



the Chimes

November 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*

For All The Saints

November begins with the observance of All Saints Day. It is a reminder that there are far more saints than those we may recall. We remember St. Paul, St. Peter, St. Teresa, St. Patrick (though never canonized) and sometimes St. Nicholas. While our Catholic brothers and sisters have days for Saints all through the year, November 1 makes sure none are missed.

Christians have traditionally focused on "official" Saints and overlook the scriptural basis of sainthood. The Greek word for Christian believers is translated as "saint." St. Paul, writing to the church in Rome says, "to all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints." And his second letter to Corinthians says, "to the church of God that is in Corinth including all the saints in Achaia."

A favorite hymn of mine is ***I Sing a Song of the Saints of God.*** It begins: "I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew." Then it proceeds to list one

as a doctor, one as a queen and one as a shepherdess on the green, and all of them saints of God, and I mean God helping to be one, too." The next verses list other professions and roles.

Christ United Methodist Church in Charleston affirms this well. They hang colorful and artistic banners completely covering the walls and balcony of the sanctuary each bearing the name of a former member of the congregation. Worshipers experience what is stated in Hebrews 12, "Therefore since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses....let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us."

That hymn concludes: "They lived not only in years past, there are hundreds of thousands still..and I mean to be one, too."

So, I write to all the saints of First Presbyterian Church and pray that we affirm and live out our sainthood in faithful service to God and our community.

The Rev. Dick Bowyer



- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9 a.m. Sunday School, Handbell Choir
- 10 a.m. Children's Handbell Choir & Chancel Choir

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





Musical Notes from John Morrison, Director of Music & Organist

What a unique and special experience it was on Reformation Sunday to have bagpipes for the service! Thanks to Glen Campbell for playing the bagpipes and to Marilyn Morgan for her help with making this happen as well.

All Saints Sunday is coming up November 2 when the list of names will be read for those who have passed in the past year. Amy Turluck will be tolling the bell as well as delivering the sermon message that Sunday. The handbells will be ringing both the prelude and the offertory: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" arr. Jason W. Krug and "Everything to God in Prayer" arr. Ron Mallory. We send our prayers to all those who have dealt with the loss of a friend or loved one over the past year.

Sunday, November 30 will be a special worship called "A Service in Song". This service will be full of

readings, hymn singing, and special choir selections. The Chancel Choir will be singing a beautiful introit and benediction: "We Have Gathered" by Stan Pethel and "Go in Peace, Walk in Hope, Live in Love" by Douglas E. Wagner. They will also be singing two anthems during the service: "Light an Advent Candle" by Becki Slagle Mayo and "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" arr. Michael Larkin. The planning team for this service is Kim Steele, Amy Koon, and myself. We look forward to sharing this special service with you!

Also a reminder that Cantata Sunday is December 21!

May the peace of Christ be with you,

John Morrison
Director of Music and Organist



Celebrating Apple Butter Day

A BIG thank you to all who helped in any way with

making four kettles (438 pints) of apple butter. All the proceeds will go to our Shoes For Kids Project.



First Church's News & Notes

Mark Your Calendars

- Material for the DECEMBER issue of The Chimes is due by Friday, November 21 at noon. THANKS!
- Advent Craft & luncheon: Nov. 16 after service
- Session Meeting: November 18 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Women's Breakfast: November 13 at 9 a.m. McAteer's
- Christmas Pageant & Dinner: December 7

Hospitality: Advent Craft, November 16

On November 2, Hospitality will be serving cookies, coffee and lemonade in the Social Room after our church service.

The next Hospitality meeting will be on November 4 in the parlor at 10 a.m. We welcome anyone that would like to come.

November 16 is the Advent Craft and pizza party in the Social Room after our church service.

Worship leaders, speakers announced

The Worship Team is happy to announce the schedule for Sunday services for the remainder of 2025. Please join us on Sundays as we work through this transition period with great speakers and programs.

