



# the Chimes

November 2024

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,

We are examining the Great Ends of the Church as they are written in our Book of Order. As a reminder, these ends are akin to aspirations; they are not conclusions. In other words, these descriptions summarize how the Church should ideally look and function.

The first end is “The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind.”

The second is “The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God.”

This month we turn to the third Great End of the Church: “the maintenance of divine worship.” This one appears rather simple on the surface. We have a weekly Sunday morning worship service. Done. Perhaps, however, there is something deeper.

Paul offers these words considering worship in Romans 12: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Living sacrifices. Non-conformance to this



world. Transformation of our minds. This is what worship is meant to accomplish. What, then, does “the maintenance of divine worship” entail?

Let’s look first at what this great end does not describe: maintaining the

status quo, protecting our worship, our styles, and our ideas, singing only the “good” music—the list could go on and on.

Maintenance is defined as “keeping something alive rather than protecting it from contamination.” It is similar to doing maintenance on a car to ensure it continues to run. We have a structure each week in our worship service. This structure is meant to be a tool to help shape and guide worship. This structure ensures that we move along in worship; it also prevents chaos. It is meant to help and support our worship. The structure should only seek to help lead us into a relationship and encounter with the living God. When it fails to do that or seeks to do something else, it must change.

The truth about us as humans is that we will worship something or *(Continues on page 3)*



- 8:30 a.m. Childcare begins
- 9 a.m. Sunday School & Handbell Rehearsal
- 10 a.m. Children’s Music Time & Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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





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

On Children's Sabbath the choirs contribution to the service was geared toward music which celebrates the children of the church.

The handbells rang a piece called "A Blessing" published in 2024 and arranged by Michael Helm. This beautiful piece which uses both bells and chimes was dedicated to the composer's grandsons and has a sweet lullaby quality to it. The Chancel Choir then sang a fun arrangement of "The Battle of Jericho" by Roger Emerson complete with foot stomps at the end.

On November 10, Amy Turluck will toll the bell for All Saints and the reading of the names of those who have



passed away this year. The Chancel Choir will be singing "Sing with the Saints in Glory" by William J. Irons and Anna Laura Page and the handbells will

Christ be with you,

John Morrison

be ringing a Lloyd Larson arrangement of "For All The Saints".

Rehearsals have already begun for the Christmas Cantata which will take place on December 22. We are looking forward to presenting the cantata for the service!

May the peace of

## Christian Discipleship Ministry News

Dear, Church Family

As we embrace the beauty of fall, we want to share some wonderful happenings from our church community!

### Apple Butter Day

This month, we had a delightful Apple Butter Day! Our kids enjoyed supervised play on the playground, shared a delicious meal, and learned about the apple butter-making process. It was heartwarming to see our youth group members step up to assist with various tasks, running jars and helping wherever needed. The highlight? Tasting the fresh apple butter straight from the kettle—what a sweet reward for their hard work!



### Parents' Night Out

In October, we hosted our first Parents' Night Out of the year, which kicked off at 5:30 p.m. with pizza for dinner. The

kids had a blast playing games, engaging in crafts, and enjoying a fun movie. We can't wait for the next Parents' Night Out on November 1—mark your calendars!

## Music and Joy

Our children have been making joyful noises during our gatherings, singing songs, playing instruments from the congregation, and ringing their bells. It's such a joy to see their enthusiasm and talent!

## Upcoming Events

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce our Advent Season activities, featuring lunch, crafts, and games. Also, our Christmas Pageant is just around the corner! If your child is interested in participating, please let Jane know as soon as possible so we can include them in this festive celebration. Thank you for being part of our vibrant community. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!



## Pastor's Message

*continues from pg. 1*

someone. We are incapable of not worshipping. The question is not whether we worship. Rather, the question is always what we worship.

There are so many things that we could worship and there are so many ways to try to escape our lives or to pretend about the reality of our lives. But divine worship points us to the Living God. We come to worship the God who lovingly created us and redeemed us. To maintain divine worship is to gather and remember our identity, to claim it in baptism, and to proclaim God's love to the world. Divine worship is the very center and life of a church. Whatever else we undertake together must be centered in the worship of God.

Without worship, we forget the truth of God's love and our identity in Christ. Instead, we fall for the lies that tell us what we need to do or accomplish to be good enough. We fall for the lies that tell us there should not be room for certain people. We fall for the lies that say we must try to be special and be important. We fall for the lies that keep us searching and hungry for something else that will give us joy and happiness.

True worship recenters us. That is why we gather as a church. Worship has a fairly conservative function—to recount an old, old story. That function creates radical results in new creations. New communities in which all are welcome. To worship is to remember that we are all sinners that have been redeemed by the grace of God.

The maintenance of divine worship matters beyond the walls of our building and the pews in the sanctuary.

