

“Fall” Into Church

As the leaves begin to change colors and the weather cools, the ministry at Edgewood is “falling” into a rhythm. Guest preachers are lined up for Sunday morning worship, the choir and worship ensemble are back to making music, youth Sunday School has begun, the pastor nominating committee is working through the search process, and events are starting to slowly fill the calendar again.

This month, we will offer a pet blessing for all the special creatures in our households. We’ll share in the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper with brothers and sisters around the globe in our World Communion Sunday worship. Several members will help those with food insecurities by participating in the Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk in the East End. And our friends at the Edgewood Symphony will share in their first live performance since December 2019 in our sanctuary.

We hope you will continue to support the mission and ministry at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood by attending worship (in person or online), participating in events or groups, praying with intention, volunteering, serving in leadership roles, and continuing to contribute tithes and offerings. Loving God, loving each other, and loving our neighbors starts with you being a part of our FPCE family!



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR IN-PERSON
OR ONLINE WORSHIP AT 11:00AM**



WWW.FPCEGEWOOD.ORG

October 3: The Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills returns to lead our World Communion Sunday worship.

October 10: The Rev. Fairlight Lower, a new resident of Edgewood, will join us for a service that includes the baptism of Maren and Malcolm Headlee, children of Liz and Ethan Headlee.

October 17: Emerging worship with the worship ensemble and the Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching.

October 24: The Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching and (tentative) receiving of new members.

October 31: Heather Henkel returns to lead Reformation Sunday worship.

Looking ahead...

November 7: All Saints’ Observance/Communion, the Rev. Gail Mason preaching

November 14: Stewardship Sunday, Jason Dauer preaching

November 21: Christ the King Sunday Emerging Worship, Heather Henkel preaching

November 28: First Sunday of Advent, the Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills preaching



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

Office & Cleaning Manager
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LOVE GOD
EACH OTHER
OUR NEIGHBORS

In-Person Worship Safety Protocols & Guidelines

Due to the rise in cases of COVID-19 and the Delta Variant, and in response to Allegheny County moving from the moderate to substantial, and now to the high transmission rate, the Worship Committee/Session has reinstated safety protocols for in-person worship following CDC recommendations as follows:

- **Properly worn masks are required for all those attending worship regardless of vaccination status.** (Those leading worship may remove masks when speaking or singing unless masking becomes mandated by the Allegheny County Health Department or the Governor.)
- Please continue to observe social distancing in the marked pews.
- **Congregational singing may continue while masked.** You are welcome to use the hymns 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.



PET BLESSING
OCTOBER 2 @ NOON



Walking in the way of St. Francis, a visionary lover of all creation, Elder Jim Segedy will be Blessing the Animals who come his way. He will be on the side lawn (weather permitting) from Noon to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 2. All creatures great and small – and their guardians – are welcome.

The service will open with a brief liturgy and prayer, then each pet will be blessed individually. Coffee and snacks will be served. Please invite your friends, families, and neighbors to this blessing ceremony.

Pittsburgh East CROP Walk

On October 10, the Pittsburgh East community will celebrate its 44th year of walking to end hunger one step at a time. The oldest walk in the country, is sponsored by Church World Service (www.churchworldservice.org).

25% of what we raise is returned as grants to East End

Common Ministries and Wilkinsburg Community Ministry. FPCE will participate in this event with walkers Judy and Mariah Mysels and Rhonda Apossos, who aim to raise \$800. If anyone else would like to join our small group of walkers, let Rhonda or Judy know. We gather at the South Avenue United Methodist Church at 1:00 to prepare for the 10K loop through Squirrel Hill and back. The walk distance is 6.2 miles. You can participate by either walking or sponsoring FPCE walkers. You can also go to their website: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/pittsburghpa> to electronically send money or sponsor a walker.

We have 38 walkers registered so far. \$9,710 raised as of September 26.

Attached is a video from Rev. Kolb from 6th Presbyterian promoting our walk! It is so good!!

