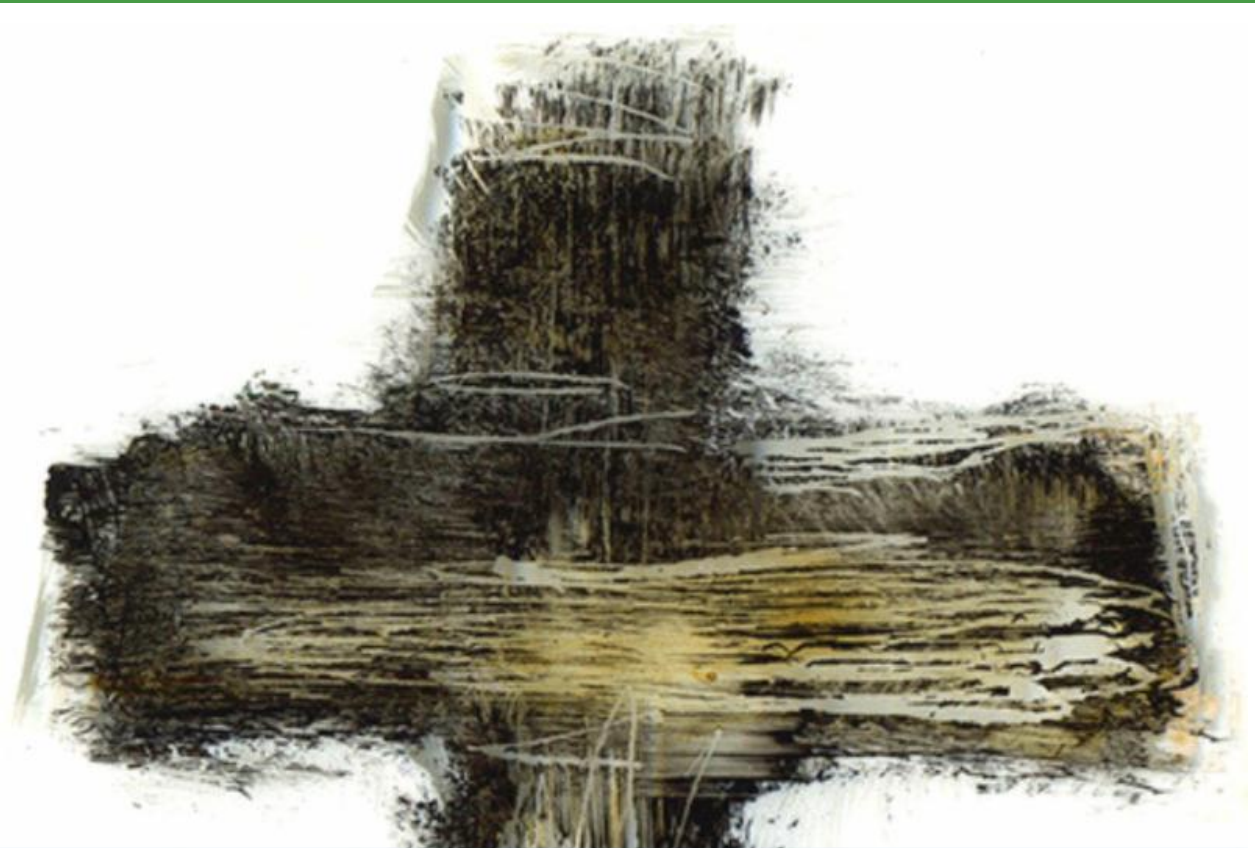


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DURHAM

"Downtown by history and by choice"

FPC Bi-Weekly Newsletter

March 5-18, 2019



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DURHAM

ASH WEDNESDAY

midday service of ashes - 12 pm

church dinner - 6 pm

service of ashes & communion - 6:30 pm

All are invited to the Ash Wednesday services being held **TOMORROW, MARCH 6 at FPC**. The imposition of ashes will take place at both services. The midday service will take place in the Memorial Garden (dress appropriately). The evening service will be held in the sanctuary. The Handbell Choir will practice at 5:00 p.m. The Chancel Choir will rehearse at 7:15 p.m.

