Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2011

Triangle Presbyterian Tidings

Dear Friends,

My Covenant Group met in Nicaragua this year. About every three years we try to go to one of the places where someone in the group is in ministry. It just so happens, one of our members is a missionary to that country with Young Life. Many of you have come to know Danny Sharpe since we are actually one of his supporting churches.

The Covenant Group part of the trip was great. It is always a real blessing for me to spend time with these guys. We have now been meeting together for over 20 years. We always have a rich time studying the Bible together and talking about things that are of mutual interest. We serve in churches across the country which range from small to quite large. When we come together, it is never a problem getting conversation started and it usually begins early in the morning and continues to late in the evening. We always make sure we engage in a variety of activities and this year was no different. We toured downtown Managua, went to a former prison that is now a museum of sorts and visited an active volcano.

Since we were going to Nicaragua, this year our time together took on a bit of a different character. We decided we wanted to build into our time together a bit of mission work at the Camp that is owned and operated by Young Life. It would have probably been a bit comical to watch 10 Presbyterian ministers building Adirondack chairs for the camp. Did I mention that we had no plans from which to work, only an old chair that served as our guide. I am pleased to say we were successful and we were able to build three regular and three double wide chairs in two days.

Spending time at the camp offered several other opportunities for me. First, there was the building of relationships. We had the chance to spend time with members of the Young Life staff. I spent the night in the home of one of the founding couples of Young Life in Nicaragua. I was able to catch a glimpse of what life was like for them. I went to a Young Life evening meeting and was able to see how the clubs are run. One of the leaders that I met and spent a significant amount of time with will actually be coming to the states in April. I look forward to renewing that friendship then.

Second, what a joy it was to see firsthand one of the international ministries that we support. The Young Life Camp, Vida Joven, in Nicaragua is a beautiful place. As I spent some time there, I thought what it would be like for a young person in the city to come to the country and experience such a change of environment with the possibility of experiencing a complete change of life as they might accept Jesus as Savior and Lord. I am happy to report that your mission dollars are being well spent in this particular ministry.

This summer our Senior High Youth will be visiting this very place. I'm not sure what their mission project will be. Truthfully, that is the least important part of the trip in my estimation. Far more important will be their opportunity to experience a different culture and the chances they will have to build relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ who speak a different language but who love the same Jesus that we do.

Begin praying now that this trip will be for our youth a life changing experience. It truly was for me.

Together with you in Christ's service,

Ray

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Adult Education

When: 6:30-9:00p Friday, April 1 and 9:00a-Noon Saturday, April, 2
Cost: $15 Early Registration before March 15, $20 after

Mark your calendars for this very special event! Having enjoyed Walk Thru the Old Testament so much almost two years ago, Triangle is bringing back this seminar to finish the second half of the Bible. Walk Thru is a dynamic two day event, Friday evening and Saturday morning, that takes what at first seems like an overwhelming amount of information and packs it into a matter of hours. You'll walk away with more than just a workbook and newfound understanding of the Bible, but you'll have a renewed excitement to know God better through his Word. The trained instructor uses a variety of creative ways to teach us the Bible such as hand motions, visuals, mnemonics, and more. This event is perfect for those new to the Bible and to those who've studied for a lifetime and is appropriate for middle schoolers and above. Any questions, ask Casey Clark. Sign up on our website or at church. Childcare is available.

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

Lessons from James
Facilitator: Casey Clark
Location: Fellowship Hall A

During the month of March, join Pastor Casey to study the book of James. We'll look at four selections from this deep book and explore issues of the relationship between faith and works, taming the tongue, and others as we seek to understand how this letter addressed to the twelve tribes is also written for us.

HomeBuilders
Facilitators: Mark & Juliellen SV
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!

Parent Care
Facilitator: Bob W.
Location: Fellowship Hall C

Are you in the midst of helping provide care for your parents, either hands-on, long distance, or somewhere in between? At the same time, are you caring for children of your own? Do you wonder where you might get answers to your concerns? If you have answered yes to one or more of these questions, you are not alone. A number of TPC members are in the midst of caring for aging parents or others while caring for their own families. Couples in this category have been appropriately termed the "sandwich generation." If you are in this group, here's something that might help!

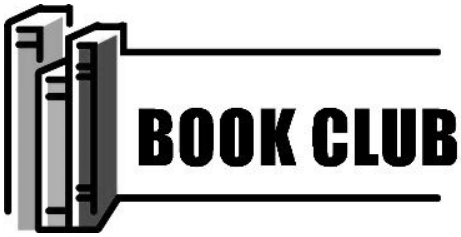
Sunday Morning Fellowship Classes

SALT (Single Adults in the Lord Together)
The Sinai Code
Facilitator: Donna M.
Location: Room 101

Thirty-five hundred years ago Moses came down from Mt. Sinai with a short list of rules that has shaped the values of men and nations for centuries. We know them as the Ten Commandments, but do we really know them? Some would argue that it is the Ten Commandments that set the stage for mankind to feel as if we must perform our way into God's good graces, but was that the reason they were given?

