

Triangle Presbyterian Tidings



Dear Friends,

In Nicaragua I did something called a "Canopy Tour." Sounds harmless enough, don't you think? Basically it consists of wearing a harness and being hooked to a pulley system so you can fly from tree to tree on a steel cable that has been stretched between the upper tree trunks. All this takes place about 30 or 40 feet off the ground. As I mentioned we were fitted into a harness, we were given helmets, and we were issued leather gloves which would act as our braking system. If I wanted to slow down I reached up and pulled down on the cable behind me. The first run was pretty long and we were instructed to simply hold onto the part of the harness that was connected to the pulley. I'm sure that it seemed like we were going faster than we actually were.

On our second run one of the guides asked who wanted to be "Superman." What he meant was, "Who wants to have the pulley system attached to your back so you can go down head first in a kind of Superman posture?" One of the guides came right behind us to hold up our feet. I volunteered, along with a few others. On the next run we were invited to go "upside down." I took them up on the challenge and went whizzing down the steel cable with my head down and feet up. The final run we were asked to simply hold onto the harness like we had done on our first run. There was, however, a guy at the end pulling up and down on the cable making us go down in a great arching motion. I can tell you that a "Canopy Tour" matches the thrill of any roller coaster that I have ridden.

After having that experience I have thought about all the variables involved in such an adventure. You have to trust the harness you are wearing. You have to trust the pulleys that are whirring long. You have to trust the steel cables that are strung from tree to tree. But especially you have to trust the guys who are running the tour. They gave instructions concerning safety and what to do and not do. They demonstrated what we were supposed to do. And truly, by their demeanor, they demonstrated that they had absolute confidence in the whole operation. I watched them zip from tree to tree with the obvious assurance that the cables would hold and the equipment would stand up to the test.

In truth, however, it was an exercise that required faith. There was no guarantee that everything would work the way it was supposed to work. But we had faith that we were not being led astray and it was the faith that I saw in the operators that bolstered my faith.

Sometimes life is a bit like a canopy tour. We engage in things we have never done before and sometimes it seems like we are flying upside down. But we have the assurance of the ONE who has gone before us that His equipment will hold us up. We can count on Him as being trustworthy because He has gone this way of life before us. And he has given us others who join us on the journey and our faith may at times be strengthened by the faith and actions of those who share the experience.

No matter what you may be going through in life right now, know that Jesus has gone the way before you and although at times it can be a scary ride, you can trust the one who is running the whole operation.

Together with you in Christ's service,

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Adult Education

For info or questions contact CaseyClark@TrianglePC.org.

Bible Study—Gospel of John Wednesdays 6:00PM, Room 206

We are continuing our study into this amazing book that introduces the reader to Jesus Christ. We meet for an hour each week, except when we have Ministry Team Nights. You're welcome to join anytime, all are welcome. Contact Casey for more information.

Men's Bible Study

Thursday mornings 6:30-7:30AM at
McDonalds (Hwy 54/Hwy55)

The 10 Commandments

Sunday Morning Topical Classes

Prayer: Does it Make Any Difference?

Facilitator: Dawn M.

Location: Fellowship Hall A

Come join us as we explore the questions: Is God listening? Why should God care about me? If God knows everything, what's the point of prayer? Why do answers to prayer seem so inconsistent? Why does God sometimes seem close and sometimes seem far away? How can I make prayer more satisfying? We'll look at answers to these questions and more using the six-part video series by Philip Yancey and exploring what the Bible has to say.

HomeBuilders

Facilitators: Mark & Juliellen S.

Location: Media center

This ongoing class focuses on God's will for our families and households, with discussion-based studies on topics such as parenting, marriage, finances, and other issues. Currently the class is studying Will Davis Jr.'s book, "Pray Big For Your Marriage." Those at any age and stage of homebuilding are welcome!

ESL Sunday School

Facilitator: Helene S., Jennifer M.

Classroom 204

This class is for speakers of other languages. In this class, we go over the very same topics covered during the church service--the Scripture text, music, and sermon--in a format that will be easy for ESL (English as a Second Language) speakers to understand and internalize. Feel free to invite any ESL speakers you might know!

Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy

Coming in April 2011

Location: FLC

In the coming weeks we'll have a class downstairs in the Family Life Center that will look at the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, using the recently released biography by Eric Metaxas. Learn about this man who faced great opposition and turmoil in his life, dealing with the effects of both spiritual and physical warfare. Keep your eyes open to see when we'll begin.

