



THE CARILLON

Monthly Newsletter
June 2021

First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dudley Elvery, Transitional Pastor
Vol. 56 No. 6
Web Site: www.fpchw.org

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WILL WE/YOU RETURN?

Within the last two weeks before the deadline for this issue of *The Carillon*, The President of the United States, the leaders of the Centers for Disease Control, and Illinois government officials have been proclaiming good news. The pandemic surrounding the spread of the Covid-19 virus is moving behind us to the point where the isolation we endured for more than a year is mostly now relaxed, but not completely gone. Our last worship service in our sanctuary was on Sunday, March 16, 2020. The time has come to determine our course of action to safely reopen our church buildings.

With the approval of Session, volunteers will be contacting all of our church members by telephone to help us gather the information we need to comply with your desires and needs for recommencement of in-person, on-site worship services. Members and regular attendees will be asked about their desire for such worship services and their willingness to comply with a variety of Covid-19 preventive precautions as may still apply. The volunteer callers will be providing the following information and asking the listed questions. They are provided here so you will have time to think about the answers you will give. Thank you for your much needed help in this research project. This is unlike anything we

have ever had to do before, so please be patient and thoughtful in your responses.

The conversation between you and the volunteer caller will be an introductory statement of purpose followed by a series of questions to be answered by you.

The Session members in conjunction with the Trustees are working to develop our plan for when we reopen the sanctuary for services and how we will revise the services to incorporate proper Covid-19 precautions.

Our intents will be to follow CDC guidelines, face masks, and social distancing, etc. The Trustees are working on the mechanics and logistics associated with these measures. We would like to get an understanding of your interest in attending worship services with these (and perhaps other) restrictions implemented.

- Without singing, would you be likely to return to services? Yes or No
- Without prayer recitals, would you be likely to return to services? Yes or No

- Without Chancel Choir, would you be likely to return to services? Yes or No
- Without coffee hour (Heavenly Perks), would you be likely to return to services? Yes or No
- If we required vaccination proof of all in attendance, would you be likely to return to services? Yes or No
- Would you be willing to show your vaccine “passport?” Yes or No
- What items absolutely need to be in place for you to return to in-person services, i.e., parts of the worship service, safety precautions, etc.? Explain: _____
- Do you feel safe coming back to in-person services now? Yes or No
- Would you like a “live” video service? Yes or No
- Did you regularly attend services before we closed last year? Yes or No
- Would you regularly attend services anyhow? Yes or No
- What is the *one requirement* you need to come back to services? Explain: _____
- Would you be willing to make a reservation for attending services (to maintain social distancing without over-crowding)? Yes or No
- Do you have any other feedback for the Session or the Trustees? Explain: _____

Some of our members live in other states around the country. Please understand that your responses are just as valid and needed as are those from members who live just blocks away from the church. Thank you for your participation in our research project.

Session and Trustees

AN INVITATION IN THE MEANTIME

Session, as you can see, is in the process of determining exactly how and when we will resume worshipping together in our sanctuary. Now that some of the CDC guidelines have been changed, we see this as a possibility. While we wait for the details of that to be settled, Calvary has sent us an invitation to join their in-person worship on any Sunday. Of course, this has been an option since they went back into their building, but they are graciously extending an “official” invitation in case there are any of us who really want to worship in-person and hadn’t considered this option before. We’ll let you know when we can gather together in our own building, but in the meanwhile, here’s an invitation to worship in-person at Calvary.

Laurie Ulrich

*Hello to everyone at 1st Pres of Homewood,
We at Calvary United Protestant Church of Park Forest cordially invite you to attend our in sanctuary worship service each Sunday starting at 9 a.m. We ask that each of you wear a mask that covers both your mouth and nose at all times and exercise social distancing at all times. Please send your offering donation to your church on a regular basis. Until you are able to open your church building, we welcome all those who find themselves ready for an in-person worship experience. We look forward to seeing new faces and making new friends. Blessings, Jeff Hill, Session Chair*

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

June 6 10:30 a.m. virtual worship
July 4 10:30 a.m. virtual worship or ?
August 1 10:30 a.m. virtual worship or ?