October 26 - Dick Bowyer

November 2 - Amy Turlock

November 9 - Dan Kimble

November 16 - John Bolt

November 23 - Dan Kimble

November 30 - Hymn Sing - Kim Steele, Amy Koon, and John Morrison

December 7 - Children's Christmas Pageant

December 14 - Dan Kimble

December 21 - Chancel Choir Cantata

December 24 - Christmas Eve - Dan Kimble

December 28 - Dick Bowyer

Pastor Search Update from Session

Moving forward...

Adjusting to change is a lot. Our church is in the middle of a change and we have had that feeling since Evan's departure. George Lilly has been assigned to First Presbyterian Church as a Liaison to assist with the process of the pastoral search. We have had a variety of pulpit pastors and services, which will continue.

During the Session meeting on 10/21/25, the process to look for a new pastor was reviewed and Session members are making plans to move forward. We will review our current Mission and Vision statements. This is a time for us to reflect on where we have been, assess where we are, and determine where we want to go. Feel free to talk with Session members about your thoughts, wants, and desires. We want to be unified as we prepare for a future pastor. We will keep you updated!

Session members: Joe Jernigan, Amy Turluck, Janet Miller, Amy Koon, Tim Mersinger, Pam Stalnaker, Penny Roberts, Teri Bunner, Rob Steele, Nancy Carnes, and Pam Nolan.

Thank you! Pam Nolan

Apple Butter Day 2025

It's a wrap!! What a glorious fall day God provided. The four kettles yielded 438 pints of apple butter with proceeds going to the Shoes for Kids Ministry.

Thank you to our church family and friends that showed up during the course of the day to lend a hand and participate in this special day in the life of the church for nearly 40 years.

It is selling fast...pints available for \$6 in the church office or social room after Sunday service.

Shoes for Kids

Applications for shoes have been turned in from the various county agencies and the shopping list is being compiled by Karen and volunteers.

November 20 has been designated as shopping day for volunteers to shop for the shoes. More information will be provided closer to that date. December 13 will be the distribution day of the shoes in the social room from 9 - 12.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Phone (304) 366-2628

Email: office@fairmontfirst.net

Fax (304) 366-2662

Web: www.fpcfairmont.com

Staff

Pastor

Director of Music

John Morrison

music@fairmontfirst.net

Discipleship Ministry Coordinator

Jane Mead

discipleship@fairmontfirst.net

Office Coordinator

Karen Mersinger

office@fairmontfirst.net

Sexton

Joe Miller

sexton@fairmontfirst.net

Nursery Attendants

Pam Proctor

Abby Shuck

Sunday School

Brigitte Gapen

Session

CLERK OF SESSION

Kathy Snider

ADMINISTRATION

Pam Nolan

Amy Turluck

OUTREACH

Terri Bunner

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

Children & Youth Ministry

As the seasons change and we move closer to the holidays, our church family has been busy with meaningful fellowship, service, and celebration. We're so grateful for the memories we've made together and excited about what's still to come!

Fall Fun and Fellowship

We had a wonderful time volunteering at the local animal shelter! It was a blessing to serve our community and share God's love through care and compassion. Thank you to all who participated—you made a difference!

Our annual Apple Butter Weekend was a big success, filled with warm smiles, hard work, and delicious results. Thank you to everyone who helped stir, can, and serve—we couldn't have done it without you!

On Children's Sabbath, we celebrated the young voices and hearts in our congregation. Their participation in worship reminded us all of the joy and faith of childhood. We also had a blast at our Halloween-themed Children's Church—costumes, crafts, and fun made it a day to remember!



Coming in November: Advent Craft and Lunch- November 16 We're excited to invite everyone—kids and adults alike—to our Advent Craft and Lunch this November! This special event is a time for all ages



to come together, get creative, and reflect on the hope and joy of the Advent season. Whether you're making ornaments or just enjoying the fellowship and food, there's something for everyone. Keep an eye out for more details soon!

