

First Presbyterian Church

November 3, 2015



Many People, One Body



DEDICATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Stewardship / Pledge Sunday

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

This week you will receive a Stewardship packet in the mail. After prayerful consideration of what you will give, complete your 2016 pledge form and **bring it to worship** on Sunday. During worship, we will be invited to bring our pledges to the Lord's Table for dedication during an extended offertory procession.

Sermon: "**All Good Gifts**"

Marilyn T. Hedgpeth, preaching

Worship Texts

Old Testament	Ruth 3: 1-5; 4: 13-17
Epistle Lesson	1 Corinthians 12: 4-12
Gospel Lesson	Mark 12: 39-44

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith and Community

Are you concerned about youth here in Durham, about the schools, about the suspension and drop-out rates, about gang activity? This Sunday we welcome back **Julie Wells**, Executive Director of Partners for Youth Opportunity here in Durham. PYO is built on the idea that each child flourishes best when surrounded by multiple supportive adults. Come and see what that looks like in Durham. The class meets in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45, and all are welcome.

Lectionary Class

Sometimes stories from the Bible seem remote to our lives, even if the words are familiar. There are no high priests offering sacrifices for us, and we do not know any scribes who wear long robes in the marketplace. We are not bound by customs requiring a man to marry his kinsman's widow. How can we find a message for our time in these stories? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Journeys Class

We will discuss selected chapters from Proverbs and continue our study of chapter 7 of 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.

Scripture Readers' Class

Join **Steve Rimmer** in the chapel at 9:45 to learn the art of reading scripture and serving as liturgist in worship. Please bring a Bible, preferably a New Revised Standard Version. Anyone interested is welcome.

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.

A MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

(Given in worship on Sunday, October 25)

I was asked to tell you what First Presbyterian means to me. Well that's easy. It is home. It is safe ground. It is sanctuary for the soul.

We have moved often over the years, and finding the right church home can be a challenge. While visiting churches, I have been completely ignored in some and pursued in others, as if I were fresh blood in the water and they were hungry sharks. Very few get it right. The right church is friendly, welcoming and open. It feels like coming home. It feels like safe ground. It feels like sanctuary. When we moved to Durham, I was going to take the whole summer and visit as many churches as I could. There was no hurry. The second church I walked into was First Presbyterian, and I never left. This church got it right. The inclusive mission statement, the wonderful music program, and the unbelievable beauty and sound of the sanctuary drew me. Open and friendly, **Shirley Frederick, Carlisle Harvard**, and several others told me that they were glad I had come and they hoped I would come again. After the service, I went up to thank **Kathy Parkins** for dropping the organ out and letting us sing one verse of the hymn a cappella, and she invited me to lunch. It was immediately evident that this was the kind of church I was looking for. I never looked back. I was home. I was safe. I had sanctuary.

I believe that to truly be a member of a church, you need to become involved, to grow, to give back. Give of your wealth and your time, not just what you can spare from what is left over after all the bills are paid and your other jobs done, but as a priority.

I became active in the music program, Bible Study and the Property Committee as a way to grow, to give back to, and be fed by my church. This lovely old lady gives so many people a safe harbor. Not only as a place of worship and learning for our members, a safe place to grow and question for our youth, but as a meeting place for members of the community. The Day School does a wonderful job. There are music groups that practice here, and 12-step programs that call First Presbyterian home. We have hosted scout groups and overnight youth groups. We have an active walk-in ministry. For all of these people and more, this building, this church, is home, safe ground, sanctuary.

Much of our mission depends on our space. We couldn't do all this without this building and it takes a lot of work and money to keep her going. Your giving keeps the lights on, the rain out, and the grounds lovely. Your giving keeps her cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Your giving makes it possible to do what we do. So I urge you to give generously of both your money and your time. Find a group to join. We have social groups for all ages. Come in and dust the pews, weed the gardens. Be a once a month Sunday School teacher so our teachers can come to a worship service. Be a youth advisor, join a Bible Study. I guarantee you will receive more than you give while you keep our church a welcoming home, safe ground, and sanctuary. Thank you.

- **Kate Busa**

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dear friends,

On All Saints Sunday, we heard the story of Jesus' raising of Lazarus from John's Gospel and celebrated Holy Communion. And I have to tell you, that as I was serving communion to **Dewey Lawson** for the first time since his terrible illness last January, I felt like I was serving communion to Lazarus. It gave me chills to see Dewey "unbound" and "let go" from the illnesses that nearly took his life earlier in the year. God is certainly full of life-giving surprises and gospel reversals!

