

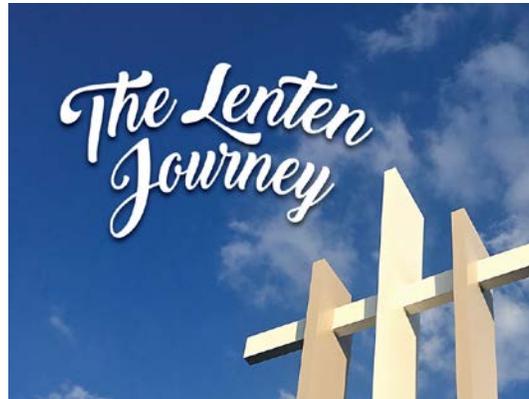


# THE CARILLON

Monthly Newsletter  
March 2020

First Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Dudley Elvery, Transitional Pastor  
Vol. 55 No. 3  
Web Site: [www.fpchw.org](http://www.fpchw.org)

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## OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

We began this holy season of Lent on *Ash Wednesday*, February 26, with a service at St. Paul Community Church of Homewood that also included First Presbyterian Church of Chicago Heights. Weekly opportunities for devotion now begin in March with the *Tuesday Community Lenten Lunches*. Area Christian churches will host Tuesday Lenten Gatherings at First Presbyterian Church of Homewood. Worship for the whole community begins at **12:10 p.m.** in the sanctuary, *followed by a light lunch at 12:35 p.m. in Westminster Hall* for March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. [No Tuesday lunch during Holy Week.] Local pastors will preach and local church groups will provide food. Freewill offerings help provide for lunch, with the excess given to a local charity.

*In searching for a "theme" for our Lenten series this year, I realized that while there are many social justice issues that loom large, they all stand under the darkening cloud of climate change. I looked for a resource that would somewhat fit our five-week format and give us a way to look at our planet as God's gift whose care has been entrusted to us.*

*I found, "Saying Yes to Life," the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2020. It is organized around the formal creation story of Genesis one. Assuming that Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26) has to do with dark and*

*light, I am suggesting that we take on days two through six as our theme.*

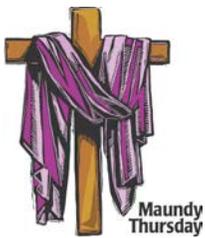
*Dudley Elvery*

- March 3:** "Day Two" – Genesis 1:6-9  
Let the Waters Be Separated, Rev. Mary Beth Ingberg, St. Paul United Church of Christ  
Lunch by Tuesday Panera Bread Bible Study
  - March 10:** "Day Three" – Genesis 1:9-13  
Let the Land Produce Vegetation, Rev. Dr. Audre Nanabray, St. Andrew United Methodist  
Lunch by St. Paul Community Church
  - March 17:** "Day Four" – Genesis 1:14-19  
Let There Be Lights in the Sky, Rev. Bob Kklonowski, Faith Lutheran Church  
Lunch by St. Andrew United Methodist Church
  - March 24:** "Day Five" – Genesis 1:20-23  
Let the Waters Teem with Living Creatures and Let Birds Fly, Rev. Greg Boettner, 1<sup>st</sup> Presby Chicago Heights  
Lunch by First Presbyterian Church of Chicago Heights
  - March 31:** "Day Six" – Genesis 1:24-31  
Let the Land Produce Living Creatures and Let Us Make Humankind in Our Image, Rev. Fred Lyon  
Lunch by \_\_\_\_\_
- Join us for your lunch hour!**



Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday**, April 5. Join us for worship at 10:30 a.m. as palm branches wave, celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. This Sunday we receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**, a denominational offering that supports

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self Development of People, and Presbyterian Hunger Program. Following worship, Heavenly Perks will include a Bake Sale sponsored by the Women's Association.



Follow Jesus on His way to the cross with the Last Supper on **Maundy Thursday**, April 9. *Maundy* comes from the word *mandate*, and we remember Jesus' mandate to love one another. This service will be held at

First Presbyterian Church of Chicago Heights at 7 p.m. Their choir will present a cantata, **Lenten Sketches** by Joseph M. Martin. This service will include Communion.

For **Good Friday**, April 10, the 7 p.m. Tenebrae service occurs in our sanctuary, with St. Paul Community Church joining us. The darkness of the original day will be symbolically portrayed.



