



the Chimes

January 2017

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

from the
Pastor

What can be said in New Year rhymes,
That's not been said a thousand times?

The new years come, the old years go,
We know we dream, we dream we know.

We rise up laughing with the light,
We lie down weeping with the night.

We hug the world until it stings,
We curse it then and sigh for wings.

We live, we love, we woo, we wed,
We wreath our brides, we sheet our dead.

We laugh, we weep, we hope, we fear,
And that's the burden of the year.

Poem by

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX, "THE YEAR" (1910)



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



I reflect on the new year I count my many blessings! I'm so blessed to have such a wonderful church family and faith community. Thank you all for continuing to support me and my family as we continue our work together. I am grateful for the love of my husband, Ryan, and the health and love of my children. I'm amazed at all the wonderful memories our family had this year with family and strangers alike. I continue to believe that there is good in the world and through my faith in Christ I believe that together we can truly be the body of unity within the world. As we move into the new year I say goodbye to a colleague in ministry whose friendship means more to me

than words can describe. I look forward to the new beginnings as we welcome new members to Session and begin dreaming together a vision of ministry for First Presbyterian Church. With the changing of the season there is new opportunities knocking at our door. Let us be grateful for the blessings that are yet to come in 2018!

Thank you to the many members who contributed to my Christmas gift. It was a true blessing!!

Rev. Elise Renee Neal

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will have our annual Congregational Meeting on January 28th, immediately following worship service.

December Prayer List

Doug Brenneman
Doug Bunner
Helen Cook
Jill Diaz
Peggy Eddy
The Fowler Family
Jenny Harney

Barbra Marker
Nicola's Grandmother
William Lee Parks
Damian Peterson
The Ritchie Family
Paul Rogers
John Satterfield

Willie Siegman
Chris Smith
June Spiker
Don Trisel
Kim Trisel

Music Notes

It has been a busy Advent and Christmas season! We had the WV Brass Quintet, the Lessons and Carols service collaboration between FSU choirs and the Cambridge Handbell Choir, the Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata, the Vocal Tapestry concert, the Children's Christmas program, and lots of special music for Christmas Eve. Thanks to everyone in our church who helps make our music ministry exciting by participating in the choirs and by coming to these services and other events. As we head into 2018, I look forward to the new adventures that we will share with each other. Life is short and our music making and fellowship together makes it an enjoyable journey.

Another notable event: This past month, we celebrated the life of Leona Delong who lived to the age of 101! It was an honor to be a part of her service and Jim has been a loyal choir member for many years. What an inspiration to see another member of the church live past the age of 100. One can't help but wonder if being involved in the church contributes to this longevity.

May you always have a song of joy in your heart and Happy New Year from myself and the choirs!

John Morrison
Director of Music, Organist



"The Chancel Choir singing the Christmas Cantata, Invitation to a Miracle by Joseph Martin"

Notes of Gratitude

To all of the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church who took part in the memorial celebration of Leona DeLong's long life:

A resounding 'Thank You' from Jim DeLong, Connie (DeLong) Mosher, Valerie St. John, (the widow of our brother Larry DeLong); and from all the children and grandchildren who attended the service!

The memorial service was very heart-felt, including the music our mother loved all her life, flowers she loved to cultivate; and wonderful remembrances from her beloved family and friends. The many cards, flowers, personal condolences and the wonderful dinner afterward were expressions of the love of the church family for our mom.

We would especially like to thank Reverend Elise Renee Neal, Music Director John Morrison, soloists Stan Swihart and Betty Pat Lee; as well as church staff Rebecca Moran and Charles Lettrick. We also extend our appreciation and thanks to the Hospitality Committee and all its volunteers who provided the delicious meal and those members and friends who have donated money in Leona's name to further our church's mission.

May God continue to bless you all for your kindnesses and loving participation.

Sincerely,

Jim DeLong

Thank you for the many cards and expressions of sympathy and care. Your prayers have sustained me during this very difficult time.

Sincerely,
June Spiker

We wanted to thank everyone at First Presbyterian Church for starting a Street Store in Fairmont. It gives us great pleasure to see organizations like yours getting involved in helping our community.

Thank you again for pulling together and giving people an opportunity to receive extra clothing they may need during the winter months. Fairmont is a better place because of your dedication and generosity.

Tim Manchin & Taylor B. Downs
Manchin Injury Law Group

Thank you all for opening your arms to us in our time of sorrow. Robin loved the congregation and her time spent among friends during her time at the church. Our family is truly grateful for your hospitality and kind words, thoughts, and prayers. She is smiling down on all of us now.

Sincerely,
Scott, Jordan, & Kelly Weisenborn

January 2018

SUNDAY	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
	1 Office Closed	2 8am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	3 9am Food Pantry Work Day 6pm Christian Discipleship Team Meeting 7pm Choir Rehearsal	4	5 5:30pm First Friday	6
7 Baptism of the Lord 9am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal 9am Children's Activities/Nursery 9am Sunday School 10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Children's Music Time 10:30am Worship Service 6:00pm Youth Group	8 9am Staff Meeting 10:30am Lunch Bunch 5:30pm Property Team Meeting	9 8am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	10 7pm Choir Rehearsal	11 10am Admin Team Meeting	12	13
14 9am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal 9am Children's Activities/Nursery 9am Sunday School 10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Children's Music Time 10:30am Worship Service & Officer Installation 6:00pm Youth Group	15 Office Closed	16 8am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers 6:30pm Session Meeting	17 7pm Choir Rehearsal	18 WV Presbytery Meeting @Bridgeport	19	20 Chimes Submission Deadline
21 9am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal 9am Children's Activities/Nursery 9am Sunday School 10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Children's Music Time 10:30am Worship Service & Communion 6:00pm Youth Group	22 9am Staff Meeting	23 8am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	24 7pm Choir Rehearsal	25 7pm Council of Churches	26	27
28 9am Cambridge Handbell Rehearsal 9am Children's Activities/Nursery 9am Sunday School 10am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Children's Music Time 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Congregational Meeting 6:00pm Youth Group	29 9am Staff Meeting	30 8am Fellowship Breakfast @McAteers	31 7pm Choir Rehearsal			

