

First Edition

published bi-weekly for the members and friends of the church

January 25, 2012 • Volume 27, No. 02



Todd Jones
Pastor

My Dear Friends,

I have read Billy Graham's latest book called *Nearing Home*, a book that speaks honestly about the realities of old age and death that "comes once to every person." Graham writes in the beginning, "This book isn't written just for old people. It is written for people at every stage of life — even those who never

have thought much about growing older. The reason is simple: the best way to meet the challenges of old age is to prepare for them now, before they arrive." The Psalmist, of course, tells us, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Graham is candid in saying that much about growing old has been difficult and painful: "I can not truthfully say that I have liked growing older." He goes on to say, "Growing old has been the great surprise of my life...I would never have guessed what lay in store." Included in the things that have made old age difficult for Graham is the death of his wife, Ruth, and illnesses that have threatened his life and severely diminished his strength. In 2005 he made the decision to retire from preaching, holding his last Crusade in New York City in that year. This was not an easy decision for Graham to make, but one that he came to after consulting with people whose wisdom he trusted.

Graham points out that the Bible makes reference to death and dying nearly one thousand times. Then he adds, "Yet the Bible remains a book of great hope." "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" (Psalm 116:15). Nothing about Christian faith denies the reality of death, and yet the Bible continually offers to us hope in the face of it. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for from their labors they do rest, and their works they do follow them" (Revelation 14:13). We live in the faith that "nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." This is the hope of Christian faith, and it can turn not just old age, but every age we find ourselves, into a gift and a blessing.

Whatever your faith in God is, it must be large enough and strong enough to stand up to the towering, unavoidable reality of death. I was moved by words that Walter Isaacson includes in his recent biography of Steve Jobs. The founder of Apple was asked to give the commencement address at Stanford University in 2005, after he had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. On that summer day, Jobs offered these moving words: "Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me to make the big choices in life. Because almost everything — all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure — these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart."

Billy Graham knows that he is now nearing home. He writes of how glad he always was to be returning to his home in Black Mountain after spending far too much of his life on the road. "Home was a place of rest and peace; it also was a place of love and joy and security. In a far greater way, heaven is our home — our final home — our ultimate place of complete peace and security and joy forever. Here our homes are imperfect, even at best; sadly, for many, home may actually be a place of conflict and unhappiness. But this isn't true of heaven...Heaven is our hope, heaven is our future, heaven is our home! I look forward to being home at last, and I pray you do also."

With Love and Prayers,

Todd

The Mission of First Presbyterian Church, Nashville

To know Christ, to make Him known, and to exhibit His love through worship, education, and service.



Sympathy

The First Presbyterian Church family extends prayers and sympathy to the following people and to other members of their family during their time of loss.



Ann Hutton on the death of her brother-in-law, **Clark Hutton**, who died on December 28.

Elizabeth MacNair on the death of her husband, **Arch MacNair**, who died on January 2.

Karol & Duncan Fort on the death of Karol's mother, **Ann Kendall**, who died on January 10. Sympathy to grandchildren, Duncan Fort IV (Cameron) and Kendall Samuels (Cooper).

If any member of the church desires the Christian support of a Stephen Minister, call Sandra Randleman at 298-9502.

Stephen Ministers are trained lay ministers of the church.

Congratulations

The First Presbyterian Church family congratulates these members.



Melissa & Brian Laskaris on the birth of their daughter, **Catherine Morris Laskaris**, who was born on September 30.

Katherine & John B. Thomison III on the birth of their daughter, **Evelyn Patricia Thomison**, who was born on October 2. Congratulations to grandparents, Rena & John Thomison, Jr.

Amber & Jared Humphrey on the birth of their daughter, **Caroline Sloane Humphrey**, who was born on November 23.

Susie Cox & Justin Burden on the birth of their son, **James Edward Burden**, who was born on December 27. Congratulations to grandparents, Linda & Ed Cox.

Lorien & John Sites on the birth of their son, **Samual Clifton Sites**, who was born on December 28.

The Sacrament of Baptism

In the presence of family, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church and God, the following persons claimed God's covenant promise through the Sacrament of Baptism.



Anne & Joshua Buckley presented their son, **Robert Davis Buckley**, for baptism on January 15. Assisting Elder was Robert Walkenhorst.

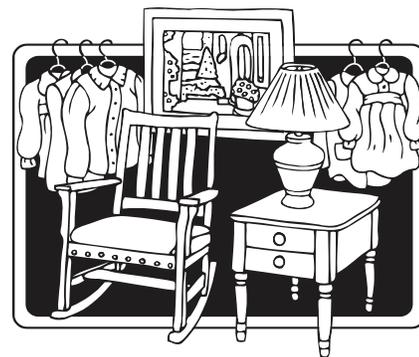
"I get by with a little help from my friends..."

