



the Chimes

September 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

Paul offers these words in Galatians:

“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves

to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.” (5:13-15)

These words have echoed in my head for a while, but they have been especially poignant during the COVID pandemic. In so many ways, what Paul writes here runs completely counter to everything that we have been trained to believe is important. We tend to put every emphasis on freedom and being independent; these goals are seen as the highest and most important to achieve.

These words speak volumes considering where we are as a country. We are divided. We are fractured. We are more ready to



see those who disagree with us as enemies instead of fellow citizens with disagreements. But even then, we continue to divide. It's not enough to be Democrat—we have to determine if one is adequately liberal. It's not enough to

be Republican—what kind of Republican are we? This division did not begin with COVID, but COVID has highlighted what was already there—division, distrust, anger, and hurt.

What might it look like for us to actually live Paul's words? What would it mean to not use our freedom for self-indulgence but instead to purposefully be servants of each other—and not just of those with whom we agree, but especially of those with whom we disagree. This is a radical idea, but not a new idea. Jesus himself didn't invent the greatest commandments of loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Deut. 6:5) and loving neighbors as ourselves (Lev. 19:18). Rabbi Hillel was born in 110 BC (about a century before Jesus). He was once asked to summarize the whole of the law while standing on one foot. He responded, “That which is hateful (Continues on page 6.)



Worship Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service (Beginning September 12)

Worship Service is in-person and on-line 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 to Blake Boggess, Charlene Sullivan, Amy Koon, Evan Walker, Stan Swihart, Jennifer Walker, Linda O'Connor and John O'Connor for all the beautiful special music during the month of August!

The August worship musical offerings included vocal solos, vocal duets, a handbell solo, a piano-organ duet, and piano solo. Organ selections included compositions by Johann Gottlieb Naumann, J.S. Bach, and César Franck, and arrangements by Noel Rawsthorne and Joyce Jones.

My Dad sends his sincere appreciation for the many, many cards that he has received from First

Presbyterian over the past weeks. A large portion of those cards came from members of the Sunshine Committee who carry out such a beautiful ministry in the church and live up to their name. They truly brighten people's day and share in the love of Christ.

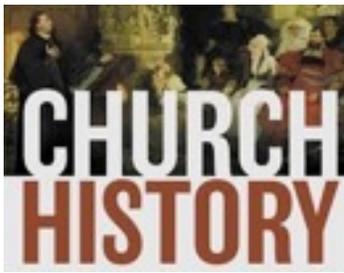
May God's Peace Be with You,

John Morrison
Director of Music/Organist



Equal Exchange

Check out our new location next to the main office and continue your support of small farmers. Proceeds support our Shoes For Kids Project.



**1st CHURCH's
HISTORY CORNER**
by Jean Lambert

**Historical views of Jackson
Street from 1988 & 1905**

Last month's history article was about the inside of the Church. This month's article is regarding the parking lot area which originally had a livery stable there in the 1880s.

In 1921, L. Snyder, the local representative of Dodge Bros. Motor Cars, built the most up to date garages in the city. It was three stories in height. On the first floor was a display room, the second floor was the repair shop and the third floor was a job painting department. In 1927, L. Snyder completed a new building adjoining the Snyder Motor Company garage and show room. The Basile brothers took over the car dealership and then Henry Stern purchased it for a craft shop.

According to articles in the October and November 1995 Chimes written by Joe Jernigan, it stated the session approved \$75,000 to be used to demolish the building and construct a parking lot. The property committee awarded Mountain View Construction from Clarksburg the contract to demolish the building next door. They were the lowest bidder at \$47,500 and the only contractor that was licensed to remove the asbestos. They started on October 16, 1995. The committee sold items from the building before demolition started and collected \$1,764.

In February 1996, David Floyd of the Property Committee followed up with a Chimes article stating the committee was moving forward with the plans of finishing the parking lot project. He stated that Melissa Faulk, a member of the Church, agreed to work with the committee on the design and layout of the parking lot (including all the City Code details) to make this a beautiful addition to our Church. Melissa had been studying and working in architecture for several years in



Tennessee before returning to Fairmont.

