

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM

*"Downtown by history and by choice"*

## FPC Bi-Weekly Newsletter

April 2 - 15, 2019

### From the Pastor/Head of Staff:

Dear friends,

What a joy it was to celebrate our confirmands this weekend! Thank you to all the teachers, mentors, parents, and especially students who went through and supported this program of learning and growing in faith. These students learned more about God, life, the world, and themselves as they explored what it means to follow Jesus. They learned about loving God, loving neighbor, and Jesus' call to care for the poor and marginalized.

I remember my confirmation very well. Back then, children were not allowed to receive communion until they were confirmed, so Confirmation Sunday was also first communion (and my first taste of wine – another difference from back in the day). I am grateful that children are included in the sacrament of Holy Communion now. I hope for these youth on Sunday the day was memorable because they said their baptismal vows for the first time with their own voices and now carry the promises their parents made for them in their own hearts and will live out those promises in their own lives.

I know God claims and cares for these young people, whether they chose to confess their faith or not. I am grateful that God's promises in Christ extend far beyond our willingness to claim them. I pray that God will watch over our children as they grow into adulthood, and surround them with grace, hope, love, peace, and joy for all their lives.

With love,  
**Mindy**

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## Joys/Concerns

**England**, who died on March 25<sup>th</sup> in California.

**SYMPATHIES:** The love and condolences of the congregation are extended to **Mary-Jo Keenan and Larry Reed** upon the death of Mary-Jo's brother-in-law, **Jerry**

Heartfelt sympathies also extend to **Deems and Patrick Currie and their families** on the death of **William (Bill) Currie**, who died last month in Albemarle, NC. A garden service of Witness to the Resurrection will take place in the FPC Memorial Garden following worship on Sunday, April 7, with reception following.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Howard and Beth Eisenson** on the birth of a grandson, **Milo Christopher Eisenson**, born to Vince Eisenson and Amal Saade

in Silver Spring, MD on March 24; and to **Debbie Hamlin-Aggrey and husband Kwesi Aggrey** upon the birth of their first granddaughter, **Aba**.

**Added this week:**

**Jim Seitzer**, recovering at home following a car accident

**Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss

**UNC Hospital:**

**Ken Chambliss**, father of Will Chambliss

**Recovering at Home:**

**Margaret Mubanga**

**Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett**

**Joseph Ngumi**

**Franzi Rokoske**

**Karen Swope**

**Carolyn and Jim Wolfe**

**Care Communities:**

Brookdale Durham: **Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett**

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

Durham Regent: **John Kerr, Ann Prospero**

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

The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

**Family and Friends of the Congregation:**

**Fran Alwood**, mother of Jennie Alwood

**Bill Bigger**, pastor of Hope Valley Baptist Church, Durham

**Camilla Crampton**, friend of Mal King

**Dolly Douglas**, grandmother of Mindy Douglas

**Wayne Thompson**, colleague of Li-Chen Chin

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**The sanctuary is open on Tuesdays from 12 noon - 12:30 p.m. during Lent for anyone who wishes to come and engage with others in prayer and guided meditation.**

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**NEW MEMBERS:** The following person was received into membership on Sunday, March 17, 2019:

**Laura McNab**

4304 Huntingwood Dr, Raleigh 27606;

843-222-1718; [lhmcnab@gmail.com](mailto:lhmcnab@gmail.com).

Laura is retired. She attended the University of Tennessee and also took classes in places where she lived: Wichita, KS and in Illinois. Laura was born and raised in Knoxville, TN. She moved to Durham from Myrtle Beach in September of 2018. Laura has facilitated an Alzheimer's Caregiver group and has interest in gentle yoga. She is an ordained deacon, and her past church participation includes helping in the church office with proofreading and singing in the

choir. Laura joined by Letter of Transfer.