Remember the Beatles song? We all need a concerned caring friend at difficult times in our lives. A Stephen Minister can listen and care for you or for someone you know who is going through a tough time. If any member of the church desires the Christian support of a Stephen Minister, call Sandra Randleman (298-9502).



The Oak Hill School Spring Consignment Sale

This sale will be held Thursday, February 9, and Friday, February 10, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., and on Saturday, February 11, from 8:30 to 11:00 A.M., with many items half-priced. The sale is located in the Enrichment Center.



All church members are invited to consign, shop and/or volunteer (volunteers receive early shopping privileges). To consign or volunteer, please visit www.oakhillschool.org/consignment.

Radio broadcast of Sunday worship airs at 4:00 P.M. each Sunday on WAMB 1200 AM and 99.3 FM.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 29, 2012**

Sermon
"When Jesus Comes to Church"

Scripture Readings
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Mark 1:21-28

Todd Jones
Pastor

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 5, 2012**

Sermon
"Signs and Wonders"

Scripture Readings
Isaiah 40:21-31
Mark 1:29-39

Todd Jones
Pastor

IMPORTANT FPC STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTORAL STAFF

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Dr. Sandra Randleman
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Dr. Tom Walker, Parish Associate
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ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

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Scott Hearon, Associate Director of Youth Ministry
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Katy Miller, Youth Program Coordinator
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Linda Morphis, College Program Coordinator
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Brandon Van Pernis, Director of Youth Ministry
bvanpernis@fpcnashville.org/298-9524

ADULT & FAMILY



Mission Opportunities

Dominican Republic November 2012

Dates: November 3-9

Cost: \$1,400 (estimated); \$800 deposit due May 1; vaccinations recommended.

Brief Details: Medical personnel offer family practice medicine, surgery, dental care or eye care in clinics or in the field depending on team member expertise; non-medical participants needed to assist in processing patients and other activities.

Trip Leaders: Dr. Jim Cato and Dr. Betsy Triggs

Haiti February 2013

Dates: February 16-22 (over Presidents' Day weekend)

Cost: \$1,300 (estimated); \$800 deposit due September 1; requires vaccinations.

Brief Details: Medical personnel to offer pediatric or family practice medicine, dental or eye care in clinics; non-medical participants needed to assist in processing patients and work on re-construction projects with partner agencies affected by earthquake; expect rugged conditions.

Trip Leader: Michael Baron

Questions? Contact Patricia Heim (298-9593 or adultmissions@fpcnashville.org) if you are interested in learning more or would like an application form. Online registration for trips is available from the church homepage on the web (www.fpcnashville.org).

Scholarship Assistance is available to FPC members for all FPC-sponsored trips by contacting Sandra Randleman (298-9502 or srandleman@fpcnashville.org).

Read about missions at FPC online — mission trips abroad, local mission opportunities, stories, pictures and more.

Visit <http://missions.fpcnashville.org>.

Room In The Inn Volunteer Needs

Room in the Inn has openings for the weeks of February 1 and 15. Please see the sign-up board in Courtenay Hall to fill one of the openings. The roles range from driving the church bus to staying overnight with the guests, to making sandwiches for lunch or washing the linens used by the guests. Families with children are welcome anytime to greet our guests upon arrival or just chat over dinner or to help serve and clean-up on Wednesday night. Contact Hal Sauer, Martin Terrien or George Armistead with questions.

Blood Donation Opportunity

Blood donation is Sunday, March 4, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:45 P.M. in the Enrichment Center. Appointments may be scheduled beginning February 5. Look for the appointment link on the church homepage or see volunteers in Courtenay Hall on Sundays. Lily Cooper and Sheila Odusote are co-chairs.

The Sanctuary Gets a Facelift

FPC's Sanctuary, including the Balcony and Chancel areas, will be undergoing cleaning and repainting over the next five weeks. The entire space will be completely repainted (the colors will remain the same) and the pew woodwork refinished. American Coating, Inc. has been selected as the painting contractor.

These areas will be closed Mondays beginning at 7:00 A.M. through Thursdays at 5:00 P.M. for the remainder of January and into February. Lifts, ladders and sprayers will be used in the painting process, and for safety reasons we would ask that you refrain from entering these areas.

We are looking forward to a beautifully finished sanctuary and ask your for prayerful patience.

Book Request for Hope Center

The Hope Center, a residential life-recovery ministry of the Nashville Rescue Mission, needs gently used books, both fiction and non-fiction, for adults and children of all ages. Fiction books should promote healthy, wholesome lifestyles. Donations may be left in Courtenay Hall on the shelf behind the projection screen wall. For more information, contact Lily Cooper (lilypcooper@yahoo.com), Dawn Wylie (834-9878) or Judy Fincannon (315-0742).

Residents of the Hope Center are homeless women who are chemically dependent or emotionally or physically abused. They spend seven months in an intense residential program acquiring spiritual, educational, employment and parenting skills to help them break the cycles of homelessness and addiction.

