



the Chimes

September 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,

Last month, I introduced the six Great Ends of the Church as found in our Book of Order.

The great ends of the church are:

the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;

the maintenance of divine worship;

the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness;
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

The Presbyterian Church composed this statement in 1910 in order to paint a clear picture of who we are and what it means to be the church. Each statement might seem distant or lofty, but each is meant to inspire, to challenge, to lead, and to shape us in our lives together.

This proclamation is not a mission statement or a list of distant goals to achieve. The word “end” is used in this context to mean purpose or reason for being; these purposes should define who we are right now in the present and should provide targets for growth. To study the Great Ends is to measure our life together as a congregation. All six



matter. We cannot choose certain ones that we are good at or feel comfortable doing while leaving others to do the rest. They are all interconnected—each relies on and defines the others.

This month we will look closely at the first statement:

“The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind.” Quite honestly, this is who we are and why we are. We join our voices with countless others from the ages to proclaim the mighty works of God for our salvation.

In Exodus 12, Moses institutes the Passover observance and commands that “when your children ask you, ‘What do you mean by this observance?’ you shall say, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.’”

Once the people passed through the Red Sea and saw the destruction of the Egyptian army, they sang: “In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed; you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.” (Ex. 15:13)

Psalms 27 proclaims: “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? (Continues on page 3)



- 9 a.m. Adult Music Rehearsal & Sunday School
- 10 a.m. Children’s Music Time
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
begins September 8

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





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

The summer is now winding down and soon we

will be welcoming back our Chancel Choir and Cambridge Handbell Choir from their summer break. Over the summer we have had the opportunity to experience our talented choir members either as soloists or in small ensembles.

Thank you to everyone that was a part of the special music! Here is the schedule for the remainder of the summer up through Rally Day:
August 18 – Women’s Chorus
August 25 – Betty Pat Lee, soloist
September 1 – Maria Potts, soloist
September 8 - Linda O’Connor, soloist
The first Chancel Choir rehearsal is Wednesday, September 11 at 7 p.m., and the first Cambridge Handbell rehearsal is Sunday, September 15 at 9 a.m.

Thanks to Eddie Snyder and Jean Lambert for arranging to put a new bell music filing cabinet in the bell storage room! Here are some upcoming concerts in the area that I wanted to share with you:
Friday August 23 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary’s Church in Morgantown - 3346 University Avenue:

Maestri Vocale Treble presents “Elemental: A Choral Exploration of



Nature” This concert focuses on pieces related to the four elements: earth, air, fire, and water. There will also be a performance in Charleston August 24 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church.

Sunday, September 29 at 3 p.m. at St. Peter’s Church in Fairmont at 407 Jackson St:

Maestri Vocale (Bass and SATB) perform as part of the Fairmont Chamber Music Concert Series. Maestri Vocale is a choral ensemble with members from around north-central West Virginia who are mainly choral directors and music educators who come together to present these great concerts in the area.

Friday, October 4 at 7:30 pm in Wallman Hall Theatre at Fairmont State University John Morrison, solo

piano recital. The August 23 and October 4 concerts are free admission and the September 29 concert is ticketed.

May the peace of Christ be with you,

John Morrison
Director of Music and Organist



Pine Springs Camp



SUMMER CAMP. Hailey, Brianna and Kyle Hauser reflect on their week at Pine Springs. Congratulations to Brianna on receiving the Barnabas Award for her encouragement of others.



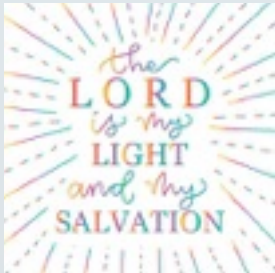
First Church's News & Notes

Pastor's Message continues from pg. 1

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Isaiah adds his voice in chapter 25: "Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure."

Paul chimes in as well in Romans 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."



The scriptures are filled with the proclamation of God's good works for our salvation. We are called to add our voice to their songs of praise and thanksgiving. We are recipients of this incredible love given by God, but we are not meant to merely consume it. To proclaim the Gospel for salvation is to speak and to share with others

how God has worked in our lives. It means to be vulnerable in the Spirit's revelation of our sinfulness. It means listening to

the experiences of others and learning from how God is at work in them, even if they cannot recognize it in themselves.

The proclamation of the Gospel is so much more than simply listening to a preacher in the pulpit every Sunday. Proclamation requires that we place ourselves in the story of God's love and reconciliation and share that with others. It means finding ways to put into words what it means that we follow Christ and that Jesus is Lord. Many scholarly studies and anecdotal stories describe horrible encounters with people of faith and explain why people are leaving the church. This first Great End of the Church makes a powerful counter statement that God is good even when God's followers fail.

I love this statement attributed to D. T. Niles: "Evangelism is just one beggar telling another where to find bread." That is the gift of our scriptures. That is the gift of worship in the church. That is the gift of our living. We proclaim not ourselves and what we have done, but only what God can do for us. May we find ways to share with others this truly incredible Gospel of salvation.

