



the Chimes

September 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,

Psalm 8 may be my favorite psalm. It reads:

"O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

It has been a busy and sometimes painful summer. I, for one, was rocked quite hard. Much has been accomplished and much is planned for the Fall as church activities begin anew. In the midst of everything, it can be easy to overlook praising God. Instead, it becomes an item on a to-do list of things that we check off mechanically. Friends, we are in this family of faith for a purpose.



We are called to love and serve each other. But we cannot forget the first half of the greatest commandments — loving God.

It can also be easy to lose part of that our focus as we think about Matthew 25 Ministries. We should be doing

and serving and acting and loving. But we also need to remember why we do these things.

This is why I love this psalm. It reminds me of the glory of God and invites me to step into the true awe and wonder of God's love. The psalm begins and ends with praise. The middle part invites us to stop all the busyness so that we may admire the work of God's hands. The changing of the seasons does this for me. This is God's wonderful work. I admire how creation works together to create symmetry and co-dependence. I admire how each day is a gift and that my very life is a working of God's hands.

I then stand amazed at the God who spun the planets and formed the stars. Like the psalmist, I too wonder, "Who am I that God should know my name? Who am I that God should care for me?" Yet, with grace upon grace and blessing upon blessing, that is the God we
(Continues on page 3)



- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
(beginning September 17)

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





Musical Notes *from John Morrison, Director of Music*

As we approach the end of summer with Rally Day just around the corner, we will also be transitioning from Summer Special music to the return of the choirs!

First of all, Thanks to those who sang special music in August and September through Rally Day: Pastor Evan Walker (August 6), Stan Swihart (August 13), the Women's Chorus (August 20), the Men's Chorus (August 27), Blake Boggess (September 3), and Maria Potts (September 10 - Rally Day). Thanks also to Jennifer Walker who played solo piano (August 6), to Evan Walker who played trumpet (August 20), and to Amy Koon who is ringing a handbell solo (August 27). The solos which Blake and Maria are singing were arranged by Tom Trenney who has been at Montreat several times in different capacities including as organist and Routley Lecturer. He is also a great arranger as you will hear in these solos. One of my favorite Montreat memories of Tom Trenney was one year when he performed an organ improvisation to a black-and-white movie which was very imaginative and comical to the audience.

Please note the following upcoming dates:

Saturday, August 26 at 10 a.m. – Handbell Polishing in the sanctuary (balcony)

Wednesday, September 13 – First Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7 p.m. in the choir room.



Sunday, September 17 – First Cambridge Handbell rehearsal at 9 a.m. in the sanctuary.

And looking ahead:

Sunday, December 17 – Choir Cantata

Looking forward to working with the choirs in September!

May the peace of Christ be with you,

John Morrison, Director of Music and Organist

First Church's News & Notes

Mark Your Calendars

- October Chimes deadline is **Friday, September 22** at noon.
- Parents' Night Out: September 8 at 5:30 p.m.
- Session Meeting: September 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Rally Day: September 10 10 a.m. Pavilion 2 at WaveTek
- Sunday Worship Service: 10 a.m. (**Note 10:30 Beginning on September 17**)
- Apple Butter Day: September 30 at Marion Co. Police Reserve Bldg. (above WaveTek pool)

Thank you for the window project, shirts

At a recent church service, Roger Kritzer, church treasurer, called attention to the stained-glass window project completed and thanked many members for their monetary gifts.

Members of the History Committee worked on securing grant money - especially Joe Jernigan and his wife, Benita, in writing the majority of the grant papers and being in constant contact with the West Virginia Historical Preservation Society in Charleston, WV. Thank You for all your work.

Members of the First Presbyterian Church who attended the Black Bears Game and several other Church members would like to thank Earl Straight, II for the kind gift of the t-shirts. They enjoyed showing that they are part of "The Church with a Heart in the Heart of Fairmont."

Submitted by Jean Lambert

2024 Stewardship Campaign

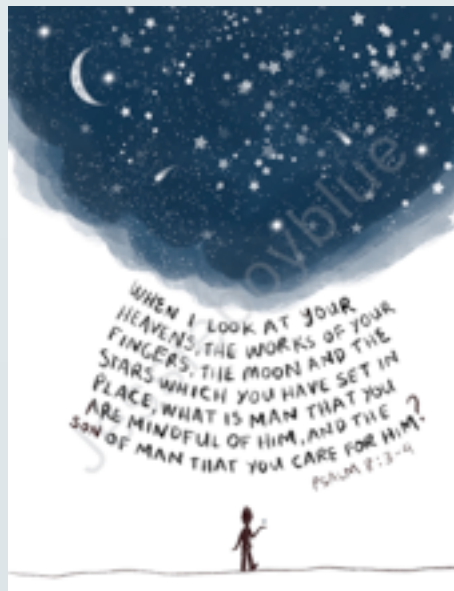
Well, last year we said, "the times, they are a changing," because we were changing the way the Stewardship Campaign was done by reducing the number of letters sent out. I'll secretly tell you, I don't like change!

So this year, we don't plan on changing! It seemed to work well last year, but we are also facing increased postage costs. We still want our church family and friends to know what to expect. We will be sending out a letter towards the end of September, getting ready for Dedication Sunday on October 9. You may hear some of us with a few Minutes for Mission regarding what we will use the pledge money for. However, we still plan on using social media outlets as well, such as Facebook and the church's website.

We ask that you prayerfully consider your 2024 pledges in the meantime.

