
Forecast



February 2015

Our mission is to know Christ, to serve Him, and to make Him known.

Dear church family,

Things are moving right along! You often hear me teach or preach each week, so allow me to switch gears and focus more on the planning and administrative side of this church for a moment. There are a number of things that are coming down the pipeline in the next months. The below bullet-point list is for ease of reference; more information is found in articles nearby:

- Feb. 22, 7pm, Sunday evening *Concert* at FPC
- Feb 28, 9:30am-12:30pm, Sat. *Church Campus Clean Day!*
- March 29, Sunday evening at 8pm, *Last Supper Presentation*
- April 16-18, Th.-Sat, *New Photo Directory* – pictures will be taken on these dates
- April 19th, Sun, 5:30pm, *Women's Gathering* – stay tuned for more information. I am excited about the way this is shaping up!

A couple transitions that are taking place:

- The Buildings & Grounds team has been working hard on addressing the A/C needs for the Education Building. After months of discussion and research, plans have now been approved by session so that everything is scheduled to be in order by the time the weather heats up. Three new units will be installed (similar to the parlor). This is a significant expense. Any special gifts to help defray the ~\$16,500 cost are appreciated.

- I do hope that you will join us on the Church Campus Clean Day on Feb. 28. We have a beautiful campus – and we all know that it is long overdue for a deep clean. Many hands make light work! We will have a nursery available, and we are already planning the day so that everything will run smoothly and efficiently. More information will be forthcoming in the next week or two, but please talk to me or Mark and Renée Goodnight with any questions.
- The church office is also transitioning the Forecast from being published monthly to being published *quarterly*. This means the newsletter will only go out in March, June, September and December this year after this issue. There are a number of reasons for this, e.g. we already have weekly phone trees, bulletins and emails. Terri will send out weekly postcards with reminders. Also, we are going to explore having more articles so that each issue is more enjoyable and substantial.
- The “re-vamped” Children’s Church that began several months ago has now been in place long enough to see what works best so that it can be tweaked. One change that will begin on February 8 is that Children’s Church will go through 2nd grade (not the current 4th grade). 3rd and 4th graders will be invited to stay in the sanctuary with their parents for the worship service.

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- Also, on Tuesdays I am frequently not in the office, as I have a weekly pastors prayer group and Rotary.

Please continue to pray that God will shape our vision of who He is calling us to be and how He is calling us to live, especially as it relates to how we are to serve our city. The time has come that our ministry with Samaritan's Table has ended. And, while we are not in a rush to have another program per se, we are actively seeking God's will.

And as we pray for what missions might look like for us at this time, there will soon be a time of *40 Days of Prayer*. This will be a time when all of us will consider committing to praying for 40 Days that God would grow us. Especially, we will ask God to put two people on our heart to invite to church. More details will be coming soon.

All in all, 2015 is shaping up to be a good year both for our church family and our city; we keep growing and moving forward step by step. Gradual, steady growth is the surest way to build.

peace,

Darryl

Bereavement Meal Team Update!



Bereavement Meals

are unable to help at this time.

The Bereavement Team is updating the four groups that serve the meals at the time of a funeral. Some of our food providers have passed on or

There are some changes being made and some new guidelines put in place. The four groups rotate serving the meals. This way, (unless there are more than four deaths in a year) each group only serves once a year.

Some members of the congregation will be contacted and asked to participate in this very important service. Everyone will have a need at some time for a bereavement meal when a loved one dies. Please consider helping if you are contacted.

New Photo Directory Coming!

Do you know the names of the people sitting around you?



Help us to build a tool that will put names with faces. Be a part of our new family directory program - we need YOU to make our new family album complete!

We have chosen to partner with Lifetouch for professional photography that will connect our members and tell our story. Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and free directory for participating!

Photography dates are April 16, 17, and 18. Look for more information coming soon!

Youth News!

The youth have kick started the year with the book of Acts gathering together around Scripture to form a Gospel-centered community. My heart swells with pride when I watched our kids perform so well on Youth Sunday. We have



talented youth, whether it be musical skills or skills articulating the way that the Gospel has touched their life. I so appreciate their hard work and your support! As we study the story of the early Church after the Resurrection and ascension of Jesus in Luke's volume two of the Gospel, I have been overwhelmed by the way that the Holy Spirit has come into our little blue youth room and changed the attitudes and desires in the hearts of our youth. I consider the opportunity to teach your kids the beauty of the Gospel a privilege--thank you for sharing them with me on Sunday evenings!

Lindsey

The Last Supper!



“The *Daily Independent* described First Presbyterian Church’s production of The Last Supper as “the highlight of the holy season.” What a rich heritage The Last Supper is for our church!

Mark was sitting at a luncheon the other day and mentioned the production would be held this year and a woman at his table volunteered that she had seen it and thought it was wonderful and that the others at her table should make plans to see it. You don’t have to be a member of this church to agree this production is something special and helps put those who see it in the right frame of mind for Easter Sunday.

The first production of the Last Supper was in 1961, produced by the Women of the Church. In recent history, the tableau has been produced every three years. The last production was in 2012.

Over the past 54 years, so many members have contributed to the success of this production in varying capacities. Many are no longer with us. As a result, the drama evokes special memories for many in the congregation.

The production will take place on Palm Sunday (March 29) at 8:00 p.m. and will last approximately an hour with music before the drama.

For many of the presentations the sanctuary has been full. Hopefully this year will find the pews and balcony filled. Let’s reach out to our friends and family who are not members of our church and invite them to experience something very memorable and so special.

Renée Goodnight

Last Supper Rehearsal Schedule

- **Sunday, February 22nd** - 4:00 p.m.
Cast with Director/Crew/Chairs
with Coordinators
- **Sunday, March 1st** - 4:00 p.m.
Cast with Director (dialogue memorized)
- **Sunday, March 8th** First Rehearsal
- **Sunday March 15th** Second Rehearsal
- **Sunday, March 22nd** Third Rehearsal
- **Saturday, March 28th** Dress rehearsal
- **Sunday, March 29th** Palm Sunday
The Last Supper Service,
3:00 p.m. dinner, Costume, make-up,
prayer time together

Special Concert!

In celebration of black history month, **Ain't That a Witness!: African-American Art Songs and Spirituals**, will be performed Sunday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. David has asked a few friends to join him. LeSondra Brown, soprano, performed the role of The Ghost of Christmas Present in the first annual production of A Christmas Carol: The Musical at Concord First Assembly under David's musical direction. Jason McKinney, baritone, and David were colleagues at Opera Carolina and have performed together hundreds of times. Jason has also toured extensively in Europe in productions of Porgy and Bess. Carol Soles, accompanist, has played for David many times in concerts, recitals, and at Covenant Classical School where David taught music from 2010-2012. This event is free but there will be an opportunity to make a love offering. Don't miss it!



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