



# the Chimes

July 2022

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

### Luke 4:16-19

“Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’”

This is Jesus’ first sermon in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has returned from the wilderness and is ready to go. This beginning matters because this quotation from the prophet Isaiah frames the whole of Jesus’ ministry in Luke. This is what Jesus is about and cares about and calls those who follow him to care about as well.

Jesus is anointed by the Spirit of God. We see that in baptism. This anointing comes with a task.

First, he is to bring good news to the poor. I once heard it said, and I believe it, that if our proclamation in the church is not good news for the poor, it is not the gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus sees his mission to care for and look after the poor. We tend to explain why people are poor or how it is their own fault. This then tends



to justify our neglect of this calling to proclaim good news.

The second calling is to proclaim release to the captives. We can be captive physically and emotionally, but to spiritualize captivity is also to minimize the fact that there are real people held in captivity. The US has one of the highest rates of incarceration in the world. We are holding

people in captivity at an alarming rate.

The third calling is the recovery of sight to the blind. Jesus cares about the physical well-being of people. The most recorded miracle in the gospels is healing and physical restoration.

Lastly, he is to let the oppressed go free and proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor. These are combined. The year of the Lord’s favor is deeper than a feel-good emotion or a call for a blessing. It refers to the Year of Jubilee. Isaiah (quoted by Jesus) references Leviticus 25. This whole chapter describes that every 50 years a great redistribution of wealth should occur. Debts must be forgiven and those who had to sell family land due to financial hardships had that land restored to them. Slaves were set free. Society was basically called to be reset.

All this is to say that this is how Jesus perceives his ministry in Luke. These things undergird his teachings, and it is any wonder that after a while the people want to kill him? All of this sounds good on the surface, but are we really willing to undergo such a great societal reset? (Continues on page 3)



## Worship Schedule

- 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

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



# Musical Notes

*from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist*

Montreat is a special place. Those who experience the Music and Worship Conference for the first time inevitably want to return. Those who have attended in the past find themselves becoming regulars for years and find it hard to imagine not coming to Montreat each summer. What keeps people coming back? I believe it is a combination of several factors: the incredible class offerings, the top notch conference faculty, the worship experiences, enriching musical opportunities, the sense of greater community involving all ages, and the beautiful setting in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. But this list is not exhaustive, there are always new reasons to love Montreat. Returning year after year, one could imagine it could get boring or fail to inspire at a certain point, but that is not the case. There are time honored traditions to look forward to, but also plenty of surprises to keep you on your toes and to experience worship with fresh eyes.

This year's theme was "In the Stranger's Guise", inspired by Matthew 25:31-46. The planning committee put considerable effort into seeing that this theme appeared throughout the conference all week. One of my favorite classes to attend is the Worship Reflections where you get to hear insight from the Planning Committee themselves into how they went about crafting these services and all the elements that went into them. Besides discussing preludes/postludes, choir anthems, hymns, prayers, and sermons, you learned about the art displayed in the front, dancers bringing a visual element to the service, and children reciting prayers that they wrote during the prayers of the people. It was amazing that in spite of the three years of planning it takes that there were many times where they simply felt the Lord was working through them or



**Rev. Evan Walker and Music Director John Morrison at Anderson Auditorium to attend the daily worship service at Montreat.**

went with the spontaneity of a particular moment in the service. I had the opportunity to sing with the Adult Choir under the direction of Andre Thomas. The choir rehearsed twice a day, sang for two of the worship services, and performed for the final concert. The anthem that was commissioned for the conference, "The Stranger's Guise" by Karen Marroli is a beautiful anthem based on the Celtic Ruse of Hospitality. Here is the text: "We saw a stranger, we saw a stranger yesterday. We put food in the eating place, drink in the drinking place, music in the list'ning place. And with the sacred name, the sacred name of the Triune God, he blessed us, he blessed us and our house, and our cattle and our dear ones. As the lark says in her song: 'Often, often, often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.'" It was a pleasure to sing this anthem for one of the worship services.

My days started out with the 8 a.m. Routley lecture, "Jesus Sought Me When a Stranger" by David Gambrell. Mr. Gambrell took us through an in depth look into the origins of breathing, singing, harmony, etc. and what these things mean for our daily lives and for worship. I was

particularly struck by his lecture on the breath as he tied it into larger issues beyond when to breathe in an anthem to what it means for issues of our time and age. He also has a great sense of humor in his lectures.