We have had requests recently for dictionaries, concordances, books about forgiving, and translations of the Bible other than KJV and New KJV.

FPC Parking Update

The Property Committee has received several requests for additional parking spaces for visitors and seniors. Those requests have been honored, and there is now additional visitor and senior parking in front of the church near the flagpole. All new spaces are marked with identifying signage.

Please honor the needs of senior citizens and do not park in the spaces identified for them unless you are a senior who is in need of these closer spaces.

First Friends Calendar of Events



February

Friday	February 3 . . .	First Friday Bridge	1:30-4:00 P.M.	Cheek House
Thursday . . .	February 16 . .	Thursday Luncheon	11:45 A.M.-1:30 P.M. . . .	Courtenay Hall Fifty-Forward/ Music for Seniors
Thursday . . .	February 16 . .	Driver's License Photo I.D. .	2:00 P.M.	Church Bus to Metro Center
Sunday	February 19 . .	Sunday Lunch	12:00 P.M.	Wild Ginger, Cool Springs
Tuesday	February 21 . .	Committee Meeting	5:00 P.M.	Edgar Room
Wednesday . .	February 22 . .	Workshop: Prayer	10:00-11:00 A.M.	Cheek House Breakfast Room Dr. Sandra Randleman

March

Thursday . . .	March 1	Elvis Has Left the Building .	10:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. . . .	Chaffin's Theatre
Friday	March 2	First Friday Bridge	1:30-4:00 P.M.	Cheek House
Thursday . . .	March 15	Thursday Luncheon	11:45 A.M.-1:30 P.M. . . .	Courtenay Hall Lisa Spencer
Sunday	March 18	Sunday Lunch	12:00 P.M.	Hickory Falls, Smyrna
Tuesday	March 20	Committee Meeting	5:00 P.M.	Edgar Room

■ **Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theatre** — Thursday, March 1, 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Join us for a trip to Chaffin's Barn for a production of *Elvis Has Left the Building*. It's 1970 and Elvis Presley is missing! He is needed for a live performance, but when he comes up missing, an Elvis impersonator is sought. This riotously funny story will have you wanting more and keep you guessing until the end! Payments for the show and lunch (\$27.50) are due by Sunday, January 29.

■ **Savannah, Jekyll Island and Beaufort** — Monday, May 28 through Friday, June 1. Join First Friends for a fabulous trip by Motorcoach on a tour of amazing Jekyll and St. Simon's Island, gorgeous Beaufort, SC, including a visit to Parris Island and charming Savannah. The cost for the 5-day, 4-night trip is \$399 per person, double occupancy, and includes 8 meals (4 breakfasts and 4 dinners). A \$75.00 deposit, due by February 24, will reserve your spot on this exciting trip. Final payment is due March 26 (reimbursements will be made up to two weeks prior to departure). For more information, a detailed brochure is available at the church and on our website (go to www.fpcnashville.org, scroll down to "Quick Links," and click on First Friends), or you may call Brenda Geise at 298-9515.

For more information or reservations, contact Ginny Barber (298-9509 or gbarber@fpcnashville.org).

OAK HILL DAY CAMP

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Highlight Your Summer with Oak Hill Day Camp!

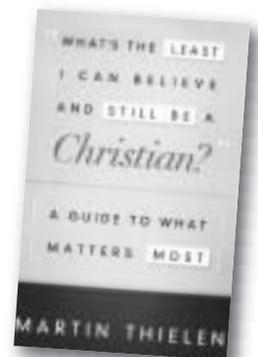
Each day throughout the summer, the sun rises in the east with splashes of bright pink, the sky lights to a brilliant blue, and I know it is going to be an amazing day at Oak Hill Day Camp. The counselors will start their day with a devotional and a prayer under the bright yellow sun, and it is as if God is smiling down. The children arrive and the singing begins the day under the big tree filled with dynamic green leaves blowing in the breeze. OHDC is the "Highlight" of my year, so join us this year and highlight your summer! For more information, contact us at 615-298-9583, or visit www.fpcnashville.org/recreation to register online.

BOOKmarks

The FPC bookstore, is stocked up for all your needs. We have calendars, devotionals, gift items and a great selection of books. Our pastors have made some recommendations for you!

Mark DeVries — *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?*

Brentwood United Methodist Church pastor and author Martin Thielen has compiled a list of ten things Christians need to believe — and ten things they don't — to "qualify" as Christians. This lively and engaging book will be a help to seekers as well as a comfort to believers who may find themselves questioning some of the assumptions they grew up with.



Dr. Arch L. MacNair — 100 Years of Life and Service to God

What is the purpose of life but to live it to the fullest, and for a Christian, what greater purpose is there but to serve God? Dr. Arch Lephon MacNair did both, and his legacy continues on in his family, in the churches and communities he served and in everyone he ever met.

