

First Presbyterian Church



Organized 1871

September 22, 2015

Sunday, September 27

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

Sermon:

"Tattletales"

Sam R. Miglarese, preaching

The **Hunger for Change Offering** will be received during worship.

Worship Texts

Old Testament	Numbers 11:25-29
Epistle Lesson	James 5:1-6
Gospel Lesson	Mark 9:38-41

Acolytes: **Annabelle Brown, Lily Brigman**

Crucifer: **Jack Brigman**

Crossdaile Driver: **Miriam Morey**

Narthex Greeters: **Linn Lopez,
Elizabeth High**

After Worship Greeters:

Jerry Postema (rear/narthex)

Joseph Ngumi (side/ font)

Ushers: **George Danser** (head), **Celia Dickerson** (flowers), **Michael Honeycutt, Carl Rist, Susan Seahorn, Emily Wilkins**

"INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH"

The Membership Committee enlists your support in the "Invite a Friend to Church" initiative. Evidence shows that a personal invitation is the primary way people join a congregation. Visitors are always welcome, but the 4th Sunday of every month has been selected for special emphasis for inviting friends, neighbors and colleagues to visit First Presbyterian Church. This **Sunday, September 27**, won't YOU invite or bring a friend to worship at FPC?

Peacemaker Visits FPC

The **Reverend Saman Perera**, the PC(USA)'s 2015 International Peacemaker, will visit FPC this **Sunday, September 27**. He will lead the Faith and Community Class at 9:45 a.m. and assist at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Perera, a native of Sri Lanka, is minister-in-charge of the Scot's Kirk in Kandy with the Presbyterian Church of Sri Lanka. Perera describes himself as a peace educator, change agent, and an activist focused on those who are socially, ethnically, and religiously marginalized. Perera will be hosted by **Larry and Beth Brockman** who will provide a Sri Lankan meal at their home on Saturday evening. **If you would like to share in this meal and conversation, contact Larry by email: l.brockman@gmail.com.**

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

God's Great Garden (Grades 3-5)

Now that we know where the Sea of Galilee is, we'll finish with our map-making and work on some songs that have something to do with "following." Bring your friends! There's always room for more around our table.

OFFICERS MEETINGS

Monday, September 28

Diaconate (Deacons) - 6:00 p.m.

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

Session (Ruling Elders) - 7:00 p.m.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith and Community Class

Sue and John Fricks have arranged for International Peacemaker **Rev. Saman Perera** from Sri Lanka to share his wisdom with our class this Sunday. He will lead our discussion and share some of his experiences. Come prepared to ask him questions about working with the marginalized, about nonviolent action, and about building ecumenical relationships. Sometimes an outside perspective on these things can be very helpful in our immediate context. The class meets in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45. All are welcome.

Lectionary Class

If God is in charge, what role do we have? Are there any situations in which, by our witness or our prayer or even a brave action like Esther's, we can have an important part to play? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Journeys Class

What is wisdom? Why is wisdom important to our lives? We will reflect on these questions while finishing the first nine chapters of Proverbs. All are encouraged to join the discussion. We meet at 9:45 on the second floor of the CE building, classroom at the end of hall.

SCRATCH/Young Adults Class

We are discussing the theology of place and what it means to be a disciple of Christ at the corner of Roxboro and Main. **Alex Stayer Brewington** leads the discussions. We meet at 9:45 in a basement classroom.

Family Matters Class

Parents of elementary age and younger children, join us for a low-key class where we share the road of parenting and dabble in Scripture (stand-alone lessons). We meet at 9:45 in the CE building, room 203.

Spiritual Formation

Susan Dunlap leads this class for women in a discussion on spiritual formation. Class meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 in the basement classroom.

VISITORS / NEWCOMERS

The class for visitors/newcomers to First Presbyterian who want to learn more about the ministry and mission of our congregation continues this Sunday (before worship) at 9:45 a.m. in the Wilson Parlor. If you would like to participate in the class, please contact **Shirley Frederick**, Membership Coordinator, at 919-682-5511 or s.frederick@firstpres-durham.org.

