



the Chimes

November 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,

2 Timothy 1:3-7 reads:

“I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your

sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.”

I love this Paul. I struggle with Paul who, as great as he was for the spreading of Christianity, seemed to be rather brash. In this text, Paul becomes quite relatable. The text presents Paul as later in his life while in prison, reflecting on many things. This whole letter comes across as a Paul heading to retirement giving all the wisdom he can to a young, new pastor (generation?) coming up to lead the church.

He begins with a sincere and genuine connection – I know your family. He sees who Timothy is becoming and praises God



for that, but recognizes that Timothy’s faith didn’t just happen. Two generations of women helped shape and form Timothy in the faith.

We enter a busy, yet special time of year. Specifically for November in

the church, we celebrate All Saint’s Day. We don’t canonize saints in the Reformed tradition. This matters because to label only certain people as saints, we forget that God didn’t just call special people to serve him. God called people like you and me with all our flaws into service.

God is the God of the ordinary and what we might call nothing special. God is the God who works through people without us knowing. The God who shapes and transforms people through simple acts of making dinner for children and putting our shopping cart in the proper place. The mundane may just very well be the holy. We might not even know or ever recognize what we did.

I have no idea who Lois or Eunice are or anything about them except that because of them Timothy became a leader in the church. *(Continues on page 6)*



Worship Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

Worship Service is in-person based on the color rubric (pg. 7) and online at fpcfairmont.com & Facebook

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



Musical Notes from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist



Thanks so much to Stan Swihart, guest flutist Alyssa Schwartz, Linda O'Connor, Charlene Sullivan, Evan and Jennifer Walker, Kim Steele, Amy Koon, Betty Pat and John Lee for providing special music for the month of October!

We had mostly virtual services, but the congregation was able to return October 24. It was so great to see people in the pews again! Praise be to God that the current Covid situation is such that in person worship is currently possible.

As a music director it is also a delight to have so much musical talent amongst the church members to work with, which allows for variety of vocal, handbell, and instrumental offerings.

On Oct. 31, you will hear Betty Pat sing a Tom Trenney arrangement of "My Hope is Built". I discovered this arrangement at Montreat just this past summer and it was published very recently. Tom Trenney has been at Montreat on more than one occasion.

One of my first Montreat memories was of him performing an organ concert where he improvised to a black and white movie in Anderson Auditorium. It was a highly entertaining and humorous experience. Last summer, he was the Routley lecturer and had a lot of insight for music directors, pastors, and choir singers on their purpose in the life in the church as well as what music ministry really means.

This arrangement that you will hear has a gospel flavor to it and is quite a creative and fresh take on an old favorite.

I invite you to reflect on the background of this hymn which comes from "Then Sings My Soul" by Robert J. Morgan, a wonderful hymn resource which Ruth Martin gave me:

"Edward Mote (who wrote the text) was born into poverty on January 21, 1797, in London. His parents, innkeepers, wouldn't allow a Bible in their house, but somehow Edward heard the gospel as a teenager and came to Christ. He eventually became a skilled carpenter and the owner of his own cabinet shop.

'One morning' he recalled, 'it came into my mind as I went to labor to write a hymn on the 'Gracious Experience of a Christian.' As I went up to Holborn I had the chorus: On Christ the solid Rock I stand/All other ground is sinking sand. In the day I had four verses complete and wrote them off.

On the Sabbath following, I met brother King...who informed me that his wife was very ill, and asked me to call and see her. I had an early tea

fireside composed the last two verses, wrote the whole thing off, and then took them to sister King...As these verses so met the dying women's case, my attention to them was the more arrested, and I had a thousand printed for distribution.'

In 1852, Edward, 55, gave up his carpentry to pastor the Baptist Church in Horsham, Sussex, where he ministered 21 years. He resigned in 1873, in failing health saying, 'I think I am going to heaven; yes, I am nearing port. The truths I have been preaching, I am now living upon and they'll do very well to die upon. Ah!, the precious blood.' He passed away at age 77."

We will also be celebrating All Saints Sunday, October 31 with Roger Kritzer tolling a bell for the name of each loved one who has passed away.

May the peace of Christ be with you always,

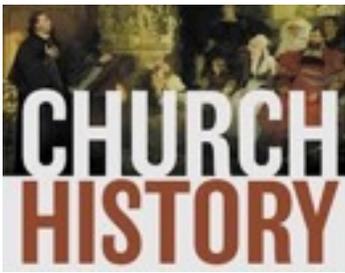
John Morrison
Director of Music and Organist



and called afterwards. He said that it was his usual custom to sing a hymn, read a portion, and engage in prayer before he went to a meeting. He looked for his hymnbook but could find it nowhere. I said, 'I have some verses in my pocket; if he liked, we would sing them.' We did, and his wife enjoyed them so much that after service he asked me, as a favor, to leave a copy of them for his wife.

