



# the Chimes

March 2017

F I R S T P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

## Notes from the Pastor

During the Annual Congregational meeting I shared with the congregation parts of my CREDO (Presbyterian CREDO conferences to help PC(USA) teaching elders cultivate their spiritual, vocational, health, and financial well-being, as well as their leadership potential) that came from my continuing education in April. As part of my plan it is my hope to continue my ministry at First Presbyterian Church for quite some time. This year I will have been doing ordained ministry for 10 years, and I have been with First Presbyterian for 6 of those 10 years. In accordance with guidelines set forth by the PCUSA, I am eligible for sabbatical after serving a congregation for 7 years. It is my hope that in 2019 I will take a sabbatical for at least 6 months/up to one year. This will be an exciting time for my family and the church family as the fruit of this time away will give me opportunity for growth and will ultimately benefit the congregation and our ministry together! On the following page is information from the PCUSA about Sabbatical and how we begin the process for preparing for it.

Blessings,



Pastor Elise



## Worship Schedule

- **8:30am** Childcare Begins
- **9:00am** Cambridge Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- **9:00am** Sunday School Classes for Adults & Children
- **10:00am** Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- **10:00am** Children's Music Time
- **10:00am** Fellowship/Fair Trade Marketplace
- **10:30am** Worship Service
- **6:30pm** Youth Group



# RATIONALE FOR SABBATICAL LEAVE

Someone has compared the life of a minister with that of a taxi leaving an airport. It is so loaded down with passengers and suitcases and the other items that the car has a hard time even moving and is strained to the point of breaking, yet the taxi may be only a few years old. So it is with clergy. They bear the burdens, the anguish, the pain, and hurt of their parishioners 24-7. As a result, many, if not all, experience to one degree or another symptoms of emotional collapse, stress related illnesses, and “burnout” adversely affecting the minister’s personal, family, and parish life, and greatly diminishing his or her effectiveness and well-being. For too long, this situation has been accepted, even tolerated as an inevitable part of the job.

A viable solution to the peculiar stresses and strains the clergy encounter is the sabbath leave, sometimes referred to as a sabbatical. This solution has its roots in Scripture and in church tradition.

## DEFINITIONS

Sabbatical Leave for pastors and church educators is a planned time of intensive enhancement for ministry and mission. Sabbatical Leave follows precedents in the academic community and among a growing number of private sector groups. This “extended time” is qualitatively different from “vacation” or “days off.” It is an opportunity for the individual to strategically disengage from regular and normal tasks so that ministry and mission may be viewed from a new perspective because of a planned time of focus.

Sabbatical Leave is an extension of the Biblical concept of a Sabbath day and a Sabbath year for renewal. It is both an act of faith that God will sustain us through a period of reflection and changed activity and an occasion for recovery and renewal of vital energies.

## PLANNING AND FUNDING FOR SABBATICAL LEAVE

Resources for planning and funding sabbatical leave can be found on the PCUSA website. Although on the face of it, the Sabbatical Leave may seem like yet another financial burden for the local congregation to bear, it is crucial for Session and congregation to recognize the long-term benefits they as a church will reap from granting Sabbaticals. The sabbatical provision conveys a sense of support and caring on the part of the calling church. It also offers an incentive to both ministers and educators to commit to and think in terms of longer years of service in a particular church.

<http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/ministers/rationale-sabbatical-leave/>

## RE-ENTRY

Upon re-entry, it is strongly suggested that the clergy share with the entire congregation the details of the leave as well as reflections on its value and benefit. The re-entry process provides a great opportunity to reflect upon the benefits that resulted from the Sabbath Leave. Such expected benefits as:

- Discovering the strength of lay leadership heretofore under-utilized
- New understandings of the concepts of mission between clergy and congregation
- Reaffirmation of calling to ministry on part of clergy and congregation with both being reinvigorated and rededicated to the work of God’s people.

The ideal result would be for the congregation to see this period of time not just as the clergy’s Sabbath Leave but as the congregation’s Sabbath Leave.



