

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM

"Downtown by history and by choice"

Newsletter

October 10- October 23, 2017



From the Pastor . . .

Dear friends,

I stopped listening to NPR last week and started listening to the classical station exclusively. I was not hiding my head in the sand; I knew what was going on in the nation and the world. I still read the paper each morning, but I could skim the articles and not dwell on the news that caused too much pain. I stayed informed, but I didn't wallow in the horrors and injustices. Instead, I found comfort in the complexities of the orchestral and chamber music as I travelled along. Many of the pieces I listened to had been played to many a people through many a war or tragedy. Their lilting melodies brought comfort; their complex harmonies spoke my heart through differing timbres and tones. The power of the symphony reminded me of the expansiveness of the universe; the soaring notes of the solo oboe or violin connected me with the divine. The music didn't erase the tragedies of the world around me, but it did soothe my heart like salve cools a raging burn.

Next to music, I also find comfort in silence. The Psalmists speak of finding God in silence as well as music, reminding us that God has not and will not abandon us and that God will lead us in the ways of justice and righteousness and will comfort us in all our affliction. The Psalmist writes:

For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from God comes my salvation.
The Lord alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress, I shall never be shaken.

For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is in the Lord.
God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
Trust in him at all times, O, people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us (Psalm 62:1-2, 5-8).

May your comfort be in God and may you meet God in soaring sound or in silence. Leave the chaos. Rest in God.

With love,
Mindy



Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

- Matt. 5:4

We extend condolences to the family of ***Joanne Harrar***, FPC member who passed away October 7th at her home in Durham. **The family has requested that a Service of Witness to the Resurrection be held Saturday, October 14 at 2:00 p.m. at FPC. The family will greet friends at a reception in Watts-Hill Hall following the**

service.

We also extend sympathies to ***Will Chambliss and family*** on the death of his aunt, ***Louise Dykes***, and to ***Jeremy Tucker*** on the death of his friend, ***Kendra Harrington***.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent as follows:

Carolyn Wolfe (sister of Joanne Harrar)
816 Chalice Street
Durham NC 27705

Will and Jamie Chambliss
206 Watts St
Durham NC 27701

Jeremy Tucker
9909 Lynnberry Pl
Raleigh NC 27617

OUR CONCERNS

Added this week:

Dale Gaddis, recovering at home following surgery

Charles Hammond

Asher Wilson, grandson of Chuck & Jean Wilson (son of Mike & Emily Wilson)

Lillie E., student of Delia Kwon

Lindsay Efland

Mark Higgins, friend of FPC

Individuals and families displaced by recent hurricanes and earthquakes; victims of the Las Vegas shooting tragedy and their families and friends; first responders, aid workers and care givers responding to all these needs

Carl Anglin

Bob Breitweiser

Paul Cornsweet

Bill Lorimer

Julie Maxwell

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

Atria Senior Living: *Peggy Mordecai*, mother of Beth Eisenson

Brookdale Senior Living (Durham): *Julian Boswell*

Croasdaile Village: *Bette Conroy, Bob Kever, 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**

***Claiborne Clark*, son of Arthur and Mary Clark**

***Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings**

***Dell McMillian*, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian**

***Cotto Rodriguez families*, cousins of Miriam and Robin Morey**

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

***Christina Z.*, mother of Franzi Rokoske**



To members of the church,

I wish to thank you all for the prayers and support we have received since my illness began. Please continue your prayers as I pray for you.

Yours in Christ,
Bill Lorimer

NOTES

On **Sunday, October 1**, FPC welcomed **Rabbi Larry Bach, the 10th Grade Confirmation Class from the Judea Reform Congregation, and their leaders** to worship. The Sacrament of Baptism was celebrated for **Sadie Louise Finbow**, daughter of FPC's Youth Director, **Sarah Finbow**, and her husband **Pete** during worship. Sarah's extended family and Pete's family from England were in worship for this special occasion. Our two youth elders, **Ellie Dilworth and Sigfried Fullenkamp**, assisted with the baptism.