SESSION REPORT

Regular Session Meeting, May 17, 2021

Session continues to meet via Zoom on the third Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. Seven of nine Ruling Elders attended this meeting. Rev. Elvery moderated.

Following extensive discussions, Session approved several Motions for matters that required attention:

- ✚ To inform the congregation about an invitation from Calvary United Protestant Church to anyone who wishes to worship on Sundays in their sanctuary. [See invitation message above.]
- ✚ To celebrate Communion in our virtual worship service on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021.
- ✚ To approve the 2021 Church Budget as proposed by the Stewardship & Finance Ministry Team. [See details in the Stewardship data summary in a following article.]
- ✚ To approve a one-week Vacation Leave for Rev. Elvery from May 31—June 6, 2021.
- ✚ To approve a research study for member interest in returning to in-person, on-site worship in the church building. [See the lead article on page 1.]

Session acknowledged the receipt of a thank you letter from Ms. Jeanne Perkins, sister of Active Member Deacon Donna Lee Anderson, who passed away on Monday, April 12, 2021. Enclosed with the letter was a check from Ms. Anderson’s estate for a bequest of \$10,000 to the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood. [See the the Stewardship & Finance report.]

Respectfully submitted,
Edward C. Wahl, Clerk of Session

FROM THE PASTOR

Why should the interesting stuff be shared with only the Session? It shouldn't. So I share with you an article I found that begins to think about the church of the future:

Glimpses of the Post-Pandemic Church: Multi-Church Disciples

“About 30 years ago, I had a friend in rural Virginia who claimed to have three churches, and she participated in all three each Sunday morning. She attended 9:30 Bible Study with the Baptists. She attended 11:00 worship with the Presbyterians. And she attended 12:30 coffee hour with the Episcopalians. I remember feeling semi-outraged by this, thinking she lacked commitment and was taking advantage of those congregations as a mere consumer.

“Today, the pandemic has made this kind of relationship with multiple congregations not only possible but preferable. I now know multiple people who attend a Bible Study on Wednesday nights at one church, Sunday worship at another church, and perhaps a book study at a third church. And they tend to be very committed and very generous to all three gatherings. And these congregations might be located in three different states! This might continue as a feature of the Post-Pandemic Church. When once we were siloed, we can now be more connectional. When once we were devoted to a single church congregation—perhaps to the point of perpetuating an institution first and foremost—we can now become more devoted to becoming a disciple of Jesus first and foremost.

“Here are the common questions though:

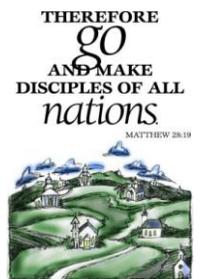
-  *Will people participating in several congregations be willing to support each of those congregations financially? (i.e. Who's going to pay for all these great events in all these great congregations?)*
-  *What if somebody from “our church” likes that book study over at the other church to the point that they leave us and join them?*

“We have been all about Attendances, Buildings, and Cash for so long in our congregations (the ABCs) that we have forgotten about the Neighbors, Organizational changes from what no longer works, and Paradigm shifts needed to be a Church for Post-Pandemic times (the NOPs). I've been preaching about this for a while now, and the pandemic has blessed us by accelerating the need for these shifts. This is good.

“Do not be surprised when “strangers”—and perhaps people who do not even self-identify as Christian—call your church “their church” because they've been attending your Bible Study on Genesis and they feel connected. Do not be surprised when a person nobody knows in Colorado starts pledging to your church's ministry in Georgia because they've found community. It's a new day. And all this is very good.”

