



# the Chimes

June 2019

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

Galatians 6.9: So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. 2 Thessalonians 3.13: Brothers and sisters do not be weary in doing what is right.

### A Sucker or Sympathetic Sinner?

In the year I've been here, I've had 6 people seek direct help. In all instances, I have paid for people to stay overnight at motels, assisted those that were asleep in our alcove; met with families to bring belongings to Fairmont; called referral agencies and transported persons to various locations to seek new starts or end undesirable situations. I have used 211, FRN, Law Enforcement, and when necessary, scripture.

On Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> a young man wandered into church and attended the service. I didn't recognize him but hoped to see him later. But, he asked to see me first. I knew then he desired my help. His story was long but evolved about getting back to Ohio. Mother had died, father had left family; he had no family; his friends had brought him to Fairmont and thought he was going to stay so they left him here. He had been on the streets for a few days. I tried to call his so called "girl friend" in Ohio but she said she and her family couldn't come get him. He had no one else to help. He appeared rather honest and from years of experience I felt he was telling some truth.

But I didn't need to judge, for I could be wrong. After calls to Grey Lines and Greyhound I was able to purchase a bus ticket for him to return to his home town, an 11 hour drive.



## Summer Worship Schedule

- **9:30 a.m. :** Fellowship/Fair Trade Marketplace
- **10:00 a.m.:** Worship Service

Because he didn't have ID, I would have to pick him up and take him to the transfer station in Westover. I took him to Union Mission, but they wouldn't accept him and couldn't assure him he could be taken in there until after 5:30 p.m. I took him to Palatine Park and said he could rest there until 5:30 p.m. But he wanted to go to McDonald's where there was free use of the internet. I told him I would meet him at 7:00 a.m. in morning at the Mission, regardless of whether he would stay there or not. He agreed. I dropped him off there and gave him some money for food. When I arrived home around 2:00 p.m. my confirmation from Greyhound and a receipt for the \$90 enclosed.

Later that day, he called me and asked if I could pick him up at a different location. It was at a woman's house on Virginia Ave. "Oh," I said, "that was pretty fast." But I told him I would pick him up at 7:00 a.m. on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27. So, on Monday, at 6:45 I called the number he called me from. The phone was turned off. I left the message. I called 3 more times with the same result. At 7:00 a.m. I went to the door and knocked 3 times on 3 occasions. Nothing happened. So, I went to the Mission just in case something had happened and he was there. He was not there. I drove up and down the city and Fairmont Ave. hoping to see him. But again, I did not see him.

It was not 7:15 a.m. and he had to be at the bus depot a half-hour before departure. I made one more attempt at the house and a phone call. There was no answer. Having done all I thought I could do, I bought me a hot chocolate drink and went home. I had just lost \$90 in bus fees, extra money for food, and a few hours of service.

So, was I a sucker? Was I taken? Sure I was. Did I know it? No. Did I know this would happen? No, I didn't. But would I prefer to be a sympathetic sinner than be like the priest or rabbi who passed the Samaritan by on the other side? Yes

I am not perfect. I have faults. But I would prefer to err on side of trying to help someone than ignoring them. For that scripture will come to judge us.

There will be many more experiences at First Presbyterian like this; and I'll have people waiting for possible assistance before and after church. And because we are at the center of needs and services, we must not only address individual issues but address the far deeper one, the systematic causes.

But, in the meantime, I prefer to be a sympathetic sinner that might be taken every once in a while, as opposed to a self-righteous Christian who makes judgment calls as to whether a person is worthy of assistance or not. **DD.Meighen, interim**

## Musical Notes from John Morrison, Director of Music/Organist



Here are some highlights of the special music coming up for summer worship:

June 2 - Men's Chorus  
June 9 - Women's Chorus  
June 16 and 23 - TBA  
June 30 - VBS Children  
July 6 - Betty Pat Lee, solo  
Date TBA - Mary Morrison, cello

During the month of June, I will also be heading to Montreat, North Carolina to attend the Worship and Music Conference. I look forward to sharing my Montreat experiences with you in a future Chimes article!



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

In November 2003, a four and half page letter was received at the church from Marilyn Miller of Gahanna, Ohio addressed to churches with Von Gerichten stained glass windows asking about information regarding them. At the time, she was a librarian at Ohio State University. She stated that there were two brothers from Germany who came to America - Theodore in

1886 and Ludwig in 1887. Ludwig went to Cincinnati where he worked as an apprentice at a stained glass studio and Theodore was in the insurance business in the South. After several moves, Ludwig started an art glass company in Columbus, Ohio and Theodore joined him as a bookkeeper. They named their business the Von Gerichten Art Glass Company. The Von Gerichten brothers died at elderly ages but there was no one to take over the business so it folded the business in the United States. This was sometime in the 1930's.

The Von Gerichten archives contains a list of approximately 850 churches that have Von Gerichten windows. Supposedly among those 850 churches, they did 1,800 windows. The archives did not list church addresses just (in our case) The Presbyterian Church in Fairmont. I had Ron Schmuck (our sexton at the time Marilyn's letter was received) take pictures of our big stained glass windows and mailed them to her. A later letter from her gave more information about the Von Gerichten brothers and their descendants. It stated most of the windows are more than 100 years old and the need for restoration is great especially concerning the life of the lead that holds the pieces of glass together. The Von Gerichten archives list the dates of our windows as 1917.