SPECIAL THANKS to **Laura Casteel** for hosting the Scratch / Young Adults group in her home for a brunch potluck on Saturday morning.

First Friends and Families enjoyed a wonderful event at the **Abels'** home on Saturday evening. In addition to the great fellowship with about 25 attending, members of First Friends contributed \$300 towards the purchase of items to fill 300 blessing bags. They filled those bags and had \$130 remaining that was given to the church earmarked for future blessing bag purchases.

These Days devotional books for the fall quarter (October - December) are here. Regular and large print copies are available. Pick up a **FREE** copy from the foyer or narthex while supplies last.



**...the 2017 Season of Peace is over.
But YOU completed it with a Crescendo...**

We at FPC celebrated World Communion on Sunday, October 1 as did our sisters and brothers in Christ around the globe. Everyone worshipped in whatever circumstances they found themselves whether in refugee camps, in villages threatened by warriors or starvation, or ailing from life threatening diseases or wounds inflicted by enemies.

We at FPC gratefully contributed to the 2017 Peace and Global Witness Offering raising **\$3700** to date. You'll remember our FPC 25% will go to the PC(USA)South Sudan special emphasis, another 25% will go to peace and justice efforts in our New Hope Presbytery and in Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, and 50% will go to the PC(USA) for global witness to Christ's peace through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the reconciliation work of Presbyterian World Mission.

The October 2 presentation by international peacemaker, **Doug Baker** of Northern Ireland, was attended by 25 guests who enjoyed a Dessert Potluck and an informative program and discussion.

Many thanks to all who provided the super generous array of desserts for the evening with International Peacemaker Doug Baker. The bounty was also shared with the folks at Step Up and Urban Ministries of Durham.

May God bless you with peace and may you share the peace of Christ daily throughout the year ahead!

This is Stewardship Season



Dedication Sunday is October 29.

If you have not received your 2018 packet, or have questions about the pledging process, please contact Tom Bloom in the church office at 919-682-5511 x 216.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASSES

We will conclude the current series of Membership Inquiry Classes this Sunday, October 15 at 9:45 in the Wilson Parlor. *Mindy Douglas* will lead a discussion on *The Christian Life*. At this last class, those who wish to join will meet with the Session at 9:45, and will be introduced during worship. If you have any questions about the membership process, contact *Marilyn Hedgpeth*.

Sunday, October 15

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is a Called Meeting of the Session at 9:45 a.m. THIS SUNDAY in the Wilson Parlor to receive new members. This meeting will last about 30 minutes, after which you may join your Sunday School class.

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and New Member Service of Welcome

***Mindy Douglas*, preaching**

Worship Texts: Exodus 32:1-14; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

Acolytes: ***Noah Rokoske, Webb Cummings***

Crucifer: ***Matthew Dickerson***

Liturgist: ***Amy Dillon***

Narthex Greeter: ***Maxie Honeycutt***

After Worship Greeters: ***Jane Williams*** (narthex/rear);

Carol Carson (side/font)

Ushers: ***Kathy Krahenbuhl*** (head), ***Amy Dillon*** (flowers), ***Mickey Velkey, Jane Williams, George Danser, Miriam Morey***

Sunday, October 22

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR . . .

Dear friends,

On October 22, we will join a multi-faith effort to celebrate **National Children's Sabbath**, recognizing the gifts that children everywhere bring to our life together. We currently have 121 infants, children and youth on our rolls at First Presbyterian, which is both a great joy and an awesome responsibility. We, as a congregation, have taken baptismal vows "to guide and nurture each child of God, by word and deed, love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of Christ's church." This is no small task with our own children and youth; but it applies to those outside our walls, as well. So, within our walls, on October 22, we will honor our FPC children as worship-leaders and music-makers, as we present new Bibles, the Word of God for the people of God, to our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. At various points during the service, children will be dismissed from worship to work on service projects in Watts-Hill Hall, which will benefit children beyond these walls, most especially those in Puerto Rico, suffering from the recent hurricanes.

