

**First  
Presbyterian  
Church**



Mount Airy, North Carolina

# The Grapevine

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

**March 2008**

**Tel.** (336) 786-2803

**Fax.** (336) 786-8896

**Email:**

email@fpcma.com

**Website:**

www.fpcma.com

## **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 & Custodian**

Etta Arrington

### **Session Members**

### **Class of 2008**

Bob Keck, Clerk  
Gloria King  
Pete Pequeno  
P. J. Snow  
Debbie Stoltz  
Cynthia Wood

### **Class of 2009**

Gary Bowers  
Linda Gatchel  
Randy Keith  
John Merritt  
Diane Wood

### **Class of 2010**

Tim East  
Valerie Parker  
Jim Robertson  
Jane Rountree  
Jim Younger

## **THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES!**

February and March have brought and will bring two wonderful events in our year-long celebration of the church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On February 17<sup>th</sup> we held the "Love Our Neighbor" fellowship event between the three PC(USA) churches in Mount Airy. To everyone's knowledge, this was the first time that members from our church, Edward Webb Presbyterian and Flat Rock Presbyterian have come together. Over 50 people came and had a fantastic time, including one of the most impressive covered dish dinners I've ever had the privilege of partaking! It was quite a sight to see folks from the three churches talking, eating and generally having a great time with one another. One thing was certain - this will not be a one-time event. Plans are already being made for a second gathering sometime in the spring. Thanks to those of you who chose to participate in this little bit of history!


Also in February, the session unanimously approved a new initiative, "FPC Goes Green." This is the result of much work by an ad-hoc group comprised of Joe Lamp'l, Lorie Lindsley and David Petri. The purpose of this initiative is to change some of the things about the church, and some ways we operate in the church, to be better stewards of the environment. Already, many of our incandescent bulbs have been replaced with much more energy-efficient CFL bulbs, and in the coming weeks the spotlights in the Fellowship Hall and other places will also be replaced with CFLs. You will also notice that all future "publications" of the church, including Sunday bulletins and this very Grapevine issue, will be printed on recycled paper. And speaking of recycling, beginning in March our church will institute an "in-church" recycling program for paper, plastics, aluminum cans and magazines that are generated here in the church facility. These items will be collected and taken to our local recycling center every two weeks by volunteers from the congregation appropriately known as the "Green Team" (you can sign up to be on this team beginning the first Sunday in March). As Psalm 24 tells us, "The earth is the Lord's;" and it is our duty as people of faith to do our part to honor one of God's greatest gifts.

Easter comes early this year – the fourth Sunday of this month. It seems appropriate, as we prepare to celebrate the risen Christ, that we continue in our celebration of a church which, for 150 years, has served as a testimony to the resurrection. Many more things are in the works - former ministers returning to preach, a glorious celebration on Founder's Day on June 8 and Homecoming in October, and continued work on the historical room. There's a calendar of events in this newsletter. Let me also encourage you to check out the "Celebrating 150 Years" link at our website, [www.fpcma.com](http://www.fpcma.com). In addition to the calendar there's also a brief church history, a list of all the called ministers of our church (including dates of service), and the text of the "FPC Goes Green" initiative. We are all honored to have the opportunity to celebrate this anniversary in many ways!

Steve

## Church Financial Update

<b>Total Contributions Received for February:</b>	\$ 15,153.86
<b>Total Contributions Received for 2008:</b>	\$ 48,509.22
<b>2008 Budgeted Pledged &amp; Non-pledged Giving:</b>	\$ 280,825.00

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Yokefellow Ministry</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>March Food(s) of the Month:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Peanut Butter, Crackers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session Meeting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday, March 16th</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Confirmation Meeting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">All confirmands and their mentors are reminded of a mandatory meeting on <b>Sunday, March 16th</b>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Church Office will be closed on <b>Friday, March 21</b> and <b>Monday, March 24</b>, to observe the Easter holiday. Have a safe and happy holiday.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES</b></p> <p>Please submit your articles for the April newsletter no later than <b>Monday, March 17th</b>. Any items received after this date will be published at a later time.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME</b></p> <p>Don't forget to set those clocks forward on <b>Sunday, March 9th!</b></p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>	

