

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM

"Downtown by history and by choice"

FPC Bi-Weekly Newsletter

July 23 - August 5, 2019

From the Associate Pastor:

Commitment to Serve

The Church of Jesus Christ has many components and may be summarized in our communal life together: we believe, we pray, we support, and we serve. Let me reflect with you on our commitment to serve.

We all talk about service. I think, traditionally, people understood “serving or being a servant” as a rather low level job, unless it is tied to some form of public service in government. We speak of the service sector of our economy, the ways people make a living by providing others with various forms of service. This is not manufacturing or farming or transportation sectors but those providing entertainment, hospitality, communication, counselling, or any host of other possibilities. Service has become widely understood as a commercial term, part of the job sector called the service industry.

My work at Duke University speaks also to service in the context of civic engagement. This is true for Carolina, State, and Central, too. Our motto has been to set knowledge at the service of humanity. The movement of civic engagement at universities is to inspire young men and women to embrace both the challenges of scholarship and the values of citizenship. At our best, colleges and universities are called to combine excellence in the class room and laboratory with the highest ideals of service to community and nation.

For people of faith, however, “service,” “serving,” and “being a servant” have a very different meaning. In faith, we understand service as Jesus described it and in fact lived it. The classic passage that immediately comes to mind is Mark 10:42-45: “For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for the many.” Notice what Jesus says about himself as the Son of Man who serves. He just does not do favors or acts of kindness for people, but ultimately “gives his life” for others. We must also be marked with that same characteristic: to give oneself for others.

Beyond the immediate circumstances of our lives, we must look to a larger world. How does God want me to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ with its hope and possibilities into a wounded and broken world? And yes, the Church is also a place for our service. We could not function without the commitment of so many hours of service that include liturgical ministries, Christian education, service and mission, sacred music, and governance.

Do consider, pray over, and discern in this Pentecost season how God wants you to serve. Your serving will be in the model and pattern of Jesus and particular to the call and invitation that God gives you.

Grace and peace,
Sam Miglarese

Joys/Concerns

CONDOLENCES:

E. Edward (Ned) Newsom died on July 15 in Atlanta. Ned was in his 97th year and living with his children. A family graveside service will be held in the fall at Maplewood Cemetery in Durham.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to his daughter as follows:

Le Newsom Carr
543 W. Wesley Rd NW
Atlanta, GA 30305.

CONCERNS:

Diana Carrasco
Emily Wilkins (traveling mercies - Puerto Rico)

Home:

Judy Arrowood
Doug Butler
Harold Dunlap
Margaret Mubanga
Joseph Ngumi
Phyllis Supple
Carolyn and Jim Wolfe

Care Communities:

Brookdale Durham: **Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett**
Croasdaile Pavilion: **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
Rebecca Aysque, friend of Christy Gudaitis
Ken Chambliss, father of Will Chambliss
Camilla Crampton, friend of Mal King
Drew Doll, friend of FPC
Ralph Edwards, grandfather of Amy Wilson
Dennis Hill, friend of FPC
Doug Neece, brother of Vernon Neece
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss
Bob Warren, father of Dawn Carsey

Prayer Concerns from the Service of Healing and Wholeness

During the very moving Ritual of Healing and Wholeness on Sunday, July 14, the congregation submitted cards reflecting their prayer concerns and brought them forward for a laying on of hands and a blessing. The FPC staff prayed for your concerns at our staff meeting on July 16. Although the following list does not name individuals who were listed, it does give you an indication of the kinds of situations people in our congregation carry within their hearts. And it shows how beautifully human and vulnerable each one of us is as we stand before God:

