"For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte"

FirstNEWS
First Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC
November 21, 2010
Volume 17, No. 47

Dr. William P. Wood
Senior Minister
1983-2010

The Session of First Presbyterian Church Charlotte, NC
cordially invites you to a celebration honoring
The Reverend Doctor William Pape Wood
for his twenty-seven years of leadership
at First Presbyterian Church and the community,
and forty years of ministry in the Presbyterian Church at large
on the occasion of his retirement
November 21, 2010

Special Worship Services - 9 and 11 AM in the Sanctuary
Reception and Recognition - Noon in Fellowship Hall

“We will tell to the coming generations the glorious deeds of the Lord,
and his might, and the wonders that he has done.” Psalms 78:4

Bill Wood by the Numbers

Number of sermons 1,100
Number of baptisms 800
Number of weddings 800
Number of new members added 1,863
Number of Officer Training classes 28
Number of Stewardship seasons 27
Number of Capital campaigns 3
Number of mission trips participated in 3
Number of dollars raised for benevolences over $12 million
Number of Associate Ministers 16
Number of William P. Wood/First Presbyterian Scholars 5
Number of children enrolled infant-5th grade 736
Number of Youth enrolled 264
Number of children in Weekday School 255
Number of children in Child Development Center 101
Number of current TV viewers 39,000 homes

Stewardship Update on November 15

- 454 pledges received; 48.4% of potential 938 pledges
- $2,470,475 received; 82.1% of $3,010,000 Goal
- Every pledge counts! Thank you.

(Please see “Stewardship” on page 3)
We e k a t a G l a n c e

Sunday, November 21, 2010
9:00 AM Celebration Sunday
9:00 AM Sunday Worship
10:00 AM The Journey: Following Christ through the Gospels - P-205
10:00 AM The Wired Word - P-206
10:00 AM Celebration of Discipline - S-202
10:00 AM Open Forum Discussion - S-203
10:00 AM Inescapable God - S-205
10:00 AM High School Class - P-321
10:00 AM Middle School Class - P-301 A & B
10:30 AM Stated Weekly Session Meeting - S-312
11:00 AM Sunday Worship
4:00 PM MS/HS Movie Night - Outside Event
4:30 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal
5:00 PM Celtic Handbells - P-127
6:00 PM Confirmation Parent Meeting - P-301 A & B
6:20 PM Confirmation Class
6:30 PM Joint Meeting of Session & Diaconate - S-203
6:30 PM Adult Ensemble Rehearsal - P-119
7:00 PM Session Meeting - S-312

Monday, November 22, 2010
12:00 PM ChristCare Group - P-212
6:00 PM Centering Prayer - P-201
6:00 PM Senior Adults to Charlotte Café
6:30 PM Knox Handbell Rehearsal - P-114
7:00 PM ChristCare - P-205
7:40 PM Ivey Handbells - P-114

Tuesday, November 23, 2010
10:30 AM Loaves and Fishes - Pantry
6:15 PM Boy Scouts Meeting - P-309
6:30 PM Stephen Ministry - P-206, P-209, P-212
6:45 PM Boy Scouts Meeting - P-301 A & B, P-321

Wednesday, November 24, 2010
12:00 PM Wednesday Worship
12:30 PM Wednesday Worship Lunch - FH
1:00 PM ChristCare - P-205
1:00 PM Loaves and Fishes - Pantry
4:30 PM Wednesday Connect Playgroup - P-111
5:30 PM Cub Scouts - P-306 B
5:30 PM Wednesday Connect - P-309
5:45 PM Wednesday Connect Dinner - FH
5:00 PM Child’s Intro - P-206
5:00 PM Carol Choir - P-119
6:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Thursday, November 25, 2010
7:00 AM Holiday - Church Offices Closed

Friday, November 26, 2010
7:00 AM Holiday - Church Offices Closed

Saturday, November 27, 2010
7:30 AM Sandwich Kitchen - Kitchen

Sunday, November 28, 2010
9:00 AM Sunday Worship (Communion)
10:00 AM Adult Advent Study - FH
10:00 AM High School Class - P-321
10:00 AM Middle School Class - P-301 A & B
10:30 AM Stated Weekly Session Meeting - S-312
11:00 AM Sunday Worship
5:00 PM Celtic Handbells - P-127
6:00 PM Advent Vespers Services - S-205
6:30 PM Adult Ensemble - P-119
7:00 PM Vespers Service Refreshments - S-202
Operation Christmas Child - Save Your Shoeboxes!

