

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM

"Downtown by history and by choice"

Newsletter

September 26- October 9, 2017



From the Pastor . . .

Dear friends,

What a wonderful weekend you all had with worship and the All Church Gathering at Camp New Hope. Though a corneal eye infection kept me from joining you, I have heard great things about both and have seen photos of you all enjoying your evening of songs, s'mores, and fellowship. I hate I missed it, but it sounds like something that we should do again before too long!

This weekend, we celebrate World Communion Sunday, share our Peace and Global Witness offering (a portion of which will go to help the people of South Sudan). We will also celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Following worship, we have a wonderful stewardship kick-off meal planned for you! The meal is free and you will hear a presentation from our energetic and excited stewardship planning team. We hope you will join us for food and fellowship as we celebrate all things FPC and look to what our future together can be! Those who can't join us on Sunday will receive a call from one of our stewardship visitors for a hand-delivered stewardship packet. We are just that excited about what is ahead and want to make sure you know all about it!

I pray you find the grace and peace of Christ in your work and home life this week. May God be with you, guide you, and give you strength in whatever joys, challenges, or sorrows you might face this week.

With love,
Mindy

OUR JOYS and CONCERNS

Congratulations to *Katharine Smith*, First Presbyterian Day School Director, on becoming a grandmother! Katharine's son *Scottie and wife Sharon* are the proud parents of a baby girl! *Reagan Kathleen Smith* was born September 25th in Kentucky.

Added this week:

Mark Higgins, friend of FPC, recovering from a fall (broken leg)

Cotto Rodriguez families, cousins of Miriam and Robin Morey in the Mexico City area

George Bernhardt III, son of George & Jo Bernhardt and U.S. soldier stationed in South Korea

Individuals and families displaced by recent hurricanes and earthquakes.

Bob Breitweiser

Bill Lorimer

Julie Maxwell

Atria Senior Living: Peggy Mordecai, mother of Beth Eisenson

Brookdale Senior Living (Durham): Julian Boswell

Croasdaile Village: Bette Conroy, Bob Keever, Bob Rankin, Florence Shackelford

Pruitt Health at Carolina Point (Durham): Helen Garrison

The Forest at Duke: Fran Bryant, Peaches McPherson

Family and Friends of FPC Members and Staff:

Tom Bowen, friend of Al and Judy Arrowood

Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss

Claiborne Clark, son of Arthur and Mary Clark

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Louise Dykes, aunt of Will Chambliss

Kendra Harrington, friend of Jeremy Tucker

Dell McMillian, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian

Vickie Tobey, niece of Mickey Velkey and cousin of Beth Brockman

Christina Z., mother of Franzi Rokoske

NOTES

Many thanks **Al and Judy Arrowood** for arranging **Daytimers** at Bullocks Barbecue for the month of September. A good time was had by all who attended.

Thank you for a successful **Crayons2Calculators drive!** Once again the members of FPC came forward with their gifts of school supplies in support of this worthy project to help teacher, and students and their parents, who cannot afford the many supplies needed in school. Your contributions filled over four boxes of school supplies, making FPC one of the top contributing organizations in the local program. - **Mal King**

Many thanks to everyone who came to our All-Church Gathering at Camp New Hope! A special thank you to **Shirley Frederick, Cherrie Henry, Abi Warmack and Julie Whiddon**, who planned and organized the event. A good time was had by all! At the gathering a few items were left behind and (at least one) glass bowl was mixed up! All items are now in the volunteer office for those with missing items to sort out! All who went to the gathering are also asked to take a few minutes to evaluate our time together. The link to that survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HDZZX6T>. Also thanks to the Scratch group who provided worship leadership: **Emily Diy, Cris Rivera, Michael Schultz, Heather Wallace, Abi Warmack** and **Amy Wilson**.



...the season reaches a Crescendo...

This 2017 Season of Peace journey culminates with two special events:

1. **World Communion on Sunday, October 1** when Christians around the world will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Please wear clothing of your country of origin or affinity. Please bring your generous contribution to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. You may also contribute online to this special offering. Just go to the FPC website homepage and click on the Donate button.
2. **The FPC Visit of International Peacemaker, Doug Baker from Northern Ireland on October 2**. Please join us in Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. for a Potluck Dessert and Discussion. Childcare will be provided. Your admission is a dessert to share
May God bless you with Peace and may you share the Peace of Christ!