Peace and contentment at school and home; forgiveness; refugees – facing border barriers; our nation, upcoming elections; courage to be your true disciple; those in detention centers on the border; fear of the unknown and change; effects of lingering grief; motivation for good employment; individuals and families on our border; equity and justice for people of color; healing from grief and mental illness; stress of care-giving; the poor and destitute; Kenya and the whole world; healing for our divided country; those coping with a loved-one's dementia; those adjusting to life-changes; those under Hospice care; those suffering from addiction; the health of our planet; peace in the world; freedom from want and fear; an upcoming marriage; our children; victims of ICE raids and their families; those migrant families separated and mistreated at the border; children who are unloved, abused, bullied, and unwanted; the generational horrors to come from this generation's leadership; children and families in trauma; health and peace; healing for our country; Sudan; NC Legislature; Honduras; those who live alone; those traveling; ability to have a child; our friends who are not US citizens; denial of women's choices and rights; children in war zones; the sick and hungry; those who are incarcerated; and many individuals who are much loved and lifted up in prayer to God.

Letter from the Associate Pastor

Dear friends,

Two weeks ago, I solicited your help in restoring the Pastors' Discretionary Fund in order to help our members who are in need. The response has been considerable, and I am glad to share with you that two families have been assisted who were struggling because of on-going illnesses. So, thank you for extending the love of Christ to those within our own body who have fallen on difficult times. Your generosity is palpable, and your response quite heartfelt.

Although immediate needs have been met, others will arise. Therefore, if you would like to contribute to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund, so we can continue to provide the on-going support of our fellow members, please make a donation to FPC, with Pastors' Discretionary indicated on the memo line. The church would greatly appreciate your help to embrace our ministry to our inner-neighbors.

Gratefully,

Marilyn Hedgpeth



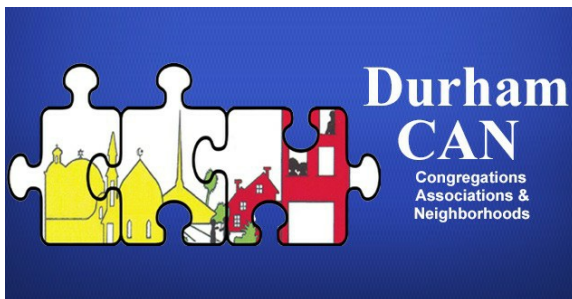
Dear my Faith Community,

This is to thank you most sincerely for your thoughts and prayers for my kid brother Ngugi Mbugua. I am delighted to let you know that he underwent a successful brain surgery to remove a blood clot from the left-hand side of his brain. He is now fully recovered

and going back to work soon. It is through your support, my Church family, away from my big family in Kenya, that I find strength to carry on daily and deal with all situations while so far away from home. May God Bless you all. - **Mary Gitata**

WORSHIP NOTES and PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- It was a blessing to baptize little **Brynn Leigh Ellison** on July 21st at FPC. Brynn is the big sister of **Colin Ellison**, and the daughter of **Stephanie Callaway Ellison** and **Jason Ellison**. It was great to have the Callaway and Ellison families in worship with us.
 - We also welcomed **Fred Callaway** during Sunday's worship. Fred has reactivated his membership at FPC.
 - **Annabelle Brown** had a wonderful experience as a Youth Advocate at the Massanetta Middle School Conference. Feel free to ask her about her experience!
 - **John Weicher, Lenore Champion, Brent Curtis** and ten high schoolers are in Montreat this week for the Montreat Youth Conference which began July 21st. Please be in prayer for them as they travel to Montreat and back for the five-day event.
 - The **July Meeting of the Durham Branch of the NAACP** will be held on **Sunday, July 28**, at FPC at 4:00 p.m. Since FPC is hosting the meeting, we welcome all who would like to attend and provide hospitality for the event.
 - **Many thanks** to those who baked cookies and brownies for the Stated Meeting of New Hope Presbytery being held **today** at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church (**Barbara Buckley, Amy Sanchez, David Smith**). **Tyler Momsen-Hudson and Carol Carson** were FPC's Session Commissioners to that gathering.
 - **KUDOS** to **Mickey Velkey** who arranged for the Daytimers' Luncheon today at Neo China. A good group gathered for lunch and some friendly conversation.
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affordable. By the grace of God, we prevailed! At a recently held ceremony attended by Durham's elected, business, and civic leaders, as well as members of First Presbyterian, the ground was officially broken for a development where all 82 units of housing will be affordable. As a member congregation in Durham CAN, we can say that we had a part in this excellent outcome for our city.