### **The 2019 Confirmation Class**

**Instructors:** Marilyn Hedgpeth, Kim Abels, Lenore Champion

**The confirmands listed below completed the confirmation class and were received into membership at FPC on March 31, 2019.**

#### **Confirmand & Mentor**

- Lily Brigman & Rob Everett**
- Jake Chambliss & Carl Rist**
- Maggie Chambliss & Lisa Rist**
- Kayla Champion & Danielle Johnson-Webb**
- Anna Compton & Deborah Momsen-Hudson**
- Webb Cummings & Laura Williamson**
- Henry Everett & Mac McCorkle**
- Charlie Kelley & George Bernhardt**
- Maeve McClain-Huslage & Kate Busa**
- Laura McDow & Amy Dillon**
- Jack Williamson & Matt Williamson**

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#### **Participant & Mentor**

- Nathan Bullock & Jennifer Bullock**
- Nathaniel Cole & Jay Klinck**
- Theodore Lucas & Wayne Drummond**
- Lomituzi Mbilika & Lenore Champion**
- Noah Rokoske & Laurie Ray**
- Kasey Snell & Cris Rivera**

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### **NOTES**

**Congratulations** to *Anna Ruth Diy*, daughter of *Carlo and Emily Durham Diy*, who was baptized at FPC on March 24 amidst many family members and friends from near and far.

**Congratulations** to *Vera Cecelski*, who is Historic Stagville's new site

manager!

**KUDOS** to the following who hosted / organized fellowship groups during the month of March:

- **Amy and Gray Wilson**, March 9th, Scratch/Young Adults in their home
- **Harriett Mitchell**, March 26th, Daytimers' Luncheon at Neo-China restaurant
- **Barbara Buckley/Scott Randell**, March 30th, First Friends & Families at their home.

**Book Donations:** Two new books have been donated to the FPC children's collection: *Brother Son, Sister Moon*, a beautifully illustrated version of St. Francis of Assisi's article of the Creatures by Katherine Paterson and Pamela Dalton, given in memory **Amelia Thompson**, a former member of First Presbyterian Church and a devoted educator for 33 years with a special love for children; and *Wondabubba and the Big Splash*, by Gary Giles, the artist who sang and performed at FPC on March 24.

**These Days** devotional books for April - June 2019 have arrived! Pick up a copy (regular or large print) from the tables in the foyer and narthex while supplies last.



### A Response from our Muslim Friends

Dear friends,

Hello. We really appreciated your letter to share our grief on the massacres in Christchurch in New Zealand. This act of terror is an attack on our common and universal values of humanity and is a reminder for us all that it is now more important than

ever to stand in solidarity against violence, hatred, and terror, and work together to build a future free of such hate.

After the recent shootings in New Zealand, one can lose hope for humanity's future and the universal values of love, compassion, acceptance and tolerance, but we are still hopeful for the contrary, as we observe the kindness New Zealanders and people from other countries show toward Muslims and other walks of faith. As one of the handwritten cards in New Zealand said, "Love always wins over hate".

A heartfelt love to all of you from us.

### **The Divan Center Family**

1391 SE Maynard Road  
Cary, NC 27511



**Thank you** to those of you who contributed to the college student care packages spring project. Because of your generous giving, we have sufficient donations to fill the packages. We no longer need donations. If you still have donations, consider giving them to the Walk-in Ministry for blessing bags.

## SESSION BRIEFS

The Session met on March 25, 2019, beginning the meeting with the examination of two confirmands who could not attend the earlier Called Meeting for this purpose, and hearing a report from Mindy about the upcoming training for new officers. Several motions were approved during the meeting, all to improve safety of the facility and the congregation: for the spending of Capital Campaign Funds for new tempered glass doors to the foyer, and for handrails for the chancel steps; and for contracting with a security company for Easter Sunday services. The Session also voted to endorse and send a letter to neighboring Muslim congregations expressing support following the violence in Christ Church, New Zealand.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Christyn Klinck**, Clerk of Session

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## **SCHEDULE FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS**

**Ordination and/or installation date** will be **Sunday, June 2, 2019**. Those who have been previously ordained in the PC (USA) to the office to which you have been elected will only have to be installed. Others will be ordained and installed.

**Your term officially starts June 2**, even if you must be ordained/installed at a later make-up date.

**Officer training** – Please reserve the following dates for training:

**Sunday, April 14**, following worship – 12:30-2 p.m.. Lunch provided. We will meet in the East and Wilson parlors.

**Sunday, April 28**, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Lunch provided. Location TBD.

**Sunday, May 5**, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Lunch provided. Location TBD.

We will be doing our training with the new officers at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church, so at least one meeting will be at that location. Details to follow!

