

WORSHIP AT FIRST
LORD'S DAY
MARCH 11, 2018
MORNING WORSHIP
8:30 & 11:15 a.m.
INSIDE OUT
"Drawing Near Silently"
Ecclesiastes 5:1-7
Dr. Derek W.H. Thomas

Children's Sermon (8:30):
"Making Promises to God"

The Sacrament of Baptism (11:15)

—
EVENING WORSHIP
6:00 p.m.
"Full of Grace and Truth and
Rogues"
II Samuel 16
Dr. D. Ralph Davis

Children's Sermon

Children's Catechism #8:
Q. Name these three Persons.
A. The Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit

WEDNESDAYS@FIRST
Wednesday, March 14

Great Escapes

"Through Sheer Muscle (Samson)"

Dr. Derek W.H. Thomas

Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m.
Program begins at 12:15 p.m.
Jackson Hall

CENTERPOINT
Wednesday, March 14

ALWAYS PREPARED: Answering
Objections to Christianity
"What Must I Do to be Saved?"
Dr. Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

Jackson Hall

Supper begins at 5:00 p.m.
Teaching begins at 6:00 p.m.



FIRST THINGS

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Vol. LXVIII, No. 10 March 11, 2018
audio streaming at www.firstprescolumbia.org
info@firstprescolumbia.org
Worship Service - Broadcast WISW 1320 AM at 11:00 a.m.

Reflections on the Life of Billy Graham: A Legacy Worth Leaving

I first heard Billy Graham preach as a sophomore in high school. Some friends and I from Greenville High piled in a Jeep and drove to one of his crusades in his hometown of Charlotte. I did not go forward that night, but I will never forget hearing him preach. Even as an unbeliever at the time, I was spellbound. He was much older than his prime years at that point, but the fire of the Gospel still burned in his soul. I'll never forget it.

Like many of you, I was saddened to hear of Rev. Graham's death on February 21. I thought this might be a good opportunity for us to think about what Billy Graham taught us and why he gives a picture of a legacy worth leaving. What kind of a legacy did Billy Graham leave us?

First, he left a legacy of *passion for the lost*. Rev. Graham and I would have certainly had our theological differences. He and I would differ on some pretty substantial doctrinal issues! But one thing is certain: Rev. Graham's life was focused on bringing the Gospel to as many people as possible. By all accounts, he preached the Gospel to more people than anyone in history, over 200 million. That is staggering. I can only speak for myself, but I need to be more concerned for those who do not know Christ. I need Billy Graham's passion for lost sinners. May the Lord raise up more men and women who yearn to see this poor, sinful world won for Christ!

Second, he left a legacy of *simple faith*. Some of you may know the tragic story of Charles Templeton, one of Billy Graham's early associates. Templeton pastored a megachurch in Toronto and assisted with some of Rev. Graham's crusades in the 1940's and 1950's. However, Templeton began to have serious intellectual doubts about the gospel, so, he did probably the worst thing someone with those kinds of questions could do. He enrolled at the ultra-left wing Princeton Seminary. Shortly after graduating (from a seminary, mind you!), he renounced the faith and eventually died an unbeliever. During his gradual slide into apostasy, Templeton tried to convince Graham the Bible wasn't true. Graham struggled mightily, finally resolving that he would trust God and his Word to provide the answers he needed.

We can all learn from Rev. Graham's example. Questions and doubts will arise for all of us. This is not necessarily a bad thing at all, for an unquestioned faith is, to some extent, an unreal faith. When these kinds of questions arise, however, we need the faith of Billy Graham. There are outstanding resources to answer our intellectual doubts, and these are extremely important, especially as we think about equipping our children. Like our Lord and his Apostles, we must take questions and doubts seriously. In the end, though, we need to remember the words of Christ: "Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." (Luke 18:17) Jesus is not saying we need a childish, immature, anti-intellectual, unthinking faith. Rather, he is telling us we need a child-like faith, a simple, trusting faith in our God and his Word. By God's grace alone, Billy Graham learned this lesson early in his ministry. May we all learn to trust God, even when we don't understand his ways!

Finally, Billy Graham left a legacy of *grace and love*. Like all of us, Rev. Graham was a flawed man. Nevertheless, all of his children and grandchildren confess that Billy Graham was the same person in public and in private. May we love God and love our neighbors like Billy Graham did, even if that means loving our lost neighbors enough to tell them about the reality of hell and the awful fate of those who do not know Christ. It was this message that animated Rev. Graham's ministry. May it animate our lives for the glory of God!

Gabe Fluhrer
Minister of Discipleship

March Circle Meeting Times

Questions? Laurie Cannon: lscannon3@gmail.com or 770-630-7904.

