



# THE LINK

February 2016

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C H U R C H PC(USA)

Announcements for the weekly bulletin and the Friday e-Link are always due on Wednesdays at noon. Items for the monthly edition of The Link are always due on the 15th of the month unless you receive notification to the contrary.

All articles should be submitted to Deb Bundesen at [deborah.bundesen@carypresbyterian.org](mailto:deborah.bundesen@carypresbyterian.org)

*Follow Cary Presbyterian Church on Facebook to stay up-to-date on church activities and news from church staff. Share our posts with friends or potential visitors.*

## *Session Highlights* *January 13, 2016*

At its recent meetings, Session:

- Approved a motion to arrange a gathering with the local Islamic community.
- Decided that Session would sponsor three Food & Fellowship gatherings of the congregation in 2016.
- Approved a request from Anne Elizabeth Hardee to transfer her membership to Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church in Fuquay-Varina, NC.
- Approved a request from Eileen Fitzgerald to transfer her membership to Fuquay-Varina Presbyterian Church in Fuquay-Varina, NC.
- Received Kathy Lindabery into membership by letter of transfer from Low Country Presbyterian Church in Hilton Head, SC.
- Approved a request from Suzie and Mark Steger to transfer their memberships to Cornerstone Presbyterian Church in Cary, NC.
- Approved a request from Barb Munch to transfer her membership to Providence Presbyterian Church in Norristown, PA.
- Approved the 2016 operating budget (which will be shared with the congregation at its annual meeting in February).
- Received an update from the Temporary Associate Pastor Team that potential candidates had been interviewed and they hoped to bring forth their hiring recommendation soon.
- Approved the job description for a part-time youth director and authorized a search team to be formed.

Rhonda Carlile, Clerk of Session

### **In This Issue**

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**CPC Calendar**

If you have questions about any of the items listed above, please contact one of your elders: Tom Bolick, Jennifer Bryant, Leah Burton, John Campbell, Rhonda Carlile, Melinda Crouse, Caroline Derifaj, Bob Hall, Al Hardie, Justin Hancock, Dee Hatch, Su Johnson, Ben Kadlec, Brandon Keith, Camille Lambe, Conniesue Oldham, Boyce Oglesby, Scott Patrick, Melanie Phillips, Shane Pierce, Kecia Simmons, Jennifer Simpson, Tom Van Scoyoc, or Belinda Weinbrecht.

Copies of approved Session meeting minutes are available by contacting Deb Bundesen at the church office.

## ***Congregational Meeting***

The congregation of Cary Presbyterian Church will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, February 7, 2016 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The following items of business will be on the agenda:

1. Receive as information the Annual Report
2. Receive as information the 2016 operating budget
3. Vote on the terms of call for Pastor/Head of Staff, Kyle Allen
4. Elect members of the 2016 Nominating Team



**Please mark your calendars and plan to join us this Sunday, January 31** after worship to celebrate both the payoff of our mortgage loan and the installation of our new officers. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for hot chocolate, cake and finger snacks, and a celebration of our officers and the shredding of the mortgage.



## ***Two weeks 'til Valentine's Day - Fair Trade Chocolate Is Available This Sunday***

This Sunday is All Together Sunday. Valentine's Day is fast approaching, and this Sunday is the only day we're offering a variety of chocolate bars before the big day. In addition to chocolate, we offer these Fair Trade products:

- Coffee (ground, whole-bean, K cups; regular, decaffeinated)
- Organic tea
- Olive oil
- Cocoa

Please look for us, before and after the worship service, outside Fellowship Hall. You can now use a credit or debit card, in addition to cash and checks.

## ***Food Drive for the Dorcas Ministries Food Pantry***



Remember the Food Drive this Sunday. Donations will be taken to the Dorcas Food Pantry to support families in our area. Please check out the Food Pantry website for suggested donations: <http://dorcascary.org/donate-volunteer/donate/>

## ***Christian Education***

### **"Coming Together Despite Our Differences" Series**

Cary Presbyterian is continuing a conversation about reconciliation: "Coming Together Despite Our Differences." We have been considering how we come together in many areas of life, from biblical interpretation to interfaith cooperation. We hope to be a blessing to the congregation, the presbytery, and the community of Cary and beyond, through this venture which began in 2015. This series is being funded by a grant from the Memorials and Endowment Committee.