Born on December 11, 1911 on a tenant farm in poverty-stricken Horry County, SC, Arch fought through the Depression, the Civil Rights movement in the South and the hardships of being a pastor. He had many setbacks, but Arch persevered throughout, receiving a high school diploma in Aynor, SC, attending and graduating from Berry College in Rome, GA, and attending and graduating from Columbia



Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. While still at Columbia, Arch began preaching at Memorial Presbyterian Church in Columbus, GA, and in 1939, Arch was ordained as a Presbyterian Minister at the First Presbyterian Church in Alexander City, AL, where he met his wife of seventy years, Elizabeth Ford MacNair. He left the church so that he could study at Edinburgh University but returned home six months later upon the birth of his third child, Jim, in 1947.

Arch then became pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Deland, FL, and grew the church from 200 to 900 members. While in Florida, he received an Honorary Doctorate from Centre College in Danville, KY. And finally, in 1965, Arch was called to FPC, Nashville to serve as associate pastor to Dr. Walter Courtenay.

But even in his retirement, Arch did not stop serving God. Elizabeth said at his retirement party in 1976 that “our retirement is going to be a gift that we give to God,” and her words were quickly fulfilled. In 1977, Arch became chaplain at Cumberland Heights, and eventually, he came back to FPC to do pastoral care and to teach Sunday School.

Arch lived and loved, despite a life full of hardships. His wife said that he was the most loving person she had ever known. Dr. Todd Jones, speaking at his funeral, said, “Weren’t all of us somehow, because of him, better? We tried to be more loving, more of what he was, more of what we know God is calling us to be.”

Dr. Arch L. MacNair died peacefully on January 2, 2012, after a beautiful and bountiful 100 years of life and service. A scholarship fund was set up in his honor at Columbia Seminary and donations can be made to the Dr. Arch L. MacNair Scholarship Fund, Gift Box 325, Columbia Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 520, Decatur, GA 30031. You may share photos, videos, memories and stories of Arch on <http://1000memories.com/archmacnair/memories>, a website set up in his memory by his grandson, Jason Hall.

Congregational Care Support & Services

Minister for Pastoral Care

For pastoral care, please call The Rev. Sandra Randleman* at 298-9502. For after-office-hour emergencies, call the church at 383-1815 for information on how to reach the on-call pastor.

Career Transition Network

Career Transition Network meets weekly on Tuesday mornings in the Bryant Conference Room at 8:00 A.M. Members of the congregation and the community explore career options and network with others in a Christian environment.

Church Membership

For information on how to join First Presbyterian Church, call Sandra Randleman* at 298-9502.

DFW (Devotion, Fellowship and Work)

The DFW group undertakes minor house repairs for members who are over 55, widows, widowers or single parents. Call Hugh Welch at 297-2896 or the church at 298-9509.

DivorceCare

DivorceCare offers help for those recovering from the hurt of separation or divorce. For information, call Sandra Randleman* at 298-9502.

Grief Support

Grief Support Group is for those grieving the losses of life, call Sandra Randleman* at 298-9502.

Home Partners

Church members make a monthly visit to an elderly church member in his or her place of residence. To volunteer to serve as a Home Partner or to be assigned a Home Partner, please call Sandra Randleman at 298-9502.

Manna Ministry

Food from the Manna Food Freezer is available for pickup and/or delivery to persons suffering with illness. Call Kelly McMullen (298-1492), Judy Fincannon (315-0742) or Helayne Brittle (377-3323).

Officer Prayer Time

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church officers by filling out a prayer request card and depositing it in the Prayer Request Box located in the narthex. Officers meet for prayer each Wednesday at 5:00 P.M. in the church library.

Older Adult Caregiver Support

The Older Adult Caregiver Support group is for those caring for the elderly, call Sandra Randleman* at 298-9502.

E-Mail Prayer Ministry

To place a prayer request on the e-mail system, send your requests to Emily (emilyeberle@comcast.net or 292-2120).

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are trained lay ministers of the church and give confidential support. Call Sandra Randleman* at 298-9502.

Weddings and Baptisms

To schedule weddings or baptisms, call the church, 383-1815.

*** To contact Sandra in confidence any time of day, e-mail her at srandleman@fpcnashville.org.**

Recreation Spring Enrichment Classes

Spring Enrichments began January 9 and end April 26. We offer piano, guitar and drum lessons with Kenny Kidd, Tae Kwon Do lessons with Bill Hathaway and violin lessons with DeeDee Besser. Online registration is available and recommended.

