



FPC News

First Presbyterian Church

FPC News

March 1, 2007

Pastor's Corner

By the time you read this, we will be in the third month of the new year. Two months of the year have already come and gone. I have noticed that the days are starting to become longer, as the sun sets incrementally later each evening.

All of my yesterdays have given shape to my life today. It's that way for everyone. And just as yesterday, in ways large and small, has determined today, will play a role in moving me into tomorrow. Every day there are people and events, things we do and things we don't, thoughts and emotions, places and circumstances, which become a part of who we are. The months that we have been here in this place and with these people, have become a part of me. Whether that is good or bad, constructive or destructive, is not so much determined by the vast array of experiences, as in what I do with them.

Our lives are so much more than the sum total of our experiences. The most essential ingredient is how we handle those experiences. The question is, do we handle our experiences, or do our experiences handle us? As you and I look back at our lives, what do we see? Yes, there are fingerprints on the wall, the yellowed scrapbook pages, the faded photos, echoes of laughter, memories of silent tears. Yet, through the years have we chosen to take responsibility for our lives and our responses to the good and the bad? Or have we chosen to play the part of the victim? Have we chosen to seek God's will? Or have we chosen something else? Have we sought to have a Godly attitude toward the adversities as well as the celebrations?

As we reflect on our lives - where we have been, who has been there with us, and where we are now - our sense of peace or regret will hinge not so much on the events themselves, but in how we dealt with them. May we grow each day in learning what it means to choose to live responsibly for God. It is a choice that we must make daily, so that tomorrow when we look back to this day, we may all know peace, not regret.

In Christ,
Philip



'It's Time to Be Mortgage Free!'

At this moment in time, you and I have a great opportunity to make an impact on the future of this community.

Through our matching gifts toward the debt on the Harper Center, we have the potential to retire a debt that will free us to utilize our financial resources to extend beyond ourselves and touch the lives of more people for Christ. The Harper Center has already become a wonderful tool in which we experience enrichment of fellowship, worship, education, health and ministry to many organizations throughout our area. It has become a place for outreach, as we have shared this facility with many people from our community ... and beyond!

Please be sure to join us in kicking off our challenge gift campaign on Sunday, March 4th. Come with your pledges in hand, as we gather to commit ourselves to this momentous task. We all realize the challenge that lies before us, but it is a challenge we face not alone, but TOGETHER! That makes all the difference. Every one of us is needed to unite in this effort. Let us seek, prayerfully and earnestly, how our Lord calls us to be a part of this goal.

After worship, let us come together in celebration of God's providence and grace, as we fellowship around the table for a covered dish luncheon in the Harper Center. I'll see you Sunday!

Philip

"Who is My Neighbor?" is the theme of the 2007 One Great Hour of Sharing. Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. The OGHS offering will be received April 1st and 8th during worship.

March Birthdays

March 1 - Frances Gavin, Jane Sloan, Ellen Philpott, Matthew Phillips
 March 2 - Amber Creech
 March 3 - Ruth Quick, Katie Berliner, Vivian Byrd
 March 4 - Phyllis Brewer, Ralph Monger
 March 5 - Laura Rosser
 March 6 - Paul Kelly
 March 7 - Hamilton James
 March 8 - David Lloyd
 March 9 - Mary Brown, Mark Palmer
 March 10 - Rexine Lloyd, Toni Schrodt, David Ehmgig
 March 11 - Joyce Mann, Jennifer Foushee, Kenan Williams
 March 12 - Marie Childress, Wanda Drouillard
 March 13 - Lowry Taylor
 March 14 - Steve Whitton Sr.
 March 15 - Murphy Paderick
 March 16 - Griff Sperry
 March 17 - Grace Hodges
 March 19 - Laura DiNuzzo, Kyle McClelland
 March 20 - Eliza Hamilton
 March 21 - Aubrey Knight
 March 22 - Ken Foushee
 March 23 - Edwin Donnell, Emma-Claire Norris
 March 27 - John Kelly Jr., Phyllis McKinnon, Monte Cunningham
 March 28 - Emily Blue
 March 29 - Jack McNeill, Marlene McDonald
 March 30 - Jennifer McFadden, Lou Cooper
 March 31 - Jana Wilkinson

Breadbasket News

A hungry and appreciative crowd of folks greeted our cheerful volunteers at the Breadbasket this month.

Our February kitchen help included Pat McCracken, Helen Lynde, Helen Ogburn, Delores Register and Katharine Taylor.