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.



TPC Book Club invites you to read ***a fascinating real-life treasure hunt that predates our Indiana Jones adventure flicks!*** Come discuss with us **THE SISTERS OF SINAI, on March 8 at 7:00PM in the TPC Media Center.** Professor of Theology, Janet Soskice, chronicles the sleuthful discovery of an astonishing 4th century Biblical text in the Sinai desert by two spirited Scottish Presbyterian sisters who trespassed intrepidly in the 19th worlds of scholarship and archaeology that sought to exclude them. For our 2011 booklist or other info, contact the church office.

Next meeting is May 10 *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese

SALT—Single Adults in the Lord Together

3/6 First Sunday Brunch at Nantucket Grill at Sutton Station– after second service

3/12 Donna Monroe is hosting a St. Patrick's Day party at her home, at 6:30 pm Menu will be a potato bar Please bring an Irish dish or a "green" dish to go with the potatoes. RSVP so she'll know how many potatoes to bake. More details to come closer to this date.

3/22 SALT Potluck supper at 6:30 p.m., Room 101.

For more info, contact the church office.

Youth Ministries

March Youth Groups

3/6 Regular Groups

3/13 Regular Groups

3/18 Varsity Lock-In

3/20 Crop Walk

Varsity Dinner & Nicaragua Meeting (4:30PM)

3/27 Regular Groups

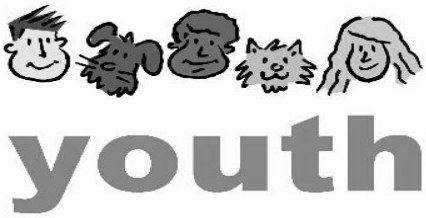
****Note changes for 3/13 and 3/18 from the previously published calendar.

Varsity Small Group

6:30-7:30PM

Wednesday

3/16, 3/23, 3/30



Children's Ministries

Notice Regarding Girls' Running Club

We will not offer this program in 2011. While we believe that this program has great value in encouraging physical and spiritual strength for girls, it requires a significant time and energy commitment from the leadership team. We are not able to provide that leadership this year, but will reassess the interest and available leadership for 2012. please contact Juliellen Simpson-Vos for information. Her email is juliellen@yahoo.com.

Opportunities for the season of Lent:

For Families of all sizes and ages:

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9th. There will be a special service at 6:30PM in the sanctuary to reflect on the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Childcare for children up to third grade will be provided. Please contact Nancy to reserve a spot for your child. The service is appropriate for children who are able to sit quietly for approximately 40 minutes and are third grade age or older. The format of the service includes scripture reading, a meditation by Pastor Ray and a period of silent confession.

Lent is a 40-day journey of special focus on our daily relationship with Jesus. We have a devotional booklet to prompt some great family conversations, called *"Let God's People Go"*, provided by the Children's Ministries team. Each day has a brief reading and stickers to provide a tangible cue for each day's devotion. The booklets will be available for $1 on a table in the Welcome Center beginning March 9th.

Camping Trip for Dads & Sons!

May 7

Based on our survey the camping trip planning team has settled on a date! And the winner is . . .

Saturday May 7th through early Sunday morning May 8th. Yes, we know this is Mother's Day! And what better gift than to have dads and sons spending quality time with each other!

Where? Jordan Lake.

Who? For ages 5 and up.

Mark your calendars and look for registration information to be forthcoming.

Questions? Contact Nancy Holton at nancyholton@trianglepc.org.

Christian Education Volunteer Appreciation Sunday.

The Children's Ministries Team is sponsoring two "drop by for goodies tables" on Sunday, March 27, in honor of our leaders, teachers and nursery workers. Volunteers are preparing finger foods, such as quick breads, cookies, coffee cake, bagels and cream cheese and providing orange juice, hot chocolate, tea and coffee. Is your mouth watering yet? We are grateful to God for the number of folks (more than 80) who teach adult, youth or children's Sunday School classes, coordinate nurseries, teach elementary Wednesday Clubs, serve as youth leaders and teach in our TPPK program. AND THEN, there are 130 workers in our nurseries, fulfilling their baptismal vows by rocking babies, changing diapers, playing with toddlers, reading books, and leading children's worship. If you would like to make a yummy treat to help honor our teachers, leaders, and nursery workers, please email Nancy or call the church office.

THANK YOU CHRISTIAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

SAVE THE DATES

Vacation Bible School 2011

Mark your calendars for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2011. Each evening Sunday, June 19-Thursday, June 23 from 6:30-8:30PM, elementary kids and preschoolers will experience the Bible stories, applications, crafts, games and snacks of the Triangle Presbyterian Sonsurf Beach Camp. 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.

National/International Outreach

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 6h 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.

Small Groups

Church-wide study follow-up reading

Are you interested in reading or studying more about being a disciple who disciples others and learning more about sharing your faith? Would you like to consider what evangelism looks like in our current culture? Here are a few reading suggestions that you might consider:

The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman

The Cost of Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Basic Christianity by John Stott

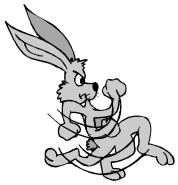
After You Believe by N.T. Wright

The Next Christians by Gabe Lyons

If you have any questions about these books or want more information or other suggestions, please email Rachel Clark and she'd be happy to help!

