



# THE CARILLON

Monthly Newsletter  
April 2019

First Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Dudley Elvery, Transitional Pastor  
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## OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

We began this holy season of Lent on *Ash Wednesday*, March 6, with a service at St. Paul Community Church of Homewood that also included First Presbyterian Church of Chicago Heights. Weekly opportunities for devotion have been on-going 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 the remaining dates of April 2 and April 9. [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 Respond Now.

This year's theme is *Singing in Lent*. Each week we will focus on one hymn that helps us along our way on our Lenten journey. Singing our faith gives us a unique and moving way of expressing our faith. So far, Rev. Dudley Elvery has helped us study "Lord, Who Through out These Forty Days;" Rev. Frank Rodgers of St. Paul has helped us study "A Woman Came Who Did Not Count the Cost;" and Rev. Bob Klonowski of Faith Lutheran helped us with "O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High." Rev. Fred Lyon of Flossmoor Community will discuss "Throughout These Lenten

Days and Nights" on April 2 and Rev. Greg Boettner of First Presby of Chicago Heights will discuss "What Wondrous Love Is This" on April 9. Lunch has been prepared by our Tuesday Panera Bread Bible Study, St. Paul Community Church, and St. Andrew United Methodist Church. The April cooks have not been determined yet. **Join us for your lunch hour!**

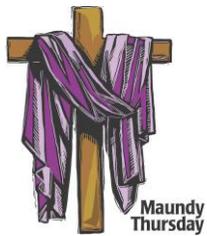


Palm Sunday

Holy Week begins with *Palm Sunday*, April 14. 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. During worship, the **Chancel Choir** will provide Music Ministry by presenting a cantata for Holy Week entitled *A Gathering of Grace* by Douglas Nolan. This cantata contains 2018 new songs: "Prelude of Shadows," "In the Stillness of This Moment," "Ask of Me," "Palm Branches," "A Light in the Upper Room," "Jesus, in Gathsemane," "The Day the Cross Held Up the Sky," "A Green Hill Far Away," "Recessional." The narration contains scriptures and prayers to convey the graceful theme of Christ's sacrificial love. Ending with the crucifixion, *A Gathering of Grace* will set the stage for Easter morning. *As we listen and learn, may we draw closer to the*

cross and abide in its shadow. Following worship, Heavenly Perks will include a **Bake Sale** sponsored by the Women's Association.

April 12 is the deadline for ordering Easter flowers. (See order blank on a later page.)



Follow Jesus on His way to the cross with the Last Supper on **Maundy Thursday**, April 18. *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. The choir will present a cantata! Although our Session scheduled Communion for that date, we do not know now if Communion will be a part of this service.

For **Good Friday**, April 19, 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 21, 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 31. Shirley Armistead

## COMMUNION SCHEDULE

April 18 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday (maybe)  
 April 21 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday  
 May 5 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary



## SESSION REPORT

### Special Session Meeting, March 10, 2019

Session voted to receive two new Active Members into the congregation: Fred Grable by Profession of Faith and Nancy Connors by Reaffirmation of Faith.

### Regular Session Meeting, March 18, 2019

New matters that required Session attention included:

- ✚ The 2019 Church Budget as developed by the Board of Trustees, Personnel and Finance Ministry Team, and Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team was approved as recommended. Copies will be available on the Welcome Center in the Narthex to be picked up.
- ✚ In the Church Policy Manual, there is no policy for funerals and memorial services held at the church. A new policy will be developed.
- ✚ To complete the Nominating Committee, Elders Jay Webster and Sylvia Tufts were appointed, with Elder Jay Webster serving as Chair.

Some of the continuing matters from February included:

- ✚ The 2019 Church Directory is now out and available in the Narthex.
- ✚ A Companionship Training Workshop to assist our members to work with dinner guests and church members with sensitive special needs will be coming up on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn.
- ✚ The order of the host churches for Lenten worship was changed after the last Session meeting. See the lead article above.
- ✚ The Tuesday Lenten Lunches are a weekly work in progress for topics in worship and preparation of the meals.

