



# Presbyterian Press



A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

August 2020



“Breathe the sweetness that  
hovers in August.”  
—Denise Levertov

Weekly prayer meetings are  
held on Mondays at 10 A.M.  
Feel free to join us. If you have  
prayer concerns, please call  
the office at 304-622-6831,  
leave a note in the offering plate  
or email Harriett Northey at  
wayneharriett@frontier.com



Congrats to all the  
students who finally got  
to graduate. Best of luck  
and God bless you in your  
future endeavors.

Don't forget to wear your mask!!



**Sunday Worship**  
Church School 9:30 AM  
Worship 10:45  
Live on WPDX Radio, 109.4 FM or 750 AM

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday  
9:00AM to 2:00PM  
Phone: 304-622-6831  
Fax: 304-622-6831  
[www.clarksburfpc.org](http://www.clarksburfpc.org)

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

Rev. John F. Koerner  
209 Ohio Ave  
Nutter Fort, WV 26301  
Phone: 304-534-2324  
[johnkoerner75@yahoo.com](mailto:johnkoerner75@yahoo.com)

### Session

Jenna Bennett, Clerk  
Ginger Delawder, Asst. Clerk

### Parish Associates

Rev. Charla Waters Koerner  
Rev. James A. Harris

### Church Secretary

Cathy Libert  
[CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com)

### Office Volunteer

Elsa Davis  
[Elsadavis59@gmail.com](mailto:Elsadavis59@gmail.com)

### Education Coordinator

Terra M. Burnett  
[angeleyes11\\_77@hotmail.com](mailto:angeleyes11_77@hotmail.com)

### Choir Director

Jeanne Harris  
Phone: 304-669-9191  
[Jagapelove50@gmail.com](mailto:Jagapelove50@gmail.com)

### Organist

Dr. Mary Kay Devono

### Church Treasurers

Wayne Northy  
Jenna Bennett  
Chuck Leuliette  
Dave Allman

### Nursery Attendant

Ashleigh Burnett

## **August Scriptures and Sermons**

### **August 2 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Communion)**

Scriptures: Genesis 25:19-34

\*Acts 15:22-4

Sermon: "Barnabas - The Day the Music Died"

Theme: Paul and Barnabas were a dynamite team. They strengthened and encouraged each other and as they traveled together they spread God's word far and wide. But then they had a disagreement. The disagreement was so sharp that they broke up the band and went their separate ways. This seems like a very bad thing to us. Yet, God used this disagreement to double the pace at which the gospel was spreading.

### **August 9, 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Scriptures: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

\*Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon title: "Get Out of the Boat"

Theme: Before Peter could walk on the water with Jesus, he had to first get out of the boat. Faith requires trust. Love requires sacrifice. We can't move forward in our Christian faith by always playing it safe.

### **August 16, 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Scriptures: \*Genesis 45:1-15

Matthew 15:21-28

Sermon title: "We All Have Our Scars"

Theme: We all have our scars both physically and emotionally where life has wounded us. Scars remind us that wounds can be healed. They also remind us that God never stops working in our lives to bring good out of the bad things that happen to us.

### **August 23, 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Scriptures: Exodus 1:8-2:10

\*Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon title: "Those Who Are Called Out"

Theme: After Peter declares that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, Jesus proclaims that upon that confession he will build his church. The Greek word used for church means those who are called out. What does it mean for us to be the ones that Jesus calls out to do his work?

### **August 30, 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Scriptures: Exodus 3:1-15

\*Matthew 16:21-28

Sermon title: "No Faking"

Theme: Jesus calls us to die to ourselves, take up our cross and follow him. Yet there are many who don't want to leave their comfort zone. They want to follow Jesus, but only as long as it doesn't require too much of them.



“A friend is one of the nicest things  
you can have, and one of the best  
things you can be.”

—Douglas Pagels

## Pastor John's Jottings

The late Emil Brunner once said, “What oxygen is for the lungs, such is hope for the meaning of human life.”

Admiral James Stockdale was the highest-ranking U.S. officer to be taken as a prisoner by the North Vietnamese. For eight years he was held prisoner under terrible conditions. But his faith in God helped him to face the rough difficulties he was going through and to be an inspiration for other prisoners.

When a reporter asked Stockdale after the war, about the prisoners who did not survive, Stockdale had this to say. “Oh, that’s easy, (these were) the optimists. They were the ones who said, ‘We’re going to be out by Christmas.’ And Christmas would come, and Christmas would go. Then they’d say, ‘We’re going to be out by Easter.’ And Easter would come, and Easter would go. And then Thanksgiving, and then it would be Christmas again. One by one,” he said, “they died of a broken heart.”

True Biblical hope is more than a blind belief that everything will be just fine. Yes, as Christians we do believe that God will bring good out of the bad things that happen to us. We do believe that God will work things out in the end, and that better things are still to come.

However, Biblical hope is not afraid to face the difficulties of life. We are not somehow exempt from the difficulties of life simply because we trust in God. Joseph trusted God and did what was right, but he still ended up being sold into slavery by his brothers and even spending time in prison. The early Christians trusted in God and endeavored to live according to his word. Yet they were still persecuted, tortured, and sometimes killed.

