

First Presbyterian Church



Organized 1871

October 20, 2015

Sunday, October 25

This Sunday we will celebrate **Reformation Sunday**. It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg. The liturgical color is **red**, so wear your finest **RED** garments to celebrate the occasion!



9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and the Sacrament of Baptism for **Duncan Profeta**
The **Hunger for Change Offering** will be received during worship.
Sermon: "The Vision of the Blind"
Sam R. Miglarese, preaching

Worship Texts

Old Testament	Jeremiah 31: 7-9
Epistle Lesson	Hebrews 7: 23-28
Gospel Lesson	Mark 10: 46-52

Acolytes: **Henry Everett, Juliana Miglarese**
Crucifer: **Carter Momsen-Hudson**
Crossaile Driver: **Miriam Morey**
Narthex Greeters: **Linn Lopez, Elizabeth High**
After Worship Greeters:
Al Arrowood (rear/narthex)
Jane Williams (side/ font)
Ushers: **Brianna Honea** (head), **Richard Boulden** (flowers), **Keith Merritt, Lisa Rist, Cris Rivera, Leslie McDow**

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith and Community

Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp, Associate Dean for Religious Life at Duke University Chapel, will lead us in a discussion of the meaning of the Protestant Reformation in today's ecumenical environment. As a Lutheran, Christy has worked in a variety of ecumenical and interfaith organizations including the World Council of Churches and the North American Interfaith Network. We are delighted she can join us on Reformation Sunday. Class meets at 9:45 a.m. in Watts-Hill Hall.

Lectionary Class

Does God have more important things to do than listen to our prayers? In Sunday's readings, there are two examples of people who made their requests loudly and persistently. What response did they receive? "I sought the Lord, and he answered me." Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Journeys Class

Journeys will discuss selected chapters from Proverbs and continue studying Ecclesiastes. We meet at 9:45, second floor, classroom at the end of the 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 discussion. Join us at 9:45 in a basement classroom.

Family Matters Class

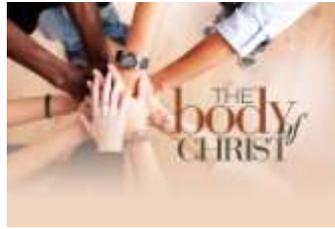
Parents of elementary age and younger children share the road of parenting and dabble in Scripture. We meet at 9:45 in the CE building, room 203.

Spiritual Formation

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

STEWARDSHIP SEASON

October 11 – November 8



THEME: "Many People, One Body"

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.
(1 Corinthians 12:12)

From public radio and TV, school fund-raisers, scouting, we are constantly asked to give. And we do, believing in the cause. For our church, we are asking that you **GIVE BACK**. Pledging a set amount to the church coffers is a way to give back to a vibrant, nurturing entity that has given to us. We are the many parts making a whole for children, youth, young adults and seniors.

Count the many ways you have received from FPC. Respond by pledging so that others may receive in the years to come. Your part will make our whole continue to support our Core Values, including faith exploration and social mission.

Grace and peace,
Celia Dickerson, chairperson

CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

Tuesday, October 27

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

St. Philip's Episcopal Church Parish Hall
Guest speaker: **The Rev. Patrice Nelson**, Executive Director, Durham Urban Ministries
Childcare provided.

Donations will be received at the door to offset the cost of the meal.
RSVP by email, phone call or EVITE.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

God's Great Garden (Grades 3-5)

Many thanks to all the children and youth who provided leadership on Sunday: **Ariel Mbah, Sigfried and Thilo Fullenkamp, Sheya Wehrman, Sam Henry** and the **Children's Choir**. If you did not get your Bible on Sunday, please see Marilyn.

SCRIPTURE READERS' CLASS

A new series of scripture readers' classes will begin **this Sunday** at 9:45 in the Chapel. Please bring a Bible with you, preferably a New Revised Standard Version. Anyone interested may attend.

SENIOR'S FALL LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 29

Gather in the East Parlor at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch at noon in Watts-Hill Hall

Carol and Wes Carson will share pictures of Ethiopia from a recent visit to this fascinating African country.

FPC OFFICER MEETINGS

Monday, October 26

6:00 p.m. Diaconate

6:30 p.m. Joint Officers' Supper

7:00 p.m. Session

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Sharper than any two-edged sword

For six weeks (October into November) our lectionary offers us a series of readings from the Letter to the Hebrews. Several weeks ago the lectionary contained one of my favorite passages on the power of God's Word as being "sharper than any two-edged sword." This is clearly one of the principal themes of the Protestant Reformation as well.

In the view of the ancient writer (in the view of *every* believer at that time), God's word has a dynamism that makes it sacred and awesome in its power to effect change. People listened intently when God's spokesperson delivered a message because the consequences were sure to be significant. In today's world, the power of human speech is considered quite differently despite our high expectations. We hear often that "talk is cheap," as if to indicate that mere words carry no weight at all. Of course, in the midst of our national and local political campaigns which are fully underway, we are reminded daily that only a very naïve person would take at face value the rhetoric of those running for office. In such a social climate, we must struggle mightily to recapture a sense of expectancy before the power of God's word. This expectancy requires an explicit act of faith—as well as a discipline of constant attention—to bring to The Word at worship each week a genuine openness to the miracles of grace that God continues to offer us in the proclamation of Sacred Scripture.

I invite you to reflect on your own attitudes and sense of expectancy toward the word of Scripture that is proclaimed here every week. Do you truly believe that God's word is "sharper than a two-edged sword"?

Sam

OUR SYMPATHIES

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to **Rod, Sara, Tyler and Lindsay Radtke** on the death of **Justin Radtke** on October 13th; and to **Mercy Ndambiri** on the death of her nephew, **Charles Nyumu Kamutu** on October 16th in Kenya.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. - Matthew 5:4



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Join FPC for worship and Holy Communion at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary as we remember all who have died in the faith this past year.