No.	Date	Time	Location
1	Tues/13	10-11:30 am	Elvira Wemmer 15 Quinine Hill Ln., 29204
2	Mon/12	10-11:00 am	Jo Byrd 1905 Woodcreek Farms Rd., Elgin, 29045
3	Mon/12	10-11:30 am	Laffitte Parlor Jackson Hall
4	Tues/13	7-8:30 pm	Young Women Katie Mayes 739 Poinsettia St., 29205
5	Mon/12	5:30-7:00 pm	The Bridge Rm 201
6	Tues/13	10-11:30 am	Retta Miller 1 Still Hopes Dr., West Columbia, 29169
7	Wed/14	10-11:30 am	Young Mothers 3rd floor Thornwell - Parlor behind Wardlaw Auditorium
<i>Childcare by reservation only. Contact Beth Grider: bgrider@firstprescolumbia.org</i>			
8	Wed/14	10:15-11:30 am	Laffitte Parlor Jackson Hall
9	Tues/13	10-11:30 am	Toby's Place 5938 Two Notch Rd., 29223
10	Tues/13	10-11:30 am	Heart & Hand The Bridge 201
11	Tues/13	12-1:00 pm <i>Lunch provided, \$7.00</i>	Lunch Fellowship Jackson Hall, Small Dining Room
12	Tues/13	6:30-8:00 pm <i>Dinner</i>	Evening Fellowship Judi Hiller 7 Ashley Ct., 29204
13	Tues/13	10-11:30 am <i>Lunch</i>	Jane Jefferson 14 Regatta Ct., 29212
14	Mon/12	7:00-8:15 pm	Stacy Bowen 201 Winding Wood Cr., Blythewood, 29016
15	Mon/12	10-11:30 am	Laurel Crest Living Room
16	Tues/13	9:30-11:30 am	Lexington Peggy Stands 913 John Fox Ct., 29072

Green Apron Brigade



The Hospitality & Food Service Committee would like to reestablish an email list of volunteers for the Green Apron Brigade. All those interested in volunteering for this important ministry, please send your email address to Keith Cook at kcook@firstprescolumbia.org.

2018 WOC Jubilee Luncheon

Women of First Pres! Come join the celebration on **March 20!** The annual Jubilee Luncheon will take place at 12 noon in Jackson Hall. Martha Margaret Cotten, World Witness candidate for MT3, will be our speaker, and it promises to be an interesting, festive occasion, celebrating the Lord's work in the world. Lunch is \$8.00.



JUBILEE LUNCHEON

You can register at your March circle meeting, on the First Pres app, online, or by calling the reservation line (799-9062, Ext. 295). The deadline is March 15. Nursery provided by reservation only. Please email Beth Grider at bgrider@firstprescolumbia.org to reserve. Parents, please bring a lunch for your child that does not contain any nuts.

An offering will be collected to support the World Witness' Jubilee Women for 2018 - Shelia Osborn and Rebecca Carson. Each luncheon participant will be registered for a drawing for a beautiful, delicious cake, according to birthday months. Share the love - bring a friend!!

Centerpieces of Alstroemerias, the Lily of the Incas, will be available for \$10.00 after the luncheon.

"And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you . . ." (Leviticus 25:10)

New Inquirers Class

A new seven-week Inquirers Class will begin **Sunday, March 25**, for those wanting to find out more about First Presbyterian Church or desiring to join. The class meets during the Sunday School hour (10:00 - 10:50 a.m.) in the Small Dining Room in Jackson Hall. For more information, contact Lisa Eargle at 799-9062, Ext. 244, or by email at leargle@firstprescolumbia.org.

Palmer Book Service

An additional Book Service is located in the Palmer reception area with books that contain payment envelopes. Other books for sale are located in The Bridge beside the coffee bar and in the Thornwell Atrium.



World Missions Sunday School Class

(World Mission Center – 1st Floor Palmer Building)

- **March 11** – Marc and Denise Atchley, former FPC members going to Greece
- **March 18** – Dr. Doris Stephens on ministry in France
- **March 25** – Dr. Robert Belding, chairman of the World Mission Committee, on how world missions works at FPC.



Nursery Volunteers Needed for Easter

We are looking for nursery volunteers to help during our 8:30 and 11:15 a.m. Easter services on **Sunday, April 1**. If you are able to serve, please contact Beth Grider at 799-9062, Ext. 233, or bgrider@firstprescolumbia.org.

VBS 2018

This summer we are setting sail for another wild adventure and excitement at Shipwrecked VBS 2018.



We hope to see you there.
Put it on your calendar today!

June 18-22, 2018



Middle School Spring Retreat

April 13 - 15

Location: Bonclarken

Cost: \$75.00

Deadline to register is March 25. Visit firstprescolumbia.org/youthevents to register.

Church Family

Congratulations to:

All three FPC Organ Scholars, Latimer Rogland, Ezra Blackwell, and Ryan Greene, won scholarships at the recent auditions held by Music Clubs Scholarship Fund. Congratulations to them, their parents, and their teacher, Thomas Russell.

Mary Cothonneau Eldridge and Tripp Rush, finalists in the Columbia Metropolitan Magazine's 2018 Capital Young Professional Awards.