Stewardship Season Kickoff Luncheon THIS SUNDAY!



From the Stewardship Committee . . .

We have long been proud of our church which is downtown by history and by choice. We invite you to join us in a luncheon sponsored by the Stewardship Committee to launch this year's campaign.

Theme: Love in the Heart of Durham: *Seek the welfare of the city ... for in its welfare you will find your welfare* (Jeremiah

29:7) - Our theme celebrates our traditions of beautiful worship and music, inclusion, service and mission and community.

As a departure from our past campaigns which were held as dinner events on a weekday evening, we are providing a FREE LUNCH for all of our church members in Watts-Hill Hall on Sunday, October 1 immediately following the worship service. We have planned a wonderful lunch of roasted pork loin, glazed salmon, rice and vegetables, salad, macaroni and cheese and dessert ((NOTE: special dietary requests always welcome (mcrisrivera@gmail.com))). Childcare will be available during the lunch.

If you have not already responded, please reply via Evite One response per household is appreciated. If you come to church that morning but can't stay for luncheon, please pick up your stewardship materials in the lobby. Can't come to church that morning? No worries! We plan to come by for a visit in the weeks to follow.

Dedication Sunday is October 29. Hope you can join us as we seek the welfare of our church and community!

Sunday, October 1

World Communion Sunday

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion

Mindy Douglas, preaching

Please Remember

THIS SUNDAY IS COMMUNION and BLESSING BAGS SUNDAY!

As a way of extending the grace of the Lord's Table to others beyond our walls, we are asking the congregation to **bring ready-made blessing bags or supplies for blessing bags on the Sundays when communion is celebrated. Bring your items into the sanctuary with you (as you do the Hunger for Change offering), and place them in the baskets as part of the communion liturgy.** Blessing bags might contain: granola bars, nuts, non-perishable fruit, small bottles of water, snack crackers or cookies. Thank you for being a good neighbor.

Lectionary Texts: Exodus 17:1-7; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

Serving October 1:

Acolytes: *Annabelle Brown, Clarabelle Brown*

Crucifer: *Sigfried Fullenkamp*

Liturgist: *Carl Rist*

Narthex Greeter: *Delia Kwon*

After Worship Greeters: *Libby Gulley* (narthex/rear);

Jane Wettach (side/font)

Ushers: *Julie Whiddon* (head), *Michael Honeycutt* (flowers), *Alissa Miles, Laurie Williamson, Miriam Morey, Frances Zehmer*

Communion Elders:

Head/Replenish elements: *Libby Gulley*

Bread: *Andy Henry, Carol Carson, Miriam Morey, Caroline Rourk*

Cup: *Lenore Champion, Jane Wettach, Jane Williams, Barbara Buckley*

Shepherds: *George Bernhardt, Alice Raney, Eleanor Dilworth*

Sunday, October 8

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and Baptism

Sadie Finbow, daughter of *Sarah and Pete Finbow* will be baptized.

Sermon: "From . . . to" - *Cheryl Henry*, preaching

Worship Texts: Genesis 1; John 1:1-5

Acolytes: *Jack Kost, Ellie Dilworth*

Crucifer: *Frances Zehmer*

Liturgist: *Cris Rivera*

Narthex Greeter: **Maxie Honeycutt**

After Worship Greeters: **Andy Henry** (narthex/rear); **George Bernhardt** (side/font)

Ushers: **Kathy Krahenbuhl** (head), Mary-Jo Keenan (flowers), **Karen Swope, Miriam Morey, Will Chambliss**

Remember to wear your NAME TAG during Sunday School and worship.
Return it at the end of worship to the containers provided.
Thank you.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

All classes begin at 9:45, and parents are asked to walk your children to their classrooms, and to come back and get them for worship. Thank you!

Classes for children (through 5th grade) are held on the second floor of the Christian Education building at 9:45.

Middle and high school youth meet in their designated classrooms in the basement (below the sanctuary) at 9:45.