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan’s Purse, an international Christian relief agency. This unique project sends a message of hope to children in crisis areas of the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Members of our church will be preparing boxes filled with gift items such as toys, school supplies, flashlights, hygiene items, watches, balls and other articles of interest to children. All church members are invited to participate in this very special project, presenting the church with a special opportunity to touch children’s lives throughout the world.

Brochures will be available on the credenza located on the right side of the Sanctuary, near the Lemma Howerton Room, and on bulletin boards throughout the church. In addition to gift boxes, monetary donations are also welcomed. Checks should be made payable to “Samaritan’s Purse,” marked Operation Christmas Child” on the memo line and sent to the church office. Dedication Sunday will be November 21 during the 9 and 11:00 AM worship services. For information regarding the boxes, please contact church member Ann Burton at 704.334.3909 or via email, burtongirls3@carolina.rr.com.
“Emmanuel: God with us...”

Advent is a time of preparation as we turn our hearts and our minds to the story of Christ’s birth. God has decided not to be a distant God, but one who is involved in our lives, and the story of Jesus Christ shows us that God has chosen to be a God with us. Join us at 6:00 p.m. on the four Sunday nights of Advent as we explore the theme “Emmanuel: God with us...” and prepare our hearts for the arrival of Christmas morning. Each service will be a different style, and there will be a fellowship time after the services. Childcare will also be provided, but families are invited to attend together.

“...in our brokenness.” Wholeness & Healing November 28, 2010
As we prepare for Christmas time, this service will help us lay before God our concerns, sorrows and hurts from the past in order that we may experience the healing touch of Jesus Christ.

“...in our joy.” Jazz December 5, 2010
This evening service will remind us from a lowly stable grew the joyful news of the people of God. “Jazz music reminds us who we are are and where we have come from, while inspiring us into the reality of who we can become in the Risen Christ.”

“...in our silence.” Taizé December 12, 2010
This evening service will remind us that among the noise of the holiday, God's voice is still able to speak to us in the stillness and silence. Taize is a worship style from France that seeks to contrast noise and silence, and light and darkness as we worship God.

“...in our community.” Celtic Communion December 19, 2010
During this evening service, we will celebrate communion together to remind us that through Jesus Christ’s sacrifice we are able to build community with each other and God.” The Celtic Tradition comes from Ireland as they seek to break down the barriers between everyday life and worship.
**November 24**

**Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service**

Wednesday Connect, our evening series of dinner and study, is coming to its conclusion. The Wednesday, November 24, Wednesday Connect series will include a special dinner and Thanksgiving Eve worship service.

The schedule for that night is: Child’s Intro K & 1 and Carol and Kirk Choirs will meet for rehearsal from 5:15-5:45 p.m.; a dinner buffet will be served in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:45 p.m.; the Thanksgiving worship service will begin in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.

The Thanksgiving Eve worship service is an important and meaningful tradition for many. This family-friendly worship service will include music by our children’s choirs. For those who prefer their preschool children to not attend, child care will be available beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Child care is available at no cost to the family, and reservations are required for the meal. Reservations and payment can be made online at www.firstpres-charlotte.org or by calling the church office at 704.332.5123.

