

# FIRST PRESS

First Presbyterian Church [www.fpclsy.org](http://www.fpclsy.org)

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April 2, 2009

Dear John,

With Easter only days away, I'm reminded that the resurrection was not just God's answer to those who tried to do away with Jesus. It was also a demonstration of power greater than death. John Calvin insisted that without the resurrection the suffering and death of Jesus would be incomplete. Jesus' death was crucial because through it we are reconciled to God, his righteous judgment is satisfied, the curse is removed, and the penalty paid in full. Yet, Calvin was careful to clarify that, "we are born anew to a living hope" not through his death but "through his resurrection."

Calvin explains this in his **Institutes of the Christian Religion**: "We divide the substance of our salvation between Christ's death and resurrection as follows: through his death, sin was wiped out and death extinguished; through his resurrection, righteousness was restored and life raised up, so that - thanks to his resurrection - his death manifested its power and efficacy in us."

Calvin's 1541 **Geneva Catechism** answers the question, "*In how many ways does the resurrection benefit us?*" like this: First, by it righteousness was fully acquired for us. Secondly, it is also a sure pledge to us that we shall rise again one day in immortal glory. Thirdly, if we truly participate in his resurrection, even now we are raised to newness of life, to serve God and to live a holy life according to his pleasure.

Historically, the church has spoken of the meaning of Christ's resurrection in many ways. Calvin, I think, would be in full agreement that Christ's resurrection:

- ratified his prophetic teaching
- accepted his sacrificial self-offering
- vindicated his suffering
- demonstrated his victory over sin

- ratified his Messianic Sonship
- fulfilled the Davidic promise
- made clear his authority
- demonstrated his divinity.

I was surprised to discover how little Calvin has to say about Christ's resurrection in his **Institutes**. He has much more to say about the nature and character of our own future resurrections. But the Easter event was so significant that early Christians changed their day of worship from Saturday to Sunday, because on this day God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. That makes every Sunday an Easter! Every Sunday becomes a memorial of the resurrection. I hope you have a glorious Easter.

Grant, almighty God, that we learn to rely wholly on your goodness, so many examples of which you set before us, and which you would have us continually to experience, that we may not only pass through our earthly course, but also confidently aspire to the hope of that blessed and celestial life which is laid up for us in heaven, through Christ our Lord. Amen. [John Calvin]

Your friend, Gus

## LOOKING AHEAD TO EASTER



- April 5 Palm Sunday**
- April 9 Maundy Thursday  
Communion Service  
(7:30 P.M.)**
- April 10 Good Friday Service  
(12:30 P.M.)**
- April 12 Easter Sunrise Service  
(7:00 A.M.)  
Easter Services  
(8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.)  
Sunday School  
(10:00 A.M.)**



## Sunday School News

The youth Sunday school classes were joined by the Pastor's Class and the Family Matters class in supporting One Great Hour of Sharing during the month of March. These classes gave their offerings in the amount of \$268.15 supporting ministries for disaster response and hunger relief. Please return fish boxes by April 5<sup>th</sup>!

Youth Sunday school offerings for the month of April will go to our

### Mission in Malawi.

Our gift will provide tuition, room, and board for students who cannot afford to pay for their secondary school education. The schools are often located a good distance from student homes necessitating boarding. Secondary education is vital to preparing these young people for getting jobs or going on to college.

**HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT FPCLY.ORG ?**



### PARISH NURSE

The church invites applications for the part-time Parish Nurse position. Applicants should be a licensed registered nurse with at least three years experience, an interest in parish nursing, and be willing to work up to 15 hours per week. Those interested should contact Mike Perry or another member of the Personnel Committee or one of the pastors.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN'S NEW WEBSITE!!**

Please check out First Presbyterian's new and exciting website, [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org)! This dynamic tool gives us a fast and modern way to communicate our many opportunities for worship, service and fellowship. It features a monthly calendar, a photo gallery, bulletins, sermons in audio, a Q&A for visitors and new members and much more. The website will continue to evolve over time and your suggestions and input are welcome. Please send your comments, latest committee news, announcements and digital photographs to our webmaster, Greg Pierpoint, at [Greg@fpclly.org](mailto:Greg@fpclly.org). Generally, information received by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday will be posted by Monday. Thanks to the many people who helped make this much anticipated goal a reality.

### Sunday, April 5th, is Palm Sunday



We would like for your child to meet in the Narthex at 10:45 A.M. to carry palm branches down the aisle for the 11:00 A.M. service. If your child is in Sunday school, please pick them up a little early so that they can get to the Narthex in time, or communicate with the Sunday School teacher that you will meet your child in the Narthex. The children will line up just behind the choir and walk in with the choir. The children will "split off" at the front pews and walk back to the Narthex along the side aisles. At this point, the ushers will collect the palm branches and the children will go sit with you. The service will go on as usual. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Noël Thomas at 384-3604.

