

August 2022



First Presbyterian Church E-News

Connect with First Presbyterian Church

A Note from the Pastor

Sometimes the old things help us
see the things in front of us.

As some of you know; my
husband, Mitch, and I went on a
very delayed pandemic cruise in
the middle of July. We flew to
Rome and boarded a ship that
went from port to port each day
landing us in Italy, France, and
Spain. Each day we would wake
up in a new location and lace up
our tennis shoes to go explore the
towns along the Mediterranean
coast (and some islands, too!).

Our first stop was Naples, which

happened to be very close to Pompeii. We couldn't help but find our way by bus to the town that was destroyed by the eruption of a nearby 'mountain' (they then knew it was actually a volcano). Mitch and I walked the streets with our excellent guide who showed us a fraction of the 44 out of the 66 acres that have been excavated so far since the eruption in 79 AD.

As we walked the ancient streets and heard stories of life in that place, I was astonished by the advances in technology that they had developed. It was clear that the city was built with a great plan and design which helped it to function in its own way.

Sometimes the old ways bring us back and slow us down - that's what I kept thinking as we walked from street to street and discovered more and more of the city. Take time to notice the good things that came before, and you will be delighted to see something you might have missed.



That is part of the reason I'm so glad we get to sing some "old chestnuts" this summer as we share some of the favorite hymns of members of this congregation. It was fun to see all the responses come in and now to place them within various worship services. As a musician, I am always a fan of adding to worship through music - and some of these hymns are not sung much anymore.

It's the music in combination with the text that creates a lasting memory. The words bring to mind so many things - so I will leave you with just a few of my favorite lines from the hymns we've sung (or will be singing) this summer:

"Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all." - *Be Thou My Vision*

"Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!" - *Just As I Am*

"A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing." - *A Mighty Fortress*
"Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit's call, resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God." - *Standing on the Promises of God*

"There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home." - *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

May our singing bring forth great joy and a deeper faith as we get ready for

the work ahead!

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Alison

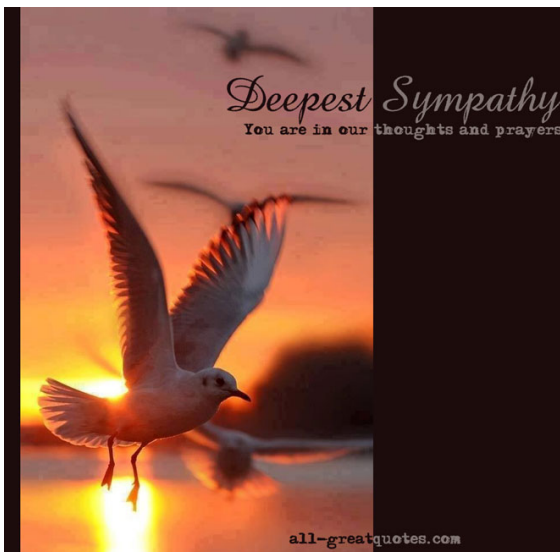
Nurture

Joys and Concerns



August Birthdays

Norma Sterne 5-Aug
Joan Ralston 7-Aug
Eric Ringler 9-Aug
Nancy Hosken 16-Aug
Jane Belt 30-Aug



Sympathy and Prayers to the family of former member and elder, Jan Lander, who passed away on Sunday, July 10th.

Sympathy and Prayers to Mac Wilson and family on the death of former member and lifetime friend of FPC, Beverly Wilson.

Special Thank You Note to FPC

Dear Alison and the family of the First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for your gracious hospitality. We enjoyed our time here immensely.

Your church is beautiful and we enjoyed meeting everybody.

Thank you again and please pray for us as we go to Clay county, West Virginia.

Blessings,
Kevin, Ian, Alex & Jennifer



The Church office will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 5th in observance of the Labor Day.

A Note From The Learning Tree Nursery School

As the new school year rapidly approaches, Learning Tree is opening for its 45th year! We have been so fortunate to have been a mission and housed by our church the entire time!

The philosophy of The Learning Tree Nursery School has as its cornerstone the developmental theory of early childhood education. We believe that each child has worth and dignity and therefore, the right to a variety of learning experiences which will promote his/her fullest possible development. We believe learning occurs when realistic expectations are made in a climate in which the learner is valued.

The nursery school experience is a benefit to the child when it stimulates him/her intellectually; broadens his/her social abilities to accept security with adults; and companionship with his/her peers; influences growth toward self-discipline; and promotes health, physical growth, motor

development and self-expression.

Our goal is to make the introduction of school a positive experience that will give them the confidence to walk into their new classroom when they move on "Big Kid School."

Watch the newsletters and bulletins for special events!

Learn and Grow



We invite all children and educators to join us for worship on Sunday, August 21st for our Backpack Blessing. Please bring your backpacks or briefcases for a special blessing and gift for the upcoming school year.

Darkness to Light Stewards of Children Training Sunday, August 28th at 12:00 PM Gathering Place at FPC

Our congregation is pleased to offer a free training from Jane's Place to help us better care for all the children in our midst and learn to be advocates and protectors of all children.