The Routley lecturer is in charge of the Wednesday evening hymn festival. This festival, "For You Were Strangers," used a variety of instrumental accompaniment and incorporated some less familiar, yet beautiful hymns. The hymn festival is a great example of what you experience throughout your time at Montreat: lots and lots of singing. You sing in worship, you sing in choir, you sing during the Routley lecture, you sing at the Hymn Festival. The preacher, Rev. Aisha Brooks Johson, even sang some of her prayers with a soulful voice that made you feel like you were listening to a lullaby. At Montreat, when it doubt, sing!

Following with the theme of inclusion, I attended a class, "The Rhythms of Justice" which tackled many difficult issues in our society and had an emphasis on anti-racism, anti-poverty, prison ministries, etc.

**(Cont. on pg. 6)**

# First Church's News & Notes

## Mark Your Calendars

- August Chimes deadline is **Friday, July 22** at noon.
- Property Meeting: July 5 Church Office
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteers at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Summer Worship Service: 10 a.m.
- VBS: July 13 & August 10 at 5:30 p.m. Social Room
- Session Meeting: August 16

## Apple Butter Day, September 24

Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 24 at the Marion Reserve Building at East Marion Park to help make apple butter.

All proceeds from the sale of the apple butter go to support our Shoes For Kids Project.

We still need donations of pint jars (about 65) and sugar. Some jars have been donated. And, does anyone know where we can get apples?



## Thank you to our church family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all your prayers, cards, text, and phone calls during my recent surgery and hospitalization. It means so much to me and Benita to have a church family to rely on for prayers and support. God has truly blessed us. I felt the power of God with me during my health scare. I know He is not done with me yet here on Earth.

Please continue to pray for me and my family as I recover over the next several weeks. I look forward to being back in church soon and continuing the work of the Lord.  
Joe Jernigan

## Wedding: Schooley/Kuzman

With Joyful Hearts, John and Anne Schooley announce the marriage of their daughter, Melodie Anne Schooley and Joshua Brandon Kuzma on June 4 at 2 p.m. at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh with Rev. Lee Nichols officiating Organist David Billings, and

Guitarist Jonathan Schooley.

The Schooley Family looks forward to an Anniversary Wedding Celebration in honor of Josh and Melodie to be scheduled in Fairmont sometime during July of 2023.

Thanks,

The Schooleys

Love

## Pastor's Message *continues from pg. 1*

This summer, the lectionary takes us through several passages in the Gospel of Luke. We will be examining these in light of this framework that Jesus offers. You will also notice great similarities between these callings and the Matthew 25 initiative: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. These works are the works of the church. The vision and ministry of Jesus has now been entrusted to the people of God. As we read and study passages from Luke this summer, may the Spirit give us vision and give us hope for the kingdom of God that has come and is coming.

In God's peace,

Rev. Evan Walker



**WELCOME** to First Presbyterian Church new members, Sarah Armstrong and Tom McClure.



# CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 1 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY  
Phone (304) 366-2628 Fax (304) 366-2662  
Email: office@fairmontfirst.net Web: www.fpcfairmont.com

## *Session Committee News*

### **Hospitality: 'Gather in the Garden' July 3**

Please join us in the church garden immediately following service on Sunday, July 3, for "Gather in the Garden." Host Deanna Kritzer and B.P. Lee will be serving cookies and lemonade. If inclement weather, we will gather in the church social room.

Our second Vacation Bible School study will be Wednesday, July 13, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with dinner being served. The dinner menu will be listed in the church bulletin beginning July 3. Dinner reservations are suggested. Please contact Deanna Kritzer for reservations 304 694 2379.

There will be no Hospitality Ministry Team meeting during the month of July.



### **Outreach: Community Shred Day, July 7 at church**

The Outreach Committee is planning a Community Shred Day event on Thursday, July 7, from 10-1 p.m. in the church parking lot. There is a limit of 5 boxes per person.

Please take advantage of this free service and be sure to pass it on to friends or business associates.



