



# the Chimes

August 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Message from the Pastor

### Beloved in Christ,

Romans 14:7-12 reads:

“We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and lived

again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, ‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.’ So then, each of us will be accountable to God.”

These are not easy words to either live by or to hear.

I like to pretend otherwise—that what matters most is what I like, what I think, and what I desire. Our culture is predicated on individualism. The pandemic has highlighted this tendency from all sides.

Paul offers us a new perspective and a higher calling as Christians as he asks us to view everything in light of the glory of God.



This is much deeper than our arguments over what is right and what is wrong. This calls into question every aspect of our lives. Is what I am doing or saying giving glory to God revealed in Jesus Christ and is it furthering the love

of my neighbor?

That puts a whole different spin on things.

We are invited to consider this with the Session. First and foremost, I am thankful for each and every one of them as they continue to wrestle with important questions and work to find the best way forward in this church. There is no road map for these decisions and they are doing a tremendous job.

Many want to sing and we yearn for that expression of faith to return. I also miss it. Do we wear masks? Can we gather safely with the Delta variant? None of these are easy answers. I urge you to be in prayer for your Session before quickly moving to complaint or disagreement.

When the Session met last week, a few  
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## Worship Schedule

- 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

Worship Service is in-person and on-line at [fpcfairmont.com](http://fpcfairmont.com) & Facebook

For those who are not fully vaccinated, masks are required at any in-person services/functions at the church

# Musical Notes

from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist



## Nestled in the beautiful

mountains of Western North Carolina is where you will find the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. It is a place that is familiar and loved by many Presbyterians, including members of First Presbyterian Fairmont who have gone there in years past and speak of it fondly. This year was extra special as it was a return to an in person conference following the virtual one last summer due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Even after attending for nine consecutive years, I find that it has never gotten old. This is a place that always inspires, renews, and energizes one's love of music in worship.

I had the opportunity to attend several wonderful classes over the course of the week: Tom Trenney's Routlec Lecture, "And May God Give Us Faith to Sing Always", Worship Reflections with the entire conference planning team, Organ Service Playing with Patrick Scott, Conducting for ALL! with Elizabeth Wilson, and Taking it to the Church: Adapting Big Conference Ideas to Local Congregations with Meg Flannagan. Daily Worship focused on Pentecost, Baptism of the Lord, Reign of Christ, Ash Wednesday, All Saints, and World Communion. The

worship leaders Rev. Cecelia Armstrong and liturgist Rev. Ann Traynham were energetic and passionate about their message and brought out the same energy from those worshipping. The Wednesday evening Hymn Festival led by Tom Trenney was beautiful and gave an opportunity to

sing communally a wide variety of hymns from Glory to God. (Conference organizers determined that all indoor conference activities required masks.) As a side note, a beautiful solo arrangement of "Be Thou My Vision" that you will be hearing Betty Pat sing at the end of July is by Tom Trenney.

In terms of discussions, I very much enjoyed Meg Flannagan's class where we reflected on worship asking ourselves each time questions such as "What did you hear?" "What did you see?" "What did you touch?" This is where you really got to witness what was meaningful to others and likewise express what you enjoyed or found particularly worshipful during the service. It was great to get to talk about what surprised us in worship (in a good way.) For Worship Reflections, the planning team was lined up on the stage of Anderson Auditorium and took questions from both people present and people online about their collaborative process. Each planning team collaborates over the course of three years for a conference. You could tell that this planning team really liked each other and had a special bond through their collaboration. In Elizabeth Wilson's conducting class we discussed

conducting techniques and then simultaneously conducted ourselves while singing Mozart's Kyrie from Missa Brevis in D. In Tom Trenney's class, I enjoyed how much we discussed why we do what we do and how much of it is truly a ministry.