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**MENU**

**November 24**

- Beef Tenderloin with Gravy
- Roasted Red Potatoes
- Southern Style Green Beans
- Buttered Cornbread
- Salad Bar with Fresh Ingredients
- Assorted Sliced Pies

*Dinner is served at 5:45 PM*

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**Reservation Form for Dinner and/or Child Care**

Name __________________________________________ Phone __________________________

_____ No. of Dinners for Adults and Youth @ $7.00 Subtotal Adult/Youth $___________

_____ No. of Dinners for Children (4-11) @ $4.00 Subtotal Children’s Dinner $___________

(3 and under free)

_____ Child Care (4 and under) (Child Care begins at 6:00 pm) Total No. in Child Care _________

Child(ren)’s Name & Age __________________________________________________________________________

Total Due (not to exceed $22 per family per week) $___________ Check attached for total amount of $___________

This reservation form is for:  
___ November 24  
(Worship Service/Dinner)

Reservations and payment can also be made online at www.firstpres-charlotte.org. Registration must be received by Monday at noon prior to the Wednesday you wish to attend.
Order of Worship

November 21, 2010
9:00 AM and 11:00 AM
Let the people engage in silent meditation and prayer upon entering the sanctuary.

Preparation

OPENING VOLUNTARY
“Canzona per Sonare No. 4” Giovanni Gabrieli
“Irish Tune” David P. Jones
“My Spirit Be Joyful” J. S. Bach
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Carolina Brass
Martha Asti, organ

INTROIT
“Holy, Holy, Holy” Felix Mendelssohn
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabbath! All the nations shall bow down before Thee, Hosanna in the highest! Praise be to Him who cometh in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Adoration

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN NO. 482
“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” Lobe Den Herren

CALL TO CONFESSIOIN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

KYRIE NO. 572 (choir and congregation)
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Proclamation

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ANTHEM
“Honor and Glory” J. S. Bach
Honor and glory be to God in the highest, hallelujah, sing praises to his name, hallelujah!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
The Word of the Lord.
Micah 6:1-8 pew Bible page 866
Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING
“Laudate Dominum” W. A. Mozart
Susan Shimp, soprano
Laudate Dominum omnes gentes, laudate eum omnes populi. Quoniam confirmata est supernos musericordia ejus, et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.
Praise the Lord all nations, praise him all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church
RECOGNITION OF DR. WOOD

**Hymn No. 555**

“Now Thank We All Our God”
Nun Danket Alle Gott

**New Testament Lesson**

Romans 1:1-17
pew Bible page 152

**Sermon**

“What We Are Standing For”
Dr. William P. Wood

Text: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

What is your only hope, in life and in death?

That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn No. 440)**

In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north; but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Dedication**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory Anthem**

“Upon This Rock”
John Ness Beck

_Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds has come. Arise, and come away; arise!_

**Doxology**

**Prayer of Dedication and The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn No. 210**

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”
St. Anne

**Charge and Benediction**

**Benediction Response**

“Sevenfold Amen”
John Srainer

**Closing Voluntary**

“Voluntary on Old 100th”
Henry Purcell

_The 11:00 am service will be televised on WSOC-TV, channel 9, this Sunday. The sermon is available on the church Web site (www.firstpres-charlotte.org) by audio download and podcast._
November 21 will be a very busy day in Uptown Charlotte as not only will Dr. Wood be preaching his last sermon, here at First Presbyterian Church, but the Panthers will be hosting a home game as well. Although the First Presbyterian parking lot will be open only for members and guests attending the services and the Celebration, there will be minimal parking available outside of our lot due to the game. We would like to ask that members who have Uptown parking available for work please utilize that space instead of the church parking lot on this special Sunday if it is convenient. Also, if the Light Rail or carpooling is a convenient option for your family, we would like to ask that you utilize this as an alternate source of transportation.

In planning attendance for Celebration Sunday, please keep in mind that both services are identical. Dr. Wood will greet members and guests in front of the church as usual after the 9 AM service, but he will go directly to the Fellowship Hall after the 11 AM service.

Children and Worship will meet in P-311. Following both services, parents should meet children in Room P-212, The Frances Browne Room.

Children’s Ministries is busy this Season!
Make sure these dates are on your December Calendar!

