

First Presbyterian Church



Organized 1871

February 17, 2015

Sunday, February 22

McPHERSON LECTURESHIP

"Theological Implications of Transforming Humans through Technology"

Dr. Ron Cole-Turner, the H. Parker Sharp Professor of Theology and Ethics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. He is also an author, editor and hymn writer. He is married and has two daughters.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

All adults are invited to Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45 to hear Dr. Ron Cole-Turner.

Time for Another Upgrade?

Why Technology Can't Leave You Alone.

Just by itself, there is nothing wrong with wanting to be better than we already are. One reason we come to church is to try to improve ourselves morally and spiritually, or to school to enhance ourselves intellectually. If it's OK to want to improve ourselves, is it alright to use technology to do the job? Or should Christians set limits on technologies of human enhancement?

11:00 a.m. Worship

Sermon: "Awakening to Creation"

Ron Cole-Turner, preaching

The Hunger for Change Offering received

Worship Texts

Old Testament	Psalms 104:1-3, 14-33
Gospel Lesson	Mark 1:9-15

Acolytes: **Ben Maxwell, Nathan Creadick**

Crucifer: **Peter Compton**

Crossdaile Driver: **Paul Cornsweet**

Narthex: **Linn Lopez, Elizabeth High**

After Worship Greeters:

Wes Carson (rear/narthex)

Peter Compton (side/font)

Ushers: **Susan Seahorn** (head), **Kit Law** (flowers), **Delia Kwon, Keith Merritt, Mary Ann Compton**

McPherson Lectureship

Evening Presentation

"Enhancing Ourselves through Technology and Why It Matters for Christians"

7:00 p.m. at Duke Divinity School

Dr. Cole-Turner will explore the question: What vision does Christianity offer for the future of the individual and the species? Event is free and open to the public.



Monday, February 23

Clergy Seminar at 11:00 a.m.

in Watts-Hill Hall

led by **Dr. Ron Cole-Turner**

(Lunch provided; Donations accepted;

RSVP to l.francisco@firstpres-durham.org)

"Human Enhancement: Transhumanist Dreams and Christian Hopes"

After a quick review of new and emerging technologies, our discussion will turn to some of the ways in which technology is changing not just our bodies but our minds, including our expectations of ourselves. Living in such a culture, today's Christians need to rediscover their roots in authentic Christian hope and ask, how do we live in this world?

Invite a Friend to Church

People telling people---that's how we hear about a good book, or movie or a new restaurant. What about your church and your faith journey? We are all journeying together and each of us is at a different milestone. Will you share the opportunity to join with us in our faith journeys with a friend, neighbor or colleague who might not have this experience? Demonstrate the reality of Jesus' presence by reaching out to a friend or neighbor. **Sunday, February 22** is "Invite a Friend to Church" Sunday. Won't YOU?



Lent begins

Ash Wednesday - February 18

Please join us on Wednesday as we begin our Lenten journey of preparation for Easter with an Ash Wednesday Service at 12:30 p.m., and again at 6:00 p.m. with Holy Communion. The **mid-day service** will be celebrated at FPC with our friends and neighbors from Trinity United Methodist. Both services will feature the imposition of ashes, as each of us will be marked with the sign of the cross: a sign of both our sinfulness and our redemption in Christ. **The evening meal is being cancelled due to travel conditions.**

LENTEN STUDIES

FAITH AND COMMUNITY CLASS

Beginning Sunday, March 1, the Faith and Community will take a close look at some of the greater themes and spiritual practices associated with Lent: sin, conversion, baptism, sacrifice, redemption, dying and rising with Christ – and how these impact our daily living. **Homer Ashby, Sam Miglarese, and Jon Nelson** will lead the discussions.

BOOK STUDY FOR LENT

The Book of Forgiving, by Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho Tutu, is described by Deepak Chopra as "a primer for not only finding the path for healing ourselves and the world, but for restoring balance in our biology, mind, and spirit." If you want a process for practicing forgiveness for someone else, but also for yourself, you might find Tutu's approach both practical and appealing. The **Friday class** meets at the church from 10:30 – noon and runs from February 20 – March 27; the **Sunday class** meets at Croasdaile Village in the Heritage Hall activity room from 3:00 – 4:30, and runs from February 22 – March 29. Books are available from **Marilyn Hedgpeth** for \$20.