Children's Sunday School – Grades 3-5

We'll look at a new Jesus story this month, the Parable of the Farmer and the Growing Seed from Mark 4: 26-29. Teachers will tell the story, discuss any wonder questions, and spend time with prayer requests on **October 1** (World Communion Sunday). Then on **October 8**, we will spend time in the Spirituality Room and practice a few songs for worship and for the upcoming Christmas Pageant. All are welcome to join this wonderful group of children. **Please make a note that all of you will receive Bibles in worship on Sunday, October 22!**

Faith and Community Class: Did you know that October 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Cathedral? So, we at FPC will be taking time this month to join with those around the world who are celebrating the Protestant Reformation. On **Sunday, October 1, Marilyn Hedgpeth** will look back to some of the people, places and practices that influenced the great schism in Christianity prior to Luther. On **Sunday, October 8, Mindy Douglas** will lead a discussion of some of the great theological themes of the Reformation which remain with us today, such as justification by faith, sola scriptura, and the priesthood of all believers. And then on **October 16, Sam Miglarese** will help us to consider what the Reformation anniversary means for Church unity today and in the future. We hope that you'll bring all of your questions and wonderings and meet in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45 these Sundays for some lively discussion, and leave humming "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." All are welcome.

Lectionary Class: Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

For **October 1:** How do we recognize authority? Did Moses act with authority? Did Jesus? Where did they get their authority? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

For **October 8:** Paul came to a point where he considered that everything that had defined his early life – the privileges of his ancestry, his zealous devotion to the law - was worthless and could be discarded, because he had found something much better. What defines your life? What could you "regard as rubbish" and leave behind? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Journeys and Scratch/Young Adults Class

At 9:45, Journeys and Scratch combine classes in Room 205 to study the book, *The Road to Character*, by David Brooks. The class is being team taught by members of both classes. All are welcome.

Spiritual Formation This year-round class for women is led by *Susan Dunlap* and explores the topic of spiritual formation. Join us at 9:45 in **basement classroom B-16**.

Fall Bible/Book Study: Cultivating Christian Character

It's not too late to join the Friday morning Bible/Book Study group. We are studying the content of our character as Christians. Have we been created to compete successfully on the economic playing field, or have we been created to practice a life of self-restraint, self-erasure, and self-suspicion, as author David Brooks suggests in his book, *The Road to Character*? Or are we called to embrace the gifts of the Holy Spirit, as enumerated in Galatians 5: 22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control? We'll start with these Christians virtues, and then during Lent, we'll veer over into the classic Christian vices (virtues gone wild!) to see where we stand. Part book study, part Bible study, the class will meet on Friday mornings from 10:30 – noon in Room 205 of the Education Building. All are welcome and invited to participate.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASSES

Do you have questions about membership at FPC? Do you want to meet others who are new to the FPC community? Have you already joined, but want to catch up on the ins and outs of FPC life? **We continue the series of Membership Inquiry Classes this Sunday at 9:45 in the Wilson Parlor.** The schedule for the remaining classes in the series (which are FYI, but not mandatory) is as follows:

October 1 – History and Theology *Mindy Douglas*

October 8 – Polity and Theology *Phyllis Supple*

October 15 – Meet with the Session/The Christian Life *Mindy Douglas*

At this last class on October 15, those who wish to join will meet with the Session at 9:45, and will be introduced during worship that day. However, you may join at any point in the process, if you will have a conversation with one of the clergy so that the Session can be notified about your desire to join. All are welcome to jump in at any point. If you have any questions, contact *Marilyn Hedgpeth*.



YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT

Sunday, October 1

We'll meet at our regular time this Sunday: Middle Schoolers at 5:00 p.m. and high schoolers at 6:30 p.m. Supper will be available from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. for both groups.

The FPC Youth Groups will be putting together "emergency admission bags" for the Duke and UNC Pediatric ICUs on this Sunday. These bags are given to families whose children are admitted unexpectedly to the ICU and may not have had time to pack for themselves before going to the hospital. We will be gathering toothbrushes, travel sized tooth paste and deodorant, combs, small notebooks and pens, travel packs of tissues and hard candies. We can also include chapsticks,

small lotions and granola bars. The youth will also hear from **Rev. Carrie Tuttle**, member of the Pediatric Family Advisory Council and the Pediatric Intensive Care Advisory council, about the importance of these bags to those who are caring for ill children, Please consider donating to our service project. Please contact **Sarah Finbow** if you have any questions!