Looking Ahead to the Christmas Pageant

We're already looking forward to our Christmas Pageant, where our children help tell the timeless story of Jesus' birth. It's always a beautiful and joyful highlight of the season.

Calling All Shepherds (and Other Volunteers!) As we prepare for the pageant, we are looking for volunteer shepherds and other helpers to assist with costumes, rehearsals, and more. If you'd like to be a part of this special tradition, please let us know—we'd love to have your help!

We're looking for donations of animal costumes for the Christmas Pageant. If you have a costume (sheep, donkey, cow, camel, etc.) that we can borrow or keep, please bring it to the church office or contact Jane. Thank you for helping our little ones bring the Nativity story to life!

Let's continue to grow in faith, serve with love, and celebrate the joy of the season together. We're so thankful for each of you!



November Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

November 2: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Read Psalm 119:137-144

This longest psalm in the Bible is an acrostic poem about God's law. There are twenty-two sections in the psalm, and the lines in each section all begin with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order of the alphabet. Write your own acrostic psalm praising God this week, each line starting with a different letter of the English alphabet in order from A to Z.

November 9: Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Read Psalm 98

The psalmist calls upon God's people to sing praises to God for God "has done marvelous things." Hymnals are filled with all sorts of song that praise God. What is your favorite hymn? Share it with someone else and tell them why it's your favorite.

November 16: Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Read Isaiah 65:17-25

Here we have Isaiah's picture of the new heavens and earth that God is creating. It is a vision of shalom, or peace that ends with peace. What images in this passage speak to your hopes and dreams? How do we join God in working toward this vision of peace in our world today?

November 23: Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Read Luke 23:33-43

Jesus was a king though he wasn't the kind of king that the people expected. He was the kind of king that died on a cross out of love, not a king who ruled a country and controlled people. On this Sunday before Thanksgiving, remember all of the things Jesus did and how he showed God's love. Give thanks to God for the gift of his son, Jesus, Christ the King.

November 30: First Sunday of Advent

Read Matthew 24:36-44

In the season of Advent that leads up to Christmas, we look back to the past, to the birth of Jesus as a baby in Bethlehem as we prepare to celebrate his birth again. We also, in this season, look forward, to the return of Christ on earth. This passage reminds us that we don't know when Christ will return but we should always be ready for him.

NOVEMBER

Birthdays

11/5	Charles Lettrick
11/6	Reid Harvey
11/7	Jeff Jenkins
11/19	Catie Blankenship Snyder
11/16	Sophie Starn
11/17	Linda Swihart
11/20	Missy Downs
11/22	Alisa Perdue
11/23	Jan Miller
11/24	Becky Kettering
11/25	Jack Snyder
11/27	Matt Snyder
11/28	Harry Hadley

Anniversaries

11/15	Joe & Benita Jernigan
11/16	Adam & Lauren Ranson

Prayer List

Betty Thrush
Steve Asher
Family of Randy Miller
Family of Ronnie Seigman
Amy Bartell
Tim Morrison
Doris Cain
Judy Cooper
Linda Adametz
Judy Gils
Cathy Reed
Family of Phil Reed
Diane Satterfield
Amy Bartell
Betty Pat Lee
Lindy Straight
Dave Yazvak
James Cimino
Rev. James Morley

Susan May
Brad & Donna Dodd
Ella Morris
Stephen Satterfield
Judy Shaver
Paul Hines
Peggy Twyman
Linda Stoops

September/October Pledges & Gifts

September 21	\$1,426
September 28	\$2,601
October 5	\$3,821
October 12	\$2,013
October 19	\$2,270
October 26	\$1,950
Peace & Global Offering	\$585
Total:	\$14,666
Total to Date:	\$173,712.50

November Ministry Volunteers

Liturgist: Reid Harvey

USHERS : Earl Straight (captain), Ken Miller, and Jan Miller



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

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
301 JACKSON ST.
FAIRMONT, WV 26554