



# First Presbyterian Church

*A Community Beacon of Faith, Love & Hope.*

Volume LXII, Issue 9

September 2020



## ***D's HAPPY BELLY FOOD TRUCK***

coming to  
First Presbyterian Church  
parking lot

**Sunday, September 27**

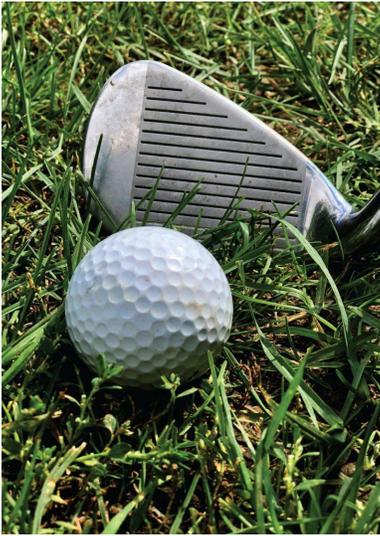
(Evangelism Sunday)

**4:00 - 6:00 pm**

*(Menu to be provided at a later date)*

**Stop by and pick up your dinner to go.**

**Any questions, call the church office at 304-727-2241.**



**A Word from  
Our General  
Presbyter  
Article By Ed  
Thompson**

A few weeks ago, Mark Miller and I had the chance to play golf at the Old White course at the Greenbrier, thanks to the kindness of Susan

Sharp Campbell. It was a great day although I did not play well. While I remember enjoying playing in the sand as a child, spending time hitting (or perhaps more accurately “trying to hit”) out of sand traps is not that much fun as an adult.

One of the best parts of the day was the golf cart. I know that sounds strange, so let me explain. Part of it is due to the fact that each cart is equipped with GPS equipment that displays the yardage to the pin, the front of the green, the back of the green, and to any particular hazard, such as the aforementioned sand traps, from wherever you stop on the course. Now if I knew how far I was hitting my irons, which I did back in the day when I was playing regularly, this information would have provided me with a tremendous advantage.

What I really enjoyed about the golf cart, though, was the fact that at each hole, it gave you a particular historical snippet about that location or the course in general. For example, this was the last hole on which Sam Snead got a hole-in-one, or when President Eisenhower played here in March 1959, the temperature was 40 degrees. (That may not be the exact year or the exact temperature; I’m going by memory since I didn’t think to take notes.)

That got me thinking about history. They have been playing golf at that particular location for more than 100 years. Over the years, golf equipment has changed tremendously. Back then, the shafts of golf clubs were probably made of hickory wood. Today, they may be made of graphite or titanium. Most players back then used clubs called spoons, mashies and niblicks. Now, they use sand wedges and pitching wedges. The drivers have oversized heads, and putters come in all different shapes and sizes. Back then,

players would have used caddies. Now, most use golf carts. Despite all the changes, the game remains the same and scores are probably in the same range too, especially if you can stay out of the sand traps.

This also got me thinking about the church. Over the past 100 years, the translations of the Bible we use have changed. Men’s and women’s fashions have changed. Even our polity has changed, although I think you can argue that our core principles have stayed the same. However, the gospel has not changed even though how we proclaim the gospel keeps evolving. While there may be some folks who are still using flannel boards, filmstrip projectors, and mimeograph machines – and if you are, God bless you, and if you don’t know what those things are, you can google them on your smartphone – we are livestreaming, using Zoom meetings, and watching worship services on YouTube. Many of us were not doing those things before March of this year. Bottom line, we are in the midst of change.

We could still play golf with wooden shafted clubs with funny names and use gutta-percha golf balls if we wanted to. We could still use flannel boards and filmstrip projectors in church if we wanted to. We have choices. In this time, maybe the choices we are facing as a church feel like they have been forced upon us, and maybe we spend a lot of time, perhaps too much time, longing for the good old days, but maybe these changes are just part of the natural evolution of the church, no different than the introduction of the printing press, the flannel board, or the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Maybe we can embrace the choices to do ministry differently as opportunities to be better, to reach more people, to communicate more effectively, to follow more closely as Jesus leads us into the future. These are challenging times, but I think God is also giving us opportunities to share the gospel with those around us in these times – and probably answering the prayers that we have made for such opportunities – if we can just see it that way.

