



# Presbyterian Press



A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

November 2020



## Upcoming Fall Events

### What's Cooking This Month (besides turkey)

All Saints Day	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Daylight Saving Time Ends	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Election Day	November 3 <sup>rd</sup>
World Community Day	November 6 <sup>th</sup>
Veteran's Day	November 11 <sup>th</sup>
Thanksgiving Day	November 26 <sup>th</sup>
First Sunday of Advent	November 29 <sup>th</sup>

Prayer group is still on Mondays  
at 10:00  
See ya there



Ready or not!!!



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

Bible Study  
Wednesday @3:30

<http://www.facebook.com/fpcclarksburg/>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5517202769>. password: 3046226831

## The Simplest Prayer

An eccentric blind man nicknamed Joybubbles reportedly loved Mr. Rogers so much he listened to 10 hours of the TV show daily until he'd heard them all. One night, when Joybubbles was in a kind of awake dream state, he said Mr. Rogers visited him and offered to teach him how to pray.

Joybubbles protested that he couldn't pray because he always forgot the words. To which Mr. Rogers said not to worry; the prayer he'd teach had only three words. "What kind of prayer has only three words?" Joybubbles asked.

"Thank you, God," Mr. Rogers replied.

—adapted from The Wired Word



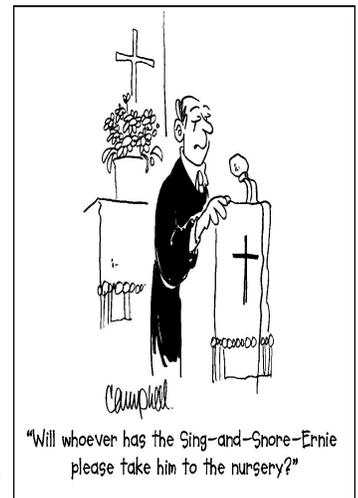
# November Scriptures and Sermons

## Nov. 1 22<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost & All Saints Sunday -Sacrament of Holy Communion

Scriptures Deuteronomy 6:1-9  
\*2 Timothy 1:3-14

Sermon Title: "Timothy - Guarding the Good Treasure"

Theme: The letters of Timothy are letters of encouragement sent by an older pastor to a young pastor just starting out. Timothy is the young pastor. He is reminded of the treasure of faith that has been passed on to him from his grandmother and mother. And he is urged to guard that treasure with the help of the Holy Spirit.



## Nov. 8, Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Scriptures: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
\*Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon Title: "Beyond Self-Worship "

Theme: Joshua challenges the Israelites as they enter the promised land, to stay true to God and to not be seduced into the worship of idols. It has been suggested that the most popular idol in our culture is the idol of self. Self-worship centers around a life that is driven by greed and fear. In contrast, the worship of God is powered and directed by love.

## Nov. 15 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Scriptures: \*2 Samuel 18:24-33  
\* I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Sermon Title: "Good Grief"

Theme: In Thessalonians we read, "For we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters,

about those who have died so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.” Christians do grieve, but we do not grieve as those who have no hope. Grieving well is an important part of healing. It shows that we loved and that our loss is real. We need not be afraid to grieve because no matter how much it hurts, grief and loss will not have the last words.

### **Nov. 22 Christ the King Sunday - Sunday before Thanksgiving**

Scriptures: Ezekiel 34:11-16  
\*Ephesians 1:15-23

Sermon Title: “Lest We Forget”

Theme: It has been suggested that we celebrate Thanksgiving the wrong way. “We should set aside one day each year to complain. We should use the other 364 days to thank God each day for the many blessings God has showered upon us.”

### **Nov. 29 The First Sunday in Advent.**

Scriptures: \*Isaiah 40:1-11  
\* Mark 13:24-37

Sermon Title: “What Is Your Source of Comfort?”

Theme: Some people find comfort in food, some in their pets, some in the their family and friends. But God provides a comfort far beyond any other. In the midst of chaos, pray and ask God that Jesus may be born in the manger of your heart today.

**Donna Jean (Kyle) Smith**  
( October 03, 1930 - October 18, 2020 )

Donna was a very active member of our church for many years. She was a deacon and an elder. President of the Presbyterian Women, active in the Lenten Lunches, head of the wedding receptions committee, instrumental in fixing up the room for the nursery, and so much more.

The session has established a memorial fund in Donna's memory with the money to be spent on improved equipment for sound and broadcasting/live-stream video. If you would like to donate in Donna's memory, just mark you check, "the Donna Smith memorial fund."



# Pastor John's Jottings



Do you remember your dreams? Do you think they are important?

