

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF DURHAM
"Downtown by history and by choice"
Bi-Weekly Newsletter
June 26-July 9, 2018

From the Pastor . . .

Dear friends,

"Let love be genuine," Paul writes to the early church in Rome about Christian life together. "*Let love be genuine.*" These words begin the longer section of Romans 12:9-21 in which Paul guides this fledgling community of Christ into an understanding of what it means to be the *Body of Christ*, a people who need one another to function fully and completely (Romans 12:4-8). This exhortation says so much in four little words. *Genuine* love, after all, is the kind of love that cares deeply, shows up, asks probing questions, and is deeply attentive. Genuine love is the kind that gets to know the other out of sincere interest and a desire to grow together in love. It is the kind of love we long for, and sometimes wonder why we can't find it.

Paul doesn't say, however, look for genuine love in others. Paul puts the ball in our court, i.e. be *givers* of genuine love. Don't wait for it to come to you, give it out to others!

It sounds easy enough, but it is harder than one might think. Most of us know that genuine love takes effort, intentionality, and time. While we all long for intimate connections with one another, we are also afraid of the vulnerability required to reach out to another. But such intimate and genuine connections are the way to strong and true relationships. When we take the time to sit with another and ask sincerely, "How are you?" and wait patiently, compassionately, and attentively for the real answer, we are demonstrating genuine love.

This summer, we have invited the church to read together several different books, including the one we have been discussing the last two weeks in the Faith and Community class (and will discuss again this Sunday), *Everything Happens for a Reason: and Other Lies I've Loved* by Kate Bowler, assistant professor at Duke Divinity School. She writes about the difficulty people have in talking to someone who has been diagnosed with a serious disease such as cancer. She encourages people not to ask, in passing, "How are you?" She advises those who really want to show genuine love to be more specific with the intentionality of their request, asking "How are you *today*" and then stick around for as long as it takes to get the honest answer.

Genuine love takes time. Genuine love requires that one be interested in the well-being of the other. Genuine love invites honest sharing and compassionate listening.

How have you shown genuine love to a family member this week? To a friend? To a church member? To a stranger? How might you plan to show such love today and in the days ahead? This is how the Body of Christ becomes stronger. This is how the Christian community cares for one another. I pray that God will lead us all to share that kind of love at FPC and beyond.

With love,
Mindy

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to *Amy and Gray Wilson* on the birth of a son. *James Lancaster Wilson* was born June 22, 2018. James and Amy are both doing well, and Julia's already taking wonderfully to her role as big sister.

CONDOLENCES

... to *Carlisle and Joe Harvard* on the sudden death of Carlisle's sister, *Lee Piepenbring* on June 18th in South Carolina. A funeral service was held June 23rd in South Carolina at Georgetown Presbyterian Church.

... to *Wil, Aiden, and Jennifer James* on the death of Wil's stepfather, *Tom Birchfield*, on May 23rd in Pilot Mountain NC.



Added recently:

- *Carolyn Kreuger*, a patient at Duke Hospital (ICU)
- *Jay Barron*, cousin of Walt Barron
- *Dan and Mary Banner*
- *Kyle*, grandson of Linda Dobson
- *Marc and Polly Crawford*, friends of Brianna Bennett

Our prayers are with the FPC mission team in Kinston this week, continuing to restore homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Those participating in this service trip are: *Tyler, Carter, and Griffin Momsen-Hudson, Carolyn Mangeot* (Tyler and Carolyn are team leaders), *Robbie Creadick, Danny Creadick, Kerry Holbrook, Andy Henry, Jack Kost, Jane Williams, Jack McCook, Keith Stolarick*, and *Marilyn Hedgpeth*. The team left on Sunday, and will return to Durham on Friday afternoon.

The Middle School youth leave for the Massanetta Conference on July 5. Please be in prayer for: *Maeve McClain-Huslage, Charlie Kelley, Joshua Padilla*, and *Chris Baquedano*, along with their chaperones, *Sarah Finbow* and *John Curran*.

Margaret Sims
Carolyn Wolfe

John Kerr is moving this week to Durham Regent, apartment 104.

Ann Prospero has returned to her apartment at Durham Regent.