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. Listed below are two new groups that will be forming!



Small Group for Runners

Are you interested in a weekly running group that also sets aside a time for Bible study and fellowship? If you are, contact Rachel Clark and she will get you connected with other like-minded individuals. This group is in the beginning stages and those interested will be put in contact with one another to determine a day and time that will hopefully work for everyone.

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 while also supporting one another reach their healthy lifestyle goals.

Fellowship

Pathways

Pathways: a Christian journey through life.

A place where anyone is welcome.

3/8	Adult Volleyball starting at 6:30PM in the FLC
3/11	GAME NIGHT starting at 7:00 pm
3/17	Adult Volleyball starting at 6:30PM in the FLC
3/20	Adult Volleyball starting at 1:30PM in the FLC
3/27	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, March 2. Dinner is served from 5:30PM to 6:15PM and our Ministry Teams meet from 6:30-7:30PM. We'll be having sirloin, potato casserole, green beans, hot dogs and dessert. Make your reservation now on our website: http://www.tpcnc.org/forms/mtn_signup.html

Saturday, March 19 6:00-8:00PM

Join us for a fun filled evening of pizza, popcorn, bingo and prizes. Cost is $4/person with a family cap of $10

Look for sign-up sheets so we know how much pizza to plan. We are also collecting prizes. If you have anything you would like to donate, there will be a box in the Welcome center for your convenience.

AN EVENING OF FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Congregational Care

Spring Tea Honoring Older Adults

All TPC members age 55 and older have a treat in store. CHAPs will sponsor a Tea honoring you on March 13 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Several students from the String School of the Music Department at Duke University will provide entertainment during the Tea. You should have received an invitation by mail when you read this. If not, please call the church office. You are encouraged to take part in this fellowship and fun event.

This Tea takes the place of the regular CHAPs meeting in March.

JOY Group Luncheon

Thursday, March 10 at 11:30 AM

Golden Corral on Highway 55

Join together with those 55 and older for a time of good food, fellowship and a short devotion.

Finance & Budget

Financial Report

January 2011

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
$81,590	$91.576	$86,833	$67,022	+19,811

Community Outreach

Crop Walk 2011

Sunday March 20th at Duke Chapel

Noticed the brightly colored sneakers popping up around the church? These are the folks fighting hunger by walking in the Crop Walk. We live in a world that produces enough food every year to provide everyone with a healthy diet. But even with this abundance over 800 million people all over the world, including folks right here in Durham-Chapel Hill, go to bed hungry. So how can you help? Sign up to walk or sponsor a walker. One third of the money raised will stay right here and support organizations like Urban Ministries and Genesis Home.

Stop by the Crop Walk table in the FLC lobby to sign up, purchase a t-shirt, or to learn more. You can also register for Team TPC online at **www.churchworldservice.org/goto/TPC2011CropWalk** – select (1) sign up, (2) join a team, and (3) pick Team TPC from the list of teams.

Ending hunger one step at a time!

Food Bank—2011 Monthly Items

March—Soup	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

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.

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30PM Open Basketball	2 4:30PM Wednesday Clubs 5:30PM MTN 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30AM Men's Bible Study	4 9:00AM CMMO 6:00PM Daddy/Daughter Dance	5 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
6 12:45PM SALT Brunch 4:00PM MLY, 6:30PM V	7	8 6:30PM Volleyball 7:00PM Session 7:00PM Book Club 7:00PM Bridge Club	9 4:30PM Wednesday Clubs 6:30PM Ash Wednesday 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	10 6:30AM Men's Bible Study 11:30AM JOY Group 4:30PM Confirmation	11 9:00AM CMMO 7:00PM Pathways Game Night	12 9:00AM YL Planning Meeting 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM SALT Party
13 12:30PM Kenya Project Meeting 3:00PM CHAPs Spring Tea 4:00PM MLY	14	15 6:30PM Deacons	16 4:30PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Groups 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30AM Men's Bible Study 6:30PM Prayer Shawl 6:30PM Volleyball 4:30PM Confirmation	18 9:00AM CMMO Varsity Lock-In	19 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal 6:00PM Pizza & Bingo
20 Crop Walk 4:30PM Varsity Dinner & Nicaragua Meeting	21	22 6:30PM SALT Potluck 7:00PM Session 7:00PM Bridge Club	23 4:30PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Groups 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	24 6:30AM Men's Bible Study 4:30PM Confirmation	25 9:00AM CMMO	26 10:00AM Choir Rehearsal
27 Teacher Appreciation 12:45PM Pathways Brunch 4:00PM MLY, 6:30PM V	28	29	30 6:00PM Bible Study 6:30PM Varsity Small Groups 7:15PM Choir Rehearsal	31 6:30AM Men's Bible Study 4:30PM Confirmation 6:30PM Open Basketball		