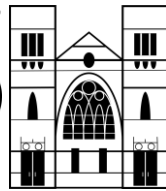




First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church



news from the
EDGE

The Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood

September 2023



Pastor Jason's
Journal
Monthly Reflections from
FPCE Pastor Jason Dauer

"The Season of Creation"

The world is changing. The climate is changing. We are changing.

Those of us in the East End and East Suburbs of Pittsburgh know well the effects of climate change as checking the air quality along with the weather has become routine. Our neighbors in the Mon Valley suffer from higher concentrations of asthma, cancer, and other health conditions caused by air pollution.

Prophet Amos cries out: "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out, with, and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity.

In 1989, September 1st was proclaimed as a Day of Prayer for Creation for the Eastern Orthodox Church by Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I. From there, it was embraced by other major Christian European churches in 2001, and by Pope Francis for the Roman Catholic Church in 2015. Now, many churches celebrate the "Season of Creation" (or Creation Time) between Sept. 1 and Oct. 4, the Feast of St. Francis.

This new addition to our church calendar unites the Christian family worldwide in celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. As people who seek to follow Christ, we share a common call to care for Creation and each other.

**"Our wellbeing is interwoven with the wellbeing of the Earth."
– Season of Creation Ecumenical Steering Committee**

This year, we will dip our toes into the river and start celebrating Creation Time as a faith community in a few ways. At Sunday Worship, will draw upon various elements from Creation, drawing us closer to God, God's Creation, and God's call upon our lives to be faithful stewards of Creation.

Our next **Community Dinner** is on Sept. 6th on the Side Lawn.

We will gather for **two Spiritual Hikes** (6:30 PM on Thursday, September 14th and 10 AM on Saturday, September 30th). On these, we will participate in earth-based spiritual practices and meditations. Kid-friendly! Both will be at the Frick Park Environmental Center.

We will end the Season of Creation with the **Blessing of the Animals** on Oct. 4 at 6 PM. We invite all those in our community who have a pet to join us on the side lawn for prayer. We've dubbed this event "Dogs and Dogs," as we will have hot dogs for folks to munch on!

As we step outdoors, remember that we are not distinct from God's Creation. We are God's Creation. In creation time, we return to where we belong and remember God's mandate to steward the earth together.

In Peace,



Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

“We live in very turbulent and troubling times as we continue to struggle for world peace and the reconciliation and unity of all creation. We are surrounded by war, violence, climate challenges and unjust systems that continue to dehumanise and oppress people around the globe. Christians are urged to join with God in the ever-flowing river for justice and peace in the world.” - Rev. Prof. Dr Jerry Pillay, General Secretary, World Council of Churches

September 2023 Worship Schedule

Join us Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary for worship. Services are livestreamed on Facebook and then posted to YouTube within a day and shared via email to the congregation. If you are not receiving the weekly emails and would like to, visit fpcedgewood.org/contact and fill out the sign-up form.

Sept. 3: We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper together! Matthew 16:21-28 (First Sunday of Creation Time)

Sept. 10: Rally Day; Celebration of the merger with First Presbyterian Church of Wilkinsburg; We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper together! Matthew 18:15-20 (Second Sunday of Creation Time)

Sept. 17: Blessing of the Musicians in honor of Hildegard of Bingen; Matthew 18:21-35 (Third Sunday of Creation Time)

Sept. 24: Matthew 20:1-16 (Fourth Sunday of Creation Time)



Community MEALS

Community Dinners Continue

We are thrilled to report that we served over 180+ friends and neighbors at our

July/August dinners. Thanks to all who helped make these days such a success. Come and be part of our next meals by setting up, serving, bringing side dishes or desserts, cleaning up, or just coming to be in community with our neighbors! Join us from 6:00-8:00PM on

September 6: Burgers and Dogs or Something Yummy



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

Pastor

The Rev. Jason Dauer
pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org

Office & Cleaning Manager

Judy Mysels
office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager

Rob Mysels
building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music

Shaun Cloonan
music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist

Sunny Sakai
sunny@fpcedgewood.org





Session Notes

At their August meeting, Session approved the following:

- The revised First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Facilities Use, Policies, and Procedures Guidelines.
- The return to 11:00AM worship starting on Rally Day, September 10, 2023.
- Serving Communion on Rally Day.

