

## June brings the Season of Pentecost, Summer Worship & Events

Pentecost is the culminating Sunday of Easter, rooted in the ancient Jewish celebration of the five (penta) books of the Law, is the birthday of the Church. A welcoming of the Holy Spirit is remembered, and the spread of the good news through a divinely empowered Church becomes the center of attention. This season leads us with the theme of the Spirit's great inspiration through the remainder of the year, until Advent begins the cycle over again. (From the digital book [Essentials In Worship History: Bearers Of Memory](#)).

In this Season, which can be referred to as "Ordinary Time" or the "Sundays after Pentecost," we now enter into a time of immersing ourselves in the Gospels, the acts of Jesus, the acts of the early Church, the acts of the Church throughout history, and welcoming the Holy Spirit's leadership in our lives, we run with God in the fields of Hope.

In this Season, now upon us, live, love, pray, laugh, encourage, imagine, heal; run like water to the lowest places. In so doing the Spirit of Jesus will empower you to do all that you need to do to bring your gift to calling this world back to its Maker.

Here at FPCE, that means summer worship begins at 10:00AM, our community dinners resume after a 2-year COVID hiatus, and the Deacons' strawberry festival returns to its regular in-person format from the drive-thru version held last year. Join us as we continue to love God, love each other, and love our neighbors through the power of the Holy Spirit!

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## JUNE 2022 SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE In-person and Facebook Live at 10:00AM

### June 5 - Pentecost

Hunter Steinitz returns to our pulpit for Emerging Worship in the first of our 10AM Summer worship services. We celebrate the "birthday of the church" when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and encourage all to wear RED to symbolize the fire of the Spirit! (Rhonda Apossos, liturgist)

### June 12 - Trinity Sunday

Rebecca Abbott preaching in a service that honors God in three persons as the Trinity. (Lorraine Douthett, liturgist)

### June 19 - Father's Day (communion)

We're changing the Sunday for communion this month due to the availability of an ordained pastor to preside over the sacrament. The Rev. Chris Taylor leads us in worship that includes the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Shaun Cloonan, liturgist). Donuts for Dads follows the service in the Gathering Place sponsored by the Deacons. This will be the last post-worship fellowship until we resume worship at 11AM in September.

### June 26

The Rev. Bob Ruefle returns to our pulpit to lead summer worship (Rick Masten, liturgist).





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



The Community Dinners are back! Yes, after our little COVID break, we'll again be hosting the ever-popular FPCE Community Dinners starting in June!

**Save the Dates:** The First Wednesdays of June, July, August, and September, from 6-8PM we'll be firing up the grill on the side lawn with your favorites, plus some new, soon-to-be-favorites. And, as usual, they're FREE! So bring your family, friends and neighbors for good food and fellowship!!!

**June 1:** Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and all the fixins'

**July 6:** Sausage & Pierogi Fest

**August 3:** BBQ (Ribs, Brisket, Chicken, Pulled Pork)

**September 7:** Burgers and Dogs or Something Yummy

Help is always needed with set-up, side dishes, desserts, serving, and tear-down. Contact the church office to let us know how you can help us make these important community outreach events happen successfully!

## STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

**Wednesday, June 15**  
**6:00-8:00PM**

We're Back!!!!!! Hey strawberry lovers we are welcoming you to our Strawberry Festival **Wednesday, June 15 from 6-8PM**. Food will be set up inside with seating optional inside or outside on the side lawn. Proceeds to benefit Deacon projects.