Rev. Elvery officiated the Memorial Service for non-member Donna Miller Decker at the church on Saturday, March 9, 2019. Her remains were buried at Chapel Hill Gardens South Cemetery, Oak Lawn, IL. Rev. Elvery officiated the Memorial Service for Active Member Betty Ann Bednarcik at the church on Monday, February 25, 2019. She passed away on Tuesday, February 19, 2019. Her remains will be buried at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Rev. Elvery co-led the Ash Wednesday service at St. Paul Community Church in Homewood, and celebrated the Sacrament of Communion in that service.

For the Clerk's records:

- ✚ On Sunday, March 3, 2019, Rev. Elvery celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism during

worship for Jaxon Timothy Calderone, born March 5, 2018 to parents James and Natalie (Hamilton) Calderone.

- ✚ Notification of the death of former Ruling Elder/Deacon/Trustee Ian Laing on Saturday, March 9, 2019, was received. Arrangements are not known.
- ✚ Betty Ann Bednarcik—remove from Active Member Roll—deceased.

Clerk Wahl responded to a letter from a law firm representing the Trust of Mary Ann Millush, who died in 2012, regarding a bequest distribution from the Trust forthcoming in the amount of \$5,000.

#### Our Ministries in Action:

Elder Maurer and Elder Webster thanked the members who serve as Ushers. Ushers will be assuming the additional task of greeters as they hand out worship bulletins each Sunday. Usher/Greeters work in teams, and there is a vacancy on Team #3 that needs to be filled with a new regular member. Volunteers, anyone?

Panera Bread in Cherry Creek Shopping Center, home of our popular Tuesday Morning Bible Study, is closing! A new store will be opening at the northwest corner of Halsted and 175<sup>th</sup> St. in Homewood, but for now the group will meet in the Church Parlor at 10:30 a.m. so the attendees can join in the Lenten Lunch.

Session reviewed the responsibilities and duties of Deacons as spelled out in *The Book of Order*. Our church presently has only two Commissioned Deacons.

To perform the Sacrament of Baptism for Jaxon Timothy Calderone, noted above in this article, Session had to give prior approval through an email vote. Another email vote was conducted to call a Special Session Meeting to receive new members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward C. Wahl, Clerk of Session



#### FROM THE PASTOR

Our calendars tell us, the lengthening days tell us, flocks overhead give us clues, buds on bushes and plants poking through the ground remind us, and so many other small and noticeable signs tell us, “spring is here.” The English name *Easter* refers to the earliest Christian holiday that celebrates Jesus’ resurrection. The most widely accepted theory of the origin of the term is that it derived from the name of an Old English goddess mentioned by the 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> century English monk Bede, who

wrote that *Eosturmonath* [Old English “month of Eostre” translated in Bede’s time as “Paschal month”] was an English month, corresponding to April, which he says “was once called after a goddess of theirs named Eostre, in whose honor feasts were celebrated in that month.” Latin and Greek refer to the day as *Pascha*, which comes from Passover, the Jewish holiday linked to Easter.



Regardless of how we name and understand Easter, a time of new life, new hope and renewal, we can look for its signs in our midst. As we seek to understand and embrace the new life God would bring forth in our midst, we need to learn to

look for it in large and small ways. Certainly we see it in the gift of children in our midst. We feel it on those Sundays when the Spirit has gotten loose in our worship. For those who have the privilege of dining with our guests on Monday night, we also see light and life being brought to corners of our community where shadows too easily cloud.

That which we see and experience together follows us out the door and into our homes, much like the fabled puppy. We should say, “Can I keep it?” Then we may discover that we have new energy or new clarity in our lives at home, and we may find that we see our neighbors differently whether they live next door or are the folks we meet as we move throughout our community.

My encouragement and urging for each and all of us is to take a few moments and attend to the various ways God brings new life and hope to us. Those are our “go to.” God, the Creator, still creates new ways for us to find God. God, the ever-ready to respond one, waits for us to reopen old doors and maybe even new doors so the Spirit may enter.

