

First Edition

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

June 27, 2012 • Volume 27, No. 13



Todd Jones
Pastor

My Dear Friends,

I noted with interest that Andy Pettitte turned forty years of age this past week and is still pitching for the New York Yankees like the winner that he has always been. After the 2010 season, Pettitte retired from baseball with an outstanding record, marred by his admission in 2007 that he had taken human growth hormones

that may have enhanced his performance on the field. This was the year in which Senator George Mitchell issued the report that named a long list of baseball players who were accused by the Mitchell Report of using illegal performance-enhancing drugs. The steroid scandal rocked baseball at the time, and cast shadows over the careers of many major league baseball players, some of them stars of the game. Andy Pettitte's name was on the list, and in response to this revelation, Pettitte admitted that he had in fact taken human growth hormones, and he apologized to both the New York Yankees and the Houston Astros, the two teams for which he had played. He faced the shame of his own mistakes, owned up to them and then proceeded to get on with his career. His admission was plain, his apology direct, and I must say that I have been delighted to see that after sitting out the 2010 season, Pettitte is pitching effectively again at the highest level in baseball. Stories of human redemption and recovery are among the best stories we have to tell.

I mention Pettitte because his response to the steroid scandal provides a model for anyone on how to deal with the mistakes that we make. The Bible teaches, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8, 9). All of us sin, and all of us make mistakes that have tragic and damaging consequences. But if the Bible teaches us anything about God, it teaches that "the Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103). Scripture teaches again and again that God is a God of redemption, one of mercy, one who stands ready to forgive all those who confess and

repent of their sins. I am always gladdened when anyone finds this redemption offered in the Gospel. I can only imagine how painful and humiliating it must have been for Andy Pettitte to admit publically that he had broken the rules of baseball and cheated to gain an advantage. He was not alone in doing this, but he was sadly head-and-shoulder above most other players similarly accused in that he confessed that the accusations were, in fact, true. I have always imagined that all of the ball players in what has come to be called "the steroid era" of baseball simply got caught up in something larger than they were. Many of them were seduced into doing something that they knew was not within the rules. The sense that "everyone else is doing it" became too great a temptation to resist. Things like this happen to people in other walks of life all the time. What added to the pain of this particular scandal was how very public it became. Pettitte faced with dignity and courage his own mistakes, and it caught my attention immediately.

I cannot help but to compare the reaction of Pettitte to that of some other stars of the game, who used their almost unlimited financial resources to fight these charges in the courts, and in two cases won fairly hollow legal victories, when the facts of their cases pointed nonetheless to their use of these illegal substances. How much more peace they might have found if they had followed Pettitte's lead, and simply admitted that they had broken the rules, gotten caught up in the effort to gain an unfair advantage and moved on with their lives. To find redemption for your sins is the only way I know that leads to peace. "Forgiveness is the answer to the child's dream of a miracle by which what is broken is made whole again, what is soiled is again made clean," said Dag Hammarskjöld. William Blake added that "the glory of Christianity is to conquer by forgiveness."

I love how the 130th Psalm puts it: "If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared." This is the glory of the Gospel.

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.



Mary McClure Taylor on the death of her niece, **Marguerite McClure Averett** who died May 12.

Pam & Allen Kennedy & Marcia & Danny Newman on the death of Pam & Marcia's mother, **Marie Gibson Morrissey** who died June 4. Sympathy to Katie Kennedy, Brad & Lillie Kennedy, Sarah & Ben Schmidt & Jeff & Rebecca Newman.

Carolyn & Gus Gustafson on the death of their son, **James "Randy" Gustafson** who died June 9. Sympathy to Lyn Steele & Sam Steele III.

Brigitte & David Wiley & Cindy & Micky Dickens on the death of Brigitte's & Cindy's mother, **Joan Kathryn Dodson Haden** who died June 13. Sympathy to Haden, Cate & Kirby Wiley.

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.

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.



Emma & Tate McDaniel presented their daughters, **Emma Catherine & Elizabeth Tate McDaniel**, for baptism on June 17. Assisting Elder was Marbut Gaston.

Sarah Tinsley & Lacy Elizabeth Sheppard received the Sacrament of Baptism on June 24. Assisting Elder was Norene Yowell.

Congratulations

The First Presbyterian Church family congratulates these members.

Amy Campbell & Matt Pearson on the birth of their daughter, **Mattie Grace Pearson**, who was born on May 21. The proud grandparents are Becky & Stuart Campbell.