Items for Church Family?

Contact Lisa Eargle at 799-9062, Ext. 244, or leargle@firstprescolumbia.org.



Palm Sunday - March 25

Morning service
"Little Donkey Carry...Jesus"

Evening service
"The Holiness of God"

Maundy Thursday - March 29

6:00 p.m. Communion Service
"The Hour of Trial"



Good Friday - March 30

12:15 p.m.
"Christ Made Perfect Through Suffering"

7:00 p.m. Good Friday
Musical Tenebrae
A candlelight service of musical reflections on Scripture readings, sung by the Chancel Choir.

Easter Sunday - April 1

Morning service
"Rolling Stone"

Evening service
"The Gospel and Our Motives"

All services will be held in the Sanctuary.

Church Nominating Committee



Just a reminder! The Church Nominating Committee needs to receive nominations for elder and deacon candidates no later than **Sunday, March 11**. Additional forms have been placed next to the ballot boxes located in the Narthex, Jackson Hall, the Atrium, and in the Palmer Building on the receptionist desk to the left, just inside the first floor entry way. We are most grateful for your prayers and for your participation in this very important work in our church.

Thank you,

Your Nominating Committee:

Culver Choate, Sr., Chairman, Jim Turner, Jason Luther, Ryan Patane, Julie Hicks, Beth Evers, and Pam Kozlik.



Lunch & Learn

Friday, March 16

Lunch at 12 noon in the Small Dining Room
Cost is \$5.00

Followed by a churchyard tour led by Tom Gottshall.

Reservation deadline is Tuesday, March 13.

To make reservations, please call the reservation line at 799-9062, Ext. 455, or email Lisa Eargle at leargle@firstprescolumbia.org.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Associate Reformed Synod

1324 Marion Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

(803) 799-9062

March 11, 2018

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Remember to set your clocks
ahead one hour this
Sunday, March 11.

Time to
Spring Ahead

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Sunday, March 11

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service* - Sanctuary**
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages* - Church Campus
- 10:00 a.m. Inquirers Class - Small Dining Room
- 10:50 a.m. Fellowship - Jackson Hall
- 11:15 a.m. **Worship Service* - Sanctuary**
- 4:30 p.m. Cate Memorial Handbell Choir Rehearsal - P107
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group - Family Life Center
- 5:00 p.m. Church-Wide Prayer * - Laffitte Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. **Evening Service* - Sanctuary**
- 6:00 p.m. Friendship Club - T201/T202
- 6:15 p.m. Cherub Choir - T103/T107
- 6:15 p.m. Club (1st - 5th Grades) - T213
- 7:15 p.m. Sunday Supper - Jackson Hall
- 7:30 p.m. High School Youth Group - BR001

Monday, March 12

- 9:00 a.m. Aerobics@First - Family Life Center
- 12:00 p.m. Recorder Ensemble Rehearsal - P107
- 5:30 p.m. Administration Committee - P402
- 5:30 p.m. American Heritage Girls Leaders Team Meeting - BR001

Tuesday, March 13

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer - P402A
- 7:30 a.m. College Prayer - BR125
- 8:30 a.m. Staff Prayer - BR201
- 9:00 a.m. Ministry Staff Meeting - BR201
- 10:00 a.m. Catawba Presbytery Meeting - Heath Springs
- 5:30 p.m. Nominating Committee - BR327
- 5:45 p.m. Men's Basketball (40 & over) - Family Life Center

Wednesday, March 14

- 9:00 a.m. Aerobics@First - Family Life Center
- 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays@First* - Jackson Hall
- 1:15 p.m. Encouragers' Steering Committee - BR327
- 4:00 p.m. Junior & Primary Children's Choir Rehearsal - T201/T203/T207/T210
- 5:00 p.m. Centerpoint Dinner - Jackson Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Centerpoint: Always Prepared - Jackson Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Centerpoint Nursery - T106/T109/T112
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal - P110
- 6:00 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal - P200
- 6:00 p.m. Centerpoint Youth - T206/T209
- 6:00 p.m. Next Step Class - T303
- 6:00 p.m. Centerpoint Kids: Catechism - T102/T103/T107
- 6:00 p.m. Centerpoint Kids: Mission Club - T203

Thursday, March 15

- 6:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Men's Bible Fellowship - Happy Café
- 7:15 a.m. Men's Discipleship Bible Study - Blue Marlin, Vista Room
- 5:30 p.m. Men's Basketball (18 & over) - Family Life Center
- 6:00 p.m. Evangelism Training & Fellowship - World Mission Center

Friday, March 16

- 6:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study - 2920 Gervais St
- 9:00 a.m. Aerobics@First - Family Life Center
- 12:00 p.m. Encouragers' Lunch - Jackson Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Bethel Christian Camp Dinner - Family Life Center

Saturday, March 17

*Childcare is available from birth to four years.
If, at any time, you have an emergency, please call 513-7931 to contact a pastor.