**Daylight Saving Time begins on
Sunday, March 10 at 2:00 a.m.**



Don't forget to **SPRING FORWARD your clocks one hour before going to bed on Saturday evening, March 9.**

From the Pastor/Head of Staff:

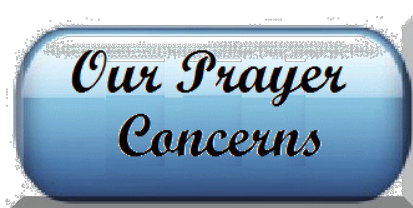
Dear friends,

This Sunday, we will have a congregational meeting following worship. The following items will be on the agenda for this meeting:

- 1) **Report from the pastor, *Mindy Douglas***, on the state of the church.
- 2) **Report from the Nominating Committee** and the election of elders, deacons, and Nominating Committee members. The Nominating Committee will share the names and bios in a separate email that will come this week. Most of those nominated as elder or deacon will be nominated for three-year-terms (youth sometimes serve a shorter term). Those nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee will serve for a one-year renewable term. ***Tyler Momsen-Hudson*** will present this report.
- 3) **Report from the budget sub-committee** (of the Finance Committee) – ***Karen Romines***, chair, will present the 2019 budget for your information. No vote is required, as this budget has already been approved by the session.
- 4) **Report from the personnel committee** – ***Gray Wilson***, chair, will present information regarding changes in salary for ***Revs. Marilyn Hedgpeth, Sam Miglarese, and Mindy Douglas***. Installed pastoral positions have any changes in their “terms of call” approved by the congregation. ***Revs. Cheryl Henry and John Weicher*** are not in installed pastoral positions and thus are not included in this vote by the congregation.

Please plan to stay for this important meeting at the end of worship on Sunday.

Grace and peace,
Mindy



Added this week:

Mickey & Bob Velkey

Tom Bloom, recovering from the flu

Recovering at Home:

Paul Cornsweet

Margaret Mubanga

Joseph Ngumi

Franzi Rokoske

Karen Swope

Carolyn and Jim Wolfe

Care Communities:

Brookdale Durham: **Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett**
Croasdaile Pavilion: **Bette Conroy, Bob Rankin**
Durham Regent: **John Kerr, Ann Prospero**
Pruitt Health at Carolina Point, Durham: **Helen Garrison**
The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

Family and Friends of Church Members and Staff:

Rev. Bill Bigger, pastor at Hope Valley Baptist Church, Durham
Camilla Crampton, friend of Mal King
Dolly Douglas, grandmother of Mindy Douglas
Rev. Mary McKey, friend of Judy and Al Arrowood
Ann Sanders, sister of Jane Brawley



Henderson and Jane Rourk have moved to Croasdaile Village.

New Telephone: 919 384-2139

Address:
2600 Croasdaile Farm Pky
A 113 Homestead
Durham, NC 27705

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to **Jennifer Creadick** and **Brian Lindner** who were married at FPC during worship on Sunday, February 24, 2019. The couple will reside in Minneapolis MN.

NOTES

Many thanks to the McPherson Lectureship Committee for hosting guest lecturer **Rev. Dr. Mary Louise Bringle** at FPC February 24 and 25. Dr. Bringle was fresh air to those who value hymnody in the church, and the meaningful ways that words and music combine to honor and give voice to our varied expressions of faith. Many commented that Dr. Bringle was helpful in articulating ways to use specific hymns during Lent as a spiritual practice. And it was especially insightful to hear how she is able to write lyrics in the way of a poet, that are then combined with the music of a composer. It was also wonderful to have **George and Libba Neas** (**Peaches McPherson's** daughter) here at FPC for Sunday School and worship to honor what would have been Peaches' 98th birthday. Kudos to the Committee for arranging for the lectures, the publicity and the hospitality that accompanied them. This year's Committee included: **Stephen Cole**, chair; **Dawn Carsey, Scottie Seawell, Jane Brawley, Dewey Lawson, Hendrika Van Vande Kemp**, and **Marilyn Hedgpeth**. Special thanks to those who contributed finger food for the Sunday afternoon tea, as well.

First Presbyterian DaySchool welcomes a new Director! **Andrea Couch** has been hired to fill the director position vacated by **Katharine Smith**.

Playroom Surprise! If you have children ages six or under, check out the new addition to our playroom, upstairs in FPC's Education Wing. We are thankful to Habitat for Humanity for the wonderful new addition to enhance our Godly play.

Coming This Summer: GBCFF (Great Big Church Family Festival). Sunday evenings from 5:30 – 7:30, June 9th, July 7th and August 4th. FPC will host the June event; Trinity Avenue Presbyterian, July; and Mt. Bethel Presbyterian, August. (See my letter for details.)

