



The Presbyterian Press

A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

November 2022

What's Coming Up!

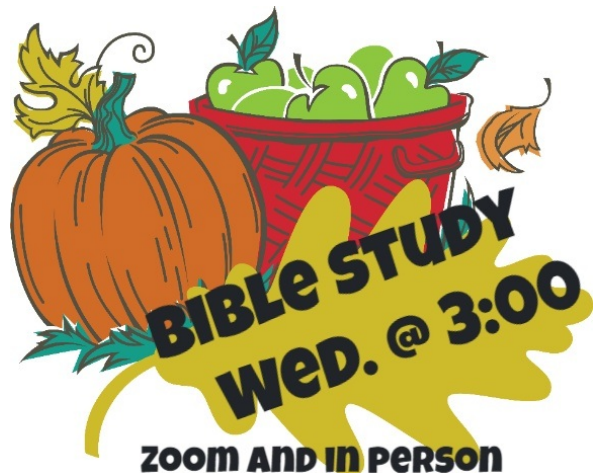
Volunteer Appreciation	November 6 th
Stewardship Sunday	November 6 th
Daylight Saving Time Ends	November 6 th
Veteran's Day	November 11 th
Gospel Harmony Boys	November 13 th
CPR class using AED	November 13 th
Thanksgiving Day	November 24 th
First Sunday of Advent	November 27 th



November



Prayer Group at 10:00 AM
on Tuesdays.
Zoom and in person



"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress;
working together
is success."
—Henry Ford

Sunday Worship
Church School 9:30 AM
Worship 10:45

Live on WPDJ Radio, 109.4 FM or 750 AM

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

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/5517202769> Pw3046226831



November Scriptures and Sermons



Nov. 7 22nd Sunday After Pentecost -Sacrament of Holy Communion

Stewardship Dedication and Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

Scriptures: Haggai 1:15b - 2:9
*John 11:1-45

Sermon Title: "See How He Loved Him"

Theme: Jesus is without a doubt the greatest volunteer of all times and the one who showed the most love. Those who follow him often find themselves volunteering out of love. Many people do not volunteer because they are already tired. And yes, volunteer work can be hard work. Most people know that. What is less well known is that those who volunteer often experience a much healthier life and a much better sense of well-being. Volunteering is not only helpful in showing the love of Jesus. It is actually good for you!

Nov. 13, 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures: Isaiah 65:17-25
 *Luke 21:5-19

Sermon Title: “Asking the right Question”

Theme: Much of what Jesus did was helping us to see beyond the limits we place on God. So often we are asking the wrong questions. The wrong questions limit our answers. The right question is, “What is God like?”

Nov. 20 Christ the King Sunday - Sunday before Thanksgiving

Scriptures: Jeremiah 23: 1-6
 *Colossians 1:11-20

Sermon Title: “Jesus Is More ”

Theme: This is Christ the King Sunday. We celebrate that Jesus is more than a good friend, A wise teacher, a prophet, Jesus is King. Christ reign in power for us!

Nov. 27 The First Sunday in Advent.

Scriptures: Isaiah 2: 1-5
 *Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon Title: “Stay Awake”

Theme: Jesus warns us that he is coming again that we need to stay awake and be ready. This is about more than just being ready for Christ to return. It is also about being awake and alert to Christ’s work in the world around us.

Pastor John's Jottings

Our church recently hosted a small church conference for the Presbytery. Then I went on study leave to another conference. The Wee Kirk (or small church) for the Synod was held in Laurelvile, PA. I was struck by the fact that both conferences offered workshops on the use of media in worship.

One speaker noted that the pandemic caused many churches to start live-streaming their services. But, he said, live-streaming was coming anyway. The pandemic merely advanced the time table on the use of this media. Whether we like it or not, the world we live in is increasingly reliant on technology.