*Dudley Elvery*

#### WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, April 11, at 12:30 p.m. in Westminster Hall, there will be a joint meeting of the Women’s Association and Lydia Circle. [Note: the gathering is not on the third Thursday in order to avoid Holy Week activities.] Please bring a salad or a sandwich—potato chips and dessert will be furnished. After lunch, we will sit around the piano and listen to **Joyce Anders** play for us—and maybe sing along. No reservations are needed. Just come for a fun afternoon. Charlene Hansen

#### CIRCLE MEETINGS

REBECCA – Wed., Apr 10, 7:30 at the home of ?? Lesson 9 of *Cloud of Witnesses*.

## BAKE SALE

Here is the second event. The Women's Association will hold a **Bake Sale** on Sunday, April 14. Bakers and buyers are needed to make this a success. Bakers should bring packaged items to Westminster Hall at 9 a.m. Items will be on sale before and after worship! The profits will benefit Community Dinners.



## CHICAGO HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

Chicago Heights Women's Association has a gathering on Tuesday, April 2, at noon, but that is the same time as our Lenten Lunch when most of our women will be involved at our church. However, the Chicago Heights Men's Fellowship is still scheduled to meet on Good Friday, April 19, at 12:30 p.m. at Paulie's Pub in South Chicago Heights. Come share a devotion and Christian fellowship.

## TRUSTEE REPORT

The March meeting of the Trustees was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. However, a few of their tasks and problems can be reported: burned out sanctuary ceiling lights have been replaced; faucet in the C.E. upstairs women's restroom was replaced (with great difficulty); elevator and copy machine have been acting up.

Jay Ruklic

## STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

We now have a Church Budget for 2019! The budget process now extends into the first couple of months in the new year because of a few factors. First, the Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team could not meet in January or February because we did not have a quorum. Members were ill or out of state. Second, we had to conduct our 2019 pledge requests to determine the level of financial support we can expect from our members going forward into the second year of our period of transition. Third, we needed help from the Board of Pensions in defining our new (reduced) level of mandatory contributions while our pastor's position is vacant. Session voted to approve the 2019 Church Budget at the March 18, 2019, meeting. Copies of the approved budget are available on the Welcome Center; feel free to take one.

To date, we have received 38 responses out of the 82 mailed for our 2019 pledges. The combined total pledge amount is \$107,028. In retrospect, these numbers correspond to 40 responses and \$113,346 in 2018, both of

which are higher. There is still time to send or bring in your response envelope if you are among those who have not yet done so. Thank you to all.

Thank you to all who have already paid the 2019 Per Capita amount and to those who have pledged to do so. The amount per active member is **\$34.22**. Through February we have received \$2,142.40, which is 48.9% of the total \$4,380.16 owed. Please use the special Per Capita envelope in your offering envelope box if you are sending in your payment, and please write "per capita" on the memo line of your check.

The summary of receipts and disbursements for the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood for the month ending February 28, 2019, is in the following chart:

	<u>Through February</u>	<u>2019 Budget</u>
<b>General Fund Income</b>		
Identified Giving	\$19,015	\$130,000
Loose Offering	248	1,500
Initial Offering	360	500
Required Min. Dist./Stock Sale	0	5,000
Community Dinners Donations	112	3,000
Other Income	495	6,000
Dividends & Capital Gains	11,854	14,000
Sale of Investment Shares	0	21,800
Endowment Fund Distributions	0	7,700
Transfer from Designated Fund	0	0
<b>Total General Fund Income</b>	<b>32,084</b>	<b>189,500</b>
<b>General Fund Expenses</b>		
Missional Ventures	\$436	\$6,500
Faith Formation	99	1,800
Facilities	8,542	51,100
Staff	13,088	79,600
Transition	6,250	43,300
Administrative Support	1,402	7,200
Purchase of Investment Shares	0	0
Transfer to Designated Fund	0	0
<b>Total General Fund Expenses</b>	<b>29,817</b>	<b>189,500</b>
<b>Designated Fund Income</b>	<b>\$2,439</b>	
<b>Designated Fund Expenses</b>	<b>654</b>	
<i>Total Active Members—February 28, 2019</i>		<i>112</i>
<i>Average Sunday Attendance—November 2018</i>		<i>50</i>
<i>Average Sunday Attendance—December 2018</i>		<i>50</i>
<i>Average Sunday Attendance—January 2019</i>		<i>45</i>
<i>Average Sunday Attendance—February 2019</i>		<i>51</i>
<b>Summary through February 2019 (2/12 of Budget):</b>		
Income Over/(Under) 2019 Budget		\$---
Expenses Over/(Under) 2019 Budget		---
<b>2019 Total Net Income (Loss) to Date</b>		<b>---</b>