NOTES

Special thanks to **Wayne and Lucie House** for hosting the young adults at their home this past Saturday evening.

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to **Heather Cameron Eisenon** and **Colin Scott Campbell** who were married Saturday, October 17 at FPC. Heather is the daughter of **Howard and Beth Eisenon**.

OUR CONCERNS

Robin Morey and her friend **Aquiles Navarro**

Judy and Chris Wood, mother and stepfather of Sharon Hirsch

Katharine Smith (Day School Director), recovering from a fall

Nowell Creadick, recovering at home

Paul Cornsweet
Sarah and Pete Finbow
Dewey Lawson
Snell Family

Brookdale Senior Living
Julian Boswell

Brookdale of Chapel Hill
Helen Garrison

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

Hillcrest:
Randall McLeod

Forest at Duke

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

- **Roy Blackwell**, father of Sheila Miglarese
- **Parker Brown**, nephew of Neil Wilkins
- **Ruby Brown**, mother of Eugene Brown
- **Roger Durham**, father of Emily Durham
- **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

Thank you church family for all of your prayers and support. I am feeling much better and hope to return to church very soon.

With much gratitude,
Phyllis Verhey

Dear First Presbyterian,
Thank you! I was surprised and very touched when I received my very own prayer shawl. I took it with me to the hospital and then rehab, where it warmed my body and soul every day, and now it is with me at my "nest" at home (the comfortable couch!). I am feeling better every day and know that part of the reason I do is all of the love and support we've received from First Presbyterian. Thank you all for your support and love woven into the shawls you knit.

Sincerely,
Christyn



YOUTH NEWS

Dear friends,

The youth have two busy weekends ahead! This coming weekend we will be going to a fun corn maze on Saturday morning and having regular youth groups on Sunday evening where we will continue planning our youth Sunday service - November 15th this year!

Thanks to the **Brockman family** for preparing our delicious meal this past week!

Blessings,
Sarah

GROUNDS WORK DAY

Saturday, October 24

9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Contact **Barbara Buckley** for more info:
919-402-8551 or bjbuckley1@frontier.com

PRIMETIMERS

COVERED DISH SUPPER

Saturday, October 24

6:30 p.m. at the home of

Eugene and Signe Brown

RSVP to Signe at signebrown@hotmail.com
or 919-688-5954.

FIRST FRIENDS POTLUCK

(Adults only)

Friday, November 6

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

DURHAM CAN

ACCOUNTABILITY SESSION

Monday, October 26

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

at **Duke Memorial UMC**

504 W. Chapel Hill St.

** Gathering begins at 6:30 p.m. **

We start and finish on time.

Join hundreds of Durham residents as we meet with mayoral and city council candidates to learn together about where they stand on CAN's countywide agenda.

For more information, contact the Durham CAN office at (919) 403-7082.

BOOK GROUP

The **Things That Matter Book Group** will meet on **Tuesday, November 10** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of **Dorothy Graham** to discuss John Hope Franklin's book, Mirror to America. **Celia Dickerson** will lead the discussion. Please let Dorothy know you will attend: dabginn@gmail.com. New faces are welcome!

MORTGAGE BURNING

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Durham invites members of New Hope Presbytery to its Mortgage Burning Service being held **November 15** at 3:00 p.m. A reception will follow the service. R.S.V.P by November 1, 2015 at 919-682-1484.

Remember to bring your
HUNGER FOR CHANGE
OFFERING
this Sunday!

HELP US RESTOCK!

We are currently handing out about 50 blessing bags each week. We are in need of the following items to restock supplies:

- Brown paper lunch bags**
- Peanut butter/cheese snack crackers**
- Granola or nutrition bars**
- Individual packages of fruity snacks such as fruit cups, squeezable pouches of applesauce or small boxes of raisins**
- Small bottles of water**

Items can be dropped off at the church, or as a family project, blessing bags can be put together at home. Thank you for supporting our Walk-in Ministry!



FPC'S FALL DAY OF SERVICE

Saturday, October 31

Let's treat the community on Halloween!

Stop by the sign up table in the foyer after church this Sunday.

- SEEDS Dig Crew
- Habitat's Pink Ribbon Build
- Day School painting classroom doors
- Glean sweet potatoes
- Bring snacks for volunteers

Sponsored by Service & Mission Committee

Save the date!

The Durham Arts Council invites you to the

DOWNTOWN DURHAM

ORGAN CRAWL

Friday, November 13

5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

An exclusive, first time on-foot event, showcasing the music and architecture of three Durham churches of historical significance, paired with three courses of fine food and drinks. **FPC is one of the churches being featured.** Buy your tickets now, space is very limited! Call 919-560-2707 to purchase tickets (\$45.00 each) for a delicious three-course meal with wine; Private organ performances and tours of three Downtown Durham churches; Architecture expert and church renovator Terry Byrd Eason will share insight on each church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign up as a customer service assistant or equipment repairer at HELP, the new Health Equipment Loan Program opening January 2016. Greet customers and assist with filling out forms so they can borrow a piece of durable medical equipment, e.g., a walker, wheelchair, or crutch, at no cost for up to three months with renewal if necessary **OR** be an equipment repairer by checking donated equipment for missing parts and safety and sanitizing with an industry-recognized antibacterial. Eight hours/month is the requirement for either job. **Volunteer training will be held October 28** from 4:45 – 6:45 p.m. with a light meal served. Contact **Anne Drennan**, volunteer coordinator, at 919-489-2942 or by email adrennan@projectaccessdurham.org to reserve your space.