In Bible times dreams were held in special regard as one of the ways that God spoke to people. Joseph had a dream in which his brothers bowed down to him. (Genesis 37) Later that dream came true in the land of Egypt. In the New Testament, Paul had a dream in which a Macedonian stood on the far shore and called across the sea, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!" Paul took that as a message from God and went to Macedonia. (Acts 16)

Today we tend to hold dreams as less important. Doctors tell us that everyone dreams every night. It is part of the way that our minds process the events of the day. However, aside from the a nightmare now and then, most of us do not remember our dreams.

Occasionally, though, we dream and the dream sticks with us. This morning I woke up with a vivid dream still in my mind. I dreamed that I was at a conference of some kind. We were in worship. The minister who was leading the service announced that the sermon would be given by his two sons. The boys were around 10 or 12 years old. They announced that they were going to talk about prayer. The younger of the two boys did most of the talking. He said that prayer was like getting into the back seat of a car driven by God. He let us know that it is important to stay in the car all the way through the prayer. And, "It is important to press on all the way to the window." Here I got an image of him bent over in the back seat and leaning all the way forward until his head was pushed up against the back of the seat in front of him.

After I woke up, I was left wondering what that last sentence meant, "It is important to press on all the way to the window." The boy had not been pressing into a window. He had been pushing into the seat back in front of him. Then it occurred to me that it is through prayer that God opens up windows of opportunity. And it is important that we continue in prayer all the way through to the window of opportunity that God gives us.

In the dream, I waited until the worship service was over and then approached the minister. I told him how impressed I was with his sons' message on prayer. I told him that I wanted to ask them for permission to use their illustration myself. "What are your boys' names?" I asked. He said, "Jacob and Esau. Esau is the older one. He is quite the athlete. Jacob is the younger one. He is quieter and considers himself somewhat of a theologian." I am not sure of the relevance of that part of the dream, and I relate this with a smile. Dreams have their own logic and don't always make sense.

Perhaps it was just a dream. Perhaps it was more than that. You decide. I do think that one line is important. "(In prayer) it is important to press on all the way to the window."

Hope and Confidence and Peace,  
John

And whatever you do,  
in word or deed,  
do everything in the name  
*of the Lord Jesus,*  
*giving thanks*  
to God the Father  
through him.

Colossians 3:17





## Office Hours

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

### Choir Director

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

### Office Volunteer

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

### Education Coordinator

Terra M. Burnett  
[angeleyes1177@hotmail.com](mailto:angeleyes1177@hotmail.com)

### Organist

Dr. Mary Kay Devono

### Church Treasurers

Wayne Northy  
Jenna Bennett  
Chuck Leuliette  
Dave Allman

### Nursery Attendant

Ashleigh Burnett

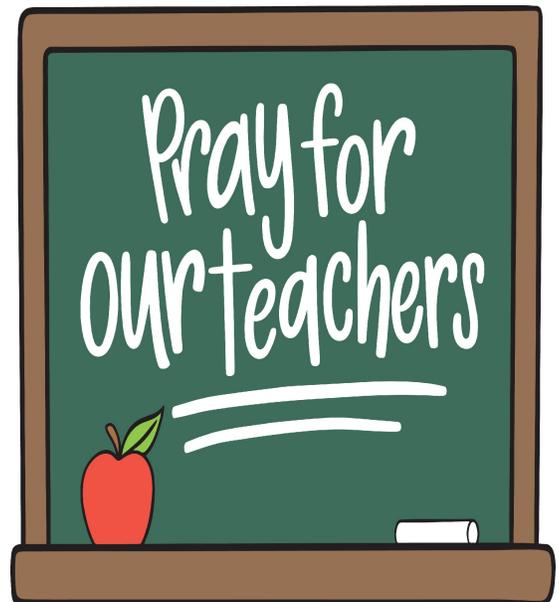
### Church Secretary

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

Everyone is aware that this has been a very difficult year. It seems as though we have to make up each day as we go along. This is especially true for the education system and our teachers. They are responsible for teaching our most precious resource. I can't imagine trying to reach 20 children and conduct a class when they're in "cyberspace". We forget too, that a lot of these teachers are parents also. So when they go home, they have to help their children understand what they're supposed to be doing for the day. That's a long day and a lot of stress. To all the teachers out there

GOD BLESS YOU!!!!

THANK YOU!!!!!!



**First Presbyterian Church**  
Wednesday, October 21, 2020

5:30 p.m.



-We have a possible work group for 2021 on the week of July 4th.

-Terra has asked for and been granted permission to restart Sunday School for Middle School and High School on Sunday morning. Then do something for the younger kids Sunday afternoon or evening.

-At the request of Jeanne Harris and the C.E., Worship & Music committee the session has modified the requirement for mask or face shield for those doing special music. A large plexiglass shield will be placed in front of the lectern and singer will be allowed to sing without masks as long as they are behind that shield. Masks make it hard to understand the words.

-Plans for Advent and Christmas are underway. It does not look like we will be able to have any kind of Christmas Cantata this year. But we do plan to have some carol singing as part of the morning worship services. We will also be asking families and individuals to light Advent candles.