It's a great time to take up the cause of children, everywhere, and to take steps to advocate and work for their well-being. To quote Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund, "*Often we procrastinate and make excuse for our inaction, depression, and despair. It's not the right time. I can't make a difference. Whatever I do won't matter. It's not my business. It's somebody else's turn. Nobody will pay attention. It's overwhelming – my little bit doesn't matter.... We must struggle with ourselves and ask God's forgiveness and help to keep being useful in small ways. And we must remember that it is always the right time to do right.*"

Shalom for all of God's children,

Marilyn



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Children's Sabbath

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

Sermon: *"Called by Name; Surnamed by God"*

Marilyn Hedgpeth, preaching

Worship Texts: Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13);

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Acolytes: **Maryn Leonard, Griffin Momsen-Hudson**

Crucifer: **Matt Brockman**

Narthex Greeter: **Elizabeth High**

After Worship Greeters: **Tyler Momsen-Hudson** (narthex/rear);

Lenore Champion (side/font)

Ushers: **Alissa Miles** (head), **Christy Gudaitis** (flowers), **Laurie Williamson, Julie Whiddon, Miriam Morey**

Remember to wear your NAME TAG during Sunday School and worship.
Return it at the end of worship to the container 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

There is a slight change in your calendar, so head's up. On October 15, **Alec Bethune and Delia Kwon** will meet with the children to work on Maps and Models in the classroom. We're talking about Jesus' Parable of the Farmer and the Growing Seed. We'll have a hand's on experience of the story. Then on October 22, we'll join everyone in Watts-Hill Hall for **Intergenerational Sunday School** and service projects focused upon our neighbors in Puerto Rico. October 22 is also our celebration of **Children's Sabbath**, and some of you will be helping with worship leadership, and some of you will be receiving Bibles in worship. It's a great day to be a child! Sunday School begins at 9:45, and worship at 11:00, and all are welcome!

Faith and Community Class: We will continue our October observance of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation this Sunday, October 15, as **Sam Miglarese** leads a discussion on "What the Reformation Anniversary Means for Church Unity." As a former Catholic priest, Sam can give valuable insights from both the Catholic and Protestant perspectives regarding the 16th century Reformation and its repercussions. We meet at 9:45 in Watts-Hill Hall.

On **October 22**, we will join together in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45 for **Intergenerational Sunday School**, with projects to help our friends in Puerto Rico who are still recovering from Hurricane Maria. **We will be putting together hygiene kits and school kits to send to those recovering from the winds and floods.** In addition, the Christian Education Committee has designed this month "**SOcktober,**" and is asking people to bring new socks, all sizes, to share with families in need through Durham Urban Ministries. It's **Children's Sabbath** month, and **Walking with Jesus** year, so come and spread God's love for all children, both locally and beyond. All are welcome to come together for some bonding around tables of service.

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

For **October 15:** How would you respond to an invitation to a lavish banquet? Would you ignore it, or make excuses? Even worse, would you publicly insult the host and everything he stood for? What were they thinking?

For **October 22:** To whom do you owe honor and allegiance? To the business that pays your salary? To the government to whom you pay your taxes? Where does God fit in?

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

The Friday morning Bible Study continues its study of *Cultivating Christian Character*. This week and next we will look at “joy” as a Christian virtue and a fruit of the Spirit, according to Paul in his letter to the Galatians. We share joys, we study Scripture, we discuss, laugh, and pray for the many concerns of our church and world. All are invited to join us at 10:30 on Friday mornings, classroom 205 in the CE building.



Youth Groups are in full swing! **All youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to participate in youth groups on Sunday evenings.**

Middle Schoolers meet at 5:00 p.m. High Schooler meet at 6:30 p.m. All youth enjoy a meal together from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

This Sunday (October 15) it's game time!

The following Sunday (October 22) we will

begin our preparations for Youth Sunday which will be observed on November 19.