Session Committee Notes:

UPCOMING DATES

From the Worship Committee:

- Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of Sunny's Visa. October 22. Potluck in Gathering Place to follow worship service.
- Dog and Dogs - October 4, 6-7PM. Hot Dogs and Chips.
- Hosting Belle Voci Concert, Sunday, Oct. 29, 3PM in our Sanctuary
- Hanging of Greens - November 26; stay after worship to decorate the sanctuary, etc.

Spiritual Hikes: Thursday, September 14, 6:30PM and Saturday, September 30, 10AM at Frick Park Environmental Center.

From the Mission Committee:

- Will participate in Edgewood Newcomers Meeting: Wed., Sept. 20, 6-8PM, Train Station
- Will participate in WPSD Block Party, Saturday, Sept. 23, 1-4PM
- Blessing of the Animals: Oct. 4, 6-8PM – see details listed
- Crop Walk: Oct. 8, 1:30PM – see details listed
- Will participate in WH Foundation Trunk or Treat – see details listed
- Thanksgiving Dinner or take-out: Nov. 23, TBA
- Edgewood Light-up Night: Sat., Dec. 2, TBA
- Soup with St. Nick: Wed., Dec. 6, 6-8PM

From the Property Committee:

- Dealing with the on-going flooding in the basement

WPSD TO HOST ANNUAL COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

Mark your calendars for the afternoon of Saturday, September 23rd! The Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (WPSD) will host its annual Community Block Party from 1-4pm. The party is free and open to the public. It takes place on the WPSD campus at the corner of Walnut Street and Swissvale Avenue in Edgewood. It's a fun afternoon for the whole family, including games and activities for the kids, a petting zoo, food, and more. This event is a great opportunity for our local communities to come together, get to know each other better, and continue to develop and strengthen relationships with one another. FREE vendor space is available to local businesses and organizations! For more information about the Block Party or obtaining vendor space, please contact Sarah Bartlebaugh at 412.244.4207 or sbartlebaugh@wpsd.org.

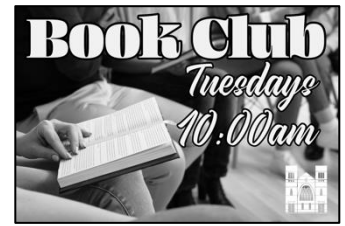




FOCUS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

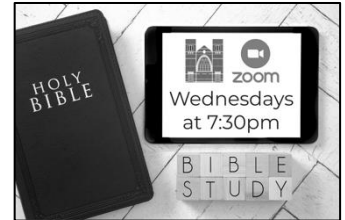
Tuesday Morning Book Club

The Tuesday morning Book Group continues to meet each week at 10:00AM at the Apossos home (361 Maple Ave) reading *Illuminations: A Novel of Hildegard von Bingen* by Mary Sharratt All are welcome. Snacks and coffee provided.



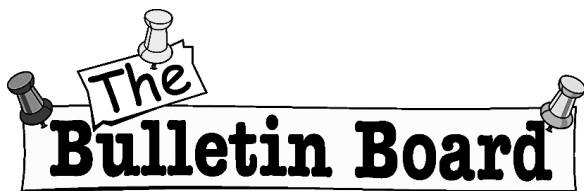
Wednesday Zoom Bible Study

Our Wednesday night Zoom Bible Study led by Elder Tim Hoffman continues at 7:30PM, except on the nights of the Community Dinners. The link can be found on the website under Christian Education, on the website calendar, and in our weekly email newsletter sent out. No password needed – just click the link!



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.