The Presbytery’s Resource Center is online with a Virtual Library hosted by Nellie Howard’s bitmoji. It’s fun adventure that will give many of us a taste of what school is like for the kiddos these days. Check it out on the Presbytery’s website. For more information contact Nellie Howard at [resourcecenter@wvpresbytery.org](mailto:resourcecenter@wvpresbytery.org), or call her on Tuesdays at (304) 744-7634.



Mary Ellen Logsdon, Music Director

## ***Worship News***

The Relaunch Committee and Session have decided that it is time to move our worship services back to the Sanctuary! Our first Sunday back in the Sanctuary will be September 20, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Some things to know:

We will still socially distance.

Masks are still required.

Entrance to the church will still be from the fellowship hall. Once you enter the church, please get your bulletin and enter the sanctuary through the door that is closest to the fellowship hall.

We will exit through the same door that we used to enter.

To promote social distancing and cut down on any possible traffic jams at the Sanctuary door, people will be dismissed by section by either the guest minister or the liturgist.

If you would feel more comfortable sitting in the fellowship hall during worship, there are speakers in the fellowship hall so you can hear the service.

Please know that these guidelines have been created for the safety of everyone.

Our last day of worship in the fellowship hall will be September 13.

Worship services will still be livestreamed on facebook.

Please check the weekly e-blast and bulletins for updates.

***May the Grace and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you ALL!***

## **Book Study/Devotional Class**

Beginning on Wednesday, September 23 at 6:30 P.M., Mary Ellen will lead a book study/devotional using the book "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times" by Adam Hamilton. It is a 5 week class.

This class will be a hybrid. The class will be offered in person combined with ZOOM. We will meet in the Parlor. If you are interested in participating via ZOOM, please send Mary Ellen an e-mail so that you can receive the ZOOM meeting information.

(marylogsdon@hotmail.com) If you would like to participate in person, just show up.

For those of you who like to use a Kindle, the book is available in Kindle format at Amazon.com

## **Choir(s) Update**

At the time of this writing, singing is still one of the most dangerous things that can be done in a church even with a mask on. Of course, this breaks my heart. I miss singing, I miss the choir. BUT – I would prefer that everyone be safe and healthy rather than take the risk of infecting others.

The Adult Choir and Seasonal Children's Choir will not resume until it is safe to do so.

HOWEVER, the handbell choir is perfectly safe. As long as they remain socially distanced. If you would like to be a part of the handbell choir, please contact Mary Ellen at marylogsdon@hotmail.com

## **Liturgist Schedule for September**

September 6 – Dave Harvey  
September 13 – Mark Curtis  
September 20 – Buck Ivey  
September 27 – Valerie Wade

## Book Club at First Presby

September 22, 2020

7:00 PM

### The Outdoor Shelter

Hansford Center Senior Citizen Center  
500 Washington Street, St. Albans, WV

### *Read a book written in the decade you were born.*

We will meet in the Outdoor Shelter at the corner of Washington St. and Washington Ave at the Hansford Senior Citizen Center. There are no picnic tables, so bring a chair. The shelter is large; we should have enough room to social distance and discuss your book selection. If you plan to attend, contact Abbie. I need your contact information in case we have to cancel because of bad weather. **Abbie: 304-727-0074**  
[swan8354@aol.com](mailto:swan8354@aol.com)



## Building & Grounds Committee

Sara Kell, Tim Malcomb, Mike Merguc, Andi Pease, Jack Rogers, Elmer Young, Michael Clark

- Tri State Roofing repaired the sanctuary tower roof on Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> as promised. New rubber and lumber was used for the repair.
- Jack will repair the wall in the officer's room of the Education Building within the next two weeks.
- Mike has contacted the Fire Department for a lock box on the education building. This is a City ordinance.

### GROUNDS

- Elmer sprayed weeds around the building, playground, and parking lot.



## ***SCHOOL STARTS SOON!***

As our students, teachers and staff return to school this fall, however that looks, please be in prayer for them as well as the parents making decisions for their children! These are circumstances no one asked for and certainly circumstances no one was prepared for! We love our educators and our students! We pray that you have a safe AND enjoyable year!!