Now we're ready to plan an event with some of our Muslim neighbors. More details later, but if you'd like to work with our adult education team to plan this or support it in some way, please contact Medora Hix by February 7.

### **Milestones Ministry Events in February:**

- High School - Driver's License Milestone - February 28: for parents and high school students who have gotten their license since September or expect to through this summer. IMPORTANT-Milestone study happens during Sunday School, followed by recognition during worship that same day. Please register with Medora Hix, Director of Christian Education, by February 21.
- Fifth Graders - Worship Two Milestone begins January 24 and continues through February 7: for parents and fifth graders, learning more about how and why we worship through the use of computers, drama, and creation of a graham cracker cathedral, during Sunday School.

### **New Lenten experiences are coming your way:**

**Geocaching for Lent** - a program Cary Presbyterian is doing in cooperation with three other churches in the region: St. Giles Presbyterian Church (the originator), West Raleigh PC, and Benson Memorial United Methodist Church of Raleigh.

Essentially, individuals, couples, families, or groups (such as Middle School youth) use a GPS system or available Smartphone app to find a hidden box (cache) that has a suggested Lenten spiritual practice. Each congregation will have at least one ready to go for Ash Wednesday and will add up to four more during Lent. Each congregation does its own publicity, but there will be one brand/logo to help identify it. It will NOT be part of the online, official, geocaching community. Geocaching searches can be done all in one day, at regular intervals or whenever, and can fit the schedule of the searchers.

Searchers will need a GPS device or Smartphone app (available from Google Play or iTunes store). The purpose of this will be to find the cache and engage in a spiritual practice of some kind. There will be a log-book at each cache to record when you were there and to suggest a follow up activity. Caches will be placed in Cary, Raleigh, and perhaps Apex. The definition of Geocaching is an outdoor free-time activity in which participants use a GPS or another navigational technique to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or

"caches," which hold small take-aways or suggestions of activities.

Contact Medora Hix to help CPC do its part! Watch for information in the February 12 eLink about beginning "Geocaching for Lent."

**"How the Bible Came to Us"** is a special Lenten study of the Bible, Wednesdays at noon, February 17 - March 16 in Room 102. Our teacher will be Dr. James Wagner, recently retired professor of Greek, Hebrew, and theology at Carolina Graduate School of Divinity in Greensboro. Jim and his wife Karen have been attending CPC in recent months. Jim is a Presbyterian minister and loves to teach. For this study, please bring a bag lunch. The study time was chosen to allow people who have flexible lunch schedules to attend as well as those who are not working during the day.

**Esperanza Sunday is February 21.** Come and worship God on this Sunday in which we highlight our Guatemalan mission and ministry. God is doing wonderful things there through CPC. Come, hear, and see!



**OUR SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER** will be held on February 9 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets are available at the door that evening: \$4.00 for adults, \$2.00 for children ages 2 to 12, under 2 free, \$15 max per family. Donations will go towards CPC's mission work in Guatemala. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, cooking, serving, and clean-up. If you can help, please contact Kim Markham at [markhamk@nc.rr.com](mailto:markhamk@nc.rr.com). Join us for an enjoyable family evening!

## Missions



**CPC To Pack 10,000 Meals in Two Hours!** The Youth and Family Ministry, in collaboration with the Missions Ministry, is sponsoring a meal-packing event, and everyone is invited to participate. The meals we pack will go to communities in developing countries for use in school meal programs and in disaster assistance. This is a fun, fast-paced, team-oriented activity, and you will be glad you came.

Date: Sunday, January 31

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: Fellowship Hall

Details: Eat before you come and be ready for fun with a purpose!

This will take place during Youth Fellowship on January 31, but everyone is invited to participate. You can sign up in the Narthex or by sending an e-mail to Leah Burton: [leahburton500@gmail.com](mailto:leahburton500@gmail.com).



**It's time to start thinking about registering for ASP 2016!**

Appalachia Service Project works to rebuild substandard housing for low-income families with the goal of making homes warmer, safer, and drier. This year, we're off to West Virginia the week of June 26 - July 2, and we'd love to invite you first-timers, as well as our returnees, to join us!