Several years ago, Marilyn heard from a lady whose ancestor worked at the Munich Von Gerichten studio and she had a list of churches in the United States whose windows had been made in Munich and shipped to the United States and the First Presbyterian Church in Fairmont, WV was on the list.

Over the years, numerous people have given funds to again restore the two large windows and other small windows. It would be grand to have the restoration of the final large stained glass window in the church (parking lot side).

## *June Prayer List*

Jenny Harney  
Richard Willoughby - Amy  
Koon's brother-in-law  
Diane Mason - Peggy  
Twyman's niece

Joey Bensenhaver - Dave &  
Judy Cooper's nephew  
Joy Bomba - John & Anne  
Schooley's niece  
Michael O'Conner - son of  
Linda & John O'Conner

Patricia Peta  
The Morgan Family

# Christian Discipleship *from coordinator Janel Nye*

## Parent's Night Out

June 7 will be this month's Parent's Night Out. We will learn about building our houses on the rock of Jesus! His words can make us strong and able to withstand even the greatest storm. The kids will enjoy a healthy meal at 5:30 and then we will have several crafts and activities to learn more about this important parable from Jesus. The night will end at 8:30.

Invite your friends and don't forget to check out the link on our Facebook page and register or call the office to register. This will be the last parent's night out for the school year; they will resume again in September.

## Vacation Bible School

Summer is quickly approaching and Vacation Bible School (VBS) is right around the corner! Join us for a hee-haw, good old, down on the farm time June 23 to the 25. Each day will begin with a meal at 5:30.

There will be games, activities, skits and songs for the kids! They will learn about Jesus while having some hee-haw fun on the farm! There will be an adult study as well; it is an event for any age. Invite your friends to learn about Jesus in a fun environment! On June 26 we will have a special visit to the Pierpont Center at Fairmont Campus on 1543 Country Club Road. We will sing our VBS songs to the residents and spend some time sharing the love of Christ.

Please check out the registration link on the Facebook page or pick up a registration form from the church office. We are looking forward to this exciting week!

## Thank you!

Thank you for your support of the Mother's Day Sale for Amede, the Sunday school's Compassion International Child. We raised \$80 for Amede. This is nearly 3 months of support for his Compassion International Ministry participation!

## Sunday school

Thank you to all the great teachers who helped our children grow in Christ this year! Your service and dedication will help these children know the truth as they grow! The Sunday school year is over for the summer and will resume in September. We hope you will consider volunteering or continue volunteering for this vital church ministry!

# News & Notes

## 'Born to Sing Camp' begins June 24

**Church members,** Betty Pat Lee and Anne Schooley are hosting the annual, "Born to Sing Camp" for ages 5 -15 at LIFE UMC, 3000 Technology Drive, in Fairmont. The camp runs from June 24 – 28 and is from 3:30 – 7 p.m. Friends and Family Registration Discounts in Place. E-mail [anschooley@mteer.com](mailto:anschooley@mteer.com) or [bplee36@hotmail.com](mailto:bplee36@hotmail.com) for complete information. Vocal Technique, Stage Performance Experiences and other facets of singing are part of the camp. A Friday evening Public Showcase will be held June 28 at 7 p.m.

## New members welcomed

First Church was honored to welcome Melissa Sayre and Taylor Burkhart Downs into membership and to perform the sacrament of baptism to their son Henry Alexander.

Melissa transfers from the Highlawns United Methodist Church in Rivesville and Taylor reaffirmed his baptism and membership from the Tuscarora Presbyterian Church of Martinsburg. Melisa's birthday is November 20; Taylor's birthday is December 23. They were married Sept. 20, 2014.



## Photography Group to meet June 6

**Do you have an interest** in photography? Come join us for our second meeting on Thursday, June 6 at 7 p.m. in the social room at First Presbyterian Church.

At this month's meeting, we will deal with some of the technical parts of the camera and how they affect your pictures (f-stops, shutter speeds, and ISO film speed.) Bring your cameras and questions.

**Cards, messages appreciated** A very special thank you to the members of the Sunshine Committee and the congregation for their uplifting cards and messages after the death of my sister, Dorothy Molle. My family would also like to thank Rev. D.D. Meighen for conducting the graveside service in Clarksburg. With love, Earl Straight II.

## PNC Update

The PNC continues meeting weekly to review various candidates PIF's (Personal Information Forms) that are sent to us from PCUSA and some that have been self referrals.

As of last week, we have read, reviewed, and discussed more than 50 forms. We have contacted some to see if they would be interested in our church. Unfortunately several of our choices are in their final stages of accepting a new call at another church that has been also searching. It's a roller coaster ride.

We ask for your prayers as we continue to find the right person to lead our congregation.

