



SteepleTalk

April 2009

First Presbyterian Church
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Member Care Volunteer

Judy Leonard

Deacon of Month/ Visiting Deacons

Sue Abernathy
Judy Leonard

Steepletalk Deadline

April 24th

Circle Meeting

April 7th at 9:45 a.m.

Mission Co-workers

Roger & Gloria Marriott
Ted & Sue Wright

From the Pastor...

This year we are going to host a Community Good Friday Service in our church at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This service is also known as a Tenebrae service. The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows or darkness. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story, so this is not supposed to be a happy service because the occasion is not happy.

The service will include solemn hymns, scripture readings and Communion, but the core of the Tenebrae service works like this: It starts out with the church in candlelight. There are 12 candles, plus a white Christ candle. The readers go up one at a time, read their assigned selections, and 12 of the readers will extinguish one of the candles, until only the Christ candle remains. Then someone reads the first part of Psalm 22 which Jesus quoted on the cross. Then the Christ candle is put out, leaving the congregation in near total darkness—and near total devastation. At this point, the service ends. There is no benediction and the people leave in silence. (The lights are turned up but remain dim so that people can see their way out.)

The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events and it is left unfinished because the story isn't over until Easter Day. We hope you will plan to attend this very special service. I think you will find it to be very meaningful as we approach the celebration of Easter Sunday.

Blessings,
Dr. Cheetham

Good Friday Service

The Easter season is upon us with all the Easter things going on. We remember the Easter story of Jesus being raised from the dead. But let's get the real story how he suffered and died for us, leading up to this great triumph over death.

The church will be hosting a community non-denominational service April 10th at 7:00 pm. This will be a special service which will include Biblical readings and the serving of Holy Communion. The dress will be casual, please invite your friends and neighbors for this most Holy service.

Youth Bake Sale

The youth group will be hosting a bake sale in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 19th after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The proceeds from the bake sale will help fund participation for various youth events. If you would like to donate any baked goods for this sale, please contact Nick. A variety of goodies will be available for purchase! Don't miss this opportunity to buy some homemade cakes, cookies, and brownies and support our youth group.

Handel's Messiah

**Palm Sunday, April 5th at 3:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Lebanon**

The Bert Coble Singers will present selections from Part II and Part III of Handel's *Messiah* on Palm Sunday at First Baptist Church. Soloists include Branson Clark and Jennie Lee Jennings Stillman from Lebanon and Pam Coble Moudy and Michael Valentine from Nashville. Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased at the door; children 12 and under are admitted free.

Fauré's Requiem

The Sanctuary Choir will perform Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* during the 11:00 worship service on Palm Sunday, April 5th.

FPC Lunch Break

Come and join Nick and other members of the church as they gather for Lunch Break at Crave Café and Bookstore (next to Signature Jewelry on Lebanon Road). On two Thursdays this month, April 16th and April 30th, feel free to drop in anytime between 11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. for a time of lunch, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners 6:00 p.m.

Adults \$6 Children under 10 years \$3.00
Under 5 years "Free"

Reservations must be made no later than noon on Tuesday. Programs are announced in the Sunday bulletin.

Deacons' Youth Yard Sale

Just a reminder to all! The deacons have re-scheduled the promised yard sale for Saturday, May 2nd. The proceeds from the sale will help support our youth activities. Good saleable items are still needed. Feel free to bring your donations to the church; we will store them for you, or contact a Deacon for assistance.

Holy Week

The Lebanon Ministerial Association will conduct noon time Holy Week services on April 6th-10th from noon until 1:00 p.m. at Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Dr. Cheetham will be giving the message on Wednesday, April 8th. Volunteers are needed to provide food for the lunch that day. If you are willing to help, please contact Kathy Adams at 443-1041.

Prayer Breakfast April 18th

On Saturday, April 18th at 8:30 a.m., FPC will have a Prayer Breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to join as we gather to have breakfast with one another and a time of devotion and prayer. The church will provide coffee and donuts; feel free to bring any additional breakfast foods with you.

Talent Show

The annual talent show is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5th immediately following the family night dinner. This early news release gives you plenty of time to "get your act together." Contact Kristy in the church office if you plan to perform or "act out."

One Great Hour of Sharing *Sharing Resources, Changing Lives*

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering will be received on Easter Sunday. This annual offering supports the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Self-Development of People.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21



From the Associate Pastor...

Thank You to all the volunteers who helped with the Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build on Saturday, March 21st.

Dear Church Friends and Family,
Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits and phone calls during the illness and death of my aunt, Claudine Prowell.

Melissa Prowell

A special thanks to all who made the Pot Luck Lunch on Sunday, March 29th a great success. I want to thank Uncle Nick for bringing his special cookies. Just wait till next time maybe Mrs. Uncle Nick will bring her special dish (no pressure). I hope everyone enjoyed their time of food and fellowship. Do we want to do this again on the next 5th Sunday?? We would like to hear your comments...

Deepest Sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to:

Robin Taylor and family upon the death of her mother, Marjorie Nabbe, on Tuesday, March 10th in Harriman, TN.

The family of Susan McDonald who died on Monday, March 2nd. Sympathy to her mother Ardyth Huntsburger and daughter and son-in-law Kirsten and Scott Harris.

The family and friends of Claudine Prowell who died on Tuesday, March 3rd.

New Members

We welcome Jeff and Lauren Campbell who joined our church by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Murfreesboro, TN on Sunday, March 29th. They also presented their daughter Virginia Lawrence for baptism and membership.

