

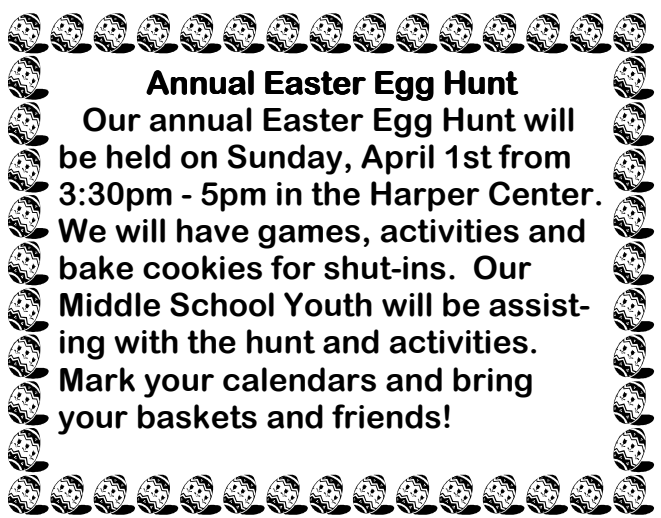


### **KICKS & Youth Club Butterfly Project**

We began our Wednesday Night Bible Study this year on February 7th by raising caterpillars. Sixty caterpillars grew and grew, more than tripling their size. Each formed a chrysalis and later changed into butterflies, almost right before our eyes! The changes in the caterpillars are symbolic of the changes we continue to undergo as Christians. God helps us to grow and change everyday and doesn't leave us to be the same old caterpillar, He enables us to become beautiful butterflies.

The children were able to watch the caterpillars change and we talked about changes we as Christians need to make to be better people. Let's remember the butterfly is a symbol of new life. It reminds us of the resurrection of Christ and enables us to claim new life and live in a completely new way. The butterflies were set free on Ash Wednesday!

Thank you to the After School children of First Presbyterian CDC, Heather Riddle and Caman Patterson for keeping the butterfly cages clean!



### **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 1st from 3:30pm - 5pm in the Harper Center. We will have games, activities and bake cookies for shut-ins. Our Middle School Youth will be assisting with the hunt and activities. Mark your calendars and bring your baskets and friends!

### **Zoo Trip**

The family zoo trip has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 21st. We will meet in the Harper Center parking lot at 9am. Weather did not permit us to go in March. If you would like to go, please call Susan in the church office to sign up and also to give your t-shirt size. We will be wearing our FPC shirts!



Middle School Confirmation Classes will begin Sunday, April 15th and conclude on May 20th. We will meet during the Sunday School time, 9:45 - 10:30am. The 8th graders will meet with Peggy Golden and David Riddle Jr. in the Middle School room and the 6th and 7th graders will meet in the church library with Susan Patterson. Please call Susan in the church office to register.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered and registered! Lisa Kimble and Valerie Davenport are preparing for an exciting week for Christian Education, June 24th - 28th. Mark your calendars so you don't miss it!! We will have a volunteer meeting on Monday, April 30th at 6:30pm in the church library.



### **Oriental, NC**

The Middle School Youth will be going to Oriental NC on Friday, April 27th through April 29th. We will meet in the Harper Center parking lot at 4pm on Friday and return late Sunday afternoon.

The Sr. High Youth will be going to Oriental NC May 4th - 6th. We will have 2 groups going, one on Friday at 4pm and one on Saturday afternoon after the SAT. Please call the church office to let Susan know which day you will be going. Thanks!

### One Great Hour of Sharing

In terms of major, headline-grabbing disasters, this has been a quiet year. After earthquakes, tsunamis, and hurricanes have dominated the news for the last couple of years, it's good to concentrate on other things. Oh, there have been significant disasters - they've been quieter, more hidden: the suffering caused by poverty, lack of clean water, hunger, and disease has always been many times greater than that caused by natural disaster, but because they are chronic, there is no single moment when they catch our attention. Through ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING our denomination has been working with our neighbors around the world both to heal and rebuild after major cataclysms and to protect against the quieter disasters as well.

Jesus told us through the parable of the Good Samaritan that our neighbor is the person or community in need. If we take that seriously, we have millions of neighbors here in Sanford and throughout the world. Jesus also told us that it is by loving God and loving our neighbor that we ourselves would live. This is undoubtedly more evident in today's shrinking world than it was in Jesus' time. It is through ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING that many Presbyterians find the opportunity to reach out in love to neighbors around the world.

The need is great. We are so fortunate in Sanford and at First Presbyterian Church that we only read about the many disasters happening both within our country and throughout the world.

You can see by the 'pie chart' how funds are distributed - disaster assistance, hunger and self-development of people. Prayerfully consider your gift. The offering will be received on April 1st and 8th or you may send a check to the church designated for "OGHS," also put your offering envelope number on the check.



The Christian Education Committee will have Palm branches available for the children to carry into the McIver Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary prior to both worship services. The children will walk down the aisle during the first hymn and lay the branches on the chancel. We will need a couple of parent volunteers to assist with the children while they are waiting to come forward. Please call Susan at the church if you are willing to help.



On Maundy Thursday, April 5th at 7pm in the Harper Center, 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.