



# the Chimes

May 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Message from the Pastor

### Beloved of Christ,

The story of Pentecost in the book of Acts ends with these words:

“So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

On that day, when the Spirit fell upon the disciples, they proclaimed the message of Good News. Peter walks through the Christian story—Jesus’ works of power, his betrayal, his death, and the resurrection. The people hearing this message are amazed and they ask, “What should we do?” The quote above is their response. They practiced baptism and devoted themselves to learning and being together. They shared the Table and offered prayers. This is what they did and this is the most important work of the church for 2000 years.

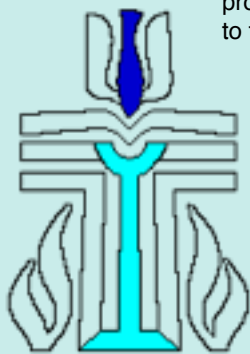
This brings us to our final installment looking at the PC(USA) official cross.

These images within the cross remind us of what sustained the church for so long and how we have come to believe



what we believe. The dark blue resembles a fish. This fish reminds us of the calling of the first disciples to be “fishers of people.” This recalls how Jesus fed crowds of 5,000 and 4,000 with some fish and bread. A fish recalls the

resurrection story from John 21 as the Risen Lord met the disciples on the seashore and cooked them fish. In these stories we are reminded how Jesus promises to fill us and to minister to those who hunger in all its forms.



The fish also recalls a practice from the early church. It became a symbol of the faith community. The Greek word for fish is ΙΧΘΥΣ (spoken as ICHTHYS). Early Christians used each letter from that word to form a confession of faith “Iesous Christos, Theou Yios, Soter” and in English “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.” A picture of

the fish can still be seen on the walls of catacombs where the early Christians met in secret.

The second-century theologian



## Worship Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Childcare Begins
- 9 a.m. Sunday School & Handbell Rehearsal
- 10 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal & Children’s Music
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service (10 a.m. beginning May 28 )

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



# Musical Notes

from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist

Congratulations to the Chancel Choir for a beautiful job on the Easter Cantata!

It is always such a joy to celebrate our Risen Lord at Easter time with choral music that lifts our spirits. The Cambridge Handbells also did a great job on their Palm Sunday and Easter selections and it was wonderful as always to have the West Virginia Brass Quintet on Palm Sunday!

Thanks to Jennifer Walker and Tom McClure for special music collaborations in April (a piano-organ duet and a violin-guitar duet). One of the choir anthems in April was a setting of Psalm 46 by Michael Larkin "Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted over the Earth." This is a powerful message to take moments in our lives to reflect on our relationship with God and to trust in God's plan. Michael Larkin set this text to music in such an expressive and lyrical way. This anthem was in fact a gift from a local church choir director who recently retired, Joyce McVicker. I was glad to discover it and the choir enjoyed singing it as well.

The choir season is now winding down: May 21 will be the last Sunday for the handbells to ring, and May 28 (Pentecost) is the last Sunday for the Chancel Choir. During the summer months there will be a variety of special music offerings such as solos, duets, Men's Chorus, and Women's Chorus.

May the peace of Christ be with you,

John Morrison  
Director of Music and Organist



**A TIME TO REJOICE.** Amy Turluck serves as narrator for the Easter cantata as the Chancel Choir performs "The Easter Story." In the bottom photo, the women's chorus sings for the April 16 service.



# First Church's News & Notes

## Mark Your Calendars

- June Chimes deadline is **Friday, May 29** at noon.
- Parents' Night Out: May 5 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Gather in the Garden: May 7 after church service
- Session Meeting: June 13 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: May 28 begins at 10 a.m.
- Mother's /Father's Day Luncheon: June 11 after service

## Thank you notes received

We would like to thank you for your donation to our Christmas Toy Shop. We served over 900 children this year. Thanks again.  
*Butch Tennant*  
*Chairman*

Dear Church Family

Please keep me in "prayers" - my knee surgery is April 5. I have felt welcomed from the day I attended Ash Wednesday, thank you so much.

I'm in hopes all goes well, should be back end of April. Thank you to the Sunshine Committee for the beautiful card. Easter blessings to all!  
*Beverly Sandy*

To My Church Family

Thank you Sunshine Committee for all the cards, notes, and calls. The Amaryllis bloomed beautifully for a long time.

Thank to Evan for the chats and visit. I'm so glad to watch church virtually. May God bless you and help with any concerns.  
Love in Christ. I miss you.  
*Patty P.*



## Mail slot added to office door

We have a little addition to the interior office door - a mail slot! If you have anything confidential that you would like to drop off but prefer not to leave it in a mailbox, please drop it in the mail slot where it will be safely held.

*Pam Nolan*  
*Administration and Finance*  
*Ministry Team*

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

connection to the life of the church in this way: "We, little fishes, after the image of our Ichthys, Jesus Christ, are born in the water."