To the glory of God,
Rev. Evan Walker

Mark Your Calendars

- October Chimes deadline is **Friday, September 20** at noon
- Session Meeting: September 17 at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Breakfast: Tuesdays at McAteer's at 8 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. (**Beginning Sept. 8**)
- Rally Day: September 8 at Wave Tech, Pavilion #2 at 10:30 a.m.
- Apple Butter Day: September 28 at Police Reserve Barracks at the Wave Tech Park
- Choir rehearsal begins Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m.
- Handbell Choir rehearsals begin Sunday, Sept. 15 at 9 a.m.

Hospitality

Welcome Janet Miller, new Hospitality Team Member
Thank you to Pam Bunner, Nancy Carnes, Janet Chittum, and Betty Pat Lee for hosting the special receptions in July and August.

- **Apple Picking Day – August 24** in Masontown, WV. 9 a.m.
- **Apple Sauce Making - Week of August 26** starting Monday, the 26 & 27 at 9 a.m - ? until the sauce is done. Everyone is welcome to come to the kitchen to peel and cook on Aug. 26, 27 & possibly other days of the week if needed. TBA
- **Rally Day – Sept. 8** Pavillion #2 – Wave Tech Park –10:30 a.m Church Service. Bottled Water & Chicken will be provided. Please bring a covered dish/casserole to share. Bring your own drink including coffee if you want something

other than water. New Sunday School Teachers and Christian Ed. Director will be recognized.

- **Sept. 28 – Apple Butter Day** – Making and canning of Apple Butter at the Wave Tech Park Police Barracks Bldg. Water will be supplied. Bring a covered dish to share for lunch and any other drink you would like. 9 a.m. or earlier...until ?.



Items Still needed for Apple Butter Day

10 more cases of pint canning jars

40 lbs. of sugar (5 or 10 lb. bags)

Bring in any used pint jars

FALL GETAWAY RETREAT

October 4-6 @ Bluestone

Adults \$85 Youth \$50 Children FREE
(ages 12 & older) (ages 4-11) (ages 3 and under)

Registration deadline is September 30

**Registration & Medical forms online at
bluestonecamp.org/fall-getaway**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Phone (304) 366-2628

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Email: office@fairmontfirst.net

Web: www.fpcfairmont.com

2025 Stewardship Campaign

I feel like the adage, that time goes by faster the older you get is very true for me. And science has proven that it does go by faster as we age. But really, where did 2024 go to? Did it go by as fast for you as it did for me? It is



already that time of year to mention our upcoming 2025 Stewardship campaign.

We made some changes over the last few years, and since they seemed to work, we're going to continue to

implement them for this year. We will be sending out a letter in mid-September, to allow all of you time to get pledges in by October 6th, Stewardship Sunday. Prior to that, we will be using social media outlets, such as Facebook, First Presbyterian's website, and comments from the pulpit. We ask that you prayerfully consider your 2025 pledges in the meantime.

Hebrews 13:16 – “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

The Administrative/Finance Team

Property updates

Updates from your Property Committee include the hiring of a new sexton. The committee is excited to announce that Will Shamblin was approved by the Session for the position. Also in mid-September a company will begin replacing the old boiler.

First Presbyterian Church Fairmont t-shirts

If you don't have a church t-shirt and would like one, please give Rev. Walker or Earl Straight your name and size. We plan to place an order in the next few weeks.

They are great to wear to special events like tailgating at the Black Bears game or volunteering around the community.

Staff

Pastor

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Director of Music

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Discipleship Ministry Coordinator

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Will Shamblin

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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

September Nurturing Faith Ideas

SCRIPTURE

September 1: Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 17: Read Psalm 15

This Psalm of David asks the question, who shall be admitted to the temple, the worshipping community? The answer given is those who do what is right and speak the truth, who honor and fear (meaning respect and worship) the Lord, and who are trustworthy. As you read the Psalm, ask yourself if you do these things, and, if not, what might you do differently in your life?

September 8: 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 15: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 19: Psalm 116:1-9

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 22: 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 29: 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

9/4 William Laughlin
9/5 Vicki Bostic
9/9 Jonathan Schooley
9/10 Thomas Ranson
9/13 Jill Zundell
9/17 Ben Poling
9/23 Diane Floyd
Sally Tarley
Robert Ranson
9/27 Terri Bunner
9/30 Ed Snider

Anniversaries

9/15 Austin & Jess Fatkin
9/17 Tim & Karen Mersinger
9/20 Taylor & Missy Downs

PRAYER LIST

Edward Cummings, Ed Cummings son
David Foster

Gage & Bruce

Ted Moran

The Lockhart Family

Loren Hunt

Steven & Debra Collier, Ruth Martin's nephew & niece

Stephen Satterfield

Judy Shaver

Paul Hines, Marilyn Morgan's brother-in-law

DD Meighen

Brad Dodd

Peggy Twyman

Linda Stoops

JUNE/JULY PLEDGES & GIFTS

Shoes for Kids	\$2,070
July 28	\$716
August 4	\$3,743.96
August 11	\$1,981
August 18	\$1,128
Total:	\$9,638.96
Total to Date:	\$108,192.87

