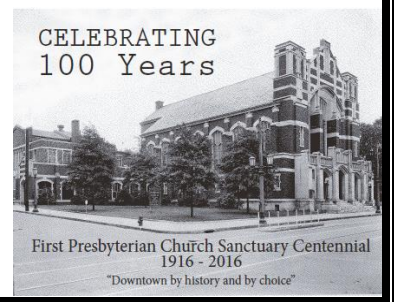


# First Presbyterian Church

JUNE 14, 2016



Sunday, June 19



12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

All are invited to lunch following worship.

Donations will be received for the meal.

**Sermon:** "Let Us Love"

**Mindy L. Douglas**, preaching

**Lectionary Texts:**

Old Testament	1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a
Psalm Lesson	Psalms 42 and 43
Gospel Lesson	Luke 8:26-39
Epistle Lesson	Galatians 3:23-29

Narthex Greeter: **Alice Raney**

Crossdale Driver: **Miriam Morey**

After Worship Greeters:

**Al Arrowood** (Side/font),

**Alice Raney** (Rear/Narthex)

Ushers: **Tim Strauman** (head), **Celia**

**Dickerson** (flowers), **Sherry Everett**, **Amy**

**Dillon**, **Carl Rist**, **Susan Seahorn**

## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

"A father had two sons – Isaac and Ishmael . . . today some of the children of Isaac and Ishmael can find themselves at odds or at war . . . yet these two sons reunited at Abraham's death. . . . If Ishmael and Isaac can reconcile, perhaps their children can do the same." – Amy-Jill Levine, Short Stories by Jesus. Come explore the stories about lost sheep, lost coins, and lost sons told in Luke 15. Bring your Bibles and we'll dig into them together. **Marilyn Hedgpeth** will lead the discussion. Class meets in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45.

### Lectionary Class

What has God done for you? Has God healed you, or given you an important task to do, or included you in the family through baptism? As Jesus said to a man he healed, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

The Lectionary Class will meet through the summer, and the readings will be some of the best that the Bible has to offer: stories of Elijah and Elisha and the bold prophecies of Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. We will examine Jesus' miracles and challenging teachings in the Gospel of Luke; and we will follow the exhortations of the early Christian writers of Galatians, Colossians, and Hebrews. Adults and youth are welcome to join us each Sunday at 9:45 (East Parlor).

### Women's Spiritual Formation Class

We meet in the church basement at 9:45.

### Scripture Readers' Class

Join **Steve Rimmer** in the chapel at 9:45 as we read from chapters in Zechariah and Luke. New readers welcome!

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Meet me at the movies!

CE Building, Room 205

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Let's watch the second part of Disney's "Big Hero 6." **Jo Bernhardt** is our adult helper.

## FROM THE PASTOR

*A letter in response to the killing of 49 innocent individuals at Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida on June 12, 2016.*

Dear friends,

I write in the wake of yet another tragedy in our world. One person, with a heart full of hate and fear, took the lives of 49 men and women in the course of a few hours and a very dark night. This act has left in its path many others who were wounded, hundreds who are grieving the loss of someone they loved, and those of us who are stunned and grieving ourselves for God's children who were so brutally taken from this world. We don't know all the facts of the night, or exactly what was going on in the killer's mind, but it isn't much of a leap (hardly a baby-step, in fact) to understand that this gay nightclub was targeted specifically with the intention of killing LGBTQ men and women and those who accompanied, loved and supported them. For the LGBTQ community, the response is deep sorrow and agonizing pain, mixed with the questions "When will it ever stop? When will people stop hating me for who I am, hating us for who we are?" When, indeed.

My sister Jennie posted on Facebook a conversation she and her husband BJ had had with their almost nine-year-old son, Noah. She wrote, "When we explained to Noah what happened in Orlando, his response was 'But God teaches us to love everyone, so why would anyone hate people that are gay?' Exactly Noah, exactly."