Music Department Welcomes New Interim Organist

Nicholas Bergin is the new Interim Organist at First Presbyterian Church. He graduated in May of 2012 with a Master's degree in organ performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he studied with Janette Fishell and was awarded the prestigious Barbara and David Jacobs Fellowship. In 2011, he served as the Interim Assistant Organist at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis, and during the Fall of 2010, he worked as the Organ Scholar at the Church of St. Michael and St. George in St. Louis, Missouri.



Nicholas is a graduate of Baltimore's Peabody Conservatory, where he studied organ with Donald Sutherland and piano with Seth Knopp. While growing up in Houston, he studied piano with Timothy Hester and attended the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

Congregational Meeting

A meeting of the congregation has been called for Sunday, July 8, following both worship services. The purpose of the meeting is to act on the recommendation of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee to call an Associate Pastor for Young Adult Ministry for First Presbyterian Church, Nashville.

Please note office will be closed on July 4 to observe Independence Day!

SUNDAY
JULY 1, 2012

Sermon
"Swimming in a Fish Bowl"

Scripture Readings
Exodus 14:10-14
Galatians 5: 1-6

Keith Gunter
Associate Pastor

SUNDAY
JULY 8, 2012

Sermon
"Hometown Blues"

Scripture Readings
II Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Mark 6:1-13

Todd Jones
Pastor

Scoopin' in the Rain...

...almost anyway, but that didn't frighten away the faithful crankers and hundreds of loyal supporters of the annual Miss Martha's Ice Cream Crankin'.

This year marked the 27th year for the Crankin' and it certainly lived up to its reputation as a fun-filled afternoon for socializing and sharing in some of the most unique ice cream flavors imaginable. Did you hear about the maple/bacon flavor?

A member of nearby Second Presbyterian Church took home the Best of Show ribbon with the ice cream flavor "Internuttional Relations," which combines all-American peanut butter with a European favorite, Nutella. Look for "Internuttional Relations" to be available as a Purity flavor next year.

It was the year of the twelve's for the Crankin':

The year is 2012;

212 tickets were purchased by FPC members;

tickets sales from FPC totaled \$2,012;

12 groups/families cranked ice cream for the event;

6 youth interns cranked (that's half of twelve); and

the Carusos have made homemade ice cream for 24 years (that's 2x12).

We are so very grateful to the families of Beth and David Vorhaus and also Grace and Todd Smith for their service as FPC co-chairs for this event. They successfully encouraged our members to make and serve homemade ice cream and even offered up tasty samples of their personal favorite flavors on Sundays to entice others to support the Martha O'Bryan Center by purchasing tickets for the event. We extend a special thanks also to Bekah and Bill Caruso for their faithful dedication to this event and look forward to celebrating their silver crankin' anniversary with them next year. Keep on crankin'



✂ Cut, Complete & Return

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Officer Recommendation for Class of 2015

I wish to endorse _____ as a candidate for: Elder Deacon to the Nominating Committee of the church. Nominees will be presented to the congregation in 2012. The deadline for recommending nominees is July 2, 2012.

Please tell us what you know about this person's involvement in First Presbyterian, Nashville, in another ministry or church or in the community at large. You may or you may not wish to call the candidate. Include below: name, address, family members and occupation, if appropriate. You may also nominate yourself or a family member.

Nominating Committee members are Mary Lee Bartlett, Patti Bryan, Peter Cobb, Lip Davis, John Eason, Michael Hindman, Suzan Hindman and Todd Jones. Please return this form to the church office.

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Logos Class Summer Series: Vacation Bible School

Bible School isn't for children alone. This summer, the Logos Sunday School Class will have its own VBS. From July 8 through September 2, the class will learn or relearn some of the most challenging, interesting, and entertaining stories of the Old Testament. From King Solomon's errors to Elijah's ascent to heaven, we'll study I Kings 11 through II Kings 2. Included will be Elijah's showdown on Mt. Carmel with the prophets of Ba'al, and the gruesome death of the evil queen Jezebel. You don't have to be present every week; each class will stand on its own so that you can fit this class into your summer travel plans. The Logos class is led by the Rev. Stuart Gordon and meets in Stanford Chapel from 10:00 to 10:40 A.M. each week.

Parker Ramsay to Present World Premiere

On Saturday, July 7, 11:00 A.M., at St. George's Episcopal Church, our very own Parker Ramsay will perform a world premiere piece as part of the American Guild of Organists' (AGO) National Convention, which is being held in Nashville this year.