# COMMITTEE NEWS

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship and Music team is happy to report that \$2950.00 has been contributed to the repairing of the Cambridge Bells. John has already scheduled this project for after Easter. Because there was such a big response to our request for the bell repair project, we have created a wish list for future needs. The following is a list we've generated, but we welcome your suggestions. Please feel free to contact me with your suggestions, questions, or thoughts.

- Sound system repair or update
- Communion cloths
- Flute (any musical instrument)
- Paraments
- Banners

Thank you so much for your generosity with the bell project! It's an exciting time in our church!

Submitted by Pam Stalnaker

## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

In an effort to stay current with the times and to make FPC more accessible on mobile devices, the Administration Committee has decided to change the way we offer online donation services to our members. We will now use the e-commerce company, Square, to process donations. You are probably already familiar with this company as many small business owners and organizations already use them. In addition to being mobile-friendly, this service will allow the church to pay smaller processing fees, access our funds more quickly, and to set up special funds for projects which may arise. You can still donate by clicking the donate button on our website.

The only drawback is that Square does not allow individuals to set up automatic payments. However, if you would like to set up an automatic payment/payment reminder, we can do this through administrator tools. Contact the church office for more information or any questions about online donations.

## *February Prayer List*

The Family of Jack Hawkins  
The Family of Arvilla Cooper  
Vance  
The Family of Scott Hauser  
Brianna Boram  
Melvin & Celina (Frankie)  
Bostic

John Brewer  
Jill Diaz  
Peggy Eddy  
Mildred Filius  
Angie Fowler  
Anne Hamilton  
Tom Miller

Amanda Peterson  
Simon Rohaly  
John Satterfield  
Austin Saxton  
Ronnie Siegman  
Patty Snider  
Linda Stoops

# Music Notes

On Friday March 31 at 7:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church is hosting the Fairmont performance of the Fairmont State University Choir tour, "Healing Through Harmony".

The concert will be a joint effort combining the Fairmont State University choirs with students from Greenbrier East High School in Lewisburg, WV.

Following the devastating flooding in southern WV, Sam Spears, FSU director of choral and vocal activities, sought a way for the choirs to contribute to the relief effort. He then contacted Barbara Lutz who teaches choir at Greenbrier East High School and directs the Greenbrier Valley Chorale.

"I thought it would be wonderful if we could arrange a joint tour with musicians from communities directly impacted by the disaster. Barbara Lutz and I have put together a tour that will include her students, her community singers, and the FSU choirs. All the concerts will be benefits to raise money for flood relief, and they will also serve to remind people that, even after many months, there are still communities in the state that are rebuilding." - Dr. Spears

The concert will be free and open to the public with a free will offering. The choirs will also be performing in Lewisburg, Charleston, and the Washington D.C. area while on tour.

You may have noticed that as of recently the Yamaha grand piano in the sanctuary has a beautiful new cover. Thanks to Jean Lambert for donating this piano cover!

The season of Lent begins in March, and the choir will be singing prayerful anthems by Mary McDonald, Patti Drennan, and Steve Kupferschmid. The choir is also preparing the Cantata for Palm Sunday: *What Love Is This?* which features music by Lloyd Larson, Mary McDonald, Brad Nix, Marty Parks, and Larry Shakcley. Guest oboist, Evan Klein, will be playing with the choir for this Cantata. If you would like to sing in the cantata, it's not too late! We would love to have some additional voices.