### ALAN FEINSTEIN 2009 CAMPAIGN TO FIGHT HUNGER

All March and April monetary donations to the Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry will qualify for additional funds as part of the Feinstein Challenge, which will add money to all the gifts received by the end of April. The Feinstein Foundation was founded in 1991 and is dedicated to endeavors focusing on the alleviation of hunger. Every year, Mr. Feinstein offers a new One Million Dollar Challenge giveaway. This is the twelfth straight year that the amount will be divided among hunger-fighting agencies nationwide. Get extra bang for the buck by making a Food Pantry contribution between March 1 and April 30. Please make checks payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and sent to 1000 Langhorne Rd., Lynchburg, VA.



#### Men's Fellowship April 21—Ladies Night

Guest Speaker: Mayor Joan Foster

Please mark your calendar and also sign up on the appropriate sheet. Any questions, please call Mitchell Mays at 384-2653.

The **WEEKDAY SCHOOL** currently has openings in the following classes for the 2009-2010 school year:

- 4 year old/5 day
- 5 year old/5 day

Please call the school office for more information - 384-0652.

### Churches for Urban Ministry

Every summer a miracle happens at Westminster Presbyterian Church. The lives of one hundred young people from inner city Lynchburg are transformed by a wonderful program called Camp Timothy. For six weeks they meet each day with a staff of about fifteen dedicated counselors to learn about the Bible, to sing, do crafts, create skits, and swim, play and go on field trips. For fifty-six years youth have participated in this truly unique and exemplary program, and there are even some third generation campers. The campers also learn stewardship, bringing in their pennies and nickels to help others in need. Last summer these children, many of whom have very little themselves, collected enough money to pay the school fees for two children in the Dominican Republic.

Camp Timothy is the most important of several programs sponsored by Churches for Urban Ministry (CUM) to improve the lives of our city's youth. Other programs include II Timothy (an after-school tutoring program), TYMS (Teaching Young Men Successfully, a program to help boys navigate the trials of adolescence), and a food pantry. CUM is a consortium of Lynchburg churches, and we are one of its member churches. The proceeds from the citrus fruit drive each fall, organized so wonderfully by Sandra Wilson, support CUM; every August we collect food for the CUM food pantry; and First Pres also provides substantial financial support for CUM. CUM offers a unique opportunity for ecumenical cooperation among the city's churches to foster the development of young people in need.

CUM still needs counselors, workshop instructors, and life guards for Camp Timothy this summer, as well as tutors for one or two days a week during the school year to support the II Timothy program. Individual donations would also be helpful during this difficult economic time. If you can help in any of these ways please call 847-6655.




**Children's Choir sings on Palm Sunday.** This is our last appearance in worship for this season (rehearsals are now over). Please have your chorister assemble *in the sanctuary* by 10:30 A.M. for warm-up.

**Chancel Ringers' final rehearsal is Wednesday, April 8th.** Our last appearance in worship is on Easter Sunday (both services). Members should report to the sanctuary by 8:00 A.M. for warm-up with the Chancel Choir.

**Chancel Choir will assist at the Maundy Thursday service on April 9th.** Members are to report to the sanctuary by 7:00 P.M. for warm-up. An abbreviated rehearsal will follow. Also, warm-up for Easter Sunday will be at 8:00 A.M. in the sanctuary.

**Chancel Choir Concert:** Sunday, April 26th at 4:00 P.M. featuring the Roanoke Chamber Brass! Mark your calendars now for this exciting program. The Chancel Choir, along with the Roanoke Chamber Brass, will present an unforgettable concert of glorious music guaranteed to lift your spirits. Plus, there will be an area premier of a new work by our Director of Music. Invite your friends and neighbors, and don't miss this finale to our musical season.

*We mourn with you*



**PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY**  
are extended to  
Beth Eskridge  
in the death of her mother,  
**Lois Ragsdale,**  
who died on March 21,  
and to  
Red Tolbert  
in the death of his wife,  
**Lorraine Hall Tolbert,**  
who died on March 22, 2009,  
and to  
Phebe Wescott  
in the death of her mother,  
**Sarah Jane Williamson,**  
who died on March 24, 2009.