- submitted by **Susan Dunlap**

Sunday, July 28
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:45 a.m. Summer Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship

Jennifer Copeland, preaching

An ordained United Methodist pastor, Rev. Jennifer Copeland currently serves as Executive Director of the North Carolina Council of Churches. She holds a BA, an MDiv, a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies and a PhD, all from Duke University. Her professional background is in both parish and campus ministry. In addition to preaching for us this Sunday, Jennifer will also lead a discussion on chapters 11 and 12 of "Just Mercy" in the Faith and Community Class at 9:45.

***** The Hunger for Change Offering will be received during worship. Please give generously to help combat hunger in our community and around the world.*****

Narthex Greeter: **Chris Williams**

After Worship Greeters: **Cris Rivera** (font/side door);
Dawn Carsey (rear/narthex)

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

Sunday, August 4

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45 a.m. Summer Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship and Communion
Mary Berry, preaching

Mary is a member at FPC who recently earned an MDiv degree from Duke Divinity School. She currently is working towards a PhD in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament at Duke. There she is a research assistant for Old Testament scholar Ellen Davis, and is well-respected for being an excellent preceptor at the Divinity School.

***** Remember, on Communion Sundays, we extend the Lord's Table and bring supplies for Blessing Bags: snack crackers, fruit snacks, and granola bars. *****

Narthex Greeter: **Delia Kwon**

After Worship Greeters: **Andy Henry** (font/side door);
Carol Carson (rear/narthex)

Ushers: **Matt Cline** (head), **Christy Gudaitis** (flowers), **Mary-Jo Keenan** (counting), **Michael Honeycutt** - **[Please sign up here to usher.](#)**

Communion Elders:

Bread: **Kim Abels** (B1/process), **Wendy McCorkle** (B2), **Griffin Momsen-Hudson** (B3), **Diane Prosser** (B4)

Cup: **Lenore Champion** (C1), **Alice Raney** (C2/process), **Cris Rivera** (C3), **Michael Honeycutt** (C4)

Shepherd: **Jane Wettach** (font aisle), **Tom Bacon** (center aisle), **David Sappenfield** (pulpit aisle)



SUMMER

Sunday School

Summer Sunday School is off and running for children, youth, and adults.

Children meet upstairs in room 208 for Storypath, an exploration of some of the best new books in children's literature with theological implications for young and old alike.

Storypath for July 28 – *The Perfect Nest*, by Catherine Friend: a story about a cat who comes up with a plan that he believes will get him what he wants, many birds to lay eggs in the nest for him to make omelets. After building the nest, birds start to lay eggs and they hatch after the birds have left. So, the cat must then take care of the hatchlings and learns that caring for others is more important than fulfilling his intended plan. This class will be led by **Marilyn Hedgpeth**, (who wishes she had the perfect nest) and **Thilo Fullenkamp**.

Storypath for August 4 – *Wangari's Tree of Peace*, by Jeanette Winter. Wangari Maathai was born in 1940 in a small village in Kenya. Each day she marveled at the umbrella of green trees that surrounded her village in the shadow of Mount Kenya. As a child, she talked to the birds in the trees and helped harvest sweet potatoes, sugarcane and maize from the rich soil. Wangari was brilliant in school and was awarded a scholarship to attend college in America. But when she returned to her homeland of Kenya as a young woman, she was devastated to see that all of the trees had been cut down, and the land was barren. That's when Wangari decided to make a difference – one seedling at a time. By 2004, thirty million trees had been planted, and the lives of many women and their families had changed in marvelous ways. That same year, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Come and hear this remarkable true story about the difference that one person can make to heal the earth of her wounds! The class will be led by **Lenore Champion and Susan Buck**.