This connects us to the light blue image in the cross. This is intentionally drawn as a bowl or chalice (both are appropriate). Our life in Christ begins in baptism. In the PC(USA), we have numerous understandings of Baptism, but the idea of being born to new life is prominent in our understanding. Jesus went through the baptism of water and death and is raised to life, and that promise is for us "little fishes" that we too will be brought into new life through the waters of baptism. That is why the bowl is used in our cross.

The use of the cup reminds us of our other sacrament: the Lord's Table. It is the cup that Jesus drinks that brings us salvation and it is the cup that Jesus holds out for us saying, "Drink all of it."

Where baptism begins our new life new in Christ, the Table is held out for us for our nourishment and reminder of who we are and whose we are. The Table is given to strengthen us in faith and to partake of in love until we become that which we partake —namely new life in Jesus Christ. In the Table we are bound to Christ and to each other and we remember all that God has done for us while we look forward to the day when Christ will complete his work in us and in all creation.

This is taken from the PC(USA) website to conclude the remarks on our cross (our seal):

"In 1 Corinthians, Paul described the church as a body with many members, illustrating the pluralism of the church and the many gifts which God gives to its members. So also the seal's individual parts, when taken together, form an encompassing visual and symbolic unity, while not exhausting the richness of possible interpretations."

That is beautiful and enriching for our lives. I am thankful such care and thoughtfulness went into designing our cross that we may be reminded every time of the promises of God and the joy of growing in the community of faith, while continually being left open to new offerings from the Spirit of God.

May God bless and lead each of us deeper in faith, hope, and love.

*Rev. Evan Walker*





# CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Phone (304) 366-2628

Fax (304) 366-2662

## *Session Committee News*

### ***Outreach collecting items for Soup Opera in May.***

Outreach will finish collecting items for Hope through the end of April and then will be collecting items for the Soup Opera during the month of May. A container is in the elevator room. Here are the items Soup Opera needs: peanut butter, baked beans, oodles of noodles, drink mixes, canned fruits, coffee, mac & cheese, canned vegetables, creamer, cereals, crackers, jelly, spaghetti, instant mashed potatoes, canned meats, spaghetti sauce, soups, men's shoes, men's gloves, hygiene supplies, baby wipes, and diapers.

The Pentecost offering will be received on May 21 and May 28. The Pentecost Offering helps guide young people in Christian formation from their earliest years to young adulthood. With our gifts, we are there to help build these youngest members of the body of Christ into the people God would have them become.

Thank you to those who contributed to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. We received \$935.

## *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**

Emily Harden

[Rev.eharden@gmail.com](mailto:Rev.eharden@gmail.com)

### **Office Coordinator**

Cathy Woodson

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

### **Sexton**

Charles Lettrick

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

## *Session*

### **CLERK OF SESSION**

John O'Connor

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Pam Nolan

Amy Turluck

### **OUTREACH**

Amy Koon

Diane Floyd

### **PROPERTY**

Eric Hauser

Joe Jernigan

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

Linda O'Connor

Marilyn Morgan

### **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

Jennie Poling

Meredith Knight

### **HOSPITALITY**

Deanna Kritzer

Anne Schooley

## *Treasurer*

Roger Kritzer



# May Nurturing Faith Ideas

## SCRIPTURE

**May 7:** Read John 14:1-14. In verse 7, Jesus says, "if you know me, you will know my Father" What adjectives or descriptive words describe Jesus? Make a list of Jesus' personality traits. Realizing that these show us what God is like, think of how you might copy Jesus in how you act and care for all God's people.

**May 14:** Today we celebrate all the women who have been mothers to us from our biological mothers to the many women who have guided us in our lives. What women have been guides for you as a Christian? Make a list of these women as you think about what each has done for you. After you have made your list, then make another list of how you can be a guide to young people.

**May 21:** In Psalm 66 the Psalmist commands us to "Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth...Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!'" Today, use your voice and your actions to "make a joyful noise to God." Go outside and look at the awesome world God has created. Tell God what you love most about God's creation. If you are brave, gather your family or friends; gather some pots and spoons, go outside and MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO GOD!

**May 28:** Today is the Day of Pentecost when the followers of Jesus were given the gift of the Holy Spirit. Read the story in Acts 2:1-21. Suddenly, they were speaking in languages that they didn't know, but everyone who walked by could understand them, no matter what language they spoke. As Christians, it is so important for us to share our faith and let people know about our relationship with Jesus. How will you share your faith today?

