



# the Chimes

June 2025

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,

Several years ago, I read an article discussing church signs and the things we put on them. The guy writing the article concluded by stating what he wanted on his church sign:

This isn't our house. It's [God's]. The pews, principles and even the words we speak belong to [God]. We're imperfect. We'll stick our feet in our mouths and sometimes we'll fumble around as children of God are meant to. But no matter what you look like, where you're from, or whether you have a PhD or dreams of a GED, we will love you. In fact, we already do.

He finished by saying: "Now that's a church sign worth aspiring for. Come to think of it, I want that one in my front yard, too." That stuck with me and challenged me in ministry. That is the kind of follower of Christ I want to be.

With that in my mind, I turned to Ephesians 5. Paul writes what became the basis for Luther and the Reformation in that chapter:

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses,



made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

In my mind and theology, this sums up the Christian message: mercy and love making us truly alive in Christ. Grace that brings us eternal life. What else can we say? What else needs to be said? My favorite part of this passage is that none of this speaks of an angry and vengeful God. Instead, we get the revelation of a God who loves greater than we can ever imagine. If nothing else I have said or done in my ministry here matters, my prayer is that this promise will remain fixed in your hearts. God, out of great love, has made a way for us to live as we truly were created to live.

By this point, many of you know that I have informed the session that God has called us to a new adventure. Jennifer will begin a new position at Williams College this Fall. My last Sunday in the pulpit here at First Presbyterian Church will be July 20, 2025. This is not shared easily or without tears *(Continues on page 3)*



- 10 a.m. Worship Service  
through September 7

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





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

### Special Music Schedule:

**June 1 - Men's Chorus**

**June 8 - Women's Chorus**

**June 15 - First Presbyterian Summer Singers**

**June 22 - VBS Sunday**

**June 29 - Women's Chorus**

Thanks to the Cambridge Handbells and the Chancel Choir who did a beautiful job for their last Sunday on May 18th! The choirs will now be off for the summer until September. If you would like to join in the special music ensembles over the summer, rehearsal is at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning before the 10 a.m. service.

May the peace of Christ be with you,  
John Morrison  
*Director of Music and Organist*



**VBS: June 9-11**  
**Volunteers Still Needed!**





# First Church's News & Notes

## Pastor's Message

*continues from pg. 1*

We truly love our church family here. I am humbled to have been able to serve alongside each of you in the service of Christ and his Church. I am grateful for the relationships formed and the ministry undertaken. We will always hold you in our hearts.

As much as this is an ending for us, I am excited for what God has in store for this church. I returned to this passage from Ephesians for so many reasons for it sums up everything it means to be a church. Regardless of what we may face, the basic call of God never changes – love God, love others, proclaim the one crucified and

risen, baptize people in this love, and share the Table of grace. God's love is constant. The Spirit that has led us this far is still alive and very much at work within this church. Listen to the Spirit. Trust in the next step. Hold fast to the God who so lovingly made you and me, who so graciously redeemed us through the cross, and who has promised to never leave nor forsake.

Jennifer and I will miss you all greatly and will remain thankful for each of you and our time here.

May God bless us and keep us this day and always.

Rev. Evan Walker



## Mark Your Calendars

- Material for the JULY issue of the Chimes is due by Friday, June 20 at noon. THANKS!!!
- Vacation Bible School: June 9-11
- Mother's & Father's Day Luncheon: June 1 after service
- Session Meeting: June 17 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10 a.m. through Sept. 7

## Hospitality: Gathering in the Garden

We would like to have everyone enjoy all of our Hospitality events. You are guaranteed good food and fellowship!

We understand everyone does not use the computer and that is okay. This year we have started sending out invitations for the events by emailing an Evite where you can respond if you will be coming to the event. This helps give us an idea of how many people will be coming, how much food to buy and prepare, and how many tables we need to set. We want to make sure that there is a place for everyone to sit and enough food for everyone to enjoy.

If you are unable to respond to the Evite, you can let Jan or Nancy know you are coming or you can call the office and let Karen know you are coming.

June 1 is our Mother's and Father's Day Italian Luncheon. We will be having baked Ziti, meatballs, salad, garlic toast and a variety of desserts.

June 3 at 10 a.m. is the next Hospitality meeting in the parlor. Everyone is invited to join us.

June 9-11 Hospitality will be providing the meals for the Vacation Bible School.

## Property Team: door reminders

Again, just a reminder that during Sunday morning worship service the handicapped door and the upper main

door on Jefferson Street are unlocked at 10 a.m. **only** if an usher is present at that door. At 10:30 our sexton is locking the Jefferson Street door and then the handicapped door at 10:45

Also remember that the keyless access code policy states that no doors are to be propped open and left unattended. Please be vigilant.



## Outreach: Planning Apple Butter Day

Outreach continues to work on Apple Butter Day which will be Saturday, October 11. They are thinking about doing four kettles and this idea is still be worked out. The team also helped at the Soup Opera on April 25 by serving spaghetti and salad.



# CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 1 PM ON MONDAY THRU THURSDAY

Phone (304) 366-2628

Fax (304) 366-2662

Email: [office@fairmontfirst.net](mailto:office@fairmontfirst.net)

Web: [www.fpcfairmont.com](http://www.fpcfairmont.com)



## **Discipleship Ministry Team Summer's Here – And So Is VBS!**

We're hitting the road this summer for an exciting Vacation Bible School adventure! This year's VBS theme is "On the Road," where kids will explore amazing journeys found in the Bible and the lessons learned along the way. Helping guide our adventure is our cheerful mascot, Scout, who'll be leading us in songs, Bible stories, and fun every step of the way.

