

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM

"Downtown by history and by choice"

FPC Weekend Reminders

May 28, 2019

From the Associate Pastor/Acting Head of Staff:

Dear friends,

Thought #1: Did you know that Thomas Jefferson created an alternative witness to Jesus Christ, using a sharp instrument like a penknife, to cut and paste his own version of the New Testament in order to distinguish it from “the corruption of schismatizing followers”? Jefferson, along with many of the founding fathers, were Deists, who found much of the written witness to Jesus from the four Gospel writers to be untrustworthy. So Jefferson sifted the New Testament to forge and reflect “the most sublime and benevolent code of morals which has never been offered.” He created his own canon within the larger canon of Scripture that he believed to be “believable!”

Thought #2: Do you know how many keys are on a standard piano? Modern pianos and keyboards have 52 white keys and 36 black keys, making a total of 88 keys. Prior to the piano, the harpsichord had only 60 keys. But when composers like Haydn and Mozart appeared, the piano was expanded to today’s 88 keys so they could write and play more interesting music with a wider range.

Thought #3: This summer, FPC will be taking a liturgical “D-tour” to explore the many texts of the Hebrew Scriptures and New Testament that have been omitted from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), years A, B & C, which we use regularly on a three year rotation. As those texts with which we have become so familiar only comprise about one third of the entirety of the Bible, we essentially have created our own Jefferson Bible in using only our “favorite” texts and stories; or we have only been playing 29 keys of the piano, when there are 59 more at our disposal.

Therefore...welcome to Year D, a supplement (for the brave) to years A, B & C of the RCL, which includes many of the omitted and challenging texts of the Bible. They might make us uncomfortable, and they might make us squirm, but these texts, too, are “the Word of the Lord, thanks be to God.” Some of what you will notice during our brief foray for ten weeks this summer will be lessons from the apocalyptic discourse, Jesus’ disputations with the religious authorities, and the passion narratives themselves. We’ll begin on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, with some passages you might not immediately associate with Pentecost. The Lectionary Class will study the texts during Sunday School, and many of our summer preachers will be using them to preach. The goal of the Year D project is “to make the Word of God fully known.” Let’s listen together for what the Spirit might be saying to the church!

See you on Sunday, June 2, for the Ordination and Installation of our new officers, and for the recognition of our high school graduates, and on June 9, for a Pentecost

month of May: **May 18: Jancy Johnstone** hosted **First Friends** at her home in Hillsborough; **May 28: Chuck and Linda Barenchi** hosted the **Daytimers'** Luncheon at Bennett Pointe Grill today with 17 attending.

- Many thanks to the **Membership Committee** and to teachers **David Smith, Sam Miglarese** and **Marilyn Hedgpeth** for leading the three-part Membership Inquiry Class this month. Those interested in membership at FPC can join at any point during the year. Just contact one of the pastors if you are interested in joining.
- Many thanks to **Mac McCorkle** and **Robert Brawley** for giving two thought-provoking presentations on Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the Faith and Community Class in May.
- Kudos to **Sigfried Fullenkamp** and his friends who brought the "Riverside Robot" to visit the children at Parents' Night Out on May 19th. They also brought a 3D printer, and made souvenirs for the children. Our next family-friendly event will be GBCFF at FPC on Sunday, June 9 from 5:30 – 7:30. Summer is a great time to build connections with those you don't see when school is out!

FPC accepting applications for the Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families position

Our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) is well underway with its work. We have published our Ministry Information form (MIF) on the official Presbyterian job site and are now accepting applications. If you would like to recommend candidates for this position, please direct them to our MIF (<https://tinyurl.com/APNC-Youth>) or share your thoughts with **Kim Abels**, APNC chair, by sending an email to: apnc-youth@firstpres-durham.org.



Ordination and/or installation of new elders and deacons: This Sunday, June 2
(during worship)

Thank you to the Class of 2019 elders and deacons for a job well done!

First Official Meeting for new elders and deacons: Monday, June 24

6:00 p.m. The Diaconate (Deacons) will meet in the East Parlor

6:30 p.m. Dinner in Watts-Hill Hall with all officers (\$8 for the meal)

7:00 p.m. The Session (Elders) will meet in the East Parlor



The Annual Report Summary deadline is approaching! Committee Chairs and program staff are asked to submit their annual report summary (by email) to **Valerie** in the church office by **May 31, 2019**. If you need help or more time to complete your summary, please let Valerie know. Thank you.