Then be sure to return on Sunday, April 12, for **Easter Communion Worship** at 10:30 a.m. We'll have our Alleluia Wands ready for the children to wave as we celebrate Jesus' triumph over death and give thanks and praise to God among the

spring flowers. And don't forget breakfast!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Congregational Life invites you to celebrate the joyous news with family and friends at the **Easter Breakfast** prior to the worship service. The breakfast will be served from **9:00-10:00 a.m.** in Westminster Hall. If you would like to participate by providing food or drink, sign-up sheets are available on the Welcome Center in the Narthex starting March 29.

Shirley Armistead

## COMMUNION SCHEDULE

March 1 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent  
 April 9 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday at Chicago Hts  
 April 12 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday



## SESSION REPORT

### Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Feb. 16, 2020

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation and Congregation was called to order with prayer on Sunday, February 16, 2020, by Rev. Elvery. With 30 out of 113 active members in attendance, there was a quorum.

The booklet containing the written annual reports had been available to members of the congregation since the week prior to the annual meeting, but copies were distributed to attendees requesting them. Rev. Elvery gave time for members to look through the 2019 Annual Reports as presented in the handout and asked if there was information in any report that needed to be highlighted.

Reports included were:

-  Pastor's Report to the Congregation
-  Session Annual Report
-  Mission and Ministry Endowment Fund Annual Report
-  Faith Formation Report
-  Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study Report
-  Worship Ministry Report
-  Music Ministry Report
-  Congregational Life Ministry Report
-  Community Dinners Report
-  Personnel and Administration Ministry Report
-  Stewardship and Finance Ministry Report – Sylvia Tufts was pleased to report that we had a small surplus for the 2019 year, but that can be attributed to not paying the salary and benefits package for a called pastor. Ed Wahl mentioned the need to have pledge responses returned so we may have a more accurate financial picture to submit with our Ministry Information Form.
-  Women's Association Report
-  Gifts and Memorials Summary Report
-  Church Historian's Report
-  Deacons Report
-  Church Librarian's Report
-  Board of Trustees Annual Report

The congregation nominated and elected the following persons as at-large members of the 2020 Nominating Committee: Janet Wahl, Melodee Leimnetzer, Kim Hamilton, and Charlene Hansen.

Rev. Elvery commented on his tenure and pleasure in serving our congregation for two years.

With no further business, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation adjourned with prayer by Rev. Elvery.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward C. Wahl, Clerk of Session



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The complete membership of the 2020 Nominating Committee is set. If there is a suggestion for the next church officers or if you wish to self-nominate for Elder, Trustee, Deacon, please contact one of the following people:

Elder Chair Kathie Darman	Kim Hamilton
Elder Sylvia Tufts	Charlene Hansen
Trustee Jim Foster	Melodee Leimnetzer
	Janet Wahl

**Regular Meeting, February 17, 2020**

Rev. Elvery introduced a special guest to the meeting: Rev. Sue Krummell, Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Chicago, who also attended the Community Dinner to get a feel for our ministry in that area. Rev. Elvery asked everyone to think about the future of our church in terms of “three Cs”—Clues, Challenges, and Comforts. Rev. Krummel then described the search process for a called pastor that we are now entering. Each step requires time and sometimes resources that we must be prepared to commit.

Session discussed its organization and structure for 2020. Edward Wahl was elected Clerk of Session for 2020. See the following box for the distribution of leadership responsibilities:

**Session 2020 Ministry/Responsibility Assignments**

Clerk of Session	Ed Wahl
Congregational Life	Shirley Armistead
Monday Night Dinners	Joyce Anders, Jay Webster
Deacon Liaison	Joyce Anders
Faith Formation (CE)	Karen Maurer
Mission/Outreach	Kathie Hazlett, Jay W.
Worship	Kathie Hazlett
Pers & Admin	Kathleen O’Hanlon, Kathie Darman
Steward & Finance	Sylvia Tufts, Ed Wahl
Social Media	Kathie Hazlett
Presbytery Commissioners	Karen Maurer Joyce Anders

The Church Budget for 2020 is balanced and was presented by the Stewardship and Finance Ministry

Team for approval. When the transition costs become known and a call made to a new pastor, the budget will be amended to include the correct amounts. The budget was approved.

The Mission Study Team has completed its work, and Session voted to dismiss the group with thanks for their service during 2019.