Brookdale Senior Living, Durham: *Julian Boswell*

Croasdaile Pavilion: *Bette Conroy, Bob Rankin, Florence Shackelford*

Dubose Center, Chapel Hill: *Mary Clark*

Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: *Helen Garrison*

The Forest at Duke: *Fran Bryant, Peaches McPherson*

Family and Friends of Church Members and Staff:

Marsha Hussung, sister of Brent Curtis

David Kilpatrick, grandson of Elizabeth High (Air Force, stationed in England)

Patricia Kost, grandmother of Jack Kost

Paul Martin, brother of Beth Neece

Dell McMillian, brother-in-law of Valerie McMillian

Peggy Mordecai, mother of Beth Eisenson

Rosemary Orphys, aunt of Kerry Holbrook

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

Anne Turlington, aunt of Jack Kost

Attention Committee Chairs and Ministry Staff:

Annual Report summaries for the 2017-2018 church year are due to Valerie in the church office by July 31, 2018. Contact Valerie (v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org) if you need help.

Copies of past year summaries are available.

PARISH NOTES

Special thanks to *Marilyn Hedgpeth* and *Sarah Finbow* for their creative work on the foyer bulletin board! Check it out, and feel free to post your group's news and photos!

The **These Days devotional books** for July - September 2018 have arrived. Regular and large print copies are available from the tables in the foyer and narthex. Pick up a copy (free) while supplies last.

Many thanks to *Barbara Buckley* and the "grounds crew" for sprucing up the Memorial Garden and other areas around the church on Saturday, June 16. They put in a great deal of work on a very hot day in preparation for the upcoming Myrtle Fest on July 15. Our grounds look beautiful!

Kudos to *Cris Rivera and Beth Stringfield* and their "kitchen crew" for the wonderful Father's Day/GBCFF Kick-Off luncheon on Sunday, June 17. It was a time of wonderful fellowship and good conversation.

Daytimers enjoyed lunch at Bullock's Barbecue today. Many thanks to *Elizabeth High* for hosting.

GBCFF is $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way over, and it was great to see our four church families mixed together, young and old, to "Serve the Lord with Gladness." Many thanks to those who ventured out from FPC to be good guests at our host churches, Mt. Bethel Presbyterian, Duke Memorial UMC, and Trinity Avenue Presbyterian. FPC will need ALL HANDS ON DECK on Sunday, August 5 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. when we host the GBCFF reunion at Camp New Hope with Iglesia Emanuel's members as our guests. That reunion will include dinner, swimming, crafts, music, and worship. We hope you will join us for that event. Those from FPC who participated this week in GBCFF include: *Elizabeth Klinck; Bob Pleasants and Izzy and Nora Allison-Pleasants; Luke and Ellie Everett; Lenore Champion; Elizabeth High; Pat, Amy, Noah and Rory Dillon; Laura, John, Charlie, Art and Henry Kelley; Sarah and Sadie Finbow; Jo and George Bernhardt; Mark and Kay Nelson; Carter and Griffin Momsen-Hudson; Maryn Leonard; Rebecca Barnes; and Marilyn Hedgpeth.*

During the week of June 18-22, **Step-Up, Durham** conducted a job-training seminar for 25-30 youth who are involved in Partners for Youth Opportunity in Durham. These are two organizations which FPC supports through Service and Mission funding.



A cartoon by **Thilo Fullenkamp** - "Jesus calms the storm" - based on the June 24th sermon. Children are invited to illustrate the sermons they hear on Sunday mornings. Thank you, Thilo!



Please continue to bring **snack crackers, individually packaged fruit, nutrition bars, and regular-sized bottles of water** on **COMMUNION SUNDAYS** for the Walk-in Ministry blessing bags. All donations are very much appreciated.

Sunday, July 1

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. Summer Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion

Sermon: "Just Trust Me" - Peter Hausmann, preaching

Liturgist: **TBD**

Greeter: **Delia Kwon**

After Worship Greeters: **Barbara Buckley** (side/font);

Tyler Momsen-Hudson (rear/narthex)

Ushers: **Julie Whiddon** (head), **TBD** (flowers), **Laurie Williamson**(counting), **Ginny Widmark, Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey, Paul Cornsweet** - Click [here](#) to sign up to usher.