EFIRD LECTURES

March 5, 12, 19 and 26

10:30 a.m. – 12 Noon in Watts-Hill Hall **Dr. James (Mickey) Efird**, Professor Emeritus of Biblical Interpretation at Duke Divinity School, will present a series of lectures on the four gospel accounts of the resurrection of Jesus. The lectures are free and open to the public.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

A special word of thanks for the celebration of my ministry among you yesterday in worship and the dinner following, as well as your many expressions and cards in recent weeks! It has been a privilege to walk with you during this part of the interim journey, and I will always cherish the opportunity I've had to minister alongside of the saints at First Presbyterian Church in the great work that God continues in and through you. Thank you for your warm welcome, for your encouragement, for your leadership, for your engagement in envisioning the future, and your faithfulness in pursuing God's call. What a pleasure to name you as friends!

This week Lent begins, and services for Ash Wednesday are scheduled (noon lunch with 12:30 service of imposition of ashes, and 6 pm service of imposition of ashes and communion). This season represents a journey with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the cross, and the challenging work of salvation and redemption, of love and justice, for all people. I hope you will join us for one of these services and the Lenten disciplines of worship, reflection, and renewed commitment during this season.

This Sunday the congregation is fortunate to have **Dr. Ron Cole-Turner** (from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary) as the McPherson Lecturer as he addresses the issue "Theological Implications of Transforming Humans through Technology." He speaks at 9:45 a.m. in Watts-Hill Hall during the Sunday School hour, then will preach at 11 a.m. in worship. Sunday evening we gather at Duke Divinity School (Alumni Memorial Commons Room) at 7 p.m. for a lecture and interaction. Dr. Cole-Turner completes his seminar with church professionals and interested lay people on Monday morning at 11 a.m. in Watts-Hill Hall. The full schedule, presentation titles, and biography of Dr. Cole-Turner are included in this newsletter.

Grace and peace,

Mark

NOTES

Many thanks to **Logan Brown** and his parents, **Chris and Meredith**, and to **Charlie, Art and Henry Kelley** and their parents, **John and Laura**, for helping prepare valentine blessing bags for our neighbors on Saturday. The event was organized for families with young children by **Marcia Floding**.

Kudos to FPC members who joined the throngs on Saturday at the HKonJ Peoples' Assembly in Raleigh, participating with thousands from all over NC.

Hats off to **Cris Rivera and Beth Stringfield** and the set-up/clean-up crew who hosted a wonderful Mardi Gras luncheon on Sunday, complete with Three Kings Cake. It was a great celebration of **Mark Diehl's** interim ministry at FPC.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Service of Witness for the Resurrection is being held today, February 16, in Little Rock, AR, for **Bill Gulley, Jr.**, father of **Wib and Dub Gulley**. The family has requested that memorial gifts be made to Habitat for Humanity in his memory.

OUR CONCERNS

- **Glen Gabriel**, brother of Paul Gabriel
- **Jacque Robins**, recovering at home
- **Dewey Lawson**, a patient at Duke Hospital
- Traveling mercies for **Margaret and Miguel Rubiera** and **David, Marie and Laura Sappenfield**, who are on a 10-day mission trip to Honduras with Habitat for Humanity, and to **Raymond Mbah** who is in Cameroon visiting with family.

Nowell Creadick **Edward Kwon**
Ann Prospero

Carolina House (Durham): **Julian Boswell**

Clare Bridge (Chapel Hill): **Helen Garrison**

Croasdaile Village:

Pavilion: **Bob Rankin, Jerry Tyren**
Friendship Hall: **Bob Keever, Anne Davis**

Hillcrest: **Randall McLeod**
Barbara Patton Davis

The Forest at Duke:

Fran Bryant **Joan Englund**
Ken Goldner **Peaches McPherson**

Treyburn (Peak Resources):

Sara Anne Martin, sister of Beth Neece

- **Stuart Bethune**, father of Alec Bethune
- **Ruby Brown**, mother of Eugene Brown
- **Norma Cardoni**, mother of Sheila Breitweiser
- **Ching-Chang Chin**, father of Li-Chen Chin
- **Gino England**, nephew of Larry Reed
- **Gera Fleming**, mother of Christyn Klinck
- **Rosalie Hagge**, friend of Lyn Francisco
- **Dorothy Jennette**, mother of Katharine Smith
- **Sally Johnson**, mother of Wendy McCorkle
- **Anne Lawson**, mother of Dewey Lawson
- **Neal Lawson Family**, Arlington, VA
- **Lindsay Morris**, sister of Emily McClure
- **Tshiek family**, friends of the Fricks

MUSIC ON MAIN CONCERT

Sunday, February 22

3:00 p.m. in the FPC Sanctuary
Mallarmé Chamber Players and the
Choral Society of Durham Chamber Choir will present "*Drama in the French Baroque*." For discount tickets, go online and use the promo code **special15** at:
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/770638>. Get your tickets NOW!