Session Briefs

In its second stated meeting of the year, on February 25, the Session heard reports from the pastors and committees about ongoing work and new projects. A request from the Service and Mission Committee was approved, for the establishment of a **task force to evaluate the use of the church apartment** by a justice-involved individual. The task force is composed of members of the Property and Service and Mission Committees, church staff, and one at-large member. **Alice Raney** and **Barbara Buckley**, delegates to the February 23rd Presbytery, reported on the meeting and their experiences there; and **Marilyn Hedgpeth** reported on a break-out session on immigration, which she led and at which **Julio Ramirez Eve** spoke. Following her report, the Session passed a motion to endorse a **letter to the members of Iglesia Emanuel** stating that First Presbyterian stands in solidarity with that congregation and offering our support, and Session members individually signed the letter. (Read the letter [here](#).)

Respectfully submitted,
Christyn Klinck, *Clerk of Session*



The sanctuary will be open on Tuesdays from 12 noon - 12:30 p.m during Lent for anyone who wishes to come and read, pray, meditate as you are so led.

Sunday, March 10 1st Sunday in Lent

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship, Baptism (Luke Braxton Bennett), and Communion

Sermon: "Our Shot" - Marilyn Hedgpeth, preaching

Remember to bring your blessing bags or supplies on Sundays during Lent.

Liturgist: **Jeanne Hervey**
Narthex Greeters: **Maxie Honeycutt, El Hess**

After Worship Greeters: **Tom Bacon** (narthex/rear);

Gray Wilson (side/font)

Ushers: **Emily Wilkins** (head), **Mary-Jo Keenan** (flowers), **Katy Barron** (counter), **Laurie Williamson, Ginny Widmark**

Need one more usher. [Click here to sign up to usher.](#)

Communion Elders:

Gray Wilson (head, replenish elements)

Bread: **Leah Graves** (B1/process), **Alice Raney** (B2), **Lenore Champion** (B3), **George Bernhardt** (B4)

Cup: **Dewey Lawson** (C1), **Kim Abels** (C2,process), **Karen Romines** (C3), **Raymond Mbah** (C4),

Shepherds: **Brent Curtis** (center aisle), **Sigfried Fullenkamp** (font aisle), **Lea Bingham** (pulpit aisle)

Sunday, March 17

Second Sunday in Lent

St. Patrick's Day

REACH OUT SUNDAY - "Invite a Friend to Church" Day

Some things in life are better when you share them. Join in the fun for FPC's Reach Out Sunday and experience the friendly faces, beautiful music, and timely message the best way we know how: together. Invite your family members, neighbors or co-workers, and their children as well.

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship and Communion

New members will be welcomed in worship.

A Congregational Lunch will be held following worship in Watts-Hill Hall. Donations will be received to offset meal costs.

Remember to bring blessing bags or supplies on Sundays during Lent.

Liturgist: **Bob Yoder**

Narthex Greeter: **Alice Raney**

After Worship Greeters: **Brent Curtis** (narthex/rear);

Tyler Momsen-Hudson (side/font)

Ushers: **Katy Barron** (Head), **TBA** (flowers), **TBA** (counter), **Dale Gaddis, Amy Dillon**

[Click here to sign up to usher.](#)

Communion Elders:

Head elder/replenish elements: **Andy Henry**

Bread: **Tyler Momsen-Hudson** (B1, process), **Barbara Buckley** (B2), **Griffin Momsen-Hudson** (B3), **Tom Bacon** (B4)

Cup: **Diane Prosser** (C1), **Cris Rivera** (C2, process), **Carol Carson** (C3), **Delia Kwon** (C4)

Shepherds: **Libby Guley** (center aisle), **Alice Raney** (font aisle), **Chris Brown** (pulpit aisle)

SUNDAY SCHOOL and other study opportunities

Children's Sunday School (grades 3-6)

We have been trying out a new rotation model of Sunday School, which allows our 3rd – 6th graders opportunities to experience the foundational stories of the Old Testament in many different ways through drama, art, games, LEGOS, music, cooking, gardening, etc. It has been great fun for the students and for the teaching teams! March is upon us and so is Lent. So, beginning **March 10**, we will begin to look at Lenten practices leading up to Easter. The class meets in **room 201** of the education building at 9:45. (Bring friends and join us!)

