

## The Week at a Glance!

<b>Later Today</b>	<b>Monday, July 31</b> <b>9:00 AM-12 Noon</b> Walk-in Ministry interviews	<b>Tuesday, August 1</b>	<b>Wednesday August 2</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> All Staff <b>No Chancel Choir rehearsal</b>
<b>Thursday, August 3</b> <b>9:00 AM-12 Noon</b> Walk-in Ministry interviews  <b>1:00-6:00 PM</b> Red Cross Blood Drive (Watts-Hill Hall)  <b>3:30-5:30 PM</b> Pick up CSA program vegetables orders	<b>Friday, August 4</b>	<b>Saturday, August 5</b>	<b>Sunday, August 6</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time <b>9:45 AM</b> Summer Faith Formation Class for Children Faith & Community and Lectionary Classes  <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship and Communion

RIP  
MEDICAL  
DEBT

THE CURE FOR MEDICAL DEBT

### Help retire medical debt in North Carolina

Our first of three campaigns raised \$26,000 and paid off \$5 million in medical debt in Durham and other counties in NC. On May 1, 2023, we launched a second campaign which targets the counties with the greatest number of people of color in their boundaries (including Wake, Guilford, Forsyth, and Mecklenburg). **The deadline to give to the second campaign is July 31, 2023.**

Please share this link with anyone who wants to support this campaign:

<https://ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/building-beloved-community/>.

#### CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator  
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director  
Vernon Cooper, Sexton  
Mindy Douglas, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate  
Omar Guess, Sr., Sunday Morning Sexton  
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Amy Bowers Heit, Parish Associate  
Esther Hethcox, Designated Associate Pastor  
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant  
Mitzi Leshar-Thomas, Associate Pastor (Medical leave)  
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator  
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music  
John Weicher, Associate Pastor

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:  
info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>

305 EAST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701 919-682-5511  
ORGANIZED 1871

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 30, 2023

### A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*(As we prepare to worship, please silence all mobile devices.)*

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute for Mission: Red Cross Blood Drive

Mindy Douglas

Julie Whiddon

#### PRELUDE

*Panis Angelicus*

Cesar Franck

Kimberly Johnson, soprano; Jacob Boehm, baritone

The bread of angels becomes our bread;  
The heavenly bread gives an end to (earthly) forms.  
O marvelous and wondrous sacrament, given for all.

#### INTROIT

*Ubi Caritas*

French, 10<sup>th</sup> century

Where love and charity are found, God is there.  
The love of Christ has gathered us together, let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
May we fear and love the living God, and love with sincere hearts.

Likewise, when we come together let us be united as one; Let us take care that we not be divided.  
Let us cease all quarrels and strife and let Christ dwell in the midst of us.

May we also see, along with the blessed ones, the glory of your face, O Christ.  
And let there be immeasurable joy both now and evermore. Amen.

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mindy Douglas

Leader: People of God, we are called to create in this moment,  
**All: to create a moment in time that resists the busy order of this world.**  
Leader: We are called to slow down, to breathe in, to be still.  
**All: We are called to wonder about our God who calls us to be curious and adventurous.**  
Leader: Let us join the chorus of creation  
and lift up hearts brimming with praise and adoration for our loving God.  
**All: Come, let us worship God!**

#### \*HYMN NO. 37

*Let All Things Now Living*

*Ash Grove*

#### \*CONFESSION OF SIN

Haley Stephenson

Call to Prayer  
Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Eternal God,**

**you have given us opportunities to participate in the expansion of your kingdom—  
you have called us to be co-conspirators in your wild love,  
sowing the seeds of abundant liberation.**

\*All who are able, please stand.

(Prayer continues, in unison.)

Yet in our limited perspectives, we fail to see the fullness of what life can be.  
We build hedges where there should be open fields.  
We sow seeds of familiarity and likeness, resisting creations of difference and variety.  
We allow weeds to choke our cries for justice,  
and personal harvests to quench our thirst for change.  
Help us, O God, to steady our footing in the soil of your eternal goodness  
and to root ourselves in the ever-present call you have planted within us.  
May we bear the fruits of your life-altering love,  
so your will be done, your kingdom come.