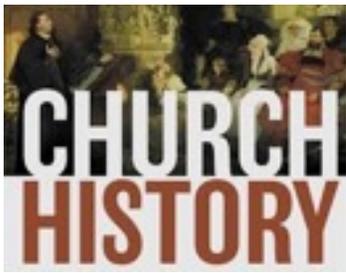
I always love attending great concerts so the organ concert performed by Patrick Scott was a treat. It featuring music by Edward Elgar, Paul Halley, Franz Josef Haydn, Johann Sebastian Bach, Gerre Hancock, Dan Locklair, Edward Elgar, Henri Mulet, and an improvisation. For this concert they had the organ console manuals (keyboards) and pedalboard projected up on a screen in the front of Anderson Auditorium with separate cameras which made it fun for the audience to watch. One comical moment happened when Patrick accidentally skipped the Bach. As he was introducing the piece after it someone asked, "Aren't you going to play Bach?" and he responded "Oops!", jumped on the bench and continued with the program. The audience had a good laugh and were very appreciative at the end of the concert.

Two other highlights of the week were getting to meet Pastor Walker's family who were very nice and invited me to dinner and taking my first hike up the Lookout Trail. The stunning panoramic view of the mountains is a sight to behold!

All in all, it was a great week at Montreat!

John Morrison  
Director of Music/Organist





## 1st CHURCH's HISTORY CORNER by Jean Lambert

### *Sanctuary rededicated in 2011 after being plastered & painted*

It is difficult to have painting done in your home for you probably have to move out furniture or cover it with tarps, etc. Painting a Church sanctuary is no different. At our Church, scaffolding had to be used and Church services were moved to the Social Room in February and March, 2011.

Cracks were repaired and the sanctuary was painted by Harry Greaver and John Radcliff of Plaster and Painting Systems. They skimmed over a small crack in the ceiling with a special type of drywall mud which takes 45 minutes to dry. They returned 2 hours later after doing some errands and saw a silhouette image of Jesus in this place of the ceiling. It was reported that the image has the affect of following a person as they walk around the main floor of the Church. It was decided not to paint over this area so all Church members and guests could see this image.

In a newspaper article it was reported that on April 10, 2011 First Presbyterian Church would rededicate its sanctuary. Special music was planned and the time for children and youth would feature a walk around the sanctuary taking note of several important objects - the Baptismal Font, the Communion Table, the Pulpit, etc. At the climax of the worship service the oaken Celtic cross would be raised in the front of the sanctuary as the congregation would sing - Lift High The Cross. This was a grand service.



## *August Prayer List*

Willa Hood  
James Furbee  
Bill Fox  
Rocky Cikovich  
Will Marble  
Donald Morrison, John's father  
Scott Weisenborn  
Dr. Ron & Judy Thompson, friends  
of Joan Smith  
Rev. Richard Bowyer, COVID

Steven Satterfield, Pam Stalnaker &  
Penny Roberts nephew  
Kim Trisel  
Alisa Perdue  
Doug Hauser, Eric's father  
Joe Lambiotte  
Alex Garrison, Jennifer Walker's  
cousin  
Marilyn McDougal  
Cecil Corley

Joe Lambiotte  
WV Presbyterian Churches: Oak  
Grove in Hillsboro &  
Tygarts Valley in Huttonsville

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Session

### CLERK OF SESSION

John O'Connor

### ADMINISTRATION

Benita Jernigan  
Amy Turluck

### OUTREACH

Penny Roberts  
Diane Floyd

### PROPERTY

Eric Hauser  
Jason Burdette

### WORSHIP & MUSIC

Linda O'Connor  
Pam Stalnaker

### CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Jenny Poling  
Adam Ranson

### HOSPITALITY

Deanna Kritzer  
Kathy Snider

## Treasurers

Roger Kritzer  
David Floyd

### Nursery Attendants

Christy Erickson



### SHARING GOD'S LOVE ALL MONTH LONG!

Here are suggestions for sharing God's love with others. Take purposeful action during the month of August. Share with neighbors, friends, and family.

#### Sharing God's Love

Do you remember a favorite book? Or one you read as a young adult, a child, or a teen? Share a book with someone by reading together, or by exploring the book and author online. If you each have a copy of the book, you can read it "together" over the phone. Or read part of it, then call, and talk about the part you just read. I have found books at websites like Thrift Books, Amazon Books, Abe Books, and Better World Books (which has a corporate philosophy of social responsibility). Thank God for authors, illustrators, and readers.