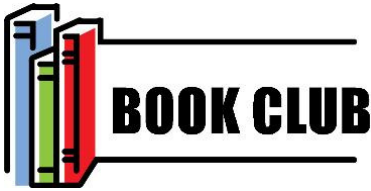
Sunday Morning Fellowship Classes

SALT (Single Adults in the Lord Together)
Colossians: Against the Tide
 Facilitator: Donna M.
 Location: Room 100

Colossians teaches principles for living a Christian life in the midst of a non-Christian culture. Sometimes this calls for us to stand against the tide of public opinion or popular trends. This multi- part study includes such titles as "An Easy Life or a Great Life", "When People Rub You the Wrong Way", "What You Do Comes Back to You" and "Become a Prayer Warrior".

FELLOWSHIP: Making A Difference Right Where You Are
 Facilitator: Ron K.
 Location: Fellowship Hall B

The old testament character Daniel influenced a hostile culture and several world leaders toward the living God. Learn how you, like Daniel, can not only flourish as a Christian in this hostile environment we live and work in every day, but discover how you can make a difference in your world instead of simply surviving in it. Drawing from the life experiences of fellow class members, the book of Daniel, and William Peels book "Living In The Lion's Den Without Being Eaten" you will gain new insight and practical "How To's" that will help prepare you to be a powerful influence for Christ in your world.



As we all go to the doctor, you may find enlightening TPC Book Club's next selection: the novel Cutting for Stone, by Abraham Verghese M.D, Professor for the Theory and Practice of Medicine at Stanford University Medical School. Dr. Verghese's non fiction success, My Own Country: A Doctor's Story [perhaps you've seen the movie?], recorded his adjustment to America and his personal transformation from ignorance of patients to valuing compassion as an instrument of healing. In Cutting for Stone, Verghese weaves his insights on social and personal suffering into the life story of twin boys in a family saga that moves across the globe: England, India, Ethiopia, and finally New York and Boston.

Join us May 10, at 7:00PM in TPC Media Center to discuss the book, or join us July 12, to talk about the moral, legal and medical issues in The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. For more information, contact the church office.

Finance & Budget

For info or questions contact NikkiGoss@TrianglePC.org .

Financial Report

February 2011

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$81,590	\$91,576	\$72,618	\$71,362	+1,256
Year to Date				
Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$163,180	\$183,151	\$159,451	\$138,384	+21,067

Youth Ministries

For more info or questions contact Jeff Spainhour, jeffspainhour@trianglepc.org or Mark Simpson-Vos, simpsonvos@gmail.com.

March Youth Groups

- 4/3 Regular Groups
- 4/10 Regular Groups
- 4/17 Regular Groups
- 4/24 Easter

Varsity Small Group

6:30-7:30PM

Wednesday

4/13, 4/20, 4/27

Small Groups

For info or questions contact Rachel Clark, RachelClark@TrianglePC.org.

Common Interest Small Groups

This year the small group ministry team is offering opportunities for you to join a small group with other people who share a common interest or activity (for example, running, knitting, baking, or golfing). These groups would meet together to participate in a shared activity and have Bible Study and fellowship together. If you have an idea for a small group that you'd like to be a part of, please don't hesitate to contact Rachel Clark or Warren Saunders. Listed below are two new groups that will be forming!

Resources

The small group ministry team is here to help you with suggestions for books to study with your small group. If you need ideas or help with ordering resources, don't hesitate to ask!



Small Group for Runners

The small group for runners has officially commenced. The group is meeting on Mondays at 6pm to run on the American Tobacco Trail in Durham. If you would like to join them, email John Min at jkmin1970@gmail.com. He'll let you know where to meet and he'll know to expect you. Runners of all speeds

Weight Loss Small Group

There has been some interest in a small group for people who are all challenging themselves to lose weight and live healthier. If you are interested in being such a group, please contact Rachel Clark. This would be a group that studies the Bible together



Children's Ministries

For info or questions contact NancyHolton@TrianglePC.org.

Lenten Activities

Seder meal for elementary Sunday School classes: Sunday, April 3rd. Are you willing to provide one item for our Seder (Passover) meal in Sunday School? Items include matzah, grape juice, hard boiled eggs, charoses (apple relish) with recipe provided, parsley, horseradish . . . Call or email Nancy.