**Examination by the Session: May 20, 2019**, 6:30 dinner in the Fellowship Hall, 7-7:30 p.m. meet with the Session in the East Parlor.

First meeting: **Monday, June 24**. Deacons will meet at 6 p.m. in the East Parlor. Combined officer dinner is at 6:30 (\$8 donation will cover costs of the food, prepared by **Cris Rivera** and **Beth Stringfield**). The Session meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. in the East Parlor.

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**EASTER LILIES** will grace our sanctuary on Easter Sunday (April 21). If you would like to honor or remember someone in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, **please fill out a lily donor card** (available from the church) **and return it with your donation** (any amount) to the Church office. Make check payable to **First Presbyterian**

**Church**, memo: Lilies. Funds leftover after the lilies are paid for will be added to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. The deadline to participate is **Sunday**,

## **Sunday, April 7 5th Sunday in Lent**

**9:45 a.m. Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. Worship and Communion**

Mindy Douglas, preaching

**The Children's Choir will sing this Sunday during worship. Kathy will gather them after Sunday School. They will have practice following worship in the choir room as usual.**

**Remember to bring your blessing bags or supplies on Sundays during Lent.**

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Liturgist: **Cris Rivera**

Narthex Greeter: **Delia Kwon**

After Worship Greeters: **Lenore Champion** (narthex/rear);

**Brent Curtis** (side/font)

**Ushers needed. [Click here to sign up to usher.](#)**

### **Communion Elders:**

Head, replenish elements: **Leah Graves**

Bread: **Gray Wilson** (B1/process), **Diane Prosser** (B2), **Cris Rivera** (B3),  
**Miriam Morey** (B4)

Cup: **Mal King** (C1), **Raymond Mbah** (C2/process), **Brent Curtis** (C3),  
**Delia Kwon** C4)

Shepherds: **Libby Gulley**(font aisle), **Andy Henry** (center aisle), **Sigfried Fullenkamp** (pulpit aisle)

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## **Sunday, April 14**

### **Palm/Passion Sunday**

**9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt** in FPC's foyer; for young children

**9:45 a.m. No Sunday School** - Hot Cross Buns and Coffee Fellowship in Watts-Hill Hall

**10:15 a.m. Palm Parade** with our neighbors from Trinity United Methodist

and St. Philip's Episcopal churches, waving palm branches and blessing each congregation's ministries. Then we will return to our respective sanctuaries for worship.

**11:00 a.m. Worship** designed to remember Christ's passion through lessons and hymns.

**Remember to bring blessing bags or supplies on Sundays during Lent.**

Liturgist: **Jennie Alwood**

Narthex Greeters: **Maxie Honeycutt, El Hess**

After Worship Greeters: **Andy Henry** (narthex/rear);

**Chris Brown** (side/font)

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

Communion Elders:

Head elder/replenish elements: **Griffin Momsen-Hudson**

Bread: **Chris Brown** (B1, process), **Alice Raney** (B2), **Carol Carson** (B3),  
**Karen Romines** (B4)

Cup: **Lenore Champion** (C1), **Tom Bacon** (C2, process), **Barbara Buckley**  
(C3), **George Bernhardt** (C4)

Shepherds: **Kim Abels** (center aisle), **Libby Gulley** (pulpit aisle), **Tyler**  
**Momsen-Hudson** (font aisle)



## **Maundy Thursday - April 18**

**7:00 p.m. at FPC**

All are welcome to join us for a joint worship service with Covenant Presbyterian Church (**at FPC**) that commemorates Jesus' last meal with his disciples and concludes with the stripping of the chancel. Childcare will be provided. Supper (**no charge**) will be

available at 6:00 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall.

## **Good Friday - April 19**

**12 Noon - Stations of the Cross**

This spiritual pilgrimage takes us through the Holy Week texts in Durham's downtown context, beginning at St. Philip's Episcopal Church and ending inside FPC's sanctuary.

## **Easter Sunday - April 21**

**No Sunday School**

**8:30 a.m. Worship in FPC's Memorial Garden**

**9:00 a.m. Worship and Communion**

**10:00 a.m. Fellowship Brunch** (in Watts-Hill Hall)

**11:00 a.m. Worship and Communion**

The **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** will be received at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship. Specially marked envelopes will be provided for this offering. Please give generously. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering provides relief to the hungry, poor and oppressed, and those affected by natural disasters. If you will not be here on Easter Sunday and would like to give to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, you can give online by clicking [here](#).