From the Minister of Music

Children's Choir rehearsals have begun. Children who are interested (age 5 and up) should come to worship, and following "A Time with the Children," go to the choir room (second floor, CE building) for rehearsal. Parents should pick their child(ren) up from the choir room at the end of worship. **NOTE: there is no Children's Choir rehearsal this Sunday because it is a Communion Sunday.** Questions can be directed to **Samantha Arten** (samantha.arten@gmail.com) or **Kathy Parkins** (k.parkins@firstpres-durham.org).

The **Handbell Choir** has a new practice schedule. Practice will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Bell Choir room (second floor, CE building). NOTE: on the second week of the month, bells will practice on Monday at 5:00 p.m. New ringers are welcome to join us. **Next practices are Wednesday, October 4 and Monday, October 9.**

The **Chancel (adult) Choir** rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room (second floor, CE building). New singers are welcome to join us. Email **Kathy Parkins** if you will need childcare (k.parkins@firstpres-durham.org).



MEN OF FAITH

Friday, September 29

Breakfast / Conversations

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Nosh's Cafe - 2812 Erwin Road

Come by and stay as long as you can.

Grounds and Landscaping Workday

New faces are welcome to join **Barbara Buckley** and her dedicated team of volunteers who love to get down and dirty to make our grounds look great!

Saturday, September 30

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Contact Barbara Buckley at 919-210-0482 or bjbuckley1@frontier.com if you want to know more about the work to be performed.





First Friends and Families October BBQ

The *Abels family* will host a blessing bag BBQ on **Saturday, October 7!** Hosts will provide dinner and items for the blessing bags. Please bring a donation to help defray the cost of these supplies. We'll assemble bags while we're together. Hoping to assemble 200-300 bags. Please respond to the Evite.

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 21

The **Service and Mission Committee** is organizing an **OCTOBER DAY OF SERVICE** at Families Moving Forward on **Saturday, October 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon.** Watch for details and plan to join us!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: FPC will be a polling place on October 10

On **Tuesday, October 10**, FPC will serve as a polling place (due to the closing of the Durham Public Library for renovations). We recommend that you contact the staff by phone or e-mail that day as there will be very little, if any, parking available during regular hours. The Day School will operate on its normal schedule. Meetings that are not affected by parking restrictions will meet as scheduled. Please contact **Tom Bloom**, Business Administrator, at tajbloom@firstpres-durham.com if you have questions.

Upcoming Activities for Families with Young Children

Saturday, October 14
**Fellowship Dinner
for Young Families**
at the home of
Chris and Meredith Brown
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
7505 Chelsey Lane
Please bring a dish to share!

Sunday, October 22
Children's Sabbath
Children will participate in
worship; 3rd, 4th and 5th graders
will be presented Bibles



Sunday, November 19
**Parents Eat Out /
Christmas Pageant Work Day
for the Children**
5:00 - 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, December 2
2017 Durham Christmas Parade
(time TBD)
THEME: The Friendly Beasts
FPC's children and youth are invited to dress
as animals and march in the morning parade.

Sunday, December 3
Advent Festival
9:45 - 10:45 for children and youth
Alternative Giving Fair
After worship, activities for all ages

Sunday, December 10
Christmas Pageant
9:45 a.m. Dress rehearsal
and face painting
11:00 Pageant during worship

~ COMMUNITY INVITATIONS ~

Anti-Racism Education Corner

If you haven't had a chance yet, please try to visit the Race Exhibit at the Natural Sciences Museum in Raleigh. This exhibit runs through October 22.

Go to <http://www.oarnc.org/events/> to see Racial Equity Institute workshop dates and locations.

