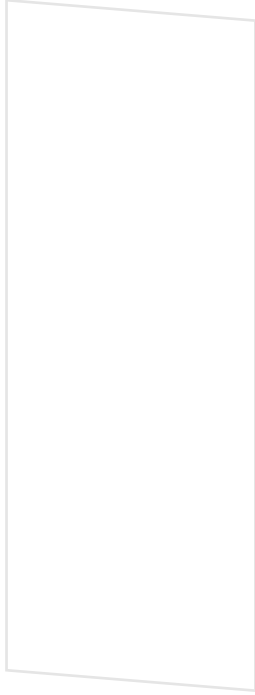


July 2024



First Presbyterian Church of Parkersburg
GATHERING. GROWING. CARING. GOING
 1341 JULIANA STREET
 PARKERSBURG, WV 26101

Phone: 304-422-5426

Fax: 304-428-0372

E-mail: office@fpcparkersburg.org

Visit us at:

www.fpcparkersburg.org

 [facebook.com/fpcparkersburg](https://www.facebook.com/fpcparkersburg)

WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sunday Worship:
 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 livestream on Facebook - 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church
 & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.



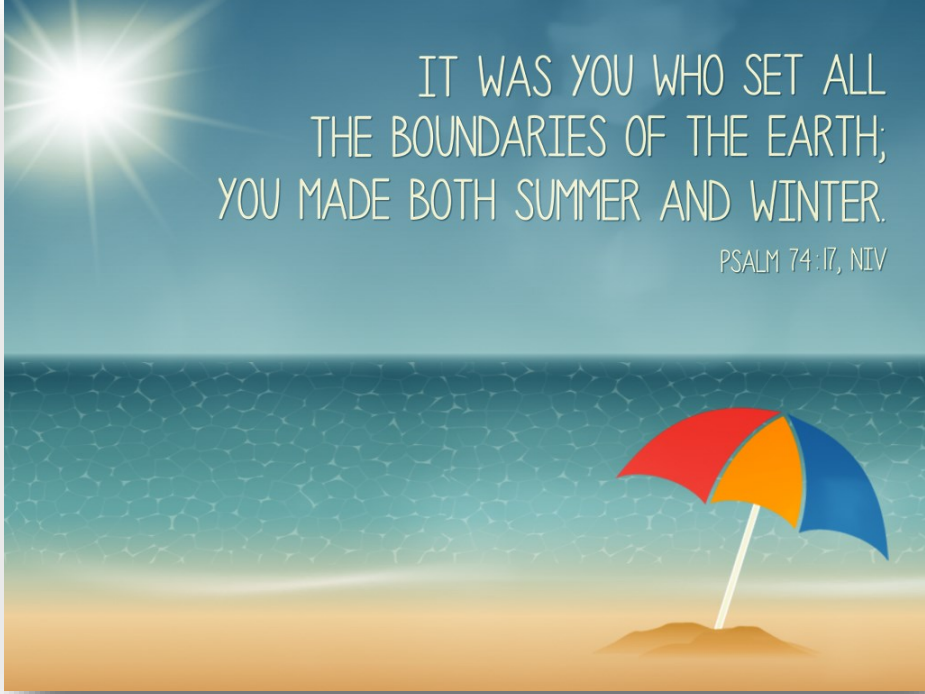
Article Deadline: 15th of each month

If you would like to be added to either our email or postal mailing list, please contact the church office to leave your name and preferred contact information: 304-422-5426 or office@fpcparkersburg.org.



first things
FIRST
 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 2024



IT WAS YOU WHO SET ALL THE BOUNDARIES OF THE EARTH; YOU MADE BOTH SUMMER AND WINTER.

PSALM 74:17, NIV

WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE

First Presbyterian Church of Parkersburg
GATHERING. GROWING. CARING. GOING



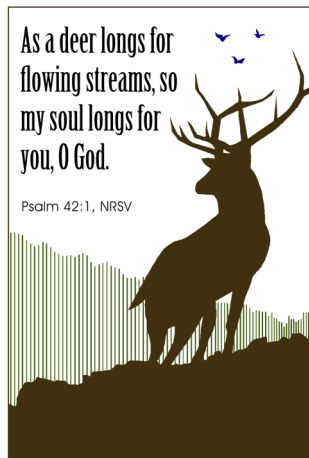
We can turn to our Creator in prayer at any point during the day, confident of the Spirit's presence at all times. And we should turn to God regularly, in all situations: to give thanks for joys we experience and hear about, to ask for help in difficult times, to listen for God's voice and call in our lives

through scripture, prayer, silence, etc. Setting aside time regularly to be in scripture and prayer is wonderful.



