



The Grapevine

The monthly newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church, Mount Airy, NC

April 2009

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Ministry Staff

Ministers

Congregation

Pastor

Dr. Steve Lindsley

Director of

Christian Education

Shasta Bode-Brown

Director of Music

Julius "Sandy" Beam

Office Administrator &

Financial Secretary

Lynn Rigney

Mother's Morning Out

Director

Etta Arrington

Session Members

Class of 2009

Josh Clark
Linda Gatchel
Randy Keith
John Merritt
Holly Mills
Dave Petri
Diane Wood

Class of 2010

Tim East
Cathy McCluskey
Valerie Parker
Jane Rountree
Jim Younger

Class of 2011

Lee Daniels
Doug Draughn
Heather Hatcher
CJ Karcanes
Libby Pell

HOLY WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Maundy Thursday Worship Service w/ Communion

**April 9
6:30pm**

Maundy Thursday Journey with Christ

**April 9-10
Midnight – 8:00 a.m.**

Children's Easter Celebration

**April 11
3:00pm**

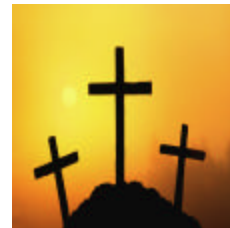
Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil

**April 11-12
9:00pm - 7:00am**

Easter Sunday Worship & Celebration w/ Communion

**April 12
10:00 a.m. (Please note time change)**

**No Sunday School
Flowering of the Cross**



Church Financial Update

Total Contributions Received for March:	\$ 18,231.05
Total Contributions Received for 2009:	\$ 71,931.02
2009 Budgeted Pledged & Non-pledged Giving:	\$ 248,494.00

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please submit your articles for the May newsletter no later than **Monday, April 20th**. Any items received after this date will be published at a later time.

Yokefellow Ministry

April Food(s) of the Month:
Dried Beans, Cooking Oil

Cents-A-Bility Offering

Bring your offering to worship on **Sunday, April 5th**. Remember - your small part can make such a big difference!

CE Meeting

Monday, April 20th
6:30 p.m.
Ladies Parlor

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed on **Friday, April 10th**, and **Monday, April 13th**, to celebrate Good Friday and Easter Monday. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Session Meeting

We will have our monthly Session meeting on **April 19th** at 8:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will examine our new class of confirmands at this meeting. **Please note the time change in the meeting.**

SESSION DIGEST

From Stated Session Meeting held on March 15, 2009

Shasta reported that 5 Beacons have applied to the Presbyterian Youth Council - Laura Belk, Daniel Hatcher, Shelley McCluskey, Holly Mills, and Cody Swicegood. Session approved all five applications.

Session unanimously welcomed into church membership - Andrew and Laurie Stroupe and their children, Daniel, Lydia, and Anna. Their first friends will be the Mills family.

Treasurer's report: Pledged receipts remain ahead of budget as some 2009 pledges have been paid in full. Some expenditures are over budget year to date, but will be used in coming months. An anonymous donation of cash stock was received, and disposition of the funds will go to help pay off our line of credit, some capital expenses, and specified benevolences. Cash accounts are in good shape.

Worship & Music Ministry Team reported that the choir is working on some special music for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Missions Ministry Team reported that the team is continuing to look into the establishment of a charity clothes closet. Holly Mills passed out copies of a letter of appreciation from the Mills family, thanking the church for its support during their mission trip in Mexico.

Discipleship Team reported that time and talent surveys will be mailed out this week to all members of the congregation. March 29th will be Spring Discipleship Dedication.

Personnel Ministry Team made a motion that staff receive the week following Easter off as a paid holiday (April 13-17), since the church was not able to give staff pay raises this year due to budget constraints. The session approved this motion.

Green Ministry Team reported that people are needed to sign up for recycling pick up from church. He has met with a purveyor of socially & environmentally friendly produced coffee to see if the church can begin using this. First Presbyterian has been entered in the Cool Congregation Carbon Footprint contest. He reviewed our current carbon footprint.

Evangelism Ministry Team reported that her team is having difficulty getting addresses for our college students. Some helpful suggestions were made in the discussion which followed.

Christian Education Ministry Team reported that the Lenten Bible studies are going well. She reminded the Session to review the meal assignments. There will be no Sunday school on Easter Sunday, and worship will be moved to 10am.

The session passed a motion approving the administration of Communion for Maundy Thursday evening.

April Ushers and Lockup

Head Usher: Tim East
Side Usher: Josh Clark
Alternate: Lee Daniels

Little Church Volunteers

April 5 Jim & Amy Robertson
April 12 Nancy & Joseph Dixon
April 19 Kim & Mariah Branch
April 26 Gloria & Taylor King

Flowers for Sunday Worship

April 5 Lib Burke
April 12 Easter Lilies
April 19 Mary Botkin
April 26 Moody Family

Worship Nursery Volunteers

April 5 Sam Brown
April 12 Lisa Dodd
April 19 Julia Ann Banfield
April 26 Betty Street

Covered Dish Lunch

Bring your favorite dishes and join us immediately following worship on **Sunday, April 26th**, to help celebrate our new class of confirmands as they become vital members of our congregation.