Registration will begin Sunday, February 21 at 8:00 a.m. in the church office for one of 38 spots on our team. We register by "category" (male/female youth, young adult, and adult) on a "first-come-first-served" basis and will start waiting lists as each category fills. The cost is \$225, paid at time of registration, and scholarships are available, if needed. Watch for registration forms on the CPC website, beginning February 1. Questions about the trip? Contact Chris Bula at (919)454-5495 or [cbula@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbula@bellsouth.net).

**Hearts with Haiti:** We report with rejoicing that the residents of Wings of Hope have moved to their new handicapped accessible home in Jacmel. The residents have mental and/or physical challenges, and they have been looking forward to their new home for many months. Dedication of the home is planned for January 29, 2016.



**Madagascar:** Do you have a special interest in this island with lemurs and other unusual plants and animals? Our missionaries to Madagascar, Dan and Elizabeth Turk, will be presenting a program on their work on Tuesday, February 16, at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Information on Madagascar itself will be included. They have been working to make fruit trees and gardens available to schools and to improve health by providing clinics, pharmacies, and information on AIDS prevention. Dan did his graduate work

in forestry at NCSU, so we are especially privileged to have them speak here. Come join us!

**Blankets/Tools of Hope:** A special offering will be received on February 14 to provide warm blankets, agricultural tools and seeds to assist needy people around the world through Church World Service. A blanket may be provided for \$8. Please send your love and warm wishes through this offering.



## *January Adventure at Saint Simons Island*

A group of CPC members attended January Adventure at Saint Simons Island, Georgia from January 15-17. The weekend was an educational time to encourage thinking about Jesus and scripture as it relates to our lives. Its main focus is the emerging church. As participants we heard eight alternating talks by two United Church of Christ ministers from Mayflower UCC in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - Rev. Robin Meyers and Rev. Lori Wolke. Rev. Meyers is an author, a professor, and a member of the Jesus Seminar, which examines the life of the historical Jesus. Rev. Wolke is a Millennial, an attorney, and a former Southern Baptist.

As a first time attendee, I was struck by a personal story shared by Rev. Meyers. As a Middle School son of a preacher and English professor, he decided to do a good deed and take a bag of fruits and candies to the poor. Arriving at the first door, he knocked and before the people could come to the door, he ran. He proceeded to do this at each door. At one door, the people came to the door and told him their names. Their son, about his same age, told him his name, reached into the bag of fruit and offered him one of the apples he had been given. He said, "At the time I realized we are all eating from the same bag of apples." This reminded me of our tendency to think of the poor as "other" - not the same as us. I also recalled a sermon I heard many years ago when I was challenged by the notion

that we are all on the Lord's welfare.

If you would be interested in hearing some more about January Adventure, go to [JanuaryAdventure.org](http://JanuaryAdventure.org) and click on Speakers/Audio Playback. I welcome your stopping me in the hallway at church to share my experience. I feel a great desire to attend January Adventure again in 2017. Hope you will come along with us.

*Barbara Harvey*

## ***Triple F Group***

We will be going to IHOP for Brunch on Monday, February 1, at 9:30 a.m. Please join us for Fun, Food, and Fellowship!

Parish Nurse Mandy Nester will lead us in exploring the Five Wishes booklet for the February 15 meeting (10:00 a.m. in Room 100). A Jeopardy game on Advance Directives will follow. We will explore various alternatives and wishes for our lives and our loved ones. For example, do you have a living will?

On March 7, Bob and Dely Hall will present a travelogue on their trip to Croatia, Bosnia, and Slovenia.

On March 21, Medora Hix and friends will give us an update on the CPC Mission involvement with Guatemala.

Come join us!



## ***Cool Books Club***

The Cool Books Club will meet on Tuesday, February 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Peg Giesbrecht, 200 Summerwinds Dr., Cary. We will be discussing Dawna Markova's *I Will Not Die an Unlived Life: Reclaiming Purpose and Passion*. If you would like to join us that evening, remember to attend and/or help with the Pancake Supper at church in time to make it to Peg's house for the book club. Please contact Ellen Cline at 919-469-1234 or Peg Giesbrecht at 919-859-3951.