While I rejoice that the message of love lives solidly in Noah's heart, I also grieve that the message of hate pervades so many other hearts. What grieves me even more is when this message of hate is tied with a religious faith, as this one was with Islam. Islam is not about hatred any more than Christianity is, or Judaism, or Hinduism. . . . This man and ISIS and other hate groups have twisted a religion of love to make it serve their own purposes. Sadly, there are many Christians who have done and continue to do the same. They use the Bible or their religion to justify their own hatred, fear and discrimination. It is wrong and our voices are and must be the voices of love that overshadow the voices of hate. Our voices are and must be the voices of inclusion that overshadow the voices of exclusion. Our voices are and must be the voices of peace that overshadow the voices of violence. Our voices are and must be the voices that claim a God who created us in love and calls us to live together in peace and reconciliation, joy and vibrant life, hope and love. We are called to build a community where all are fully included, all are fully human, all are at peace with one another. We must not stop working toward that community. We must not let the terrorists of our day cause us to lose hope or lose energy. We must not stop loving one another as God loves us.

To our LGBTQ friends in Durham and beyond, know that you are loved, know that we are weeping with you, know that we will continue to stand with you and fight for you that this hatred and violence against you will cease. To our Muslim friends who are celebrating the holy month of Ramadan and who do not worship a God that would condone such violence, know that you are loved and we stand with you, too. This act of terrorism is not you and we will also fight any hatred against you that might come from this one man's act.

In our grief, let us come together and intensify our efforts to spread the message of love to the world. As we do so, may the love of God surround us, the grace of Christ strengthen us and the Holy Spirit guide and direct us today, and always. Let us pray, let us act, let us speak, let us love.

With love and deep prayers,

*Mindy*

**THIS EVENING at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary of FPC** we will hold a **PRAYER SERVICE** in memory of those in Orlando who have died and who are grieving, and will pray for peace in our city, our nation, and our world. All are invited. All are welcome.

## NOTES

**Vacation Church School** is in progress this week at New Hope Camp. There are 85 campers and 50 youth participating as leaders. Many thanks to the numerous adults who are participating at the camp and/or driving children to and from the camp. There are four children participating in the Music & Arts Camp here at FPC each day following VCS.

**Roofing repair work has begun!**

**Congratulations to Rev. Jimmie Hawkins** who celebrated his 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Covenant Presbyterian Church on Saturday, June 11.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The **Sacrament of Baptism** was celebrated for **Julia Bonnie Wilson**, daughter of **Gray and Amy Wilson**, on this past Sunday during worship.

## RECEPTION FOR SHIRLEY!

**Shirley Frederick**, FPC's long-time Membership Coordinator, will be retiring from that position at the end of June. The Membership Committee will host a reception honoring Shirley after worship on **NEXT Sunday, June 26** in the Fellowship Hall. Join with all of us as we recognize Shirley and her dedication to the FPC church family.

## OUR CONCERNS

Family and friends of **Greg Adkins**, friend of Eric Wiebe. Greg died last week after a bicycling accident

**Sarah and Pete Finbow**  
**Florence Shackelford**

**Brookdale Senior Living** (Durham):  
**Julian Boswell**

**Brookdale** (Farmington Rd) Chapel Hill:  
**Helen Garrison**

**Crosdaile Village**  
**Bob Keever**

The Pavilion: **Jean Moore, Bob Rankin,**  
**Jerry Tyren, Karsten Rist**

**Hillcrest: Randall McLeod**

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

**Roy Blackwell**, father of Sheila Miglarese  
**Molly Bowden**, former FPC member  
**Elizabeth Chombi**, niece of Mercy Ndambiri  
**Foster Family**, friends of Chris Brown  
**Ellie Johnson**, niece of Jim Johnson  
**Helene Johnson**, mother of Jim Johnson  
**Margaret Pfeiler**, grandmother of Julie Maxwell  
**Jim Sanderson**, brother of Sheila Breitweiser  
**Chuck Schultz**, father of Amy Dillon  
**Desiré Volkwijn**, wife of Kay-Robert Volkwijn



**Save the Date!**

**SUNDAY, JULY 17**

**HYMN SING AND PICNIC**

On **Sunday, July 17**, join us for a Hymn Sing during the 11:00 a.m. worship. You are invited to suggest a favorite hymn or two, and perhaps tell why the hymn is important in your life. **Please complete the card found in the worship bulletin this Sunday.** Seasonal hymns (Christmas / Easter) will be accepted. We will include in worship as many hymns we can from the suggestions we receive. You are also invited to bring a picnic lunch that day and eat under the beautiful crepe myrtle trees while enjoying some homegrown bluegrass music!