We need an average income of **\$4,000** each week to fund our mission and operate our church. This is

inclusive of pledges and identified giving as well as other income sources. So, how are we doing?

- Weekly average for January (4) \$5,290
- Weekly average for February (4) 2,731
- **Weekly average for 2019 (4) \$4,011**

As this issue of *The Carillon* is being prepared, the church has received a distribution check in the amount of \$5,000 from the estate trust of Mary Ann P. Millush, who passed away in 2012. This is the first and only estate bequest the church has received in over a decade. Have you remembered the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood in your estate plans or will?

### MISSION/OUTREACH MINISTRY



The Monday Night Community Dinner Team wants to thank the 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter for the generous donation of fried chicken earlier in the year.

**COMMUNITY DINNER** We were able to serve their delicious fried chicken at two dinners. We also used one of the Walt's gift certificates to provide a St. Patrick's Day dinner of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and tossed salad. Thank you, Walt's! We are excited to report that we have seen some new guests this month. March 4 through March 18, we served an average of 56 dinner guests. Again, thanks to all of you who donate food and who volunteer in many different ways. Jay Webster, Char Hansen, Kathie Hazlett, Shirley Armistead, Betty Owens

### PRAYER CARDS

The following members and staff of First Presbyterian Church will receive a card telling them that the church is praying for them. Please pray for those listed each week.  
Donna Moore

#### **Week or April 7**

Judy Petrovic  
Rich & Barb Pizza  
Helen Rachford  
Janice Rolls  
Betty Ross

#### **Week of April 14**

Emily Rozak  
Jay & Debra Ruklic  
Ron & Bev Shropshire  
June Sluis  
Pat Steiner

#### **Week of April 21**

Eleanor Steiner  
Brian & Kelly Tufts  
Paul & Sylvia Tufts  
Laurie Ulrich  
Sandy Van Horn

#### **Week of April 28**

Tim VanNasdale  
Ed & Janet Wahl  
Debbie Way  
Jay & Nick Webster  
Leighton Whitaker

### WORSHIP TEAM – EASTER FLOWERS

Flowers for the Easter Sunday service on April 21 must be ordered **April 12**. Please fill out the form herein or the one found in the Sunday bulletins. Turn in the form with the money to the church office.

#### **EASTER FLOWERS & RESPOND NOW ORDERS**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

Giver's Name (for Easter bulletin): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of **Lilies** \_\_\_\_\_ at \$8 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of **Tulips** \_\_\_\_\_ at \$7 Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_yellow \_\_\_pink \_\_\_white \_\_\_purple

Number of **Daffodils** \_\_\_\_\_ at \$7 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of **Azaleas** \_\_\_\_\_ at \$17 Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_blue \_\_\_pink

Number of **Hydrangeas** \_\_\_\_\_ at \$19 Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_white \_\_\_pink \_\_\_purple

**RESPOND NOW** donation \_\_\_\_\_ at \$8 Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Respond Now gifts will go toward fresh meat and fruit distribution for Easter meals. Respond Now donations are tax deductible) **GRAND TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

(If writing a check, please use a separate check from your weekly offering. Make check payable to First Presbyterian Church with "Easter Flowers/Respond Now" on the memo line.)

