavilion: *John Kerr, Bob Rankin, Florence Shackelford*

Dubose Center, Chapel Hill: *Mary Clark*

Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: *Helen Garrison*

The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant, Peaches McPherson*

Family and Friends of Church Members and Staff:

Laura Nelson Bailey, cousin of Charlotte Nelson

Tom Birchfield, step-father of Wil James

Ching-Chang Chin, father of Li-Chen Chin

Marc Crawford, friend of Brianna and Ricky Bennett

Linda High, niece- in-law of Elizabeth High

Maria Holland, daughter of Katy and Bruce Loebrich

David Kilpatrick, grandson of Elizabeth High (US Air Force, stationed in England)

Patricia Kost, grandmother of Jack Kost

Paul Martin, brother of Beth Neece

Evelyn McDaniel, mother of Mary Kay Robinson

Dell McMillian, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian

Rosemary Orphys, aunt of Kerry Holbrook

Vickie Tobey, niece of Mickey Velkey and cousin of Beth Brockman

Anne Turlington, aunt of Jack Kost

Greetings!

This brings our thanks to you for donating a copy of your book, *Downtown by History and Choice: First Presbyterian Church of Durham, North Carolina, 1871-2013*, for our collection. Your work to document and preserve the history of this important Presbyterian congregation is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Taylor, Director of Programs and Services, Presbyterian Historical Society

The blessings continue to grow in Honduras! With the generous \$2,500 donation from our church, we have identified a very special project in the city of Santa Rosa de Copan. While there last month on our Habitat trip, we visited a pre-school that serves children from one of the poorest neighborhoods in the city. We will add a bathroom to each of the two classrooms, replacing the unsafe outhouse that the children have been using, provide playground equipment, and replace the aging electrical wiring. Then, as funds are available, we will purchase classroom materials to brighten the days for these very deserving young children. Again, we are deeply grateful for your support and generosity! *Margaret and Miguel Rubiera*



PARISH NOTES

- **Many thanks** to those who helped purchase, pack, and deliver 750 breakfast/lunches for the children at Glenn Elementary and Sandy Ridge Elementary here in Durham who receive free or reduced-price lunches. The meals will be provided to those DPS students on Tuesday to feed them when schools are closed on Wednesday, while teachers are in Raleigh to advocate for public education. Many thanks to those who donated money to cover the cost of the lunches. More than \$1,200 was collected to cover those costs, and contributions continue to dribble in.
- Kudos to **Cris Rivera, Beth Stringfield** and their **kitchen crew** for a wonderful **Mother's Day lunch** following worship on Sunday. With all of the graduations going on around town, it is wonderful to have a lunch provided for our members and their guests for this special occasion.
- **Incoming Deacons and Elders** will be ordained and installed THIS SUNDAY, Pentecost Sunday, during the 11:00 worship service. Please notify the pastors if you will be unable to attend.
- *Holy Listening*, a group of those who love to read and write poetry, will meet again this **Sunday, May 20 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in room 205**, to discuss and share poems that deal with loss. Anyone is welcome to bring interesting poems to share, and to join us around the table. **Marilyn Hedgpeth** is the facilitator.



Sunday, May 20, 2018

Day of Pentecost

Remember to wear red, orange or yellow for Pentecost!

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Mindy Douglas, preaching

The **PC(USA) Pentecost Offering** will be received during worship. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you help to enrich the lives and deepen the faith of youth in the Presbyterian Church and around the world. **Special envelopes will be available for this offering.**

Liturgist: **Amy Dillon**

Greeter: **Alice Raney**

After Worship Greeters: **Dewey Lawson** (side/font); **Jane Wettach** (rear/narthex)

Ushers: (Please sign up online to usher)

Communion Elders:

Head elder / replenish elements: **Jane Wettach**

Bread: **Alice Raney** (B1, process), **Barbara Buckley** (B2), **George Bernhardt** (B3), **Miriam Morey** (B4)

Cup: **Ellie Dilworth** (C1), **Libby Gulley** (C2/process), **Lenore Champion** (C3), **Cris Rivera** (C4)

Shepherds: **Al Arrowood** (font aisle), **Delia Kwon** (center aisle), **Karen Romines** (pulpit aisle)



Sunday, May 27, 2018

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School/Scripture Readers' Class

11:00 a.m. Worship

Marilyn Hedgpeth, preaching

The ***Hunger for Change Offering*** will be received during worship. Please give generously to help alleviate hunger in our community and around the world. Thank you.

