

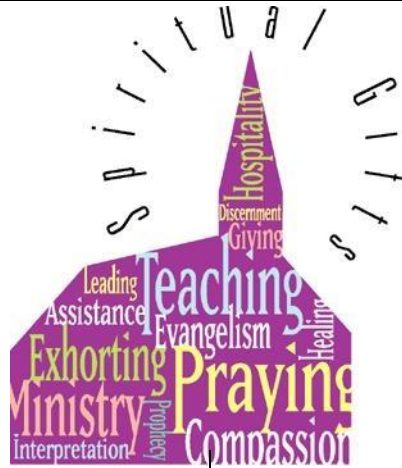


THE CARILLON

Monthly Newsletter
February 2021

First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dudley Elvery, Transitional Pastor
Vol. 56 No. 2
Web Site: www.fpchw.org

P. O. Box 1519
Homewood, Illinois
708-798-0490
E-mail: fpchw@sbcglobal.net



SPIRITUAL GIFTS

“Spiritual gifts can be defined as those special spiritual abilities that are given to everyone at birth that are brought to life by the Holy Spirit for a specific purpose: to fulfill the Body of Christ. A person may have more than one gift, and the gifts may not be permanent but may change according to God’s needs. The gifts are enhanced as they are used (Romans 12:6). The primary emphasis is on serving on behalf of the Body of Christ as opposed to finding one’s own personal fulfillment through service.

“**WISDOM:** Equips a person to have insight into how certain knowledge should be applied to specific needs.

“**KNOWLEDGE:** Equips a person to discover, analyze, clarify, and articulate information and concepts essential to the work of the Body of Christ.

“**FAITH:** Equips a person to have so much confidence in God that he/she never see an impasse—only detours, which they can go around in pursuit of accomplishing God’s work.

“**PROPHECY:** Equips an individual to proclaim truth in a way people can understand for the purpose of correction, repentance, or nurture. This is not so much

fore-telling the future as it is being able to draw implications from the Bible to life’s situations.

“**TEACHING:** Equips a person to understand and communicate information so that others within the Body learn and grow.

“**HELPS/SERVICE:** Equips a person to accomplish practical and necessary tasks which support and build up the Body. These people usually work alone and behind the scene. Often, this gift has nothing to do with people.

“**ADMINISTRATION:** Equips a person to bring order to all or a part of an organization and to formulate and enact procedures that enhance the function of the organization and support the mission and vision of the Body.

“**LEADERSHIP (governments):** Equips a person to articulate, cast, and share a vision in such a way that the individual members of the Body discover ways in which they can make the vision a reality.

“**EXORTATION (encouragement):** Equips a person to reassure, strengthen, affirm, and offer comfort to those who may be faltering in their faith or who are going through hard times. This is seldom seen as a gift by the person using it.

“**MERCY**: Equips a person to respond lovingly and compassionately to both the church and unchurched who are suffering.

“**GIVING**: Equips a person to contribute cheerfully and liberally of his/her material resources so the work of God may spread. (This may be the only gift this person has, and it may not be realized as a gift.)

“**EVANGELISM**: Equips the person to effectively communicate the story of Jesus Christ so that the unchurched will respond and move toward discipleship. (This person enjoys sharing his/her faith.)

“**SHEPHERDING**: Equips a person to guide, care for, and nurture individuals or groups in the Body so they can grow in their faith. This person may or may not be an ordained minister; however, this gift assumes a long time, personal commitment to the spiritual welfare of others.

“**HOSPITALITY**: Equips a person to enjoy opening his/her home to guests and to provide food, fellowship, or shelter.

“**INTERCESSION**: Equips a person to pray for an extended period of time on a regular basis for individuals, both the church and the unchurched, and for specific ministries of the Body.

“**COUNSELING**: Equips a person to effectively listen to people and assist them in their psychological and relational journeys toward wholeness.

“**DISCERNMENT**: Equips a person to be able to see through phony individuals and ideas. (People with this gift must take care not to be overly judgmental.)”