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL and other study opportunities**

### **Children's Sunday School (grades 3-6)**

We have been trying out a new rotation model of Sunday School, which allows our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders opportunities to experience the foundational stories of the Old Testament in many different ways through drama, art, games, LEGOS, music, cooking, gardening, etc. It has been great fun for the students and for the teaching teams! We have been making Ukrainian Easter Eggs, which is an intensive (but beautiful) three-week process. The class meets in **room 201** of the education

building at 9:45. (Bring friends and join us!)

**On Palm Sunday, April 14, there will be an Easter Egg hunt for the children at 9:30 in the foyer; hot cross buns for everyone in Watts-Hill Hall; and the Palm Parade around the block beginning at 10:15.**

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### **Adult "Faith & Community" -**

After watching the fabulous PBS documentary, *Howard Thurman: Backs Against the Wall*, we continue our Lenten study of Thurman's seminal work, *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Howard Thurman (1900 -1981) was an African American author, philosopher, theologian, mystic, and social justice leader, **Howard Thurman**, whose theology of radical nonviolence shaped, and still shapes, many civil rights leaders. The class will conclude the study this **Sunday, April 7**, with **Rev. Wilson Gunn** leading the final chapter on "Love". In writing his book to provide succor and strength from Jesus to those who needed it most, Thurman says, "Armed resistance is apt to be a tragic last resort in the life of the disinherited. ... Jesus chose another alternative: The kingdom of heaven is in us." (p. 15) All are welcome to join this class discussion. We meet on Sunday mornings in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45.

An additional opportunity to read and discuss Thurman's book will be on Fridays, room 205, from noon – 1 p.m., March 8 – April 12 (excluding April 5<sup>th</sup>), facilitated by **Marilyn Hedgpeth**. If you are not familiar with Thurman, this is a great opportunity to become familiar with this founding father of the civil rights movement.

**Faith and Community will not meet on April 14<sup>th</sup> or April 21 due to Palm Sunday and Easter Services on those dates.** However. We will have a reception during the Sunday School hour on April 14<sup>th</sup>, with coffee and hot cross buns, before the Palm Parade around the block to our neighboring churches begins at 10:15. And we will have a light brunch between the 9:00 and 11:00 services on Easter Sunday, April 21. So plan to come and enjoy conversing with your friends during Holy Week.

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### **Adult Lectionary Class -**

**April 7:** Tears turned into shouts of joy? Rivers in the desert? A proud, pious Pharisee ready to give up everything for Jesus? God is definitely doing a new thing. Are you ready for it? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

No Sunday School on **April 14** (Palm/Passion Sunday) or **April 21** (Easter)

**April 28:** Alleluia! The resurrection has happened, and everything is different now. But some have not understood or accepted the message. How can it be presented in a way that will convince the doubters?

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**Adult Journeys & Scratch -** This weekend Journeys/Scratch will discuss the Flannery O'Connor story *Many O'Connor stories* have been referenced as examples of Walter Brueggemann's *Prophetic Imagination*. Although not required for engaging in this discussion, some people might find the following article instructive on relating O'Connor and Brueggemann: "Flannery O'Connor's *Prophetic Imagination*," by Karl Martin (*Religion & Literature*, Vol. 26, No. 3

(Autumn, 1994), pp. 33-58): [https://www.jstor.org/stable/40059594?seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/40059594?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents) (you can read 4 articles from JSTOR without subscribing). All are welcome to join this class which meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 in **room 205** of the education building.

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**Women's Spiritual Formation - Susan Dunlap** leads this class for women in the **basement parlor** at 9:45. This class is a great support system of sharing and prayer for women.

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**The Thoughtful Christian** - This class uses *The Thoughtful Christian* study guides. It meets in the **apartment classroom**, upstairs in the church house at 9:45. It is designed for parents of children and youth. **Mindy Douglas** leads this class. New faces are welcome.

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**Friday Book Study** – The Friday Book Study welcomes all who want to journey through Lent using Howard Thurman's classic work, *Jesus and the Disinherited*. **This Friday, April 5, we will not be meeting**, but on **Friday, April 12**, we will look at chapter 4, *Hate*, described by Thurman as one of the "three hounds of hell". We also will take a look at some of Thurman's beautiful devotional writings. The class meets from noon - 1 p.m. in room 205 of the education building, and all are welcome.