This article points to a way the arena for doing ministry, being the church, has changed. Another way I've been thinking about the changing landscape for the church is that we're no longer a symphony orchestra but buskers. An orchestra practices and performs in a concert hall. People come there to hear them play. There's a cast of supporting characters who take care of the building, raise money, sell tickets, and take care of the patrons. They wait for people to come to them. Buskers practice in any place they can find and go out into the streets to play and have people enjoy and respond. As I thought about the difference in having people come to us instead of going to them, I thought about Jesus' words to his disciples. While he said to the children, the sick, and the lame, “Come to me,” he said to the disciples, “Go.” He didn't say wait for them to come to you; he said, “Go.” We've gotten comfortable waiting for people to come to us. If we want to be His disciples, we must go and not wait.

Dudley Elvery



CHICAGO HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

Chicago Heights Men's Fellowship Lunches will meet at Paulie's Pub in South Chicago Heights, 2736 Chicago Road. Come at 12:30 p.m. for a devotion, lunch, and Christian fellowship. The dates are all Fridays: June 18, July 16, and August 13 for the summertime.

TRUSTEE REPORT



The Trustees met via Zoom on May 11. Earl Anker is working with J&L Roofing about the leak that has caused damage to the ceiling in the balcony. Locating the source may involve opening the ceiling in the damaged area and inspecting *during a rain storm*. The stop sign near the office door that was knocked off by a truck will be rehung soon. Laura Dillman noted that bare sports in the Aki Garden are being addressed. Spring weeding is under way. Laura also reported that all food that had become outdated during the pandemic has been removed

from the kitchen. Shopping for the replacement of the oft-troubling office computer is in process. The Trustees decided to hold the next meeting (June 8) in person in the Parlor.
Rod Dunlap

TRUSTEE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President Jay Ruklic
Vice President Paul Tufts
Secretary Rod Dunlap

Buildings & Grounds

Earl Anker
Phil Dillman
Vern Moore

Elevator

Earl Anker

Energy

Rod Dunlap

Grounds Beautification

Laura Dillman
Paul Gerrish
Susan Zorns

Faith Formation Liaison

Nancy Beaudoin

Steward/Finan Team

Ron Shropshire

Kitchen/Restrooms

Laura Dillman
Susan Zorns

Persnel/Admin Team

Jay Ruklic

Organ/Piano/Sound System

Paul Gerrish

Nominating Committee

Rod Dunlap

Insurance

Rod Dunlap
Paul Tufts

Carillon Message

Rod Dunlap, secretary

Office Equip/Operations

Ron Shropshire
Paul Tufts
Earl Anker

Risk Preven/Manage

Rod Dunlap
Paul Gerrish

Budget for 2022

All Trustees

 **STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM**

Last month, you learned that the first Sunday in May is considered Legacy Giving Sunday. This year, Legacy Giving Sunday was on Sunday, May 2, 2021. If we had been in a normal worship service, you could have expected to hear a message from a member of the Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team regarding your estate planning and the inclusion of a legacy bequest. One day later, Monday, May 3, 2021, a legacy bequest arrived in the mail. The letter accompanying the bequest explains it best.

Dear First Presbyterian Church—Homewood, IL
Enclosed is a check for \$10,000.00 from Donna Anderson, who passed away on April 12, 2021.

Donna put in her will that she wanted to donate \$10,000.00 to First Presbyterian Church—Homewood, Illinois. My thanks to this church family for all they did for Donna and for my mother Mildred Anderson, who passed away in 1998. The church was very important to both of them.

It has been a difficult year for everyone.

Dudley Elvery was wonderful at Donna’s memorial service and cemetery committal service.

Sincerely, Jeanne Perkins, sister

The Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team presented a balanced 2021 Church Budget to Session for review and approval. Session voted to approve the budget, and the numbers appear in the financial report box.

