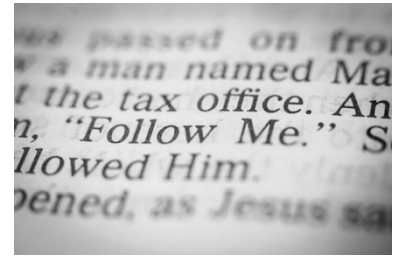


*“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*



Those words to a beloved hymn conjure up images of Jesus calling his disciples to ministry, asking them to trust him, to give up their daily livelihoods and families, and follow him in a new direction that would change their lives (and our whole world) forever. As the verses progress, it moves from Christ’s voice calling to our response:

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

The tune name of this song is “The Summons.” While we have begun a transitional period yet again in the life of our congregation, we will be challenged to answer some of those questions about what we are willing to do to “live and grow in you [Christ] and you in me.” The session and leadership of Edgewood summon you to join in the process by becoming active in attending our services, conversations, and ministries. Help us to hear God’s call as we continue to live out our mission to love God, love each other, and love our neighbors. Let’s see how we grow...



After prayerful discussion at the June 8, 2021, meeting, the Session has updated in-person worship guidelines as follows:

- those who are not vaccinated must wear a mask properly; vaccinated individuals may choose not to wear a mask
- please continue to observe social distancing in the marked pews
- As of June 20, congregational singing has resumed. You are welcome to use the hymnals in the pews, stand and join in singing of hymns and responses. Lyrics will continue to be printed in the bulletin for those following along online.

We understand that each person is different with the possible risks he or she may have. Live-streamed online worship will continue to be available on Facebook and YouTube for those who choose to stay home until they feel safe to rejoin in person.

The worship committee is working hard to secure guest preachers to lead our services in the coming months. We are working from Presbytery’s pulpit supply list as well as referrals. If you know of a pastor who may be interested in joining us for a week or 2, contact Rhonda Apossos at [rrudman@trc-law.com](mailto:rrudman@trc-law.com).



120 East Swissvale Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218  
www.fpcedgewood.org  
412-241-4613



*Believing we are  
called together  
by God's love  
through Jesus Christ,  
our mission as the  
First Presbyterian Church  
of Edgewood  
is to love God,  
to love each other,  
and to love our neighbors.*

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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FROGS Program Director  
**Judy Mysels**  
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frogs@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager  
**Rob Mysels**  
building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music  
**Shaun Cloonan**  
music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist  
**Sunny Sakai**  
sunnysakai4@gmail.com

**LOVE GOD**  
**EACH OTHER**  
**OUR NEIGHBORS**

## Upcoming Worship Services

### Sunday, August 1:

While Pastor Michael Rucker formally retired on June 30, 2020, back then we were recording on Friday afternoons and only about 6 people were in attendance for his final service. We honored him with a video tribute of messages from many congregation members, but we had hoped that a day would come that we could really celebrate together in person. That day has arrived, and it's August 1st! Pastor Michael will lead us in a communion worship service, and we will come together in the Gathering Place afterward for a formal retirement reception. Come join us as we recognize Michael (and Heather!) for their nearly 8 years of service with us. ***Don't forget to join us for the congregational meeting immediately following the service to elect our next pastor nominating committee.***

### Sunday, August 8:

The Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills, who led a number of our services last summer, returns to our pulpit.

### Sunday, August 15:

Our full emerging worship ensemble has not formally gathered to lead worship since February 2020. We will sing some of our favorite songs from our emerging format (think "Come, Now is the Time to Worship," "We are Forgiven," and more!). It will be a welcome sight to have our musicians leading in worship again (more than just Sunny and Shaun!). The Rev. Bob Ruefle, who is a friend of Sue Pollick, will lead our emerging worship today.

### Sunday, August 22:

Rev. Ruefle returns to preach and to baptize Ember Grace Vogel, a member of the late Doris Hamilton's family (who will be in town for her memorial service at FPCE the day before).

### Sunday, August 29:

Guest preacher not yet confirmed at the time of newsletter printing.

### *Looking ahead...*

### September 5:

The Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills will lead us on this Labor Day weekend in a communion worship as the last of our summer 10AM services.

### September 12:

It's Rally Day! We resume the 11:00 worship hour and welcome back our Sanctuary Choir, who have not participated in worship since March 2020. Join us for a picnic on the lawn afterward!