Tae Kwon Do

January 9 – April 27

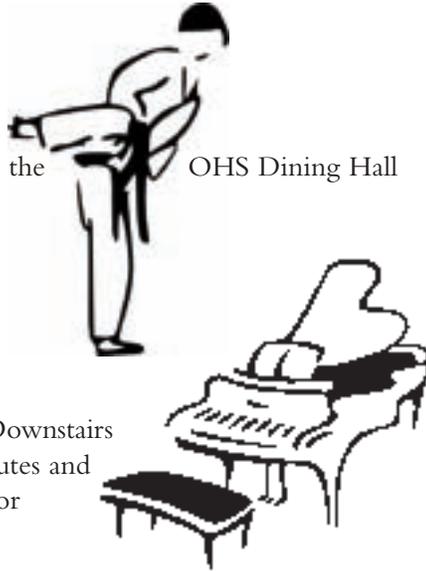
No classes the week of March 19

Tuesday and Thursday 3:30-4:30 P.M. in the OHS Dining Hall

Ages 4 years through 6th grade

Cost: \$530

Instructor: Bill Hathaway



Piano, Guitar, Drums

January 9 – April 27, 2012

No classes the week of March 19

Monday-Thursday at 3:00 P.M. in the Downstairs Enrichment Center. Classes are 30 minutes and are scheduled directly with the instructor

Ages K through 6th grade

Cost: \$530

Instructor: Kenny Kidd

Guitar, Bass Guitar and Drums for Beginners — Age 5 to 6th grade

Students learn basic skills of reading, rhythm and theory to play music they love. Students will learn popular songs and songs in the styles of their favorite music.

Piano Lessons for Beginner to Intermediate Students —

Age 5 to 6th grade

Students will learn basic skills of reading, rhythm and theory in order to perform basic songs and sight read.

Beginning “Live Performance Workshop” for Pop & Rock Guitar, Bass and Drums for Beginners — Level 1: Age 6 to 6th grade

Students learn the basics to perform songs with others in a fun encouraging environment where they learn new weekly songs. All students will learn the basics to practice to be able to play intermediate to advanced music they love and move onto live performance workshop level 2.

Beginning-Intermediate “Live Performance Workshop” for Pop & Rock Guitar, Bass and Drums — Level 2: Age 7 to 6th grade

Students need to have at least 3-5 months private lessons to be ready to learn and perform weekly new songs with others. Students learn basic skills to perform live with other musicians and create their own band. Theory, rhythm, listening, creative experimentation and communication skills are developed. Students will play and begin to write songs like their favorite musicians and learn how to play in and lead a band of musicians. Class size limited to 7 people.

Violin Lessons

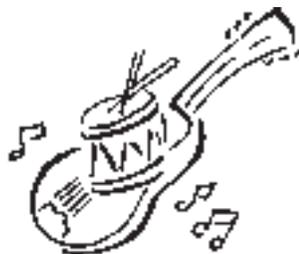
January 2 – March 30

No classes the week of March 19

Classes meet in the Gathering Hall

Ages Kindergarten through 6th grade

Instructor: Dee Dee Besser



Date Night at FPC

FEBRUARY 17 AT 6:00 P.M.

Enjoy a fun-filled evening while supporting the choir for travelling to sing for churches in Cuba in 2013!

The Sanctuary Choir will present a dinner and show,

“And the Winner is...”

Enjoy shopping at our silent auction, where appetizers will be served as you enjoy the music of the Capital Jazz and Swing Band. Dinner is catered by Melisa Anne Barton. A musical program will follow. You may buy tickets online or by calling 298-9517.

But what about the children?

The nursery will be available. Cost is \$10 per child (up to 3½). Contact Karen Fitts (298-9519 or kfitts@fpcnashville.org) to make a reservation. The Recreation Department will have a Parents' Night Out from 6:00-10:00 P.M. Cost is \$10 per child (3½ and up, and must be potty trained).

Contact Emily Munoz (298-9583 or emunoz@fpcnashville.org) to make a reservation. Please make all reservations by February 8.

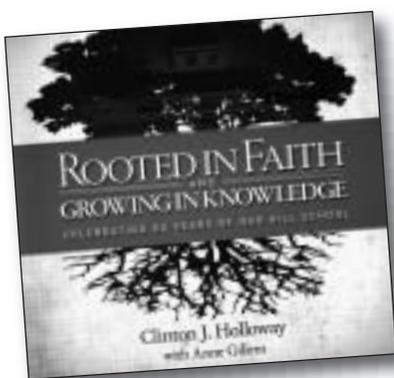


Dedication of Oak Hill library in honor of Miss Roxie

On February 12, Oak Hill School will be dedicating its library to author, Oak Hill receptionist, resident angel and tooth-puller, Roxie Gibson. As part of the many celebrations surrounding the 50th anniversary of Oak Hill School, the faculty and board of trustees decided to name the library in honor of Miss Roxie, a woman who authored a Grammy-nominated musical, but who is perhaps better known for her 35 years of service to the students, parents and faculty at Oak Hill.