Stewards of Children® is an award-winning training that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Through interviews with child sexual abuse survivors, experts, and treatment providers, Stewards of Children® teaches you practical steps you can take to protect the kids in your life.

"The recent training from Rhonda Hose was a fantastic opportunity to become more informed about the risks that exists for our local children. She was inviting, informative and offered a wealth of knowledge to better help

me serve our youth community. I'm so glad I was in attendance."
Testimonial from FPC member and Learning Tree Teacher, Kelsey Gallo

Event Details Event: Stewards of Children

Event Date: Aug 28, 2022 Noon - 2:30PM

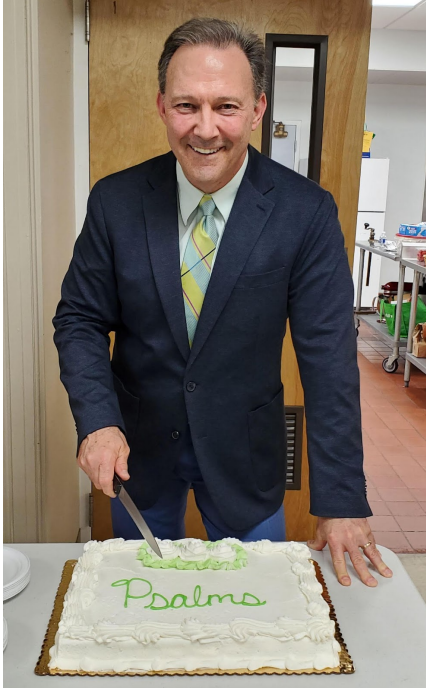
[Click here to register for the training!](#)

Learning More About The Psalm with Rev. Dr. Jerome Creach



On July 30th and 31st First Presbyterian Church welcomed Rev. Dr. Jerome Creach, professor at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, to help us explore the Psalms and Violence in Scripture.

Saturday evening we dove deep into common (Psalm 23) and unfamiliar (Psalm 137) psalms to explore how they help us understand our relationship and conversation with God. Dr. Creach translated and guided us through the meaning of how the psalms were used and how they continue to help us explore our faith.



On Sunday morning Dr. Creach preached in worship and expanded on Psalm 49, encouraging us to think about our life being “from God and to God” instead of simply striving to achieve in earthly ways. It was a great weekend all around!

Many thanks go to Josh Gilhart and the Faith Formation team for their hard work. We look forward to continuing to foster a relationship with the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and hope to bring more speakers to help us explore our faith.



Opportunities to Serve

Thank You from PEB

Dear First Presbyterian Friends,

Thank you very much for your generous support for PEB. Your scholarship donations are making a big difference in the lives of many young students and their families!

God bless you for opening your hearts to these deserving Pakistani students.

In Christ,

Robert Irish
Board Member, Friends of PEB

Worship with Us

Organ Campaign Update

On Friday July 22nd a new 7.5 HP 3 phase electric motor was installed on our rotary bellows fan. This replaced the 1929 5 HP single phase motor that failed on Saturday June 4th. Several weeks were spent investigation having the 1929 motor rebuilt but it was finally determined that a new 3 phase motor was much less expensive. Maryland Electric extended a 3 phase electrical service line to the Bellows Fan Room, and we were ready for installation of the new motor. At worship service Sunday, July 24th Judie Brown played the Postlude on our organ to the surprise and standing ovation of all in attendance.

Update on the Organ Console:

All materials and equipment for the new organ console have been ordered. However as is the case with almost all material and equipment deliveries today, there are delays. Lewis & Hitchcock anticipate that most needed material and equipment should be arriving in August.

If these deliveries arrive in August, the following is a projected project schedule:

August 29th Console cabinet rebuild to be completed
September 15th Refinishing of Console cabinet to be completed
October 15th Console completed with installation of
Syndyne MS – 8400 Master Control System
October 17th – 28th Installation of new Console in Cumberland

If you have any questions, please contact Buck Belt or Kathy Getty.

Thank you.

Home & Garden Bounty Sunday, August 28th



On Sunday, August 28th, our congregation will be celebrating our summer garden bounty. Please bring examples of your produce to church. We are hoping to decorate the sanctuary with our own fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Following the service, depending on the volume of vegetables and

flowers, we could donate our produce to the Union Rescue Mission.

Save the Date
Fall Kick-Off Worship Service
Sunday, September 11th
11:00 AM Rocky Gap State Park
White Pines Pavilion

Churches of Washington Street Gathering



God's Abundant Table
Community Meal
Friday June 10th
6 pm - 9 pm

We are blessed to live in God's abundant creation, so how do we do our part to care for it? Join us for a sustainable community meal under the stars and hear from a local farmer.

Please bring your own chair, plate, silverware, cup and a side dish sourced as locally as possible if you are able.
RSVP by June 6th

Upcoming Community Events



We look forward to seeing you!

SEPTEMBER
9, 10 & 11, 2022