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Published in the Interest of
CHRIST - CHURCH - COMMUNITY
www.wbpresbyterian.org

VOLUME 51, No. 4

April 2014

Celebrating the Resurrection and the Life

Out of the darkness of grief and despair
comes a message of hope. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves.

And it is true. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

We hear a voice call our name,

and we know our risen Lord

is with us now and always.

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

Thanks be to God. ¹

Out of the huts of history's shame

I rise

Up from a past that's rooted in pain

I rise

I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear

I rise

Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear

I rise

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,

I am the dream and the hope of the slave.

I rise, I rise, I rise. ²

In this Resurrection season, we give praise to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit because the power of love has conquered the love of power! We have a song that the angels cannot sing - "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."³ N. T. Wright, the New Testament scholar and Bishop of Durham, England, in his text entitled *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense* said it in this way: "Christians believe that on the third day after [Jesus] was executed - on Sunday, the first day of the week- Jesus of Nazareth was bodily raised from the dead, leaving an empty tomb behind him. That, primarily, is why we also believe that Jesus' death was not a messy, tragic accident, but the surprising victory of God over all forces of evil."⁴ My friends, God's kingdom has erupted into our world. Now, healing, forgiveness, deliverance and peace are available to all. I encourage you to proclaim this good news where ever you go. Jesus Christ has risen from the dead and He is Lord! Amen.

Shalom,
Bruce

¹ <http://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/03/easter-call-to-worship-prayer.html>

² Angelou, Maya. "Still I Rise"

³ John 3:16-17, New Revised Standard Version

⁴ Wright, N.T., *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*, (New York: HarperCollins, 2006), pp. 11.



Holy Week Schedule

April 13—Palm Sunday
Palm Processional: All Children meet outside the sanctuary at 10:20AM

April 17—Maundy Thursday
Maundy Thursday/Tenebrae Service
7:00PM in the sanctuary. (Communion served)

April 20—Easter
Sunrise Service
Community Sunrise Service & Breakfast-6:30AM
Athens Drive Baptist Church

Easter Morning Worship Service—10:30AM
(Bring fresh flowers for the cross on the church lawn.)

Easter Celebration—In the courtyard following morning worship (including an Easter Egg Hunt)

Easter @The Table Service—5:00PM
(Bring fresh flowers for the cross on the church lawn.)

Attention Children: Palm Processional

All children ages 3 years through 5th grade are invited to participate in the Palm Processional at the beginning of morning worship on Palm Sunday, April 13. Meet us outside the sanctuary at 10:20 a.m.



Flowers for Easter Cross



Each Easter Sunday, a wire mesh cross is placed at the entrance of our sanctuary. It is our delight to fill this cross with fresh cut flowers to celebrate our risen Lord. Please bring flowers from your home on Easter Sunday and join this celebration.

Join Us @The Table

Sundays at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Grab a cup of Java and feast with us in this coffeehouse style worship.

Breakfast Served Palm Sunday, April 13



The Men of the Church will serve breakfast once every month, on the second Sunday of the month. Breakfast begins at 8:45 a.m.! Join in the fun on Sunday, April 13, and share the most important meal of the day! Thank you Men of the Church!

Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae Service

Tenebrae Service: April 17



Come experience the passion of Christ on this most holy Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The first part of the service will focus on Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Following communion, we will follow Jesus to the cross in a "tenebrae" experience. Tenebrae is the Latin word meaning "shadows." The sanctuary will be gradually darkened as candles are extinguished following scripture readings. At the end of the service, the sanctuary will be stripped as we await the return of the light, the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Day. Our Maundy Thursday music will be softer this year, using strings and woodwinds, and include a beautiful new Lenten hymn from Glory to God. *Nursery provided.*

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. The PC (USA) offering is divided among three of our relief programs:

[Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) receives 36%

[Self-Development of People](#) receives 32%

[Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#) receives 32%

30,000 people die daily from lack of adequate food or water. May we share with a theology of abundance as we participate in this offering.

