



FPC News

First Presbyterian
Church

FPC News
April 1, 2007

Pastor's Corner

The cross of Jesus stands empty before the sky. The tomb of Christ remains bodiless before our eyes. Such is the nature of the power of God. Easter is a startling, earth rattling, reality warping expression of the nature of God's power - power that brings life. Isn't that refreshing?! Especially in our times, when many religious leaders tend to tout the power of God to bring death and destruction, we need the Easter truth to sound throughout the world. The truth of Easter is that we worship the God of life! No, God is not on a rampage throughout the earth seeking to hurt, or to kill, or to destroy. That may be a human definition of power, but that certainly is not God's expression of power - not in Jesus Christ. In Christ, God is revealed as the power of life, the power to heal, the power to build up, the power to make all things new! In the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb, we discover that the greatest expression of God's power is LIFE. In Easter, God overcomes death with life. Life-giving power is what God is all about. Easter is God's exclamation point at the end of that statement. Easter is God's way of proclaiming: "Just in case you didn't notice, I really am into the whole life-giving thing!"

So the next time you hear that this disease, or that disaster is God's wrath on some person or some group of people, remember Easter. Whenever you hear that some religious leader has claimed that God is calling for a "holy war" against someone, remember Easter. Easter is the ultimate expression of God's intention for the world. That intention is LIFE!! In Easter, death has been swallowed up by life. In Easter, despair has been trumped by hope. In Easter, what appeared to be the end was only the beginning. In Easter, what seemed like a failure has been transformed into a victory! Jesus is not dead...He lives!! The Lord of the resurrection is the Lord of you and me. May we all learn to see life through the lens of Easter.

Together in Christ,
Philip

We hope you will join us for the **Passover Seder on Friday, April 6th at 6pm in the Harper Center.** So that we can plan for provisions of that night, we ask that you sign up for this dinner in the colonnade or call the church office to add your name to the list of attendees. We will also need volunteers to help with certain roles within the program: table leaders, cantor, musician, Mother, a designated child. Call Philip (775-5216) to volunteer or for questions.

Wednesday Night Series Begins April 18th

Another 7 week series is planned for Wednesday evenings in the Spring, and will run through May. This series will focus on a study of the Holy Spirit. Throughout the centuries, the Holy Spirit has been the subject of much speculation and misunderstanding. As a result, people have often avoided dealing with this subject, out of fear and uncertainty. Join us as we explore the scriptural references to the Holy Spirit, and seek to unravel its mysteries. Come and join us for supper at 5:30pm and the study from 6 - 7pm in the Harper Center. This series will include all the wonderful children's activities as well, so let's all get together this Spring on Wednesdays!

IT'S TIME TO BE MORTGAGE FREE UPDATE

In case you've not noticed the wonderful displays around the church (thanks to the Cobbs for our terrific displays for our challenge campaign!), we more than met the halfway mark in our goal of reach \$500,000. Having received around \$250,000 of that total, we are excited to see what the Lord will continue to do through us all. Remember that it is not just a few, but ALL of us pulling together that will see us to successfully attaining the vision set before us. This is an amazing congregation who serves an even more amazing Lord. Placing our faith in Him, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish. If you've not yet made your commitment to this program to retire the debt on the Harper Center, there's still time. There are commitment cards in the narthex, as well as in the church office. Thanks to everyone who has made this a priority!

April Birthdays

April 1 - Bea Fields
 April 2 - Ellen Wilson, Bunny Paderick
 April 3 - Genie Morgan
 April 4 - Charles Killmeyer
 April 5 - Jane Evans, Gracie Harrington, Luke Davenport
 April 6 - Bill Tatum, Jeff Phillips, Valerie Sharpe
 April 7 - Katherine Hicks, Caroline Hicks
 April 8 - Katherine Cameron, Spencer Patterson
 April 9 - Frank Shields, Lisa McClelland, Lillian Hatton, Andy DiNuzzo
 April 10 - David Fisher, Parker Cameron, Sharon Brewer
 April 11 - Emmett Windham, Cassie Zawalich, Michael Douglass
 April 13 - A.V. Autrey, Ginny Byrd, John Kelly III, Julia Philpott
 April 14 - Tim Childress, Clyde Dull, Rob Patterson, Lisa Kimble, Phyllis Bennett
 April 17 - Ray Smith
 April 18 - Boyd Childress, Deidre Sewell, Joseph Brewer III
 April 20 - Virginia Brooks, Karen Tatum, Julianne McCracken
 April 22 - Matthew Arnold
 April 23 - Mike Byrd
 April 24 - Eloise Berryman, Lisa Foushee
 April 26 - Scott Kittrell
 April 27 - Clyde Womble
 April 28 - Julie Lemon, Katie Hamilton
 April 30 - Ken Lynde, Jessica Marano