Summer Sunday School for Adults

The Faith and Community Class - The attendance for this adult class each Sunday has been exceptional! So keep reading! On **July 28**, our

Adult Lectionary Class - July 28: What would it take to make you change your mind, or your behavior, or your world view? Would words of great

guest preacher / teacher, **Jennifer Copeland**, Executive Director of the North Carolina Council of Churches, will cover chapters 11 and 12 and address issues pertaining to women and the justice system. And on **August 4**, our own **Jon Abels** will review and discuss chapters 13 and 14 with us. 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. The class meets in Watts-Hill Hall at 9:45. Click [here](#) to view the full study schedule.

Adult Journeys/Scratch and The Thoughtful Christian classes are taking a break this summer. These classes will resume in the fall.

wisdom be enough, or powerful oratory, or miraculous acts? Or would you, like some of those who questioned Jesus, cling to your opinions while demanding one more proof and one more sign? **Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the East Parlor.**

August 4: Some of the people of Jeremiah's time were convinced that the mere presence of the temple in Jerusalem would protect them not only from invading armies but also from their own sinfulness. "This is the temple of the Lord," they said; "we are safe." They were wrong. What do we look to for our security?

Women's Spiritual Formation Class -

The Women's Spiritual Formation (Sunday School) class will be on pause this summer as we join the Faith and Community class through August 18 for the discussion of the book, *Just Mercy*. The class will resume its regular study on August 25th at 9:45 in the **basement parlor**.

YOUTH GROUP SUMMER ACTIVITIES

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

JULY 23 & 30

AUGUST 6, 13, 20 & 27 (TBD)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DURHAM YOUTH MINISTRIES

FRIENDS WELCOME - JESUS LOVES YOU - TASTY FROZEN GOODNESS



GREAT BIG
CHURCH
FAMILY
FESTIVAL

6/9, 7/7, 8/4

5:30-7:30 PM

SUMMER '19

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

MASSANETTA

JUNE 25-28

TRIENNium

JULY 15-20

MONTREAT

JULY 21-27



HANGING OUT @ PELICAN'S SNOBALLS)
TUESDAYS, 5-6 PM, 3217 N. ROXBORO ST.

JUNE 18 & 25

JULY 2, 9, 16, 23 & 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.



RACIAL EQUITY

Task Force

Please attend the **NAACP meeting** that will be held at First Presbyterian **this Sunday, July 28 at 4:00 p.m.** If you can help with ushering or welcoming/greeting folks, please contact **Tyler Momsen-Hudson**.

The **next Racial Equity Task Force meeting** will be immediately

following church on **Sunday, August 4** in the **Wilson Parlor**. All are welcome. Our Faith & Community class this summer has highlighted many of the issues surrounding inequities that we as a people grapple with. One of the key issues is race. We are here to help the congregation learn more and find ways that they can be effective in interrupting the many cycles that cause racial inequities. Your voice is valuable.

PROPOSED TRIP TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

The National Memorial for Peace and Justice and

The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration

A group of First Presbyterians is planning a trip to the Memorial and Museum in Montgomery this October, either the weekend of **October 11-13 or 18-**

20. Details regarding transportation and lodging to be determined. If you are interested in learning more please contact **Kathy Conner** 919-451-5445 or **Eric Wiebe** 919-656-0886. Information about the museum: [Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice](#)

The registration pages for the **Racial Equity Institute's (REI)** upcoming trainings are on the new OAR Alliance web page. Please attend if you can: [**schedule**](#). This link also gives you access to information about caucuses and other REI presentations, such as Groundwater.

CoInspire: *Liberating Imagination, Eviscerating Racism*

A conference addressing systemic racism in the church. **October 7–10, 2019**, at Montreat Conference Center. The first registration from a church group or presbytery team will be at the full comprehensive or commuter rate. Any additional registrations(*all the friends and colleagues who come with you!*) from the same church group or presbytery team will be reduced by \$25 per registration. Learn more through this link: <https://montreat.org/events/micl-2019>. Contact **Kathy Krahenbuhl** or one of the ministers if you are interested in attending. Read more about CoInspire [here](#).

