

# Fourth Notes

March 2009

Fourth Presbyterian Church \* 340 Dorchester Street, South Boston, MA 02127 \* 617-268-1281

Pastor Burns Stanfield -- [bstanfield@hds.harvard.edu](mailto:bstanfield@hds.harvard.edu) Dir. Children & Youth Tim Hughes- [timhughes79@gmail.com](mailto:timhughes79@gmail.com)

## LENT continues: *Everywhere...*

## *Everybody... Everytime...*

Where do we find God? To whom is God reaching? When can we find the presence of Christ? Everywhere... Everybody... Everytime..

Lent began on February 25, and now that we are a few days in, we ask you to keep looking for the Holy in all kinds of places. As John Calvin wrote 500 years ago: "Creation is the theater for God's Glory."

Our homemade devotion books are now available. And they are wonderful. (Thank you Lauren, for organizing this year's submissions.) Sunday classes begin March 1. And a new soup and study begins March 4. We've already had three nights of evening prayer, each with an excellent reflection. Thirty-six more are on the way.

### **lent wednesdays: soup, study & communion (March 4)**

Think of making Wednesdays in Lent a time for gathering and study. Supper is available at 5:30. We'll have a celebration of the communion at 6pm. All welcome.

Following the service, there will be a study featuring the experiences of our own members and the spiritual insights they get from their own vocations. Erik Jacobs, for example, will share his faith observations from his work as a photographer. Each week will feature a different expert, and we will invite everybody to look into their own vocations and lives to identify God's work and presence. Starts March 4.

Schedule:

Mar. 4- Brett Vanveller  
(Chemist)

Mar. 11- Erik Jacobs  
(Photographer)

And of course, we have something brand new for us this year - an invitation to explore fasting through guided practice and a Sunday discussion group with Laurie Pierce. It's a very special opportunity to explore an ancient practice of spirituality.

One of the great things about Lent is that it is long enough to let you get into a particular discipline; but it still has an end point, making it easier for most of us to begin the discipline in the first place.

Have a blessed season. Use these opportunities as they are helpful. This can be a rich time for anybody who makes even a little room for the Spirit.

Mar. 18 – Deb Nicolellis  
(Vocational Rehab)

And Jack Forbush  
(bank commty. affairs)

Mar. 25 - Al Circeo  
(boat crewman)

Apr. 2 - TBA

Aprl 8 – Thatcher Freebborn  
(bank branch mgr.)

remembrance of Christ's  
Passion.

### **Two Sunday classes for adults...**

#### **LOOKING IN LENT; ACTIVATING FAITH**

With Lauren Gallant, you will be looking in the stories, news and events of recent days for examples of active faith. She'll invite you to focus on particular aspects of faith life: prayer, listening, balancing, and more. Every Sunday at 9:30am

#### **EXPLORING FASTING**

Laurie Pierce has wonderful resources to guide your exploration of fasting in safe ways. You 'll have a chance to consider how different traditions approach fasting, and all those who try a Saturday fast can meet Sunday to break the fast together and discuss the experience.

### **nightly prayer service**

Starting Thursday, February 26 and continuing through Saturday, April 11, we will have a simple prayer service every night (except Sundays). Doors open by 6pm for a time of music and meditation. Liturgy begins at 6:10 and we will be done around 6:25. A reflection each night will be presented by different members of the Fourth Church community. Communion on Wednesdays

### **Passion play- April 5**

The Passion Play will be presented Sunday, April 5. Save the day, and be sure to tell Burns if you want to participate in this lived

# BLUEGRASS BBQ- April 1

The Bluegrass Barbecue event felt right last year, so we are bringing it back. Wednesday, April 1, 6-9pm at the Stadium.

There will be plenty of good BBQ, vegetarian options, Silent Auction, Live auction, live bluegrass music by the Spring Hill Rounders and The Down Home Singers. (Tell Burns if you want to join the singers.)

The price is again \$50 per person, \$85 for a couple. We are raising funds for the Vision Fund, and we have our "Vision Eyes" on a long-needed renovation of the fellowship hall and kitchen, replete with a "greener" building through dramatically improved insulation and heating/cooling systems.

## Baptism of Jasper Ray: March 22

Trinity Ray and Tara McKee, together with the congregation of Fourth Church, invite all to celebrate the baptism of Jasper Albert Ray! March 22 in our worship service at 10:30.

Jasper is doing great, by the way!

## Healing Service and potluck: March 29

One piece of our liturgical walk through Lent is an invitation to prayers of healing. Please, please, please feel free to invite friends who might benefit from a personal prayer and/or an anointing.

After the service: A potluck lunch.

## HOLY WEEK- Apr 5-12

Please note the special events coming up:

Sunday, Apr 5- Palm & Passion Sunday - passion play!

Thursday, April 9- Foot washing, dinner and tenebrae service for Maundy Thursday

The key to making this a success will be B-R-O-A-D participation. Please make a point of coming yourself and enticing 2 or 3 or 10! of your friends to come and support our community presence. THAT will pack the house! Also, please think about what Silent Auction items you might be able to get donated to the cause. Perhaps sports tickets? Restaurant certificates?? Art? and half will go paying off our mortgage.

There is plenty of room for helpers in the planning! Please see Lindsey or Michael Moyes, Burns, Marcia, or Tim.

Good Friday, April 10-  
Vacation Bible School for kids,  
ecumenical way of cross

Saturday- Vigil Service at 7pm  
with baptism of Ben Potter. All  
night vigil follows, with Lauren  
creating art!

Easter Sunday - Sunrise  
Service, followed by 9am  
breakfast, and 10:30 worship

## PARADE DAY- Sunday, March 15

The annual St. Patrick's Day  
parade comes right by Fourth  
Church on Sunday, March 15;  
and we again hope to extend  
hospitality and raise money for  
mission at the same time.  
PLEASE bring lots of goodies to  
sell. If you are able to stay and  
help with the hospitality... it will  
be greatly appreciated, and you'll  
have a fantastic time! See the  
parade and help the church at the  
same time!

**prayers...** We pray for  
David McKenzie, who has been  
in the hospital, and Darla  
Danilowicz, who has been in

Indiana taking care of her ill sister.

At press time, Alison Slade and  
her husband, Peter, are in the  
hospital with contractions  
beginning!

We celebrate that Chris  
Hoklotubbe and Michelle Sanchez  
have both been accepted into  
Harvard doctoral programs.

Laurie Pierce has also been  
accepted into an excellent program  
in Chicago... Meaning that we will  
also need to pray for that special  
challenge of relocation..

Tim Hughes' grandfather passed.

Margaret Brennan is in the  
Marian Manor. So is Phyllis  
Curtis, but she is getting close to  
being able to come home.

Pray for Al Circeo, who is out on  
the boat so many days.

Pray for Lindsey Moyes with her  
various medical tests and  
procedures.

Sonny Stevens and family  
appreciate prayers for their family.  
So does Tim Ellis.

Liz Stanfield and family say thank  
you for the incredible show of  
support at her fund-raiser. She  
leaves for Africa this month.

---

Fourth Presbyterian Church  
340 Dorchester Street  
South Boston, MA 02127

*Return Service Requested*

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage

PAID

Boston, MA

PERMIT # 50565