<https://share.icloud.com/photos/0-c0yOf1890hooHydXPwRsFMw>



ESO will “Return to the Stage” on October 9

The Edgewood Symphony Orchestra is excited to present its first live performance since December of 2019, and admission is FREE! The opening concert for our 34th season is a trio of ensemble performances. The ESO String Orchestra performs Edvard Grieg's *Holberg Suite*. The orchestra's wind dectet performs Joachim Raff's *Sinfonietta*. And our brass and percussion ensemble performs Henri Tomasi's *Fanfares*

Liturgiques. The concert takes place Saturday, October 9 at 7:30pm in the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood sanctuary and will be free, but tickets are required for entry.* \$15 donations gratefully accepted. Reserve your ticket today at www.edgewoodsymphony.org.

** By reserving your free tickets, you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending the concert, you and any guests assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19, and agree not to hold the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra, the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood, or any of their officers, directors, employees, or volunteers liable for any illness or injury.*



FOCUS

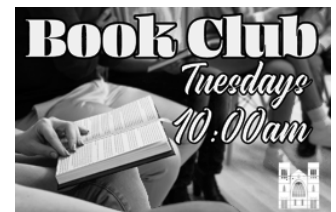
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We are gauging interest for a Pre-Worship Bible Study. If you would be interested in participating, please contact Rhonda Apossos or Tim Hoffman.

Youth Sunday School, during Worship, is started on Sunday, September 12. Please let us know if you have a child interested in Sunday School.

Tuesday Book Club

The weekly discussion group has begun a new book, “The Prayer Box” by Lisa Wingate. If you would like to join, they meet at 10:00AM on Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apossos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood.



Help Needed for All Saints' Worship

All Saints' Day is officially November 1 on the liturgical calendar, but we have traditionally observed it as part of our worship on the first Sunday in November. During the service, we remember those who have passed on from this life in the past year and gone on to the Church Triumphant, joining the Communion of Saints by lifting up their names, praying for them, and lighting candles. If you have a person that you would like to have named during the service, please contact Judy in the Church Office so that it can be included in the bulletin for November 7 and read aloud during our time of remembrance.



Session Notes

At their September 14 Zoom meeting, Session approved:

- A Fall studio recital by Sarah Steranka on Saturday, 12/18/21 from 9:30 AM-12:30 PM in the Gathering Place for \$25.
- The baptism of Maren Lynn Headlee (10/12/19) and Malcom Carroll Headlee (8/6/21), children of Ethan Michael and Elizabeth Carroll Headlee, on October 10, 2021.
- Also in September, Session approved fund raisers such as a 50/50 raffle or door prizes at the Vocal Confluence Holiday Concert in December.
- Session approved the Ministry Information Form that the Pastor Nominating Committee will submit to Presbytery as part of our search for a pastor

Stewardship Reflection

WHAT WILL YOU CHOOSE TO DO?

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. – *2 Corinthians 9:7*



As a member of a small congregation, we share the joys and responsibility of acting as the body of Christ. We are in this together. This year, we have had change, but continue with our Worship and mission. The PNC is searching for a new Pastor and we have work to do!

Please prayerfully consider what you will give to the church. There are plenty reasons not to give. I'm sure each of us would have no problem adding to the list. However, we're asking you to do the opposite. Please add to the reasons we do give...

- It is more blessed to give than to receive. – *Acts 20:35*
- Store for yourselves treasures in heaven... For where your treasure is, There your heart will be also. – *Matthew 6:20-21*

Please look for a stewardship letter and pledge card in the mail soon. Please submit your pledge card to the Church Office on or before Stewardship Sunday on November, 14, 2021.

In Christ,
Rhonda Apossos
Interim Stewardship Helper



Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The PNC has continued along the path set forth by Presbytery. The Ministry Information Form (MIF), which is basically the church profile that will be uploaded to the national search system, was submitted to Session and approved at their September meeting. It is currently in the hands of our Commission on Ministry liaison Ann Turnock and Pittsburgh Presbytery staff contact Brian Wallace. As soon as they give us the go-ahead, the MIF will be entered into the Church Leadership Connection website for us to begin receiving matches to our profile based on what potential pastors enter on their Pastor Information Forms (PIF). The committee will then begin screening the matches as well as self-referrals that come in to determine who we might be interested in contacting for first round interviews.