*Sharing the Joys & Concerns
of the FPCE Family*

- Sincere thank you's to Wayne Dean for cutting up the fallen tree on the side lawn and Rob Mysels for moving it after it was cut.
- Thank you to all who helped with FPCE's "booth" at Community Day. Special thanks to the Scouts who transported the tables and Lorraine for the use of her tent.
- Happy 99th birthday to Roberta McConnell.
- Happy 6th birthday to Allie Horner.
- Sad to see Nancy Cunningham move from her Edgewood home. New address is: Redstone Presbyterian Senior Care, 4953 Cline Hollow Rd., Apt. 465, Murrysville, PA 15668.

Blessing of the Animals

Walking in the way of St. Francis, a visionary lover of all creation, we will hold a service of the Blessing the Animals. We will be on the side lawn (weather permitting) from 6-7PM on Wednesday, October 4. 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. Hot dogs will be grilled for human consumption and treats will be given to our furry friends. Please invite your friends, families, and neighbors to this blessing ceremony.



SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 8:00 AA (SR)	2 8:30 AA (SR)
3 10:30 Worship (S) Communion	4 LABOR DAY 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 VC (S)	5 10:00 Book Club 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 ESO (S)	6 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 6-8 Community Dinner	7 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 SAA (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	8 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 8:00 AA (SR)	9 10:00 set-up (GP) 8:30 AA (SR)
10 RALLY DAY 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:00 Church Anniversary Luncheon (GP)	11 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 VC (S)	12 10:00 Book Club 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 ESO (S) 7:00 Session Meeting (GP)	13 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:30 Bible Study (zoom)	14 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 6:30 Spiritual Hike 7:00 SAA (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	15 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 8:00 AA (SR)	16 8:30 AA (SR)
17 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:00 Cong. Mtg.	18 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 VC (S)	19 10:00 Book Club 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 ESO (S)	20 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:30 Bible Study (zoom)	21 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 SAA (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	22 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 8:00 AA (SR)	23 WPSD Block Party 1-4PM 8:30 AA (SR)
24 9:30 Choir (S) 11:00 Worship (S) 12:00 Fellowship	25 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 VC (S)	26 10:00 Book Club 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 ESO (S)	27 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:30 Bible Study (zoom)	28 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 7:00 SAA (L) 7:00 Milepost6 (B)	29 2-6:30 Flute (CE) 8:00 AA (SR)	30 10:00 Spiritual Hike 8:30 AA (SR)
Meeting Locations: Book Club – Apeossos Home AA – Social Room Vocal Confluence & ESO – Sanctuary Milepost6 – Basement Band Room		Flute Lessons – C.E. Office Session – Gathering Place Choir, Ensemble, Worship – Sanctuary Scouts – Scout or Social Room				

MARK YOUR OCTOBER CALENDARS...


October 8, 2023, the Pittsburgh East community will celebrate its 46th year of walking to end hunger one step at a time. 25% of what we raise is returned as grants to East End Common Ministries and Wilkinsburg Community Ministry. 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. Walking time is approximately 2.5 hours. **You can participate by either walking or sponsoring FPCE walkers. You can also go to their website: <http://www.crophungerwalk.org/pittsburgheastpa> to electronically send money or sponsor a walker.**



Rehearsals are back in full swing for the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra! Their first concert of the season is October 14th, and is part of the Pittsburgh-wide Violins of Hope program. Details and tickets are available on their website www.edgewoodsymphony.org

FPCE is participating in the Woodland Hills Trunk or Treat on Sat., Oct. 14. We will be accepting donations of bags of candy for this but cannot accept homemade treats. Box marked for WH Trunk or Treat is at side entrance.



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120 East Swissvale Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

FALL KICKOFF



Sunday, September 10, 2023

Choir Returns to Worship

11:00AM Service Hour Resumes in Sanctuary

Youth Sunday School Begins

Church Anniversary Luncheon to follow worship

 fpcedgewood.org

    [@fpcedgewood](https://twitter.com/fpcedgewood)

Please also note that we are no longer posting audio of our services to SoundCloud, and we have stopped sending out the weekly bulletin ahead of worship. Please let Judy know (office@fpcedgewood.org) if you would like to receive the bulletin via email.