May you always have a song of joy in your heart,

John Morrison

Director of Music



March 2017

SUNDAY	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		5:30pm Hospitality Meeting 6pm Christian Discipleship Meeting	9am - Food Pantry Work Day 10:30am Lenten Group @ 1st Pres 7pm Ash Wednesday Worship 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	2	5:30pm First Friday 6:30 Lenten Group @ Kritzers	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 Children's Activities/Nursery</li> <li>9:00am Sunday School (Adult &amp; Children)</li> <li>9:00am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal</li> <li>10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>10am Children's Music Time</li> <li>10am Fair Trade Marketplace &amp; Fellowship</li> <li>10:30am Worship Service/New Members</li> <li>5:30pm Lenten Group @ Floyds</li> <li>6:30pm Youth</li> </ul>	6 10:30am Lunch Bunch 6:00pm Worship Team Meeting	7 8am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	8 10:30am Lenten Group @ 1st Pres 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 5:30pm Lenten Group @ Neals 7pm Admin Team Meeting	10	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daylight Savings Begins</li> <li>8:30 Children's Activities/Nursery</li> <li>9:00am Sunday School (Adult &amp; Children)</li> <li>9:00am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal</li> <li>10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>10am Children's Music Time</li> <li>10am Fair Trade Marketplace &amp; Fellowship</li> <li>10:30am Worship Service/Shoes for Kids</li> <li>6:30pm Youth</li> </ul>	13 9am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Property Team Meeting	14 8:00am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	15 10:30am Lenten Group @ 1st Pres 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16 5:30pm Lenten Group @ Neals	17 Committee Reports Due	18 9am-2pm Session Planning Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30 Children's Activities/Nursery</li> <li>9:00am Sunday School (Adult &amp; Children)</li> <li>9:00am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal</li> <li>10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>10am Children's Music Time</li> <li>10am Fair Trade Marketplace &amp; Fellowship</li> <li>10:30am Worship Service</li> <li>6:30pm Youth</li> </ul>	20 6:30pm Session Meeting Chimes Submission Deadline	21 8:00am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	22 10:30am Lenten Group @ 1st Pres 7pm Choir Rehearsal	23 5:30pm Lenten Group @ Neals 7pm Council of Churches	24	25
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# OUTREACH

## THE STREET STORE

Coats are still in high demand at the store. Fairmont is such a giving community! Thanks to the Head Start parents and staff for donated items for the Street Store in February. The store has given 570 coats this winter.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

In the upcoming weeks, we will be taking the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Isaiah 58 describes a new kind of fast, not to give up bread but to share it. Isaiah calls us to "loose the bonds of injustice," to "let the oppressed go free," to "share bread with the hungry" and to "invite the homeless poor into our homes." We are called to offer help to those in need and restoration to those who have been broken down. One way we answer this call is through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing. In addition, a portion of this donation will go to help Outreach's KIVA ministry. With the additional donations, the church will be able to fund an increased number of people.

David Barnhart

You Shall Be Called  
**Repairers** of the Breach

— Isaiah 58 —

MAR 1 - APR 16 ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Text SHARING to 56512 to learn more

## WESLEY HOUSE

The next scheduled Wesley House meal being served by the church will be on March 30th. The meal will begin at 11am. We will be serving our usual pancakes, sausage, and fruit cocktail. Consider donating your time and talents to this worthy cause.

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The Souper Bowl of Caring empowers youth and unites communities around the time of the Big Game to help those in need. This year we collected \$147.00 and several boxes of food. The church donates all proceeds towards the Wesley House. The Wesley House provides free meals and food for students at Fairmont State throughout the school year.



# Christian Discipleship

## LENTEN SMALL GROUPS

Christian Discipleship is looking for people to host our Lenten Small Groups. Lenten Groups will begin the first weekend in March. The groups will consist of about 10 people and will allow for fellowship time and meaningful theological discussion. Curriculum will be provided. Groups will meet at the following times and locations, beginning March 1:

Wednesdays at 10:30am in the Church Parlor

Thursdays at 5:30pm at the home of Elise & Ryan Neal (childcare provided)

\*Friday, March 3, 6:30pm at the home of Deanna & Roger Kritzer: 1815 Ridgewood Dr.

\*Sunday, March 5 at 5:30pm at the home of Dave & Diane Floyd: 12 Emily Ct.

*(\*Dependent on attendance these group may consolidate. Following the first meeting, attendees will be invited to host in their homes for remainder of Lent, rotating hosting responsibilities among the group)*

## FIRST FRIDAY

The theme for March's First Friday is St. Patrick's Day. On March 3 from 5:30-8:30, the children are welcome to come to the church for some fun while parents enjoy a night out. The adult volunteer signup sheet is located on the usher table in the back of the sanctuary.



## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will begin the first Sunday in Lent. Classes will be held at 5:00pm on Sunday evenings and will continue through Palm Sunday. Confirmation is for students in grades 6-12 for youth who are interested in deepening their faith and becoming a part of this church family. A parent meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 26 following worship in the parlor.