Palm Cross preparers needed! Palm Sunday crosses will be prepared on Tuesday, April 12th and Wednesday, April 13th from 4-6 pm (before and during Clubs); or at your convenience! We will make palm crosses for all youth and children's Sunday School and nursery classes. If we get enough helpers we can make one for each person in worship on Palm Sunday, April 17th! If you are interested in learning how to make crosses or are willing to help, please contact Nancy., You can also get quick instructions and take a pack of 25-50 home to prepare.



Christian Dinner Theatre

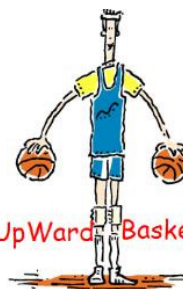
Join us for a unique Christian dinner theatre experience on Sunday, May 1st. The Youth Club, assisted by the Kids' Club and Explorers, will present the Christian children's musical, *Joseph and The Dream Team Extreme*. A delicious spaghetti dinner will be served at 5 pm, prepared and served by our talented and capable Middle School youth, leaders and parents. The musical presentation will follow dinner at approximately 6 pm. We invite your generous donations, which will help send our MSY kids to the Great Escape summer camp in June. Look for sign-up forms on the bulletin boards in the upstairs and downstairs hallways to reserve your place at the table. Please invite your friends and neighbors to share the message of God's grace and love through song and Bible story.



The Children's Ministries Team is planning now for our multi-age summer elementary class. The combined elementary class will begin June 26th and run through August 21st. The class will include kids who have completed 1st through 4th grades and will feature an exciting new curriculum called Journeys With Jesus! Activities will include drama, costumes, science experiments, games and prayer teams. Kids who complete 5th grade in June will move up to the Middle School for summer Sunday School. Interested in learning more or helping with this exciting program? Call or email Nancy in the office.

UpWard Basketball—8/8-12

The camp is geared to children in first through 6th grades. This week long basketball and spiritual skill building adventure will take place during the evenings of August 8-12. To volunteer to help with planning, preparations, publicity, coaching or mentoring, contact the church office.



UpWard Basketball

Italian Ice Party at Agape Corner

Join us for a fun Italian Ice Party with the students and staff of Agape Corner on Thursday, May 5th. We'll be eating Rita's Italian Ice (three flavors. . . . yum. . . .).

Join us at TPC to caravan at 5:45 or meet us at Agape Corner at 6:15! Meet the students and staff we support with our Sunday Clubs offering, and some of the kids who come to VBS and Upward Camp. Sign up on the bulletin board, or contact Deb Simmons or Nancy to sign up.

Dads/Sons Camping Trip - May 14-15

Fathers and Sons Camping Trip registration is underway! You may register on our website or pick up a registration form at the Welcome Center desk. Make out your check to TPC and earmark for F&S camping.

The event will be held at Jordan Lake Campground beginning at 2:00PM on Saturday, May 14. The cost is \$12 per person with a family cap of \$30. The event will include hiking, a scavenger hunt, campfire fellowship with s'mores and much MORE! The theme for the weekend will be "Seeking God's Direction." Join us as we build our father/son relationships AND make lots of memories.

Questions: Contact the church office.



Vacation Bible School 2011

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL at TPC is like an evening summer camp for kids and youth and a great Bible study for adults! This year our church will be transformed into beach camp *Sonsurf Beach Bash*. Mark your calendars and begin making plans for VBS 2011. SAVE THE DATES: Sunday, June 19th-Thursday, June 23rd Each evening from 6:30-8:30PM elementary kids and preschoolers will experience Bible stories, applications, crafts, games and snack. Middle School students will have their own team program during the same time frame with interest appropriate activities. There will be an adult class, with the topic to be announced.

VBS Registration: You may download a registration form from the TPC website and submit it with your registration fee to the church office beginning April 15th. Registration fees for youth and children include a brightly colored T-shirt to add to your collection. Nursery and preschool classes are available only for children on participating adults. Registration fees are as follows: Nursery and preschool- \$10; elementary and middle school - \$15. The family maximum for children and youth is \$30.

Join the VBS team today! Adults and senior high students interested in helping as class assistants (tour guides), craft team members, or room designers and/or decorators may sign the volunteer registration list on the sign up board upstairs or in the Welcome Center. Need more information about volunteer opportunities? Email Nancy at nancyholton@trianglepc.org or call her in the office.