Adult "Faith & Community" -

This Sunday being the first Sunday of Lent, Faith and Community will focus our attention on Jesus through the lens of African American author, philosopher, theologian, mystic, and social justice leader, Howard Thurman, whose theology of radical nonviolence shaped, and still shapes, many civil rights leaders. This **Sunday, March 10**, the class will view a documentary on Thurman's life, which lasts an hour. So, we will begin at 9:45 sharp, in order to view it in its entirety. The following **Sunday, March 17, Sam Miglarese** will introduce Thurman's classic work: *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Says Vincent Harding in the forward to Thurman's book, *this richly endowed, seminal work can be more accurately and helpfully described as a profound quest for a liberating spirituality, a way of exploring and experiencing those crucial life points where personal and societal transformation are creatively joined...Ultimately Thurman's goal was to offer this humanizing combination as the basis for an emancipator way of being, moving toward a fundamentally unchained life that is available to all the women and men everywhere who hunger and thirst for righteousness, especially those 'who stand with their backs against the wall'*. Copies of Thurman's book will be available for \$13 for those who wish to read along. An additional opportunity to read and discuss Thurman's book will be on **Fridays, room 205, from noon – 1 p.m., March 8 – April 12**, facilitated by **Marilyn Hedgpeth**. If you are not familiar with Thurman, this is a great opportunity to become familiar with this founding father of the civil rights movement.

Adult Lectionary Class -

March 10: Lent is a time for self-examination, but before we can begin that process, we need to re-affirm that it is God whom we worship and serve. Jesus deflected the devil's temptations by putting the focus on God. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Join us for discussion at 9:45 in the **East Parlor**.

March 17: As we begin our Lenten self-examination, what will we find? Will we find that we have doubted in God's promises? Will we find that we have based our lives on poor examples? Will we even find ourselves accused by the words of the Christ we are seeking?

Adult Journeys & Scratch - This weekend Journeys/Scratch will finish Isaiah. Although we won't start the Flannery O'Connor study until the following weekend, March 17. **Lea Bingham** suggests we begin with the following two stories by O'Conner: "Everything That Rises Must Converge" ([Link](#)) and "Revelation" ([Link](#)). All are welcome to join this class which meets at 9:45 in

room 205 of the education building.

Women's Spiritual Formation - Susan Dunlap leads this class for women in the **basement parlor** at 9:45. This class is a great support system of sharing and prayer for women.

The Thoughtful Christian (Parenting class) - a time of discussion and support for parents who find raising children in today's world to be an exciting and daunting task. We are using *The Thoughtful Christian* as our resource. The class meets in the **apartment classroom**, upstairs in the church house at 9:45. Parents of any age are welcome. Mindy Douglas leads this class.

Friday Book Study – The Friday Book Study welcomes all who want to journey through Lent using Howard Thurman's classic work, *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Copies of Thurman's book will be available for \$13. We will watch the documentary of Thurman's life this **Friday, March 8**, and then work our way through Thurman's book and study some of his other writings throughout Lent. The class meets from noon - 1 p.m. in room 205 of the education building, and all are welcome.



The days are surely coming (soon) when we will complete our Confirmation journey together! Coming up quickly is our meeting with the Session over dinner on **Tuesday, March 19** from 6-7:00 p.m., and Confirmation in worship on **Sunday, March 31** (with a reception following worship). Between then and now, we will continue working on our “faith words”, as a way of “speaking God”; we’ll hear from some of FPC’s high schoolers about their memories of Confirmation; we’ll watch a few more of the hilarious but thought-provoking “Jerrod” videos; and we’ll prepare for the time with the Session and for that Confirmation moment in worship. Our friends from Covenant (**Nathan** and **Theo**) will be with us in worship on March 31, but they will be confirmed at their own church. We’ll let you know when that will be, so we can perhaps join them for that event. Contact **Marilyn Hedgpeth** if you have any questions.

Judith
(Guess what she did...)



High School Sunday School
9:45 am, February & March

Kaffeinate: This Tuesday, 3/5

Kaffeinate

115A N. Duke St.
Durham

Starbucks: Next Tuesday, 3/12



3801 Guess Rd.
Durham

*FPC HS
Midweek
Morning Meal
(Mmm)*

TUESDAY MORNINGS
8-8:45 AM

4711 Hope Valley
Road, Durham



Joe Van Gogh:
Tuesday after next, 3/19

All winter
& spring
long!