April Children's Chapel Schedule

April 6

Communion Sunday
(No Children's Chapel)

April 13

Jesus' Last Passover

Storyteller: *Carol Parker*; Greeter: *Noah Milchuck*

April 20

Easter Sunday
(No Children's Chapel)

April 27

Jesus Appears to the Disciples by the Sea

Storyteller: *Suzanne Smith*; Greeter: *Grace Odum*

It's a SLUMBER PARTY

-and you are welcome to participate!

Our 2014 Haiti Mission Team will be traveling to Haiti July 10-18. The team would like to deliver bed linens for the children and staff at the Yahve-Jire Children's Orphanage. This means purchasing and packing 30 sets of **sheets, pillow cases, mattress pads and light weight blankets.**

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE? Choose what you would like to donate. Look for the display in the narthex or fellowship hall starting April 6, and choose an item (or items) you would like to purchase and contribute. If you are unable to come to church but would like to participate, contact Suzanne Smith at 919-858-9331.

Our Yearly Update on CDCA



Sarah Junkin Woodard will join us on April 27 for the latest on the Mission we support in Nicaragua. Are you wondering what to get Mom for Mother's Day or the new grad for the next phase of life? The Mission Outreach Committee at WBPC has the answer. Come to church the Sunday after Easter (low Sunday) and shop with our yearly display of Nicaraguan Crafts brought by Sarah Junkin Woodard and the Center for Development in Central America (CDCA). Hear about the mission we support collectively at WBPC and individually. We will have a simple meal after

worship and receive an update from Sarah. Crafts will be available before church and at lunch for shopping.

Youth News

Youth Sunday will be on **May 4**. We have been discussing relationships and how we can orient our lives in recognition of God as the center of all relationships. Likewise, the theme for Youth Sunday will be *Relationships*. Our seniors will offer sermons as they reflect upon their relationships, looking both at the Bible and their social groups. Our seniors are Brandie Peede, Morgan Herrin, and Frank Alcorn.

On **April 11**, the High School group will be taking a trip to Defy Gravity: a trampoline room!

Following Jesus, the Prince of Peace

On March 9, the session passed a motion that the premises of Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church and all gatherings using the facilities be gun-free zones. The session adopted the following policy: "Individuals (other than active law enforcement officers) are prohibited from carrying guns onto this property." The session also approved displaying appropriate signage indicating guns are not allowed. The session took these actions because they want Western Boulevard to be a safe place, especially for the children and youth of the church and neighborhood to come for school and activities. This action is consistent with other actions the session has taken to implement a safe child program, install lights and security systems, maintain the property, and all the other things we do to ensure the facilities are safe for people to use and so that parents and children will feel safe being here. In addition the session felt that this action sends a message to all who use this facility that we are a community that has placed its trust in God and who follows Jesus, the Prince of Peace.



Sixty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration

June 1, 2014

WBPC will celebrate its 65th anniversary on Sunday June 1, 2014. Plan to be present on this very special day. Invite friends, neighbors, former members and staff to join us in this celebration. Following our Sunday morning worship service there will be a catered meal of barbecue. There will not be a charge for the meal, but donations are requested to help cover the cost. The Fellowship committee will provide vegetarian options.

This is a very special time for our church so make plans to invite friends and family to share in this very special day. In May, there will be opportunities for members to indicate the number attending from their family. Please help the Fellowship Committee by giving a count of those who expect to attend. Watch for more information about this special celebration in the coming months.

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle

BackPack Buddies

Driving Hunger From Our Communities

William's Weekend for BackPack Buddies

William Winslow's 2nd annual food drive benefiting InterFaith Food Shuttle's BackPack Buddies Program is the weekend of **April 12-13**. He needs volunteers to staff collection tables at 4 area grocery stores. Please email his mom, Blythe, blytheclifford@gmail.com if you can help. William's goal is to collect 5x as much food as last year, and we'd love your help in reaching that goal!