Tony Campolo, a Christian writer and evangelical speaker, recalled a time at which he was invited to speak



in Hawaii. He was up late, he couldn't sleep, and so he wandered out of his hotel. He found a greasy diner that was open. He ordered a coffee and a donut. As he was sitting there, eight or nine provocatively dressed prostitutes entered. The small diner was only big enough for them squeeze around him.

He thought about making his getaway, but he overheard one girl say to another "Tomorrow's my birthday." The other responded, with "What do you want from me? A birthday party? You want me to get you a cake and sing happy birthday?" The first replied back: "You don't have to be mean. I was just telling you. I don't want anything from you or a party. I've never had a birthday party in my life."

Tony settled in and waited for the crowd to leave. When they did, he called the waiter over to ask: "Do they come here every night?" He said, "Yeah." Tony pressed, "The one right beside me, she comes every night?"

He said, "Yeah. That's Agnes. Why do you care?" Tony explained that it was her birthday and asked if they could throw a birthday party tomorrow night in the diner. The guy loved the idea and called his wife from the back of the diner. Together they planned the party.

The next morning, at 2:30, Tony was back helping set up and decorate. He recalls that "the woman who did the cooking must have gotten the word out on the street, because by 3:15 every prostitute in Honolulu was in the place. It was wall-to-wall prostitutes and me!"

At 3:30, Agnes came in, and together they all screamed "Happy Birthday!" They sang and presented her with a cake, but she was unable to blow out the candles because of here tears. She asked if she had to eat the cake right away or if she could keep it for a while. She then asked if she could run it home and come right back.

She left, and the whole place went silent. Campolo, not knowing what else to do, said "Let's pray." The guy running the diner was amazed: "You never told me you were a preacher. What kind of church do you belong to?" "A church that throws birthday parties for prostitutes at 3 in the morning," said Tony.

"No you don't. There's no church like that. If there was, I'd join a church like that."

Wouldn't we all join such a church, friends, knowing that together we are joining in divine worship.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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Fax (304) 366-2662

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

Web: [www.fpcfairmont.com](http://www.fpcfairmont.com)

## ***Non-monetary donation forms now available***

When you make a non-monetary donation to the church and you would like to keep a record for your taxes, we now have a form for that. The forms will be available outside the church office by the mailboxes in the hanging file on the wall. Also feel free to contact Karen, office coordinator, to email a form to you. This form is for you to fill out and put with your records. Thanks for all of the non-monetary donations you have given and will be giving! Pam Nolan, Administrative and Finance Team



## ***Dates from Hospitality Team***

First Fridays: Nov. 1, Feb. 7. Other Dates TBA – 5:30 p.m. in the Social Room, Menu of pizza, chips, veggie tray and dessert – Christian Ed. time to follow meal.

Nov. 10: Advent Craft and Lunch – Menu: pizza, salad, drinks, ice cream sandwiches.

Nov. 21: Presbytery Meeting – Breakfast and Luncheon to be served to participants.

Dec. 8: Christmas Dinner – Traditional Menu – Turkey etc. Reservations to Anne Schooley ([anschooley@mteer.com](mailto:anschooley@mteer.com) by Dec. 1).

Dec. 8: Christmas Cookies – Church members are requested to bring Christmas cookies to the Christmas Dinner. Trays will be made up for distribution to First Responders, EMS, 911, City Police and County Police after the dinner.



## ***Property Team update***

Here are some updates from some of the Property Teams projects. The church roof was inspected by Murray Sheet Metal and found that the skylight needs some attention. Maintenance and sealing will be around \$2,000.

The new boiler project has been completed and the old boiler and chiller removed. Any money from recycling the old parts will be donated to the Shoes for Kids Project. The team is working to get the handicap ramp railing repaired. CK Services LLC has submitted a bid of \$3,774 to make those repairs.

## *Staff*

### **Pastor**

Evan Walker

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

### **Director of Music**

John Morrison

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### **Discipleship Ministry Coordinator**

Jane Mead

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### **Office Coordinator**

Karen Mersinger

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### **Sexton**

Will Shamblin

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

## *Session*

### **CLERK OF SESSION**

Kathy Snider

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Pam Nolan

Amy Turluck

### **OUTREACH**

Terri Bunner

### **PROPERTY**

Rob Steele

Joe Jernigan

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

Pam Stalnaker

Marilyn Morgan

### **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

Amy Koon

### **HOSPITALITY**

Anne Schooley

## *Treasurer*

Roger Kritzer

### **NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

Pam Proctor

Abby Shuck



# November Nurturing Faith Ideas

## SCRIPTURE

**November 3: Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 26: Read Mark 12:28-34**

The command to love God and others can be really bad news because we are so bad at it. How does the gospel of Jesus make it so that the commandment to love God and others is no longer bad news but good news? How can you meditate on this good news this week?