Please continue to pray for the ministry of FPCE, for the intervention of the Holy Spirit into our discernment process, and for the members of the committee as they move forward in the search to find the person called to share in the next chapter of our life in Christ.



September has been a month of reunions and remembering the joy of praising God through music. It has been a real blessing to have our Sanctuary Choir back in worship again, raising their voices in harmony during our anthems. The worship ensemble was back in full force, complete with our long-lost drummer Johnny returning to the group. And seeing the congregation standing and participating in the hymns and responses (even with a mask on) has been uplifting.

As with most transitions and attempts to return to "normal," some adjustments have been required and sometimes things don't go as smoothly as possible. For instance, while it was great to have the drum set back in our emerging service, we used a V-Drum Kit (an electronic version of a drum set that gets plugged into a sound system) and discovered that the signal it sent out to the camera for online worship overloaded the other instruments and microphones, causing those watching on Facebook and YouTube to hear a bunch of distortion instead of the songs those in the sanctuary heard. I'm hoping it's a simple fix of just adjusting some levels for this month, but we may end up needing to get a new mixing board.

Also, while attempting to make it feel more like a pre-pandemic service, we've reintroduced the gathering song (even though it takes about 30 seconds to pass the peace with a wave since no one is walking around and hugging just yet), and have added a response in the spot that would have been the offertory and/or doxology (even though we aren't physically passing the collection plates). Hopefully, sooner rather than later we will no longer be distancing or wearing masks and then "regular" worship can resume. Til then, to quote a certain animated fish, we'll "just keep swimming!"

Peace,
Shaun

A Note from Judy Mysels

This is a very important time in the life of our church and everyone needs to help and get involved. The Session asked for your opinion(s) and responded. Now it is your turn. There are many ways to help:

- Return to worship in person (if you feel comfortable) or watch via Facebook/YouTube
- Contribute financially
- Serve on a board: Session or Deacons (if asked) or volunteer (give those who have served consecutive terms a break) and bring new ideas, energy
- Get involved, if asked, or volunteer

I know everyone is extremely busy and have had a hard 18-24 months, but we need to come together as our church family and support each other and our church in ANY WAY POSSIBLE!



WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY MINISTRY

WCM welcomes anyone interested in volunteering their time and talent to help us improve the Wilkinsburg community. Come to our office or give us a call if you would like to participate in a specific program – many opportunities exist! To volunteer, contact WCM at 412-241-8072.

If you enjoy organizing office space or donated goods, we can use your help sorting through and setting up our donated clothing and food items through our [Urban Survival Program](#). If you have time to dedicate outside of the WCM office and office hours there are opportunities for you, too. We need help from people with expertise as fundraising event organizers, grant writers, and volunteer coordinators. If there are other ideas you have on how you can help improve the Wilkinsburg community, we welcome your input.

Please contact us if you want to help with any of our programs in Wilkinsburg. Please contact WCM at 412-241-8072 or volunteers@wcm15221.org if you are available to volunteer.

All of our programs are dependent upon the generous contributions of many individuals, churches, organizations, businesses and foundations. Without support from the community, our programs would not be able to meet the needs of the community. In addition to their financial support, individuals can give many hours of volunteer service in a variety of our programs. [Financial and in-kind donations are greatly appreciated.](#)



World Communion Sunday – A Presbyterian Gift

World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) is a gift of the Presbyterian Church to the larger ecumenical church. The first celebration occurred at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933 where Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr served as pastor.

John A. Dalles, a PCUSA pastor who has researched the history of World Communion Sunday notes this in his blog entry, reprinted from the October 7, 2002, issue of *Presbyterian Outlook*:

Davitt S. Bell (the late Clerk of Session and church historian at Shadyside) recalled that Dr. Kerr first conceived the notion of World Communion Sunday during his year as moderator of the General Assembly (1930). Dr. Kerr's younger son, the Rev. Dr. Donald Craig Kerr, who is pastor emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, was sixteen in 1933. He has related that World Communion Sunday grew out of the Division of Stewardship at Shadyside. It was their attempt to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity—in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected one with another. When I asked Donald Kerr how the idea of World Communion Sunday spread from that first service to the world wide practice of today, this is what he replied,

“The concept spread very slowly at the start. People did not give it a whole lot of thought. It was during the Second World War that the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together. World Wide Communion symbolized the effort to hold things together, in a spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Celebration of World Wide Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (US) in 1936. Churches in other denominations were invited to celebrate with us from the beginning, but it wasn't until 1940 when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor body of the National Council of Churches) promoted extending the celebration to a number of churches around the world that the practice became widespread. Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, demonstrating that the church founded on Jesus Christ peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by globalization and global market economies based on greed.