## ***\$Financial Update\$***

We report with great joy and thanksgiving the following gifts received during the nine weeks ending January 24, 2016:

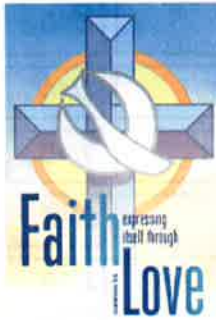
- Gifts of \$1,050 to the Minister's Discretionary account.
- Gift of \$100 to the Parish Nurse fund in memory of Jim Hobbs.
- Christmas Eve loose plate and special offering for Appalachia Service Project of \$2,257.
- Joy Gift special offering of \$1,076.
- Memorial gifts of \$590 in memory of Jim Hobbs.
- Gift of \$100 to the Parish Nurse fund.
- Beautiful poinsettias, Christmas trees, wreaths and garland that decorate our church during Advent.
- Gifts of \$550 to Esperanza, our Guatemala mission.
- Gift of \$100 to the Childcare Scholarship fund.
- Memorial gift of \$500 in memory of Jinhwa Jeong.
- Gift of \$100 to The Caring Place.
- Loaves and Fishes Angel Tree gifts, gift cards and cash.

- Gift of \$740 to the Childcare Scholarship fund in memory of Jinhwa Jeong.
- Mortgage elimination campaign gifts of \$16,140.
- Additional gifts of \$100 for the Peacemaking special offering.

With joyful and thankful hearts, we announce that our mortgage was paid in full on December 31, 2015. Cary Presbyterian Church is now debt free. We are grateful for the generous gifts you made to our Open Hearts, Open Doors mortgage elimination campaign, the continued support of our operating budget, and a benevolent gift from the estate of Joe and Shirley Veasey; all of which made this possible.

We are truly grateful to all who have shared God's treasure, regardless of how large or small. All of your gifts are truly appreciated.

## Coming Events



### SPRING NORTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERIAN PILGRIMAGE MARCH 10-13

Experience a weekend of Christian sharing and living as you travel your journey in faith. The goal of Pilgrimage is to encourage Christians, to help them grow in their lives of faith and increase both their awareness of grace and desire to serve Christ in the church and the world. Grace and growth are combined in a unique, energetic, and fun way. For more information, contact Su Johnson [su-johnson@nc.rr.com](mailto:su-johnson@nc.rr.com).



**The CPC staff would like to thank the congregation for their generosity during the Advent season. We greatly appreciated the monetary gifts and delicious cookies and candies that were dropped off in the church office. We wish all of you a very blessed and Happy New Year!**



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday:

Nathan Hambrick, Lloyd Hinnant, Kathy Marynak, Peggy Viser	2/1
Lynn Mehlberg	2/2
Kristina Bowery, Anne Butz, Rebecque deFontes, Mary Lou Imber	2/3

Keith Wood	2/4
Sean Murdy, John Page, Jerry Slaymaker	2/5
Glenn Adams, John Scott	2/6
Ruth Nicholson	2/7
Stella Whitlock	2/8
Henry Gibbs, Ben Kadlec, Mary Lou Lowry, LeNelle Patrick	2/9
George Nester	2/10
Doe Duncan, Aaron Gorsuch	2/11
Ansley Stuart	2/12
Rebecca Imber	2/13
Kathryn Anderson	2/14
Shawn Atkins, Betty Ginn, Ralph Giovenco, Anna Kelly, Cherie Sheppard	2/15
Cheryl deFontes, Ruth Guthrie	2/17
Meredith Simpson, Leigh Wilbourne, Teddy Witherspoon	2/18
Michael Megalos, Jean Olson, Jenifer Tharrington	2/19
Todd Crouse, Justin Hancock, Sarah Pierce	2/20
Craig Honeycutt	2/21
Sarah Hardie, Allison Marsh, Will Trotman, Ed Yasick	2/25
Betsy Bowdish	2/26
Alan Burton, Stuart Rose	2/27
Penny Burke, Sheila Davis, Eric Fletcher, Jennifer Sugg	2/28

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