Communion assignments:

Head elder / Replenish elements: Eric Wiebe

Bread:

B1/Process: **Alice Raney**

B2: **George Bernhardt**

B3: **Brent Curtis**

B4: **Jane Williams**

Cup:

C1: **Barbara Buckley**

C2/Process: **Tyler Momsen-Hudson**

C3: **Dewey Lawson**

C4: **Tom Bacon**

Shepherds:

Pulpit aisle: **Sigfried Fullenkamp**

Center aisle: **Gray Wilson**

Font aisle: **Kim Abels**

Sunday, July 8, 2018

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. - Summer Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

Mindy Douglas, preaching

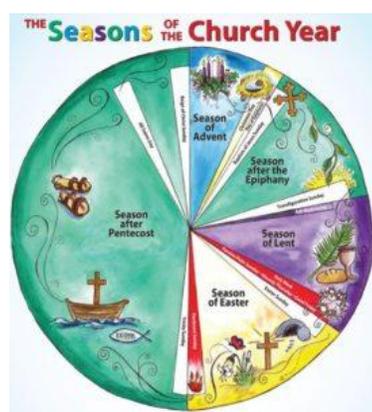
Liturgist: **TBD**

Greeter: *Maxie Honeycutt*

After Worship Greeters: *George Bernhardt* (side/font); *Karen Romines* (rear/narthex)

Ushers: **TBD** - Click [here](#) to sign up to usher.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL



Children and Youth

Summer Theme:

Rock Around the Liturgical Clock

We are observing **Christmas in July**. *Li-Chen Chin, Sheya and Sean* will lead us on **July 1**; and *Joe and Carlisle Harvard and Paul Cornsweet* will facilitate on **July 8** when we will make Christmas art and cookies, crafts and candles to continue our liturgical mash-up for children and youth. We meet in **room 208**.

Adults Summer Study

Faith and Community Class: This summer, we will study three books that have something to do with **faith and resistance**.

This Sunday, July 1, we will conclude our discussion of *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*, by Kate Bowler. Kate tells it straight: the good, the bad, the ugly, and the endearing about wrestling with stage 4 colon cancer as a young person, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Kate is Assistant Professor of the History of Christianity in North America at Duke Divinity School, with expertise in the American Prosperity Gospel. In 2015, she was unexpectedly diagnosed with cancer at age 35. For those struggling to make sense of illness, hers is an honest and refreshing read. Our conversations have been guided by church members who recently have known suffering: *Marcia and David Lorimer, Dawn Carsey and Julie Maxwell*.

Beginning **July 8**, we'll look at Jimmie Carter's latest book, *Faith*, and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove's book *Reconstructing the Gospel: Finding Freedom from Slaveholder Religion*. If you would like to help lead some of the discussions on these Sundays, contact *Marilyn Hedgpeth*. The Faith and Community Class meets on Sunday morning in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45. All are welcome.

Lectionary Class: This year-round class meets at **9:45 in the East Parlor**.

July 1: How is God involved in your life? In healing, restoration, comfort, mercy, grace, abundant generosity? And how are you, in response, involved in furthering God's will?

July 8: The citizens of Israel recognized David's greatness and anointed him as king. The citizens of Nazareth were amazed at Jesus' deeds and actions, but refused to believe in him. How do we respond in the presence of greatness?

Journeys and Scratch/Young Adults Class: Journeys and Scratch **will not meet during the summer**. We will reconvene in early August to decide if we want to continue as a joint group and what subject matter we want to cover next fall. Please join one of the other adult classes for the summer, or help with the children.

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.



Children's Sunday School in the Fall

Coming in September. . . Like a Hurricane, the winds of the Spirit will rotate and swirl activities around each month's story for children and youth. We'll start with the foundational Hebrew Scripture stories of Creation, the Flood, the Exodus, and the Giving of the Law, in addition to the seasonal stories about Jesus, and then enhance the stories by cooking, making lego models, doing drama, singing, playing games, drawing maps,

all to deepen our understanding of each story...and to have fun while we're doing it! It's called the **Rotation Model**, and the Christian Education Committee is excited to be introducing a new wave of energy into the spiritual nurture of our community. Stay tuned for more details.



Youth groups are currently on summer break! Youth conferences are just around the corner! In July, middle schoolers will go to Massanetta Springs and high schoolers will go to Montreat! Watch your e-mailbox for final details if you registered to attend. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Happenings around FPC . . .

BOOK GROUP

Our **July** read will be "*The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*," by Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu and Douglas Abrams. **Marila Stone** will host in her home on **Tuesday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m.** and **Lee Courtland** will lead the discussion. New faces are welcome to join us.

SCRATCH "Tea Time"

Thursday, June 28

4:30 p.m. on the porch at Parker and Otis

No RSVP needed. We'll be there until 6ish so come when you can after work or before dinner.

SCRATCH Brunch Potluck

Saturday, July 7 at 11:00 a.m.

Hosted by *Heather Wallace, Michael Schultz and Juneau*

RSVP to the EVITE. Let Valerie know if you would like to be added to this group's EVITE list.

FIRST FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

Please note and save the dates below for our summer gatherings!