Liturgist: **Jean Hervey**

Greeter: **Chris Williams**

After Worship Greeters: **Jerry Postema** (side/font); **Cris Rivera** (rear/narthex)

Ushers: (Please sign up online to usher)

SUNDAY SCHOOL / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The **Scriptures Readers Class** will meet in the Wilson Parlor during the Sunday School hour (9:45 - 10:45) on **Sundays, May 20 and 27**. Anyone who has any interest in this very important ministry please join us. We welcome you and will do our best to make it an interesting challenge. For more information, contact **Steve Rimmer**: cstrimmer@nc.rr.com or 919-529-2235.

Children's Sunday School (grades 3-5)

Friends, our year is quickly coming to an end, so we need to enjoy being together before everyone scatters for vacation. On May 20, **Alec Bethune** and **Delia Kwon** will help us envision the Temple and its place in Jerusalem, then and today, in light of the story, *Peter Heals a Lame Man In Jerusalem*, from Acts 3: 1-16.

On May 27, **Marilyn Hedgpeth** and **Li-Chen Chin** will join us in the Spirituality Room for one final morning of sharing, praying and doodling together. What's coming up on June 3, our last regular Sunday of this school year? While you are packing up the classroom and preparing all of your crafts to take home, visitors from the Christian Education Committee will come around to every classroom with gifts to thank the teachers and surprise gifts for the class . . . and snacks! I wonder what it will be? Come on June 3rd and find out what the visitors will bring for you – and express your thanks to your teachers!

Will we have Sunday School this summer? You bet! We'll *Rock Around the Liturgical Clock*, and observe Advent in June, Christmas in July, and Lent, Easter and Pentecost in August. We'll celebrate each season with drama, music, presents, crafts, water play, maps, tie-dye, Easter egg hunts, cooking, and seasonal foods. Adults and youth can sign up to facilitate the classes beginning this Sunday, following worship.

Coming Next September . . . like a hurricane, the winds of the Spirit will rotate and swirl activities around each month's story for children and youth. We'll start with the foundational Hebrew Testament stories of Creation, Flood, Exodus, and the Giving of the Law, in addition to the seasonal stories about Jesus, and then enhance the stories by cooking, making lego models, doing drama, singing, playing games, drawing maps, all to deepen our understanding of each story...and to have fun while we're doing it! It's called the Rotation Model, and the Christian Education Committee is excited to be introducing a new wave of energy into the spiritual nurture of our community. Stay tuned for more details.

Middle and high school youth classes meet at 9:45 a.m. in their lower level classrooms, or you can join any of the adult classes.

Faith and Community Class:

What a rich and evocative discussion we had on issues surrounding gun violence and gun control these past two Sundays. We are most grateful to our panelists, **John Mozart, Chris Brown, Laura Mish McDow (and Will and Leslie)** for leading both adults and youth to think broadly and theologically about fomenting change beyond the Stoneman Douglas shooting in Parkland, FL on February 14. Let's keep the conversation going to support our children and youth in the peace-making movement that continues to evolve.

For these next two Sundays, we welcome a good friend to FPC, **Imam Abdul Waheed**, Interim Muslim Chaplain at Duke University. Waheed has served on the Religious Life Staff at Duke for 18+ years, and has made it his business to advocate for ecumenical understanding between Muslims, Christians and Jews. Waheed will help us understand how the three monotheistic faiths are similar, and are distinct. Come with questions that you want to ask this wonderful resource. Come and welcome the guests from the Muslim community which will join us for these classes. Faith and Community meets on Sunday morning in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45. All are welcome.

Lectionary Class:

May 20:

What gifts does the Spirit bring to you? Fluency in other languages? Bold, prophetic preaching? Insight into divine truth? How will you use your gifts? Join us for discussion at **9:45 in the East Parlor.**

May 27:

What is the Trinity? Is it in the Bible anywhere? Why does the church make such a big deal about it?