For the Easter bulletin, please specify how you would like name(s) listed:

\_\_\_ *In Memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ *In Honor of* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ *In Celebration of* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ *I would like my plant delivered to a shut-in.*



## FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY



**Adult Sunday School** will begin a new set of video lectures after Easter; see Ed Wahl's article for details. During Lent, this class, 9:30-10:20 a.m. in the Parlor, will focus on the lectionary scriptures for the day. Session received a proposal from our music director, Tim VanNas-

dale, for a study, "Navigating Genesis," that has meant a great deal to him and which he would like to share. Session members will be talking with Tim about it during Heavenly Perks on March 31. You're welcome to join the conversation.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** lost its meeting space when Panera Bread closed its Cherry Creek location as of March 17. The group meets in the Parlor during the five Tuesdays of Lent because most of the participants adjourn to the Lenten service and the following lunch. There are several weeks to ponder where our next home will be.

**Young Children's Sunday School** (ages 2-7, 10:30-11:30 a.m.) showed how Faith Formation can work for these young children. A lived experience (an injury attended to by sister/parents/grandparents/doctor); followed by conversations at home; followed by more conversation in Pastor Dudley's "Moment"; followed by Sunday School story/art/songs/play and Jesus' story we call "The Good Samaritan" is real and deeply understood. Our curriculum, *Growing in Grace and Gratitude*, takes on new meaning for all of us. Karen Maurer

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Early Christianity was prolific in its production of Gospels—narratives that in one way or another have Jesus of Nazareth as their central character. There are many more Gospels than the four included in the New Testament. They are almost bewilderingly diverse in the way they portray Jesus.

Beginning the Sunday morning after Easter, we will venture into this vast library of Gospels, both those familiar to us in the canon of the Bible and those that were left out or discovered long after the Bible was established. The overall theme is *Jesus and the Gospels*. Join us for this journey of learning. Ed Wahl

The Lessons for April include:

Apr. 28 **Why Not "The Historical Jesus"?**

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The membership of the 2019 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 Jay Webster

Joyce Anders

Elder Sylvia Tufts

Kathie Darman

Trustee Jim Foster

Lee Hilario

Janet Wahl

## HOSPITALIZED

In the hospital during the past month was Donna Moore.

## NURSING HOMES

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

## GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

The following has been recorded in the Memorial Book in the Narthex: Donna Miller Decker, Betty Bednarcik, and Mary Ann Mullish.

## THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to all who extended well wishes by card / hugs, and a special thank you for your kind words about me in both *The Carillon* and bulletin. The 10 years went by so quickly and I've enjoyed working here at First Presbyterian Church with some of the most kind and warm-hearted people. Debra Campbell

## MAY CARILLON

The deadline for articles placed in the May *Carillon* is **Saturday, April 20** (right before Easter). 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 April reporters for their assistance. JC =W=

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

### April

1 Kathleen O'Hanlon

2 RoseMary Baird

5 Edward Wahl

17 Vern Moore

### April

20 Tim Hamilton

26 Karen Barge Fillippo

Becky M. Morad

Debra Campbell

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

# APRIL 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> 5:00 Copy Service 5:30 Community Dinner	<b>2</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30 Women's Board  6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc Heavenly Perks	<b>8</b> 5:00 Copy Service 5:30 Community Dinner  7:00 Stewardship Team	<b>9</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor) 12:10 <b>Tuesday Lent Lunch</b>  7:00 Trustees	<b>10</b>  7:30 Rebecca Circle	<b>11</b> <b>12:30 Lydia Circle and Women's Luncheon</b>  6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>  <b>Easter Flower Deadline</b>	
<b>14</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc <b>Palm Sunday Cantata</b> <b>One Great Hour o Sharing</b> Heavenly Perks <b>Bake Sale</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Income Tax Day</b> 5:00 Copy Service 5:30 Community Dinner  7:00 Session	<b>16</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>7:00 Maundy Thursday at Chicago Heights Cantata/Communion?</b>	<b>19</b> 12:30 Chicago Heights Men's Fellowship  7:00 <b>Good Friday Service with St. Paul</b>	<b>20</b>  <b>Carillon Deadline</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00-10:00 <b>Breakfast</b> 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc <b>Easter Communion Servic</b> Heavenly Perks	<b>22</b>  5:30 Community Dinner	<b>23</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor ?)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  6:30 Handbell Choir 7:40 Chancel Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Kids Sun Sc Heavenly Perks	<b>29</b>  5:30 Community Dinner	<b>30</b> 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study (Parlor ?)				