



the Chimes

August 2024

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

Message from the Pastor

Beloved of Christ,

In 1910, the Presbyterian Church composed a statement that has been since included in our Book of Order. This is called "The 6 Great Ends of the Church." Ends, in this statement, is more about goals and aspirations instead of finality. End, in this sense, is more concerned with purpose. These were written to give a clear picture of who we are and what it means to be the church. Since that time, the Book of Order has been revised at least six different times, there have been three mergers among Presbyterian denominations, and yet this statement remains largely unchanged. I read them, and they seem so distant or lofty, but each statement is meant to inspire, to challenge, to lead, and to shape us in our lives together.

The great ends of the church are:

- the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
- the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
- the maintenance of divine worship;
- the preservation of the truth;
- the promotion of social righteousness;



and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

These are a list of distant goals to achieve, as if we could on our own. They are more of a mission and vision statement concerning what it means to be the

church right now. Where we are lacking in these, is not meant to be a condemnation, but an invitation for growth. Where a church fails to live and exhibit these, the church becomes just another social or civic organization.

They also speak directly to our life of faith, just because we support organizations that work towards these ends doesn't mean we are doing them ourselves. To study the Great Ends is to measure our life together as a congregation. All six matter. We cannot choose certain ones that we are good at or feel comfortable doing and letting others do the rest. They are all interconnected and rely on each other and define each other. Over the next several months, we will examine each of these ends individually and see how they rely on and build on each other.

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- 9 a.m. Music Rehearsal
- 10 a.m. Summer Worship Service

Worship Service is in-person and online at fpcfairmont.com & Facebook





Musical Notes *from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist*

Thanks to all those who have been a part of

special music so far this summer! Special music has included the Summer Singers Pick Up Choir, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, soloists John Schooley with Anne Schooley on piano, Stan Swihart, Blake Boggess, a handbell duet rung by Karen Mersinger and Amy Koon, Tom McClure on guitar, Sarah Armstrong on flute, and Mary Morrison on cello.

Here is the upcoming special music schedule:

July 28 – First Presbyterian Summer Singers

Handbell Duet: Kim Steele and Amy Koon

August 4 – Men's Chorus

August 11-Evan Walker, solo with Jennifer Walker, piano

August 18-Women's Chorus

August 25-Betty Pat Lee, solo

September 1-Maria Potts, solo with Jennifer Walker, piano

Special Music rehearsals are at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the choir room, and interested singers are welcome to join in singing with the Summer Singers Pick Up Choir, Women's Chorus, or Men's Chorus!

May the peace of Christ be with you,

John Morrison

Director of Music and Organist



Don't forget the Black Bears game on Friday, August 9 in Morgantown!

- Tailgating is from 4-6 p.m. in the parking lot across from the stadium
- Game time: 7 p.m.
- Fireworks after the game

First Church's News & Notes



purpose and a reason for being beyond ourselves. Targets for growth and development and marching orders for us in the present, not distant goals. These six represent what it means to be a part of the church of Jesus Christ and are interconnected and rely on each other. To fail to exhibit or live into one or more of these means we fail to fully be the church created by Jesus Christ and led by the Spirit of God.

May the Spirit help us as we examine each of these.

To the glory of God,
Rev. Evan Walker

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In doing so, I pray that God will strengthen us as a church in our life and witness together. We study these because to examine them and wrestle with them we have the chance to measure our life together as a congregation – are we embodying the mission and life of Jesus Christ our Lord.

These are not Presbyterian ends, but what we think it means to be a church following the Lord of all. They offer us

Mark Your Calendars

- September Chimes deadline is **Friday, August 16** at noon
- Gathering in the Social Room: August 4 after the service in the Social Room
- Session Meeting: August 20 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Summer Worship Service: 10 a.m.
- WV Black Bears Game: Friday, August 9 - tailgating 4-6 p.m., game at 7 p.m.

Schooley receives Lifetime Award

John Schooley Sr. received a Lifetime Achievement Award from The Fairmont Rotary Club on July 23. Schooley is Chair of Rotary Scholarship Auditions and has served as a Flag Team member for several years.

He has been a Paul Harris Scholar multiple times. Before joining Rotary, he was the recipient of a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship where he attended the Royal Academy of Music in London, England, majoring in Music Composition. Schooley is Professor Emeritus at Fairmont State University. He became a member of the Fairmont Rotary Club in December, 1985.



STRIKING FUN!!!! First Church Youth Group and adults enjoy some time bowling and playing games at the Fairmont Bowling Center.

CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 1 PM ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
9AM - 12 PM ON TUESDAY

Phone (304) 366-2628

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Email: office@fairmontfirst.net

Web: www.fpcfairmont.com

A farewell and a welcome

We would like to thank Cathy Woodson for serving as our Office Coordinator for the past 4+ years. Cathy has been out for the past few weeks as she recovered from a fall. She will be embarking on a new adventure as she moves to the Eastern Panhandle to be close to her children. If you would like to thank Cathy for taking care of us and wish her well, please send a card to her home 1337 Peacock Lane Fairmont, WV 26554

On the other side of things, Karen Mersinger was able to step in while Cathy was out. She jumped right in and has been able to keep things on track. We are happy to say that Karen will be staying in the Office Coordinator position. Please give Karen a warm welcome when you see her!
Pam Nolan, *Administrative and Finance Team*



Meet Karen Mersinger, new office coordinator

I am an East Fairmont High School and WVU alumnus. After earning my degrees in chemistry and forensic science, I moved to North Carolina to work in a toxicology lab with LabCorp. I also worked with multiple agencies within the North Carolina Department of Public Health.