Join other FPC High
Schoolers, Lenore & John.



Click [here](#) to view the Middle School
calendar for Winter/Spring 2019

Click [here](#) to view the High School
calendar for Winter/Spring 2019

Let us journey to
the cross together...

FPC LENTEN DEVOTIONAL - AVAILABLE DAILY

INSTA: @FIRSTPRES DURHAM

FACEBOOK: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DURHAM

PAPER COPIES AVAILABLE @ CHURCH

Scratch / Young Adults Lenten Study Sundays, March 10 - April 7

Scratchers and young adults are invited to come enjoy tea and study the Gospel of Matthew during this Lenten season. This study is hosted by **Elizabeth Klinck and Matthew Eggleston** (2210 Sparger Road, Durham). Contact Elizabeth for more information: elizabeth.klinck@gmail.com or 919-530-0664.

FIRST FRIENDS AND FAMILIES- Save these dates!

- We are the March Fellowship Lunch Crew! Sign up to help out on **Saturday March 16 or Sunday March 17**
here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EABAC28A75-march>
- Fellowship gathering (just for fun): **March 30** at **Barbara Buckley** and **Scott Randell's** home. Evite coming soon.
- **April 27** at **Jane Wettach and Paul Baldasare's**
- **May 18** at **Jancy Johnstone's** home on the lake

SCRATCH / YOUNG ADULTS - Save the dates!

- **March 9 - 10:30 a.m.** (Saturday) - Brunch Potluck hosted by **Amy**

and Gray Wilson - respond to the EVITE

- **April 13** - 10:30 a.m. (Saturday) - **Henry** home (Palm Cross folding)
- **April 26-27** – (Easy) Campout at Camp New Hope. Click [here](#) for details.



Landscaping and grounds workdays for the month of March have been scheduled for **Saturdays, March 16** and **March 30** from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Please contact **Barbara Buckley** if you wish to participate: bjbuckley1@frontier.com.

DAYTIMERS' LUNCHEON

Tuesday, March 26 at 11:30 a.m.

Neo-China Restaurant

4015 University Drive

(919-489-2828)

Make reservations with **Harriett Mitchell**: 919-489-3839.



RACIAL EQUITY Task Force

Sunday, March 24

3:00 p.m. at FPC

A ONE-MAN DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

“We Shall Not Sleep”

Produced, created, and performed by Gary Giles, in this one-act tour-de-force for a single actor/singer on a bare stage, Giles portrays three of the most influential and iconic men of the African American culture and historic landscape: **Frederick Douglas, William Still, and Martin Luther King, Jr.**



Spring Day of Service
Saturday, April 6

The **Service and Mission Committee** is planning several opportunities to serve with other FPC folks:

- Landscaping Workday on FPC Grounds led by **Barbara Buckley**
- Cleaning/Organizing FPC Building Interior led by **Andy Henry**
- Dallas Street Home repair and painting workday led by **Tyler Momsen-Hudson**
- Blessing Bag and Toiletry Kit Assembly led by Deborah Momsen-Hudson
- Other opportunities TBA

Additional information and sign up details will be available after church beginning March 17. To help organize contact Tyler at tylermmh@embarqmail.com

BOOK GROUP

***** Rescheduled to Tuesday, April 9*****

at *Hendrika Vande Kemp's* home
(5511 Grand Mesa Drive, Durham)



Join us in a discussion of the Book:

"At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance - A new History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power by Danielle McGuire. Emily Wilkins will lead the discussion. Contact Hendrika if you will join us: hendrika@earthlink.net.

From the Associate Pastor

Dear friends,

I wanted to let you know about the plans for this summer's upcoming Great Big Church Family Festival (GBCFF), because it will be slightly different and because I'm excited about it! You've got the dates and locations: **June 9** (FPC), **July 7** (Trinity Avenue), and **August 4** (Mt. Bethel). You've got the time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. And I'm giving you the cost: \$10 per person/per night or \$30 per family/per night (same as last year).

Now here is what will be different this year. **GBCFF this year will be geared towards service projects that we can do together as a family, young and old.** So, if your youth needs summer service hours, they can acquire those by helping prepare for the evening and participating in the event (perhaps 3 hours of service per event). We will eat dinner together, as is our custom, and we'll share a Bible story and sing some songs. But most of the time we will be working on an array of service projects, like: preparing hurricane kits; making and packing lunches for Urban Ministries and Open Table; making blessing bags; gathering supplies for our Armed Forces; packing backpacks with school supplies; etc. So the \$10/\$30 cost covers dinner, plus supplies for the projects. And as is our custom, we might have some special guests joining us. I already have a commitment from a group of Muslim families who want to participate with us here at FPC. I know well that you will greet them warmly and weave them into the activities of the evening with great hospitality.