Unknown Author

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

February 7 10:30 a.m. virtual worship
February 17 7:00 p.m. virtual worship (?)
Ash Wednesday



ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday

This year **Ash Wednesday** falls on Wednesday, February 17. There has been no decision on the virtual worship service...yet. The information may come in, so please check the end of this newsletter for possible details.

SESSION REPORT

Regular Session Meeting, January 18, 2021

A new Session gathered around their computers for a Zoom meeting. Karen Maurer and Ed Wahl continued over from 2020, and Doug Bonthron and Laurie Ulrich returned after years off. Session reorganized into four functional areas:

- ✚ Faith Formation and Worship
- ✚ Member Care
- ✚ Media and Outreach
- ✚ Business Affairs [Stewardship & Finance; Personnel & Administration]

Edward C. Wahl was elected Clerk of Session for 2021.

Faith Formation and Worship

- Laurie Ulrich; Kathie Darman (Worship)

Member Care

- Shirley Armistead; Karen Maurer; Jay Webster; Kathie Hazlett

Media and Outreach

- Kathie Hazlett

Business Affairs

- Sylvia Tufts (S&F); Ed Wahl (S&F); Doug Bonthron (S&F; P&A); Kathie Darman (P&A)

Session reviewed a draft of the Yoking Agreement with Calvary United Protestant Church, making three small suggestions for modification.

The Board of Trustees notified Session of the resignation of Trustee Eleanor Steiner for the 2021 year. The Trustees will determine whether a replacement for one year will be needed and, if so, notify the Nominating Committee to seek a candidate.

The Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team outlined the plans for a drive-through distribution of 2021 Offering Envelope Boxes, 2020 End-of-Year Statements, and 2021 Pledge Envelopes. Any sets of materials not picked up on Sunday, January 24, 2021, will be mailed in the following week.

Our congregation is allocated two positions for Elder/Commissioner for the four Presbytery of Chicago Assembly Meetings in 2021. Ruling Elders Karen Maurer and Joyce Anders were elected to these seats by Session.

Everyone was reminded that the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Annual Meeting of the Corporation will be on Sunday, February 21, 2021. The Annual Reports are due to Church Secretary Debra Campbell by no later than Friday, February 5, 2021.

Rev. Elvery's covenant agreement with our congregation is to serve in a part-time (75%) capacity. Because Calvary United Protestant Church lost their pulpit supply pastor at the end of December 2020, Rev. Elvery will use his remaining 25% time to fill the pulpit supply vacancy and moderate the Session at Calvary during the period of pastoral search and call in 2021. In essence, this is a period of preparation for the yoked call for our new pastor.

From a recent video feed from the USS *Chicago* SSN-721 submarine somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, we noted that there is a framed photograph of Captian Jack Day posted prominently in the submarine's wardroom. The picture was taken at Jack's house during his 100th birthday celebration in May 2019.

With consent, Ruling Elder Andrew Dederer was removed from the Active Member Roll. He now lives and works in Las Vegas, NV.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward C. Wahl, Clerk of Session



FROM THE PASTOR

As I was driving to a cemetery recently, the sense of déjà vu came over me. I remembered driving from my home to serve a second congregation miles away and I pondered my thoughts.

Being a pastor of yoked congregations feels much like being a parent of adult children who have grown up and established their own lives. As many of you know, I have two grown sons who have families of their own and successful careers. Their families are different as are their careers. I love both and each of them. Within their very different lives, I see common threads, common values. As they grew up, there was little serious sibling rivalry. As I reflect on this, I realize that part of it was because they were far enough apart in age that they were always different. They had learned that my "not now" wasn't "No" but "as soon as I can." I also realize that there were open lines of communication between them and me.

Now I realize how much the same is true for yoked congregations. Each has a different life while having common core values. Each seeks to have open, respectful communication with each other. Each understands that when the pastor says "Not now," they still will be attended to as soon as possible.