Presbyterian Women

Circle 1 will meet on **Tuesday, April 7th**, at 10:30 a.m. in the Ladies Parlor.

Bob Chilton Memorial Bible Study

2nd & 4th Wednesdays
8:00 a.m.
Good Life Café

Confirmation Update (For Confirmands, Their parents & Mentors)

Dates to Remember...

- ◆ **Sunday, April 19th (required)** : Sessional examination at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall; bring your Statement of Faith; arrive at 8:45 a.m.
- ◆ **Sunday, April 26th**—THE BIG DAY—Confirmation Sunday; followed by a celebratory covered dish lunch

Vacation Bible School Helpers Needed

It takes a lot of people to make a VBS run smoothly. Would you be willing to assist? We need lots of volunteers. We've got a wide variety of opportunities available. Call Shasta or Sandy Bowers to sign up.

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for June 14-17 for a wonderful VBS. We will have classes for all ages—preschool through adult. Pre-registration begins Sunday, April 19. Please sign up to attend.

Calling All Graduates!

Are you graduating from high school or college/graduate school this year? Yes? Then, **we want to know!!** Please call or e-mail Shasta by **Sunday, April 19th**, and give her the following information:

- ◆ Your full name and your parent's names
 - ◆ Where you're graduating from
 - ◆ What your plans are for the future
- ◆ The degree you will be receiving if you're graduating from college

Your church family wants to share in this time of celebration with you! Please send Shasta your info ASAP.

April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Choir Practice	2	3	4
5 Palm Sunday Cents-A-Bility & Yokefellow Offering	6	7 Circle 1	8 BCM Study @ Good Life Café Choir Practice	9 Maundy Thursday Worship w/ Communion; MT Journey w/Christ (April 9-10)	10 Church Office Closed	11 Children's Easter Celebration; Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil
12 Resurrection of Our Lord; One Great Hour of Sharing; Flower the Cross	13 Church Office Closed	14	15 Choir Practice	16	17	18
19 Session Mtg./ Confirmand Examination	20 Newsletter Articles Due CE Meeting	21	22 BCM Study @ Good Life Café Choir Practice	23	24	25 After Prom Breakfast
26 Confirmation Sunday/ Covered Dish Lunch; Beacon Movie Night	27	28	29 Choir Practice	30		

Holy Week & Easter

Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Communion

If you had been one of the 12 disciples, what would have been on your mind during that Passover meal? Would you have understood what Jesus was telling you about his sacrifice? Or would you have been caught up in your own world? On **Thursday, April 9th**, we will experience Christ's last meal through the eyes of those closest to him. The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Koinonia Room.

Maundy Thursday "All Night Journey with Christ"

Have you ever wondered what Christ's last hours were like on earth? On Maundy Thursday (April 9 & 10), we will spend the night traveling with Christ as we get a glimpse into his final hours on earth.

Our journey will begin at **11:30 p.m. in the Lighthouse. The journey is open to anyone 11 and older in the congregation.** The sign-up sheet is located in the upstairs foyer. Please see Shasta if you have questions.



Children's Easter Celebration

KIDS - Mark your calendars! On **Saturday, April 11th**, the Beacons invite you to an Easter party from 3:00-5:00 p.m. We will hear Easter stories and talk about the true meaning of Easter. We'll make Easter crafts, have refreshments and finish up with an Easter Egg hunt. So...bring Mom, Dad and your basket and come have fun with the Beacons as we celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Sign up on the board in the upstairs foyer if you plan to attend.**

Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil

Beginning **Saturday night, April 11th**, at 9:00 p.m., we will "keep watch" in the Sanctuary as we await ***Sonrise*** and the resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This will be a special time of prayer and meditation as we prepare for Easter Sunday. Groups or individuals may sign up for a time slot to keep watch. Members who have participated in this event before have said it is a wonderful and moving experience. Join us and see for yourself this year. **Sign up sheet is located in the upstairs foyer.**

Flowering the Cross

Remember to bring fresh Spring flowers with you to worship on **Easter Sunday, April 12th**, to help us flower the cross. **Remember - our Easter Sunday worship service begins at 10:00 a.m.!**



Three R's"
Highlights of the Green Team

"Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God."

1 Corinthians 4:1

In February, the Green Team entered FPC in the Regeneration Project's "Cool Congregations" Carbon Footprint reduction contest (see: www.coolcongregations.com)

In doing so, we calculated our church's carbon footprint for the proceeding 12 months based on our energy use, our trash waste and all the other activities that influence the amount of carbon released to the atmosphere.