Silent Reflection  
Assurance of Forgiveness

\*THE PEACE Haley Stephenson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (All, sung twice)

*Listen*



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the



One who is close at hand; lis-ten to the voice that be -



gan cre - a - tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING 1 Kings 3:5-12 (Pew Bible, OT page 306)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. Candace Knotts & Ben Gunn

People: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (Pew Bible, NT page 14)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. Esther Hethcox

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "A Shrub for a Kingdom" Esther Hethcox  
(Silent reflection)

\*HYMN NO. 714 God of the Fertile Fields Italian Hymn

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison) Ionian Creed Haley Stephenson

We believe in God above us,  
maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of every person.

(Affirmation continues next page.)



**FPC's next blood drive is**  
**Thursday, August 3**  
**1:00-6:00 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall**

**Please sign up to save a life!**  
**Go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter code firstpres**  
**or use the RAPIDPASS donor App.**

For more info, contact *Julie Whiddon* at 919-730-6673.  
Sponsored by the Service & Mission Committee of FPC.

**Fresh vegetables will be available at FPC beginning August 3**



The Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, done in partnership with Sankofa Farms in Orange County, is starting a six-week summer cycle on August 3. We had a very successful Spring CSA and are looking forward to a bounty of summer vegetables like tomatoes, squash, peppers, and much more during this cycle.

The CSA is a great way to have a steady supply of fresh healthy vegetables each week, grown sustainably by a farmer of color. The boxes of

vegetables will be delivered to First Pres every Thursday afternoon, beginning August 3, and be available for pickup between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. in the church lobby, or at Westminster Pres from 6:00-7:30. This cycle will run for six weeks, from August 3-September 7. The cost is \$35 per week for a full share and \$25 for a half share. For the full six weeks it is \$210 for a full share and \$150 for a half share. If you wish to participate, go to the Sankofa Farms website, and once there, click on "Shop." The website is [www.sankofafarms.com](http://www.sankofafarms.com). For more information feel free to contact Tom Bacon or Johanna and George Bernhardt.

First Presbyterian Church - Cove in the Heart of Durham

SUMMER  
SIZZLE

(GET  
EXCITED)

All-Church Fellowship & Dinner

Sunday, August 13, 5-7 pm  
Bring a dish to share & water bottle.  
At the Momsen-Hudson's:  
1339 Holden Roberts Farm Road, Hillsborough.

The Momsen-Hudson's house is located about 20 minutes from the church.

Bean bag golf, basketball, and kickball will be some of the available activities.

Please bring a lawn chair, water bottle, and potluck dish to share.

House and entrance are handicap accessible.

(Affirmation continues in unison.)

**We believe in God beside us,  
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor,  
tortured and nailed to a tree.**

**A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,  
he died alone and forsaken.**

**He descended into the earth  
to the place of death.**

**On the third day he rose from the tomb.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,  
and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,  
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of all resurrection and of eternal life.**

**Amen.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Amy Sanchez

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Give

Amy Heit

Offertory Anthem

*Pie Jesu (from Requiem)*

Gabriel Faure

*Blessed Jesus, grant to all your servants everlasting rest.*

*\*Doxology with Alleluias*

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below; alleluia; alleluia;*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host;*

*Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Amy Heit

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 726**

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

*Kelvingrove*

(Please be seated.)

**CHORAL BLESSING**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

John Rutter

**\*BENEDICTION**

Esther Hethcox



**Welcome!** Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning this QR code. First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. We welcome individuals of every age, race, nationality, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church.

We are grateful for our **liturgists** today. **Amy Bowers Heit** joined FPC’s pastoral staff over a year ago. She assists with pastoral care duties. She and husband **Jamey** are parents to daughters **Isla** and **Anna**. For the last few years Amy has worked as a hospital chaplain resident at both UNC Rex in Raleigh and the Durham VA, providing spiritual care and support to patients, families, and hospital staff. **Haley Winslow Stephenson** also serves as a hospital chaplain resident at the Durham VA. She and her husband **Walker** have been attending FPC for several months now. At the July 25<sup>th</sup> New Hope Presbytery gathering Haley was approved for ordination as a chaplain fellow at the VA. She will be ordained at FPC in the near future. Thanks be to God!