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Hooray to all of our confirmands, mentors, and teachers who have pressed on towards the goal to win the prize of completing the confirmation process! It was so impressive to see the group of 16 confirmands, mentors and teachers standing before the congregation on Sunday, March 31, dressed in their colorful "faith word" t-shirts. Faith, Hope and Love carried the day as many proud parents and grandparents rejoiced in this milestone moment with their youth. Thanks to everyone who made this high point possible: **the Session**, which met with the confirmands over dinner on March 19; **Cris Rivera**, who prepared that dinner for us; to **Rob Everett** and the other parents who brought food and beverages for the "doughnut extravaganza" reception following worship; to **Robert Daye**, who helped with the reception, **Valerie McMillian**, who prepared certificates for everyone; and to **parents** who helped clean up after the party was over. It was certainly a joyful day, and a season to celebrate.

The **New Creed** composed by the confirmands, using their faith words, is as follows:

- I believe that *hope* in God brings good things and lifts our spirits. (**Maeve**)
- I believe that God encourages *curiosity* and wants us to ask questions. (**Webb**)
- I believe that Jesus is our living *hope*. (**Jake**, from 1 Peter 1: 3-6)
- I believe grace is God's way of teaching us how to treat each other. (**Maggie**)
- I believe that *hope* is a universal feeling for all people and that all can experience something that can tie into the love of God. (**Henry**)
- I believe that God has *faith* in me, and that I have *faith* in God, too. (**Lomi**)
- Belief in God gives me *hope*, that there is always something better to look forward to. (**Jack**)

I believe that to “*run* with perseverance the race set before us” means to hold onto our beliefs, and that running is calming. (**Nathaniel** and **Charlie**, from Hebrews 12:1)

I believe that God wants us to *hope*, and to expect a favorable future. (**Lily**)

I believe that God is all-*loving*. (**Kayla**)

I believe that in times of darkness, it is very important to *hope* in God. (**Laura**)

God is *love*, or I believe that Jesus *loves* me. (**Anna**)

Two of our class members, **Nathan Bullock** and **Theodore Lucas**, are being confirmed at Covenant Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 7, at 10:00 a.m. Any who would like to celebrate with them are invited to Covenant on Sunday for worship and a reception afterwards!

What’s next for the confirmands? High schoolers will join the on-going Sunday School class taught by **John Weicher** and **Emily Hansel**, and middle schoolers will meet in the youth room with **Lucie and Wayne House** (and Eloise), **Lenore Champion** and **Kim Abels**. Let’s keep a good thing going!

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### Scratch / Young Adults Lenten Study

**Sunday, April 7** (last one)

Scratchers and young adults are invited to come enjoy tea and study the Gospel of Matthew during this Lenten season. This study is hosted by **Elizabeth Klinck and Matthew Eggleston** (2210 Sparger Road, Durham) from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.



Click [here](#) to view the Middle School calendar for Winter/Spring 2019

Click [here](#) to view the High School calendar for Winter/Spring 2019



*dmomsenudson@gmail.com*

· **9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Keep Durham Beautiful litter pickup at Long Meadow Park** (See details below)

Organizer: **Julie Maxwell** – 919-699-4580, *juliepmax@hotmail.com*

### ***Keep Durham Beautiful***

As part of our Spring Day of Service, FPC will partner with Keep Durham Beautiful and pick up litter in Long Meadow Park on Saturday, April 6. We are welcoming all ages for this great opportunity to tidy up our city together. Keep Durham Beautiful will supply gloves, grabbers and bags. We will meet at the park at 9:30 a.m. to begin with a quick orientation and work until 11:30. Long Meadow Park is at 917 Liberty Street which is just past the intersection of Liberty and Alston Avenue. There is parking available at the park. Please contact **Julie Maxwell** to sign up or if you have any questions. We will organize carpools from the church parking lot if anyone needs a ride down Liberty Street.



### **The 45th Durham CROP Hunger Walk**

**Sunday, April 7**

Community activities begin at 1:30 on the Chapel lawn. FPC walkers should meet in front of Duke Chapel at 2:15 (wearing your CROP Walk t-shirt) for a group photo. Step off at 2:30 p.m. from Duke Chapel.