July 14, hosted by the **Wettach/Baldasares** - Watch for the EVITE

August 11, hosted by the **Momsen-Hudsons**

We're planning our **ANNUAL BEACH TRIP for September**; date TBD.

Stay tuned for more information and EVITEs, and we hope to see you there!

Please let Valerie know if you would like to be added to this group's EVITE list.



Myrtle Fest

Join us for an old-fashioned “favorites” hymn sing during the 11:00 a.m. worship on **Sunday, July 15**. Music will be provided by *High Clouds*. Following worship, we will fellowship over a picnic lunch and enjoy more live, homegrown bluegrass music by *High Clouds*. A main meat, a vegetarian alternative, and beverages will be available. Please plan to bring a side dish to share. You

are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs and enjoy this time of fellowship under our beautiful crepe myrtles (weather permitting).

Service and Mission Opportunities . . .

Volunteer needed for Church Map Project

The Emergency Management Team is looking for a volunteer to assist with making some maps for different areas of the building. Please contact Chris Brown (jamesbro@gmail.com) if you're interested in assisting with this project.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORTING NEIGHBORS IN NEED

- Now that school is out, the **Urban Ministries Food Pantry** is getting many more requests for food than normal, and their supplies are running perilously low. They have already cut the allotted amount of food each family can have by half, and they expect to have to drop that amount even more before the weekend. If you would be willing to pick up extra food to donate, please either drop it off at UMD, or take it to First Presbyterian on Sunday. A box labeled for these donations will be near the elevator on Sunday. **The items most needed at this point are:**

**Canned meat Pasta Tomato sauce Cereal Canned Pasta
Mac 'n cheese Peanut Butter**

They have plenty of green beans and soup, so please do not worry about purchasing those things. Thank you for helping meet this critical need!

- FPC is also requesting **new underwear, especially for men, in all sizes**, for the **Urban Ministries Clothing Closet**. Bring your donations to FPC or drop them by Urban Ministries.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



ART EXHIBIT

Now through August 12, 2018

West Raleigh Presbyterian Church is pleased to host a unique photography exhibit by young Palestinian artists and media students from Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture. **Prints** will be available for sale at the exhibit that support the artists and scholarships at Dar al-Kalima University. **For more information, go to: www.brightstarsbethlehem.org.**

West Raleigh Presbyterian Church

27 Horne Street, Raleigh, NC - 919-828-5468

To schedule a tour, email huffstetler.k@gmail.com

Time Out Radio Show with Bill Hendrickson

Monday, July 9 at 5:00 p.m.

Karen Romines will discuss the topic of cancer cure research. The interview will broadcast live on FM 103.5 in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area and elsewhere you can listen via the web at <https://wcomfm.org>.

Resource Center for Women & Ministry in the South

The Art of the Condolence Note

Tuesday, July 10, at 7:00 p.m.

Resource Center for Women

1202 Watts St, Durham

In this workshop attendees will discuss the history of condolence notes and their value for both the recipient and the writer. Facilitator **Carol Henderson** will demonstrate what makes a note successful and show examples of do's and don'ts. Each participant will practice writing a note and leave knowing how to tackle this difficult task.

Carol Henderson is a writer, editor, and workshop leader who has taught in the US, Europe, and the Middle East. She is the author of *Losing Malcolm* and *Farther Along: The Writing Journey of Thirteen Bereaved Mothers*, and edited, among other titles, *Wide Open Spaces: Call Stories*. Learn more about Carol at www.carolhenderson.com.

Cost: \$10 donation to RCWMS appreciated. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Contact: RCWMS, 919-683-1236, rcwmsnc@aol.com

Choral Society Summer Sing (with a social afterwards) Sunday, July 29

**7:30 p.m. at Mt Bethel Presbyterian Church
3541 Rose of Sharon Road, Durham**

This event is open to anyone who likes to sing and is quite informal.



**Durham Interfaith Trip to Israel
October 29 – November 7, 2018**

Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church and Beth El Synagogue of Durham are joining together to explore the Holy Land. Join them as they travel from Bethlehem to Jerusalem, from Tiberias to Tel Aviv, visiting some of the most archeological, historically and spiritually compelling areas of Israel. If you have questions, email: libbyv@gmail.com. **For**

registration information and a full itinerary of the trip, visit this website: <http://www.Israelmaven.com/minisite/durham-interfaith/>

**The next church newsletter will be issued July 10, 2018.
Please submit your articles / news to Valerie in the church office
by Sunday, July 8, 2018.**

July Birthdays

Online Church Calendar