The Administration/Finance Team

Pastor's Message continues from pg. 1



serve and love and worship. God does all these things not because of who I am, but because of who God is and who God has chosen to be for all of us.

I invite you this month to take some time and to stand with this psalmist. Look around and marvel at the works of God. Give thanks to God for them. Allow yourself to be lost in wonder

and praise. Then speak them to others. Find ways to name them aloud.

Together, let us proclaim how majestic the name of our Lord is in all the earth.

To the glory of God,

Rev. Evan Walker

Stewardship is...



...EVERYTHING we think, say, and do after we say "I believe"

CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 1 PM ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
9 AM - 12 PM ON TUESDAY

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Hospitality announces August/September events

Those who attended this year's Black Bear baseball game enjoyed a fantastic evening of tailgating with a beautiful view, delicious food, baseball, fireworks and great weather! And, to top the evening off, the Black Bears WON!

A big THANK YOU to Outreach, Diane Floyd and Amy Koon for making the arrangements for tickets, Earl Straight for our new church logo t-shirts and Stan Swihart for being the evenings photographer. The best part of the evening for me personally, was just being together.

Parents' Night Out (PNO) kicks off on Friday, September 8. Hospitality host will be Pam Bunner. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. The menu will be pizza, veggies with dip and fruit. Drinks will be water and lemonade.

RALLY DAY is Sunday, September 10. We will gather at WaveTek pavilion #2 for worship at 10 a.m. Immediately following service we will continue fellowship with a picnic. Hospitality will be providing fried chicken, all paper products and drinks.... yes, there will be coffee for those coffee lovers! Hospitality members along with volunteers (all are welcome) will be preparing apples for APPLE BUTTER. Watch for emails and church announcements regarding dates and times we will gather in the kitchen to work up the apples. More APPLE BUTTER DAY information can be found in this month's OUTREACH Chimes article.

Hospitality ministry team meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the church parlor. Meeting time is at 10 a.m. This month's meeting will be September 5. *Hospitality chair- Deanna Kritzer*

Apple Butter Day will be on Saturday, Sept. 30

Mark your calendars for apple butter making on September 30 at the Police Reserve building at East Marion Park (Wave Tek).

Plan to spend the day helping to stir the kettles and bring a covered dish to share for lunch. We need jars, lids and sugar! Please bring donations to the church kitchen. All proceeds from the sale of the apple butter go to the Shoes for Kids project.



Staff

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Pam Nolan

Amy Turluck

OUTREACH

Amy Koon

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PROPERTY

Eric Hauser

Joe Jernigan

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Linda O'Connor

Marilyn Morgan

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Jennie Poling

Meredith Knight

HOSPITALITY

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NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Jenna Renee Casto

Sophia Sammons



September Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

September 3: Monday this week is Labor Day. This holiday was started in the United States in the late 19th century to honor the labor movement and the contributions it made in building our country. In Exodus 3:1-15 we read that it was during Moses's work as a shepherd that God spoke to him and called him to lead his people to freedom. Who do you know whose work often goes unnoticed but who makes a significant contribution to lives? A teacher? Doctor? A stay-at-home mom? Write that person a note to tell them how important the work they do is.

September 10: Romans 13:8 tells us that "he or she who loves their neighbor fulfills the law." Think of someone in your community or neighborhood you would like to bless today. Make a small basket of goodies and leave it anonymously on their porch with a special message letting them know they are loved.

September 17: In our Gospel reading today, Jesus tells Peter he should forgive one who sins against him "up to seventy times seven" times. Is there someone you need to forgive? Is there someone you need to ask to forgive you? Pray to God to help you forgive this person or to help them forgive you. How would it feel to call the person and talk about forgiveness?

September 24: In Matthew 20:1-16 Jesus tells the parable of the vineyard workers. What does grace mean to you? Have you ever received something far and above what you deserve? Who can you show grace to today?

BIRTHDAYS

September 4 William Laughlin
5 Vickie Bostic
13 Jill Zundell
23 Diane Floyd
Sally Farley
27 Teri Bunner
30 Eddie Snider

Cathleen - friend of Linda Stoops

Paul Hines
Michelle Miller
Peggy Twyman
Linda Stoops

ANNIVERSARIES

September 20 Taylor & Missy Downs

PRAYER LIST

Sarah Armstrong
Family of Rev. James Kerr
Family of Doug Hauser, Eric's father
Ann Summer
Cathy Redding
Ramona Baker

JULY/AUGUST PLEDGES & GIFTS

July 23	\$5,013
July 30	\$2,154
August 6	\$3,181
August 13	\$1,900
August 20	\$1,370

Total: \$13,618
Total to Date: \$117,431.46

September Ministry
Volunteers

Liturgist: Penny Roberts

USHERS : Eric Hauser (captain), Erin Hauser & Pam Nolan

NOTE: Ushers will need to open & close on September 24

Pics from Youth Camp Sunday & Apple Butter prep, & Hope, Inc list



Wish List

1. Journal ☐
2. Pens ☐
3. Nail Clippers ☐
4. Adult Coloring Books ☐
5. Cleaning Supplies ☐
6. Paper Towels ☐
7. Toilet Paper ☐
8. Towels ☐
9. Pillows ☐
10. Women's Socks (Assorted Sizes) ☐
11. Women's Underwear (Assorted Sizes) ☐
12. Duffie Bags ☐
13. Plastic Dish Sets ☐
14. Pots and Pans ☐
15. Silverware ☐
16. Small Trash Cans ☐



Fellowship: Tailgating & Black Bears' game





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

the
September 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



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