Breakfast with Mary & Joseph
Saturday, December 4th at 9:00 am
Please come to enjoy this time with your friends and family...
Our children will have fun creating an Advent “Countdown to Christmas” that we hope will reinforce the significance of our reason for celebrating Christmas.

Advent Workshop
Sunday, December 5th (during the Sunday school hour)
This Advent activity will be reminding us all to “Pray for children Around the World”

Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 12th at 4:30 pm
We are looking forward to celebrating the season with our performance of “The Living Nativity” given by our Kindergarten thru 5th graders.
This is one of our congregation’s favorite Christmas activities.
We have a growing population of sheep, angels, and shepherds, so we know you will really enjoy this event.
Don’t forget that Rehearsal will be Saturday, Dec. 11th, at 10:00 am
November 21, 2010
Frances Browne Room – Inescapable God – God is Protector (Psalm 91)
David Dillard

The Reverend Wes Barry

P-206 – The Wired Word
The Reverend Kirk Hall

Lemma Howerton – Celebration of Discipline – Service
The Reverend Katie Crowe

Pattie Cole – Visitors from “Orient R” – A Look at the Hymn “We Three Kings of Orient Are’
Randy Phillips

November 28, 2010
Combined Adult Advent Class - Fellowship Hall

Thanksgiving Worship Services on Wednesday, November 24
Come and give thanks with two special Thanksgiving worship services this season that are taking place on Wednesday, November 24. At noon on Wednesday join us for worship in the Sanctuary followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall for $6. On Wednesday evening at 5:45 p.m. bring the family and enjoy a meal together in the Fellowship Hall ($7 for adults, $4 for children with a family cap of $22) followed by a special worship service from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary that will feature the Child’s Introduction to Music, Carol and Kirk children’s choirs. There will be no Thanksgiving worship service on Thursday morning due to the uptown Thanksgiving day parade

A Very Special Opportunity
Twenty-seven copies of our beautiful cookbook, Inspired Cooking, have been inscribed by Dr. Wood and will be available for sale on Sunday, November 21 on the occasion of the celebration of his twenty-seven years of ministry here at First Presbyterian. Dr. Wood was a tremendous source of help and encouragement in the creation and production of this book and we are grateful for his most gracious assistance to PW in their continuing efforts to help alleviate hunger in Charlotte through the sales of Inspired Cooking.

Please look for our sales table on Celebration Sunday!
Take Home a Book to be Treasured!

Sanctuary Flowers
Members who wish to memorialize a loved one or honor a baptism or marriage by placing flowers in the Sanctuary should contact Diane Maye at 704.875.6176 or e-mail dianemaye48@hotmail.com.

Children’s Ministry
November 21, 2010
Nursery Coordinator - Tanya Pickett
Parent Helpers: 
Threes - Hunter & Kathryn Purdom
Fours - Doug & Beth Rothrock

Teachers
Little Lambs - Gena Morris
Worship Beginnings:
10:00 - 3s - Elizabeth Taylor
10:00 - 4s - Dianne Bailey

Children and Worship:
9:00 Teacher - Lisa Neely
9:00 Assistant - Ashley Smith
11:00 Teacher - Caroline Veronee
11:00 Teacher - Laurie Hidell
11:00 Assistant - Amy Jackson

Hospital, Births, Deaths, Illness
If you know of someone who is hospitalized, or of a birth, death or illness, please contact the church office. Please do not assume the church has been notified.

Change of Address
Please remember to inform the church of any change.
Family Night Supper and Carol Sing

You are invited to a family night supper and Christmas Carol sing on Wednesday, December 8 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

After supper, Eddie Huss will lead us in familiar Christmas songs and carols.

Reservations for supper are needed by Monday, December 6 by calling the church office at 704.332.5123.

The menu will be chicken and dumplings, green beans, cranberry salad and a dessert. Cost is $7 for adults and $4 for children with $22 maximum for family.

Childcare is available.