**ARE YOU READY FOR FPCLY.ORG ?**



**LEONARD SCHOLARSHIP**

Our church is the distribution agent for a financial needs grant for undergraduate and graduate studies at a four-year accredited college, university, and theological institution. The annual grant offered is based on need and is subject to a maximum \$3,500 per year of study. Interested persons should contact the church office for guidelines and an application for the 2009-2010 school year. **Completed applications must be in the church office no later than May 4, 2009.**



**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS** are performed after the first service and before and after the 11:00 A.M. service in the Parish Nurse's Office, Room 102.

**IN APRIL -Third Sunday, April 19**  
**IN MAY - Second Sunday, May 10**




## Breakfast on Easter Sunday

Do you plan to attend our Easter sunrise service? It's sure to be a very meaningful experience. Following the service, please stop by the Fellowship Hall for a light continental breakfast of coffee, juice and pastries provided by your Membership Fellowship committee. If you are planning to attend one of the other services, then please stop by Fellowship Hall at 9:30 A.M. for a more substantial repast of hot cross buns, stratas, delicious fruit and other delights. Better yet, come to both! We hope to have a good turnout for our first sunrise service at First Presbyterian. Be there and be a part of it! If you would like to provide something for our Easter breakfasts, please call Sally Leslie at 384-9062 or email her at [cicver@msn.com](mailto:cicver@msn.com).

### College Students - looking for rides to church



Two Lynchburg College students have been coming to the 11:00 A.M. worship service. They depend on members for rides. If you can be available on occasion to pick up and drop off these students, please contact Janie Willson at 384-6231.



### THE LIVING CROSS

It has become a tradition at FPC to place a cross on the circle lawn at the church entrance. Those coming to worship on Easter morning bring the cross to life by placing fresh flowers on it. The Living Cross is a lovely part of our service each year. Please bring your cut flowers on Easter morning.

## EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

*“Very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen.”*  
(Mark 16:2)

For nearly two thousand years, Christians around the world have celebrated Easter with sunrise services. What a great way to usher in Resurrection Day!

**Join us for a brief Sunrise Service in our Columbarium on Easter morning, Sunday, April 12, at 7:00 A.M.** You are invited to a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

Hope to see you there! Invite your friends!

*“They saw that the stone was rolled back from the tomb; and they were amazed.”* (Mark 16:4)

**HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT FPCLY.ORG ?**



### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Coordinating Team will meet on **Monday, April 6, at 11:00 A.M. in the library.**

The Young and Not So Young Circles will meet on **Tuesday, April 7, at 9:30 in the library.**

The Horizon Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 14, at 9:45 A.M. for light refreshments in the Officer's Room.**

The Book Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 14, in the library at 10:00 A.M.** The book to be discussed will be The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

The Evening Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 14, at 7:30 P.M.,** at the home of Jeannette Strunk, 200 St. James Place.

## “Young Adult” Christian Fellowship

A joint ministry of First Presbyterian Church & Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church.

**A time for fellowship and fun with other “Young Adults.” Feel free to invite a friend or two!**

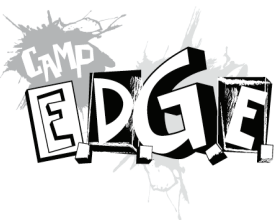
**Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M.**  
Dinner at **Dish** (1120 Main St)  
**RSVP** by Wednesday **April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 A.M.**  
Breakfast and Coffee at **White Hart Café** (1208 Main St. – across from the Community Market)  
**RSVP** by Thursday **May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**By responding by the dates listed we will know how many people to expect and how many tables to reserve. You may RSVP to Meggan Farwell 239-5439, [meggan@fpcly.org](mailto:meggan@fpcly.org) or to Jenn Perry 845-7541, [jlp9@mac.com](mailto:jlp9@mac.com).**

## Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars – Vacation **Bible School** will take place **June 15<sup>th</sup> – June 19<sup>th</sup>!!!**



This year’s theme is Camp E.D.G.E where kids will **Experience and Discover God Everywhere!**

The co-directors this year are **Betsy Rhodes** and **Nancy Weaver**.

Camp E.D.G.E. VBS is not your typical stroll through the woods. It's an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition that teaches kids that their strength and might come from God. Through rockin' music, larger-than-life recreation games, mind-boggling science activities, extreme sports videos, and cool, challenging crafts, kids will learn how to live on the E.D.G.E. in their faith.



The daily pledges of Camp E.D.G.E are:

- God is with me. I will stay close to God.
- God guides me. I will follow.
- God teaches me. I will learn.
- God loves me. I will love God and others.
- God sends me. I will go.

If you would like to sign up to help in any way with VBS please contact **Betsy Rhodes** 384-4577, [betsyrhodes75@aol.com](mailto:betsyrhodes75@aol.com), **Nancy Weaver** 386-0344 [nancysweaver@verizon.net](mailto:nancysweaver@verizon.net), or **Meggan Farwell** 384-6231, [meggan@fpcly.org](mailto:meggan@fpcly.org).