Recently Your Session.

- Examined Elder-Elect Bill Mitchell and voted to ordain and install him during the March 16 Morning Worship Service.
- Approved the collection and dates for special offerings in 2014.
- Approved declaring the premises of WBPC and all gathering using the facilities to be gun-free zones.
- Approved Richard Nystrom to preach at the Morning Worship Service on March 23.
- Approved Joe Burmester to preach at the @TT Service on March 23.
- Dr. Bruce Grady will be preaching in Brooklyn, NY on March 23.
- Spent time preparing for the Session retreat on March 22.
- Heard reports from Millicent Shyllon and Ed Johnson on the New Hope Presbytery Stated Meeting held February 22.



Ready for Spring?

Following a cold and icy winter, we are all ready for spring! Spring is about warmth and new beginnings. That's exactly what we stand for at Wheels4Hope where we turn donated cars into local blessings.

Help us celebrate the coming of spring by:

Blessing the life of Amisha. Amisha, referred by Passage Home, is expecting her first child in June and needs a car. Since her car died 2 years ago, she has been walking and catching the bus to and from work.

Blessing the life of Jennie. Jennie moved into Southlight (our newest partner agency) days before having her daughter, Daisy. With a vehicle she will be able to pick up more shifts at work and provide for her family's needs.

Wondering what to do with your time? Volunteer at Wheels4Hope – help drive and/or repair donated cars.

Wondering what to do with your old car? Donate it to Wheels4Hope and bless the life of a local family.

Please visit www.wheels4hope.org for more information, or call 919-832-1941.

A Place at the Table

Do you like movies but hate economic injustice and hunger? Fairmont United Methodist Church at 2501 Clark Avenue, is hosting the second of a 2 part film series focusing on economic inequality and hunger in America. On **Monday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m.**, an eye-opening documentary **A Place at the Table** will be shown, which portrays how people in this country of abundance are still hungry. For more information, visit www.bread.org/ol/2013/a-place-at-the-table/

Please feel free to spread the word and invite others!

WBPC February Financial Report

	<u>FEBRUARY 2014</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Pledges	\$ 24,078.00	77,693.00
Open	2,154.40	3,60.68
Church School	55.00	111.00
Total Offering	26,287.40	81,164.68
Prior Receipts		106.18
Expenses	<u>29,191.08</u>	<u>59,344.05</u>
Net Total	\$ (2,903.68)	21,926.81



Easter Lilies 2014

As we begin our planning and preparation for Easter, the Worship Committee would like to offer the congregation an opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one by putting a traditional lily in the sanctuary. The cost of a lily is \$12.00. Please complete the form below and put it in the collection plate with your payment or return it to the church office **no later than Monday, April 14**. Please indicate *Easter Lilies* on the memo line of your check.

Given by _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of (1) _____ (2) _____

In Honor of (1) _____ (2) _____

Number of Lilies requested: _____ x \$12.00 each = \$ _____

Paid by ___check ___cash

Vacation Bible School, Workshop of Wonders: Imagine and Build with God!

It's time to gear up for VBS! Join us for Vacation Bible School 2014, June 16–20, from 9:00-12:00. Grab a hammer, find a paintbrush, and put on your creative thinking cap! At Workshop of Wonders (WOW) VBS, kids will imagine and build with God! This interactive and energizing Bible-based program will inspire your “visioneers” to use their hearts, minds, and imaginations to follow the example of God, the one who works wonders!

Please call Allisen Fischer (455-6147) or Blythe Clifford (244-6227) to volunteer. We will need many adults and youth to make this camp a success!

VBS! “Workshop of Wonders: Imagine and Build with God!”

June 16-June 20, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Please fill out a separate form for each child;
additional forms available by the church office.

Children must be 4 years old by August 31, 2014

(Registration must be received in the church office by June 4th.)