One of the ways I have gotten into the spirit of prayer is through Edward Hays's book *Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim*. In it, he includes multiple psalms and prayers to help begin a time of prayer. One of these psalms is "A Psalm of Longing."

*My spirit hungers for your love, O Divine Maker of hearts,
for the taste of your joy and the aroma of your prayer,
May this time of prayer fill me with the whisper of your presence
and let me feel the touch of your hand upon my heart.
How I long for the depths of your love, to know your quiet constancy,
the feast of your friendship that feeds me without end.*



*Oh, how my soul longs for you.
You elude all names we give you
and dwell beyond the grasp of brilliant minds.
Your essence pulses within every atom
yet extends beyond the far frontier of space,
unscanned by the strongest telescopes.
Awaken me to your presence, now,
in this moment, in my heart.*

May you encounter God this summer.

Blessings and Peace!

Pastor Annie

"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE



**GATHERED
IN MY NAME,**
THERE AM I AMONG THEM."

MATTHEW 18:20, ESV

WORSHIP is a faith-building, faith-sustaining act. It's also a form of service to God. Remember to worship regularly during the summer, even when you're out of town.

+ + + + +

Several studies reported in the magazine Religion and Health have shown that men who attend worship regularly have lower blood pressure than non-attendees. Of the 407 men examined, regular churchgoers had significantly lower blood pressure numbers.

Just one more good reason to attend church.

Worship

July



- 7 Debbie Karr
- 14 David Hickman
- 21 Mikki Bosley
- 28 Jess Linville

USHERS THIS MONTH

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| 7th | Kyle Allen
Carl Gheen
Judy Smith
Norm Smith | 21st | Deb Karr
Dave Karr
Becky McGinnis
Jim McGinnis |
| 14th | Amy Leach
Ann Leach
Kelsey Siers
Randall Siers | 28th | Anne Baker
Greg Boso
Joyce Boso
Sharon Flanagan |



Communion Servers

July 7th

- Sharon Flanagan
- Deb Karr
- Melanie Thompson



Happy Birthday!

Dave Karr	1st
Barbara Lucas	7th
Juli Springer	7th
Brandon Holliday	10th
Joyce Boso	14th
Morgan James	21st
Chris Alfred	25th
Judith Smith	25th
Haston Dull	26th
Mike Lucas	26th
Coraletta Houck	28th
Amy Sinclair	29th



JULY

Happy Anniversary!

Andy & Trish Pascarella	2nd
Joe & Debbie Foley	4th
Bill & Susan Niday	9th
Mike & Kelly Beckett	11th
Ray & Karen Foss	15th
Jim & Becky McGinnis	25th

"I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

MARK 9:24b

The Proper Attitude of the Christian Under Grace

1. To believe, and to consent to be loved while unworthy, is the great secret.
2. To refuse to make resolutions and vows, for that is to trust in the flesh.
3. To expect to be blessed, though realizing more and more lack of worth.
4. To testify of God's goodness at all times.
5. To be certain of God's future favor; yet to be ever more tender in conscience toward Him.
6. To rely on God's chastening hand as a mark of his kindness.
7. A Christian under grace has no burdens regarding himself; but many about others.

WILLIAM R. NEWELL

NOMINATE A VOLUNTEER FOR QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30



Volunteer Recognition

The deadline to nominate a volunteer is **Sunday, July 7**, so get a Nomination Form from the foyer, fill it out and return it to the church office mailbox, or place in the offering plate by July 7. The winner will be announced in the subsequent bulletins and in the August newsletter.



First Presbyterian VBS

Friday, August 2
6 - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 3
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

At **Outback Rock** VBS, kids venture into solid faith and discover God's powerful presence in everyday life! This VBS is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch. Team-building games, cool Bible songs, and multisensory Bible adventures are just a few of the activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and sturdy shoes.)