# Session Notes

At their July 13 meeting, Session voted to:

- Enter the death of Sallie Monk (7/3/21) into the church records.
- Enter the baptism of Kenneth Craig Simon (on 6/13/21) into the church records.
- Approve the baptism (following our COVID guidelines) of Ember Grace Vogel, child of Sierra Noelle Boatman and Jeremy Christopher Vogel, great granddaughter of Doris Hamilton, granddaughter of Leigh Ann Hamilton, on August 22, 2021.
- Approve ESO's use of the sanctuary for rehearsals on Tuesdays, Aug. 28- Oct. 5 and Oct. 19-Nov.30, 7-10 PM at \$100/rehearsal and for concerts on Oct. 9 and Dec. 4 at \$500/concert. ESO will be allowed to remove and return the first 2-3 rows of pews at their expense.
- Voted to call a Congregational meeting on August 1, 2021, for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Voted to assist with the reception that will follow the Celebration of Life of Sallie Monk.
- Pastor Rivera installed Tyler McGuigan as an Elder to replace Paul Ogori.

## Treasurer's Report

As of June 30, 2021 the income and expenses for FPCE are as follows:

Total Income - \$100,425.98 Actual      YTD Budget - \$104,532.02

Total Expense - \$93,191.57 Actual      YTD Budget - \$105,789.46



Income exceeds expenses by \$7,234.41, even though income is below budget. This is primarily due to low maintenance and utility expenses so far this year. The worst part of utility usage has passed, so unless there are unexpected maintenance expenses the year-end Total Expenses should be below budget. Congregation donations are \$49,573.95 which is below budget by \$5,426.03. All expenses items are within the YTD budget.

*Tom Ochs, Treasurer*

## Worship Committee News

The PC(USA) *Book of Order* states that one of the Session's responsibilities is to "provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard. This responsibility shall include providing a place where the congregation may regularly gather for worship, education, and spiritual nurture; providing for regular preaching of the Word by a minister of the Word and Sacrament or other person prepared and approved for the work" (G-3.0201a). While we are in this period of transition, the Worship Committee will assure that we have pastoral leadership in our Sunday morning services each week.

It was suggested at a recent brainstorming session that as we secure pulpit supply pastors, we should try to get them for 2-3 weeks in a row so that the congregation can get a better feel for different styles of worship leadership and preaching that these folks may bring to us. We could encourage someone that resonates with the congregation to put their name into the mix for consideration by our pastor nominating committee once they get to the point of reviewing candidate information. We may also decide to offer a short-term "designated supply pastor" contract to someone during the search process in place of having a formal Interim Pastor to provide some continuity until a pastor is called.

We welcome your thoughts on the guest pastors we bring to lead us in worship...we know not everyone will like each person, and that's OK! The most important thing you can do aside from praying for our congregation is to attend our services and actively participate in the ministry of FPCE moving forward.

*FPCE Worship Committee: Elder Rhonda Apepos (chair), Minister of Music Shaun Cloonan, Martha Crean, Lorraine Douthett, Deacon John Foster, Elder Marcia Haley, Pianist Sunny Sakai, Elder Lisa Segedy.*

## Call for Liturgists

As we work to secure guest pastors to lead our services, the worship committee would like to have a designated assistant to help the guest each week. We are seeking interested individuals to share in worship leadership as liturgists. This involves speaking from the pulpit and delivering the words of welcome/announcements, call to worship, prayer of confession, possibly a scripture reading, and sharing in the joys and concerns before the morning prayer. We will script everything out for you, and Shaun is happy to quickly go over details/microphone placement on that morning so that you are heard clearly. If you are interested, please contact Rhonda Apossos at [rrudman@trc-law.com](mailto:rrudman@trc-law.com).

## Who's on First?

It can sometimes get a little confusing with a congregation our size, when just about every member has served in a leadership role on Session or the Deacons at one point over the last 10 years, to remember who is currently serving and who oversees specific areas of our ministry. Especially considering we had a couple of members transfer: Paul and Karen Ogori; and Tim Carr, Sallie Monk and Ed Masten passed away, it was suggested that we post the current elders and deacons for your information.