## YOUTH

The youth group continues to meet on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8pm for grades 5-12. Join us for fun, games, and fellowship.

# FESTIVAL OF FAITH

**Saturday, April 1, 2017; First Presbyterian Church of Charleston WV.** The Presbytery of WV will hold their Festival of Faith: *Practicing New Life - Tools for the Church in the 21st Century*. Keynote speaker will be Jessica Tate, Director of NEXT Church, with her address “The Spirit is on the Move - Signs of New Life.” There will be all day tracks for elementary children and youth, along with adult education galore. There will be workshops on Liturgical Dance, the St. John’s Bible, Healthy Living, Creative Worship for Pentecost, and Disaster Preparations. There will also be a presentation of the documentary *After Coal*, and discussion.

The deadline for registration is March 20th. Forms are available in the church office and on the Presbytery of WV website.

<http://www.wvpresbytery.org/>



Presbytery of West Virginia's  
**Festival of Faith**

Saturday, April 1, 2017  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Charleston, WV



**Keynote Speaker:** Jessica Tate,  
Director of NEXT Church

**Keynote:** The Spirit is On the Move-  
Signs of New Life

**Workshop:** Practicing New Life –  
Tools for the Church in the 21st Century

**Some of the Other Festival of Faith Workshops:**

- ❖ All Day Tracks for elementary age children and youth
- ❖ Our Pastor Left. Now What?
- ❖ Coloring
- ❖ St. John's Bible
- ❖ A Fresh Wind: Creative Worship for Pentecost
- ❖ PW 2017-2018 Bible Study, *Cloud of Witnesses*, Overview
- ❖ Adult Education Galore
- ❖ Session Records Review
- ❖ Church Treasurers
- ❖ Kids Active in the Liturgy
- ❖ “After Coal” – The Documentary and Discussion
- ❖ Liturgical Dance
- ❖ Plus, Worship, Fellowship, the Market Place, a “BOOKTIQUE,” and Displays by agencies related to the Presbytery of WV and the PC(U.S.A.)

Complete workshop and registration information can be found at [www.wvpresbytery.org](http://www.wvpresbytery.org).

## NURTURING FAITH IDEAS

Here you will find weekly suggestions and activities from the Presbytery’s Nurture Committee to link worship and home and to nurture faith development in the family. These are intended for all ages and all family types – with children or grandchildren or families with no children.

**March 5:** Matthew 4:1-11 tells us the temptations the devil presented to Jesus. We meet temptations each day at work, at home, and in life. Jesus resisted these temptations to do other than what God wanted. This week consider some of the things that cause you temptation to not follow God. Try to resist one for this week.

**March 12:** In John 3 we meet Nicodemus who comes to Jesus under cover of darkness, hiding from the other Pharisees. This week consider what you try to hide in the darkness, hoping no one will know. Pray that God will help you bring what you try to hide to the light of Jesus and Jesus’ love.

**March 19:** John 4 begins with the story of a Samaritan woman’s meeting with Jesus. She listens and learns from Jesus, despite Samaritans and Jews having despising each other. She listens and learns from Jesus. This week see what you can learn by reading and listening to the Word. Discover the light Jesus brings to all believers regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, or any other division and then do the same to someone who seems lost or left out.

**March 26:** John 11 presents the story of a blind man who can see what Jesus brings and the Pharisees who although have sight, are blind to the man in front of them. As you go your way through this week, open your eyes and ears to what is happening around.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## SOBRANIA/SOUP OPERA

The Soup Opera will hold a Coach purse Bingo event on March 19, 2017 at the Knights of Columbus. Doors open at 12:30pm, Bingo starts at 2pm. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$20 at the Soup Opera or Knights of Columbus, or you can get tickets at the door for \$25. There will be a concession, a 50/50 drawing, and door prizes. Bring a non-perishable food item for an extra game. All proceeds benefit the Soup Opera.

## CONNECTING LINK LULAROE FUNDRAISER

Mark your calendars for an upcoming Lularoe Fundraiser for The Connecting Link.