### SESSION DIGEST

From Stated Session Meeting held on February 17, 2007

- Session approved the Treasurer's report. January revenues were very strong, as some members pay their annual pledge in one payment in January.
- Stewardship passed around the current time and talent survey for review and revision as necessary. Spring Stewardship, which focuses on Time & Talents, will begin Feb. 24 and conclude on March 9th.
- Endowment recommended contributions of \$1,500 to the United Fund, \$1,000 to the Gallery Group and Art Studio, and \$1,000 to Medical Ministries. The Session passed a motion approving the expenditures. Endowment also outlined a program to encourage pledges for future endowments. The session encouraged him to go forward with the program.
- Long Range Planning reported that our 150th Celebration continues to be very successful. Paul Ridolfi has been scheduled to preach on April 13th.
- Youth reported that the youth group had won the Souper Bowl of Caring competition for the second straight year, and that overall thousands of cans were collected between the four churches to be distributed to Yokefellow Ministries and Foothills Pantry.
- Steve Lindsley proposed the "FPC Goes Green" plan of action statement, to help the church become good stewards of the environment by using recycled paper, launching an in-church recycling program, and changing incandescent lighting in the church to CFLs. The session unanimously endorsed the plan of action.
- Session approved the use of the church for Sandra Marshall's wedding on July 19th and Brittany Hawks' wedding on November 8th.
- Session approved a reimbursement for the Mills family in the amount of \$7,859.13.
- Session approved the transfer of membership for Jane Ridolfi from this church to Hudson Memorial Church in Raleigh.

## March Ushers and Lockup

**Head Usher:** Linda Gatchel  
**Side Usher:** Randy Keith  
**Alternate:** Gary Bowers

## Flowers for Sunday Worship

**March 2** Open  
**March 9** Open  
**March 16** Lamp'l Family  
**March 23** Easter Lilies  
**March 30** Moody Family

## Worship Nursery Volunteers

**March 2** Amy Sparks  
**March 9** Karen Manfredi  
**March 16** Cynthia Wood  
**March 23** Amy Robertson  
**March 30** Lydia Taylor

## Little Church Volunteers

**March 2** Mae and Jai Daniels  
**March 9** Lorie Lindsley and Kate Brown  
**March 16** Cathy and Shelley McCluskey  
**March 23** Kelly and Anna Merritt  
**March 30** Mike and Catherine Beal

## FPC Inclement Weather Policy

It is our intention that all church activities take place as scheduled. However, there are times when the weather makes it difficult to do this. In an attempt to be proactive, FPC has adopted the following inclement weather policy:

- All decisions concerning the cancellation of Sunday morning and Sunday evening activities will be made by the Pastor and Clerk of Session with input from the Program Director.
- During the week, if the Mount Airy City Schools are closed due to inclement weather and/or hazardous road conditions, any church activities scheduled for that afternoon or evening will be cancelled.
- Closing of the Mother's Morning Out program will be at the discretion of the MMO director.

### Fellowship Meal Schedule

(Each team is responsible for set-up, serving and clean-up for each meal. Shasta will assist you in planning and order the food.)

**March 5** Youth  
**March 12** Adult  
**March 20** Building and Grounds

### Bible in a Year Challenge Lunch

Bring your lunch and join us for our first monthly discussion meeting on **Sunday, March 2nd**, immediately following worship. Everyone is welcome.

### Easter Lilies

Lilies will be placed in the church in honor or in memory of a loved one on **Sunday, March 23rd**. Deadline for orders is Sunday, March 16th. Order forms may be found in your Sunday bulletin.

### Lenten Bible Study/Meals

The Lenten Bible Studies will continue on **Wednesday, March 5 and 12**. Dinner will be served beforehand. Please let Shasta know if you plan to be here for dinner.

### Keenagers

The Keenagers will travel to W-S to First Assembly of God on **Friday, March 14th**, to attend a musical drama titled, *The Life Story of the Son*. Admission to the drama is a can of food. If you would like to join us, please meet at the church at 4:30 p.m. We will eat at K & W Cafeteria beforehand. Sign up on the Keenagers board if you plan to go.