The speaker at the Presbytery Conference was very pleased with the set up that we have for live-streaming and complimented us on it. He also gave us some additional things to think about. He pointed out that in his church they have a dedicated cell phone number that people can use to text in their prayer requests during worship. The pastor then reads those requests before the prayers of the people. They have posters around the church with the prayer request phone number, and also posters with a link to the site for online giving. They have screens up front to use power point during the sermons and sometimes to display the words of the hymns or liturgy. What appears on the screens in the sanctuary also appears on the screen for those worshipping online. His church is making an intentional effort to welcome and include those who are worshipping online.

There is an understandable resistance in most churches to these kinds of changes. Change of any kind tends to make us uncomfortable. In some ways it is good that the church is slow to change. After all, we don't want the church to be blown about by every changing wind that comes along. In other ways the resistance to change can get in the way of our goal of spreading the good news of the gospel.

How fast we move in areas like new technology depends in part upon where we see God calling the church to be. If the goal is for us to grow older as a congregation, then we don't need to bother with changing how we do things. Those of us who are already coming to worship are comfortable with the way we do things and they will likely keep coming without changes in the use of technology or music.

If we want to reach younger people with the good news, though, we may have to make some changes. One speaker at the conference used this metaphor. Fish live in water all the time. So the fish do not notice the water at all. What they do notice is the absence of water. Teenagers and young adults do not notice the technology that is around them. They don't even notice the cameras, screens, and projectors in worship. They are used to using their phones for everything from looking up goggle answers to paying their bills. It is the world that they live in all of the time. What young people do notice is the absence of technology.

First Church has embraced a good deal of technology in the last few years. We do have the option for online giving. We are live streaming our services. I find myself increasingly using texts in my pastoral work. That has pushed me and I expect it has been hard for others as well. But over all, these changes have been well supported by the congregation.

There will always be more that we can do with technology so we need to find the right balance. If we move too fast, we may make our current members uncomfortable enough that they might stop coming. If we move too slowly, we might miss out on the chance to make real connections with younger people.

A bit of a disclaimer: some older people are very comfortable with technology and newer music. Some younger people are uncomfortable with technology and prefer the more traditional music and worship styles. Furthermore, technology is only one factor among many that we need to consider. Embracing more technology will not automatically bring younger people into our church. (I wish it were that easy!) What we can say is that most all of the churches that are doing a good job reaching young people and young families have been quick to embrace technology in worship. Also most churches that refuse to embrace the things that matter to younger people are declining. So, again, what is the right balance for us at this time?

I am very honored to be the pastor of this church. And I so much appreciate the passion and love that you show not only to each other but also to those in the wider community. This is a strong and vital church and I know that you want to keep it that way!

Our session has scheduled its annual retreat for December 10th. We will be reflecting on what we as a church are doing well, and what we could be doing better. Where God is calling us to reach out and how we might need to change in order to do that better.

Please be in prayer for me as your pastor and for the session as we continue to seek God's will and direction together.

Hope and Confidence,

Pastor John



Pastor John asked me to tell you a little about myself ! I'm really excited to work with all of you. I have learned quite a bit already. I have 3 children and 9 grandchildren. I live in Doddridge County and have been here for about 12 years. I worked in California for Probation and Juvenile Hall. I had my own tax business for about 7 years before I moved to Oklahoma. I worked at the FAA for 4 years before I moved back to WV. I worked for oil and gas for 10 yrs before the pandemic hit.

Looking forward to meeting you,

Karen Adams

First Presbyterian Church

Session



**Wednesday,
October 19, 2022 5:30 p.m.**

- Treasurer's report shows us in black with \$18,752.more in income than expenses to date. Thank you one and all for your faithful and generous giving!
 - Gospel Harmony Boys will be here at 6:00 p.m. on Nov. 13th!
- Please help us get the word out and invite 5 friends to come with you!
- The green clothes (paraments) for communion table, pulpit, and lectern are showing wear. Perhaps someone would like to donate new clothes in memory of a loved one.
 - Jeep and Janet will coordinate hot chocolate for the Christmas parade on December 2nd. If you can help with this important outreach ministry, please contact them.
 - We have a new secretary. we are excited to welcome Karen Adams to our church staff. Stop by the office during the week and say hi to her.
 - Stewardship dedication and volunteer appreciation Sunday will be on Nov. 6th.
 - The new pumps and motors for boilers have been ordered, but are not in yet.
 - Rear stairway chair lift has been repaired. Thank you , Jeff Mitchell!
 - The following will be nominated for office at the congregational meeting on October 23rd.

