



the Chimes

May 2021

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,

I want to personally extend my gratitude to the Session members for their thoughtfulness and prayerful consideration for following as Christ leads and leading this church. As many of you know, the decision was made to reopen the church for in-person worship. Those who desire may come and gather in a safe and socially distant community. The on-line offerings of worship will be continued for those who desire to remain at home or who are unable to attend.



As we return to in-person worship, the Session reminds us of the greatest commandments to love God and to love our neighbor. In our attempt to live into both, we request the basic guidelines that have been recommended since the pandemic began to be followed. They are three W's – WAIT six feet apart. WEAR a mask. WASH your hands. Together, we believe we can worship God while also loving our neighbors by seeking to protect each other from this disease.

These protocols for a safe reopening shall be followed:

- 1) Social distancing is required.
- 2) Only the door from the parking lot and the door on Jefferson St. (the corner door) will be unlocked for entrance and exits.
- 3) There will be no access to downstairs.
- 4) Bulletins will be available at both entrances and must be taken with worshippers as they leave.
- 5) Masks will be required to be worn at all times by all people. For those who do not have one, masks will be provided at both entrances.
- 6) Hand sanitizer will be provided at both entrances and must be used immediately upon entering.
- 7) Only alternating pews may be used. The ones that cannot be used are marked. Families are asked to remain seated together and to keep appropriate space between other families.
- 8) Children are welcome, but there will be no nursery or childcare.
- 9) Offering plates will be near both exits and will not be passed during worship.
- 10) The musical offerings shall continue as they have been while virtual. There will be no congregational singing. 1 or 2 will provide music from the choir loft. Choir and handbells will not resume until at least Rally Day in September.
- 11) Communion will be offered using the prepackaged communion cups.

(Continues to page 2)



Worship Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
- 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study

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

Masks required at any in-person services/ functions at the church



Pastor's Message

(continues from page 1)

- 1)Worshippers will exit the building before gathering or chatting.
- 2)Physical contact is strongly discouraged.

In addition, please observe these when entering the church and office during the week to help protect the

staff. Ministry Teams may access areas of the building necessary for continuing and offering the work of the church.

The Session does encourage all over the age of 16 to be vaccinated to protect yourself and others from harm in Christian love. If you need assistance finding a vaccine or getting to an appointment, please contact the church office.

We step into this next phase with faith, but awareness that there still is danger. In faithfulness, we can abide by these protocols. They will be in place until no longer needed as determined by

the Session. The Session continues to review these and will monitor how they are followed to love and support the congregation and to continue offering in-person worship.

In the peace of Christ,

Rev. Evan Walker



Musical Notes from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist



He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

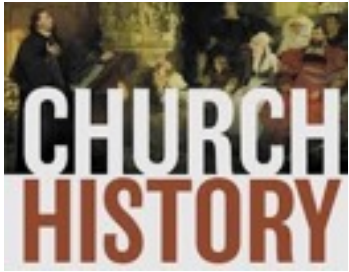
We are now in the midst of the Easter season celebrating the joy of Christ's resurrection with our music of praise. I look forward to seeing members of the congregation in person for worship following Session's decision to re-open the church while continuing to

follow Covid safety protocols. The worship committee discussed and decided to keep the musical offerings the same as we have been with 1-2 singers and no congregational singing. The Cambridge Handbell Choir and the Chancel Choir will return around Rally Day as long as it is safe to do so at that

time. What a joy it will be when that day comes when we can make music together in groups again!

Thanks to all who were a part of special music and hymn singing for the month of April: vocal special music sung by Linda and John O'Connor, Betty Patt and John Lee, Kim Steele on handbells, Amy Koon on chimes, and Jennifer Walker on piano. Some of the musical offerings coming up in May are: May 2 - Evan Walker vocal solo, May 9 - John Schooley vocal solo with Anne Schooley at the piano, May 16 - Betty Pat and John Lee vocal duet, and May 23 - Charlene Sullivan, vocal solo, a chimes/violin/piano trio of Amy Koon, myself, and Jennifer Walker and a Debussy 4-hand piano piece on Pentecost.

John Morrison
Director of Music and Organist



1st CHURCH's HISTORY CORNER

by Jean Lambert



Men's, women's Bible Classes

Stoetzer Men's Bible Class

Two pictures of members of the Stoetzer Men's Bible Class were found. The class was named for Rev. Herman G. Stoetzer, D.D. who was the Church's pastor from 1900 to 1925. The large one was taken in 1935 at which time the pastor was Dr. George E. Bevans and the teacher was E.B. Smith. The smaller picture was taken 12-19-43 at which time the pastor was Dr. David K. Allen. The class met in what is now the choir room. In both pictures the women were the organists as the men especially enjoyed singing.

Allen-Mayers Women's Bible Class

No pictures were found of this class. The class was formed in 1942 and was named for the pastor, Rev. David K. Allen, and Ella Mayers, a former bible teacher of the J. M. Black Class. In 1990 Ruth Martin was President of the Class. At that time Pearle Bennett (Nancy Bennett Jones' Mother) led the Bible Study. It was reported that the class was making towel-bibs for the

Emergency Hospital on the East Side of Fairmont and lap robes for shut-ins and hospitalized members of the Church. Ruth says all class members looked forward to their Christmas Party usually held at the home of Ermastine Stuck (Pam Bunner's Grandmother) because of her delicious food and the beautifully decorated cookies and cakes she made.