### THE SESSION

#### 2021

Nancy Ernst  
Judy Mysels  
Lisa Segedy

#### 2022

Rhonda Apossos  
Tyler McGuigan  
Tom Ochs  
Florence Raisig

#### 2023

Marcia Haley  
Tim Hoffman  
Tim McKee  
Jim Segedy

### THE BOARD OF DEACONS

#### 2021

Mary Ann Hartman  
Angel Lehrian  
Rick Masten

#### 2022

Diane Kemmerer  
Glenn Allen Monk

#### 2023

Elaine Cloonan  
John Foster  
Wayne Dean

#### Name

Nancy Ernst  
Judy Mysels  
Lisa Segedy  
Rhonda Apossos  
Tyler McGuigan  
Tom Ochs  
Florence Raisig  
Marcia Haley  
Tim Hoffman  
Timothy McKee  
Jim Segedy

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316-8649  
728-4782  
212-0705  
371-1182  
244-1882  
287-0278  
680-4501  
680-2219

#### Name

Mary Ann Hartman  
Angel Lehrian  
Rick Masten  
Diane Kemmerer  
Glenn Allen Monk  
Elaine Cloonan  
John Foster  
Wayne Dean

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400-1136  
727-6378  
271-1779  
612-7310



## Remembering Sallie

As was mentioned at her memorial service, Sallie Monk was a true deacon and we will all feel the loss of our friend and former congregational visitor in the months and years to come. We want to offer our thanks to all who helped with the luncheon after Sallie's service: Lorraine Douthett who came early with me to clean up and set up; for those who brought in food that included the Hartman girls, Donna Stineman, Kathy Horner, Lorraine, Brenda McCrady, Karen Schoedel; Rhonda Apossos for ordering the sandwiches, Marcia Haley for the flowers, Glenn Allen Monk for paper products. To everyone who wore yellow in honor of Sallie's favorite color, making the day just a little bit brighter. And to Lori and Lynne, thank you for sharing your wonderful mom with us.

*Mary Ann Hartman, deacons moderator*

## Note About the Chair Lift

The lift that was installed at the side entrance is currently inoperable. An inspector came by several weeks ago and informed us we were missing some permit or notification that must be posted in order to have it running. He tagged it and unplugged it until we resolve the issue. Stay tuned.



## The ESO in Residency at FPCEdgewood

You all know we have enjoyed a partnership with the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra for over 25 years. Most years, they hold their annual holiday concert in our sanctuary, and every few years or so, they also request to hold a second concert at FPCE.

Placement auditions are held in August for new players in the Gathering Place, and some years there have been choral ensembles joining them for performances.

There has been talk for years on both sides separately that establishing more of a physical presence in Edgewood would be good for the symphony and the church. You will notice that in the Session Notes, we have approved the use of our sanctuary for not only the holiday concert, but also a fall concert and all rehearsals leading up to it. ESO liaison Jim Segedy, property chair Tim McKee, office manager Judy Mysels, and music minister Shaun Cloonan are working alongside ESO president Thom Palmer to assure smooth operation of this much more extensive use of our space. Thom has also expressed a desire to explore the possibility of even renting some office space in the church to give them an actual Edgewood address.

We are excited about the potential for even more music at FPCE with this expansion in addition to our established basement inhabitants Milepost6, and new tenants Vocal Confluence (who are hoping to host a holiday concert in our sanctuary as well!) and Steranka Flute Studio.



Slowly but surely, we are finding our way back to a new normal not just in our own lives but also in our church life. The Summer Singers group I'm part of has been rehearsing mask-less and it's been a joy to sing in an ensemble live again. I'm hopeful that my high school choirs can sing in person again when classes start with no more Zoom rehearsals or hybrid classes or sitting 6 feet apart from each other. At the Christmas in July service, we reintroduced the passing of the peace and gathering song to our order of worship. Mandy and Tyler have started showing up to lead singing a little more regularly. August 15 we will see our worship ensemble return to our first full Emerging service since February 2020. And when 11:00 worship resumes on September 12, our Sanctuary Choir will gather together for rehearsal and sing an anthem during the service – the first time you will hear their collective voices live and in person since March 8, 2020. It's been too long!

As we begin a more established routine for our collective worship life (even if the preacher is different from week to week), I invite you to consider any musical offerings you may have to lift up in our service. Have you always wanted to sing with the choir but have hesitated for a variety of reasons? Now is your chance to start up again with us in September! Do you play guitar, keyboard, bass, percussion and want to be a part of our emerging worship ensemble? Email me at [music@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:music@fpcedgewood.org) and I'll get you on the list and send out music to you. Both the choir and the ensemble only rehearse on Sunday mornings so there is no additional commitment other than maybe some personal practice if feeling unsure.