Deacons

Jane Simmerman
Betty Brandli
Heather Sigmon

Elders

Suzi Heger
Hank Lawrence
Jenna Bennett

- Newly elected officers will be ordained and installed on Jan. 8th, during worship
- Session will have a retreat on Saturday morning Dec. 10th from 9 to noon at the church. This will also take the place of the December monthly session meeting.
- Bryon and Ginger will be our commissioners to the Nov. 12th Presbytery meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Hospital visits: 3

Other significant Pastoral visits: 20 (most by phone)

Sacrament of Communion: Was celebrated on October 2 and served to 46 people.

Home communion was not served this month.

September	13	13	\$1300.00	\$1300.00
October	1	1	100.00	100.00

Balance Oct. 18th \$2480.41

To date, we have assisted with \$6798.06

Treasurer's Report

	Jan- Sep 22	Budget	% of Budget
<i>Total Expense</i>	\$120,195.43	\$177,154.00	84.4%
<i>Net Ordinary I/C</i>	\$18,752.20	-12,454.00	-150.6%
<i>Net Income</i>	\$18,752.20	-12,454.00	-150.6%

Last yr	Jan - Sep 21	Budget	% of Budget
<i>Total Expense</i>	\$121,910.11	\$174,779.00	69.80%
<i>Net Ordinary I/C</i>	\$26,371.49	-\$5,579.00	-472.70%
<i>Net Income</i>	\$26,371.49	-\$5,579.00	-472.70%



November 6^h-Terra Burnett
November 13th- Dawn Woodburn
November 20th- Heather Sigmon

November 27th-Terra- Building the Nativity

Worship Leaders

November 6 -Dick Ogden
November 13-Quentin Harris
November 21 -Connie Leuliette
November 27-Jeff Mitchell



Deacon Greeters



November 7-Sandy & Courtney Nuzum

November 14-Jeanne Harris

November 20-Jeanne Lynch

November 28-Beckie Alvaro

November 6th - Denver Atkinson, Lance Cohens

November 13th - Lance Cohens, Hank Lawrence, Andrea Myerburg

November 20th - Jason Burnett, Lance Cohens

November 27th - David Allman, Denver Atkinson, Lance Cohens

Acolytes





November 7-Hannah Burnett & Noelle Woodburn
 November 14-Amelia & Kierra Harris
 November 27-Jeanne & Jerry Lynch,



Michael Lonsinger
 Cole Delawder
 Pastor John
 Gary Nickerson
 Theresa Koerner
 Kevin Corsini
 Judy McQuaid
 Jeff Strange
 Frank Simmerman
 Gia Corsini

November 2
 November 2
 November 4
 November 4
 November 7
 November 8
 November 11
 November 11
 November 20
 November 22



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

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John F. Koerner Phone: 304-534-2324

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 to 2

Phone: 304-622-6831 Fax: 304-622-6831

www.cburgfpc@yahoo.com

Session

Ginger Delawder, Clerk
Harriet Northey, Asst. Clerk

Parish Associates

Rev. Charla Waters Corner
Rev. James A. Harris

Choir Director

Jeanne Harris
Phone 304-669-9191
Jaqapelove50@gmail.com

Office Volunteer

Elsa Davis
Elsadavis59@gmail.com

Education Coordinator

Terra M. Burnett
angeleyes1177@hotmail.com

Organist

Dr. Mary Kay Devon

Church Treasurers
Wayne Northey Jenna Bennett Chuck Leuliette David Allman

Nursery Attendant
Ashleigh Burnett

Church Secretary
Karen Adams
CburgFPCsecretary@yahoo.com