'I went home, and by the





1st CHURCH's HISTORY CORNER

by Jean Lambert



The 'other garden' views on Jefferson Street

Many beautiful trees and bushes grace the Jefferson Street garden area. The history and restoration of this plot of ground goes back many years. Patricia Phillips, who was taking a Landscape Design course at WV University, decided something beautiful should replace the hap-hazard grass in that area. She and her husband, George, bought a Bradford Pear tree plus azalea bushes, hosta plants, rhododendron, rose bushes, and bayberry and burning bushes. Jane Lindsay provided a Chinese dogwood and a ginkgo tree.

To increase the beauty of downtown Fairmont in 2004 at our corner of Jackson and Jefferson Streets, church members provided flowers, gave money and helped to plant flowers under

the direction of Don Trisel. Also, Dave and Jane Lindsay provided flowers and planted them in the cement planters on the steps. Many people who parked near the Church commented on the garden. At that time Ron Schmuck, our custodian, did a good job of watering the plants in between showers. Now our custodian, Charles Lettrick is taking good care of the area.



November Prayer List

Patty Snider, Eddie's mother
Alan Moran
Donald Morrison, John's dad
Family of Scott Weisenborn
Family of BoBo Pallotta
Blair Montgomery
Steven Satterfield, Pam Stalnaker &
Penny Roberts nephew
Marilyn McDougal

CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 1 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY

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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



SHARING GOD'S LOVE ALL MONTH LONG!

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

Sharing God's Love

Take a bowl of water, and dip your fingers into it. Then cup one hand, and pour water over your other hand. Remember your baptism. God calls us by name, claims us in our baptism, and never lets go! Tell your children their baptism story or your own. Or tell a friend. Share God's love with all you are with.

Sharing God's Love

Do you like to post on Facebook? Look for ways to share God's love. Post positive statements and positive news. Remember the Good News? Add words to your photos that remind us of God's vision and good news for all. Share God's love!

Sharing God's Love

I read the phrase "heart open" in the writings of Mattie Stepanek. As you share God's love, your heart will fill up, and you will want to be "heart open" every day. The more you share, the more you will have. Try putting on the "heart open" attitude today and share God's love.

Sharing God's Love

Sharing God's love on Thanksgiving: Jesus sure did enjoy a meal with his friends. Is our vision for our holiday meal similar to Jesus' get-togethers? Or will we be hungry and cranky as we wait for the meal? Will we argue with each other, and drive home mad? Will we ignore the bounty of blessings we have, and think only of football? Will we exhaust ourselves attempting the perfect decor, food, and family event only to feel unappreciated? What do you think Jesus had to let go of, and what did he hold on to during those mealtimes? Remember to share God's love this Thanksgiving Day.



November Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

November 7 - Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 27: Read Mark 12: 38-44

This month we turn our thoughts to giving thanks and stewardship. Jesus reminds us of the importance of giving not out of our abundance, but out of our poverty. What does this mean to you and how will this affect your offerings to the church?

November 14 - Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 28: Read Mark 13: 1-8

These verses are warnings of things to come, and false leaders are of concern. Jesus said, "Do not let them lead you astray." How are you led astray by the leaders we encounter in our lives? Create a plan to counteract this temptation.

November 21 - Christ the King/Reign of Christ: Read John 18: 33-37

On this Christ the King Sunday we find Jesus confronted by Pilate who wants to know if Jesus is indeed the king of the Jews. How do you answer this question in your own life, is Jesus your King? If so, how do you honor your King?

November 28 - First Sunday of Advent: Read Luke 21: 25-36

As we enter this Advent Season, our Scripture passage speaks of signs of the coming of the Son of Man in a cloud with power and glory. How do you visualize this scene depicted in the Scripture passage? Draw a picture with your family to depict His coming.



A special thank you to those who donated to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Twenty-five percent goes to the Disability Action Center.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 4	Elizabeth Nolan
November 16	Sophie Starn Don Straight
November 17	Linda Swihart
November 19	Courtney Cooper
November 22	Alisa Perdue
November 24	Rebecca Kettering
November 28	Harry Hadley Chloe Cooper

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

November 15	Joe & Benita Jernigan
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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PLEDGES & GIFTS

September 28	\$220
October 5	\$2,991
October 12	\$1,280
October 19	\$2,625
October 26	\$1,215

September/October Total: \$8,331

To Date Total: \$116,313.38

*November Ministry
Volunteers*

USHERS

Rob Steele (captain), Earl Straight, Bob & Lois Brummage

Mark Your Calendars

- December Chimes deadline is **Friday, November 19** at noon.
- Session Meeting: Tuesday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteers at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Special 'Thank You' to First Church