Consider this your invitation to participate more fully in our worship life through the gift of music. I'm very much looking forward to having more than just me and my "partner in crime" Sunny leading songs each week – not that it isn't a tremendous blessing to ALL of us to have her at the piano! Let's all make a joyful noise to the Lord in whatever way we can.

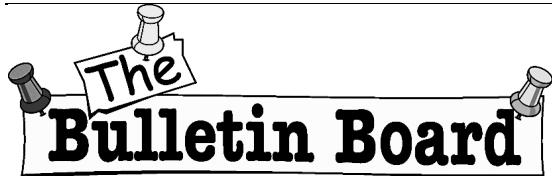
Peace,  
*Shaun Cloonan, minister of music*

## “I Come to the Garden Alone...”

To help beautify FPCE, weeding/gardening was started on the side lawn/prayer garden area of the church. This is only a start and needs on-going help. If you find yourself with extra time any time of the day or evening, come over and pull some weeds, trim, etc. If this upkeep is done on a more regular basis, it won't be as hard to control. Contact Judy for more info.

## Tuesday Book Club

The weekly discussion group is currently reading “Women of the Bible Speak” by Shannon Bream. If you would like to join, they meet at 10:00AM on Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apeessos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood.



## Sharing the Joys & Concerns of the FPCE Family

- Thanks to Elaine Cloonan for holding down the office while the Mysels were on vacation the week of July 25-August 1.
- Sympathies to the family and friends of Sallie Monk who passed away July 3. Many thanks to all who helped with her July 24 memorial service at the church and reception that followed downstairs.
- A special shout out to Lorraine Douthett who took time to rearrange the large white floral displays in the brass urns that we use in front of the sanctuary. They were purchased by Sallie Monk and Bert Hart when Sallie's husband Skip Monk passed away over 10 years ago and were beginning show their age. Lorraine took them apart and reassembled them so they could be displayed at Sallie's memorial.
- Sympathies to the family and friends of Edwin Masten who passed away July 18. **A memorial service will be held in the sanctuary on Saturday, August 14 at 10:00am** with Pastor Michael Rucker officiating, Rick delivering the eulogy, and Sunny and Shaun leading the music.



# WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY MINISTRY

*Looking for some volunteer work this summer and next year?  
Here are several tasks that you can do to help at Wilkinsburg Community Ministry!*

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

Volunteers must provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination. We can have up to four volunteers at once. Each of these tasks can take 30 minutes to 2 hrs. depending on volunteers' skills and abilities. If you don't know how to do something, we will teach you!

### **DAILY PANTRY MAINTENANCE**

2 volunteers per day to help maintain and stock the supplies, pack special bags: toiletries, household cleaning bags, and menu bags (all items needed to make a specific dish).

### **DELIVERIES**

On call-volunteers for pick-up or delivery of food. Volunteers could be given 24-hour notice of need and as little notice as 4 hrs. They must be able to lift 50 lbs. and must have reliable transportation

### **REGULARLY SCHEDULED PICK UPS**

Forest Hills Farmers Market Presbyterian Church Ardmore Boulevard 6:45 PM  
Penn Hills Community Garden Thursday's at 6:30 PM or on-call basis

### **IRREGULAR PICK UPS**

On call-volunteers for pick-up or delivery of food. Volunteers could be given 4-24-hour notice of need. They must be able to lift 50 lbs. and must have reliable transportation

### **GARDEN MAINTENANCE**

Aquaponics and Hydroponics System volunteers: maintain aquaponics and hydroponics system. Collaborate with David Sanchez and the Sanchez Laboratory to develop nutrients and maintain water quality.

- Gardening Maintenance volunteers: water and weed garden on a regular basis.
- Mushroom Bed volunteer: water and maintain mushroom bed/beds.

### **MONTHLY PANTRY MAINTENANCE**

1-3 volunteers needed to pack special bags: toiletries, household cleaning bags, and menu bags (all items needed to make a specific dish).