Parker is the son of Carol McClure and Wes Ramsay and currently is the Organ Scholar at King's College in Cambridge — the first American to hold this position.

On July 7, he will be performing an organ recital that will include the works of J.S. Bach, César Franck, Jehan Alain and Maurice Duruflé, but he will also be premiering the AGO-commissioned work, *Phos*, for organ, cello and percussion by English composer Diana Burrell. The recital is a post-convention event and will therefore be free to the public — come and support Parker!

The National Convention of the American Guild of Organists will be held in Nashville July 1-6, 2012 at the Nashville Convention Center and will include workshops, recitals and worship services, premieres of commissioned works and an exhibit hall. Over 1,200 attendees are expected for the week-long festivities, representing every state and many foreign countries. Concerts will be performed at various venues all around Nashville, including our own FPC. (Most of the events are for convention registrants only — please visit www.ago2012.org for more information).

**FPC NaCoMe Weekend
Building Bridges
August 10-12, 2012**

BOOKmarks



The FPC Bookstore

As the church planned in 2006-07 for construction of new space, one priority identified was the creation of a bookstore to support the educational ministry of the church. Sunday School classes, small groups, Presbyterian Women and families with young children were identified as potential beneficiaries of easy access to educational resources.

The idea was to enable any member to drop in on the store and pick up the book being studied in his or her Sunday School class, for parents to easily find a children's story Bible or for someone to find a suitable gift for a graduate or an inspirational greeting card for someone on the prayer list.

The bookstore also is an effort at being good stewards of the church's offerings. Previously, the Adult Education Department "floated" Sunday School classes by purchasing book choices and praying for reimbursement. Frequently, excess books simply sat on office shelves, unused and unpaid for. Now, all books are sold on consignment. Whatever goes unsold is returned to Cokesbury at no expense to the church budget. In addition, ten percent of proceeds from book sales is donated to Presbyterian Women for their mission projects.

Bookmarks features books authored and note cards designed by church staff and members. We occasionally welcome members who have published books to sell and sign their works in the store.

This spring, Bookmarks began accepting debit and credit cards, making purchases more convenient. The store is located outside Courtenay Hall, next to the stairwell in the Ministry Wing, and is open on Sundays from 9:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.; Kathy Gaston is the store manager, and she is supported by a few faithful volunteers: Missy Goodman, Kathleen Dietz, Liz Hackett, Julie Peacock, Kim Hardin and Elizabeth Carrero.

June Ramsey Class to Study the Mormon Church

Maria Mayo, a Ph.D. candidate at Vanderbilt Divinity School, will lead a 5-week series during the month of July on the Mormon church (Latter Day Saints). The series will cover basic beliefs, values and practices. Christian identity formation and questions of stereotypes and negative associations in several contexts will also be addressed. The class meets in the Cheek House Living Room at 9:45 A.M. and is open to everyone. Please join us!

Presbyterian Women's Circles are Gearing Up For Fall

Becoming active in one of the several circles for women at First Presbyterian Church offers many opportunities. I like to think of circles as being composed of the three S's: scripture, service and social. Or this could be rephrased: study of God's Word, service to the community and fellowship time with one another. Circles, small groups of about 20 ladies each, come together each month and engage in all three of these activities.

This coming year the Bible Study will be on the book of Colossians. We'll use a study book that will cover a small portion of Colossians each month. Questions are provided for each person to answer at home during the month. Then when we arrive at church, trained Bible Leaders lead the discussion of these questions. We learn from one another what the Holy Spirit taught each person the previous month. Then we'll discuss any local service opportunities.

Each circle adopts a local mission and helps out when possible at these various service agencies. Typical service projects might include working in the library at The Hope Center, tutoring kids after school at Preston Taylor Ministries or putting together a month's worth of sack lunches to be distributed at Hospital Hospitality House, just to name a few. Then there is the discussion of any correspondence with the circle's foreign missionary.

Finally, being in a church circle is a great way to connect with other women in our large congregation. Whether it be at the lunch at the conclusion of each morning circle or the dinner before the evening circle, we get to really visit and see what's going on with one another. It's a great fellowship opportunity! I feel so blessed to come together with the same women each month and be a part of this wonderful sisterhood! Why not consider joining a church circle this fall. There's sure to be one just right for you!