#### Sharing God's Love

"Catch them doing something right." Appreciation and encouragement come from being noticed for doing something helpful, positive, needed, caring, or constructive. All of God's children need recognition, appreciation and encouragement. While in conversation, look for times to offer positive feedback and some of the awesome love God has given to you.

#### Sharing God's Love

You can share God's love with children by including them in conversations. Some children need extra time to pull

their thoughts together. Wait patiently with your listening ears. You can share God's love with family and friends by including everyone in the conversation. Remember to put on your listening ears and to wait until each person has contributed. Make what you hear more important than what you have to say! You will be sharing God's love as you do so.

#### Sharing God's Love

The "great outdoors" is ready and waiting. You may have already turned to walking and observing nature as an alternative form of entertainment. If you work during the week, try evenings, Saturdays, or Sunday afternoons for a time of outside play. Enjoy a porch swing, toss a ball, set up a ring toss, or look intently for little creatures like caterpillars, lizards, and butterflies. Sharing the great outdoors with others is a wonderful way to share God's love.



# August Nurturing Faith Ideas

## SCRIPTURE

**August 1 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 13: Read John 6:24-35**

Jesus said, "Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the bread of life. I am the bread of life." How do you and your family work for the spiritual food available to all of us?

**August 8 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 14: Read John 6:35, 41-51**

The Jews complained about Jesus, not believing he could come from heaven. He assures them he comes from God and has seen God. Who do you turn to when things are not what you want, God or one another?

**August 15 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 15: Read Ephesians 5:15-20**

Paul warns the Ephesians to have wise lives and understand the will of God. He reminds all of us to give thanks to God at all times for everything. Make a list of what you are thankful for and how you give God thanks always.

**August 22 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 16: Read Ephesians 6: 10-20**

Paul reminds us to be strong in the Lord and put on the whole armor of God, to withstand the wiles of the devil. As you read this passage ask yourself how you live out Paul's instructions.

**August 29 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 17: Read Psalm 15**

This Psalm of David asks the question, who shall be admitted to the temple, the worshipping community? The answer given is: those who do what is right and speak the truth, who honor and fear (meaning respect and worship) the Lord, and who are trustworthy. As you read the Psalm, ask yourself if you do these things, and, if not, what might you do differently in your life?

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 3	Raleigh Nielsen
August 4	Deanna Kritzer
August 6	Earl Sweet
August 10	June Spiker
August 15	Kim Steele
August 20	Michele Miller
August 22	Judy Shaver
August 24	Joe Jernigan

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

August 10	Dave & Judy Cooper
August 11	Courtney & Amy Cooper
August 19	John & Anne Schooley
August 25	John & Betty Pat Lee

## JUNE/JULY PLEDGES & GIFTS

May 30	\$1,856
June 6	\$2,520
June 13	\$2,977
June 20	\$1,770

June Total: \$9,123  
To Date Total: \$81,777

NOTE: With the office coordinator out of the office, the June and July pledges and gifts will be updated in the September issue.

*August Ministry  
Volunteers*

## USHERS

Ed Snider (captain), Kathy Snider, Benita Jernigan, & Joe Jernigan

## THANK YOU

My heart is full of gratitude as I write this, note of thanks regarding the passing of my daddy, Frederick L. Poling. Please know how appreciative I am for the cards, dinners, cookies, flowers and plants. To those able to attend daddy's service, your presence deeply touched my heart as well as my families...

Mostly, I am grateful for your prayers and continued prayers...Your prayers have carried daddy, myself and my family through many of daddy's illnesses and surgeries over the years. Most

recently during his passing...

I truly love my church family and I'm grateful for each one of you, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I love you and thank you,

Deanna

## A GRATEFUL STORY TO SHARE

It was Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021. In the six days daddy had been in WVU's VICU, he had had a heart attack, coded twice and was intubated, unable to speak. He communicated using a whiteboard.