The Bulletin Board

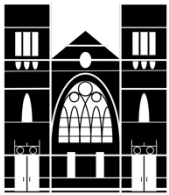
Sharing the Joys & Concerns of the FPCE Family

- Sympathies to Stephanie McGuigan and family on the passing of her uncle
- Prayers of thanksgiving that Ruth Miller's knee surgery was successful. We look forward to seeing her soon after she completes her recovery.
- Thank you to retired Pastor Michael for yet another request to step in – this time to assist with the renewal of vows for Tracy and Mark Oliver who were married in our sanctuary September 9, 2006. They do a brief renewal every 5 years, and Pastor Michael was gracious enough to meet them at the church and oversee the ceremony.
- Congratulations to former FPCE pastor from 2005 to 2012, the Rev. Mike Wilson, on his new position as (stated supply) associate pastor at Second Presbyterian Church of Nashville. Mike will get the exciting opportunity to serve as a clergy couple with his wife, the Rev. Dr. Mary Louise McCullough, who is the pastor at 2PC!
- Thank you to Marcia Haley and Tyler McGuigan who represented FPCE at the Edgewood Foundation's Newcomer's Reception for new residents of the borough. Judy and Shaun made sure that we had an updated brochure made to share with those attending.
- Thank you to Rhonda Apossos, Judy Mysels, and Jim Segedy for their efforts in getting our Pet Blessing set up for this month.

If you have news you would like to share in this section or a prayer request you would like to have read during our worship service, please contact Judy in the office. Additionally, let her know if you would like the request to be shared with our Prayer Warriors, who pray with intention for those requests weekly.

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5:00 Flute (L) 8:00 AA (SR)	2 12:00 Pet Blessing (SL) 8:30 AA (SR)
3 World Communion 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S)	4 7:00 VC (S) 7:00 Scouts (SR)	5 10:00 Book Club 7:00 ESO (S) 8:00 AA (SR)	6 7:00 VC (S)	7 2:00 Flute (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	8 5:00 Flute (L) 8:00 AA (SR)	9 7:30 ESO Concert (S) 8:30 AA (SR)
10 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S) 1:00 Crop Walk	11 7:00 VC (S) 7:00 Scouts (SR)	12 10:00 Book Club 7:00 Session 7:00 ESO (S) 8:00 AA (SR)	13 7:00 VC (S)	14 2:00 Flute (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	15 5:00 Flute (L) 8:00 AA (SR)	16 8:30 AA (SR)
17 9:30 Ensemble 11:00 Emerging Worship (S)	18 7:00 VC (S) 7:00 Scouts (SR)	19 10:00 Book Club 7:00 ESO (S) 8:00 AA (SR)	20 7:00 VC (S)	21 2:00 Flute (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	22 5:00 Flute (L) 8:00 AA (SR)	23 8:30 AA (SR)
24 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S)	25 7:00 VC (S) 7:00 Scouts (SR)	26 10:00 Book Club 7:00 ESO (S) 8:00 AA (SR)	27 7:00 VC (S)	28 2:00 Flute (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	29 5:00 Flute (L) 8:00 AA (SR)	30 8:30 AA (SR)
31 Reformation Sunday 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S)			Meeting Locations: Book Club – Apossos Home AA – Social Room Vocal Confluence & ESO – Sanctuary Milepost6 – Basement Band Room		PNC – Pastor's Study Flute Lessons – Lounge Session – Gathering Place Choir, Ensemble, Worship – Sanctuary Scouts – Scout or Social Room	



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

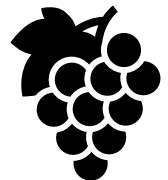


Pet Blessing
October 2



ESO Concert
October 9

World Communion Sunday
October 3



CROP Walk
October 10



 fpcedgewood.org

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