Biblical hope involves a recognition that we are not in control. We don’t get to set a time line by which our current situation will be “fixed.” Difficult times always last longer than we want. We don’t get to set the circumstances of how God will work things out. Often God’s solution is very different and better than anything we could come up with.

No doubt Joseph just wanted his slavery to end so that he could go back home. But God had a better plan. No doubt that Joseph just wanted his time in prison to end so that he could go back home. But God had a better plan. In the end, because God gave him the ability to interrupt Pharaoh’s dream, Joseph was placed in charge of the food distribution in Egypt. He was thus able to help his family and many others.

Perhaps the most important aspect of Biblical hope is the assurance that God has work for us to do in difficult times. Therefore our goal as Christians is not to simply get through difficult times as quickly and painlessly as possible. Our goal is to be aware of what God is doing around us and through us in this difficult time - and to join God in that work.

During this pandemic many things have been put on hold: travels, vacations, sports, when school starts again. What has not been put on hold is our calling to keep on living our faith. Even when we can't gather together, the work of the church goes on and the work of individual Christians goes on. May we not get so focused on when this will be over that we miss the opportunities that God is giving us to exercise our faith in him here and now.

God has been at work in the world long before we came on the scene. God will be working in the world long after we are gone. Meanwhile God is at work in the world around us today. Let us not miss the opportunities he gives us today.

Hope and Confidence and Peace,  
John

Our first gathering of "S'More of God's Love" will be Wednesday, August 5, 6:30-7:45. It will be held outside in the green space or the parking lot depending on how many are attending. We will listen to and discuss a Bible story, make a craft and have s'mores.

Please comment on the youth group Facebook page or send me a message if you are able to make it and how many. This will make sure I have enough prepackaged s'mores and crafts for everyone to make.

Thanks,  
Terra

Jeanne Harris is looking for people or groups special music. If you know of anyone in the community who might like to come to our church and sing, please let her know. You can call her at 304-669-9191 (cell) or 304-624-6445 (work). We need to keep lifting up our congregation with songs of praise!



Life Choice is accepting donations. The center needs  
Size 4 diapers      Infant Tylenol  
Diaper Genie      Gripe Water  
Large laundry baskets      Baby Oragel  
Call the center at 304-622-1953 or email [center@lifechoiceprc.org](mailto:center@lifechoiceprc.org)



## August Birthdays

Wayne Northey	August 2
Ellen Merriott	August 6
Hannah Burnett	August 7
Susan Clark	August 7
Bryon Delawder	August 7
Phillip Bailey	August 10
Terra Burnett	August 11
Andrea Myerberg	August 23
Earl Langley	August 24
Rev. Dr. Eric Faust	August 26
Dawn Woodburn	August 27
Megan Graves	August 29



## WORSHIP LEADERS

August 2- Andrea Myerberg  
August 9- Jeanne Harris  
August 16- Buddy King  
August 23- Ginger Delawder  
August 30- Quentin Harris



## IN MEMORY

If you would like to have flowers in the reredos, please call the office at 304-622-6831, or email me at:  
CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com



... fear not,  
*for I am with you;*  
be not dismayed,  
*for I am your God;*  
I will strengthen you,  
I will help you,  
I will uphold you  
with my righteous right hand.  
Isaiah 41:10

Charles Adkins  
Sara Arnold  
Eddie Cox  
Jeremy F. Cox  
Debbie Cunningham  
Angie Fowler  
Carol Lee Griffin  
Yvonne Gump  
Derek Hardman  
Bob & Janice Hardman  
Robbie Hood  
Doug Linton  
Jerry Lynch  
Nora McClean  
Nada McNemar (Jim McQuaid's sister)  
John Michome  
Jillian Mick  
Mary Moore (aunt of Sandi Nuzum)  
Nickolas Nardone  
Kenneth Oldaker  
Wilma Oldaker  
Susan Orr (Carole's sister)  
Jo Plybon  
Amy Pack  
Donna Pitzer  
Joey Rogers  
Susie Saunders  
Everett Shiffra  
Melanie Simmons  
Bonnie Smith  
Chuck Smith  
Donna Smith  
Karen Tyson  
John Wamsley  
Jennifer Wetzel





The Mustard Seed is blessed to be open for donations & to the public at our regular hours 4 days each week. We've found a new way to provide food orders, clothing & housewares of all kinds. As always, we survive on many caring volunteers and your generous donations. Just last Thursday 15 food orders & 30 requests for goods were met.

Acknowledging the continuing virus concerns and sanitizing requirements, we have become **personal shoppers** for those visiting us. Mustard Seed volunteers meet people at our front door to distribute masks & ask their needs/requests. Any necessary paperwork is completed outdoors without public touching of pens/pencils. Food, clothing, toys, linens, etc. are then distributed outdoors. Because the public cannot enter, we err on the side of generosity to meet their needs. You are the backbone of this community service to our neediest neighbors. You are with us every day.

Our special needs are food, towels, sheets & cleaning supplies. For donations & assistance we are there each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday between 11 am & 3 pm. We are closed Wednesdays & weekends. Please do not leave any donations when we are not open. For donation appointments & to volunteer, telephone Dolores Yoke at 304-624-6077.

Your prayers & caring are the heart the Mustard Seed. BLESSINGS & THANKS to you all!