Author of the *Hey, God!* series, Miss Roxie has loved writing since she was a young girl, but for her,



the subject matter is far more important than her passion for writing. Needing God herself at the young age of 6 when her father died, Miss Roxie implores students daily to tell God they love Him every morning and every night. And why? Because she loves them. For Miss Roxie, her job is not “work.” She gives out hugs and candy and pulls teeth as the need arises, and there is nothing else she’d rather be doing because she realizes that she’s playing an important role in the lives of children who will remember her kindnesses far into the future.

The Roxie Cawood Gibson Library will be dedicated at an open house on February 12, from 2:00-4:00 P.M. Complimentary copies of *Rooted in Faith, Growing in Knowledge: Celebrating Fifty Years of Oak Hill School*, authored by Clinton J. Holloway and edited by Anne Gillem, will also be released and given away at that time.

There’s a Sunday School Class for You

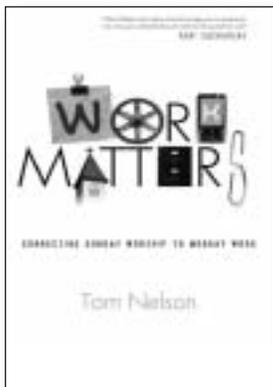
First Presbyterian Church occupies a large campus; thousands of people gather each Sunday. It can make finding connections daunting. One great place to start is a Sunday School class. There are plenty of classes to choose from, some gathered according to age or life status, some according to group size, some according to subject matter. A great time to start is at the beginning of a new year. Maybe you’ll find the connection you’ve been looking for.

Below is a list of Adult Sunday School classes and locations. Brochures containing a full description of the classes, including a map of the property, are located in the publication areas of the church. Classes meet 9:45-10:45 A.M. unless otherwise noted:

- 28-Week Bible Overview** — Vance Hall (222) — led by Marbut Gaston
- Adventure Class** — Edgar Meeting Room (227) — led by Tom Harrington
- Confirmation Parents Class** — Room L-204 — led by Colyer and Drew Robison
- Discipleship Class** — Witherspoon Room (130) — led by David Goodcase
- Foundations Class** — Room L-202 — led by Chan Sheppard
- Friends in Faith** — Room L-201 — led by teaching team of Nicole and Eric Lamb, Lindsay and Mark Ison, Allison McGuire, Ben Merrill and Austin McMullen
- Good News Class** — Room L-207 — led by Lonnie Stout
- Inquirers’ Class** — Session Room (203) — led by Dr. Sandra Randleman
- Issues Discussion Class** — Room L-200 — led by Maureen and Justin Milam
- June Ramsey Class** — Cheek House Living Room — Seminary-level topics and scholarship generally led by Vanderbilt Divinity School faculty and Ph.D. candidates
- Logos Class** — Stanford Chapel — led by Dr. Stuart Gordon
- Spiritual Journey for Women** — Cheek House Dining Room — Alice Wash (coordinator)
- Tweens to Teens Class** — Room L-205 — led by Craig Buffkin
- Youth Leader Class** — Room A-104 — led by John Baird

Work Matters: Connecting Sunday Worship to Monday Work

Your Faith at Work is a vocational ministry of First Presbyterian Church, grounded in the conviction that what



Christians do “the other six days” is their Christian ministry to the world. Associate Pastor Stuart Gordon seeks to offer groups and nurture relationships that fulfill the church’s calling to “equip the saints for ministry.”

The Winter/Spring book discussion this year is Tom Nelson’s *Work Matters: Connecting Sunday Worship to Monday Work*.

For some, this word represents drudgery and the mundane. For others, work is an idol to be served. If you find yourself anywhere on the spectrum from workaholic to weekend warrior, it’s time to bridge the gap between Sunday worship and Monday work.

Striking a balance between theological depth and practical counsel, Tom Nelson outlines God’s purposes for work in a way that helps us to make the most of our vocation and to join God in his work in the world. Discover a new perspective on work that will transform your workday and make the majority of your waking hours matter, not only now, but for eternity.

You are invited to join a weekly lunch group, either on Mondays in Maryland Farms, Wednesdays in Green Hills or Fridays downtown. Contact Stuart (298-9554 or sgordon@fpcnashville.org) for information. Stop by *Bookmarks*, the FPC bookstore, for a copy of *Work Matters*.

Logos Sunday School Class — The Spirit-Led Life

If Christianity means anything, it means living a life pleasing to God. But how does one please God? Not by following the rules, though rules help. Not by following your heart, though your heart must be affected. It’s all about the Holy Spirit.

The Logos Sunday School class is beginning a study of the Spirit-led life. The class, which meets in the Stanford Chapel each week from 10:00-10:40 A.M., will seek biblical and theological wisdom to answer the questions, “How does a person please God?” “What does God do in us to make it possible?”

You’re invited to this large-group study, which combines Bible study, lecture, and discussion.



Join Us for a New Women’s Bible Study on Thursday Mornings

This new study, led by Dr. Sandra Randleman is beginning February 2. We will meet in the Cheek House from 7:00-7:45 A.M. through the season of Lent.