I want you to take a trip down memory lane with me. I want you to think back to when you were a kid or maybe when your children were kids. There was always that one week of the summer that was devoted to something so fun and so faith filled. There were stories, there were games, and there was lots of fun! That's right, you're remembering Vacation Bible School!! Like me, I bet you can close your eyes and remember the people who were at VBS and what you did. I remember making a bunch of crafts that I was never good at, learning tons of songs (if you ask I could still sing them because I remember them to this day), having fun with my friends, and being taught by some adults that I actually still confide in. Vacation Bible School is an important time for children to learn about the Bible and what it means to a Christian. It is a very important time in the life of the church because it is a time for all of us to explore our faith with our friends and fellow neighbors no matter how old we are!

This year's Vacation Bible School will be this summer during the week of *June 14th to 18th* during the evenings. Our theme is... (drum roll please) **Crocodile Dock!!** We will have Bible stories, games, crafts, music, and so much more. But all we need now is kids to participate and adults to help nurture, guide, and teach our children. So if you have kids or know kids that would want to come, please mark this date down in your calendar and tell them about it. If you are an adult, sign up to help our children explore their faith, and enjoy your presence and company. Vacation Bible School is not something that functions on its own, it needs the whole church to work. Please call the office and tell Kristy that you want to be on a list of volunteers for VBS. So do not forget to mark down June 14th to 18th for **Crocodile Dock**. Come volunteer to change someone's life and become a part of memory that they can look back on one day!

Grace and Peace,
Nick

Clean-Up Day

Clean-up day was postponed because of the rain. It will be rescheduled for Saturday, April 11th.

March Session Highlights

- Jeffrey and Lauren Campbell and their daughter Virginia were welcomed into membership at First Presbyterian Lebanon. Virginia will be baptized on March 29, 2009.
- The Treasurer reported that February offerings were \$17,642.00.
- The bank balance as of February 28, 2009 was \$45,943.25.
- The New Building Committee reported that it is obtaining bids for a sprinkler system for the entire church building, which will be required by the City of Lebanon if the church is renovated.
- Nancy Gebhardt has agreed to serve a one-year term as Sunday School Superintendent.
- The Member Care committee is planning one or more potluck dinners over the summer.
- The Requiem has been changed to Palm Sunday, April 4th at the 11:00 service when Communion will be by intinction. We will also have a Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m. likewise with Communion by intinction.
- On Mother's Day the youth will lead the service.
- The annual Fish Fry is scheduled for Wednesday May 20th. Bill Hamby and Terry McDonald will attend the May 7th Presbytery meeting where our Presbytery will vote on changing the fidelity or chastity requirement for ordination in the PCUSA.

Help Fight Local and World Hunger

Join the Nashville CROP Walk on Sunday, April 5th, at 2:30 p.m. at Centennial Park. Walkers will raise awareness and money for local and world hunger relief. The community 5K event will support local programs of Nashville's Table/Second Harvest Food Bank, MANNA, Luke 14:12, and the world hunger fighting efforts of Church World Service. This is an excellent event for youth groups and families. Contact Kevin McCoy at kmccoy@churchworldservice.org or 615-783-0716 to participate.

Lectionary Readings

April 5	Mark 11: 1-11 John 12: 12-16 Isaiah 50: 4-9a Philippians 2: 5-11 Mark 14: 1-15:47 Mark 15: 1-39(40-47)
April 12	Acts 10: 34-43 Isaiah 25: 6-9 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 Acts 10: 34-43 John 20: 1-18 Mark 16: 1-8
April 19	Acts 4: 32-35 1 John 1: 1-2:2 John 20: 19-31
April 26	Acts 3: 12-19 1 John 3: 1-7 Luke 24: 36b-48

Youth Activities

April 5th & 12th– No Youth Activities

April 19th– Regular Youth Activities & Bake Sale
4:45 p.m.- Elementary Fellowship
5:45 p.m.- Elementary & Youth Dinner
6:15 p.m.- Youth Fellowship.

April 22nd- Regular Youth Activities
4:45 p.m.- Elementary Fellowship
5:45 p.m.- Elementary & Youth Dinner
6:15 p.m.- Youth Fellowship.

Additional Books Related to “The Shack”

Since the discussion of “The Shack” in March, there have been questions about the two additional books that go along with “The Shack.” Those books are called “Finding God in The Shack: Seeking Truth in a Story of Evil and Redemption” by Roger E. Olson and “Finding God in The Shack: Conversations on an Unforgettable Weekend” by Randal Rauser.

April 2009

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p>1</p> <p>5:30 Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 Dinner</p> <p>7:15 Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 am Preschool</p> <p>6:30 pm Contemp</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Communion</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Sewing Group</p> <p>5:30 Building Com</p> <p>6:00 Christian Ed.</p> <p>6:00 Member Care</p> <p>7:00 Outreach</p> <p>7:00 Worship</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 am PreSchool</p> <p>9:45 am Morning Circle</p> <p>4:00 pm Knitting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:30 Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 Dinner</p> <p>7:15 Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am Preschool</p> <p>6:30 pm Contemp</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>7:15 pm Session Meeting</p>  <p>Easter Sunday</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Sewing Group</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 am PreSchool</p> <p>4:00 pm Knitting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:30 Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 Dinner</p> <p>7:15 Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 am Preschool</p> <p>11:00 am Lunch Break @ Crave</p> <p>6:30 pm Contemp</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 am Prayer Breakfast</p>
<p>19</p> <p>5:00 pm Deacon's Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Sewing Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 am PreSchool</p> <p>4:00 pm Knitting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:30 Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 Dinner</p> <p>7:15 Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am Preschool</p> <p>6:30 pm Contemp</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Steepletalk Deadline</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>4 Cents a Meal</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 am Morning Sewing Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 am PreSchool</p> <p>4:00 pm Knitting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:30 Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 Dinner</p> <p>7:15 Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 am Preschool</p> <p>11:00 am Lunch Break @ Crave</p> <p>6:30 pm Contemp</p>		