JOIN FPC YOUTH AT THE PRIDE FESTIVAL PARADE

You are invited to join FPC's youth in marching in the NC Pride Festival Parade in Durham this **Saturday, September 26**. We will have a banner, and marchers will be wearing FPC t-shirts! If you plan to march, contact **Sarah Finbow** for time (about 11:45) and place to meet: 215-620-8282 or sarah.finbow@gmail.com. The parade begins at 1:00 p.m. For info on shuttle buses for Festival events, go to <http://www.ncpride.org/pride/pride.shtml>

FROM THE

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Immigration

I am leading an independent study for a talented student in Religious Studies at Duke on the Prophet Zoroaster and Zoroastrianism. I hasten to add that the student knows more than I do. My only connection with the topic is the star-gazing Magi. They have always fascinated me, and in fact, some scholars indicate that the Magi were Zoroastrian priests. I know it is really early to be addressing the story of the Magi, but for me it is a story of perseverance and divine intervention. It is all richly symbolic of the universality of our faith as we ponder our response to the worst migration crisis since World War II.

At Faith and Community Class, it was fascinating for us to hear about the work of **Margaret Keller, Jane Rourk**, and others who provided sanctuary for Vietnamese and Cuban refugees over the years. In June our denomination acknowledged World Refugee Day and the need for refugee advocacy. This is a time for us to reflect together on our giftedness as a community—a giftedness that is enhanced by our diversity. With all the noise and static from politicians playing on the fears of "difference" you would never know of the many gifts immigrants have contributed to our country. Let us look forward to what we will become as others add their richness to our country.

Each year we are invited to renew our wonder at the irony of the scene described in Matthew, the scene of Magi astrologers from Persia kneeling in a stable, bearing gifts for an infant whose birth was heralded by a star. Let us seek a time for prayer that leads to a recommitment to minister to refugees and immigrants coming to our country.

Sam

HELP SYRIAN REFUGEES

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is supporting our European partners as they minister to the needs of the many Syrian refugees. To donate online to PDA, go to: <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/syria/> and click on Give Now (DR000081).

CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRY

Did you know that FPC is currently sponsoring three students studying for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA)? Under the shadow of our wing (and God's) are: **Alex Stayer Brewington, Mary Berry, and I Sil Yoon**. Alex and Mary are second-year students at Duke Divinity School, and I Sil is in a PhD program at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA, and she will return to Durham for the Presbytery of New Hope gathering in October. It is a great privilege and responsibility to be a church that nurtures the church's future teaching elders!

NOTES

Special thanks to **Elizabeth High** for arranging today's **Daytimers' Luncheon** at Neo China, and to **Alex and Caroline Stayer Brewington** for hosting the Scratch group at Historic Stagville and Eno Park this past Sunday!

It was great to have **Dewey Lawson (and Bet)** back in worship with us this past Sunday after a long, miraculous recovery.

OUR SYMPATHIES

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to **David and Judy Smith** on the death of David's step-father, **Jack Trout**, who died this past weekend in Burlington, NC; and to **Becky and Steve Martin** on the death of Becky's aunt and former FPC member, **Mary Wright Smith**, who died on September 18th at Carolina Meadows in Chapel Hill.

OUR CONCERNS

Nowell Creadick, a patient at Duke Hospital

Jean Moore, recovering in the Pavilion at Croasdaile Village

Christyn Klinck, recovering at home

Minnie Cameron **Paul Cornsweet**
Dewey Lawson

Brookdale Senior Living
Julian Boswell

Brookdale of Chapel Hill
Helen Garrison

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

Hillcrest:
Sue Fricks **Randall McLeod**

The Forest at Duke
Fran Bryant **Joan Englund**
Ken Goldner **Peaches McPherson**

- **Chris Anglin**, friend of FPC
- **Roy Blackwell**, father of Sheila Miglrese
- **Ruby Brown**, mother of Eugene Brown
- **Roger Durham**, father of Emily Durham
- **Richard Hays**, friend of FPC
- **Howard Knickerbocker** and family, brother-in-law of Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey
- **Genie V. Martin**, cousin of Emily Wilkins
- **Brooks Minks**, grandmother of Lucie House
- **Lindsay Morris**, sister of Emily McClure
- **Edward Robinson**, brother of Joe Robinson
- **Jean Robinson**, mother of John Robinson
- **Ryan Schlecht**, grandson of Ken and Mary Jo Schlecht

Dear Church family,

After the tragic death of our daughter-in-law, Jennifer, in February of 2014, your outpouring of love and prayer for our family sustained us through that very sad time. Then, eleven months later when Dewey became deathly ill, your love, prayers, and more help than we could ever imagine, once again sustained us through a very difficult time. Your love, cards, meals, visits, good wishes, encouragement, prayers, and more good deeds than can be mentioned here are all very appreciated. And your ovation for Dewey's return to worship on Sunday touched our hearts. Thank you.