Journeys and Scratch/Young Adults Class:

Journeys and Scratch will continue to read and discuss recent articles concerning evangelical Christianity. All are welcome to join the conversation. We meet in the corner room of the 2nd floor of the education building.

Spiritual Formation This year-round class for women is led by **Susan Dunlap** and explores the topic of spiritual formation. Join us at 9:45 in basement classroom B-16.



Summer conferences are just around the corner! In July, middle schoolers will go to **Massanetta Springs**, and high schoolers will go to **Montreat!** Watch your e-mailbox for final details if you registered to attend these summer youth programs. Don't forget to sign up to attend the GBCFF with your family!

Happenings around FPC . . .



The demand for blessing bags has increased with the coming of springtime. Please continue to bring **snack crackers, individually packaged fruit, nutrition bars, and small bottles of water** on Communion Sundays.

We also need **new toothbrushes** for the toiletry bags. All donations are very much appreciated.



Calling all graduates!

FPC will recognize graduates again this year with a special bulletin insert on June 3. If you or someone in your family or household is graduating from college or high school this spring, help us share the good news. Please submit your graduate's information to **Valerie McMillian** in the church office by email: v.mcmillian@firstpresdurham.org or leave in Valerie's mailbox at the church. **The deadline is May 27.**

Smart Devices Needed for Dementia sufferers

Do you have an old iPod, iPhone, or iPad? Please bring it to church to donate! Your device will be donated to Music and Memory (www.musicandmemory.org) to provide "personalized music" for people suffering from dementia. Look for the plastic box with the Music and Memory logo in the volunteer's office, or contact **Christyn Klinck** for more information (cfklinck@gmail.com). **Donations accepted through Sunday, May 27.**



Helping Feed our Neighbors

If you are looking for a fun and meaningful way to get engaged with our neighbors in need, join the amazing volunteer group who help prepare and serve breakfast at Urban Ministries on the 3rd and 5th Fridays of every month, and also those who prepare lunch bags on the 3rd Mondays and 4th Thursdays. We are always happy to add new names to our volunteer list. That way, you would be the first to hear about openings. Children over the age of 10 are welcome as long as they are accompanied by a responsible adult. Contact **Margaret Rubiera** at margaretmr29@gmail.com to get started!

Families with Youth Children . . .

- Our last gathering of this school year will be **this Sunday, May 20 from 5:00 – 6:15 p.m.**, when parents will step out for a bite to eat at Bull City Brewery, while children experience the Holy Spirit of Pentecost in many ways, shapes, and forms. We'll do some water play, blow some bubbles, and play in the sprinkler before we sit down for a picnic supper. Bring friends and join us for this important time of fellowship and making friends. Remember, you are the "holding families" so



crucial to the health of our church. We would love to see families volunteer to host the group during the summer, so that the fellowship building can continue throughout the year.

- **Registration is open for this summer's GBCFF** (Great Big Church Family Festival), **June 17** (Mt. Bethel Presbyterian), **June 18** (Duke Memorial UMC), and **June 19** (Trinity Avenue Presbyterian), from 5:30 – 7:30, and an **August 5** reunion at Camp New Hope from 4:00-7:00 p.m., with swimming, a potluck, singing, and games. This year's theme is "Serve the Lord with Gladness", and each evening we will be joining in an inter-generational service project together to serve our Durham community, in addition to dinner, crafts, and singing. GBCFF is for children of God young and old. Last year we had great participation from FPC: from our Session, from our youth, from our families, from our singles, and from our children. We hope everyone turns out to be good guests and good hosts for this multi-church event. Please register yourself and your entire family.



Officer Meetings - Monday, June 4

This will be the first meeting for Class of 2021 officers and for those joining the Class of 2019.

Diaconate at 6:00 p.m.

Joint Officers' Supper at 6:30 p.m.

Session at 7:00 p.m.

BOOK GROUP – Save the date!

The **Things That Matter Book Group** will meet on **Tuesday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m.** at which time we will enjoy a potluck supper and offer suggestions for our next season of book discussions. A host location to be announced soon.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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F E S +
2 0 1 8

Durham is hosting **MOOGFEST (May 17-21)** and FPC will again be a performance and workshop venue. For information about this year's music festival, schedule, and ticket information, go online to their website.