This is perfect for women who want to start their day with prayer, Bible study and fellowship. Please let Sandra know your interest by contacting her (srandleman@fpcnashville.org or 298-9502).



Praying Together Prayer Group

On Wednesday, January 25, the praying together prayer group will begin a new schedule. We will meet from 3:45 until 4:30 P.M. in Vance Hall to discuss general prayer topics and to practice spoken prayer forms. From 4:30 until 5:00 P.M., the prayer group will meet in Vance Hall to practice contemplative prayer. Please feel free to come to either prayer session or to attend both prayer sessions. If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Randleman (298-9502 or srandleman@fpcnashville.org).



Family Facelift — Raising a Faith-Filled Family

Learn practical, doable ways to pray, celebrate, reconcile and serve a family. Parents will see new ways to nurture their children’s and teens’ faith growth. Our guest speaker is Leif Kehrwald.

• **Saturday, January 28, 6:45-8:30 P.M.** Open to all parents, and perfect for parents who teach or participate in Sunday School. Please register online to attend, though there is no cost!

Note: The Recreation Department is hosting a Parent’s Night Out from 6:00-10:00 P.M. This is for children who are 3 ½ years and older and are potty trained. The cost is \$10 per child. Call 298-9583 to make a reservation. The Nursery will be open from 6:30-8:30 P.M. for children 3 years and younger by reservation to Karen Fitts (298-9519 or kfitts@fpcnashville.org).

• **Sunday, January 29, 9:45-10:45 A.M.** in the Enrichment Center.



Looking Ahead *in Children's Ministry*

Serving Together: Come join together in community to be the hands and feet of God in the world! Events are designed for 1st-6th grade children and their families to put their faith in action. Check our website to sign up, or participate another way by bringing food items.

- **January 29, from 4:00-6:30 P.M.** — Bring and share dinner and read with children at Safe Haven Family Shelter.
- **February 7, 4:00-6:00 P.M.** — Pajama party (bringing new pajamas, reading, snacks) with Martha O'Bryan Center preschoolers.
- **February 11, 1:30-3:30 P.M.** — Host a Valentine's Day party at Room In The Inn's campus (decorate cookies, fellowship with guests).

Milestones: A ministry of faith formation and celebration for children and their families.

- **Exploring the Sacrament of Baptism** — Our 1st graders complete their Milestone, with a final lesson in class on January 29, learning about symbols of baptism in a rotation model, hearing special stories from our faith and sharing their faith by creating small gifts for newly baptized babies at FPC.
- **Confirmation Class Vespers service** — Sunday, January 29, 6:00 P.M. in the Chapel. Confirmands will lead the worship service they created for their families and Officer Friends. A reception time with hot chocolate and cookies will follow.
- **4th grade Retreat** — Saturday, February 11, 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M., all 4th graders will gather in Courtenay Hall to celebrate the Milestone of Connecting Our Faith through Confirmation. A full morning of great activities and learning concludes with parents joining us for lunch.

During the season of Advent, our confirmation class served at the Salvation Army warehouse. Zachary Smith, a member of our class, wrote this reflection for the Oak Hill School devotional:

Moving Mountains...of Toys!

Two Saturdays ago, my confirmation group went to the Salvation Army warehouse to sort toys. When I walked into the big warehouse, I told the friend next to me, "We are going to need a miracle to finish." There were aisles and aisles of toys!

First, all the groups worked together on stockings and sorting them into sections — best fit for boy, girl or neutral. Unless I could find an obvious clue that it was for a boy or a girl, it was very hard for me to determine where to put the item. After sorting for a while we got together to talk about how we could make the work go faster. We lined people up on each side of the bags and worked together tossing the stockings from person to person and into the correct crate. Then we had to bag toys into the correct place according to numbers. It doesn't sound like much, but there were about 2,800 numbers! First Presbyterian and another church group bagged 11,200 presents for the recipients of the Angel Tree project. It had happened! God had performed a miracle that day at the Salvation Army warehouse.

What I learned from this experience was that at Christmas time, it is more important to give than to receive. I also learned that with many hands you can move mountains. Proverbs 11:24-25 states, "One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed." We become richer by being generous.

Our Children Need Your Help!

As part of our Lenten event on February 12, the children are collecting items to share with the refugees at Siloam Family Health Center and the guests at Loaves & Fishes:

- Children's vitamins (chewable or gummy)
- Combs and brushes
- Cartoon character band-aids (the refugee children sometimes get up to 8 shots per visit)
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes & dental floss
- Men's socks
- Pocket-size tissues
- Travel-size toiletries (shampoo, body wash, lotion, etc.)

Please bring items to collection points by the children's wing welcome desk or the C Wing welcome center. Thank you for helping us do God's work in the world!