## THE PRESBY RECORD



## *Sharing God's Love*

By Ina Armstrong

"Sharing God's Love" are action ideas on relating to children. You will be seeing them here in the Presby Record, in weekly emails, and in the Sunday bulletins. For me, sharing God's love is essential.

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE ALL MONTH LONG!**  
**Here are suggestions for sharing God's love with others. We are living out our purpose when we share God's**

### **SHARING GOD'S LOVE: September 1 – 5**

What did Jesus do? Jesus hung out with people, all sorts of people. He took time to hear, see, and know the person he was with. And he assured that person that he or she was a beloved child of God, and equal to others in God's eyes. Let's do like Jesus did and see and hear every person, big or small, young or old, poor or rich, as a "child of God."

### **SHARING GOD'S LOVE: September 6 – 12**

Shakespeare said: "There is no sound so sweet as the sound of one's own name." Remembering and using a person's name creates a connection between the two of you. It is a way of saying: You are valued. Do this by giving the person your full attention and repeating their name several times in the conversation. If you did not hear the name, ask them to repeat it. They will get the message that you really do want to learn their name, and that they are important. Share God's love by acknowledging the importance of others.

### **SHARING GOD'S LOVE: September 13 – 19**

Be who you are. Become the person you want to be. Consider your natural abilities and expand what you like to do that you do well. Don't try to be everything to everyone. That is God's job and, perhaps, God doesn't appreciate your trying to take over! There are times when we need to fill our own tank with God's love.

### **SHARING GOD'S LOVE: September 20 – 26**

We are all the sum of many parts. Too often we allow a negative part of ourselves to be front and center. Send the negative part of yourself backstage and bring out your best character to be the star of you. You can use this analogy to encourage a friend by listening, reflecting, and sharing part of yourself. Ask God to provide the words you need to share God's love.





*George Lilley*

## **Through My Eyes: The 224 General Assembly**

*The following article is an excerpt  
from the Synod of the Trinity  
newsletter's regular feature Through  
My Eyes.*

The 224th General Assembly's theme was "From Lament to Hope" taken from Lamentations [5:20-21](#). Worship, prayers and Bible study echoed this scripture during the course of the proceedings. In a small-group discussion, I was asked what I lamented and hoped for. My lament was not being physically in the community in Baltimore and my hope was for a successful digital Assembly. Once convened, I learned I was among the 24 oldest Commissioners aged 76 and above.

The powerful Assembly opening highlighted our indigenous, first people from north, south, east and west. New co-moderators were elected by an overwhelming majority on the first ballot; one, a black male teaching elder and the other, an indigenous female ruling elder, synod executive. We were in very capable hands although the other two candidate co-moderator teams were well qualified also.

The rules were changed to permit the 400-plus commissioners to meet electronically (Zoom). Business was pared to critical items to maintain the operation of the denomination. Many other items were referred to the 225th Assembly in 2022. In addition to recommended items for consideration, issues of social justice permeated the proceedings. Among the affirmative actions taken were approval of an affirmation to help those with COVID-

## THE PRESBY RECORD

19, a report on Native Americans and church properties, a revised Child, Youth and Vulnerable Adult Policy, and an overture of Responding to Sin of Racism and Call to Action.

A balanced budget was approved with a projected income loss of between 25 and 35 percent and flexibility in its implementation. The two-year per capita was established at \$8.98 (increase of 3 cents). Concerning mid councils, an administrative commission was approved to facilitate presbytery mergers in the Synod of the Northeast. Surrounded by family, J. Herbert Nelson, the highly respected current stated clerk, was elected to a second four-year term.

Soon after closure of the Assembly it was called out by 16 moderators, past moderators, co-moderators and vice-moderators for micro and macro aggressions and the lack of addressing the plight of Black women and girls. Consideration of a report from the task force on Disparities Experienced by Black Women and Girls was not approved to be taken up in 2020 and was deferred to 2022. Obviously, there is more work to be done at all levels of the Church.

Thank you, First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown, WV, and Presbytery of West Virginia for allowing me the privilege to be a commissioner in furthering God's work through the PC(USA)'s 224th General Assembly.