The parking lot has been repaved several times and we are pleased to have it available for members and guests.

Pictures above are from the book "An Ornament To The City" Historic Architecture In Downtown Fairmont, West Virginia. The view Jackson Street shows First Presbyterian Church and Snyder Motor Company in 1988. The 1905 view of Jackson Street shows the Livery, blacksmith, and Jones Funeral Home.

September Prayer List

Randy Rollins
Alan Moran
Sandy McLaughlin, Lauren
Ranson's aunt
DJ
Ben Kettering
Blair Montgomery
Douglas Zigmont
David Zigmont
Raymond Johnson

Willa Hood
Donald Morrison, John's father
Scott Weisenborn
Sherry Collier
Family of Janet (Jodi) Bice, Straight
Family's cousin
Steven Satterfield, Pam Stalnak &
Penny Roberts nephew
Marilyn McDougal
Joe Lambiotte



CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 September. Share with neighbors, friends, and family.

Sharing God's Love

What did Jesus do? Jesus hung out with all sorts of people. He took time to hear, see, and know the person he was with. And he assured that person that he or she was a beloved child of God, and equal to others in God's eyes. Let's do like Jesus did and see and hear every person – big or small, young or old, poor or rich – as a "child of God."

Sharing God's Love

Shakespeare said, "There is no sound so sweet as the sound of one's name." Remembering and using a person's name creates a connection between the two of you. It is a way of saying, "You are valued. Do this by giving the person your full attention and repeating their name several times during the conversation. If you do not hear the name, ask them to repeat it. They will get the message that you really do want to learn their name and that they are important. State God's love by acknowledging the importance of others.

Sharing God's Love

Be who you are. Become the person you want to be. Consider your natural abilities and expand what you like to

do that you do well. Don't try to be everything to everyone. That is God's job and, perhaps, God doesn't appreciate your trying to take over! There are times when we need to fill our own tank with God's love. Share God's love with yourself.

Sharing God's Love

We are all the sum of many parts. Too often, we allow a negative part of ourselves to be front and center. Send the negative part of yourself backstage, and bring out your best character to be the star of you. You can use this analogy to encourage a friend by listening, reflecting, and sharing part of yourself. Ask God to provide the words you need to share God's love.



September Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

September 5 - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 18: Read James 2:1-10

When we treat people based upon their appearance or how much wealth they have, we fail to follow the command to love neighbor as self. Where do you do this in your life? What action(s) can you take to remedy this situation?

September 12 - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 19: Psalm 115: 1-9

The psalmist gives thanksgiving for his/her recovery from illness after describing his/her supplications to God. How often do we receive the benefits of prayer, yet forget to give thanks in return? Begin or continue a practice of thanksgiving for prayers answered whether small or large.

September 19 - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 20: James 3: 13 - 4: 3

James tells us when good works are done with wisdom and not selfish ambition, we will sow a harvest of righteousness and peace. Conflicts and disputes arise when we want it all our own way. What can you do to become more gentle, honest, and merciful in a world filled with conflict?

September 26 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 21: Read Mark 9: 42-50

Mark warns us of all the ways we are tempted to sin or cause others to stumble due to our actions. What do you think it means when he says, "have salt in yourselves?" How can that give you peace with one another?