FPC MEN OF FAITH

Breakfast / Conversation

Friday, February 27

8:00 a.m. at Nosh's Café

2812 Erwin Road, Durham

Come by and stay as long as you can!

YOUTH NEWS

Dear friends,

As we prepare for the beginning of Lent, the youth got to spend a very special evening with **Kerry Holbrook**, learning about the history of Mardi Gras and making our own miniature Mardi Gras floats and had an authentic New Orleans meal! Thank you so much, Kerry! Our floats will be on display around church for all to enjoy!

Next week, we will be hosting WPC, Trinity Avenue and DMUMC to hear guest speaker **John Collins**. All youth will meet at 5:15 p.m. for this special event. Also, don't forget to register for summer trips! The deadline is the 22nd!

Blessings,
Sarah

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The **Confirmation Class** experienced a wonderful worship experience Sunday at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Durham. Our group of 19 experienced the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, led by **Father Stavroforos**, which was a two-hour service. We are grateful for the hospitality of the St. Barbara congregation. We will meet Sunday, upstairs in the education building to talk about "The Spiritual Life." Mentors are always invited to join us.

SCRATCH / YOUTH ADULTS

Weekly Social

Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

at Social Games and Brew (downtown)

FPC HOOPS

Church league basketball games are played at Hope Valley Baptist Church gym at the corner of Garrett and Hope Valley Roads in Durham. Come cheer on FPC's two teams!

Thursday, February 19

7 PM FPC 1 vs. South Durham

8 PM FPC 2 vs. Westminster 2

Playoffs begin Monday, February 23

DAYTIMERS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, February 24

11:30 a.m. at Croasdaile Village

Dining Commons

2600 Croasdaile Farm Parkway

Hosted by **Jean Moore**

Please RSVP to Jean at 919-384-2799

Parking is limited, so please try to carpool if possible. If you need a ride, please call **Maxie Honeycutt** (919-286-4680).

Remember to bring your
Hunger for Change
Offering
to worship on Sunday!

PRIMETIMERS / SCRATCH

Covered Dish Supper

Saturday, February 21

7:00 p.m. at the home of

Jean and Chuck Wilson

Remember to RSVP!

There is limited parking.

Carpooling recommended.

EMPTY BOWLS 2015

A Benefit for Urban Ministries of Durham

Thursday, March 5

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Durham Convention Center

301 E. Morgan St.

Come and sample chef-made soups from more than a dozen local restaurants. Enjoy a live jazz band and learn about the important work UMD does to feed, clothe, and shelter our neighbors. With certain tickets, you can purchase a hand-crafted ceramic bowl to take home. Purchase tickets in advance online at the website: <http://emptybowls15.eventbrite.com>



The Florence Forth road race is coming up quickly on **Saturday March 7, 2015** on 9th Street in Durham, NC. Please consider

participating by running/walking or volunteering. We are so grateful for your support. You can find more information for registration and volunteering at <http://florenceforth.org>

Sunday, March 22

2:30 p.m. from Duke Chapel

The Crop Hunger Walk is a fun family event which combines community building and raising resources for hungry people in Durham and around the world. **Rebecca Harvard Barnes** is our recruiter and she will have information for walkers and sponsors on Sunday mornings beginning Sunday, February 22. You can join FPC's walk team by signing up online at:

<http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/FPCwalks>



VACATION CHURCH

SCHOOL

at Camp New Hope

(ages 4-18; childcare for volunteers)

June 15 – 19

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

and

Post-Vacation Church School

MUSIC CAMP

1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at FPC

For FPC member families only

Transportation provided upon request

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♦ 305 East Main Street ♦ Durham, NC 27701 ♦ Phone: 919-682-5511 ♦ Fax: 919-682-0493

<http://firstpres-durham.org>



FPC Website