VBS Volunteer Open house at the May 15th Ministries Fair!! Would you like to attend the adult class, but also think it would be fun to help get ready for the kids? Come and see craft ideas, room decorating options and find out about how you can help whether you have 1 hour or 20 hours. Drop by the Ministries Fair on Sunday, May 15th anytime between or after services.



Fellowship

For info or questions contact NikkiGoss@TrianglePC.org

Pathways

Pathways: a Christian journey through life.

A place where anyone is welcome.



- 4/8 GAME NIGHT starting at 7:00 pm
- 4/12 Adult Volleyball starting at 6:30PM in the FLC
- 4/17 Adult Volleyball starting at 1:30PM in the FLC
- 4/24 Sunday Brunch— meet at Rudino's around 12:45PM

If there are any questions or you would like to be added to the Pathways email list, please contact the church office at 544-2872.

Ministry Team Dinner

Our next Ministry Team Dinner is Wednesday, April 6. Dinner is served from 5:30PM to 6:15PM and our Ministry Teams meet from 6:30-7:30PM. We'll be having baked potato bar, salad, hot dogs and dessert. Make your reservation now on our website: http://www.tpcnc.org/forms/mtn_signup.html

National/International Outreach

For info or questions contact Nikki Goss, nikkigoss@trianglepc.org

Compassion Med International

Don't miss a great opportunity to learn more about one of the mission groups TPC supports. Jean Davison from Compassion Med International will be visiting TPC during the April ministry team night. Towards the end of dinner, Jean will discuss the medical mission work of Compassion Med International in Honduras. Afterwards, she will join the National/International Outreach team for more discussion and details about the group's mission work. A mission team has just recently returned from a trip to Honduras, so we'll be able to hear about the current needs and work being done in that country. Hope to see you there.

Beyond Beans

Did you enjoy the Nicaraguan coffee from Beyond Beans coffee during the holiday season? This spring you will have the opportunity to purchase more of the award winning coffee at bulk rates and help send a Nicaraguan youth to Young Life camp. What could be a better deal than that? Thanks to your purchases last Christmas, approximately 200 youth will be able to attend Young Life camp. Keep your eyes open for the start date of the sale (coming soon).



Haiti Mission Trip in your Future?

In 2009, a small mission team from Triangle Presbyterian Church returned from a trip to Haiti with a strong desire to make a difference in the lives of some students at the Cite Soleil Christian School of brothers United. The commitment was to establish resources so that a class of pre-kindergarten children would be assured of scholarship aid as long as they remained under the supervision of Pastor Leon and Jacky Dorleans. In addition, by establishing this covenant, we relieved Pastor Leon and Jacky from the burden of raising sponsorship funds annually for these 29 children.

The 2009-10 school year began with much excitement and we have been displaying the individual students' pictures on the TPC bulletin board (and many home refrigerators!). Of course, the terrible earthquake that created widespread destruction in Haiti in January 2010, made a difficult situation worse for many of the students. Happily, all of the students in "our class" survived the earthquake, and 28 of the original 29 students enrolled for the 2010-11 school year.

Thanks to your continued support, we were able to provide sponsorship funds for all of these children, and now have updated photos to share. Please take the time to stop by the International/National Outreach Bulletin board and see how they have changed in just one year.

Looking forward to the start of the next school year in September, we are trying to determine the level of interest within TPC for a mission trip to Haiti in the Fall. The purpose of the trip would be to meet the teachers and children in "our class", provide some opportunities to interact with them, and get to see some of the people who are impacted by the other outreach ministries TPC supports in Haiti.

At this stage, we can establish an itinerary that would meet the needs of the majority of those people interested in going, so contact the church office if you are interested.



Family Health Ministries Fundraiser

Family Health Ministries will hold a family barbecue/silent and live auction fundraiser on April 9th at the Doris Duke Center at Sarah P. Duke Gardens, beginning at 6PM. The night will include a silent and live auction, dinner buffet, art sale, beverages and free parking along with opportunities to learn more about Haitian renewal, rebuilding and restoration from friend and pastor Leon Dorleans. Come and meet him and hear his story of God's power and grace in Haiti. Contact FHM at 919-382-5500 or email info@familyhm.org to purchase tickets. Ticket costs are \$50 before April 6^h or \$60 at the door.