Parkins gives Organ Recital in “Bach’s Lunch” Series

FPC’s Minister of Music, *Kathy Parkins*, will play on the White Rock Baptist Church of Durham’s “Bach’s Lunch” series on **Thursday, October 12**. Lunch is served at 11:50 (the cost for the lunch is \$4 but the concert is free). **The concert will begin at White Rock at 12:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.** Please call White Rock Church at 919-688-8136 if you’d like to order a box lunch.

David Smith Slide Presentation



Bhutan – that small country in the Himalayas that calls itself “Land of the Thunder Dragon” – is a place of beautiful scenery and rich traditions. It’s also a place with many wonderful birds, as David and Judy Smith found when they visited Bhutan earlier this year. Join them for a **slide show** of the birds and culture of Bhutan on **Wednesday, October 18, at 6:00 pm in Watts-Hill Hall**. All are welcome.

Monday, October 23
Church Officers Meetings
6:00 p.m. Diaconate
6:30 p.m. Joint Officers' Supper
7:00 p.m. Session

Wednesday, October 25

FPC Seniors Fall Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Reception in the East Parlor

12 Noon Luncheon in Watts-Hill Hall

Sam Miglarese will give a presentation on
Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation.

Friday, October 27

FPC MEN OF FAITH Breakfast / Conversations

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. at Nosh's Cafe - 2812 Erwin Road

Come by and stay as long as you can.

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

First Friends and Families

Saturday, November 4

Hike the Eno and Potluck

4:00 p.m. at the home of Kathy Conner

Saturday, December 9

Advent Potluck (adults only)

6:30 p.m. at the home of Melinda Ruley/Stewart Fisher

Friday, January 5

Game Night and Potluck

5:30 p.m. at FPC in Watts-Hill Hall (hosted by the Wilkins family)

Service and Mission Opportunities



Saturday, October 21

9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

We will be supporting the families moving from homelessness to permanent housing by organizing supplies and possibly assembling and moving furniture. We need 12 volunteers to help with this work. **Sign up this Sunday in the foyer following worship.** For more information contact **Libby**

Gulley at gulley@nc.rr.com. We are also collecting supplies for these new households. The following items are most needed:

Bath Mats Twin/Full Comforters Pillows
Towels Laundry Baskets Small Trashcans
Kitchen Trash bags Bathroom Cleaner Toilet Paper

There will be a barrel in the church foyer for two weeks. Donations appreciated.

Habitat Honduras Trip

The needs for decent, safe housing are great, both here and beyond our borders. There are still a few spots left on the Jan 26 – Feb 4 Habitat for Humanity trip to Honduras, the second poorest country in the western hemisphere. Join **Margaret and Miguel Rubiera**, trip leaders since 2001, to experience this powerful way to “Love Thy (International) Neighbor.” Contact Margaret at margaretmr29@gmail.com for more information.

Volunteering at Urban Ministries of Durham

We have several golden opportunities for you to help prepare and serve meals at Urban Ministries in the coming weeks. This is an easy and fun way to make a tangible difference in the lives of our neighbors while enjoying some upbeat fellowship time with other church friends.

We have openings for more volunteers for the breakfast shift on **Friday, October 20, 7 - 9 a.m.**, and also the lunch prep shift that same morning from **9:30 - 11:00 a.m.** Also, if you are looking for a truly gratifying way to spend part of **Thanksgiving Day**, gather your family or friends to serve lunch that day, **November 23**, from 11 - 1:30. **Sign up soon!** Please contact **Margaret Rubiera** at margaretmr29@gmail.com for more information or to add your name for any of these times. **Let's make sure none of our neighbors go hungry this fall!**

Volunteer Opportunity: Music library database

The church music library contains hundreds of pieces of sheet music, and all of them are catalogued in a database. Unfortunately, that database has a few quirks and bugs. If you have experience with Microsoft Access and would be willing to help (probably no more than a few hours), please contact **Kate Busa** (katebusa@gmail.com) or **David Smith** (davidjudysmith@frontier.com) for more information.

Pastoral Care reminders . . .

Attention parents of new and returning college students, please make sure that we have your student's address. Your First Presbyterian Church family wants to keep in touch with students, those in active military service, and those in mission or studying abroad. Please email your address to **Valerie McMillan** at v.mcmillan@firstpres-durham.org or call her at 919 682-5511 ext. 215.

Need a ride to worship? If you would like to have a ride to and from church on Sunday mornings, please send a request to **Valerie McMillan** at v.mcmillan@firstpres-durham.org or call her at 919 682-5511 ext. 215.

Anti-Racism Education Corner

The RACE exhibit is still at the Museum of Natural Science in Raleigh until October 22. We have an opportunity for you to join an intergenerational group going as a group this **Saturday, October 14**. We have 15 tickets and would love to use all of them. We'll meet at the church parking lot at 9:00 and carpool to the museum. If you don't want to carpool and would rather go straight to the museum, you can get your ticket from **Kathy Krahenbuhl**. Please contact Kathy at kat.krahenbuhl@gmail.com to let her know if you wish to attend.

Organizing Against Racism (OAR) Durham invites you to attend the **Racial Equity Institute's Groundwater Presentation** at Maureen Joy Charter School on **Saturday, October 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** This interactive presentation provides participants with critical knowledge about the impact of systemic and institutional racism on our society in areas such as education, healthcare, and criminal justice. In the half-day Groundwater Approach workshop, trainers use data and stories from a variety of sources to demonstrate the ongoing and pervasive impact of race. This research-based presentation focuses on the following six points that are essential to understanding the realities of systemic racism as a predictor of outcomes in all institutions. **Go online to register (walk-in registration also available!):**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/groundwater-presentation-tickets-37974085512>

An **exhibit on Housing Inequality in Durham** is being shown at the MDC building at 307 W Main Street. BullCity150 Exhibit: "Uneven Ground: Foundations of Housing Inequality in Durham" (<https://www.bullcity150.org>). The exhibit is open on the following dates:

October 20 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

November 14 - Housing Policy Discussion - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

November 17 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

We are planning to take a group from FPC on Friday, October 20.

Please let Kathy Krahenbuhl know if you'd like to come along. Details will follow.

Racial Equity Institute (REI) workshops: Please register early as these workshops fill up fairly quickly. You can see all the dates (click on Register Here to see if there are any openings) at <http://www.oarnc.org/events/>

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

~ COMMUNITY INVITATIONS ~

"TIME OUT" RADIO SHOW with Bill Hendrickson

Cherrie and Andy Henry will be the show's guests on **Monday, October 16 at 5:00 p.m.**, sharing with us about their recent family sabbatical and pilgrimage to Spain. The live broadcast can be heard locally in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area on FM 103.5 and elsewhere via the web at wcomfm.org.

Recital: Triangle Wagner Society

Tuesday, October 17

7:30 p.m. in the FPC sanctuary

Live performance, *Le Chant Wagnérien*, by soprano Andrea Edith Moore, baritone Ryan de Ryck, and pianist Daniel Schlosberg

Admission: Free for FPC members, \$15 donation for guests

For more information: <https://www.trianglewagnersociety.com/>

Durham CAN Public Delegates Assembly

Let's fill up the seats! We have pledged 30 individuals from FPC to the next CAN delegates' assembly. This is an important meeting as it will focus on clear commitments from Mayoral and City Council candidates concerning racial and economic equity in Durham. The agenda includes jobs and affordable housing.

Thursday, October 26, 2017

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Mount Level Missionary Baptist Church

316 Hebron Road, Durham, NC 27705

FPC youth in DSA Musical

Maddie Brigman and *Sam Henry* have roles in the DSA musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Maddie has a major role as "Marcy." Sam has a cameo role as "Olive's Dad." **The play will happen November 2-4 at 7:30 and November 4 at 3 p.m. in the Blackbox at DSA. Let's support our youth!**

The next newsletter will be issued on October 24, 2017.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
305 EAST MAIN STREET
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701
919-682-5511 (phone) 919-682-0493 (fax)
<https://firstpres-durham.org>