Session voted to add two Ruling Elders to the Nominating Committee for 2020: Kathie Darman (Chair) and Sylvia Tufts.

Respectfully submitted, Edward C. Wahl, Clerk



**FROM THE PASTOR**

Collateral damage usually refers to innocent civilians caught in the cross fire of war. Changes also bring about collateral damage. Think about what happened to buggy whip makers once the automobile achieved dominance and popularity.

The church faces collateral damage on two fronts. As numbers and budgets shrink so does staff size. Congregations that once had multiple staff now have one pastor. Congregations that once had a full time pastor now have part time leadership. With reduced time available, activities once organized and implemented by pastors become collateral damage. With many congregations, as the members circle up the wagons to try to survive, energy and commitment beyond their walls diminish so that interfaith and ecumenical activities become collateral damage.

The Lenten Lunch Series teeters on the edge of becoming collateral damage. Active clergy associations that gave a ready mechanism for collaborative, shared activities are either totally gone or vestigial shadows of themselves. With no formal connections between congregations, any hint of lay leadership vanishes.

I’m reminded of the story of a congregation that at its annual meeting had people list what they thought the church should be doing for the next year. The usual suspects of worship, Sunday School, etc. showed up. These programs and activities were put on the wall, and people were to sign up for those they were willing to help with. The policy of that congregation stated that if no one volunteered to help for a program, that activity wouldn’t happen. One year, even though they had some children in their midst, no one signed up for Sunday School. They had no Sunday School for a year. The story doesn’t relate what happened the next year.

*Dudley Elvery*

## MUSIC MINISTRY



The Chancel Choir is currently rehearsing a Lenten cantata for a worship service in April. **SANCTUARY** is by Joseph M. Martin from 2014. Here is his explanation of his cantata: *“Throughout history, every culture has established sacred places of great religious significance. These places, great and small, are havens for seekers looking to discover a higher truth. ...In these houses of faith, we encounter a holy hush that transcends the clamor of our daily enterprise. In their cloistered stillness, we sense the divine and learn to listen past our doubts and despair. ...Beyond these houses of devotion, there is another sanctuary not made of brick or stone. ...This living sanctuary is Jesus! Through Christ, God’s tabernacle became flesh and moved among us. It is beneath this graceful shelter that we find our way through the wilderness and into our Promised Land. ...*

*“SANCTUARY is a service in song that conveys the many ways in which a seeker finds shelter and safety in the grace of Christ. As the cantata shares moments in the Savior’s life, we discover, by His example, the faithfulness of God’s promises to His people. These important moments are supported in the work by narration, scripture, and song. ... The message of this cantata is about celebrating the security we have in our faith.”*

Joseph Martin uses parts of familiar songs and spirituals as he creates new songs, but more about that next month. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:40 p.m. in the sanctuary. To sing this cantata with the choir, show up each week.

## WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

Durin the month of March, the Women’s Association will be serving Heavenly Perks. Look forward to some wonderful food. The donations from the February 9<sup>th</sup> Bake Sale were \$446. Thank you to everyone for this support! The next Bake Sale is scheduled for Sunday, April 5 (Palm Sunday), in Westminster Hall. The Women’s Association Yearbook and donation cards will be available in the Narthex starting Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Charlene Hansen

## CIRCLE MEETINGS

LYDIA – No March meeting

REBECCA – Wed., March 11, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Karen Maurer, 3627 Forest Ct., Olympia Fields. Co-hostess is Jan Wahl. The lesson is Ch. 13 – 15 of *The Screwtape Letters*.



## MEN’S FELLOWSHIP CHICAGO HEIGHTS

First Presbyterian Homewood men are invited to join the Chicago Heights Men’s Fellowship Lunch on Friday, March 13, at 12:30 p.m. at Paulie’s Pub, 2736 Chicago Rd., South Chicago Heights. Share a devotion, a meal, and Christian fellowship. Hope to see you there.

## TRUSTEE REPORT



From the February meeting of the Trustees, it was reported that our custodian, Johnnie Dorsey, continues to recover from his December accident injuries and is anxious to return to work. Returning will, of course, be conditional on a doctor’s release. In the meantime, after a brief period of Trustees filling in, we have hired temporary custodial help for about 10 hours per week for cleaning. Jim Foster is handling most of the maintenance issues. Our snowplow contractor, Tim Hamilton, has taken on additional personal duties and can no longer handle our snow duties; Calerone Roofing has been contracted to finish the season. An elevator inspection was completed by the Village of Homewood. Marge Errant put out special decorations in front of the church for Valentine’s Day.