# June Narrative Lectionary Text

## SCRIPTURE AND SERMON TITLES

June 02	Acts 16:16-34	"Believe on the Lord"
June 09	Guest Minister	
June 16	Matthew 20:6; Exodus 14:15	"I Am Fletcher Golden: Father of Father's Day"
June 23	Psalms 8 and John 16:12-15	"Changing; yet Changeless"
June 30	2 Kings 2:1; 9-11; Luke 9:51-52; 57-62	"Being here One Year"

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1	Kathie Dodge
June 3	Ruth Martin
June 4	Betty Pat Lee
June 9	Kopper Kyle
June 11	Evelyn Stuart
June 13	Bob Brummage
June 14	Arlene Hadley
June 15	Bridgette Satterfield
June 16	Eric Hauser
June 23	Carolyn Crislip-Tacy
June 25	Jim Thompson

## APRIL/MAY PLEDGES

April 28	\$2,607.51
May 5	\$1,750
May 12	\$1,848.25
May 19	\$2,142
May 26	\$1,343.77
May Total:	\$9,691.53
To Date Total:	\$69,715.86

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

June 4	Mike & Charlene Walker
June 7	David & Diane Floyd
June 8	Earl & Martha Sweet
June 21	Ronnie & Delores Harsh
June 24	William & Betty Wyckoff
June 26	Roger & Deanna Kritzer
June 29	Bob & Lois Brummage
June 30	Eddie & Kathy Snider
	Michael & Pamela Stalnaker

*June Ministry  
Volunteers*

## USHERS

Mike Stalnaker (captain), Pam Stalnaker, Dave Roberts, and Penny Roberts



## **CHURCH CAMPS FOR CHILDREN, STUDENTS & YOUTH**

Upcoming Events (Details at [www.wvpresbytery.org](http://www.wvpresbytery.org) or call 304-744-7634)

**Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Depression**, Led by Michelle Snyder  
Thursday, October 24 – Village Chapel Presbyterian Church

**Bluestone Summer Camp– Week 1 – All at Bluestone Camp & Retreat Center, Hinton:** June 9-15, 2019

**Bluestone Summer Camp – Week 2** - June 16-22, 2019

**Bluestone Summer Camp – Week 3** - June 23-29, 2019

**Bluestone Summer Camp – Week 4** - June 30-July 6, 2019

**International Peacemaker Visit** - Moon-Sook Lee, Korea Republic  
Presbyterian Church - Sept 28 – Oct 7

Contact Robin Ray, Bridgeport Presbyterian Church, to host an event.

### **Additional 2019 Presbytery Meetings**

Saturday, August 24, at Bluestone Camp and Retreat, Hinton

Thursday, November 21, at Teays Valley Presbyterian Church, Scott Depot

### **Other news of importance to Presbyterians- from State Wide Meeting- Thursday, May 16 in Morgantown**

Those gathered received an offering of \$859.60 for West Virginia Interfaith Refugee Ministry whose ministry is “striving to improve the lives of refugees”. \$46.89 was collected for the Cents-ability Offering. The opportunity to impact the communities of our host churches continued. First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown requested travel-size toiletries to be used in its Warm Room, which welcomes housing insecure community members every Sunday

Those gathered also heard the report of the Relations Committee from chair, Elizabeth Campbell Maleke. She highlighted the ongoing work of the committee to visit churches, encouraging churches and congregations to request funds to support collaborative ministry efforts.

### **REV. DR. SHELLY PARSONS TO BE HONORED**

The moderator of our session, Rev. Dr. Shelly Parsons, is tentatively scheduled to be honored in Morgantown at the Campus Ministry Center on Thursday, June 12 at 3:00 p.m. The church presented her with a love gift on her last visit here as moderator.

# June 2019

May 2019							June 2019							July 2019								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
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26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31						
						30																

- Holidays in United States
- First Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM Childcare & Children's Activities 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM Bell Rehearsal 10:00 AM Chancel Choir 10:30 AM Worship Service	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 8:00 AM McAteer's Break-fast Group	29 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	30	31	1
2 10:00 AM Summer Worship Service	3 10:30 AM Lunch Bunch 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	4 8:00 AM McAteer's Break-fast Group	5 9:00 AM Food Pantry Work Day 6:00 PM Christian Discipleship Team Meeting 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	6 7:00 PM Photography Group	7 5:30 PM Parents' Night Out	8
9 10:00 AM Summer Worship Service	10	11 8:00 AM McAteer's Break-fast Group	12 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	13 10:00 AM Admin Team Meeting	14	15
16 Father's Day 10:00 AM Summer Worship Service	17	18 8:00 AM McAteer's Break-fast Group 6:30 PM Session Meeting	19 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	20 8:00 PM Chimes Submission Deadline	21 CHIMES DEADLINE	22
23 10:00 AM Summer Worship Service	24	25 8:00 AM McAteer's Break-fast Group	26 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	27 1:00 PM Sunshine Committee 7:00 PM Council of Churches	28	29
30 10:00 AM Summer Worship Service	1 10:30 AM Lunch Bunch 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	2 8:00 AM McAteer's Break-fast Group	3 9:00 AM Food Pantry Work Day 6:00 PM Christian Discipleship Team Meeting 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day	5 5:30 PM Parents' Night Out	6



# CONTACT INFORMATION

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

the  
June 2019 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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