Any questions about the Task Force can be addressed to **Kathy Krahenbuhl, Jon Abels, Diane Standaert, Emily Wilkins, or Sharon Hirsch.**

An Invitation from Johnson Service Corps

Johnson Service Corps invites you to a Community Engagement Racial Justice Workshop on **Saturday, September 30, 10:00a.m.-12:00 noon** at FPC. JSC has partnered with the Triangle chapter of the nationwide Stand Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) organization. It's Not (Just) Personal is a workshop for people interested in understanding about the ways racism operates in our society today, and how we can help work against it. This workshop is being offered on a self-selecting sliding scale fee of \$0-20. To register or learn more, please visit: <http://bit.ly/jsc-tsurj> or email margaret@johnsonservicecorps.org.

Durham Community Concert Band presents . . .

An Afternoon of Fanfares, Marches, Themes, and Overtures

Sunday, October 1 at 3:00 p.m.

Durham Central Park

501 Foster Street

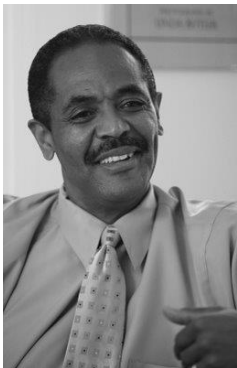
Directed by Tom Shaffer

SPECIAL GUEST: the Duke University Wind Symphony

Bring lawn chairs, blankets. Shelter provided in case of rain.

Help keep their dreams alive!

If you are opposed to President Trump's decision to rescind the DACA program, please check out the information on the table in the foyer at the church. There is a sample letter, addresses for our congressional and senatorial representatives, and envelopes for use in making your objections known.



BREAKFAST with REV. BRIAN BLOUNT, PhD

Thursday, October 5

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Durham

7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

TOPIC: *The Future of the African-American Minister:*

An "Interventionist" Agenda

\$20 per ticket

Contact **Laura Armstrong** (larmstr6@nccu.edu) for reservations. All proceeds go to Presbyterian Campus Ministry at NCCU.

Service and Mission Opportunities

Peace Volunteers Needed at NC State Fair

In keeping with FPC's Season of Peace, FPC has been invited to run the Peace Booth at this year's NC State Fair. Volunteers are needed on **Sunday, October 15, Tuesday, October 17, and Thursday, October 19 for half a day**. A sign in the Peace Booth will include the names of each group working that day's shifts. **All volunteers will receive a free ticket into the Fair (a \$10 savings)**. The orientation and training sessions for all 2017 volunteers are Monday, October 9 or Tuesday, October 10 at 7-8:30 p.m. at Community United Church of Christ, 814 Dixie Trail, Raleigh. **Brianna Honea Bennett** has agreed to coordinate our volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Brianna at briannahonea@gmail.com.

Fundraiser for Iglesia Emanuel

Iglesia Emanuel, 2504 N. Roxboro St., Durham, NC will be holding a **Pupusa Sale fundraiser on Saturday, September 30 from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Please come out and enjoy some delicious pupusas and help support their many programs which provide healthy food to families in need, as well as music, art, and athletic programs for low-income children and youth. Iglesia Emanuel appreciates our on-going support of their ministry!

Help for Mexico City . . .

FPC member, **Leah Baldasare**, lives near Mexico City in Mexico. She is reporting profound damage in the surrounding villages. Search and rescue efforts have been extensive, but now help is needed for survivors who are currently living in large tent camps. These people lost everything and are relying on the kindness of strangers to clothe and feed their families. The Red Cross and Izzi Fundacion y Televisa are working with Amazon to deliver items to the shelters and damaged sites. If you have interest in helping the people of Mexico City, you can give donations to Leah via a paypal account: [paypal.me/supportmex](https://www.paypal.me/supportmex). Leah will gladly purchase items through Amazon, and Amazon will deliver the items to Mexico City, Morelos, Oaxaca and Puebla. Leah appreciates any and all support.

New Ministry in Durham

At Reality Ministries (www.realityministries.org) we are creating opportunities for adults with and without developmental disabilities to experience belonging, kinship and the life-changing reality of Christ's love. As we gear up for Fall programming, we're looking for weekly volunteers for our Daytime activities (any hours between 10:00 and 3:00 M-F) and evening groups (6:30-8:00 on Monday or Tuesday nights). We'd love to talk to you about how you might get involved with this dynamic community of friends! Please call the Reality Center (919-688-7776, 916 Lamond Ave, Durham) or email david@realityministries.org for more information!

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