I have two kids, Mia and Adam, and they are the light of my life. I moved back to West Virginia with my family in October of last year. I love all crafts,

games, and puzzles, but my favorite thing to do is music. I began playing piano once I was old enough to read. As many of you know, I play handbells for First Presbyterian Church, but I also am in the percussion section of two local concert bands and volunteer with the Busy Bee Band drumline.

I am loving working with First Presbyterian church, and appreciate all of you!

RINGING BELLS. Handbell choir members Amy Koon and Karen Mersinger perform during a summer service.

Staff

Pastor

Evan Walker

pastorevan@fairmontfirst.net

Director of Music

John Morrison

music@fairmontfirst.net

Discipleship Ministry Coordinator

Jane Peterson

discipleship@fairmontfirst.net

Office Coordinator

Karen Mersinger

office@fairmontfirst.net

Sexton

sexton@fairmontfirst.net

Session

CLERK OF SESSION

Kathy Snider

ADMINISTRATION

Pam Nolan

Amy Turluck

OUTREACH

Terri Bunner

PROPERTY

Rob Steele

Joe Jernigan

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Pam Stalnaker

Marilyn Morgan

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Amy Koon

HOSPITALITY

Anne Schooley

Treasurer

Roger Kritzer

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Pam Proctor

Abby Shuck

August Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

August 4: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 13: Read John 6:24-35

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." In saying, "I am the Bread of Life," Jesus is claiming to not only be divine, but also the only one who can truly satisfy our soul! What are some things besides Christ we hope will satisfy us?

August 11: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 14: Read John 6:35, 41-51

How do the crowds misunderstand the meaning and purpose of Jesus' words? In what ways do people misunderstand Jesus today? If you were to help someone see Jesus clearly, what would you say or do or not say or do?

August 18: 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 25: 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

Birthdays

8/4	Deanna Kritzer
8/6	Earl Sweet
8/10	Tim Mersinger
8/14	Loren Hunt
8/15	Kim Steele
8/21	Judy Palmer
8/22	Judy Shaver
8/24	Joe Jernigan

Anniversaries

8/1	Catie & Matt Snyder
8/19	John & Anne Schooley
8/25	John & Betty Pat Lee
8/28	Reid & Becky Harvey

PRAYER LIST

Family of Zanna Joyce Egress
Jill Mason
Wes Williams
Kip Price
Annette Swiger

Jerry Toothman
Steven Collier
Stephen Satterfield
Family of Delwin Bopp, Pam Nolan's dad
Family of Brad Doss, Diane Boso's son-in-law
Judy Shaver
Paul Hines, Marilyn Morgan's brother-in-law
DD Meighen
Brad Dodd
Peggy Twyman
Linda Stoops

JUNE/JULY PLEDGES & GIFTS

June 23	\$1,578
June 30	\$3,620
July 7	\$3,355
July 14	\$3,824
July 21	\$1,832 (includes \$500 Shoes for Kids, \$200 Elevator Fund)
Total:	\$14,209

Total to Date: \$98,553.91

August Ministry
Volunteers

Liturgist: Eric Hauser

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

NOTE: Ushers will need to open & close

First Church's News & Notes

New Christian Discipleship Ministry Coordinator hired

Your Christian Discipleship Ministry Team has been busy. We've hired a new Christian Discipleship Ministry Coordinator who will start work July 29.

She is Jane Peterson. She comes to us from the Suncrest United Methodist Church in Morgantown, where she has worked in their Christian Education Program for several years. She is excited to be leading the CDM program at 1st Presbyterian. We will officially welcome her with a reception after church on Sunday, August 4. Please take time to introduce yourselves to her. We look forward to having a new coordinator for our expanding programs.



another. This will allow us to have three classes AND Children's Church consistently. The first hire is Janeth Rodriguez, who will start work the first week of September. We will have more information about her in the September Chimes. We will still need volunteer Shepherds for the three classes and a few volunteer teachers. Children's Church will be covered by staff. Our Discipleship Ministry is growing!

Youth Group News

Our children, youth, their families and Evan enjoyed a wonderful evening on Wednesday, July 17 at Tygart Adventures Water Park at Tygart Lake State Park in Grafton. The evening started with pizza and fellowship before everyone got wet. The pictures tell it all.

New Christian Discipleship Ministry Coordinator Jane Peterson and her fiancé Colton Mead.



We have 33 children/youth coming to church now, and we need three Sunday School classes: kindergarten-2nd grade, 3rd - 5th grade, and 6th - 12th grade. SOOOO we've hired one Sunday School teacher and are interviewing for





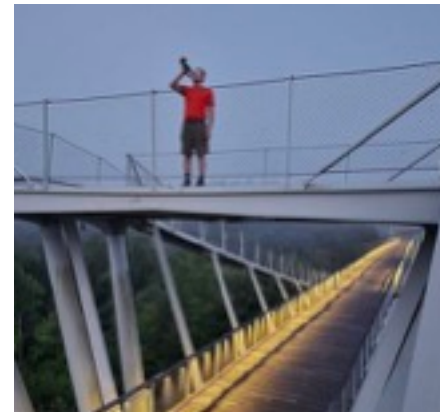
Hospitality - new members welcomed

Hospitality hosted a reception following the service on July 14 for Ed and Mary Cummings, welcoming them as new members. Everyone enjoyed meeting their family and sharing together.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, August 4 when we will welcome our new Christian Education Director, Jane Peterson. A welcome reception will be held immediately following the service. Janet Chittum and Betty Pat Lee will be hosting. Thanks, Anne Schooley



The Summit Bechtel Reserve - a week of scouting in southern West Virginia





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

the **Chimes**
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
301 JACKSON ST.
FAIRMONT, WV 26554