As he laid in his hospital bed, me holding his hand, we watched our church service. The entire service was amazingly beautiful. Reverend Evans message, the music ...all so spiritually filling. But, when John Morrison on violin, Amy Koon on chimes and Jennifer Walker on piano, performed, "How Great Thou Art", my daddy's spirit brightened! With tears in my eyes, I watched him mouth the words to his favorite hymn. When they were finished playing, daddy mouthed to me with tears in his eyes, "Beautiful, Absolutely Beautiful".

Prior to daddy's passing on June 4, we listened and watched many more times to John, Amy and Jennifer perform, "How Great Thou Art", most often with tears in our eyes.

The last song played for daddy as he was placed in WVU's hospital Hospice Care was, "How Great Thou Art" performed by my church family...

I am forever grateful for these precious memories of comfort you gave not only to my daddy, but to me, with my daddy.

Thank you, John, Amy and Jennifer.

Forever grateful,

Deanna

## Mark Your Calendar

- September Chimes deadline is **Friday, August 20** at noon
- Gather In The Garden, August 8 following worship service
- Session Meeting: August 17 at 6:30 p.m.
- VBS Nature Camp: August 11 at 6 p.m. at Valley Falls State Park
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteers at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10 a.m.

## Pastor's Message continues from pg. 1

items were discussed and passed. The prayer is that these decisions glorify God and further our love of our neighbors. For those fully vaccinated, the Session invites you to use your own judgment concerning the wearing of masks. For those unvaccinated, the Session **STRONGLY** urges you to wear a mask while attending services. The music of worship shall continue as it has been and social distancing during worship will continue. Online offerings are offered for any who feel ill or who are uncomfortable gathering in person. We are working on ideas to create community with online worshippers.

I do urge and encourage all to get vaccinated for your personal health and for the sake of the community and our life together.

Paul offers a beautiful vision for the church where we do not live for ourselves but for the glory of God and the love of each other. May his words guide and enliven our lives together.

In the peace of Christ,

Rev. Evan Walker

## COME JOIN US!!!

*Next 'Gather in the Garden' will be on Sunday, August 8 following the morning worship service. Refreshments served!*

## Vacation Bible School Aug. 11

Our final installment of VBS will be held August 11 from 6-7:30 at Valley Falls State Park. We will enjoy a meal together at 6 p.m. and the study will begin around 6:30 p.m.

The children will continue their study of Noah and the adults will be studying the same passage as the children. We look forward to see you there!



## VBS Donations: helping foster kids

To help children in the foster care system, we will be collecting bags and items for them.

Many children in foster care do not have a bag or suitcase for their belongings. We will be collecting new and gently used bags for children entering foster care and will also be collecting hygiene items (tooth brushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, soap, brushes, hair accessories, etc) to put into the bags. You can also add comfort item for a child (small toy or stuffed toy) and/or an activity like a drawing pad or school supply.

We will focus on ages 10 and up. You can bring a bag or suitcase or items to fill as you are able.

## Sunday School begins Sept. 19

Sunday School will begin on September 19. We will be happy to get back into clean classrooms this year! We will continue to have each child provided with their own arts and craft supplies and we will have hand sanitizer in each class room and we will continue to remove shoes in the nursery class, where children play on the floor.

The classes are as follows:

- K-3rd grade in the nursery (they will have an age appropriate curriculum but will be in the nursery as their classroom)
- 4-5th in the upstairs class
- 6th and up in the youth room

More details will follow.

## New Bible costumes needed

Many of our kids have grown over the past several years and our Bible costumes are starting to be snug.

We will use these costumes for the Christmas pageant as well as weekly videos. If you have any plain colored fabric that you would like to donate please bring it into the church. We are looking for several yards of solid colors that can be used for costumes for older children as well as for head dresses.



## Rally Day Sept. 12

We will celebrate Rally Day on Sunday, September 12! We will be happy to meet and celebrate the start of a new Sunday School year. Details will follow.



*The church with a heart in the heart of the city!*

*the*  
*August 2021* *Chimes*

F I R S T P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H



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