At the February 16 **Annual Meeting of the Corporation**, Jim Foster highlighted the Trustee activities in the annual report: the installation of a new steel office entry door (the original door had been deteriorating for many years), the replacement of three sump pumps that had failed within six days, and the several plumbing problems in the kitchen and toilets. Rod Dunlap

## STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

With one exception for 2020, the hats are being worn by the same people who served on the Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team in 2019. Sylvia Tufts is chair; Jack Day is at-large member; Ron Shropshire is Trustee representative, Edward Wahl is Session member; and Jim Foster is new to the Ministry Team, replacing Donna Moore who served so capably until passing away last May.

It’s another unusual year. The 2020 Church Budget was adopted by Session on February 17, 2020. The costs of pastoral leadership and care are the great unknowns. The Mission Study Team has concluded its work and finished its report. The Pastoral Nominating Committee is now in place and has begun the next steps in the process of finding and calling a new pastor. Timing for all of the future steps is somewhat known, but not fully



Monday Night Dinners will continue to have Services of Healing and Wholeness—and, sadly, even a memorial service for a guest who passed away on Saturday, February 15, 2020. Session approved the 2020 schedule for Special Worship Services of Healing and Wholeness to be in Westminster Hall following the dinners, as follows:

- ✚ February 24, 2020 (Monday before Lent)
- ✚ April 6, 2020 (Holy Week)
- ✚ May 25, 2020 (Memorial Day)
- ✚ July 6, 2020 (Monday after Independence Day)
- ✚ September 7, 2020 (Labor Day)
- ✚ November 9, 2020 (Monday before Veterans Day)
- ✚ December 21, 2020 (Longest Night)

Everyone is welcome to come to dinner and stay and worship with the combined “upstairs” and “downstairs” congregations. Ed Wahl, Clerk of Session

## FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

### Adult Sunday School

Our current video series *Jesus and the Gospels* draws to a close in March 2020. For the last year, (except for the eight weeks last summer devoted to *Navigating Genesis*), the study was not simply on Jesus but also on the Gospels as literary compositions. We wanted to know how they came to be, how they were related to one another, and how they communicated through their literary structure, plot, character development, themes, and symbolism. It is, after all, as literature that the Gospels influenced history. And it is through literature that present day readers can continue to encounter Jesus.



The final lectures consider the illusive and compelling figure of Jesus, both as he is found in his diverse literary representations and as he is experienced in communities of faith that read the Gospels in the context of worship. Please join us in the Church Parlor at 9:30 a.m. for the 30-minute video presentation and the following 20-minute period of discussion. Be prepared to learn something new; there is much to learn here. Ed Wahl

*Jesus and the Gospels* Lessons for March include:  
 Mar. 1 **The Gnostic Good News—The Gospel of Philip**  
 Mar. 8 **Jesus In and Through the Gospels**  
 Mar. 15 **Learning Jesus in Past and Present**

What began with three babies born into congregation families within a few months has evolved into members of those families feeling called to active roles in the life of this congregation. Nancy Beaudoin is serving on the Board of Trustees... Emily Hanley is serving on the Pastoral Nominating Committee... Kim Hamilton responded to the call for another usher on team 3 as well as for serving on the Nominating Committee for 2020... Jessica Lopez-Jursa often comes to Community Dinner and is a busy volunteer... and Lina plays with Handbell Choir and adds violin to the Chancel Choir's cantatas. These children make up **Young Children's Sunday School**.

Stories of call abound in the Bible: Isaiah's temple vision of "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?; Moses at the burning bush hearing, "Go down, Moses!" Peter, Andrew, James, and John called off their fishing boats by Jesus to follow him and "fish for people." We will call a new pastor, who will hear a call to come to Homewood. Calls abound—but we need to be listening.

**Tuesday Bible Study** will leave Panera Bread for the weeks of Lent in March so that those who wish to can participate in the ecumenical Lenten Luncheon series at our church. The study group will meet in the Parlor, second floor of the education building, 10:30-11:30 a.m. and then attend the short service in the sanctuary at 12:10, followed by lunch in Westminster Hall. Tuesday Bible Study has agreed to plan and serve the March 3<sup>rd</sup> lunch; other churches are responsible for the remaining four Tuesdays for lunch and pastoral leadership.