This was the highpoint, for me, of a great week in the life of our church. The Congregational Dinner was superb on Tuesday, with 130 people in attendance. We are certainly grateful to **Patrice Nelson** from Urban Ministries and her friend, **Precious**, for their moving presentation. The Senior Adult luncheon on Thursday was colorful for the 35 people who participated, and there was a presentation about the Orthodox Church in Ethiopia by **Carol Carson**. The Fall Day of Service sent 50+ members out to participate in the mission of God, alive and well in Durham, on Saturday. And Sunday's All Saints' Day was a celebration of the lives of those who have enriched, and who continue to enrich the body of Christ. If you missed **Carlo Diys** Minute for Stewardship yesterday, you missed a delightful twist on NPR's sustainer drive!

Our upcoming Stewardship Dedication Sunday is our opportunity to express thanks to God for all the good gifts we have received during this interim period. I hope you will join me on Sunday in celebrating the various ways we are all members of Christ's one body.

Gratefully,

Marilyn

The PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

will have a brief meeting in the Chapel after worship this Sunday, November 8.

DURHAM ARTS COUNCIL "ORGAN CRAWL"

Due to the numbers of people who tried to get tickets to the organ crawl and were unable because of the food limitations, the Arts Council is now offering tickets to the organ demonstrations only. This "**Tour without Food**" will cost \$20. Please remember that this is a fundraiser for the children's programs for the Arts Council. All ticket costs are 100% tax deductible. Call 919-560-2707 to purchase tickets.

Crucifer: **Kennedy Wilkins**

Acolytes: **Eleanor Cole, Isabel Brown**

Coastdale Driver: **Paul Cornsweet**

Narthex Greeters: **Maxie Honeycutt, Carol McKnight**

After Worship Greeters:

Lenore Champion (rear/narthex)

Wes Carson (side/ font)

Ushers: **Celia Dickerson** (head), **George Danser** (flowers), **Jennie Zehmer, Karen Swope, Emily Wilkins**

OUR SYMPATHIES

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to **Jennie Zehmer, Frances** and **Jamie**, over the death of Jennie's father, **Bob Altwood** in Suffolk, VA on October 30th. A Service of Witness to the resurrection will be held there on November 11.

OUR CONCERNS

Amy Dillon's father will have surgery on November 5th

Anna Brawley, daughter of Jane and Robert Brawley

**Paul Cornsweet
Nowell Creadick**

**Sarah and Pete Finbow
Dewey Lawson
Snell Family**

Brookdale Senior Living: Julian Boswell

Brookdale of Chapel Hill: Helen Garrison

Crasdaile 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
- **Ron Brewington**, uncle of Alex Stayer Brewington
- **Parker Brown**, nephew of Neil Wilkins
- **Ruby Brown**, mother of Eugene Brown
- **Roger Durham**, father of Emily Durham
- **Roger Kalthoff**, husband of Jane Williams
- **Genie V. Martin**, cousin of Emily Wilkins
- **Brooks Minks**, grandmother of Lucie House
- **Lindsay Morris**, sister of Emily McClure
- **Aquiles Navarro**, friend of Robin Morey
- **Edward Robinson**, brother of Joe Robinson
- **Ryan Schlecht**, grandson of Ken and Mary Jo Schlecht
- **Judy and Chris Wood**, mother and stepfather of Sharon Hirsch

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Come to the Waters, biblical stories of healing, deliverance, baptism, and new life which occur around water, is the current study book. The Friday class meets from 10:30 to noon at FPC, and the Sunday Class meets from 3-4:30 in the afternoon at Crasdaile Village in the Heritage Hall Activities Room. See **Marilyn Hedgpeth** if you need a book.

RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

FPC has another opportunity to participate in the Circles of Support Program with our neighbors at Genesis Home. A group from our congregation just finished our second year as a Circle, and we are excited to have the opportunity to do it again.

Durham Circles of Support is a community volunteer program where a group called a "Support Circle" provides support, guidance, assistance and mentoring to a formerly homeless family or individual to help them sustain housing and improve their quality of life. A few FPC members have already committed to be a part of the circle, but we still need a few more volunteers to round out FPC's "Circle." More info can be found at genesishome.org. If you are interested or would like additional info, please contact **Lucie House** (luciehouse@gmail.com).