-The Personnel Committee is planning to meet soon with the church staff for annual reviews.

-The has set the date for stewardship dedication Sunday on November 8.

-Jenna Bennett will be sending out a letter to all our members about stewardship.

-The session has opened a memorial fund in Donna Smith's name. The money will be used to purchase better sound and broadcast/video live-streaming equipment. More to come on this later.

-Jenna Bennett and Ginger Delawder attended a Zoom meeting for the Presbytery's annual review of session minutes. Our minutes were approved without exception!

-At her request, approved transferring Mary Virginia Paletta to the Erin Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, TN.

-Remembered and celebrated the life of long time church member Donna Smith who died recently and joined the Church Triumphant.

-Voted to suspend the by-laws to allow the church members to participate in the October 25<sup>th</sup> congregational meeting by Zoom.

-Newly elected deacons and elders will be invited to the December meeting of the session to be examined and approved for installation/ordination.

## Pastor's Report:

**hospital visits: 6 Other significant Pastoral visits: 27** almost all by phone  
**No Funerals, Baptisms, or weddings to report**

**Sacrament of Communion:** Was celebrated on September 6 serving 24  
**Home communion** was not served because of the pandemic.

## Pastor's Discretionary Fund 2020 -

MONTH	REQUESTS	Complete	AMT PLEGDED	AMT DISBURSED
January	20	20	\$1,654.65	\$1,654.65
February	16	16	\$1,356.78	\$1,356.78
March	11	11	\$1,150.00	\$1,150.00
April	4	4	\$427.23	\$427.23
May	0	0	0	0
June	3	3	\$297.29	\$297.29
July	4	4	\$400.00	\$400.00
August	7	7	\$684.00	\$684.00
Sept	17	15	\$1,685.00	\$1485.00
			Total	\$7,454.95

## Treasurer's Report



	Jan-Sept 20	Budget	% of Budget
Total Expense	110,822.72	178,809.00	62.0%
Net Ordinary I/C	20,904.31	-8,059.00	-259.4%
Net Income	20,904.31	-8,059.00	-259.4%

The Mustard Seed  
Food and Clothing Pantry  
444 East Pike St. Clarksburg, WV  
Phone: (304)-623-0859  
Hours: M T Th F 11 am- 3 pm  
*Sowing seeds of faith by feeding the hungry and  
clothing the needy.*





## Children's Moments

November 1<sup>st</sup>-Rev. Charla Walters Koerner  
November 8<sup>th</sup>-Kandy Atkinson  
November 15<sup>th</sup>-Loria Cavallo  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>- Jeanne Harris  
November 29<sup>th</sup>-Terra- Building the Nativity

### Worship Leaders

November 1 -Harriett Northey  
November 8- Bryon Delawder  
November 15 -Terra Burnett  
November 22- Hank Lawrence  
November 29- Buddy King



### Deacon Greeters

November 1- Dottie Rinehart  
November 8- Pam Mitchell  
November 15- Loria Cavallo  
November 22-Pam Mitchell  
November 29 -Loria Cavallo

### Acolytes

November 1-Amelia and Kierra Harris  
November 8-Bradley and Hannah Burnett  
November 15- Hannah Burnett and Gia Corsini  
November 22- Bradley Burnett and Anthony Corsini  
November 29- Hannah Burnett and Molly Hugus





# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Cole Delawder	November	2
Michael Lonsinger	November	2
Rev. John Koerner	November	4
Gary Nickerson	November	4
Wilma Oldaker	November	5
Theresa Koerner	November	7
Kevin Corsini	November	8
Judy McQuaid	November	11
Jeff Strange	November	11
Frank Simmerman	November	20
Gia Corsini	November	22

- Charles Adkins
- Sarah Arnold
- Eddie Cox
- Jeremy Cox
- Debbie Cunningham
- Angie Fowler
- Mark Freeman
- Carol Lee Griffin
- Yvonne Gump
- Derek Hardman
- Bob & Janice Hardman
- Robbie Hood
- Doug Linton
- Nora McLean
- John Michome
- Lillian Mick
- Gary Mitchell
- Bob & Mary Moore (aunt of Sandi Nuzum)
- Robin Morris
- Nickolas Nardone
- Kenneth Oldaker
- Wilma Oldaker
- Susan Orr (Carole's Sister)
- Amy Pack
- Donna Pitzer
- Jo Plybon
- Joey Rogers
- Susie Saunders
- Everett Schiffra
- Melanie Simmons
- Bonnie Smith
- Chuck Smith
- Donna Swann
- John Wamsley
- Jennifer Wetzel
- Jack Wright



I have openings for flowers for the reredos for the entire month of November. If you would like to place some, please email me at: [CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com) or call the church office at 304-622-6831.

