



the Chimes

November 2022

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,

1 Peter 2:9-10 has become an important passage in Presbyterianism. It reads:

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

This passage is loaded with theological meaning for the church. One of the main aspects to highlight is how God has formed us and called us a new people, redeemed and restored through mercy freely given. In our understanding, that is where everything begins – with God. God is the one who acted in creation. God is the one who acted in our redemption. God is the one who continues to act in creating and



renewing a covenant people.

Because of all of this, we (meaning all of us, not simply the clergy) are called to “proclaim the mighty acts of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous

light.”

One of the ways we do that is in our official Presbyterian Church (USA) cross. For the next few months, I will highlight different images held within the PC (USA) cross. Some of you may know and others may be surprised about the symbols and meanings purposefully included in our cross. Either way, my prayer is that we all may learn more about our faith and what it means to call ourselves Presbyterian.

(Continues on page 3)



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

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



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

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, the First Presbyterian choirs are preparing in their rehearsals for the busy Advent and Christmas season soon to come. The Chancel Choir will be presenting a cantata during worship Sunday December 18 and the WV Brass Quintet will be playing for the Christmas Eve service. The Cambridge Handbells are usually ringing about twice a month with the following schedule for November and December: November 6, November 20, December 4, December 18, and Christmas Eve.

We also have some exciting concerts happening at the church in December! On Sunday December 4th at 3 pm, Vocal Tapestry will be giving a concert. Then on Tuesday December 20th there is a Maestri Vocale concert of the Messiah by G.F. Handel at 7 pm in the sanctuary. They will be performing the Christmas portion plus the Hallelujah Chorus. Maestri Vocale started out as a Men's Chorus made up of choral directors, church music directors, and professional singers from around the area to now include a Women's Chorus and an SATB chorus for works such as this. (Look for more information on these musical events in the December Newsletter.)

May the peace of Christ be with you and Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

John Morrison
Director of Music and Organist

IMPORTANT DATES

November 4

First Friday
5:30-8:30 pm

November 6

Congregational Meeting
Following Morning Worship

November 9

Dinner at Colasessano's and
Shoes for Kids Shopping
5:30 pm

November 13

Matt. 25 Thanksgiving Dinner
After morning worship

November 15

Serving at Wesley House
9:30 am – 1:00 pm

November 15

Session Meeting
6:30 pm

November 16

Advent dinner and craft
5:30-7:00 pm

December 2

Session and Staff Christmas
Party
6:00 pm at Muriales

December 4

Vocal Tapestry
3:00 pm

December 11

Children's Pageant
Christmas Dinner
Morning Worship and
following

December 18

Choir Cantata
Christmas Joy Offering
Morning Worship

December 24

Christmas Eve
7:00 pm

December 25

Christmas Day
Morning Worship



Mark Your Calendars

- December Chimes deadline is **Friday, November 18** at noon.
- Parents' Night Out: December 9 at 5:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteers at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

REQUEST

The office wants to make sure we have correct contact information. Please take a few moments to contact the office and update and/or confirm any information. Thank you for your help!

First Church's Troops



Trunk of Treat at Camp Mountaineer. Awarded Best trunks for the combined units.

The troops participated in an emergency preparedness weekend at Camp Mountaineer. The Health Net Helicopter, Mon County EMS, Mon County Health Department, and Mountaineer Area Rescue showed the scouts what they do and how they find someone lost in the woods and basic first aid.



Pastor's Message *continues from pg. 1*



This is our official symbol:

The first thing and most important thing to notice is that it is a cross. Everything we do and everything we are is because of the cross of Jesus Christ. It is through the cross that we have redemption, forgiveness of sins, and the gift of life eternal. Without the cross, we have nothing. Without the cross, we have no reason to gather in worship. Without the cross, we are still "not a people" as Peter writes.

The cross is center and most important, not just to us but to all Christians throughout the world. This reminds us that we may be distinct in some of our beliefs from other denominations, but all who call on the Lord Jesus Christ are knit together in the very foundational importance of the cross.

The Office of the General Assembly writes this about our specific cross: "The cross represents the incarnate love of God in Jesus Christ and his passion and resurrection. Because of its association with Presbyterian history, the Celtic cross was chosen as a model for this contemporary rendering of the ancient symbol."

We will journey through more distinct details included in our cross and why certain features are shaped the way they are. I invite you to study it and see what images you discover and then spend some time pondering why those elements may be included.

May God bless and watch over you this day and always.

To the glory of God,

Rev. Evan Walker

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

Session Committee News

OUTREACH

Shoes for Kids

The shoe applications have been distributed. We will be shopping for shoes on Wednesday, November 9. If you would like to help shop please join us at 5:30 at Colasessano's for pizza then we will go to Walmart to shop.

Wesley House Meals

For the first time since Covid started we will be serving a meal at Fairmont State University to college students during finals week in November.