Young Adults Upcoming Events

Young Adult Uptown Lunch
December 7th
11:30 am-12:30 pm
at the Wachovia Atrium

Young Adult Christmas Party
“Spirits of Christmas”
December 17th
8:00 pm-10:00 pm
at the home of Wes Barry

College Christmas Party
December 19th
6:30 pm-8:30 pm
at the home of John and Anne Barry

MEN’S SHELTER OF CHARLOTTE offers An Opportunity to Serve

Come join fellow church members and serve dinner to homeless individuals on Tuesday, November 30 from 5:30-8:00 pm at the Men’s Shelter of Charlotte (formerly the Emergency Winter Shelter), 3410 Statesville Avenue. Contact Lisa Ku at 704.525.0430 or lisaku@carolina.rr.com to serve!

ROOM IN THE INN COLLECTION

NEW GLOVES
NEW BACKPACKS
NEW SOCKS
NEW HATS

A BIN WILL BE LOCATED ALONG THE HALLWAY BEHIND THE SANCTUARY DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

GIVE GENEROUSLY TO HELP HOMELESS MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY AS THE NEED IS GREAT!
**Holiday Poinsettias**

If you wish to remember or honor a loved one by having a poinsettia placed in the sanctuary during the Christmas season, send a check for $10, payable to First Presbyterian Church, to Diane Maye, PO Box 1008, Huntersville, NC, 28070. Checks are due Friday, November 19. Please include name of your loved one(s) and indicate if this is a memorial or honorarium. Donors may pick up their poinsettias after the Sunday service that follows Christmas day.

**Holiday Wreaths**

Members wishing to purchase a Christmas wreath to hang on a church door to honor or remember a loved one should contact Diane Maye at 704.875.6176 by Friday, November 19.

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**ADVENT COMMUNION SERVICE AND LUNCH**

**Thursday, December 2, 2010**

**11:30 AM in the Sanctuary**

Join us for our Advent Communion Service and Lunch on Thursday December 2, 2010 at 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary. Come and prepare your hearts and minds for this season of Advent and Christmas as we are led in worship by Dr. Luke Powery, Assistant Professor of Homiletics at Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Powery’s combined experiences in preaching, African American religious culture, and theology will nourish us during this season of hope and anticipation. This service is a tradition of our Presbyterian Women and is open to all members of our church, all churches through out the city, our downtown community, our friends and neighbors and anyone seeking spiritual nourishment.

The Advent Communion Service will be followed by a boxed lunch in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15 PM. Lunches will also be available for carry-out. Reservations may be made by sending a check for $6.00 payable to Presbyterian Women and marked Advent Communion Lunch, to the church at 200 W. Trade Street, Charlotte, NC 28202. Please send your check by Monday November 29th. You may also make reservations by calling the church at 704.332.5123 or at sign up tables on Sunday mornings at church or pay on-line via the church’s website, www.firstpres-charlotte.org. Click Congregational Life, then Presbyterian Women. To make a reservation for childcare please contact Carmalta Monroe at 704.367.4934. For transportation to the event contact Anne Wilson at 704.364.5059.

During the service, a Christmas Joy Offering will be accepted. Fifty percent of this gift is sent to the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (USA) for assistance programs for church workers and the other half is directed to racially ethnic schools and colleges of the PCUSA to help deserving students pursue their education.

As we approach this season of preparation and waiting, we hope you and your friends will join us as we take time to worship and reflect on the season.
STEPHEN MINISTRY

Who Benefits from Stephen Ministry?

EVERYBODY!

- Those receiving care from a Stephen Minister benefit because they receive prayer and support through challenges they face.
- Stephen Ministers benefit through spiritual growth they experience from being involved in meaningful ministry.
- Our ministers, benefit because caring ministry at First Presbyterian Church is expanded, ensuring more people receive the care they need.
- You benefit from the knowledge that special care is available to you should you need it. In addition, you have a place where you can refer a friend, relative or someone you know who is going through a difficult time.

Want to know more? Contact The Reverend Katherine Cooke or any Stephen Minister.

THINK STEPHEN