Sunday, June 2
7th Sunday of Easter

- **The Membership Committee will meet in the East Parlor immediately following worship.**
- **Racial Equity Task Force will meet in the Wilson Parlor immediately following worship** . If you have any interest in joining us, or if you have any ideas or questions for us, come meet with us. We always welcome new members (we can never have too many for this important work)!
- FPC will lead a worship service with **Communion at The Forest at Duke** at 2:00 p.m.

9:45 a.m. Sunday School End-of-Year Breakfast Celebration and Teacher Appreciation

11:00 a.m. Worship with Ordination and Installation of Officers along with the Recognition (and blessing) of 2019 graduates

Liturgist: *Amy Wilson*

Narthex Greeter: *Delia Kwon*

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



Sunday, June 9

9:45 a.m. Summer Sunday School begins
11:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion

- **Youth will be commissioned** during worship for summer conferences, service projects, and mission trips.
- **Remember to bring blessing bag supplies** to worship as a way of extending the Lord's Table to the community.
- **Wear Pentecost colors:** red, yellow, orange!
- The **Pentecost Offering will be received**, which allows Presbyterians to invest in the faith formation (mind, body and spirit) of children, youth, and young adults. Please give generously!

Liturgist: *Jane Wettach*

Narthex Greeters: *Maxie Honeycutt, El Hess*

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

Communion Elders: ***Email [forthcoming with assignments](#)***



Sunday, June 16
Father's Day Celebration

You are invited to "Dine with Dad" at FPC following worship. A special menu is planned with dads in mind. Make a reservation for your family by completing the meal reservation slip in Sunday's bulletin and placing it in the offering plate, or respond to

Sunday, June 30 – Myrtlefest

11:00 a.m.

Worship with an old-fashioned hymn sing followed by a picnic under our beautiful crepe myrtles

Beginning this Sunday, June 2, you will be invited to submit the name of one or two of your favorite hymns, which we hope to include as part of a hymn sing in worship on June 30th. Following worship on June 30, we will fellowship over a picnic potluck lunch and enjoy more music by a mandolin player. A main meat and beverages will be provided by the church. Plan to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship under our beautiful crepe myrtles!

SUNDAY SCHOOL and other study opportunities



Teacher Appreciation Breakfast and Fellowship for Everyone

Sunday, June 2

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Watts-Hill Hall

Breakfast, Banners, and Bubbles

Recognition and gifts for of this year's Sunday School Teachers

Sign-up for Summer Sunday School

Sponsored by FPC's Christian Education Committee

Summer Sunday School for Children

Yes – we will continue to provide Christian nurture and instruction for our youngest members from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. during the summer, even though we may be a little more laid-back in the way we offer each class. This summer, beginning **June 9**, we will begin a series based on great new children's literature with a theological twist to how we interpret each book. Some of the books to be featured include: *Who's My Neighbor?*, by Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso; *Chickens Build a Wall*, by Jean-Francois Dumont; *Three Bears in a Boat*, by David Soman; and *Wangari's Trees of Peace*, by Jeanette Winter. At the end of the summer, these books will be added to our FPC Children's Collection, upstairs in the Education Building. Each week we'll read, discuss, do a craft, have a snack, and play. We love having youth helping out with the younger children over the summer. Sign-ups to lead these user-friendly classes have begun.

Adult "Faith & Community" -

On **June 2**, the class is invited to join the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45. We will celebrate our many faithful teachers, present them with gifts, and do some fun inter-generational activities together before worship. Regular classes are suspended that morning, so everyone can come together for breakfast and rejoicing.

Over the summer, the Faith and Community class will be reading and discussing together Bryan Stevenson's book, *Just Mercy*, as part of Mindy's sabbatical on

“Breaking Down the Dividing Walls: Truth-telling, Reparations, and Racial Equity”. Beginning on **June 9**, class discussions will be led by pastors and members of the Racial Equity Team. The study will conclude with a panel discussion that will include panelists from the community with knowledge of and experience with mass incarceration and the redemptive potential of justice and mercy. **Diane Standaert** will lead the discussions on **June 9** and **June 16**. Copies of *Just Mercy* will be available for free for those wishing to read along and participate in the class.