— Emily Eberle, Moderator of Presbyterian Women 2012-2013



2012-2013 PW CIRCLE ENROLLMENT FORM

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Circle Preference:

Cheek House Circle

Home Circle*

Night Circle

NEW Night Circle for Working Women

**Please be willing to host a circle meeting in your home or be a co-host by providing food.*

Names and ages of children who will need childcare at the church during circle meetings:

Special Requests: _____

We will make every effort to honor requests for circle assignments.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND PLACE IN THE PW BOX, OR MAIL TO:

First Presbyterian Church • Attn: PW Circles • 4815 Franklin Road • Nashville, TN 37220

If you have any questions, please call Dawn Wylie (835-5878),

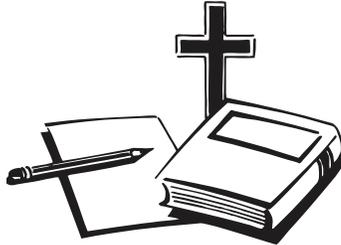
Sheila Odusote (915-1727) or Janet Thomas (370-3698).

SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

(All classes 9:45–10:40 A.M. unless noted)

■ Adventure Class • MW-227/Edgar Room

A large, lecture-style class featuring Bible-based presentations and direction for living the Christ-centered life. All ages welcome! Tom Harrington, local businessman, teaches this class.



■ Connections Class • MW-201 Bryant Conference Room

Co-led by younger adults Angela Perkey and Justin Near. The study for the summer will bring together a humorous but highly relevant Christian blog, “Stuff Christians Like,” with an in-depth study of scripture. The class will discuss all aspects of Christian life. Technology and fellowship will both be regular features of the class.

■ Discipleship Class • CC-130/Witherspoon Room

Adults of all ages enjoy the study of Scripture which is the focus of this class with the aim of knowing Christ more intimately. David Goodcase leads this class.

■ Foundations Class • Room L-202

Chan Sheppard teaches this class of young couples in their mid-20s to mid-30s. The class is designed for young couples and is built around discussion of various topics and the relevance of such for maturing relationships with Christ and with others.

■ Friends in Faith Class • Room L-201

This class covers Bible studies and life application topics for couples in their 30s and 40s. Most class members are parents of younger children. Teaching responsibility is rotated among 5–7 class members. Topics vary, but have included books of the Bible, parenting and marriage. Topics are usually covered in a casual discussion format.

■ Good News Class • Room L-207

This class is made up of couples and single adults of various ages and viewpoints. The format is “normal” lessons with topics and scripture discussed. During the summer months, class leadership will be shared by Lee Barfield, Bill Blevins, Chuck Dennard, Todd Jones and David Wood.

■ Issues Discussion Class • Room L-200

All ages of adults, and their different perspectives, are welcomed into this weekly issues forum. Maureen and

Justin Milam provide leadership, but the focus is on everyone’s participation. Guest speakers are also featured from time to time. Issues are introduced regularly, so one of interest to you will always be just around the corner.

■ June Ramsey Class • Cheek House Living Room

Seminary-level topics and scholarship, usually led by Vanderbilt Divinity School faculty and Ph.D. candidates. This is a long-established class (over 30 years). Opinions from leaders are not necessarily those of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Reformed tradition or class members themselves. Lively participation characterizes the class, as does the intellectual challenge of the varied subject matter. Class meets at 9:45 A.M. sharp!

■ Logos Class • Cheek House Chapel

Associate Pastor Stuart Gordon leads this large-group study, which combines Bible study, lecture, and discussion for adults of all ages. His presentations on Bible and theology offer class members significant opportunity for serious reflection and learning. Elder Mickey Martin coordinates.

■ Spiritual Journey for Women Cheek House Dining Room

This class has nurtured women since its beginning in 1981, offering a combination of Biblical insight, depth psychology and caring support of each member and visitor. Women of all ages grow in their faith through reading, class discussion and Bible study in a warm and accepting atmosphere.

■ Youth Leaders Class • Room A-104

John Baird leads this Bible study with people, most of whom have the bond of having or having had teenagers; many have been leaders in the youth program. Any interested adults are welcome, particularly those who have questions and seek support and reassurance about the parenting of teens. Curriculum is the Spice Rack series, written by Associate Pastor Mark DeVries. Be sure to bring your Bible.

You can find a complete listing of these classes and a map located in the literature areas of the church. For more information, contact Ginny Barber (gbarber@fpcnashville.org or 298-9509.