The summary of receipts and disbursements for the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood for the month ending April 30, 2021, is in the following chart:

	<u>Through April</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>
General Fund Income		
Identified Giving	\$43,110	\$130,000
Loose Offering	0	0
Initial Offering	338	400
Required Min. Dist./Stock Sale	11,786	22,000
Community Dinners Donations	0	0
Other Income	16,577	20,000
Dividends & Capital Gains	509	10,000
Sale of Investment Shares	0	11,300
Endowment Fund Distributions	0	9,000
Transfer from Designated Fund	<u>1,456</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Total General Fund Income	73,777	204,700
General Fund Expenses		
Missional Ventures	\$0	6,000
Faith Formation	6	9,500
Facilities	14,258	49,000
Staff	26,605	81,000
Transition	14,841	51,800
Administrative Support	2,159	7,400
Purchase of Investment Shares	0	0
Transfer to Designated Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total General Fund Expenses	57,869	204,700
Designated Fund Income	\$7,485	
Designated Fund Expenses	5,434	
Total Active Members—April 2021		102
Summary through April 2021 (4/12 of Budget):		
Income Over/(Under) 2021 Budget		5,544
Expenses Over/(Under) 2021 Budget		(10,364)
2021 Total Net Income (Loss) to Date		15,908

On-line giving is ready for your use. You may also use regular mail at the following address for maximum safety: First Presbyterian Church of Homewood
P.O. Box 1519
Homewood, IL 60430

PRESBYTERY REPORT

For the second time in 2021, the assembly of the Presbytery of Chicago, 99 city and suburban churches, was held on Zoom. The September meeting is to be determined—which means **maybe** it will be held in-person in one of our churches. There were about 180 people on Zoom: Ministers of Word and Sacrament and ordained Elders (not necessarily currently serving on a Session). *You could be one of those Elder commissioners...stay tuned.*

The two-hour meeting included both worship and business, led by Mike Welf, a ruling Elder of First Presbyterian Church of Chicago Heights (Mike is a commissioned pastor and serves the Homewood fire department). The Cameroon choir from his church participated in worship. The offering in worship (both electronic and mail-in) is going to the Pentecost offering, which contributes to our denomination's work to inspire young people—as ours will. The necrology report for 2020 included the naming of our Jack Day, a centenarian who faithfully served as an ordained Elder here and in his previous churches. Captioning in Spanish and Korean was available.

A grounding theme for the 2021 year is *Resilience*. A public service announcement currently airing on Channel 11 features a woman saying, "It's not how you fall—it's how you get up." A speaker at Presbytery emphasized that, more than bouncing back, resilience is a moving forward from hardship / failure / defeat. Think: Crucifixion; Resurrection; Ascension; Pentecost!

Business on the docket included reports from committees and commissions that do the work of the Presbytery and invite participation in that work. Sue Krummel, executive presbyter, will retire at the end of 2021, and so there is a committee to write a MIF for use in calling a new exec. Our PNC folks will resonate with that process, as we seek a called pastor with our yoked partner, Calvary. Financial reports were presented with opportunity for questions: total liabilities and net assets as of 12/31/20 were \$12,242,641.97.

Assembly closed with singing of the Avery and Marsh hymn, *I Am the Church; You Are the Church; We Are the Church Together*. Want to be a commissioner to Presbytery from FPC Homewood? Talk to Ed Wahl or me.
Karen Maurer

WORSHIP MINISTRY



Our worship continues to be online, created by the "Team" of Pastor Dudley—who structures the services, preaches the sermon, and reads our *Moments with Children* (in addition to assigning Homework); Tim VanNasdale—who, in spite of his new position, continues to provide the music for our services by locating previously-recorded hymns and anthems and/or by recording preludes and postludes; Karen Maurer and Laurie Ulrich—who contact people to be the online liturgists; Kathie Darman—who works with the online liturgists and records their readings; and Master Magician and Technician Kathie Hazlett—who, with the assistance of Shirley Armistead, takes all the pieces, adds her photographs and graphics and text, thereby creating a coherent YouTube piece, which then is posted to our website for us to access on Sunday mornings. It's a collaborative effort, to be sure!

Laurie Ulrich

[Remember to answer the questions about returning to worship in our sanctuary when the phone call comes.]