**Music Notes:** Special thanks to **Gordon Campbell, Jacob Boehm,** and **Kimberly Johnson** for providing music for today’s worship. Baritone and Triangle native Jacob is the founder and head chef of Snap Pea Creative Dining, locally known for its innovative pop-up dinners at unexpected locations. He studied music at Stanford University and lives in Durham. Originally from California, soprano Kimberly lives in Milan, Italy, where she works as a freelance data analyst. She holds a degree from Stanford University in Symbolic Systems. She can be found on YouTube at Chants of a Lifetime. Jacob and Kimberly met singing in the Stanford Chamber Chorale where they toured to China, Hawaii, and the UK, and since graduating have traveled together to South America, Thailand, and Italy. They always find opportunities to make music together when they’re in the same geography and are very grateful for the opportunity to sing at First Presbyterian this summer.

The **flowers** are given to the glory of God in memory of **Charles Hammond** and **Sharon and David McAlister**, with love from **Peggy Hammond**.

**Childcare:** A staffed nursery and children’s playroom are available on the second floor of the education building during worship. **Activity bags** are available in the foyer for children to use during worship. Please return bags to the foyer at the end of worship.

**Hearing Assistance Receivers** are available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle by the door or return it to the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary. Receivers are sanitized after each use.

**Portions of today’s liturgy** were written by Esther Hethcox.

### Our Joys and Concerns

**Marriage Announcement:** Congratulations to **Roxana Boyd** and **Andrew Keesler** whose wedding ceremony was held here on Saturday, July 29, with **Mindy Douglas** officiating.

**Condolences:** Former FPC member **Hugh Robinson** passed away on July 22. He was a resident of Croasdaile Village at the time of his death.

**Added this week:** **Calvin Rogers**, friend of Steve Rimmer

<b>Bob Breitweiser</b>	<b>Paul Cornsweet</b>	<b>Susan Cyr</b>	<b>Wib Gulley</b>	<b>Kerry Holbrook</b>
<b>Jenni James</b>	<b>Lee House</b>	<b>George Kafula</b>	<b>Mitzi Leshner-Thomas</b>	
<b>Franzi Rokoske</b>	<b>Alfred Tisdale</b>	<b>Carol Wills</b>		

#### Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Dub Gulley**  
 Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**  
 Hillcrest Convalescent: **Julian Boswell, Maxie Honeycutt, Jim Wolfe**  
 The Forest at Duke Health & Wellness Center: **Wes Carson**

#### Family and Friends of the Congregation

<b>Michelle Cantrell</b> , niece of Conrad Carter	<b>Kim Cummings</b> , father of Drew Cummings
<b>Sylvia Elder</b> , grandmother of Esther Hethcox	<b>Lynn Guerrant</b> , friend of Mindy Douglas
<b>Larry Hethcox</b> , father of Esther Hethcox	<b>Grace</b> , Chris James’ great-niece
<b>Gabe Lamazares</b> , friend of FPC	<b>Bob Lucas</b> , friend of Fred and Jo Ann Moore
<b>Elizabeth Manceras</b> , mother of Julio Manceras	<b>Clem O’Brien</b> , father-in-law of Mindy Douglas
<b>Alan Petersburg</b> , brother-in-law of Jenni James	<b>Elizabeth Rose</b> , mother of Mary Ashley Rose
<b>Dennis Tiede</b> , nephew of Mary-Jo Keenan	<b>Jim Vacca</b> , father of Jamie Chambliss



### FILL THAT BUS SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE!

The deadline is August 11.

#### Most Needed Items

Crayons	Scissors	Clip Boards	Markers	Paper	Rulers	White Out
Highlighters	Binder Clips	Hand Sanitizer	Mechanical Pencils	Pencil Pouches		
Sharpies	Ink Pens					

Bring your donations to FPC and place them in the Fill That Bus bin. Thank you for supporting our Durham Public Schools Teachers.