September Ministry
Volunteers

Liturgist: Marilyn Morgan

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

NOTE: Ushers will need to open & close

Christian Discipleship Ministry News



Meet our new Coordinator:

Hello, my name is Jane Peterson (soon to be Jane Mead after August 24). I grew up in Martinsburg and moved to Morgantown with my family during my sophomore year of high school. I graduated from Morgantown High School in 2019. I graduated in May with my bachelor's degree in multidisciplinary studies and studied

horticulture tourism and childhood development.

My soon-to-be husband and I are moving to Bridgeport. I love to craft especially crochet; I also love to take care of my house plant collection it stands around 150 now but is still growing. My first job as a high school student was in my church's nursery working with kids under 2 years old. I then started working at a daycare at the church and doing VBS as well as helping teach Sunday School. I love working with kids and teaching them about the Lord's power and love. I hope to help strengthen their connection with God.

NEW CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR STARTS SEPTEMBER 8 with RALLY DAY!!!

We welcome two new Sunday School teachers: Janeth Rodriguez and Morgan Jackson will join our staff September 2. Please come meet them and the rest of our staff – Pam Proctor, Abby Shuck and Jane Peterson Mead at WaveTech Park on Sunday September 8.

New Bibles will be given to children moving up in class, or who are new to our programs.

Sunday School classes start at 9 a.m. on September 15. We have planned an expanded program for the children and youth. There will be a kindergarten thru 2nd grade class in the library; a 3rd thru 5th grade class in the 3rd floor classroom and a 6th thru 12th grade class in the Senior High classroom, as well as Bible Story and Activity time in the nursery. Our new curriculum encourages children and youth to explore their faith and how to use it in their daily lives.

Children's Music Time will also resume on September 15 at 10 a.m. for children 6 years old and up. Come sing and ring bells!



Pastor Evan will be teaching a Confirmation Class this fall for Kyle Hauser, Thomas Ranson, Celia Knight and Beth Sullivan.

Children's Church will also be held every Sunday during the regular worship service time and will be a service tailored for ages 5 thru 11 using the same scriptures as Pastor Evan uses.

We will also offer childcare on Wednesday evenings during choir practice starting September 11. Please let Jane or Amy Koon know when you need this childcare.

With this planned expansion, it is important that we have volunteer shepherds, committed to the Christian Education of our children and youth. Forms have been emailed and paper copies are available at the church. We need this information as soon as possible so we can plan and prepare for our classes and activities. As Evan said - please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to do.

Senior High Youth group events are being planned monthly starting again in October. Please give any ideas you or the youth have for projects to Jane or Evan.

Exciting upcoming events:

September 28 – Apple Butter Day; activities for children will start at 10 a.m. (if any older youth want to help, see Jane)

October 4 – first Parent's Night Out. If you want to help, let Jane know.

October 20 – Children's Sabbath - Let Jane know if your children/youth want to participate.

October 27 - Trunk or Treat – Plan to come in costume and set up a "treat station."

Camper Sunday was August 4 with the Hauser children telling us about their time at Pine Springs Church Camp. It was a very meaningful experience for them. (see pictures on page 2) Congratulations to Brianna Hauser on receiving the Barnabas Award for being a silent encourager of others.

We officially welcomed our new CDM Coordinator with a cake and punch reception on August 4. If you didn't get to meet/talk with her there, come to Rally Day and meet her and her staff!



SUMMER SCOUTING

UPDATES: Cub Scouts - we had a few activities this summer such as our blue and gold award ceremony and

Scout Night at the Black Bears game. We are about to kick it into high gear with the start of school and have a ton of exciting events coming up.

Troop 120G - the girls have continued with a few campouts this summer including summer camp for a week.

Troop 120B - the boys had six attend summer camp where they earned several merit badges, and awards including standup paddle board and the mile swim. The troop had four members "called out" to join the Order of the Arrow. They also had a group of 12 attend the Summit Bechtel Reserve in Glen Jean, W.Va. This trip included a stop at the World Scout Museum in Charleston along with a tour of the state Capitol and State Archives and Museum. In route to the Summit, they stopped at Cathedral Falls and Hawks Nest State Park. While at The Summit the boys experienced mountain biking, BMX, skateboarding, rifle and shotgun shooting, archery, a canopy tour, the big 3/4 mile zip line, and whitewater rafting. We then left The Summit,



Enjoying some tailgating & baseball in Morgantown





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

the
September 2024
Chimes

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
301 JACKSON ST.
FAIRMONT, WV 26554