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



Great Big Church Family Festival

August 4, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Trinity Ave Presbyterian Church

FPC's hosting duties are over, so now it is time for us to return the favor by being good guests. Many thanks to Mt. Bethel Presbyterian of Durham for hosting our second gathering in July.

The final GBCFF of the summer (can you believe it) will be held on August 4 at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian. The cost of the meal is \$5 per individual; \$10 per family. If youth need summer service hours, they can acquire those by helping prepare for the evening and participating in the event (perhaps hours of service per event). Community Service volunteer forms will be available for youth at registration. Trinity Avenue Presbyterian is located at 927 W. Trinity Avenue, Durham, NC 27701. For more information, call Trinity Avenue at (919) 682-3865.



FPC Men of Faith

Friday, July 26

Breakfast and Conversation

8:00 a.m. at Nosh's Cafe

2812 Erwin Rd, Durham

Come by and stay as long as you can!



SAVE THE DATE: September 13-15
First Friends & Families Beach Weekend
Contact **Kathy Conner** for more information



May we order more Café Justo for you?
(www.justcoffee.org)

Order by Sunday evening, July 28.

Distribution on Sunday, August 11.

To place an order, send an email to *John Fricks*
(jhfricks@gmail.com), or leave a message at the church
office: 919-682-5511. See details below.

By Sunday, July 28, tell us how many bags (one-pound bags, freshly roasted, \$10 each), and specify the **process** (CAF or DECAF), the **grind** (WHOLE BEAN or GROUND), and the **roast** (MEDIUM or DARK).

- caf, whole bean, medium roast
- caf, whole bean, dark roast
- caf, ground, medium roast
- caf, ground, dark roast
- decaf, whole bean, medium roast
- decaf, whole bean, dark roast,
- decaf, ground, medium roast
- decaf, ground, dark roast

Café Justo is one of the ministries of ***Frontera de Cristo***, a Presbyterian Border Ministry based in Agua Prieta, Sonora (and Douglas, Arizona). ***Miriam Maldonado Escobar*** is one of those leading Frontera de Cristo:



Miriam Maldonado Escobar is from the Mexican state of Chiapas. She left home at age 18 to work at the border in U.S.-owned factories to help support her family. She and Mark Adams met when Mark came to Agua Prieta to serve at Frontera de Cristo. After working for several years alongside her husband, Miriam was invited in 2011 to serve as a Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-worker. She works with Dougla Prieta Trabaja to help rehabilitation centers and families of the church, community and schools to grow their own food. She and Mark have three children.

COMMUNITY INVITATION



For several years now, First Presbyterian Church has participated in the "Fill That Bus" campaign, collecting school supplies for the teachers and students of Durham Public Schools. You are invited to purchase most needed school supplies for the [Crayons2Calculators](http://Crayons2Calculators.org) organization again this year. **The drive runs through August 17.** The list of most needed supplies is provided

below. Thank you for your continued support. You may bring your supplies to the church and place them in the specially marked Crayons2Calculators containers on Sundays.

***** We have received a special request from Merrick Moore school for two items which we hope you will especially donate this year for their Latinx students: colored dry erase markers and 3 hole punched zippered pencil pouches. There will be a container for Merrick Moore School supplies in the foyer on Sundays through August 11. *****

***** Top Needed School Supplies*****

Hand sanitizer
Clip Boards
Tissues
Sharpies
Colored Markers
Scissors (student & adult)
Colored Pencils
No. 2 Pencils
Dry Erase markers
Mechanical Pencils
Construction Paper
Tape (clear, masking, duct)

Monetary contributions are also accepted to purchase large ticket items like scientific/graphing calculators. Checks should be made payable to: Crayons2Calculators and given to FPC.

**The next church newsletter will be issued on Tuesday,
August 6.**

**Please submit your articles to Valerie in the church office
by Sunday, August 4.**

July Birthdays

August Birthdays

Online Church Calendar



Visit our website