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 4 Bill Laughlin
September 5 Vickie Bostic
September 13 Jill Zundell
September 23 Diana Floyd
Sally Tarley
September 27 Terri Bunner
September 30 Eddie Snider

June/August Total: \$15,806

To Date Total: \$97,583

JUNE/JULY PLEDGES & GIFTS

June 29	\$1,660
July 6	\$1,955
July 14	\$2,160
July 20	\$1,496
July 27	\$717
August 3	\$3,625
August 10	\$2,795
August 16	\$328
August 22	\$1,070

*September Ministry
Volunteers*

USHERS

Eric Hauser (captain), Erin Hauser, Pam Nolan &
Jim Nolan

Mark Your Calendar

- October Chimes deadline is **Friday, September 24** at noon. Please e-mail material to the office for this issue.
- Session Meeting: Tuesday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteers at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: Changes to 10:30 a.m. beginning September 12.
- Rally Day: September 12 service & picnic will be at Mary Lou Retton Park.
- Parents Night Out begins Friday, October 1.
- Dedication Sunday October 31



"Giving is a Joy if we do it in the right spirit. It all depends on whether we think of it as "What can I spare?" or as "What can I share?" Esther York Burkholder

Stewardship Campaign Dedication Sunday, October 31



Pastor's Message continues from pg. 1

to you, do not do to another."

We are given the chance as a community of faith, a family of faith, to model a different and better way of being based in the life and witness of Jesus Christ our Savior. We aren't called to agree with each other all the time. We are called to be servants of one another. In that, the Session has decided to return to mandating masks while inside the physical building of the church. This is not fear nor is this an abandonment of faith. This is living into the calling to limit ourselves in love and service to each other.

With the Pfizer vaccine now being fully approved, I urge every person to get theirs. This is not simply a method to protect yourself, but also a way to help love and protect others. There are many who cannot receive a vaccine due to age or preexisting conditions. By getting the vaccine, we protect them in Christian love.

I firmly believe the only way out of this pandemic is to take Paul's words seriously in the church and in society. I firmly believe if we are to heal as a nation from all the anger and distrust, it will be to learn how to live Paul's words. They are certainly not easy, but they are faithful to Christ our Lord who gave himself up for us and our salvation.

"May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen." (Gal. 6:18)

Rev. Evan Walker





Rally Day Sept. 12

Sunday, September 12 marks Rally Day 2021. We will celebrate the beginning of the Sunday school year. Service will move to 10:30 a.m. on Rally Day and services will be held at Mary Lou Retton Park. There will be no services in the church building on September 12. There will be a church picnic following the service. Chicken will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. We look forward to

celebrating the beginning of the Sunday School Year with you!

Sunday School starts Sept. 19

Sunday school will begin on Sunday, September 19.

- Adult Sunday School will meet in the social room.
- Grades k-3 will meet in the nursery
- Grades 4-5 will meet in the second floor classroom
- Grades 6-12 will meet in the second floor youth room



Youth Sunday School

The youth in Sunday school will be continuing their respective journeys through the Bible this year.

Each student will have an assigned seat and their own craft supplies. They will not share supplies with other students. Hand sanitizer is available in each classroom and the tables will be sanitized after each class.

We will continue to remove street shoes before entering the nursery, in order to keep the floor sanitary when

the children play on it. Each child will have a pair of nursery shoes to wear in the nursery or they can wear socks.

Please do not send your child to Sunday school if they are ill or if anyone in your household is ill. We are praying for a healthy and productive year!

Children's Church

Children's church will begin on September 19 and will be held every Sunday, except on communion Sundays. It is designed for children ages K-5th. grades. We are looking for children's church teachers this year. If you would like to volunteer please email discipleship@fairmontfirst.net. Curriculum is provided and it is a great opportunity to serve the young people of the church!

Parents Night Out begins Oct. 1

Parents Night Out will commence on Friday, October 1. The program is designed for children ages kindergarten through 6th. grade. There will also be a youth component for children 6th. grade and above. A meal will be provided at 5:30 and programming will continue until 8:30 p.m.



We encourage your children to invite a friend who does not attend church so they can share the love of God with them! Please RSVP for this event so we can ensure there is enough food and supplies for each child. An e-vite will be sent to parents. You can e-mail discipleship@fairmontfirst.net to RSVP or to be added to the e-vite list.



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

the
September 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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
301 JACKSON ST.
FAIRMONT, WV 26554