FALL Wednesdays

Fall Wednesdays at FPC

One of the prime strengths of FPC is the broad age-range of members. We're not a church just for young people or just for seniors; we're a true family of faith from cradle to grave. Wednesdays together should reflect that — multi-generational and diverse in activities. Beginning September 12, Wednesdays at FPC will offer a diversity of activities, for young and old, directed by several gifted leaders. Deb O'Brien, Raphael Bundage, Letitia Green and others are working together to offer Wednesday evenings at church that welcome all and serve to build up the body in teaching and fellowship, in eating and worshipping. To kick things off on the 12th, we'll have an old-fashioned cookout with games for all ages, plus a bonfire and singing.

If you already participate in Wednesday activities, much should be familiar to you: beginning on September 19, adults will have a choice of study opportunities, led by both pastors and guests, including computer classes and Divorce Care. Adults also will enjoy new choices, such as small groups for prayer or fellowship.

Families with children should have received an email and letter detailing the specifics of programming for them. If you did not, contact gbarber@fpcnashville.org.

As a true family of faith, we've set aside three additional evenings during the program year when all ages will gather for fellowship and recreation: a Halloween carnival, a winter evening of novelty and square dancing led by Bekah and Bill Caruso and a spring event after Easter. And on four occasions, we'll have brief worship services at the conclusion of the evening. We're even thinking about food! Carl Womack will offer more choices at the children's table this year.

Watch for registration information in August!

ADULT & FAMILY



Short-Term Mission Travel

Dominican Republic November 2012

Dates: November 3-9

Cost: \$1,400 (estimated); \$800 deposit due NOW; 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 or work on clean water system construction/other projects with partner agency.

Trip Leaders: Dr. Jim Cato, Dr. Betsy Triggs and Rev. Keith Gunter

Jamaica February 2013

Dates: February 9-16

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

Brief Details: Construction work and development of new church partner relationship; dentists to see local patients.

Trip Leaders: Craig Buffkin & Nathan Brandon

Haiti February 2013

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

Cost: \$1,300 (estimated); \$800 deposit due October 1; requires Tetanus vaccination. Other vaccinations recommended.

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 or work on re-construction projects with partner agencies affected by earthquake; expect rugged conditions.

Trip Leader: Mike Baron

Kenya & Rwanda July 2013

Dates: July 17-August 2

Cost: \$5,000; \$1,500 deposit due Dec 31; requires vaccinations.

Brief Details: Construction on churches in both countries as well as visits to mission projects supported by FPC-Nashville; Kenyan safari included; children must be age 12 to participate; limit of 14 FPC members; spaces reserved when full deposit paid.

Trip Leader: Dr. Bob LaGrone & Sandra Randleman

Questions? Questions? Contact Patricia Heim in the Missions Office (298-9593 or adultmissions@fpcnashville.org) if you are interested in learning more or would like an application form for a mission trip. Online registration for trips is available from the Activity Registration link on the web (www.fpcnashville.org).

Scholarship Assistance is available to FPC members for all FPC-sponsored trips by contacting Sandra (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>.

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Nashville, Tennessee 37220

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Dated church material
Please deliver by June 30, 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
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
Brandon Van Pernis
Director of Youth Ministries
Karen Fitts
Nursery Coordinator
Raphael Bundage
Director of Music
Susan Kirby
*Administrator of Worship
& Music Ministries*
Carol McClure
Director of Children & Youth Choirs

Nicholas Bergin
Interim Organist
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
Shannon Parsons
Communications Coordinator

Youth Happenings

Sunday School July 1 & 8:
(Grades are Fall 2012 grades)

- **7th grade** meets in room L-203.
- **8th grade** meets in room L-204.
- **9th grade** meets in room #102, downstairs in the Enrichment Center.
- **10th grade** meets in room #101, downstairs in the Enrichment Center.
- **11th grade** meets in room #100, downstairs in the Enrichment Center.
- **12th grade** meets in room #105, downstairs in the Enrichment Center.

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

Summer information: Visit our website, firstpresbyterianyouth.com, for

summer schedules and to sign-up for Go Big Thursday events!

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).

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

Weekday Volunteers Needed at Welcome Center

Are you a welcoming, gracious person who loves this church? Are you available to volunteer during the church's office hours? If so, please contact Ginny Tindle (gtindle@fpcnashville.org or 615-383-1815) to add your name to the list of volunteers who help out at the Welcome Center desk when she is out.

the
5:30

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