Diane Floyd

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOVEMBER 6

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting immediately following worship on November 6. The stated purpose of the meeting follows:

- To present the 2023 Operating Budget
- To vote on the Pastor's Terms of Call
- To receive the final report of the Office Nominating Committee
- To elect Elders for the class of 2025
- To elect a standing Office Nominating Committee for 2023

Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Staff

Pastor

Evan Walker
pastorevan@fairmontfirst.net

Director of Music

John Morrison
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Discipleship Ministry Coordinator

Janel Nye
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Office Coordinator

Cathy Woodson
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Sexton

Charles Lettrick
sexton@fairmontfirst.net

Session

CLERK OF SESSION

John O'Connor

ADMINISTRATION

Pam Nolan
Amy Turluck

OUTREACH

Penny Roberts
Diane Floyd

PROPERTY

Eric Hauser
Joe Jernigan

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Linda O'Connor
Marilyn Morgan

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Jennie Poling
Adam Ranson

HOSPITALITY

Deanna Kritzer
Anne Schooley

Treasurers

Roger Kritzer
David Floyd

Nursery Attendant



November Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

November 6 - Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost: Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Paul tells the believers in Thessalonica to not be alarmed about rumors of the coming 'Day of the Lord,' but rather to hold fast to the truth they have been taught. What worries and anxieties is the Spirit inviting you to let go of right now? How do we discern what faith 'traditions' are worth holding on to, and which have served their purpose?

November 13 - Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost: Read Isaiah 65:17-25

The prophet is painting a beautiful picture of the 'New Heavens and New Earth' in his final chapters. What images in this passage speak to your deep hopes and desires? How do we cultivate this vision of shalom in our world today, knowing that its final culmination can only be the work of Christ?

November 20 - Christ the King Sunday: Read: Luke 23:33-43

This Christ the King Sunday we are reminded that the crown Jesus wore was one of thorns. How is your life as a citizen of Christ's kingdom marked by sacrifice and service to others?

November 27 - First Sunday of Advent: Read Romans 13:11-14

Paul encourages the believers in Rome that salvation is at hand because "the day is near!" As we wait in this Advent season, how are we shining light into darkness and walking in paths of peace? How is the Spirit using this season to 'wake you up' to pay attention to where God is at work in the world?

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 7 Jeff Jenkins
November 16 Sophie Starn
Don Straight
November 17 Linda Swihart
November 22 Alisa Perdue
November 24 Rebecca Kettering
November 28 Harry Hadley

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

November 15 Joe & Benita
Jernigan

PRAYER LIST

Emily Starn
Mr. L'usko
Family of Gus McCormick
Joanne Whalen
Bobby Bosley
Robert Hawkins
Family of Thomas Downs
Donnie Siegman
Family of Glenn Harman
Family of Jean Swihart Lehner
Michele Miller
Dr. Ron Graziani
Dr. Jeriel Gilmer
Peggy Twyman
Steven Satterfield
Linda Stoops

OCTOBER PLEDGES & GIFTS

September 25 \$1,272

October 2 \$890

October 9 \$4515

October 16 \$13,009

Total: \$19,686

Total to Date: \$121,404.85

November Ministry Volunteers

USHERS

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

NOTE: Ushers will need to open & close on November

First Church's News & Notes cont.

From the Christian Discipleship Team

Parents Night Out

This month we have an exciting Parent's Night Out on November 4 from 5:30 to 8:30. We will have church history night! The History committee will be telling us all about our church history! We will play games and do some historical crafts and activities. It should be a very interesting and fun night! The event is designed for children ages kindergarten through 6th grade. However, this month will be very interesting so older children may also enjoy the event and are welcome to attend!

Please RSVP to: discipleship@fairmontfirst.net. Dinner is served at 5:30 and we need to ensure we have enough food and supplies. If you would like to be added to the text e-vite list please email your phone number to the email above.

Please note December Parents Night out have been moved to December 9.

Advent Craft

Mark your calendars! The advent craft is November 16. Dinner will be served at 5:30 followed by a fun Christmas craft for the whole family! Please RSVP to discipleship@fairmontfirst.net to ensure we have crafting supplies and food ready for you and your family!

Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant is scheduled for December 11 during the normal church service. If you would like your child to be involved in the pageant please contact discipleship@fairmontfirst.net.

We are looking forward to the advent season as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our savior!
We can't wait to see you!

MATTHEW 25 LUNCHEON NOVEMBER 13

We begin our journey seeing where God is calling us as a church with a luncheon immediately following worship on November 13. We welcome Chuck Vankirk from Friendship Fairmont and Katelyn Cox from CASA will join us and lead us in worship and then be with us during the dinner for follow up questions and more details. Thank you for your support and please RSVP to Deanna in advance of the Luncheon.



Children's Sabbath Sunday





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

the
November 2022 *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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FAIRMONT, WV 26554