Not able to walk this year? Support FPC's team by sponsoring a walker. Please make checks payable to Durham CROP Walk and give to the person you are sponsoring. For more information about this event, go to: <http://durhamcropwalk.org/the-walk/>. To sign up to walk and/or make a donation to an FPC walker, go online to: <https://goo.gl/6S4VcN>. Contact **Jody Maxwell**, FPC's coordinator, if you have questions: *jodymaxwell3@hotmail.com* or 919-640-6126.

### **Urban Ministries of Durham needs our help!**

Urban Ministries' food pantry and clothing closet are low on some specific items, and they would be most grateful for any donations to help replenish their supplies. If you are willing to pick up any of the items below, you may drop them off at the front desk of Urban Ministries (Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.), or drop them off at FPC on your next trip to FPC (container in foyer) and **Margaret Rubiera** will deliver them to Urban Ministries for you. Here are the specific items needed:

- Pasta, Pasta Sauce
- Canned Fruit, Corn
- Small Lotions
- Men's Boxer Briefs (size Medium)
- Boy's Underwear (sizes 6 & 8).

### **FIRST FRIENDS AND FAMILIES**

- **April 27** at the home of **Jane Wettach and Paul Baldasare**
- **May 18** at **Jancy Johnstone's** home on the lake

## PRIMETIMERS COVERED DISH SUPPER

**Save the Date: Saturday, April 13**

6:30 p.m. at the Widmark's home - 809 Hermitage Court Drive

Please respond to the EVITE.

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## SENIORS SPRING LUNCHEON

**Save the Date: Wednesday, April 17**

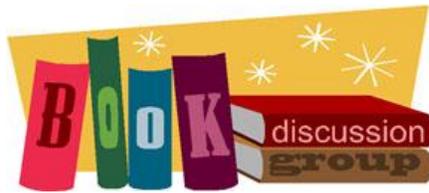
12 Noon (gather at 11:30 a.m.)

More details forthcoming!

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## SCRATCH / YOUNG ADULTS

- **April 13 - Potluck** 10:30 a.m. (Saturday) - *Andy and Cherrie Henry's* home (Palm Cross folding) - Please respond to the EVITE.
  - **April 26-27** - (Easy) Campout at Camp New Hope. Click [here](#) for the camping details. Remember to respond to the EVITE.
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## BOOK GROUP

**Tuesday, April 9**

at *Hendrika Vande Kemp's* home  
(5511 Grand Mesa Drive, Durham)

**Join us in a discussion of the Book:** *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance - A new History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power* by *Danielle McGuire*. **Emily Wilkins** will lead the discussion. Contact Hendrika if you will join us: [hendrika@earthlink.net](mailto:hendrika@earthlink.net).

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## Coming This Summer: GBCFF

(Great Big Church Family Festival)

Sunday evenings from 5:30 – 7:30, **June 9th, July 7th** and **August 4th**. FPC will host the June event; Trinity Avenue Presbyterian, July; and Mt. Bethel Presbyterian, August. **GBCFF this year will be geared towards service projects that we can**

**do together as a family, young and old.** So, if your youth needs summer service hours, they can acquire those by helping prepare for the evening and participating in the event (perhaps 3 hours of service per event). We will eat dinner together, as is our custom, and we'll share a Bible story and sing some songs. But most of the time we will be working on an array of service projects, like: preparing hurricane kits; making and packing lunches for Urban Ministries and Open Table; making blessing bags; gathering supplies for our Armed Forces; packing backpacks with school supplies; etc. So the \$10/\$30 cost covers dinner, plus supplies for the projects.

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- There will be a meeting of the Racial Equity Task Force in the Wilson Parlor following church on **Sunday, April 7**. Please join us if you are interested in learning more about Racial Equity and how to bring more awareness.
- The Racial Equity Institute (REI) has updated their workshop schedule. Click [\*here\*](#) to see the latest workshop offerings.

## COMMUNITY INVITATIONS

**Faith Connections on Mental Illness** would like to have a representative from FPC at their monthly meetings, the second Monday of each month at St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church in Chapel Hill from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 13. Please contact the church office if you might be interested.