Name _____ Date of Birth _____ If in school, grade completed _____

Address _____

Emergency contact (please give two):

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Food allergies _____ Other allergies _____

Epipen or other medication needs (left on site) _____

Other special needs/ information _____

Parent's Signature _____

Lent

Lent is a time to take the time
 to let the power of our faith story take hold of us,
 a time to let the events get up and walk around in us,
 a time to intensify our living unto Christ,
 a time to hover over thoughts of our hearts,
 a time to place our feet on the streets of Jerusalem
 or to walk along the sea and listen to his word,
 a time to touch his robe
 and feel healing surge through us,
 a time to ponder and a time to wonder...

Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God!

—Ann Weems

A Time of Reflection, Renewal, and Hope

The Lent, we encourage you to reflect on how blessed you are, and how much you have, then take action and give some hope to families right here in the Triangle area. Fill A Bag! Bring in food for the Urban Food Bag Ministry: dried beans and milk, canned vegetables and meat, applesauce, bagged grits and rice, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter or a box of cereal. Bring one item, multiples of one item, or several different items - you choose. Have fun with it. Renew hope for a family. Drop off the food downstairs outside the fellowship hall. A list of needed food items can also be found there. Thank you for your time, effort and generosity.

Social Justice Forum Lenten Study

Join the Social Justice Forum during Lent for our study of Christian Simplicity. **We meet on Sundays in the library at 4:00 p.m. (3:30 p.m. for enriched action).** We are experiencing some powerful, prophetic lessons for living our life! Christian Simplicity helps us refocus on what is important, whose we are and who and what we follow.



Friday, April 18
 11:30AM
 D&S South Hills

Portrait Mini Sessions

Stacy Borelli, one of our 2014 Haiti Mission Team members is a professional photographer in Clayton. She is offering spring photo sessions to help benefit the Haiti Mission Trip. These sessions are available on several dates in March and April. For \$75 you get Stacy's creative eye, an 8x10 professional print, and 40% off the cost of any prints you order. Please contact Stacy to reserve your session time: sborelli618@me.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS: Joyce Barbour, Nita Brinkley, Kaye Byrd, Dot Gebbie, Lori Grippo, Ed Johnson, Miranda Johnson, Richard Lentz, Daisy Lowery, John and Mary Jane Roberts, Dot and Jimmie Smith, Peggy Stevens, Holly Webster

FAMILY/FRIENDS: BJ Atwater (friend of Peggy Stevens), Lisa (*Nance*) Bain and family, The Family of Lanie Bizzell (friends of Charles and Suzanne Smith), The Collotta Family (friends of Donna and Morgan Herrin), Helen Jones (friend of Greg and Shirley Griffith), Tim Meece (uncle of Chad Barnette), Warren Peede (father-in-law of Cherie Peede), Wendy Ratley (sister of Leslie Adams), Lauren Snyder (granddaughter of LouGene and Jim Hemphill), James Wilson (Mavis Stott's nephew)

REX HOSPITAL: Gene Reese

ABBOTSWOOD: Margaret Pittman

UNIHEALTH/THE OAKS: Betsy Roberts

THE COVINGTON: Annie Woodruff

BRIGHTON GARDENS: Jo Gilmore

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Emily Bennett	2
Cassy Townsend	2
Kaye Byrd	4
Henry Wessell	7
Lindsay Simpson	8
Louise Beck	9
Catesby Partin	10
DeWayne Taylor	12
Jack Tierney	13
James Hemphill	15
Cody Nance	16
Brad Chard	17
Michael Clark	17
James Craven	17
Jim Overcash	17
Valerie Guzzo	18
April Goodman	19
Sarah Odum	20
Lisa Lentz	23
Beth Milchuck	23
David Reynolds	23
Annie Tucker	27
Helvina Ndepkeu	29
April Ruble	29
Erin Bennett	30
Morgan Herrin	30