Adult Lectionary Class -

June 2: (no class: Teacher Appreciation)

June 9: On Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, but what exactly does that mean? Does the Spirit bring fluency in languages, or insight into the Gospel message, or even the breath of life itself? Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.

Adult Journeys & Scratch -

June 2: All classes celebrate in Watts -Hill Hall at 9:45.

June 9: Journeys and Scratch will continue discussing Phillip Roth's short story – *Conversion of the Jews*. This [link](#) provides a copy of the story. The class will also discuss possible topics for the upcoming Sunday School year. Join us at 9:45 in **room 205** of the Education Building.

Women’s Spiritual Formation Class -

Susan Dunlap leads this class (year-round) for women. It meets in the **basement parlor** at 9:45. **On June 2: no class. We will join other adult classes in Watts-Hill hall for teacher appreciation.** This class is a great support system of sharing and prayer for women.

The Thoughtful Christian Class -

This class meets in the apartment classroom, upstairs in the church house, but is **taking a break until Mindy returns** from her sabbatical. Participants are encouraged to join another class for the summer.

GREAT BIG CHURCH FAMILY FESTIVAL 6/9, 7/7, 8/4 5:30-7:30 PM

SUMMER '19

MASSANETTA JUNE 25-28 TRIENNium JULY 15-20 MONTREAT JULY 21-27

YOUTH MINISTRIES CALENDAR FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DURHAM ALL NON-TRIPS FOR 5TH-12TH GRADE

HANGING OUT @ PELICAN'S SNOBALLS) TUESDAYS, 5-6 PM, 3217 N. ROXBORO ST. JUNE 18 & 25 JULY 2, 9, 16, 23 (TBD) & 30 AUGUST 6, 13, 20 & 27 (TBD)

SERVING AT THE CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH SUNDAY, JUNE 16 - LOOK FOR DETAILS

 YOUTH ROOM CREATIVE MASTERPIECE & PARLOUR ICE CREAM, JULY 11, 6:30-9 PM

ENO RIVER STATE PARK HIKE & SWIM AUGUST 11, 12:15-5 PM

FRIENDS WELCOME, JESUS LOVES YOU, DINNER PROVIDED FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM & SNAPCHAT.

PELICAN'S SNOBALLS HANGOUT:

TUESDAYS, 5-6 PM, ALL SUMMER LONG

RISING 6TH GRADERS THRU GRADUATED SENIORS

3217 N. ROXBORO ST., DURHAM

JUNE 18 & 25

JULY 2, 9, 16, 23 (TBD) & 30

AUGUST 6, 13, 20 & 27 (TBD)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DURHAM YOUTH MINISTRIES FRIENDS WELCOME - JESUS LOVES YOU - SWEAR ICE IS YUMMY

Service and Mission / Pastoral Care Opportunities

Needed: The Prison Ministry Support Team is looking for a queen bed and mattress for our partner, Omar. A good sleeper sofa might also work. If you have one to donate please contact [Libby Gulley](#) (call 919-490-6600).

Needed: a room to rent for a few months this summer for a single female member of the congregation.

Needed: a ride to and from church for *Margaret Eme* who lives at Williams Place on East Carver Street in Durham.

Contact [Marilyn Hedgpeth](#) (call 919-682-5511 x 220) if you can help with a room or a ride.

Upcoming Events

Winesdays at the Co-op!

A few FPC fellowshippers have been gathering at the Durham Co-op Market (1111 W. Chapel Hill St.) at the kind invitation of *Cris Rivera*. Join us in sharing wine and breaking bread in a more casual setting **TOMORROW, Wednesday, May 29 from 1:30 - 7:00 p.m.** We plan to meet on the third Thursday of each month beginning in June. Stay tuned!