Your kids will also participate in an outreach project called **Projects-With-a-Purpose**® that will let the kids in our community show God's love to others.



Donations and volunteers are needed. There is a donation board outside the Sanctuary where you'll find specific items needed. And, if you wish to volunteer, see **Kelly Beckett, Katie Buchanan or Juliane Springer**. Any and all support is welcomed.



More information and **ONLINE REGISTRATION** is available on our church website, www.fpbpburgwv.org and Facebook page, facebook.com/fpcpburg.

Pastoral Care

If you know of someone who would like a call or visit from Pastor Annie, please contact her by calling the church office, Monday through Thursday, 304-422-5426, or via email pastor@fpcpburgwv.org.



Facilities Management News



The Facilities Management Committee and the Saturday Stewards held their monthly committee meeting on **Saturday, June 1**. The following items were discussed:

- ◆ Bids have been received for replacement of doors opening to the playground at the Child Care Center. A recommended contractor was selected and bids were turned over to the Finance Committee for funding. A bid was approved by Session at its monthly meeting and doors have been ordered. We are still waiting on three bids for tinting the Sanctuary windows.
- ◆ Plans are continuing for new kitchen at Child Care Center.
- ◆ The window washing day was held on June 8.
- ◆ Plans are being made to fund the new LED lighting throughout the church.

June Work / Projects Completed

Each month the Saturday Stewards have regularly-scheduled maintenance and repairs, as well as new and ongoing projects.



- 6/1** - Committee meeting; inspected Fire Extinguishers, Emergency Lighting and Exit Signs; inventoried janitorial and toiletry supplies; repaired and rehung closet doors in Harris Room; built a new playhouse for the toddler / Pre-K classroom



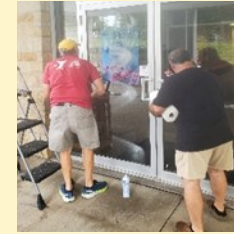
- 6/5** - Annual required testing of backflow preventer for Prayer Garden water meter - passed inspection

- 6/8** - Cleaned windows, inside and out, on east and south sides of facility

(Cont'd. on next page)

- 6/15** - Cleaned all mini-split filters throughout the facility

- 6/22** - Cleaned inside windows at front main entrance, Sanctuary entrance, Stevenson Hall, and entrance to Stevenson Hall



- 6/29** - Cleaned floors in Stevenson Hall

Each Saturday we also provide building supervision for HA meetings

We Need Your Help!!

Please feel free to join us! We welcome *anyone* that wants to help on Saturdays. Even if you can spend only an hour or two, or can help once or twice a month, that would be great! We always can use your help.

Ladies, we definitely could benefit from a feminine touch! We are an open group of both men and women. We meet each **Saturday at 8:30 a.m.** in the Harris Room and normally finish by noon or before. It's also a great opportunity for fellowship.

If you'd like more information, please call or text me @**304-588-6203**.

*Mike Beckett, Chair
Facilities Management*

"The greatest thing that we can do is to help somebody know that they're loved and capable of loving."

—Fred Rogers

Saturday Stewards Work Schedule for July

- 6th** **NO** Committee meeting - **Happy Independence Day weekend!**
- 13th** **Committee Meeting, 8:30 - 9:15 in the Harris Room - ALL are invited and welcome**
- Monthly inspections of Fire Extinguishers, Exit Signs and Emergency Lighting; inventory janitorial supplies and toiletries; buff floors at Stevenson Hall entrance, hallway around Kitchen, Kitchen, & Rooms 123, 124, 125;
- Buff tile floors in lower-level Education wing hallway and Rooms 200, 201, 202, 203, 204;
- Clean and sanitize foam play floor in Toddler/Pre-K classroom
- 20th** Check all light bulbs and replace those that are out / Clean air filters on all mini-splits
- 27th** Clean inside windows at church main entrance, Sanctuary entrance, and Stevenson Hall



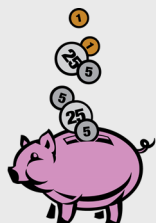
Here and on the next page is the latest update on church finances from our Treasurer. Keep in mind, reports are a month behind due to the publishing date of the newsletter. If you have any questions, you may contact Chris Alfred at finance@fpcburgwv.org

Priorities

Pastor Don Alexander of Oklahoma City tells of a college student who was reported to have put the following message on his answering machine:

"Hi, this is Dave. If it's the phone company, I sent the money. If it's Mom or Dad, please send money. If it's financial aid, you didn't loan me enough money. If it's a coed, leave a message; I'll get back to you - And don't worry, I've got plenty of money."