Dudley Elvery

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION and ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION February 21, 2021

The purposes of the meetings are to review the past year via annual reports for 2020, to look over the financial report and present the 2021 budget, to nominate and elect members of the Nominating Committee, to hear from the Trustees, and to conduct any other business items brought to the meeting. Please plan to attend via Zoom after the worship service that Sunday. (The annual reports will probably be available by email.)

Responsive Reading

(Freeport, PA, United Methodist Church)

Leader: God won't ask what kind of car we drove.

Congregation: He'll ask how many people we drove who didn't have transportation.

Leader: God won't ask the square footage of our house

Congregation: He'll ask how many people we've welcomed into our home.

Leader: God won't ask about the clothes we had in our closet.

Congregation: He'll ask how many we helped to clothe

Leader: God won't ask what our highest salary was.

Congregation: He'll ask if we compromised our character to obtain it.

Leader: God won't ask what our job title was.

Congregation: He'll ask if we performed our job to the best of our ability.

Leader: God won't ask in what neighborhood we lived.

Congregation: He'll ask how we treated our neighbors.

Leader: God won't ask about the color of our skin.

Congregation: He'll ask about the content of our character. *Joyful Noiseletter, 2013*

TRUSTEE REPORT



The Trustees virtual meeting was on January 19. Jim Foster noted that Johnnie Dorsey is running faucets, toilets, etc. frequently during this period of non-use and is running the dishwasher once a month. Another piece of soffit has blown loose on the CE building and along with previous damages will be repaired when the

weather allows the work to be done safely. The copier contract was renewed and a new copier installed after the company delivered the wrong machine. So far it is working well, but training is needed.

The Trustee Officers for 2021 are:

President Jay Ruklic
 Vice President Nancy Beaudoin
 Secretary Rod Dunlap

Rod Dunlap was also appointed as Trustee representative to the Nominating Committee.

Rod Dunlap



STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

It is time to send in your 2021 pledges and Per Capita amounts in February. Because the deadline for this issue of *The Carillon* occurred first, we can only give thanks to God for your anticipated financial support at this time. We trust you are using your 2021 offering envelopes and have recycled any unused 2020 envelopes (and the box they came in).

Annual giving statements for 2020 were handed out to all persons coming to the drive-through pick-up on Sunday, January 24, 2021, and mailed to all other members on January 27, 2021. Please check your statement against your records for accuracy. We do the best we can to keep the records straight, but some errors occasionally creep in. Your annual statement includes regular and special offerings, Per Capita payments, special gifts, required minimum distributions, and memorial gifts. Any questions or requests for corrections should be directed to Melodee Leimnetzer, our Financial Recording Secretary. She has the records and will be able to help you.

The 2021 Per Capita Apportionment is **\$36.00** for each member of the congregation on the Active Member Roll on December 31, 2019. Based on 111 active members on that date, we will be asked to pay \$3,996 to support the three higher levels of the Presbyterian Church—Presbytery of Chicago (**\$23.21**), Synod of Lincoln Trails (**\$3.81**), and Presbyterian Church (USA) (**\$8.98**).

The Pastoral Nominating Committee is now in place. The Yoking Team is nearing final agreement for the shared service of a called pastor. The financial package to be included in the Ministry Information Forms of both churches is almost ready to submit to Presbytery. When everything is accepted, we will be ready to seek candidates. We as a congregation must get serious about preparing our budget to support our share of the terms of call for our new called pastor. There may be extra one-

time expenses involved with the search activities, possible on-site neutral pulpit visitations, and relocation costs. To support all of this, we will need financial participation from all members, including those who do not usually return their pledge forms. This is our congregation; this is our responsibility. Please help.