To make this week a success, we need your help! We're currently recruiting volunteers for a variety of roles, including: Snack Helpers, Music Leaders, Assembly Leaders, and Group Shepherds (to lead kids from station to station)

If you feel called to join our VBS team, we'd love to have you. Please see Jane for more information or to sign up.

## **Welcome, Brigitte!**

We are thrilled to welcome Brigitte to our team as our newest Sunday School teacher! Be sure to introduce (or reintroduce) yourself and give her a warm welcome as she steps



into this important role in our children's ministry.

## **CPR Class Opportunity**

We're offering a CPR training class that's open to all VBS shepherds and church members. This is a great way to be prepared and help keep our community safe. If you're interested in attending, please talk to Karen during office hours.

Let's make this a summer full of faith, fun, and fellowship. We can't wait to see what God has in store!



## *Staff*

### **Pastor**

Evan Walker  
[pastorevan@fairmontfirst.net](mailto:pastorevan@fairmontfirst.net)

### **Director of Music**

John Morrison  
[music@fairmontfirst.net](mailto:music@fairmontfirst.net)

### **Discipleship Ministry Coordinator**

Jane Mead  
[discipleship@fairmontfirst.net](mailto:discipleship@fairmontfirst.net)

### **Office Coordinator**

Karen Mersinger  
[office@fairmontfirst.net](mailto:office@fairmontfirst.net)

### **Sexton**

Will Shamblin  
[sexton@fairmontfirst.net](mailto:sexton@fairmontfirst.net)

## *Session*

### **CLERK OF SESSION**

Kathy Snider

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Pam Nolan  
Amy Turluck

### **OUTREACH**

Terri Bunner  
Loren Hunt

### **PROPERTY**

Joe Jernigan  
Rob Steele

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

Pam Stalnaker  
Penny Roberts

### **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

Amy Koon  
Tim Mersinger

### **HOSPITALITY**

Janet Miller  
Nancy Carnes

## *Treasurer*

Roger Kritzer

### **NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

Pam Proctor  
Abby Shuck

# June Nurturing Faith Ideas

## SCRIPTURE

### June 1: Seventh Sunday of Easter

*Read Acts 16:16-34*

When Paul and Silas were in jail, they prayed and sang hymns to God; they knew that God was with them, even in that difficult time and place. When you are going through difficult times, do you pray and sing? Do you remember that God is with you?

### June 8: Day of Pentecost

*Read Acts 2:1-16*

On the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' waiting disciples. Where do you see the presence of the Holy Spirit poured on in your life? in your church? in your community? these days? Share with someone and ask them where they see the Spirit.

### June 15: Trinity Sunday

*Read Psalm 8*

On a clear night, the moon and stars shine brightly in the night sky; sometimes, we, like the psalmist, feel small in comparison. Yet, we have been given a special place in creation as God has created us a little lower than God to take care of God's creation.

### June 22: Second Sunday after Pentecost

*Read Luke 8:26-39*

Jesus was met with a man filled with demons; the man called out to Jesus as soon as he saw Jesus. Jesus commanded the demons to come out of him, and Jesus sent them into a herd of pigs, which then ran into the lake and drowned. Rather than awe and wonder at the man being made well, the people reacted with fear. When you become aware of the miracles of Jesus, how do you respond? with fear or with praise?

### June 29: Third Sunday after Pentecost

*Read Galatians 3:22-25*

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These aren't many fruit among many; we don't get to pick and choose which we want to do most. Led by the Spirit, our lives are to reflect all of

## JUNE

### **Birthdays**

6/3	Ruth Martin
6/4	Betty Pat Lee
6/13	Robert Brummage
6/14	Arlene Hadley
6/15	Brigitte Satterfield
6/16	Eric Hauser
6/23	Carolyn Crislip-Tacy
6/25	Jim Thompson
	Meredith Knight
6/30	Mary Cummings

### **Anniversaries**

6/4	Mike & Charlene Walker
6/7	David & Diane Floyd
6/8	Earl & Martha Sweet

6/26

Roger & Deanna Kritzer

6/29

Bob & Lois Brummage

6/30

Ed & Kathy Snider  
Mike & Pam Stalnaker

### **Prayer List**

Ken Miller  
Dave Yazvac  
Doris Cain and family  
Dave Cooper  
Ben Poling  
Ruth Ann Stewart  
The Bowyers  
Rev. James Morley  
The family of Stephen Schwartz  
Susan May  
Carlton Neely  
Brad & Donna Dodd  
Cathy Reed

Ella Morris  
Alisa Perdue  
Stephen Satterfield  
Judy Shaver  
Paul Hines  
DD Meighen  
Peggy Twyman  
Linda Stoops

### **April/May Pledges & Gifts**

April 27	\$3,082
May 4	\$3,852
Compassion Sunday	\$347
May 11	\$16,448
May 18	\$1,419
Total:	\$25,148

Total to Date: \$113,313.63

*June Ministry  
Volunteers*

Liturgist: Kim Steele

USHERS : Pam Stalnaker (captain), Joan Krause-Smith, & Penny Roberts



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

# *the* June 2025 *Chimes*

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