***ABOUT THE AUTHOR: George Lilley is a ruling elder from West Virginia and is currently on the Synod of the Trinity's Personnel Advisory Team. He was a commissioner for the Presbytery of West Virginia at the 224th General Assembly (2020) in June.***

## Sunday School News!

Our adult Sunday school class will meet during Wednesday Night Live and participate in Mary Ellen's Bible study of Adam Hamilton's book Unafraid: Living With Courage and Hope In Uncertain Times in the church parlor at 6:30pm beginning September 23. If you wish to participate through Zoom, be sure to contact Mary Ellen at [marylogsdon@hotmail.com](mailto:marylogsdon@hotmail.com) for the link to the meeting.

Children may come to Sunday school at 9:15 on Sunday mornings to meet with Miss Donna for a Bible story and activities from the new curriculum *Growing In God's Love*.

**The Wired Word** is an online\* adult Sunday school curriculum with weekly lessons that confront the news with scripture and hope. It is available weekly to our congregation through subscription. If you would like to receive it via email, contact the office.

### Explore lament with Presbyterian Women!

The 2020–2021 PW/Horizons Bible study, **Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament**, art and text by Lynn Miller, revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world. Our Zoom we be at 7PM on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in an in person small group gathering for the PW Bible Study should contact Kathy Maddy at (304) 539-2573. Order your copy of the study by contacting Debbie Duvall at (304)545-1542 or [deboraj.duvall12@gmail.com](mailto:deboraj.duvall12@gmail.com)



- 2 – Christopher Marquart
- 6 – Andi Pease
- 7 – Frank Moir, Maddy Arnott
- 9 – David Kessler
- 11 – Ayden Cook
- 12 – Richard Allowatt, Carlie Pfof
- 13 – Charles Coffman, Gage Gibson
- 14 – Trey Hedrick
- 15 – Judy Coffman
- 18 – Jackie Jones
- 26 – Lindsay Denison
- 27 – Jacob Hoyle

## ONLINE GIVING IS EASY

We are pleased to announce that we now offer an Online Giving option. You can visit our online giving page at <https://bit.ly/36nvAzG> or download our giving app GivePlus Mobile on your smart device. If you have questions, call Debbie Duvall at 304 727 8531.

## THE PRESBY RECORD

### About Our People

#### Prayer Concerns – Congregation Members:

Debi Speidel	Debbie Parsons
George Hartman Jr.	Katlyn Morford
Carol Buck	Elly & Robert Denzie, new foster baby
Peggy Young	Pebble Pfof (injured ankle)
Jane Johnson	Mike Clark (back surgery July 13)
Wanda Crews	Ned & Glenna Arthur
Carol Oelhberg	Jennifer Burgess

#### Prayer Concerns - Family and Friends:

Lon Hardin (Kathryn Maddy's father)  
 Jason Irwin (Carol Buck's nephew)  
 Larry Willoughby (Kathy Weed's father)  
 Virginia Woods Johnson (Elaine Dixon)  
 Arlene Melton, broken hip (Alice Shafer)  
 Janet Walker, back pain (Donna Merguc's sister)  
 Jon Dunlap, back pain (Kris Dunlap)  
 Kaylee Truly (Chris Dunlap)  
 Hollise Griffith (Michael Duvall's uncle) heart condition  
 Jorja Estep, possible brain tumor (Missy Coffman)  
 John Kennedy, in rehabilitation (Kathy Maddy)  
 Dan Burgess (Jennifer Burgess)  
 Becky Whited (Jennifer Burgess)  
 Henry, foot/ leg pain (Sherry Breedlove)  
 Katerina, ICU/Covid-19 (Mary Ellen Logsdon)  
 Karen Wheeler, lung cancer (Laurie Turley)  
 Ruth Duvall, (Michael's mother)  
 James Logsdon (Mary Ellen's nephew)  
 Celia Maddy (Kathryn Maddy's niece)  
 Lindsey Denison (Patsy Denison)  
 Jarod Hall, drug addiction (Sue Carpenter)  
 Rudy Capese, liver cancer (Lindsey Duvall)  
 Cheri Cowder, ALS (Lindsey Duvall)  
 Heather Cook, high blood pressure (Connie Ivey)  
 Bill Keeler, cancer (Mary Ellen Logsdon)  
 Ashley Nestman (Connie Ivey)  
 Amber Shinn, cancer (Mary Ellen Logsdon)  
 Sherry Breedlove, biopsy  
 Corey, Spina Bifida (Sherry Breedlove)  
 Jonathon Davis, father passed away (Kathy Maddy)  
 Lynn Akers, breast cancer (Mary Ellen Logsdon)