## BIRTHDAYS

May 1	John Morrison
May 3	Erin Hauser
May 4	Janet Chittum
May 14	Glen Satterfield
May 17	Hailey Hauser
May 18	Celia Knight
May 19	Dana Satterfield
May 19	Pam Nolan
May 23	Henry Downs
May 24	Lois Brummage

Family of Jonas Jenkins, grandson of Pam & Neil Jenkins  
Family of Nelson Elliott  
Family of Craig Liebig, friend of the Ranson Family  
Beverly Sandy  
Mary Boso  
Paul Hines  
Family of Sharon Foster  
Heather Letrick  
Family of Charlie Snyder  
Peggy Twyman  
Linda Stoops

## ANNIVERSARIES

May 23	Stan & Linda Swihart
May 26	Bill & Lois Laughlin

## PRAYER LIST

Zonna Joyce Egress  
Breanna Borum  
Amy Koon  
John Schooley

## MARCH/APRIL PLEDGES & GIFTS

March 26	\$2,360
April 2	\$1,653
April 9	\$4,757
April 16	\$13,280
April 23	\$1,410

Total: \$23,460  
Total to Date: \$68,728.46

*May Ministry  
Volunteers*

Liturgist: Kim Steele  
USHERS : Marilyn Morgan (captain), Cindi Siegman &  
Vickie Bostic

**NOTE:** Ushers will need to open & close on May 14 & 28

# First Church's News & Notes *cont.*



## **Hospitality: events set for three months**

A special thank you to Rev. Evan Walker for planning our Seder Meal. I

believe I speak on behalf of all those in attendance just how grateful we are for the wonderful service. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Hospitality committee members Charlene Walker, Kathy Snider, Pam Bunner, Betty Pat Lee, Janet Chittum, Martha Sweet, and co-chair Anne Schooley for their help in meal planning, meal preparation, and setting up for our Seder meal. Those who stayed to help with clean-up after our meal, please know your help was greatly appreciated. It truly was a wonderful evening of fellowship.

**UPCOMING EVENTS-** please mark your calendars.



**Parents' Night Out** will be held Friday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the church social room. The Hospitality host is Anne Schooley. Menu: pizza, vegetables with dip, and fruit.

**Gather in the Garden** will begin Sunday, May 7. Please join us for fellowship in the church parking lot with cookies and lemonade immediately following the service. Hospitality hosts will be Janet Chittum and Deanna Kritzer. Gather in the

Garden will be held the first Sunday of each month, May through August.

**Mother's Day/Father's Day Luncheon** will be held Sunday, June 11 immediately following service in the church social room. The menu will be announced in the June Chimes.

**Vacation Bible School** will be held Monday, July 10, Tuesday, July 11, and Wednesday, July 12, with dinner being served at 5:30 p.m. each evening in the church social room.

**Sunday, July 16 service** will be at WaveTek

Park, pavilion #2 beginning at 10 a.m. Lunch will follow immediately with hospitality providing the main

course, condiments, drinks, and paper products. Everyone attending will be asked to bring a covered dish to share.



Our next Hospitality meeting is Tuesday, May 2 at 10 a.m. in the church parlor. Please join us!

*Deanna Kritzer- Chair*

## **Property team gives project updates**

Five Star Commercial Roofing, Inc. has completed the repairs to the roof on the garden side of the building. A section of tiles was removed to waterproof an area above the entrance area. They also capped the chimney on that side.

On our part, \$47,000 was needed for the stained glass window project on the parking lot side of the building. We have received \$31,495 and still need to raise \$15,505. Thanks to all who have donated.

The team continues looking over bids and proposals to remove and replace the elevator. Reminder that if you have not received your new keyless door code please check with Joe Jernigan or Eric Hauser to get the paperwork.



## ***Christian Ed welcomes new DCM; next Parents' Night Out will be May 5***

The month of April was filled with wonderful things for our Christian Ed Team. We welcomed our new Director of Christian Ministry, the Rev. Emily Hardin on Sunday, April 2 during the service. Afterward, she and her children (Jess and Madison) got to meet our church family during a reception in her honor in the social room.



Emily's first day on the job was Monday, April 3, which just happened to be our regularly scheduled CE Team meeting. We threw her in the deep end and started planning for Vacation Bible School, which will be held July 10-12. Please mark those dates on your

calendar. We will need lots of volunteers to make the event a success.

On Easter Sunday, Evan confirmed four of our youth. Hailey Hauser, Robert Ranson, Connor Sullivan, and Addison Thomas were welcomed into the church. Addison was also baptized during the service. What a blessing to see our next generation grow in Christ!

Our younger children have been very crafty this month during Children's Church. They've been learning about the Lord and using their creativity to paint pictures and eggs and decorate Easter cookies. It was fun (and messy)!

Evan will be taking on a new duty. He is going to leading our Youth Group! June 1 will be the first get together. Time and place are still pending. We'll get the word out closer to the event. Youth group is open to those in grades 6-12. If you know of any young people who might be interested, tell them about it! Everyone is welcome!

As Emily takes over our children's ministry, she will be reaching out to find volunteers for Children's Church, VBS, Parents' Night Out and lots of other activities. I hope you will prayerfully consider giving of your time. Our children are so

worth it! When we start up our Sunday School in the fall, we will be adding a class for the adults. We will need teachers. Consider that opportunity as well.

A big THANKS to the CE Team and all the volunteers who make our children's program such a success!

### **Upcoming events:**

- **Parents' Night Out, May 5, 5:30 p.m.**
- **Youth Group, June 1 (place and time TBD)**
- **Vacation Bible School, July 10-12**

*Jennifer Poling – Christian Education Chair*





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

# *the* *May 2023* 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  
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