Deep & Wide

With Shoes Off

Living a Faith that Matters

On January 8, as you walked past Grundy Hall you may have seen over 30 pairs of shoes sitting in the hall. The fifth graders were asked to remove their shoes before stepping into their classroom because it was, for this day, holy ground. Thus began a lesson on the “I am” sayings of Jesus from the gospel of John.

During the fifth grade year of Sunday School, the children of FPC study the New Testament, exploring who Jesus is and what Jesus did. They learn and practice the six great ends of the church (proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the kingdom of heaven to the world), and learn about the organization of the Presbyterian church as they read about the Early Church and its organization. This year our lead teachers in fifth



grade are Mary Earthman, Shannon McGuffin, and Katie Pickel. In addition, we have wonderful small group leaders who interact with the tweens each week asking probing questions to help the fifth graders think deeper and forming faith-filled friendships. These small group leaders are Jerry Bostelman, Hélène Deane, Jennifer Gaw, Larry Hayes, Mike McGuffin, Bryon and Sherri Middendorf, Jimmy Pickel and Rebecca and Paul Wilson.

On January 8, in small groups the tweens used their senses to spend time in reflective prayer contemplating what Jesus meant when he said, “I am the bread of life” or “I am the good shepherd.” They used their senses to touch, taste, and smell symbols of these sayings.



The fifth grade year of Sunday School and the study of the New Testament help prepare these children to participate fully in the confirmation class next year as they grow in knowledge and wisdom and their relationship with God.

Milestone — Exploring the Sacrament of Baptism

Each January, things look different in the 1st Grade Sunday School classes as children eagerly gather around learning centers to explore the symbols and traditions that surround the sacrament of baptism. The children enter into stories of our faith: God’s creation, the flood, Jesus’ baptism, Jesus’ final commission to his disciples and many others. To introduce these

explorations, 1st Graders and their parents celebrated this Milestone — Exploring the Sacrament of Baptism, with Pastor Todd in the sanctuary on January 8th to learn about the history and traditions of FPC. Mrs. Roxie Gibson gathered the children around to share her book, *“Hey God! What is Baptism?”* To mark this special milestone along the faith journey, each child received a special faith stone and an autographed copy of Mrs. Roxie’s book.



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Dated church material
Please deliver by January 28, 2012

Pastors

Todd Jones
Pastor
Sam Cooper
Executive Pastor
Mark DeVries
*Associate Pastor to Youth
& Their Families*
Stuart Gordon
Associate Pastor for Discipleship
Sandra Randleman
*Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care & Mission*
Tom Walker
Parish Associate
Bill Bryant
Pastor Emeritus
Keith Gunter
*Associate Pastor for New
Church Development*

Program Staff

Brenda Geise
*Older Adult Ministry
Coordinator*
Deb O'Brien
Director of Children's Ministry

Letitia Green
Director of Recreation
Katy Miller
Youth Program Coordinator
Karen Fitts
Nursery Coordinator
Raphael Bundage
Conductor, Sanctuary Choir
Keith Moore
Conductor, Sanctuary Chorale
Susan Kirby
*Administrator of Worship
& Music Ministries*
Rhonda Swanson
Assistant Organist
Amelia Watson
Coordinator of Parish Ministry

Schools

Brenda Lutz
Director, FPC Early Preschool
Jennifer Hinote
*Head of School,
Oak Hill School*

Administration

Cindy Bozman
Finance Manager
Zonia Nunley
Property Manager
Carl Womack
Food Service Director
Lynn Elliott
Pastor's Assistant
Eric Skinner
Communications Coordinator

Youth Happenings

Sunday School on January 29 & February 5:

- **7th grade** meets upstairs in the Gathering Place.
- **8th grade** meets in the Youth Room.
- **9th grade** meets in #105 downstairs in the Enrichment Center.
- **10th grade** meets in #100 downstairs in the Enrichment Center.
- **11th grade** meets in #102 downstairs in the Enrichment Center.
- **12th grade** meets in #101 downstairs in the Enrichment Center.

Sunday Worship: 8:30 and 11:00 services in the sanctuary every Sunday, and "the 5:30" in the Enrichment Center in the evening. Families, please join us at one of these worship services each Sunday.

Youth Newsletter: If your family isn't receiving the monthly Youth Newsletter in your email, please let Katy Miller know (298-9570 or kmiller@fpcnashville.org).

Stuff & Mail: Sunday, February 5, from 12:00-3:00 P.M. in the Gathering Place. All students & leaders going on spring break or a summer mission trip and at least one parent are asked to come. Please bring \$5 for pizza.

2012 Mission Trip Registrations are open! To sign up for Spring Break, Alaska, Great Escape or New Orleans, visit firstpresbyterianyouth.com/register. Questions or need scholarship information? Contact Katy Miller (kmiller@fpcnashville.org or 298-9570).

To register for these events, visit us at firstpresbyterianyouth.com/register

the
5:30 **sunday evening worship at fpc**
the enrichment center @ 5:30 p.m.