Could it be that somehow we do have enough money for our highest priorities. The question is: Where do God and the church fit in our priority list?



Financial Statement as of May 31, 2024

2024 Budget	Budget	Actual
Income		
Sunday Offerings		
<i>Pledges</i>	\$ 126,175.00	\$ 53,840.00
<i>Contributions</i>	\$ 44,624.00	\$ 20,605.60
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 604.20
Sunday Offerings	\$ 172,299.00	\$ 75,049.80
<i>Facility Rentals</i>	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 15,519.77
<i>Other Income</i>	\$ 175.00	\$ 119.10
<i>Misc. Income</i>	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Interest from F. Trust</i>	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 263,474.00	\$ 90,688.67
Expenses		
<i>Discipleship</i>	\$ 2,048.00	\$ 529.86
<i>Mission</i>	\$ 500.00	\$ 275.74
<i>Worship & Music</i>	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 2,032.46
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 149,698.00	\$ 55,380.50
<i>Facilities</i>	\$ 81,630.00	\$ 23,569.73
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 3,273.00	\$ -
<i>Communications</i>	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 227.55
<i>Office Expenses</i>	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 8,856.30
Total Expenses	\$ 263,474.00	\$ 90,872.14
Difference	\$ -	\$ (183.47)

ASSETS

FPC CHECKING	
Operating Fund	\$ (183.47)
Restricted Funds	\$ 45,526.44
Deacons Fund	\$ 3,621.48
Total Checking	\$ 48,964.45
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FUNDS	
Checking	\$ 1,647.51
Savings	\$ 1,627.84
Total PW Funds	\$ 3,275.35
INVESTMENTS	
Deacons CD	\$ 6,058.01
Morgan Stanley Stocks	\$ 632.29
United Bank Founders Trust	\$ 67,706.79
Wesbanco Founders Trust	\$ 1,403,697.29
Presbyterian Women Investments	\$ 150,929.29
Total Investments	\$ 1,629,023.67
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,681,263.47



Session HIGHLIGHTS

In their effort to better communicate with the congregation, the Session has listed below the highlights from their **JUNE** meeting:






- After hearing about her sense of call, Session approved Elder Kelly Beckett moving to Level 2 of the Presbytery's Authorized Lay Preacher/Commissioned Pastor Preparation Program. Elder Beckett has already completed the first part of the program which is described as "an opportunity to become more knowledgeable about what it means to be Presbyterian and part of the Reformed family of churches." Level 2 is Authorized Lay Preacher Preparation. Elder Beckett is looking forward to learning more and seeing where this program might take her.
- The music library is being cataloged and inventoried.
- Session approved replacing two outside doors on the Child Care Center side of the building.



2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<p>“If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under.” —Ronald Reagan</p>	<p>1 7:00 PM Mission Committee</p>	<p>2 5:00 PM Session / Founders Trust Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>5 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>6 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>7 <i>Communion</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Ruth Circle 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 6:00 PM Financial Mgmt.</p>	<p>10 5:00 PM Founders Trust</p>	<p>11 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>12 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Facilities Management 9:15 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>14 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>15 6:00 PM Session</p>	<p>16 <i>Pastor Annie on vacation through 22nd</i></p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>19 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>21 <i>Forrest Palmer, pulpit supply</i> 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship <i>Cents-Ability Offering</i></p>	<p>22 7:00 PM Parkersburg Pride</p>	<p>23 6:00 PM Gathering / VBS Meetings</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>26 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>27 8:30 AM Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.</p>																																										
<p>28 8:30 AM Worship 9:15 AM Ruth Circle 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship</p>	<p>29 2:00 PM Henderson Hall Docents</p>	<p>30</p> 	<p>31</p>	<p>“Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.” —George Washington</p>		<p>August 2024</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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