



the Chimes

November 2023

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,

This year is passing quickly. It seems as though we just celebrated Easter, and now we are in Fall and literally a few weeks away from Advent. November contains two special days for the community of faith. Obviously, we celebrate Thanksgiving. Hopefully, this is a time to remember and give thanks to God who has watched over us so faithfully during the last year (and not just a time to gorge ourselves and prepare to join the Black Friday shopping).

The other one is lesser known and remembered, but important – All Saint’s Day. Let us share these words from 2 Timothy 1:2-7 (NRSV):

“To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 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.”

These are great words, but I love the fact that Paul first begins by tracing Timothy’s lineage. Timothy received what had been given to his mother by his

grandmother. This faith shared and passed down through generations. Timothy was raised and nurtured and grew in the faith. This is true for most of us in this church, though not all.

My aunt sent me books this week that my grandfather had received from his grandparents. He was a minister, my father is a Minister of Music and my mother is a church musician. Then there is me. Someone who was raised in the faith. Yet, I still had to make it mine. I cannot just live my parent’s and grandparent’s faith.

Then, I recall the larger community of faith – the church that helped raise me in the faith. I can still name many of my teachers. I give more thanks for them now because I realize more of what I was like as a child. I recall friends throughout my schooling who helped shape and form me. I remember Edison Presbyterian *(Continues on page 3)*



- 9 a.m. Sunday School & Handbell Choir
- 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*

We will start out the month of November by welcoming the Davis and Elkins College Choir as they provide music for worship, November 5!

Thanks to the Davis and Elkins Choir for sharing and worshipping with us.

Thanks also to our lovely and dedicated Chancel Choir and bells for all of their beautiful music during the month of October and to Jennifer

Walker who provided beautiful piano selections for worship. Some highlights included the Chancel Choir singing the beautiful and moving "River in Judea" arr. John Leavitt and the handbells ringing a Sandra Eithun arrangement of "Here I Am, Lord" that showcases both the chimes and the bells.

The Chancel Choir has been rehearsing the December 17 Cantata as well and you won't want to miss that! Another thing to look forward to

is that the West Virginia Brass Quintet is joining us for the Christmas Eve 7 p.m. service.

May the peace of Christ be with you,
John Morrison
Director of Music and Organist



Mark Your Calendars

- December Chimes deadline is **Friday, November 17** at noon.
- Parents' Night Out: November 3 at 5:30 p.m.
- Session Meeting: November 21 at 6:30 p.m.
- D&E College Choir & Thanksgiving Dinner: November 5
- Shopping for Shoes For Kids: November 9 at 5:30 p.m.
- Advent Craft/Dinner: Wednesday, November 15 at 5:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Chancel Choir rehearsal: Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Remaining funds to be used on elevator

Most of you all know the window project is now complete and they look great!

The final payment for this project has been made. I would like to take this time to thank all those who donated to the windows fund and also to the History Committee for securing the grant that helped make this large project possible.

A special thank you to Joe Jernigan who spent many hours personally overseeing the work.

The windows fund had some remaining funds after the final payment was made. At the last Session meeting it was voted to use those funds toward the repair of the elevator which is to begin before year's end.

Again thank you,

Roger Kritzer, *treasurer*

Shopping for shoes on Thursday, Nov. 9

A "love offering" was received during October for the D & E College Choir who is singing at our church on November 5.

Many thanks to all who helped make apple butter! We canned 368 pints! It was a wonderful day of fellowship! All proceeds will help purchase shoes for our Shoes for Kids project.

We will meet at Colasessano's at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 9 for pizza and then shop for shoes at Walmart. All are welcome!

Property updates on key projects

The Property Team received another grant award of \$23,481.75 from Charleston for the stained glass window project. Work on the windows has been completed. Again thanks to everyone who made this project a huge success.

Work on the new elevator should begin mid November. The current elevator fund has \$1,500. Also work is being done on the heating system.

Pastor's Message *continues from pg. 1*

where I did my internship in seminary. For all these and more, I give thanks.

Who are these people for you?

Truly, we did not simply come from nowhere. We are who we are because of those around us who loved us, cared for us, and took their time and energy to serve us. Thanks be to God!

In the Protestant tradition, we do not have "saints" as do some other traditions. True, we admire and give thanks to God for special people who lived and even died for their faith. Our emphasis is on the every day, ordinary lives of people who have struggled and lived their faith and modeled it for us. On this day, we remember those who died and entered the church triumphant, but we also commit ourselves to carry on this faith and pass it to others as it was given to us. We are part of the community of faith that stretches thousands of years.

I urge and invite you to give thanks to God for those people in your lives. For those that have entered eternal rest, we can give our gratitude to God for everything they shared with us. For those still living, I encourage you to contact in some way. Tell them what they mean to you. Explain to them how their witness has shaped you. Then, pray again. Pray that God will strengthen us and use us as God has always used normal folk to the greater service of the kingdom as we look forward to the day that we shall be joined together singing our eternal praises to God and sharing in the eternal banquet.