YOUTH NEWS

Dear friends,

I have been so overwhelmed by the excitement and energy that our youth are putting into, and certainly getting out of, planning this year's Youth Sunday! The youth asked for Youth Sunday to be in the fall this year to make it easier for them to participate based on school schedules. Their enthusiasm is amazing, and I am really looking forward to how God will speak through them on November 15th.

Thank you to the **Migliarese** family for our dinner this past Sunday! All youth will be meeting from 5-8 this coming Sunday to run through the service!

Blessings,
Sarah

FIRST FRIENDS POTLUCK

(Adults only)

**Friday, November 6
6:30 p.m.** at the home of
Steve and Sharon Hirsch

Hosts will provide barbecue.
Please bring sides and desserts.
Remember to respond to the EVITE.

YOUNG ADULTS / SCRATCH POTLUCK

Kristin Meade is hosting the November Potluck on Saturday, **November 14** at 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite fall dish and enjoy a relaxing evening with friends. Remember to respond to the EVITE.

TIME OUT RADIO'S VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM

On Monday, November 9, **Bill Hendrickson** will interview **Miriam Morey** about her work with veterans and Vietnam Veteran **Gerald Murfree** will be with her. Listen at 5:00 p.m. on WCOM (FM 103.5) locally and at wcomfm.org on the web.

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: dabginnc@gmail.com. New faces are welcome!

The **Pastoral Care Committee** is assembling care packages for our college students and young adults away serving our country.

You are invited to support this project by bringing in **flat items** for the packages — **gum, hot cocoa, microwave popcorn, hard candy, granola bars, puzzles or joke books**, etc. Baskets are labeled at the Mission Collection Center in the foyer for your donations. **Items are needed by Sunday, November 29.** The care packages will be sent out the first week of December.



Once again dear friends at FPC, we are most thankful for all of your prayers, cards, and expressions of support and love over the past few weeks, as I recuperate and as John continues his care giving. May God bless you as you continue to be God's faithful, loving members of the Body of Christ.

- **Sue Fricks**



The **Congregational Dinner** on October 27 was a testimony to the active witness of this congregation. Though the weather was blustery, the fellowship hall at St. Phillips' was warm and nurturing. The table tops were variously decorated with reminders of the many parts of this body. From trowels and hammers to Day School children's paper prints and the many Service and Mission activities, all of our witnessing activities were visible. Urban Ministry's executive director, **Patrice Nelson**, inspired us with her call to make a difference in Durham homelessness. Her comrade, **Precious**, made us both laugh and cry with her reenactment of her life from a teen to productive adult. Our campaign kickoff is a boost to our membership pledging to meet our 2016 budget. Many thanks to **Leslie McDow** and her helpers for the successful evening.



The sun was shining gloriously for our **Fall Day of Service** this past Saturday. We want to give a HUGE thank you to all the wonderful FPCers who came out to "treat" our community. With over 55 people participating, we accomplished a lot, learned new skills, and had great fun in the process. We helped frame a Habitat house, landscape another Habitat house, plant a rain garden at SEEDS, glean a field of sweet potatoes, paint the doors of the Day School, and clean the playground area. In addition, four people were gracious enough to provide delicious snacks for the workers. Kudos and blessings to all who participated!

- **The Service & Mission Committee**



On Saturday, October 31, a group of FPC volunteers joined together to improve the facilities and grounds of the First Presbyterian Day School. These dedicated volunteers worked on two special beautification projects:

1. The first group consisted of **Bob Breitweiser, Paul Cornsweet, Harold Dunlap, Mal King, Jim Seitzer, and Bob Yoder**. This team did a great job of painting interior doors at the Day School. Now the interior doors are clean and bright for the Day School students, their families, and staff to enjoy.
2. The second group was led by **Homer Ashby and the Brown Family (Jane and William Brown)** and daughters **Clara, Anna and Isabel**. We also received very able assistance from members of the First Presbyterian Church **Grounds and Landscaping Committee**. The work of this volunteer group has resulted in extensive improvements on the exterior areas around the playground.

On behalf of the First Presbyterian Day School Board, it is our pleasure to thank all of these dedicated volunteers for their Day of Service with us.

Pat Ashby, Chairman
Sheila Breitweiser, Contact Person

Remember to bring your completed PLEDGE CARD to worship on Sunday!

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