Christian Discipleship

FIRST FRIDAY

The theme for January's First Friday is Winter Wonderland, there will be crafts, games, and snacks. All are welcome to come by the church and drop off kiddos on January 5th from 5:30 to 8:30. There is an adult sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for any adults that want to lend a hand.



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.

January 7: For those who follow the liturgical year, the first Sunday after Epiphany (January 6) is Baptism of the Lord Sunday, a time to hear reflect on Jesus' baptism and our own. In Acts 19, Paul baptized people in Ephesus in the name of the Lord Jesus. Reflect on your baptism and share with family members what your baptism means to you. Ask them what their baptism means to them.

January 14: Now that the New Year is in full swing, in what ways will you live as a disciple of Jesus this year? Will it be different from other years? Share with someone.

January 21: In Psalm 62, the psalmist says about God, "God is my rock and my salvation." How do you describe God to others? Has this changed over your lifetime?

January 28: In 1 Corinthians 8:2-3, we read "Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God." How would you explain God's love to someone who doesn't go to church or to a new believer?



Outreach

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

First Presbyterian regularly collects food for our local food pantries. You can bring any shelf stable items to the church at any time; for the month of January we will focus on donations of paper goods & cleaning supplies.

SHOES FOR KIDS

Out Shoes for Kids pick up was held on December 16 & 17. This year, we gave out 444 pair of shoes to children in the Marion County area. Thanks to everyone who donated, shopped, or helped with distributing these shoes!

STREET STORE

The temperatures are falling, and it's time to open our Street Store for its 3rd season of giving. We are accepting winter wear items that will be placed on our fence – free, for anyone who needs them.

Winter wear items (coats, jackets, hats, gloves, scarves) may be dropped off at the church office during business hours (Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm) or brought to the church on Sunday mornings. We ask that bagged items not be left outside: this is how items get ruined. We monitor the weather and put items out on the fence when they won't be ruined by rain (and if things do get wet, we bring them in to dry and place fresh items out).

WESLEY HOUSE LUNCH

Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped with our Wesley House Lunches during a busy holiday season! On December 4, we served 51 students and on November 30 we served 95 students.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION

Thank you for your support of Presbyterian Mission! Your generous and faithful giving allows all of us who work together in God's mission to bring the gospel of Christ to all corners of the world. It provides the funds to help bear the burdens of those in times of crisis, those in poverty, those who are in need. Thank you for partnering with us in that call.

During this Christmas season, we recognize the love of God in everything He has given us - and He has given us everything. "Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is grace, for it brings with it immense grace from Him" - Thomas Merton. It is because of your unwavering support we continue to spread God's love throughout the world. Now let the heavens be joyful!

Again, thank you for giving to enable all people to know God's life-giving welcome in Jesus Christ. You are a valued partner in mission.

Lynne Foreman

Mission Engagement Advisor - Northeast, PCUSA Presbyterian Mission

January Narrative Lectionary Text

JAN. 7 - JESUS SAYS COME AND SEE

Psalm 66:1-5

John 35:35-51

JANUARY 21 - JESUS CLEANS THE TEMPLE

Psalm 127:1-2

John 2:13-25

JAN. 14 - THE WEDDING AT CANA

Psalm 104:14-16

John 2:1-11

JAN. 28 - NICODEMUS

Psalm 139:13-18

John 3:1-21

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Pam Nolan

36 Years on January 9

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 6th Ben Garletts

Jan. 10th Katie Trisel

Jan. 14th Nancy Jones

Jan. 16th Roger Kritzer

Jan. 16th Anne Schooley

Jan. 20th Kathy Snider

Jan. 21st Matthew Stalnaker

Jan. 22nd Kim Trisel

Jan. 28th Ryan Neal

Jan. 29th Terryn Neal

DECEMBER PLEDGES

December 3 \$3,961.00

December 10 \$1,435.00

December 17 \$7,373.00

December 24 \$2,952.00

December Total \$15,721.00

YTD Total \$156,251.00

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Thanks to Jim & Pam Nolan on all their hard work in taking photos for our new church directory. If you did not come in to have your photo taken, but do have a current family photo you would like for us to use, please email those to the church office no later than Jan. 15.

FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL

The signup sheet has been posted for chancel flowers for 2018 on the table by the elevator. Chancel flowers are a great way to honor a family member or recognize a special event.

NEW BELL

Thanks to Veronique Hart-Saxton for her donation of a new bell to the church. This bell was previous used at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Wayland, NY to call the children to their Sunday School Classes.

We wish Nique all the best in her new job in Ohio!

Her updated address is:

Veronique Hart-Saxton

1423 Bellows St

Akron OH 44301

January Ministry
Volunteers

USHERS

Roger & Deanna Kritzer

John & Betty Pat Lee



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

the
January 2017 *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