# Session Notes

At their May 10 meeting, Session took the following action:

- Approved the ESO's request to use our facility on June 7 and 24 to practice for their performance at Bach, Beethoven and Brunch at Mellon Park on July 29; and August 16 and 23 for their Community Day performance.
- Session also approved a Vocal Confluence Concert on August 21 at 3 PM and the ESO Holiday Concert, December 3, 7:30 PM.
- June communion was changed to June 19, with Session's approval.
- Session discussed their goals. The 3 goals for the Stewardship team are: automatic giving/withdrawal, re-evaluate rental fees, and cultivate a strong Stewardship team. The goals for the Evangelism/Outreach/Mission team are: reestablishing the community meals, participation in programs to help refugees, and a mission project for kids.
- Also in May, Session approved the use of the Social Room and kitchen by the Edgewood Fire Department on Saturday, July 9, 2-9PM for a fundraiser to benefit an officer who lost his home to a fire. No rental fee will be charged for this event.
- The Munhall Community Band Concert will be changed to July 10.
- Liz Held's request for the Cub Scouts to use the Social Room, Saturday, June 4 for a Cub Scout crossover was approved.



**FOCUS**   
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 

## Zoom Bible Study Summer Break

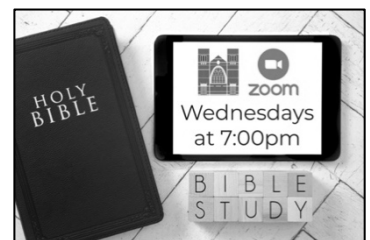
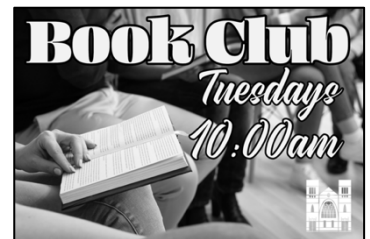
Elder Tim Hoffman has concluded our study on Elijah and Elisha so that we are currently on a hiatus. If you have an interest or desire for a future study, please let us know.

## Tuesday Morning Book Club

The Tuesday morning Book Group Continues to meet each week at 10:00AM at the Apossos home (361 Maple Ave), generally outdoors, weather dependent. We are currently reading *Pilgrims Progress in Today's English* by John Bunyan. All are welcome. Snacks and coffee provided.

## Youth Sunday School

We continue to offer weekly Youth Sunday School during worship. Our classes generally follow the lectionary as well as provide basic Bible Study. If interested, please stop by the nursery.



A Few Updates from our Deacons for June...we hosted our Mother's Day fellowship, "Muffins for Moms" in May. This month for Father's Day on June 19th we celebrate with "Donuts for Dad." You already saw the info about our Strawberry Festival on June 15.

**All current Deacons please note:** there will be a Deacon meeting immediately following our 10:00 worship service on Sunday, June 5 in the sanctuary. This is our first in-person meeting as a board since before Covid, so please make every effort to attend!

Mary Ann Hartman, Deacons' moderator

# Our Time *of* Transition

## **Update from the Pastor Nominating Committee**

As mentioned in last month's column, we did a sort of "reset" in our search after discussions with Presbytery following their executive reference checks and Commission on Ministry clearance interviews with individuals we were interested in continuing discussions. The month of May has been devoted to reviewing another round of Pastor Information Forms, discussing those we find worthy of possible conversations with, and watching sermon videos. We hope to schedule a new round of first interviews in the coming weeks and see where the process leads us.

We've been told, and some of us who have served on previous search committees know, that it is common for a PNC to feel like they are "close," only to find that for a variety of reasons things don't work out and a shift in direction is necessary. We know that through this process it is not us that are in control, but that it is the power of the Holy Spirit moving through the potential pastors and our team guiding us to the next chapter in ministry at FPCE. Please continue to hold the committee, the search, the ministry of our church, and the openness of whoever our next pastor is in your prayers.



## ***A Round of Thanks***

As we enter into our summer mode of scaled back worship with just me, Sunny, Mandy, and Tyler leading music, I would like to thank the members of the music ministry for their flexibility and dedication in continuing our strong music in worship throughout the transition period without a pastor. With our changing protocols and attempts to figure out what our "new normal" is with livestreaming in-person worship, I appreciate the trust you all have put in me to continue praising God in song in the safest way possible. Thank you to our Sanctuary Choir and Emerging Worship Ensemble members!

## ***Sound on!***

After several months of playing and experimenting with various combinations of microphones and levels, I think we finally have it figured out how to get the best audio on our recordings for the choir's performances, when the worship ensemble is leading music, when we have communion in worship, and when it's just me and Sunny. Hopefully, everything sounds clear to those in the sanctuary and those watching online!