PRAYER CARDS

The following members, friends, and staff of First Presbyterian Church of Homewood will receive a card telling them that the church is praying for them. Please pray for those listed each week. Kathie Darman

Week of June 6

Natalie & James Calderone
Debra Campbell
Mary Cantway
Jean & David Conover
Bob & Linda Cook

Week of June 13

James Daanen
Linda Daanen
Kathie Darman
Dee Delaney
Debbie Dennis

Week of June 20

Laura Dillman
Phil & Amy Dillman
Evelyn Dixon
Marilyn Dolci
Johnnie & NeNe Dorsey

Week of June 27

Patty Dunlap
Rod Dunlap
Rev Dudley & Glenna Elvery
Marge Errant

Week of July 4

Barbara Foerch
Jim Foster
Paul Gerrish
Ray & Gerri Gilmore
Fred Grable/Nancy Connors

Week of July 11

Ramses Godoy & Sebastian
Dottie Guenter
Emily Hamilton
Kim & Tim Hamilton
Dan/Rev Laurel Hamilton



Week of July 18

Dan & Kiley Hamilton
Melanie Hamilton
Nick & Bree Hamilton
Olivia Hamilton
Richard & Emily Hanley

Week of July 25

Charlene Hansen
Kathie & Jerry Hazlett
Tom & Tricia Hentschel
Emmanuel & Lee Hilario
Bob James

Week of August 1

Dorinda Jensen
Marilyn Jerner
Jessica & Ken Jursa et al
Lina Jursa
Candi Kleindorfer

Week of August 8

Melodee Leimnster
Nancy Llewellyn
Karen Maurer
Debbie/John Maxwell
Kristen Maxwell

Week of August 15

Bruce & Heather Miller
Ian Miller
Shannon Miller
Craig Miller
Vern Moore

Week of August 22

Ray & Wanda Nielsen
Kirk Nicherson/Priscilla Mereness
Kathie & Jim Ogden
Kathleen O'Hanlon
Betty Owens

Week of August 29

Elisabeth & Paul Palumbo
Marilyn Perdue
Judy Petrovic
Richard & Barb Pizza
Norinne Pulec



HOSPITALIZED

In the hospital during the past month was Evelyn Dixon.

NURSING HOME / REHAB

Pat Steiner, Plymouth Place, LaGrange Park.

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

The following has been recorded in the Memorial Book in the Narthex: Donna Anderson, Raymond Baird

CONGRATULATIONS

Exactly which June Sunday is *Graduate Sunday* was not available at time of publication. If you have a graduate not on this *Carillon* list, please contact the church secretary at fpchw@sbcglobal.net so that the name can be added to the Sunday bulletin.



Junior High Graduates

Jackson Graham (grandson of Marilyn Dolci) graduated from Evergreen CO Middle School and will attend Evergreen CO High School. (His English teacher will be his mother, Amy Dolci Graham)
Jessica Wagge (granddaughter of Marge Errant) graduated from Manteno Junior High School and will attend Manteno High School.

High School Graduates

Mackenzie Guthrie (granddaughter of Marge Errant) graduated from Lake Central High School and will attend Purdue University for brain and behavioral sciences.
Ashley Wagge (granddaughter of Marge Errant) graduated from Manteno High School and will attend the University of Tampa for veterinary science.
Madison Raiser (granddaughter of Ron Shropshire) graduated from Homewood-Flossmoor High School and will attend St. Mary of the Woods College in Terre Haute, IN, for graphic design and equine studies.
Mike Elvery (grandson of Dudley Elvery) graduated from Willowbrook High School and will attend the College of Dupage and then a 4-year college for computer science.
Cameron Lee Maurer (grandson of Karen Maurer) graduated from Main South High School and will attend Rochester NY Institute of Technology for industrial design. He has a music scholarship for French horn.
Paula Glaser (grandniece of Lee & Emmanuel Hilario) graduated from a high school in Missouri and will attend Washington University in St. Louis.
Jack Taylor (grandnephew of Lee & Emmanuel Hilario) graduated from a high school in Illinois and will attend the University of Washington in Seattle for environmental science.
Lily Skenandore (granddaughter of Nancy Beaudoin) graduated from Fairhope High School and will attend Murray State University.