Grace and Peace,
Bet and Dewey Lawson



YOUTH NEWS

Dear friends,

Starting the year with our awesome youth makes my heart so happy! We've already had two great gatherings and are already gearing up for the Middle School Presbytery Retreat in early October!

This weekend we are looking forward to walking in the Pride Parade on Saturday and to meeting with Trinity Ave PC and Westminster PC on Sunday!

A huge thanks to **Lenore Champion** and **Jancy Strauman** for making dinner this past Sunday!

Blessings,
Sarah

COUPLES FELLOWSHIP

This October, **Mary and Stephen Berry** will host a young committed couples study /fellowship group in their home. The group study will last four weeks and will look at relationships in the context of God's Covenant with us. The day of the week will be chosen to meet the needs of those interested. Please let Stephen know you are interested in participating via email at: stephen.d.berry@gmail.com.

SACRED VISITATIONS

Join faith communities around Durham for a week of interfaith hospitality and learning. Experience the spiritual practices of your neighbors with time for questions and conversation! To register go to this webpage: <http://www.dcia.org/sacred-visitations-fall2015/>

Monday, Sept. 28 9:00 a.m. – 12 Noon
Sukkot Service at Beth El Synagogue

Wednesday, Sept. 30 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Bible Study at Mount Gilead Baptist Church

Thursday, October 1 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Meditation at Shambhala Buddhist Center

Friday, October 2 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Jumah Prayer Service at

W. Deen Mohammed Islamic Center

Friday, October 2 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Shabbat service at Judea Reform Congregation

Saturday, October 3 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Blessing of Animals by Franciscan Friars at

Immaculata Catholic School playground

Saturday, October 3 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Program at Sikh Gurudwara of NC

Sunday, October 4 9:45 a.m. – 12 Noon

Worship at the Durham Friends Meeting

FIRST FRIENDS & FAMILIES

Saturday, October 3

Potluck Game Night at FPC

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

(hosted by the Wilkins family)

Hosts will provide spiral-sliced ham.

Bring a dish to share and your favorite games to play. Please respond to the EVITE

Friday, November 6

Potluck Gathering (adults only)

at the home of **Steve and Sharon Hirsch**
More details forthcoming

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Under the leadership of past chair, **Tom Bacon**, and our new chair of the Stewardship Committee for 2015-2016, **Celia Dickerson**, plans are underway for the new year of stewardship as a way of life. Our hope is to help members of the congregation to appreciate more and more deeply the spiritual dimensions that are involved in a commitment to the generous giving of time, energy and money. Our hope is that a thoughtful stewardship of our resources will characterize every aspect of our lives.



Margaret and Miguel Rubiera invite you once again to join them in a very special project with Habitat for Humanity, the **3rd Pink Ribbon Build**. The theme remains the same – we want to provide a unique opportunity for people who have been affected in some way by breast cancer to “pay it forward,” to honor special people in their lives while blessing a hard-working new Habitat family. The build will also be an expression of deep gratitude to the wonderful caregivers who ease the journey every day for cancer patients. We welcome your participation as a volunteer on the work site or as a donor. Address: 2409 Ashe St. in NE Central Durham. Contact Margaret at margaretmr29@gmail.com for more information.

CD PLAYERS WANTED

Do you have a CD player that you no longer use or want that still works? If so, children's Sunday School could use it on Sunday mornings for classroom music. Please drop off working players in the volunteer's office. **Kathy Parkins** and the children thank you for supporting and enriching their Sunday School experience with music!

KIDS CLOTHING NEEDED

A single mother of four with two school-aged children needs help with back-to-school (fall) clothes and shoes for a boy and girl. Sizes needed are 6x, 6 regular or 7 slim in jeans, and size 13 or 13 1/2 in shoes. Boy's sneakers are especially needed. Thank you for helping this family in need.



FALL DAY OF SERVICE
October 31st

More Details forthcoming!

COME AND CELEBRATE THE RENOVATION OF THE DAY SCHOOL!

The congregation is invited to a Day School Open House

Sunday, October 4, 2015

immediately following worship (12 noon -12:30 p.m.)

Refreshments provided!

Come and see FPC's primary mission for 45 years!

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

<http://firstpres-durham.org>