**Contact us before we contact you!**

## College Care Packages

We have been collecting college addresses because the High School Youth Group is going to be making and sending care packages to our college students at the end of April / beginning of May.

This is one way that our college youth will know that their “home church” cares for them and is thinking about them.

**The youth will be doing the work, but we need your help donating items for the packages.**

**What do we need?**

- Shoe boxes to put the items in (save your boxes and bring them in)
- Boxes of Granola Bars
- Boxes of Hot Chocolate Mix
- Boxes of individually wrapped tea bags
- Post-it notes
- Packages of Highlighters
- Packages of Mechanical Pencils and Pens of all colors
- Individually wrapped bags/packages of snacks – cookies, crackers, fruit snacks, etc.
- Individually wrapped candy
- Packages of Gum
- Anything else you think a college student might enjoy!!

**There will be a box in the entry way through Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, to collect any donated items.**

**Each box will cost approximately \$7 to ship so we are also looking for monetary donations to cover shipping.** There will be a smaller box near the large box for cash donations. You can also give your money to Meggan.

**Thanks for helping the High School Youth make this project a success!!**

## Youth News

Look for postcards for April's events!

### MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS IN APRIL

**Eleanor Dennis - 386-5714**

**Nora Murphy—384-6904**

## March Fellowship Dinner

We had a terrific turnout for our most recent gathering with a wonderful presentation from our National and World Missions Committee. Many, many people attended. So many that we needed to set up extra tables because we didn't expect such numbers. Thanks must go to our youth who stepped in and helped with set up, serving and clean up. We appreciate your taking time from your school night. And thanks to the National and World Missions Committee for an outstanding program!

## Fellowship Dinner Program April 22nd - 6:00 P.M.

### Wild Things!

Please join us on the evening of **April 22nd** for a wild and woolly presentation by the Nature Zone. There will be critters galore for us to learn about and to enjoy. This is sure to be a popular event with young families and with those who are young at heart. Don't forget to sign up in the church's front entry. We would like to have as accurate a count as possible so that we can be properly prepared for you. Want to help with setting up, serving or clean up? Then call Sally Leslie at 384-9062 or email her at [cicver@msn.com](mailto:cicver@msn.com). Many hands make for light work!

## Lynchburg Cooks for Hunger Relief Monday, April 20, 2009, 6-8 P.M. Cattle Annie's

Over 30 restaurants participating with 100% of ticket sales to benefit the fight to end hunger in Central Virginia. This year The Daily Bread, Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry, and Central Virginia Area on Aging will be the beneficiaries of all proceeds. Buy a ticket for \$25 (\$10 is tax deductible) and come have a great time listening to "Off the Cuff" Band, eating and drinking to your heart's content, all the while helping these worthwhile agencies fight hunger in our community. Please call Ferrell Nexsen to buy a ticket. 384-5271.

## First Presbyterian Church

1215 VES Rd.,  
Lynchburg, VA 24503

Phone: 434-384-6231  
Fax: 434-384-9156  
Email: info@fpclly.org

**The Single Adult Fellowship** will get together for lunch on **Sunday, April 19** (Note change—3rd Sunday instead of 2nd Sunday). We will meet at **Famous Anthony's** (Rt. 221 - 2631 Lakeside Drive, opposite Sheets). Meet at the restaurant by 12:30 P.M.



### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2008 - 2009

**Diaconate Chair - Rogers Green**

**Clerk of Session - Bill Perkins**

<b>Budget/Finance</b>	-	<b>Randy Nexsen</b>
<b>Building</b>	-	<b>Becky Giles</b>
<b>Care &amp; Nurture</b>	-	<b>Andrea Kittrell</b>
<b>Christian Ed.</b>	-	<b>Helen Gilmer</b>
<b>Community Mission</b>	-	<b>Bryant Hare</b>
<b>Grounds</b>	-	<b>Chip Holston</b>
<b>Membership/ Fellowship</b>	-	<b>Sally Leslie</b>
<b>National/World</b>	-	<b>Joyce Bailey</b>
<b>Personnel Committee</b>	-	<b>Mike Perry</b>
<b>Ushering/Offering</b>	-	<b>Karen Riordan</b>
<b>Witness/Outreach/ Stewardship</b>	-	<b>Craig Tiller</b>
<b>Worship &amp; Music</b>	-	<b>David Johnsen</b>

**Next Newsletter: April 16, 2009**

**DEADLINE:**

**Thursday, April 9, 2009**