**FPC's SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE**

FPC now has an official presence on both Twitter and Facebook!

Please add us on Twitter and "Like" us on Facebook.

We'll be posting announcements, links to our website, and other items of interest there.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/firstpresdurham>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresdurham/>



## YOUTH SUMMER

### PROGRAMS

**ASP Mission Trip**

June 26 – July 2

**Middle School Conference**

July 7 – 10

**High School Conference**

July 24 – 30

## DAYTIMERS' LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, June 28**

**11:30 a.m. at El Rodeo (Mexican)**

3404 Westgate Dr, Durham  
(Located across from Target  
and next to Burger King)

Those with mobility problems should  
be dropped off at front door.

Hosted by **Chuck and Linda Barenchi**

RSVP: Linda @ 919-908-6156

or e-mail: [cnlbars@gmail.com](mailto:cnlbars@gmail.com)

## SCRATCH / YOUNG ADULTS



**Saturday, July 23**

**We'll meet in the parking lot  
at 9:00 a.m. at**

**Occoneetchee Mountain Area**

625 Virginia Cates Road  
Hillsborough, NC 27278

More details forthcoming!

## ITEMS NEEDED

The **Day School Board** is planning to have a table at the Central Park Farmers Market on one or two Saturday mornings this summer, and we need something to protect us from the sun. Do you have a **fabric canopy on pole(s) - a large beach umbrella - anything that would shade an area about 6' x 6'** you would be willing to lend us for a few hours? If you do, please call **Margaret Keller** at 919-401-2090.



Thank you to those of you who donated items to a neighbor in need. He now only needs a **microwave** and **TV**. Please contact the church office if you have these items to donate: 919-682-5511.



## WE WANT YOUR MEMORIES

The **Sanctuary and Organ Centennial Celebration Committee** wants to capture your FPC memories and your hopes for the future! A memory book will be in the church foyer (by the bulletin board) for the next few months for you to leave any thoughts you have about what FPC means to you—looking back and looking forward! You can send thoughts by email to **Caroline Rourk** or write them on a note card and place them in the book.

## FPC LEGACY SOCIETY

*"Why I am including FPC  
in my Estate Plan"*

Each of us has stood on the shoulders of people who have helped us at critical times of our lives. The April 17<sup>th</sup> worship service bulletin told the story of those benefactors of First Presbyterian Church on whose shoulders we now stand.

For me those first strong shoulders belonged to my mother and father. I grew up in Weldon, NC and attended the Weldon Methodist Church where my family held membership. My mother taught Sunday School there and advised Youth Fellowship. My father served on the Official Board and was Chair of Pastoral Relations. But surely his most valuable stewardship position was Chair of the Building Fund, established to pay for the new Educational Building and renovated sanctuary. For years, I watched him count the Building Fund offerings every Sunday after our family Sunday dinner following 11 o'clock worship service.

In the Weldon Methodist Church I sang first as a boy soprano and later as a bass in the Adult Choir before going off to school and college. I count the strong shoulders of Gwen Dickens, the Choir Director and Organist on my list of shoulders.

Upon joining First Presbyterian Church in 1974, I almost immediately joined the choir and a few years later became Church Treasurer, a position which for me was a blessing. As Church Treasurer I became familiar with the benevolences of earlier generations that built the current Sanctuary, Educational Building and Church House and were the foundation of the Mission Endowment and other funds from which we, church members, today benefit.

As a grateful member I have made a gift to First Presbyterian Church in my estate plan and encourage all members to prayerfully consider remembering the strong shoulders of those members who have gone before us in planning your estates.

*Mal King*