***Do any of these sound interesting? Call 412-241-8072 and talk with Ruth or Carlos, or email to [volunteers@wcm15221.org](mailto:volunteers@wcm15221.org)***

### **OPERATION BACKPACK GEARING UP FOR AUGUST DISTRIBUTION**

The annual **Operation Backpack** is up and running. In collaboration with the Wilkinsburg Public Library and Kelly and Turner Schools, Operation Backpack provides Wilkinsburg school kids with new school supplies runs from June through August. We order preassembled 15-inch backpacks with a 12-piece school supply kit, which costs us about \$4.20 per unit. The kits are distributed via the primary and elementary schools in Wilkinsburg, in coordination with the library. They include pencil cases, #2 pencils and a sharpener, two pens, an eraser, a glue stick and a small pack of crayons.

These are "uniform" kits: every child gets the same kind of kit and the only difference is the color. We have learned that offering children different kinds of backpack creates more friction than it resolves. We have previously gathered the materials and assembled the kits ourselves, but we have learned in the past 2-3 years that ordering preassembled kits delivered directly to the schools is the most efficient solution.

If you or your congregation, community group, scouting organization, etc., would like to participate in Operation Backpack, we accept monetary donations for the project. Write Operation Backpack in the memo of your check.

Additional items that are always needed include: small to medium white boards and markers, construction and lined paper, extra pencils (#2), extra pink erasers, composition notebooks (wide ruled), drawing paper, extra crayon sets. Additional items will be shared between the two schools and with the Wilkinsburg Public Library Children's Section. "Wish List" items are included on the "SMILE.AMAZON." website under the charity lists for Wilkinsburg Community Ministry. You can purchase there and your purchase we delivered directly to us. The link is on our website at [www.wcm15221.org](http://www.wcm15221.org)

The complementary program, Seats and Feets, provides the schools with extra underwear, socks and school uniforms for the children. Often children arrive at school with no socks—they've dressed themselves and couldn't find the socks, for example. Underwear is often a casualty, and having a supply is useful. Both schools have washers and dryers, and clothing can be cleaned and returned to the child before he or she goes home.



First Presbyterian Church of  
**EDGEWOOD**  
*The Community Church*  
 120 East Swissvale Avenue  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15218

## August 2021

| Sunday   | Monday            | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday | Friday             | Saturday   |
|--|-------------------|--|--|----------|--------------------|--|
| 1<br>10:00 Communion<br>Worship (S)<br>11:00 Cong. Mtg.<br>11:15 Reception | 2<br>7:00 VC (S)  | 3<br>10:00 Book Club<br><br>8:00 AA (SR)                       | 4<br>7:00 VC (S)   | 5        | 6<br>8:00 AA (SR)  | 7<br>1:00 Elliot<br>Memorial (GP)<br><br>8:30 AA (SR)                      |
| 8<br>10:00 Worship (S)   | 9<br>7:00 VC (S)  | 10<br>10:00 Book Club<br><br>7:00 Session (GP)<br>8:00 AA (SR) | 11<br>4:00 Flute (L)<br>7:00 VC (S)  | 12       | 13<br>8:00 AA (SR) | 14<br>10:00 Masten<br>Memorial (S)<br><br>8:30 AA (SR)                     |
| 15<br>9:00 Ensemble<br>Rehearsal (S)<br>10:00 Emerging<br>Worship (S)      | 16<br>7:00 VC (S) | 17<br>10:00 Book Club<br><br>8:00 AA (SR)                      | 18<br>4:00 Flute (L)<br>7:00 VC (S)  | 19       | 20<br>8:00 AA (SR) | 21<br>10:00 Hamilton<br>Memorial (S)<br><br>8:30 AA (SR)                   |
| 22<br>10:00 Worship/<br>Baptism (S)  | 23<br>7:00 VC (S) | 24<br>10:00 Book Club<br><br>8:00 AA (SR)                      | 25<br>7:00 VC (S)  | 26       | 27<br>8:00 AA (SR) | 28<br>Edgewood<br>Community Day<br><br>8:30 AA (SR)                        |
| 29<br>10:00 Worship (S)  | 30<br>7:00 VC (S) | 31<br>10:00 Book Club<br><br>7:00 ESO (S)<br>8:00 AA (SR)      | Meeting Locations:<br>Book Club – Apessos Home<br>AA – Social Room<br>Vocal Confluence & ESO – Sanctuary |          |                    | Flute Lessons – Lounge<br>Session – Gathering Place<br>Worship – Sanctuary |