So, please mark these dates on your calendars, and plan to join us for dinner and service at this summer's GBCFF. Stay tuned for registration information, which will be on-line.

Blessings for a Meaningful Lent,
Marilyn

COMMUNITY INVITATIONS

Open Table Ministry's Free Store needs volunteers!

Would you like to help give away clothing and other practical items to Durham's homeless community? Open Table Ministry's Free Store needs volunteers to do just that. Shifts run from 9:15-11:45 Tuesday and Thursday mornings--commit to

as many or as few shifts as you'd like. Training will be provided. Contact Deb Rentfrow at dero813@aol.com to learn more.

Greetings of Peace!

More than 75% of Americans identify themselves as being religious – with adherents belonging to Christianity, Judaism, Islam and many more faith traditions. Faith is the common thread that we all share and any occasion to understand the “ other ” in this time of divisiveness is indeed a golden opportunity.

The Islamic Association of Raleigh would like to invite you and your congregants with “ **Open Doors ... Welcoming Hearts** ” to its Annual Open House scheduled to take place on **March 9th** between 11 am and 3 pm. We would like to invite you to build bridges of peace and understanding amongst us, to educate about our faith traditions in Islam, to share a meal prepared with love from our community members and more over to shed the differences and embrace the common good amongst us.

Information and registration details about the Open House can be found at [Eventbrite Link](#)

Looking forwards to hearing from you and seeing you at our Open House.

Outreach Team,
Islamic Association of Raleigh

**What Will You Do With the Rest of Your Life?
A Retreat for Women in the Second Half of Life
March 23, 2019, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Location: A comfortable house in Durham with a cat.**
Cost: \$75. Click [here](#) to register.
Contact: RCWMS, 919-683-1236, events@rcwms.org

INVITATION FROM THE NC COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
Registration is now open for our 2019 Legislative Seminar to be held at North Raleigh UMC on Thursday, March 28. Our legislative seminar occurs every other year as the General Assembly begins their legislative long session. It offers the opportunity to hear updates on issues being discussed at the General Assembly, network with others who share your concerns, and learn how you can make a difference. More information about the seminar, as well as registration information can be [found here](#) and on the NC Council of Church's website (ncchurches.org/2019seminar).

**FRIDAY
4.5.19**

8:30 am – 4:15 pm
St. Thomas More
Catholic Church
940 Carmichael Street
Chapel Hill, NC

HOPE AND HEALING:

Faith Communities and the Suicide Crisis

Faith Connections on Mental Illness is sponsoring the 9th annual conference about our faith communities' responses to the suicide crisis.

- This conversation will be initiated by **The Rev. Rachel Keefe**, who will present how faith communities can respond morally and ethically to this mental health challenge. Rev. Keefe's book, "The Lifesaving Church: Faith Communities and Suicide Prevention" will be featured.
- **Betsy Rhodes** will highlight how faith communities can offer hope to those living with suicidal thoughts.
- **Dr. Joseph Williams** will discuss the mental health issues facing those incarcerated in our local jails and prisons, including suicide.
- **Rev. John P. Oliver** will present methods and challenges for engaging clergy to foster mental health resiliency for our faith communities.
- The last session of the conference will consist of a panel discussion based on the experiences of the four main speakers.

For more information check out the conference [brochure](#). **Space is limited. Pre-registration ends March 22.**

SAVE THE DATE

FUNDRAISER FOR IGLESIA EMANUEL

Saturday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Trinity Avenue Presbyterian, Durham

Iglesia Emanuel is planning another special fundraising Dinner and Celebration of their ministries, in the fellowship hall of Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church. Please plan to come and show your support to our sister church as they expand the many ways they are impacting the Hispanic community. Want to help with the planning process? Contact **Miguel or Margaret Rubiera** at miguelrubiera1@gmail.com or margaretmr29@gmail.com.

The next church newsletter will be issued on Tuesday, March 19.

Please submit your articles to Valerie in the church office

by Sunday, March 17.

March 2019 Birthdays

Online Church Calendar



Visit our website