**November 10: Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 27: Read Mark 12:38-44**

Imagine this woman's poverty: Consider a contemporary application: a laborer today working an 8-hour day for \$10/hour, 1/64 of that pay would be \$1.25, and it would represent "everything she had, all she had to live on." Is your contribution to gospel ministry best described as being out of your excess (i.e., you only give after you have taken care of your wants & needs) or out of your poverty (i.e., you give of your first fruits no matter the circumstance)?

**November 17: 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 you encounter in our lives? Create a plan to counteract this temptation.

**November 24: 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

### 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

Donna McElroy  
Rab Snider, Eddie Snider's father

Janel Nye  
Annette Swiger  
Bonnie Burnsworth  
Richard Kuzma  
Doug Shaver  
Jacqueline Buchanan  
Steven Collier, Ruth Martin's nephew  
Stephen Satterfield  
Judy Shaver  
Paul Hines, Marilyn Morgan's brother-in-law  
DD Meighen  
Brad Dodd  
Peggy Twyman  
Linda Stoops

## SEPT/OCTOBER PLEDGES & GIFTS

September 29	\$2,174.74
October 6	\$4,979.74
October 13	\$3,908.95
October 20	\$12,401.90
Apple Butter	\$1,805
Total:	\$25,275.23

Total to Date: \$143,469.78

November Ministry  
Volunteers

Liturgist: Reid Harvey

USHERS : Earl Straight (captain), Ken Miller & Janet Miller

# First Church's News & Notes

## Mark Your Calendars

- December Chimes deadline is **Friday, November 15** at noon
- All Saints Service: November 10
- Advent Crafts/Dinner: November 10 after church
- Presbytery Meeting: November 21 hosting
- Session Meeting: November 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- Parents' Night Out: November 1 from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m.
- Choir rehearsal: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
- Handbell Choir rehearsals Sunday at 9 a.m.
- Children's Music Time: Sunday at 10 a.m.

## Outreach

### Apple Butter Day 2024

What a glorious day the Lord provided for Apple Butter Day this year! With the help of over 60 folks during the course of the day, we were able to jar 362 pints of apple butter!!

All jars have now been sold with the proceeds going to help fund our Shoes for Kids Project.

Thanks to all the church family that helped with the many aspects it takes to make this day a success. From picking the apples, making the applesauce, gathering and transporting supplies to and from the venue, donating jars and sugar, showing up that day to start fires, stir, and to jar and to those buying and selling. This is truly a church wide mission.

Special shoutout to Ed and Lisa Price of Masontown, WV who generously allow us to pick their apples for the applesauce.

### Street Store Now Open

With the chill in the air you may have noticed jackets and coats hanging up at the store. On the first day 8 jackets were hung up in the morning



and by that evening all were gone! We will be placing jackets, coats, hats, scarves and gloves out weekly.

If you would like to donate any of the above please drop off at the church office.

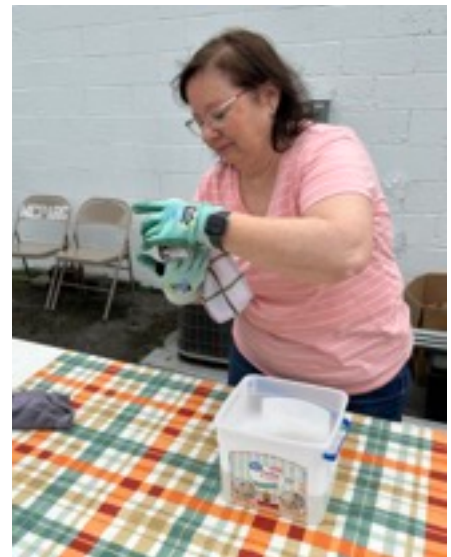
### Shoes for Kids

It's that time of year!

Applications for shoe requests have been sent to various community organizations.

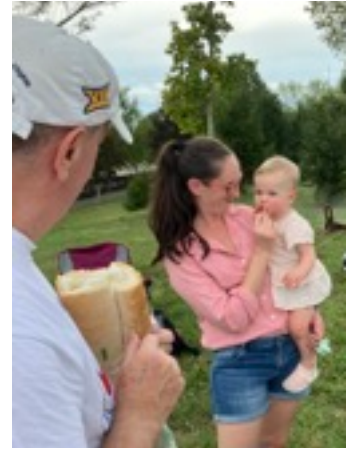
Shoe pick up day is planned for December 7, 9-Noon in the social room. Hot chocolate and cookies to be provided by the hospitality committee.

Be watching out for the announcement of shoe shopping dates yet to be determined.



*Apple Butter  
Day:*

*Supporting Shoes For Kids Project*





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

*the* **Chimes**  
*November 2024*

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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