Durham Arts Council Organ Crawl (fundraiser)

Friday, June 8

An exclusive event showcasing thrilling organ music and architecture of three Durham churches of historical significance, paired with three courses of fine food and drinks. Event is designed for a short stroll from church to church.

STOP 1: Trinity United Methodist Church, 215 N. Church Street in downtown Durham - Enjoy hors d'oeuvres then a private performance by organist **Tom Bloom**.

STOP 2: St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 403 E. Main Street in downtown Durham - Enjoy dinner at the Gothic Revival St. Philip's Episcopal Church along with a performance by organist **Paula Harrell**.

STOP 3: First Presbyterian Church, 305 E. Main Street in downtown Durham - Enjoy dessert, coffee and a performance by organist *Kathy Cain Parkins*.

Golf cart shuttle provided for those with limited mobility. This event benefits the Durham Arts Council.

Tickets: \$60 include:

- Delicious three course meal with wine
- Private organ performances and architectural highlights of those three downtown Durham churches
- Architecture expert and church renovator Terry Byrd Eason will share insight on each church

Go to the Durham Arts Council website for more information.



Following the confrontations in Charlottesville and the threat of a Klan march in Durham last fall, a group of clergy gathered together to discuss ways we might ready ourselves and our worshipping communities for nonviolent public action. Space is limited. Lunch will be

provided. RSVP by sending an email to heather@dukememorial.org.

Congregational Training

Saturday, June 9, 2018

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Nehemiah Christian Center - 514 N. Mangum St., Durham

Spiritual Direction Training

The **Listening Place Spiritual Center** (1803 Chapel Hill Rd) is currently accepting applications for its two year training program in the art and ministry of spiritual direction. Classes meet ten hours per month (one Saturday, one Monday) for ten months each year. Topics covered include the history of Christian spirituality, the mystics, prayer traditions and practices, discernment, use of the arts in spiritual direction, and guidelines for ethical conduct. A certificate is awarded upon the successful completion of the program. **Application deadline is June 15, 2018.** For more information contact Mary Grace McCoy, Director, at 919-417-6279. Website: listeningplacespiritualcenter.org

WRITING WORKSHOP

The Art of the Condolence Note

Tuesday, July 10, at 7:00 p.m. at the Resource Center for Women

1202 Watts St, Durham

In this workshop we will discuss the history of condolence notes and their value for both the recipient and the writer. Carol will demonstrate what makes a note successful and show examples of do's and don'ts. Each participant will practice writing a note and leave knowing how to tackle this difficult task. Carol Henderson is a writer, editor, and workshop leader who has taught in the US, Europe, and the Middle East. She is the author of *Losing Malcolm* and *Farther Along: The*

Writing Journey of Thirteen Bereaved Mothers, and edited, among other titles, *Wide Open Spaces: Call Stories*. Learn more about Carol at www.carolhenderson.com.

Cost: \$10 donation to RCWMS appreciated.

Contact: RCWMS, 919-683-1236, rcwmsnc@aol.com

Triangle VisionWalk

Saturday, June 2

Brier Creek Park, 9:00 a.m.

Friends,

My husband **Tim O'Brien** and I would love to have you join us as we walk in the Triangle VisionWalk on Saturday, June 2 at Brier Creek Park (9:00 a.m.). We do this walk every year to raise money for the Foundation Fighting Blindness. So much incredible progress is being made on eye diseases such as *Retinitis Pigmentosa* (this is the eye disease Dorothy Graham had) and Macular Degeneration, and there is hope that one day gene therapy and stem cell replacement could repair the damage done to Tim's eyesight by Stargardt Disease. If you are interested in being on our team (Soles4Sight) by way of donating or walking, please click the link below. We also appreciate your prayers as well as your heightened awareness of the challenges caused by many eye diseases and experienced by many in our congregation and community.

<http://www.fightblindness.org/site/TR/VISIONWALK/VisionWalktr?pg=entry&frid=5954>

Thanks for your prayers and support! – Mindy

**The next church newsletter will be issued May 29, 2018.
Please submit your articles/news to Valerie in the church office
by Sunday, May 27 2018.**

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