Dear Church Members,

Just a 'Thank You' for the prayers, phone calls, cards, food, flowers and visits while I was in the hospital and rehab.

I consider myself so very fortunate to have such wonderful Presbyterian Pals.

Hope to be back on the back row real soon!

Thanks again,
 Pat Humphries

Lorene Glasscock (Joyce Mann's mother) is now back at her home in Mocksville, NC. Thanks to everyone who visited Lorene at Parkview.

Outreach Mission Benefit Breakfast

The Men of First Presbyterian Church are sponsoring a breakfast, the proceeds of which will go to the Outreach Mission. The breakfast is for EVERYONE (not just the men.) The breakfast will be held Sat., April 21st from 7 - 10am in the Harper Center, donation \$7.00.

Outreach Mission sponsors two houses for the homeless, the men's house, 705 Chatham St. and the women's house, 507 S. Third St. It obviously costs money to keep these homes open and safe and clean and staffed and OM receives no government money of any sort. So...

You may purchase tickets from any of the Men of the Church. And if you would like to be involved we could use willing (and clean) hands to cook and serve. Call Dale Miller (776-6280) to volunteer. Remember this is for anyone with a \$7.00 donation. Thanks.

Breadbasket News

March 13th dawned a beautiful Spring-like day, and it was our day to serve at the Breadbasket. Each patron was greeted by a friendly helper, and received a plate of grilled chicken with cheesy potatoes and green peas. Fresh fruit salad and garden salad were offered, as well as bread, dessert and tea. We served 109 plates of food.

Many thanks to our hard working helpers this day -

Katie Dull, Joan Sudarth, Martha McGee and Sue Miller. Preparing and serving food, and the clean up afterwards was definitely work, yet we felt a sense of contentment that we had served our community in some small way.

Thank you again for all your support.

Rexine Lloyd and
 Emily Kelly,
 Volunteers

Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders of FPC were invited by the Triangle Area Stephen Ministry Coordinators, Judy Rogers, Betty Bennett and Ron Bostick, to attend a meeting in Raleigh on Sat., Feb. 24th at North Raleigh UMC. Those who attended were Flora Perry, Lou VanBruggen and Betty Womble. Special music was provided by Winslow Stillman and Laurie DeJong Gartland and a music sing along enjoyed by all. We had a group of 200 Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders in attendance.

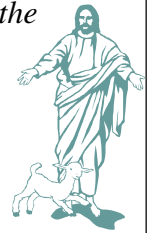
Our first speaker, David Crabtree - WRAL-TV newscaster, also ordained minister, and Stephen Minister, shared a great message that inspired each of us. Laura Benson, Methodist Minister and Director of PLM Families Together, gave us lots of ways to broaden our caring ministry.

Session Report - February

- A MOC fundraiser breakfast for outreach mission will be held April 21st in the Harper Center.
- The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is being planned. Children have been given coin banks to collect their offering.
- Almost \$240,000 has been pledged for the 'Time to be Mortgage Free' campaign.

Shepherd's Corner

...there were (are) shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.



Luke 2:8

Singles' Luncheon

The Singles' Luncheon will be held Wed., April 18th. This month Lynetta Martin will present a program on quilting. The ladies of the Hospitality Committee will prepare lunch. Bring a friend.

Please call the church office no later than Monday, April 17th to make your reservation.

April

Meals on Wheels

Circle # 2

Church Flowers

Flower Committee

April Door

Greeters

- Peggy Golden
- Tommy Mann, Sr.
- John Stevens
- Ronnie Lemon

Men of the Church

The Men of the Church breakfast will be held Sunday, April 15th at 8am in the Harper Center. Join us for a delicious breakfast and a great program!