## CROSS & FLAME 5K



**April 29, 2017.** Mark your calendars for this fun community event! The Wesley House Foundation will hold the Cross & Fire 5k on April 29, 2017 as a fundraiser for the ministries of The Wesley House. They are currently looking for event sponsors from local businesses/organizations. A \$100 donation will get the business or individual's name listed on race shirts, a \$250 donation will get their logo printed on the shirt, as well as one free race registration. For information on becoming a donor, contact Maria Wiblin at [fairmontstatewesleyfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:fairmontstatewesleyfoundation@gmail.com) or 304-363-8210.

## FEBRUARY SESSION SUMMARY

Pastor Elise opened the Session meeting with prayer at 6:30 p.m. Minutes from the stated Session meeting of January 17, the called Session meeting of February 12, and the congregational meeting of February 19, 2017 were approved. Justin and Carlton Neely, Jacob Miller, Mark Richmond, Lauren and Adam Ranson, and Cheyenne Kensley were welcomed and approved as members of First Presbyterian Church. Installation of these new members will be Sunday, March 5, 2017. Jim DeLong presented the operations budget and investments report, and Session approved them. The Property Team has interviewed for the sexton position but has made no final decision. The Christian Discipleship Team moved to have small group meetings for Lenten Studies, and Session approved. Vacation Bible School will be held June 11-15, 2017, and Worship in the Park will be held June 18. The Outreach Ministry Team will have a Pancake Luncheon on March 30. Pastor Elise adjourned the meeting with prayer at 9:00 p.m.

# March Lectionary Text

## ASH WEDNESDAY—MARCH 1

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17      Psalm 51:1–17 2  
 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10      Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT—MARCH 5

Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7      Psalm 32  
 Romans 5:12–19      Matthew 4:1–11

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT—MARCH 12

Genesis 12:1–4a      Psalm 121  
 Romans 4:1–5, 13–17 John 3:1–17 or Matthew 17:1–9

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT—MARCH 19

Exodus 17:1–7      Psalm 95  
 Romans 5:1–11      John 4:5–42

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT—MARCH 26

1 Samuel 16:1–13      Psalm 23  
 Ephesians 5:8–14      John 9:1–41

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd - Peggy Twyman
- 4th - Charlene Walker
- 17th - Dave Floyd
- 18th - Joan Krause Smith
- 22nd - Marilyn Morgan Murphy
- 28th - Emily Starn
- 31st - Don Trisel

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Penny Roberts  
 March 6th

Glen & Dana Satterfield  
 31 Years on March 16

Ken & Michele Miller  
 51 Years on March 26

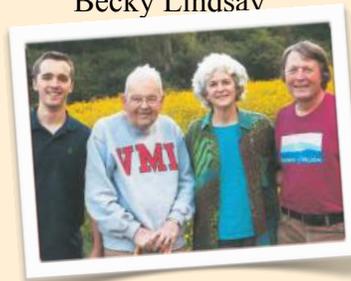
## FEBRUARY GIVING

February 5	\$2,991.00
February 12	\$750.87
February 19	\$1,748.00
February 26	n/a
Feb. Total	\$5,489.87
YTD Total	\$18,325.95

## CORRESPONDENCE

On behalf of my father, Dr. David Lindsay, many thanks for the kindness and faithfulness of the congregation of First Pres. He loved all the Christmas cards he received from the church members. I loved seeing them, too, and imaging seeing each of those people in the sanctuary and fellowship hall.

Sincerely,  
 Becky Lindsay



Mark Pearce, Dr. David Lindsay, Becky Lindsay, & Scott Pearce



Mark Pearce with roommates at VMI graduation, May 2016

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

We will have an Ash Wednesday Worship Service with imposition of ashes on Wednesday, March 1 at 7pm.



## March Ministry Volunteers

### USHERS

Mike & Pam Stalnaker  
 Dave & Penny Roberts

### LITURGIST

March 5 & 12 Jim Norton  
 March 19 Ron Harsh  
 March 26 Carolyn Crislip-Tacy





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

# the March 2017 Chimes

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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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