Together we served 128 plates of baked pork chops with mushroom gravy, green beans, buttered corn, slaw, macaroni salad,

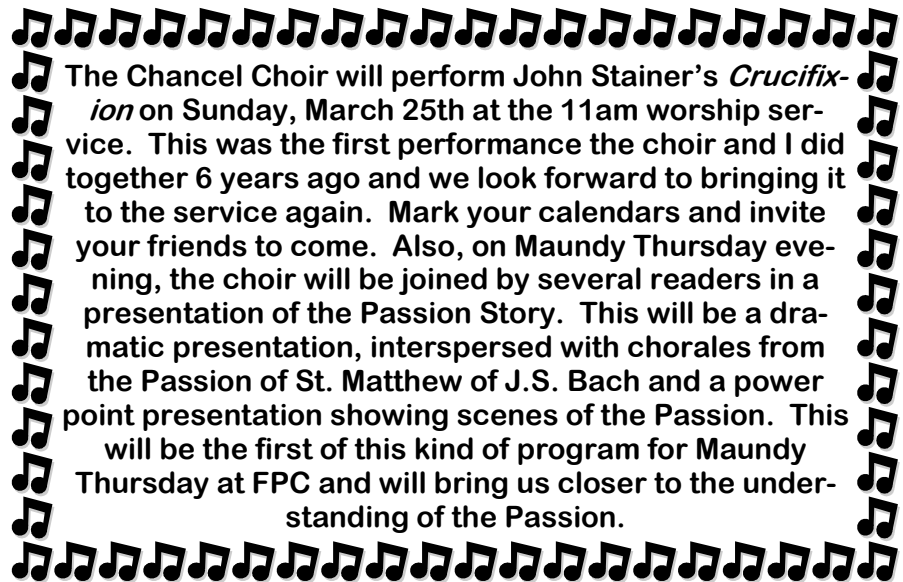
bread, banana pudding and tea.

We are so grateful for these Christian helpers who help to serve others.

February Chefs,
 Martha McGee
 Sue Miller

P.S.

Pat asked for a promotion from beverages to the kitchen next time.

The Chancel Choir will perform John Stainer's *Crucifixion* on Sunday, March 25th at the 11am worship service. This was the first performance the choir and I did together 6 years ago and we look forward to bringing it to the service again. Mark your calendars and invite your friends to come. Also, on Maundy Thursday evening, the choir will be joined by several readers in a presentation of the Passion Story. This will be a dramatic presentation, interspersed with chorales from the Passion of St. Matthew of J.S. Bach and a power point presentation showing scenes of the Passion. This will be the first of this kind of program for Maundy Thursday at FPC and will bring us closer to the understanding of the Passion.

The Passover is to Jews what Easter is to Christians. The Passover commemorates the very beginning of the Exodus event of the Old Testament, when God set His people free from slavery in Egypt. God had called Moses to speak to the Pharaoh, urging the king to set the Hebrew people free. Each time he was confronted by Moses, Pharaoh refused. So God sent a series of plagues upon the Egyptian people to demonstrate God's identity with the Hebrews. The final plague was an angel of death, who claimed the lives of all the firstborn sons among the Egyptians, finally convincing the Pharaoh that the Hebrews must be released from bondage. God instructed the Hebrews that each family was to kill a lamb, spread some of its blood over the door of their homes, and in that way, the angel of death would identify which homes to "pass over" - to avoid. That same night, the Hebrews were to be hasty about their plans to leave Egypt, to eat a quick meal (not leavening the bread), to ready their belongings for their journey out of Egypt. Some time later,

God instructed the people to remember what He had done for them, how they had been freed from slavery by God's hand - thus, the Passover celebration was instituted.

As through the Passover and Exodus event, God's people were freed from slavery to Egypt, so through Jesus Christ - the sacrifice of God's own Son, we have been set free from slavery to sin. With this background in mind, we hope you will join us for the Passover Seder on Friday, April 6th at 6pm.

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.

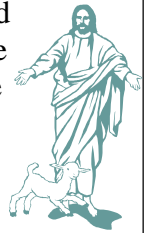
Session Report - February

- An Ash Wednesday service will be held after the 5:30pm dinner.
- 11 visitors have been contacted this year.
- Members in the military will be recognized in the church bulletin.
- The next Presbytery meeting is March 3rd at Bethesda Pres. in Aberdeen. Elders Mann, Sr. and York volunteered to attend.