- Cost is \$3 for wine tasting and then we each usually pitch in on an assortment of bread, cheese and other light dinner snacks to share.
- We usually eat outside which is lovely, weather cooperating.
- Email or text [Laurie Williamson](#) if you plan to join us: 919-724-1682

FREE CONCERT . . .
Saturday, June 1

THE FAURE REQUIEM

“Cantique de Jean Racine”
and works by **John Rutter**
at First Presbyterian Church

PRESENTED BY THE CHOIRS OF:
ST PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
& FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WITH ORCHESTRA AND ORGAN

SATURDAY—June 1—AT 3 PM

FIRSTPRES-DURHAM.ORG/FAURE-CONCERT/

3:00 p.m
in the FPC sanctuary

The **joint choirs of St. Philip's Episcopal and First Presbyterian churches** will present a Spring Concert featuring the Fauré Requiem, one of the most beautiful and beloved works in the choral repertoire. The concert, accompanied by orchestra and organ, will also include anthems by John Rutter. **The concert is open to the public** and is made possible by a gift from the **Horst and Ruth Mary Meyer Fund for Music and Gardens**. Please invite your friends.

COME SERVE WITH US!



Great Big Church Family Festival

love God, love your neighbor

a collaborative, intergenerational fellowship
and service adventure of Durham churches

When & Where: 5:30 to
7:30pm

Sun June 9
at First Presbyterian Church

Sun July 7
at Mt. Beth El Presbyterian

Sun Aug 4
at Trinity Ave Presbyterian



What: A chance each night for our church communities to share dinner, hear a Scripture story, play games, & work on service projects.

Families: \$10 per night
or \$25 for all 3 nights

Individuals: \$5 per night
or \$12 for all 3 nights

Questions or need more info?

Contact Marilyn Hedgpeth at m.hedgpeth@firstpres-durham.org



FOR INTERESTED
YOUTH

Community Service Hours
forms will be available.

GBCFF brought to you by:

- First Presbyterian Church
- Mt. Bethel Presbyterian Church
- Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church

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. The fee covers dinner, plus supplies for the projects. On FPC's night to host, we will have 25 guests joining us from the Light House Raleigh Muslim community joining us in service. During these days of sectarian violence, this is a great time to practice and model neighbor love as we serve together. I know well that you will greet them warmly and weave them into the activities of the evening with great hospitality. So, please mark these dates on your calendars, and plan to join us for dinner and service at this summer's GBCFF. Community Service volunteer forms will be available for youth at registration. - *Marilyn Hedgpeth*



The **Shallowford Presbyterian Church of Atlanta's Youth Choir** is presenting a **FREE CONCERT** in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian, Durham (305 E. Main Street) on **Thursday evening, June 13, at 7:00 p.m.** The choir is made up of students in grades 6-12 from schools all around Atlanta. The theme is "Peace, Hope, & Unity," and the music will consist of "standard" youth choir anthems, world music, and gospel music, with some scripture and thematic material (spoken parts) weaved throughout. The Chapel Choir is directed by Shallowford's Director of Music, Emily Floyd. **This vibrant Youth Choir from Atlanta is touring sites in the Southeast. Beautiful, uplifting music by students in grades 6 – 12. Not to be missed! Bring your friends!**

A GROUNDS WORKDAY is planned for Saturday, June 15 from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. Contact [Barbara Buckley](mailto:Barbara.Buckley@fpcdurham.org) (919-210-0482) for information on the work to be done.



This train, bound for the International Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro, is FULL!

All seats have been reserved for this August 3, 2019 trip. If you would like to be placed on a wait list for a future trip, contact [Cherrie Henry](#).

COMMUNITY INVITATION

**An Interfaith Conversation
Friday, May 31 at 3:00 p.m.
The Forest at Duke Auditorium**

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? CHAOS OR COMMUNITY?

This is the question Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. proposed in his last book. Faith communities can be part of the problem or they can help with finding solutions by working for understanding and building community. There are examples all around us.

You are invited to the auditorium at The Forest at Duke on Friday, May 31 at 3:00 p.m. for a conversation to hear from several religious leaders who have attempted to give a positive answer to Dr. King's question. **Bishop Elroy Lewis, Rabbi John Friedman, Imam Abdul Waheed, Dr. Prem Sharma** and the **Reverend Katie Crowe** will engage in a conversation moderated by the **Reverend Joe Harvard**. The conversation is sponsored by Durham Congregations in Action and The Bishop Elroy Lewis Interfaith Fund. Invite your friends.

**The next church newsletter will be issued on Tuesday,
June 11.**

**Please submit your articles to Valerie in the church office
by Sunday, June 9.**

May 2019 Birthdays

June 2019 Birthdays

Online Church Calendar



[Visit our website](#)