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### **A Conversation with Jaki Shelton Green**

On **Sunday, April 7 at 6:00 p.m.**, Chapel in the Pines is delighted to welcome North Carolina Poet Laureate Jaki Shelton Green for the concluding conversation in our 2019 Lenten series, "Finding Ourselves in the Story of Race."

Ms. Green will read from her recent work and engage with the audience in a dialogue about race, faith, loss, and hope, concluding with a dinner in Chapel in the Pines' fellowship hall.

This event is free and open to the public. Childcare will be provided for visitors' children under the age of 4. Donations will be collected to support the artist.

For more information visit [\*citppc.org\*](http://citppc.org)

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### **The Racial Equity Institute Presents "A Groundwater Approach to Racial Equity"**

Sponsored by Organizing Against Racism (OAR Durham), Duke Memorial UMC, and Central Park School for Children

Register [\*here\*](#).

**When:** Saturday, April 13th, 2019, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Doors open at 8:15.

**Cost:** \$5-30 sliding scale (childcare and light refreshments provided).

**Where:** Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, 504 W Chapel Hill St, Durham, NC 27701.

**What:** In the three-hour 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.

1. Racial inequity looks the same across systems.

2. Socio-economic difference does not explain the racial inequity.
3. Systems contribute significantly to disparities.
4. The systems-level disparities cannot be explained by a few 'bad apples' or ill-intentioned gatekeepers.
5. Poor outcomes are concentrated in certain geographic communities; usually poor communities and communities of color.
6. An analysis that includes race often draws starkly different conclusions than one that does not.

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### **SPECIAL EVENT AT FPC**

**“Disrupted: Stories of Eviction and Health”  
is a photography exhibition and storytelling event  
exploring the impact of eviction notices  
on tenants' health and wellbeing.**

**Monday, April 15, 6-7:30 PM in Watts-Hill Hall**

The Coalition for Affordable Housing and Transit, People's Alliance's Affordable Housing Action Team, and Karla Jimenez-Magdaleno will be hosting a community discussion about evictions and health, and space to address Durham's housing crisis. Tenants featured in the photographs will be there to share their stories. Everyone is welcome to join and bring their own stories and ideas to help address housing instability. Even if you're there to listen, your presence is power in itself. Refreshments will be served.

Please R.S.V.P. here so that we can ensure we have enough food and accommodate dietary restrictions: [go.unc.edu/eviction-health](http://go.unc.edu/eviction-health)

**FRIDAY  
4.5.19**

8:30 am – 4:15 pm  
St. Thomas More  
Catholic Church  
940 Carmichael Street  
Chapel Hill, NC

HOPE AND HEALING:

**Faith Communities  
and the Suicide Crisis**

Faith Connections on Mental Illness is sponsoring the 9th annual conference about our faith communities' responses to the suicide crisis.

- This conversation will be initiated by **The Rev. Rachel Keefe**, who will present how faith communities can respond morally and ethically to this mental health challenge. Rev. Keefe's book, "The Lifesaving Church: Faith Communities and Suicide Prevention" will be featured.
- **Betsy Rhodes** will highlight how faith communities can offer hope to those living with suicidal thoughts.
- **Dr. Joseph Williams** will discuss the mental health issues facing those incarcerated in our local jails and prisons, including suicide.
- **Rev. John P. Oliver** will present methods and challenges for engaging clergy to foster mental health resiliency for our faith communities.
- The last session of the conference will consist of a panel discussion based on the experiences of the four main speakers.

For more information check out the conference [brochure](#). **Space is limited.**

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**SAVE THE DATE**

## **FUNDRAISER FOR IGLESIA EMANUEL**

**Saturday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Trinity Avenue Presbyterian, Durham**

**Iglesia Emanuel** is planning another special fundraising Dinner and Celebration of their ministries, in the fellowship hall of Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church. Please plan to come and show your support to our sister church as they expand the many ways they are impacting the Hispanic community. Want to help with the planning process? Contact **Miguel or Margaret Rubiera** at [miguelrubiera1@gmail.com](mailto:miguelrubiera1@gmail.com) or [margaretmr29@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmr29@gmail.com).

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**The next church newsletter will be issued on Tuesday, April 16.**

**Please submit your articles to Valerie in the church office**

**by Sunday, April 14.**

**April 2019 Birthdays**

**Online Church Calendar**



**Visit our website**