The summary of receipts and disbursements for the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood for the year ending December 31, 2020, is in the following chart:

	<u>Through December</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
General Fund Income		
Identified Giving	\$121,830	\$130,000
Loose Offering	211	1,500
Initial Offering	413	500
Required Min. Dist./Stock Sale	8,266	5,000
Community Dinners Donations	770	3,000
Other Income	16,149	3,000
Dividends & Capital Gains	6,287	14,000
Sale of Investment Shares	0	37,400
Endowment Fund Distributions	0	9,000
Transfer from Designated Fund	<u>1,450</u>	<u>0</u>
Total General Fund Income	155,376	203,400
General Fund Expenses		
Missional Ventures	\$1,194	6,500
Faith Formation	217	1,800
Facilities	40,517	51,500
Staff	75,481	82,000
Transition	41,211	54,300
Administrative Support	4,851	7,300
Purchase of Investment Shares	0	0
Transfer to Designated Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total General Fund Expenses	163,471	203,400
Designated Fund Income	\$13,692	
Designated Fund Expenses	18,005	
Total Active Members—December 31, 2020		106
Average Sunday Attendance—September 2020		0
Average Sunday Attendance—October 2020		0
Average Sunday Attendance—November 2020		0
Average Sunday Attendance—December 2020		0
Summary through December 2020 (12/12 of Budget):		
Income Over/(Under) 2020 Budget		(\$48,024)
Expenses Over/(Under) 2020 Budget		(39,929)
2020 Total Net Income (Loss) to Date		(8,095)

In June 2020, our church applied for and received a Payroll Protection Program Round One loan of \$14,855 from the Small Business Administration. In January 2021, the entire loan was forgiven. Also in January 2021, we have qualified for a PPP Round Two loan for \$14,855 from the SBA, which has now been approved and the funds set aside. All funds are used to support the payroll for our four employees going into 2021.

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) \$3,526
- Weekly average for February (4) \$3,646
- Weekly average for March (5) \$2,161
- Weekly average for April (4) \$2,880
- Weekly average for May (5) \$3,265
- Weekly average for June (4) \$5,820
- Weekly average for July (4) \$1,856
- Weekly average for August (5) \$1,549
- Weekly average for September (4) \$3,465
- Weekly average for October (4) \$1,776
- Weekly average for November (5) \$2,665
- Weekly average for December (4) \$3,771
- **Weekly average for 2020 (52) \$2,988**

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO PICKED UP THEIR OFFERING ENVELOPES BOX AT THE DRIVE/THROUGH ON JANUARY 24.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Choir Members: If you still have any church choir music at home, please turn it all in by sliding it through the mail slot in the office door. Many thanks.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICES



Sunday virtual worship services can be found on the church web site **fpchw.org**. Join at 10:30 a.m. to be “together” for a service. The last ten Sunday services are stored there, too.

A Service of Healing and Wholeness

will be held on Monday, February 22, the first Monday in the season of Lent. Our increasing awareness of how broken our world has become can either overwhelm us and push us into apathy or even despair or move us to say “enough is enough” and realign ourselves with God’s dreams and possibilities for a Kingdom on Earth. This service can become a small step in that direction by helping us to experience anew God’s healing, peace-giving grace or by refueling us for becoming agents of healing and reconciliation or both. Taking time for this mimics a pattern for Jesus and his disciples. They would be out in the thick of a clamoring multitude and then retreat to a quiet place to reconnect, recharge, and clarify their mission. Our quiet place awaits us in this



service to be accessed at 7 p.m. from the church website.
Dudley Elvery

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM CLASS WITH TIM

Our new course is *Jesus Among Secular Gods* by Ravi Zacharias and Vince Vitale. There is a subtitle of *The Questions of Culture and the Invitation of Christ*. Class is held weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. on Zoom. For a copy of the Zoom link to join the class, please contact tlvannasdale@gmail.com or use the link on the web site (preferred).