Shepherd's Corner

...and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to the one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you, none of those will lose their reward."

Matthew 10:42



Singles' Luncheon

The Singles' Luncheon will be held Wed., March 21st. Carol Young is returning from the Attorney Generals office to talk about scams and fraud. We had a large crowd attend her last presentation on identity theft. We can all be affected by scams and fraud, so the best defense is to become proactive on these subjects. Bring a friend.

Please call the church office no later than Monday, March 19th to make your reservation.

March
Meals on Wheels
Coordinating Team
Church Flowers
Circle # 1

March Door Greeters
 Bill Miller
 J.C. Perry
 Mary Alice Holmes
 Randy Robertson

Men of the Church

The Men of the Church breakfast will be held Sunday, March 18th at 8am in the Harper Center. Join us for a delicious breakfast and a great program!

Circles Meet on March 12th at:

- #1 - Maxine Auman, 3213 Wicker Street
- # 2 - Mary Brown, 120 Camden Square
- # 3 - Joan Wagoner, 2015 Plantation Drive
- # 4 - Belva Oelrich, 1010 Montague Court
- # 5 - Leona Smith, 2205 Brookwood
- # 6 - Church Parlor, Katie Dull - Hostess
- # 7 - Marian Huepper, 6091 Dunes Drive
- # 8 - Lisa McClelland, 2655 Buckingham Drive



Phyllis Bennett & Family; Emily Buchanan (Parkview); Dorothy Foushee (Iredell Memorial Hospital, 557 Brookdale Dr., Statesville NC 28677); Margaret Foushee (Parkview); Doris Gibson (Moore); June Harrington; Dean Hollingsworth; Charlotte Lutton; Merlee McDonald (Pinelake); Steve & Samantha Michael; Bess Palmer; Janelle & Savanna Phelps; Joan Bland's step-father - 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; Misty Gerstmyer's grandmother - Carole Wines; Joyce Mann's mother - Lorene Glasscock (Parkview); 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
 Toni Mackey*

First Presbyterian Church

203 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford NC 27330
919-775-5216
919-775-4465 fax
919-708-9502 prayer line

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Sanford NC
Permit No. 130

We're on the web!
fpcsanford.org

What's Happening in March???

Thurs., March 1 - 6pm
Cardio./Sculpting

Sun., March 4 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Worship/Children's Church; 12pm Covered Dish Luncheon; 3pm Bible Moderators; 5pm Administrative Comm.; 6pm Youth

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

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

Wed., March 7 - 5:30pm Meal & Bible Study; 5:55pm Children's Choir; 6:30pm KICKS, Youth Club, Contemporary Choir; 7:30pm Choir

Thurs., March 8 - 6pm
Cardio./Sculpting

Sun., March 11 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Worship/Children's Church; 12pm PW Coordinating Team; 6pm Youth

Mon., March 12 - Circles Meet

Tues. March 13 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 6pm Cardio./Sculpting

Wed., March 14 - 5:30pm Meal & Bible Study; 5:55pm Children's Choir; 6:30pm KICKS, Youth Club, Contemporary Choir; 7:30pm Choir

Thurs., March 15 - 6pm
Cardio./Sculpting

Sat., March 17 - Family
Zoo Trip

Sun., March 18 - 8am
MOC Breakfast; 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Wor-

ship/Children's Church; 6pm Youth

Tues., March 20 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 10:30am Seniors' Choir; 6pm Cardio./Sculpting; 6pm CDC Board Meets

Wed., March 21 - 12pm Singles' Luncheon; 5:30pm Meal & Bible Study; 5:55pm Children's Choir; 6:30pm KICKS, Youth Club, Contemporary Choir; 7:30pm Choir

Thurs., March 22 - 6pm
Cardio./Sculpting

Sun., March 25 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Sunday School; 11am Worship/Children's Church; 4pm Congregational Care Comm., Witness Comm.; 4:30pm Christian Ed. Comm.; 6pm Youth; 7pm New Member Comm., 7:30pm Committees Meet

Mon., March 26 - 10am
Bible Study

Tues., March 27 - 9am Staff Meeting; 10am CDC Chapel; 6pm Cardio./Sculpting

Wed., March 28 - 6:30pm Contemporary Choir; 7:30pm Choir

Thurs., March 29 - 6pm
Cardio./Sculpting

Fri., March 30 - 6pm
Jonesboro Rotary Club dinner - Harper Center