College Graduates

Kristen Maxwell received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing from Illinois State University. She will teach at a middle school in East Moline.
Sierra Ushman (granddaughter of Ed & Janet Wahl) received a Bachelor of Science degree business marketing from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. She will go into training as a manager for Enterprise Car Rentals.

 **THANK YOU**

Thank you for supporting our Archie Amos Scholarship program with your \$100 donation. Traditionally, our annual Brotherhood Banquet hosts over 150 people in our large hall to fellowship and celebrate some of our hard-working high school seniors. Although we successfully adjusted this momentous occasion as a result of the pandemic, we truly miss many of our customs.



The good news is that we still awarded ten \$1000 scholarships to students from Bloom and Bloom Trail. We had a wonderful time highlighting these scholars and other Jones Center activities during our virtual 33rd Annual Brotherhood Banquet on April 22nd. We entitled this event *It's All Elementary* because there was never a doubt that Jones Center would continue this wonderful tradition.

Cheryl L. Roop

 **SEPTEMBER CARILLON**

The deadline for having articles placed in the September *Carillon* is **Friday, August 20th**. Get all the “back to church” information in on time. Please turn in all materials in writing to the Editor at ewahl@sbcglobal.net. The Editor thanks the June reporters for their assistance. Remember that some summer news will be on the website www.fpchw.org and on the church’s Facebook page and on the prayer chain.

J C = W =



 **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:**

June	June
Emmanuel Hilario	Rod Dunlap
Debra Ruklic	Nancy Beaudoin

July	July
Kathie Darman	Barbara Foerch
Judy Petrovic	Dorinda Jensen
Lina Jursa	Sylvia Tufts
Joan Alvers	Linda Daanen
Ron Shropshire	Leslie Bonthron
Betty Ross	Jay Webster

August	August
Tricia Hentschel	Ian Bonthron
Judith Blakesley	Ian Miller
Earl Anker	Laura Dillman
Margaret Errant	Shannon Miller
Marilyn Perdue	Natalie Hamilton
	Olivia Hamilton
	Ramses Godoy

May God grant birthday blessings to you all this coming year.



“A father’s a treasure, a brother’s a comfort, a friend is both.” Benjamin Franklin, 1706-1790

“My father didn’t tell me how to live; he lived and let me watch him do it.” Clarence Budington Kelland, 1881-1964

“His heritage to his children wasn’t words or possessions, but an unspoken treasure, the treasure of his example as a man and a father.” Will Rogers, Jr., 1911-1993

“I believe that what we become depends on what our fathers teach us at odd moments when they aren’t trying to teach us. We are formed by little scraps of wisdom.” Umberto Eco, 1932-2016

“A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow.” Unknown

The Old Farmer’s 2021 Summer Almanac, Robert B. Thomas

JUNE 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom ←-----	2 ----- PASTOR'S-----	3 ----- VACATION-----	4 ----- MAY 31-----	5 ----- to JUNE 6-----
6 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Communion Guest Preacher Heavenly Perks on Website	7 	8 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom 7:00 Trustees on Zoom	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Heavenly Perks on Website	14 FLAG DAY Stewardship Team on Zoom	15 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	16	17	18 12:30 Chicago Heights Men's Fellowship	19
20 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website FATHER'S DAY Heavenly Perks on Website	21 7:00 Session on Zoom	22 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	23	24	25	26
27 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Heavenly Perks on Website	28	29 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	30		JULY 4 Communion 13 Trustees 16 C.H. Men's Fellowship 19 Session Tuesday Bible Study	AUGUST 1 Communion 10 Trustees 13 C.H. Men's Fellowship 16 Session 20 <i>Carillon</i> Deadline Tuesday Bible Study