## ***Our Next Guest Needs No Introduction***

Last month, we shared that the Munhall Community Band was to have their spring concert in our sanctuary. Due to Covid cases within the group, they decided to postpone the concert. The rescheduled date approved by Session is Sunday, July 10 at 4:00PM. You can get more details about the concert at [munhallband.org](http://munhallband.org).

Looking ahead, our friends at Vocal Confluence will hold their next Barbershop show in our sanctuary on Sunday, August 21 at 3:00PM. If you were able to attend their holiday show back in December you know what a quality group they are. I'm sure we will get more details from them in the coming month, but it has been great having them in residence here every Monday night. Check out their social media to see their "Tag Tuesday" videos!

See you in church!

*Shaun Cloonan, minister of music*

## Music Ministry Picnic

Members of the choir and worship ensemble mark your calendars for Sunday, June 12 at 12:30PM. The Segedy house will be hosting our end-of-the-year picnic. Jim promises to have all of the grilled foods we can think of and asks for sides or desserts. Thanks to Jim and Lisa for hosting, and thanks to all of you who contribute musically to our worship life together!



## UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS

### Saturday, July 9

The Edgewood Fire and Police departments will be holding a joint pasta dinner fundraiser for Officer Brian Wycke, who lost his home to a devastating fire this past month. Officer Brian has been a dedicated police officer here in Edgewood for the past 17 years. They will not be able to return to their home for the next 8-12 months. FPCE will be hosting this dinner **on Saturday, July 9 from 3-7PM**. All proceeds will benefit Officer Brian and his family. Keep posted for more information as the date approaches.

### Saturday, August 27

Edgewood Community Day, 2PM to until the end of day

Anyone interested in running a booth in the afternoon representing FPCE, contact the Church Office.



*Sharing the Joys & Concerns  
of the FPCE Family*

- Ruth Miller's granddaughter Ericka has been at Carlow University for a little over five years as Program Director of the Data Analytics program and has recently been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, plus multiple projects she is Chair of. Ruth is SO proud of her!
- Congratulations to all high school, college, and post-college graduates. In particular we would like to recognize Spencer Lehrian who graduated from Central Catholic High School and will be attending Kent State University in the fall to study Business and Entrepreneurship. Congrats, Spencer!
- Thank you to Wayne Dean for organizing the Community Memorial Day observance at Memorial Park after worship on May 29. In addition to honoring our fallen soldiers, those who made donations to the gazebo and purchased bricks were recognized. Photos from the service are posted on our Facebook page, and the video is available on our YouTube channel. Thanks to Rev. Jane Duffield for delivering the invocation and to John Foster for recording the livestreamed video.
- Thank you to Judy Mysels, Shaun Cloonan, and Jim Segedy for working with the St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church over Memorial Day weekend as they borrowed our choral risers for a festival they were hosting (the organizer of the festival is a coworker of Shaun's at NH). Between the 3 of them they coordinated meeting the folks to load and unload the truck and get the risers put back where they belong in the "library" storage room.



## A Letter to Pittsburgh Presbytery from Rev. Dr. Sheldon W. Sorge

General Minister

Thursday, May 26, 2022

### ***A Passion for Public Justice***

Reformed Christians have it in their DNA to care deeply about social justice. Before he was a theologian and a pastor, John Calvin was trained as a lawyer, something that profoundly shaped how he pursued his theological vocation.

Calvin was pastor of a large congregation and a leading lecturer at what became the first modern European university. Yet he kept his office neither in the church nor in the academy, but in City Hall. The final, longest chapter of his magnum opus, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, is entitled “Civil Government.” From its inception, the Reformed movement, of which Presbyterianism is the primary American expression, has held that Christ calls us to make a difference in the world.