Indeed friends, "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." As God was with God's people in the past, the same God is with us now filling us, calling us, and sending us. Thanks be to God!

Rev. Evan Walker

THANK YOU!

Outreach member
Diane Floyd delivers
items collected during
the month of
September to Hope.
Non perishable pantry
items for the month
October will be
collected and given to
the Soup Opera.



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

Email: office@fairmontfirst.net

Web: www.fpcfairmont.com

Apple Butter Day huge success; Nov. calendar events

What a blessed day those who attended this year's "Apple Butter Day" experienced. The fellowship, beautiful weather and food couldn't have been better. Children, young, and old enjoyed stirring the three kettlesmaking wonderful memories to cherish in the years to come. Simply put, it was a glorious day! THANK YOU to those who made it all happen!

A special THANK YOU to Martha Sweet, Hospitality committee member for putting together a First Presbyterian Church Guide to Apple Butter Preparation and Making. A handful of members who have worked on this outreach project offered: suggestions, guidelines, and a detailed supply list of items needed. Martha wrote a narrative explaining the starting process from picking apples to canning the apple butter. Having this information at one's fingertips will make it easier for anyone overseeing or working on this project. Updates will be made each year by the Hospitality and Outreach teams following apple butter making. The notebook will be kept in the church kitchen. We are grateful for Marthas input and time she dedicated to creating this notebook.



Mark your calander

Friday, November 3: Parents' Night Out with Hospitality host Anne Schooley. Dinner at 5:30 p.m.. Menu: Pizza, veggies and dip, and fruit. Drinks: lemonade and water.

Sunday, November 5: Thanksgiving meal immediately following service in the Social Room. Menu: Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, applesauce, salad, biscuits with apple butter. Dessert: variety of pies. Drinks: lemonade, water, coffee and hot water for tea. Please RSVP to Deanna at 304 694-2379 or see her before or after church.

Tuesday, November 7: Hospitality meeting 10 a.m in the church Parlor.

Wednesday, November 15: Advent Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Room. Menu: Pizza, veggies and dip, chips. Dessert: Ice cream sandwiches. Drinks: lemonade, water, coffee and hot water for tea. RSVP to Deanna at 304 694-2379.

Staff

Pastor

Evan Walker

pastorevan@fairmontfirst.net

Director of Music

John Morrison

music@fairmontfirst.net

Discipleship Ministry Coordinator

Emily Harden

discipleship@fairmontfirst.net

Office Coordinator

Cathy Woodson

office@fairmontfirst.net

Sexton

Charles Lettrick

sexton@fairmontfirst.net

Session

CLERK OF SESSION

Kathy Snider

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

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Jenna Renee Casto

Sophia Sammons



November Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

November 5: In Matthew 23:1-12, Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for laying heavy burdens on others and then not lifting a finger to help. He says they do this by accusing others of doing things that they are guilty of themselves. Can you think of a time when you might have inadvertently laid a heavy burden on another? Have you lifted a finger to help?

November 12: In Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, the people recommit themselves to God by reminding themselves of all the ways God has taken care of them. In times of doubt and distress, we can learn from their example. We can remember that God will be with us now and in future for the simple reason that God has always been with us in the past.

November 19: In the challenging parable of the talents, (Matthew 25:14-30) Jesus teaches us how important it is that we use what we've been given for the glory of God. Take an opportunity this week to use one of the talents you've been given to show love and honor to God.

November 26: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, describes God's ultimate promise of seeking out the lost and scattered sheep, so that all can be brought together under the care of the one Good Shepherd. How can we help God in this project? As disciples, we should take it upon ourselves to seek out the lost and scattered of the flock, to welcome them, and to show them that they have a home with us.

BIRTHDAYS

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

ANNIVERSARIES

November 15	Joe & Benita Jernigan
-------------	-----------------------

PRAYER LIST

Family of Fran Kaufmann
Ed Cummings
Penny Hollandsworth
Dr. Pat Sloan
Londia Goff
Family of Jack Schuetz
Family of Ronda Cavins
Family of Ted Garner
DD Meighen
Kenny Dean

Roman Solheim
Brother & Sister-in-law of Doug Brenneman
Joyce Egress
Tina Hannah
Brad Dodd
Calvin Blosser
Devon Crane
Brian Starn
Nancy Carnes & family
Ann Summer
Ramona Baker
Paul Hines
Michelle Miller
Peggy Twyman
Linda Stoops

OCTOBER PLEDGES & GIFTS

October 1	\$1,112
October 8	\$3,299
October 15	\$975

Total: \$5,386
Total to Date: \$132,524.46

November Ministry
Volunteers

Liturgist: Amy Koon

USHERS : Earl Straight (captain), Rob Steele, Carlton Neely & Addy

NOTE: Ushers will need to open & close on November 12 & 26.



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

the
November 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
301 JACKSON ST.
FAIRMONT, WV 26554