Class Schedule: may be subject to change
 Feb. 3 Hedonism (Part 3)
 Feb. 10 Conversations That Count (Part 1)
 Feb. 17 NO CLASS Ash Wednesday
 Feb. 24 Conversations That Count (Part 2)
 Mar. 3 Conversations That Count (Part 3)
 Mar.10 *Jesus Among Secular Gods* Review & Discuss



All worldviews attempt to answer some of the deepest questions in life. *What’s the meaning of life? What is my purpose? What will happen to me when I die?* In this class, we will explore the most successful and popular secular responses to these challenging questions and compare them with the answers provided in Christianity. Knowing what these competing philosophical concepts involve and what challenges they pose to the teachings of Jesus can be super helpful in evaluating and strengthening our own beliefs as well as helping us to address questions when the opportunity arises to give reasons for the hope within us (1 Peter 3:15). Tim VanNasdale

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 each week. Kathie Darman

Week of February 7

Paul Gerrish
 Ray & Gerri Gilmore
 Fred Grable & Nancy Connors
 Ramses & Sebastian Godoy
 Dottie Guenter

Week of February 14

Emily Hamilton
 Kim & Tim Hamilton
 Dan & Rev Laurel H.
 Dan & Kiley Hamilton
 Melanie Hamilton

Week of February 21

Nick & Bree Hamilton
 Olivia Hamilton
 Emily & Richard Hanley
 Charlene Hansen
 Kathie & Jerry Hazlett

Week of February 28

Tom & Tricia Hentschel
 Emmanuel & Lee Hilario
 Bob James
 Dorinda Jensen
 Jessica Lopez-Jursa
 Lina Jursa

11 Proven Ways to Get Along Better with Everyone

(Author Unknown)

1. Before you say anything to anyone, ask yourself three things: 1) is it true? 2) is it kind? 3) is it necessary?
2. Make promises sparingly and keep them faithfully.
3. Never miss the opportunity to compliment or to say something encouraging to someone.
4. Refuse to talk negatively about others; don't gossip and don't listen to gossip.
5. Have a forgiving view of people. Believe that most people are doing the best they can.
6. Keep an open mind; discuss, but don't argue. (It is possible to disagree without being disagreeable.)
7. Forget about counting to 10. Count to *1000* before doing or saying anything that could make matters worse.
8. Let your virtues speak for themselves.
9. If someone criticizes you, see if there is any *truth* to what he is saying; if so, make changes.
10. Cultivate your sense of humor; laughter is the shortest distance between two people.
11. "Do not seek so much to be consoled, as to *console*; do not seek so much to be understood, as to *understand*; do not seek so much to be loved, as to *love*."

NURSING HOME / REHAB

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

SYMPATHY

Church sympathy is extended to Nancy Beaudoin on the death of her cousin, Matt Degman.



I am the Resurrection and the Life saith the Lord: he that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

MARCH CARILLON

The deadline for having articles placed in the March Carillon is **Saturday, February 20**. Please turn in all materials in writing and email the Editor at ewahl@sbcglobal.net. The Editor thanks all of the February reporters for their assistance.

J C =W=

Birthday greetings to our church family:

February

- 1 Leighton Whitaker
- 4 Rev. Dudley Elvery
- 10 Emily Rozak

February

- 13 Nolan Way
- 19 Phillip Dillman
- 20 Norinne Pulec

May God grant birthday blessings on you all this coming year.



A Gaelic Blessing

**Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you,
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.
Deep peace of Christ.**

ASH WEDNESDAY

Update: There will be an evening worship service on Wednesday, February 17. The access will be the web site. Keep an eye on the prayer chain for more details close to the date.

FEBRUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	3 7:00 Wednesday Bible Study w/ Tim on Zoom	4	5	6
7 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Communion Heavenly Perks on Website	8 Stewardship Team on Zoom	9 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom 7:00 Trustees on Zoom	10 7:00 Wednesday Bible Study w/ Tim on Zoom	12	12	13
14 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Heavenly Perks on Website Valentine's Day	15 Presidents' Day 7:00 Session on Zoom	16 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	17 7:00 ASH WEDNESDAY Service on Website	18  <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	19	20 <i>Carillon DEADLINE</i>
21 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Annual Meetings on Zoom 1st Sunday of Lent	22 7:00 Service of Healing on the Website	23 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	24 7:00 Wednesday Bible Study w/ Tim on Zoom	25	26	27
28 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Heavenly Perks on Website						