Karen Maurer

## PRAYER CARDS

The following members, friends, and staff of First Presbyterian Church of Homewood will receive a card telling them that the church is praying for them. Please pray for those listed. Kathie Darman

### Week of March 1

Karen Allison  
 Joan Alvers  
 Joyce Anders  
 Donna Anderson  
 Earl Anker & Jan Bunker

### Week of March 8

Dave & Shirley Armistead  
 Marilyn Austin  
 RoseMary Baird  
 Karen Barge Fillippo  
 Nancy Beaudoin



**Week of March 15**

Bruce & Shirley Boersma  
Elizabeth Bowesma  
Barbara Bielawski  
Doug Bonthron/Sally Wolford  
Ian Bonthron

**Week of March 22**

Leslie Bonthron  
Michael Bonthron  
James Calderone Family  
Debra Campbell  
Mary Cantway

**Week of March 29**

Jean & Dave Conover  
Bob & Linda Cook  
James Daanen  
Linda Daanen  
Kathie Darman



 **NURSING HOMES**

Mae Evert, Lemont Center Rehab; Pat Steiner, Plymouth Place, LaGrange Park.

 **HOSPITALIZED**

In the hospital during the past month was Betty Owens.

 **GIFTS AND MEMORIALS**

The following has been recorded in the Memorial Book in the Narthex: Raymond Baird.

 **PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) has requested your input on the kind of pastor you would want for our church. Please speak with the following people, and pray for them as they complete their task.

Joyce Anders	Bob James
Jan Bunker	Jay Ruklic
Emily Hanley	Laurie Ulrich
Tricia Hentschel	

 **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

**March**

5 Janet Wahl  
Emily Hamilton  
9 David Armistead  
11 Beverly Shropshire  
17 Jan Bunker Anker

**March**

21 Paul Tufts  
22 Nancy Llewellyn  
23 Sally Wolford  
25 Charlene Hansen  
29 Evelyn Dixon

**May God grant birthday blessings to you all this coming year.**

  **KEY INFORMATION**

Pastor, Rev. Dudley J. Elvery  
Flossmoor  
Secretary, Debra Campbell  
Chicago  
Treasurer, Linda Daanen  
Homewood  
Caretaker, Johnnie Dorsey  
Markham  
Director of Music/Organist, Tim VanNasdale  
Chicago  
Clerk of Session, Ed Wahl  
Homewood  
Trustee President, Jim Foster  
Homewood  
Financial Secretary, Melodee Leimnetzer  
Matteson  
Christian Ed, Karen Maurer  
Olympia Fields  
Women's Asn President, Laura Dillman  
Homewood  
Chancel Flowers, Kathie Hazlett  
Homewood  
Sanctuary Greeters, Kathie Hazlett  
Homewood  
*Carillon* Newsletter Editor, Janet Wahl  
Homewood  
Church Librarian, Paul Gerrish  
Flossmoor  
Church Historian, Phil Dilman  
Homewood  
Memorials & Gifts, Ed Wahl  
Homewood

 **APRIL CARILLON**

The deadline for articles placed in the April *Carillon* is **Friday, March 20**. Please turn in all materials in writing to the church office for *The Carillon* mailbox or email the Editor at [ewahl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ewahl@sbcglobal.net). The Editor thanks all of the March reporters for their assistance.

J C =W=

# MARCH 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc <b>Communion</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Heavenly Perks	<b>2</b> 5:30 Community Dinner	<b>3</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:30 Women's Board 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Time to Spring Ahead
<b>8</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc Heavenly Perks <b>Daylight Saving Time</b>	<b>9</b> 5:30 Community Dinner 7:00 Stewardship Team	<b>10</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b>	<b>11</b> 7:30 Rebecca Circle	<b>12</b> Lydia Circle – no meeting 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 12:30 Chicago Heights Men's Fellowship	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc Heavenly Perks	<b>16</b> 5:30 Community Dinner 7:00 Session	<b>17 VOTE</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	<b>18</b> 	<b>19</b> (No Women's Luncheon) 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> <b>Carillon Deadline</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc Heavenly Perks	<b>23</b> 5:30 Community Dinner	<b>24</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc Heavenly Perks	<b>30</b> 5:30 Community Dinner	<b>31</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b>				