#### Prayer Concerns - In Care Facilities:

**Georgiana Hager**, Golden Living Center, 6500 MacCorkle Ave SW, St. Albans 25177  
**Cornelia May**, 255 N. Egret Bay Blvd., apt. 4104, League City, TX 77573  
**Karen Lamb**, Golden Living Center, Room 103, St. Albans, WV 25177  
**Muriel Frincke**, Apt. 318, 3201 Center Pointe Drive, Orlando, FL 32825  
**Ann McCormick**, Apt. 213, Bellaire at Devonshire, 5 Bexley Drive, Scott Depot, WV 25560

*A Memorial Service*

Ian Gustaf Moir (June 1936 - March 2020)

Thursday, September 24, 2020

3:00 pm

Pastor Doug Jenkins will officiate.

Marion Moir would be pleased to see everyone, she now resides in Charlotte, NC.

*thank you***To all the fine folks at FPCSA!**

*I thank you for the thoughtful blue and red stained glass cross reflecting God's light in our home office window! I thank you for the surprising bonus and the best send off possible, WOW! I thank you for the times shared in ministry and that will continue and flourish with new pastoral leadership. God's blessings with you all! Amen & Amen. Doug Jenkins*

**2020 College Students****Mailing Addresses**

Patrick Curtis  
UC Santa Barbara  
6517 El Greco Road #2  
Isla Vista, California 93117  
(Moving 9/15/2020)

Katelin Evans  
WVU  
604 Grant Ave  
Morgantown WV 26505

John Leftwich  
WVU  
Seneca 520-c  
2151 University Avenue  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Aidan Dillon-Page  
WVU  
1010 Irwin street  
Morgantown 26508

Avery Dillon-Page  
University of Kentucky  
720 Woodland Ave 112 Chellgren Hall  
Lexington 40526-0104

Jillian Smith  
WVU  
512 Mclane Ave. Apt 1  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Abby Vaughn  
49 Falling Run Road  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Matthew Vaughn  
Stalneker Hall  
Room 315  
1 Maiden Lane  
Morgantown, WV 26505.

Tyler Walker  
University of Rochester  
146 University Park  
Rochester, NY 14620

Alex Zimmerman  
High Point University  
Campus Box 3932  
One University Parkway  
High Point, NC 27268

JD Zimmerman  
University of Tennessee  
1901 Lake Ave  
Knoxville TN 37916

Other New Addresses:

Allie Curtis  
10 Stirling Drive  
North Scituate, RI 02857

Brendan & Allycia Stennet  
2033 Hudson Street  
Charleston, WV 25302

Mickey Arthur Swartz  
2750 Arnold Drive , Unit 491  
Ellsworth AFB SD 57706  
United States

Jack Wiles  
5 Sheridan Drive  
St. Albans, WV 25177

***During these uncertain and sometimes stressful days of school or whatever their endeavors are, these students and young adults would appreciate a card with words of encouragement or a simple "I'm thinking of you"!***

***The Presby Record***  
**of the**

*First Presbyterian Church*  
201 Kanawha Terrace  
*St. Albans, West Virginia 25177-2825*

***Address Service Requested***



**Officers**

**Class of 2020**  
Mark Curtis (1)  
Jack Rogers (2)  
Susan Allowatt (1)  
Laurie Turley (2)

**Class of 2021**  
Donna Merguc (2)  
Vickie Godbey (1)  
Debbie Duvall (1)  
Holly Greathouse (1)

**Class of 2022**  
Michael Clark (2)  
Tim Malcomb (2)  
Andi Pease (1)

**Church Staff**

Ministers Every Member of the Congregation  
Kathryn Weed..... Parish Associate  
Mary Ellen Logsdon .....Music Director  
Kathy Maddy ..... DCE  
Mike Merguc ..... Custodian  
Meghan Beha ..... Secretary  
Debbie Duvall.....Bookkeeper

**Trustees:**

Class of 2019: Gloria Williams  
Class of 2020: Michael Duvall  
Class of 2021: John Jones

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facebook: First Presbyterian Church of St. Albans