May Prayer List

Family of Sally Manly
Celina (Frankie) Bostic, Vicki's
mother
Alisa Perdue
Charlene O'Donnell's husband,
heart surgery, friend of the Ransons
Jodi Rush, friend of the Walkers
Cecil Corley
John O'Connor
Joe Lambiotte

Alex Garrison, Jennifer Walker's
cousin
Marilyn McDougal

First Church's First Responders

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

News & Notes

Announcements & Dates

- Thank you for everyone who donated to the One Great Hour of Sharing. We were able to send in \$1,365.
- Communion will be observed on May 23, Pentecost.
- Deadline for articles/pictures for the June issue of *The Chimes* is noon on **Friday, May 21.**
- May 30: Church services will go back to 10 a.m. for the summer
- May 18: Session Meeting
- Wednesday night Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
- Breakfast at McAteers: Tuesday at 8 a.m.



SHARING GOD'S LOVE ALL MONTH LONG!

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

Sharing God's Love

Everyone has a need for appreciation, encouragement, recognition, and respect. When our needs are met, we feel positive about ourselves and our world. This week, tell someone just how terrific he or she is. Go out of your way to find the perfect time, and pour on them the many ways they are *TERRIFIC!* (Do you remember the way Tony the Tiger says it?)

Sharing God's Love

Make and send postcards. Buy postcard Forever stamps to keep on hand. Check the size needed on the USPS website. Everyone likes getting personal mail. You can draw on one side and put your message and address information on the other side. Include some news and tell them you look forward to being together again. Use a heavy paper like card stock.

Count the number you send this month, and let me, Ina, know (304-721-8447). If you decide to do it again, you can see if you can match or exceed that number.

Sharing God's Love

Set aside a regular time for God. Once you get into a routine, a regular time and place, it will become a good habit. Practice breathing and be aware of inhaling God's goodness and exhaling your busyness. As you make this a regular practice, share it with those in your house, or friends you talk with on the phone. With you as a model, they will begin to practice it in their own way, in their own time. The rewards are greater than your imagination!

Sharing God's Love

Share God's love of all creation. As you are able, observe the plants: trees, bushes, weeds, and flowers. The growing cycle of sprouting in the spring and resting in the winter seems miraculous. How do the plants know when to sprout? Along with the plants come insects, moths and butterflies, chirping grasshoppers, and lady bugs. Watch from your porch or window, or go out for a nature walk. Photograph what you see. If you like, you can use your photos to make postcards! Remember to thank God for all that God made – you and the whole wide world.

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
office@fairmontfirst.net

Sexton

Charles Lettrick
sexton@fairmontfirst.net

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



May Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

May 2 - Fifth Sunday of Easter: Read 1 John 4:7-21

God is love and commands us to love one another. We live in love rather than fear because God abides in us. Are there fears or anxieties that hinder you from loving freely and boldly? In what specific ways are you called to show the love of God to someone else this week?

May 9 - Sixth Sunday of Easter: Read John 15:9-17

Jesus commands the disciples to love one another sacrificially. How much would you give up for the sake of a friend? What does the 'complete joy' of Christ mean to you, and how do you share it with someone else?

May 16 - Seventh Sunday of Easter: Read John 17:6-19

Jesus prays that God would protect the friends that he is sending into the world. Are these impulses at odds with one another - staying safe and serving in the wider world? What risks are we willing to take to speak truth to those who would rather not hear it?

May 23 - Read Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel prophesied to the dry bones, and the Holy Spirit swept over the valley to breathe new life where there had been none. Is there a part of your faith life that feels 'dry'? How are you praying the Holy Spirit would renew your church community?

May 30 - Trinity Sunday: Read Psalm 29

This psalm describes the voice of the Lord like a powerful storm that blows over the land and inspires the people to worship. When did you last simply sit in stillness and listen to the rain? What do you hear the voice of the Lord saying to you right now?

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1	John Morrison
May 3	Erin Hauser
May 4	Janet Chittum
May 9	Amy Cooper
May 13	Chad Cooper
May 14	Glen Satterfield
May 17	Hailey Hauser
May 18	Celia Knight
May 19	Dana Satterfield
May 20	Pam Nolan
May 24	Lois Brummage Kurt Perdue

MARCH/APRIL PLEDGES & GIFTS

March 28	\$1,425
April 4	\$1,697
April 13	\$1,405
April 18	\$2,805
April 25	\$5,180

March/April Total: \$12,512
To Date Total: \$57,432

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$1,365

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

May 23	Stan & Linda Swihart
May 25	Glen & Carolyn Crislip-Tacy
May 26	Bill & Lois Laughlin

*May Ministry
Volunteers*

USHERS

Roger Kritzer (captain), Deanna Kritzer, Betty
Pat Lee, & John Lee



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

the
May 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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
301 JACKSON ST.
FAIRMONT, WV 26554