Circles Meet on April 16th at:

- #1 - Lib Williams, 413 Carbondon Road
- #2 - Gloria Martin, 1913 Wedgewood Drive
- #3 - Irma Autrey, 2922 Greenbriar Drive
- #4 - Verner Jones, 1820 Wilkins Drive
- #5 - Ann McCracken, 520 Maplewood Drive
- #6 - Peggy Hendley, 1601 Columbine Road
- #7 - Officers' Supper
- #8 - Leah Terrell, 807 Stuart Drive, *childcare provided*



Phyllis Bennett & Family; Emily Buchanan (Parkview); Dorothy Foushee (Parkview); Margaret Foushee (Oakhaven); Doris Gibson (Moore); Dean Hollingsworth; Charlotte Lutton; Merlee McDonald (Pinelake); Steve & Samantha Michael; Janelle & Savanna Phelps; Joan Bland's stepfather - DC Holler; Jessica Brewer's mother - Linda Brewer and father - Winslow Brewer; Don Buie; Jerry Campbell's mother - Clarene Campbell; Carol Carlson; Bob Davis' father - Willie Davis; Wanda Perry; Wilson Proctor's sister - Elizabeth Lecroy; Burton & Betty Sherrod's son - Marc Sherrod; Sally Suther's niece - Amanda Mager; Lucretia Sperry's grandmother - Mildred Frady; Karen Tatum's father - Wesley Spence; Jennifer Tyndall's brother - Brian Tucker; Raymond Womble's brother - Wayne Womble

*The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:
The Family of Bess Palmer,
The Family of Katharine Taylor.*

First Presbyterian Church

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919-775-4465 fax
919-708-9502 prayer line

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What's Happening in April???

Sun., April 1 - Communion; 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Worship; 3pm Bible Moderators; 3:30pm Easter Egg Hunt; 5pm Administrative Committee

Mon., April 2 - 5:30pm Deacons Meet; 6:30pm Officers Supper; 7pm Elders Meet

Tues., April 3 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 10:30am Senior's Choir; 6pm Cardio./Sculpting

Wed., April 4 - 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Practice; 7:30pm Choir Practice

Thurs., April 5 - 7pm Maundy Thursday Service - Harper Center

Fri., April 6 - 6pm Pass-over Seder - Harper Center

Sun., April 8 - Easter
9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Worship

Mon, April 9 - Church Office Closed; CDC Closed

Tues., April 10 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 6pm Cardio/Sculpting

Wed., April 11 - 6:30pm Contemporary Choir Practice; 7:30pm Choir Practice

Thurs., April 12 - 6pm Cardio./Sculpting

Sun., April 15 - MOC Breakfast; 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School/Confirmation Classes; 11am Worship/Children's Church; 5pm Stephen Ministers/Leaders meet; 6pm Youth

Mon., April 16 - Circles Meet

Tues., April 17 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 10:30am Seniors' Choir; 6pm Cardio./Sculpt.

Wed., April 18 - 12pm Singles' Luncheon; 5:30pm Meal; 5:55pm Children's Choir; 6pm Bible Study;

6:30pm KICKS, Youth Club, Contemporary Choir; 7:30pm Choir Practice

Thurs., April 19 - 6pm Cardio./Sculpting

Sat., April 21 - 7am - 10am Benefit Breakfast; 9am Family Zoo Trip

Sun., April 22 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School/Confirmation Classes; 11am Worship/Children's Church; 12pm Congregational Luncheon; 4pm Congregational Care Comm., Witness Comm.; 4:30pm Christian Ed. Comm.; 6pm Youth; 7pm New Member Comm., 7:30pm Committees Meet

Mon., April 23 - 10am Bible Study

Tues., April 24 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 6pm Cardio/Sculpting

Wed., April 25 - 5:30pm Meal; 5:55pm Children's Choir; 6pm Bible Study;

6:30pm KICKS, Youth Club, Contemporary Choir; 7:30pm Choir

Thurs., April 26 - 6pm Cardio./Sculpting

Fri., April 27 - 6pm Dietrick Class party; Middle School Youth leave for Oriental NC

Sun., April 29 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Worship; 6pm Sr. High Youth

Mon., April 30 - 6:30pm VBS Meeting