**Property:** Family Carpet completed installing the new carpet in the choir loft. Thanks to all who made this possible.

## *Staff*

### **Pastor**

Evan Walker  
pastorevan@fairmontfirst.net

### **Director of Music**

John Morrison  
music@fairmontfirst.net

### **Discipleship Ministry Coordinator**

Janel Nye  
discipleship@fairmontfirst.net

### **Office Coordinator**

Cathy Woodson  
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### **Sexton**

Charles Lettrick  
sexton@fairmontfirst.net

## *Session*

### **CLERK OF SESSION**

John O'Connor

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Pam Nolan  
Amy Turluck

### **OUTREACH**

Penny Roberts  
Diane Floyd

### **PROPERTY**

Eric Hauser  
Joe Jernigan

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

Linda O'Connor  
Marilyn Morgan

### **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

Jennie Poling  
Adam Ranson

### **HOSPITALITY**

Deanna Kritzer  
Anne Schooley

## *Treasurers*

Roger Kritzer  
David Floyd

### **Nursery Attendant**

# July Nurturing Faith Ideas

## SCRIPTURE

**July 3 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Read: Galatians 6:7-16**

Galatians 6: 10 reads, "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all..." What will you do for good this coming week? Write down three things that you will do to help God's people.

**July 10 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Read Psalm 25: 1-10**

The Psalmist said, "O my God, in you I trust." Take a few moments today to tell God about things that worry you and any problems you may have. Tell God that you trust God to take care of you. Be quiet and listen for God's voice. Remember your prayer of trust throughout the week.

**July 17 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost: Read Psalm 52**

At the end of Psalm 52, the Psalmist tells God, "I will proclaim your name, for it is good." Take a sheet of paper and fold it in half. On the outside, write "God is Good." On the inside, write all the names that you can think of for God. Say each of these names out loud, adding after each name, "God is Good."

**July 24 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Read Psalm 138**

God wants us to praise God with all our heart. That is a lot of praising! Cut out a heart from a piece of paper then fill up the heart with words and phrases that tell of the wonderful things you believe about God. Tape the heart up somewhere where you will see it all week, reminding you to praise God with all your heart.

**July 31 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Read Luke 12:13-21**

"Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Choose some of your money or a possession and give it away to someone who needs it. Praise God that you are able to give away some of what you have.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 7 Carly Satterfield  
July 9 Mike Walker  
July 24 Blake Boggess  
July 26 Brianna Hauser  
Dalton Stalnaker  
July 27 Martha Sweet

## PRAYER LIST

Steven Satterfield  
Marilyn McDougal  
Linda Stoops  
Blair Montgomery  
James Cimino  
John Floyd  
Michele, Janel's mom  
Glenn Harman  
Joe Jernigan

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 1 Teri & Pam Bunner  
July 6 Jim & Becky Kettering  
July 30 John & Linda O'Connor

## MAY PLEDGES & GIFTS

May 29	\$1,385
June 5	\$4,432
June 12	\$1,690
June 19	\$1,490
Total:	\$8,997

Total to Date: \$70,644.85

**Pentecost Offering:** \$810 (60% goes to the Presbytery of WV and 40% goes locally to CASA) Thanks to all who generously gave.

## July Ministry Volunteers

## USHERS

Jim Thompson (captain), Kim Steele, Bob & Lois Brummage

**NOTE:** Ushers will need to open & close on July 10 & 24



## Musical Notes cont.

The presenter, Rev. Alonzo Johnson, gave first hand accounts of these issues and had discussions on how the church can tackle them and be a positive force in their community. He was quite an animated speaker and it a great session to attend.

Listening to the organ music at the conference is always a highlight and I enjoyed both the Monday evening organ concert performed by Samuel Gaskins and the daily organ service playing by John Sherer of Chicago. John Sherer shared in Worship Reflections some things that he does similarly in Chicago and things that only work at Montreat.

One has ample opportunities to discover new music for choirs while at Montreat. For example, Jeffers Handbell Supply was on site and I got to spend some quality time there finding some great handbell selections for worship. While singing with the choir, I am always thinking of what anthems would be great for our Chancel Choir and that both the choir and congregation would enjoy.

Thursday night was the Chamber Choir concert and as always, I was blown away by the singing by both the High School and Adult Chamber Choir. This was preceded by a Concert by the Lake where instrumentalists were playing well known hymn tunes from the Assembly Inn balcony and people were gathered around Lake Susan to enjoy both the music and the outdoors.

Speaking of the outdoors, a hike up the Lookout Mountain Trail is worth the effort to enjoy a spectacularly beautiful and peaceful view.

May the peace of Christ be with you always,

John Morrison  
Director of Music and Organist



Pentacost service and Garhering in the Garden after church.







## Vacation Bible School - First Night Scenes

*Reminder that the other two VBS sessions will be on Wednesday, July 13 and August 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the church's Social Room. All are WELCOME!*





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

# *the* *July 2022* 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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