Greetings to our church congregation,

We would like to extend our thanks to the members of the congregation for all the wonderful food and cards and calls sent to our home. It truly was a blessing to have so much love through Christ shared by our church family during Ken's recent Covid battle. Thanks to all of you for your prayers and the great meals you provided us. We are truly blessed to have a church family around us and joining in to help win the battle with such a life threatening disease. Although we were both vaccinated, when he came down with it, you never know who might catch this virus and we would strongly encourage everyone to get the vaccine. With the help of Ken's VA infusion of antibodies and having the vaccine, he was able to keep from being hospitalized. We praise our Lord and thank him for our wonderful church family.

Your friends through Christ,
Ken and Michele Miller



Church members build special ramp

Our church family mourns the loss of Willa Hood, a beloved member of First Presbyterian church. We will certainly miss her, but are so grateful that we were able to provide the ramp for her home that was needed for her to arrive home safely from her last hospital stay.

Members of the rescue squad commented on the craftsmanship of the ramp.....a job well done by a Ken Miller and Roger Kritzer.

Pastor's Message continues from pg. 1

They were faithful with what God gave them.

Saints don't even have to be elders though. A teenager in my former church approached me once and said, "2 Timothy 1:7 is my favorite verse." I then had to go and look it up and read "for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." Suddenly, I knew God was speaking to me through this child. Robert Ranson called me a couple of weeks ago to share an idea he had – Jesus is like my eraser. Jesus erases my sin. Jesus makes me clean like that mistake never happened."

Praise God for mothers and fathers of faith who trained, taught, and loved these kids that they might speak to the church. God is speaking in so many ways. It's not that we cannot hear it, but we sometimes don't recognize it because God's voice comes unexpectedly.

This month, we begin with All Saint's Day and conclude with Thanksgiving. I urge us to consider who would be on our list of those who taught and raised us up in the faith and then to give thanks to God for them, not just in private prayers, but spoken.

Too many times at funerals I have heard, "I never got the chance to tell them what they meant to me." Don't wait friends. Tell them now. Thank them now. Let's make a habit of thanksgiving within this church for each other.

Then, may our own faith be rekindled. Then, may we live not in cowardice, but in power and love and self-discipline. Then, may we be found faithful where we are with what God has given as we look forward to the day when we shall all celebrate and feast at the heavenly banquet.

Rev. Evan Walker

News & Notes

The rubric approved by Session for opening the church and facilities is as follows:

GREEN and **YELLOW** – All programs proceed normally and outside groups are allowed to utilize the facilities as approved.

GOLD – Activities of the church are limited to in-person Sunday School and Worship only. Masks will be required while in the building. There will be no corporate singing during worship. Outside groups may still utilize facilities as approved provided they follow protocols.

ORANGE – Activities of the church are limited to in-person Worship only. Masks are required at all times on the property of the church. There will be no corporate singing during worship. Outside groups may NOT utilize the facilities.

RED – All members are strongly encouraged to worship virtually. Masks are required at all times for those who enter the premises. There will be no corporate singing during worship. Extra social distancing will be required. No outside groups may utilize the facilities.

The Youth Council of the Presbytery of West Virginia presents:

The 2021 Older Youth Retreat November 19-21, 2021

The Missing LINK

with

Adrian Pratt

at

Bluestone Camp and Retreat Center, Hinton, WV

FOCUS: We are travelling through unprecedented times. It is easy to become disconnected from our personal plans, from each other, and from God. How do we restore the connection? How do we reconnect the scattered pieces? Together, we will spend a weekend exploring ways to embrace being a 21st Century Disciple.

KEYNOTE LEADER: Rev. Adrian Pratt grew up near Liverpool, England. Active in his home church as a teenager, he played in Christian Rock groups and eventually felt a call to full-time ministry within the Presbyterian Church of Wales. Following a "Pulpit Exchange" visit to the USA, he accepted a call to be a pastor in Fayetteville, WV in 1996. He has since pastored churches in West Virginia, New York and Maryland. He currently serves as a minister for Vital Congregations on the East End of Long Island for the Presbytery of Long Island and as minister of Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church. He greatly enjoys ministry with youth and has been a leader/participant in numerous youth-related events, including a number of years as a member of this presbytery's Youth Council. He hopes to bring along gifts of storytelling, teaching, songwriting, and worship leading to wherever God may lead him.



Complete information and registration forms have been EMAILED to Church Leaders . Contact Susan Sharp Campbell (304-667-9428) with questions, or if you need the information.





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

the
November 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



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