This passion for public justice didn’t begin with Calvin; it goes back at least to the Hebrew prophets, such as Amos who cries out in God’s name, “Let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” Isaiah’s lament rings just as true today as it did in ancient times, “Justice is turned back, and deliverance stands at a distance, for truth stumbles in the public square, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and whoever turns from evil is despoiled.”

In 2016 our presbytery’s passion for public justice led us to adopt a resolution on gun control that we circulated to our churches, to the media, and to our elected officials. Yet the proliferation of guns has continued unabated, and the scourge of gun violence has again this week reared its ugly head in the horrible killing in Uvalde TX of nineteen elementary school students and two teachers by a disturbed, gun-wielding eighteen-year-old. Last week it was Black shoppers in Buffalo and Taiwanese worshipers at a Presbyterian church in California that were gunned down by hate-driven men.

In a national broadcast on the evening of the Uvalde massacre, President Biden anguished, “Why are we willing to live with this carnage? Why do we keep letting this happen? Where in God’s name is our backbone?” Where, indeed?

Protesting the unbridled proliferation of guns is surely saying and doing the right thing. But it is apparently far from enough. Despite the calls to government from Pittsburgh Presbytery and many others across our nation, guns are as readily available now as ever, including guns that are designed specifically to facilitate mass carnage. Our legislators have been cowed by the gun lobby. The only solution is to vote out those who refuse to take a stand for reasonable gun control, beginning with weapons tailored for mass killing. It will take great resolve and perseverance.

Last week our presbytery adopted a resolution against voter suppression as it has been enacted by legislators in many states under the guise of election integrity. The indisputable fact is that lawmakers are making it increasingly difficult for people of limited means to vote, something that surely, and we believe intentionally, disproportionately affects people of color. It is an ill-disguised attempt on the part of legislators currently in power to reduce the number of votes that would likely go against them.

As we did concerning gun control, we will send this resolution to our congregations, to local media, and to our government representatives. This will of course not be anything new to government officials; they have been publicly challenged on this numerous times. Again, the only real solution is to vote out legislators who promulgate voter suppression measures.

Let us have no illusions. Pushing against politicians who protect firearm proliferation and voter suppression in the interest of retaining their own power will make us targets of forces whose anger is already hot. We will be in the crosshairs of people who are willing to wink at violence, whether in a schoolhouse or a church or a grocery store or in the halls of government.

“Justice, and only justice, shall you pursue.” (Deuteronomy 16:20) Are we ready for the battle?

Yours in pursuing God’s justice,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheldon". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

# June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Meeting Locations: Worship – Sanctuary Book Club – Apessos home AA – Social Room Strawberry Festival – Side Lawn, GP ESO & VC – Sanctuary Community Dinners – Side Lawn			1   6:00-8:00 Community Dinner	2	3   8:00 AA	4  11AM-2PM Cub Scout Crossover (SR)  8:30 AA
5 <b>PENTECOST</b> 9:00 Ensemble 10:00 Emerging Worship 11:00 Deacons Fellowship	6  6:30 Scouts 7:00 Vocal Confluence	7  10:00 Book Club  7:00 ESO	8	9	10   8:00 AA	11   8:30 AA
12  10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 12:30 Music Min. Picnic	13  6:30 Scouts 7:00 Vocal Confluence	14  10:00 Book Club  7:00 Session 7:00 ESO	15  6:00-8:00 Strawberry Festival	16	17   8:00 AA	18   8:30 AA
19 <b>COMMUNION</b> 10:00 Worship 11:00 Donuts/Dad	20  6:30 Scouts 7:00 Vocal Confluence	21  10:00 Book Club	22	23	24   8:00 AA	25   8:30 AA
26  10:00 Worship	27  6:30 Scouts 7:00 Vocal Confluence	28  10:00 Book Club	29	30		




First Presbyterian Church of

**EDGEWOOD**

*The Community Church*

120 East Swissvale Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15218



**summer**  
**SUNDAYS**

Join us for worship

 In-person, socially distanced

 Facebook Live Stream

 YouTube channel

**Sunday Worship moves to 10:00AM for the months of June, July, and August.**

 [fpcedgewood.org](http://fpcedgewood.org)

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