The result: 95,000 pounds of carbon.

To put it in perspective, it would take about 1800 acres of land to consume this amount of carbon, which is a little more than half the size of Pilot Mount State Park. What's more, approximately 13 developing world congregations could be supported on our congregation's energy use last year.

The purpose of this contest is to challenge the faith community in reducing their impact on the environment and is offering a cash prize (up to \$10,000) to the congregation(s) that is/are able to lower their impact the most. Regardless of this potential prize, FPC's dedication to serve as stewards of God's mysteries provides us the necessary motivation to do our best in lowering our carbon footprint and its impact on the environment. Over the coming months, the Green Team will be leading church-wide efforts in this endeavor, focusing primarily on our energy consumption and waste production. If you are interested in helping the Green Team with this mission please contact us at fpc-green-team@googlegroups.com.



APRIL 2009 SERMONS

Sign up for the sermon email list! Go to <http://themayberrypreacher.com> and enter your email address to receive Steve's sermons each week via email. Or visit www.fpcma.com and download them in pdf format. You can also listen to the worship services in their entirety.

April 5 - Palm Sunday
In The Wilderness: Homecoming Leads to Gethsemane
 Mark 11: 1-11; 14: 32-42

April 12 - Easter Sunday
When The Wilderness Leads Us Home
 John 20: 19-31

April 19
Witnesses Of These Things
 Luke 24: 36b-48

April 26 - Confirmation Sunday
When God Sends A Letter
 Romans 5: 1-8

Get Ready! Get Set! Worship!

It's springtime and you know what that means—time for Get Ready! Get Set! Worship! This is a program designed for Kindergarten & 1st graders to learn about our worship service and why we do what we do in church. It is recommended that children participate in this class two years in a row, as each year is a little different. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 May 6-27. If you'd like for your child to attend, please sign up on the CE bulletin board in the upstairs foyer.

Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|---|
| 
April 5
Bud & Mary Kilby | 
April 16
Chip & Wendy Carriker |
| April 8
Bob & Terri Keck | April 22
Grey & Ilene Boyles |
| April 9
Sean & Amy Sparks | April 24
Rabb & Mary Taylor |
| April 10
Felton & Joan Godwin | April 30
Eric & Christie Warren |

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**Please keep the following
 people in your prayers:**

Joyce Windley Adams
 June Anderson
 Evelyn Armstrong
 Gladys Bailey
 Bob Bark
 Bonnie Bode
 Lorene Bowman
 Billie Bradley
 Carroll & Frieda Chauncey
 Jeannie Chilton
 Franklin Cox

Marion Crow
 Jim Edwards
 Philip Edwards
 Kay Ferris
 Dan Gitt
 Marilyn Gwyn
 Sue Hardy
 Leona Hicks
 Carl Hollman
 Ann Honeycutt
 Kim Humphries
 Hazel Hunter
 Mary Alice Lewis

Clyde Lockhart
 Robert Mills
 Renee Moore
 Tony Morris & Family
 Mary Moser
 Don Nester
 Jerry Nester
 Barbara Nichols
 Brandon Overby
 Vada Price
 David Rowe
 Becky Cooper Shaffer
 Christine Shelton

Edna Simmons
 Ronnie Simpson, Jr.
 Patricia Smith
 Emily Taylor
 Libby Taylor
 Rosalyn Thorneburg
 Harold Warren
 Melissa Wilkins
 Raymond Worrell
 Nannie Wyche

Note: If names need to be added or removed, please call the church office.

Beacon News

Beacon Movie Night

The Tiki Room is calling all Beacons back to movie night. Join us on **Sunday, April 26th**, at 5:30 p.m. (remember we go until 8:00 on movie night) for a great movie and a Bible study.

Prom Breakfast

On **Saturday, April 25th**, after the prom, bring your date to First Baptist Church for a scrumptious breakfast. There is no charge and all prom-goers are invited.

Birthdays



- 1-Verna Inman;
- 2- Lauren-Maree McPhail, Mary Kilby, David Dixon;
- 3-Susan Gitt, Madison Lewis;
- 4-Claire Merritt, Alexander Merritt;
- 6-David Keith;
- 8-Keegan Fowler;
- 9-Kelly Merritt, Becky Lamp'l;
- 10-C. J. Karcanes;
- 11-Mary Alice Lewis; Carol Burke;
- 12-Carolyn Robertson, Alex Bowers;
- 13-Catherine Wood;
- 15-Mildred Jones, Rabb Taylor;
- 16-Jim Younger, Sam Brown;
- 17-Brad Godwin, Cliff Isaacs;
- 19-Laura Pell, Megan Mayberry;
- 20-Sandy Beam;
- 23-Michael Botkin;
- 25-Elizabeth Merritt;
- 27-Claire Isaacs



Kid's Page