Haiti Vacation Bible School Trip Possibility

Would you consider helping with Vacation Bible School in Haiti this summer? A VBS trip sponsored by Family Health Ministries and led by Nancy and Jesse Holton is being planned for July 16-24. You may learn more by checking out the FHM website at <http://www.familyhm.org/>. Click on Mission Travel to learn specifics. Call or email Nancy in the office with questions about the specific itinerary, the places we go and the ministry of the people we work with in Haiti.

Lenten & Easter Events

Tenebrae Service on Thursday, April 21. Join us for this meaningful Tenebrae service (service of darkness as we remember the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus). Childcare will be available for children 3rd grade and younger. Please reserve your child's spot by contacting Nancy in the office or at nancyholton@trianglepc.org. Nancy will lead the Kindergarteners through third graders in their own prayer service during the adult service time!

Easter Sunrise Service. Join us for a special sunrise service outside in our Memorial Gardens by the columbarium on April 24 at 6:45AM. This brief service will be followed by breakfast in the Family Life Center.

Easter Sunday Services. Our worship services will be at the regular times at 8:45 and 11:15AM

Flower the Cross. Bring your flowers and greenery and flower the cross that will be set up in the Welcome Center. Help us continue a TPC tradition as we cover the empty cross with the flowers of spring! Bring your camera for a great photo opportunity

Easter Flowers. You may purchase lilies to the Glory of God and in honor or memory of a loved one. The cost of each plant is \$8.00 – mark your checks clearly for “Lilies”. Complete the order form on-line at: http://www.tpcnc.org/forms/Easter_Flower_order.html

Congregational Care

For more info or questions contact Nikki Goss, nikkigoss@trianglepc.org

CHAPs Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of CHAPs will be held at 7:00PM on Tuesday, April 19, at the Duke Center for Living, off Moreene Road. The program will be on fitness and health services offered by the center for seniors and will give those attending a first hand look at the facility. Those who want to carpool need to meet at the church at 6:30PM.

Community Outreach

For info or questions contact Nikki Goss, nikkigoss@trianglepc.org.

Crop Walk

Time to Turn in Your Money!

What a beautiful day for walking! Thank you for walking in the Durham CROP Hunger Walk. Please turn your money into Nikki's box in the office by April 15. If you didn't walk and weren't able to sponsor someone who was walking, you can still go to www.durhamcropwalk.org and sponsor someone or make a general donation to the TPC team. Hungry people here and around the world will benefit.

Food Bank—2011 Monthly Items

April—Stews	May—Ravioli	June—Rice
July – Personal Hygiene Items	August – Cereal	September—Peanut Butter
October—Canned Fruit	November—Mac N Cheese	December—Potluck

Facilities Maintenance

For more info or questions contact Nikki Goss, nikkigoss@trianglepc.org

Church-Wide Work Day

April 9 - 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, come one, come all. We will be having a church work day on Saturday, April 9th. Bring your tools and join us as we take care of the Lord's house. We will have plenty of projects which need attending from cleaning both kitchens, changing light bulbs, landscaping, clearing leaves and limbs from the grounds, and more. Please contact the church office if you would like to signup or if you need more information.



April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:00AM CMMO 6:30PM Walk Thru the Bible	2 9:00AM Walk Thru the Bible 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
3 12:45PM SALT FSB 4:00PM MLY, 6:30PM V	4	5	6 5:30PM MTN 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30AM Men's Bible Study	8 9:00AM CMMO 7:00PM Pathways Game Night	9 8:30AM TPC Work Day 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal 6:00PM Family Health Fundraiser at Duke Gardens
10 12:30PM Nicaragua Vision Meeting 4:00PM MLY, 6:30PM V	11	12 6:30PM Adult Volleyball 7:00PM Session	13 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Group 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	14 6:30AM Men's Bible Study	15 9:00AM CMMO	16 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
17 1:30PM Adult Volleyball 4:00PM MLY, 6:30PM V	18	19 6:30PM Deacons 7:00PM CHAPs (Duke Center for Living)	20 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Group 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	21 6:30AM Men's Bible Study 7:00PM Tenebrae Service	22 9:00AM CMMO	23 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
24 Easter Sunday 6:45AM Sunrise Service 12:45PM Pathways Brunch	25 Holiday	26 6:30PM SALT Potluck 7:00PM Session	27 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Group 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	28 6:30AM Men's Bible Study	29 9:00AM CMMO	30 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal