



THE CARILLON

Monthly Newsletter
May 2021

First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dudley Elvery, Transitional Pastor
Vol. 56 No. 5
Web Site: www.fpchw.org

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

GIVE NOW



WE HAVE ONLINE GIVING!

To make a monetary contribution to First Presbyterian Church of Homewood, we now offer two options:

- 1) Mail to:
First Presbyterian Church of Homewood
P.O. Box 1519
Homewood, IL, 60430
- 2) Online Contribution

All the information about our online giving service is on our website (fpchw.org) under “Give” and from the pull-down “FAQs for Donors.” A preview of that information is provided here, but the website is needed for all the information for donations.

Let it be known that there are two ways to give money online, two choices.

- Option #1** – Go to the App Store or Google Play on your phone and search for “**GivePlus Church**” to download for FREE. Follow the instructions.
- Option #2** – Use the “**Give Now**” button found on the website under “Give.” You will be asked to read the information in the two images and the FAQs BEFORE clicking on the button, but if you are computer savvy, you probably can just click “Give Now.”

So what information do they want you to read first? The “images charts” are on the web page; you do not have to click on the Vanco address. One chart highlights the way to create an account, how to manage the account, how to schedule payments, and review of the account. The other chart summarized giving as easy as 1-2-3: Search, Select, and Submit. The “FAQs for Donors” are a pull-down from GIVE on the website. Some of the answers to common questions are given here:

How do I find my church in the App? When you open the GivePlus Church app for the first time, you will be prompted to enter the name of the church you want to give to. You can enter as much of your church name as you know, or just type the zip code (60430), and then select your church from the list.

Will I have to search for my church every time I want to donate? No. After you select a church, it automatically becomes your “home” or “default” church. The next time you open the app, the church you last selected will already be displayed.

What payment methods can I use to donate?
GivePlus Church donations can be made with all major debit/credit cards currently accepted by your church. Use your phone’s camera to quickly scan your card information or enter it manually. You can also give or pay using your checking or savings account.

Will I receive a receipt? If you are logged into your Give+ account, you will receive a receipt via email, and you will also be able to view transactions in your giving history.

When I make a donation, is my debit/credit card or bank account information secure? Yes. Vanco Payment Solutions meets or exceeds all industry standards to safeguard your data. To help ensure your data stays safe, we leverage technology, such as tokenizing card data and encrypting sensitive information for transmission and storage.

I made a mistake and donated the wrong amount. How can I get a refund? Contact the church and they will be able to credit the amount donated in error back to your account—just like when you return an item you bought at a store or online.

How do I create a Give+ account? To create a Give+ account, you will be asked to enter your email address and to create a password for this account. In addition, you will select whether you'd prefer to log in with your device's Touch ID/Fingerprint or to create a PIN. An email will be sent to you to verify the email address. Then, if you are logged into your Give+ account, you can set up recurring donations, delete or change a recurring donation, and select the start date for a recurring or one-time donation.

How do I change my password? Log into your Give+ account with your current password. Next, go to the sidebar menu, select "Account Profile" and then click "Change Password" and follow the instructions.

Please direct your questions about using the "GivePlus Church App" or using the "Give Now Button" to Kathie Hazlett at kathie.hazlett@gmail.com. This online giving service will be monitored and altered to be sure that it is always user friendly.

This just in: two persons have recently used our online service to donate and posted responses. 1) "a piece of cake" 2) "Open app and answer the questions. A receipt is immediately sent to your email."

Christ calls us to share our financial blessings for the greater good. We respond by giving back with generosity. Thank you for your support.

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

May 2 10:30 a.m. virtual worship



SESSION REPORT

Regular Session Meeting, April 19, 2021

It's started! Serious discussions about the **where**, **when**, and **how** we can think about reopening the church to in-person worship are rising to the surface. The question of **who** will be ready and willing to return is less clear. Both Session and the Board of Trustees are involved in the preliminary talks. Session decided to survey the members of our congregation with a questionnaire that now is being developed. When you are called or receive the questionnaire in the mail or via email, please help us with the courtesy of a response. We can't help you with what you want if we don't know what you want.

The ability to receive on-line donations to the church is now functioning. [Note: see lead story on page 1.]

Two members were added to the Mission & Ministry Endowment Fund Board of Managers for the Class of 2023: Rod Dunlap and Ron Shropshire.

There was a special vote of the congregation to elect four at-large members to the 2021 Nominating Committee in early April. The email votes were received and counted by Church Secretary Debra Campbell. Elected were: Charlene Hansen, Li Hilario, Janet Wahl and Melodee Leimnetzer.

Notification was received of the death of Active Member Deacon Donna Lee Anderson on Monday, April 12, 2021. Her wake and following funeral service officiated by Rev. Dudley Elvery were at Tews-Ryan Funeral Home, Homewood, on Monday, April 19, 2021. She was cremated and interred at Cedar Park Cemetery.

One week of Vacation Leave was approved for Rev. Elvery from April 27—May 3, 2021. Rev. Jane Tuma will be providing pastoral leadership in worship on Sunday, May 2, 2021, at both First Presbyterian Church of Homewood and at Calvary United Protestant Church, Park Forest.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward C. Wahl, Clerk of Session



THREE SPECIAL DAYS

The month of May has three special days that we normally celebrate in our worship service. The on-line virtual services may still do that. The first is May 9, **Mother's Day**. May you connect by phone, email, card or flowers, or maybe by Zoom.



The second day is May 23, **Pentecost**. Pentecost in Christianity comes 50 days after Easter. When the Holy Spirit entered each of the gathered apostles, that time marks the birthday of the church. In the past, we have encouraged all to wear red as a sign of the flames of the Spirit on the apostles—so wear red all day on May 23, even when sheltered in place. The red highlights in this issue are in honor of Pentecost. We remember the birth of the Christian Church and the way that the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to proclaim Jesus as Messiah! It all started with the disciples gathered in prayer. It makes one wonder just what might happen when we worship, pray, and share Communion together.

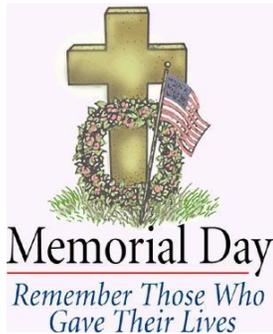


Come, Spirit, Come!

The third day is May 31, **Memorial Day**.

IN MEMORIAM

The names listed below are those who gave their lives in the service of their country in war and whom we remember on Memorial Day.



Charles Gregory	1863
Maurice L. Colvert	1942
Robert G. Downey	1944
Walter Richards, Jr.	1944
Walter E. Johnston	1945
Peter Shrine	1945
Frank Bonham	1946
Wilford Hall Taylor	1952
Thomas Victor Lorence	1955
Park G. Bunker	1970

A SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS



We again present on our web site a virtual service of *Healing and Wholeness* on Monday, May 31. Please access this service from our web site fpchw.org and use a pull-down under “Sermon.” 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.

Dudley Elvery

FROM THE PASTOR



Halfway down the stairs
is a stair
where i sit.
there isn't any
other stair
quite like
it.
i'm not at the bottom,
i'm not at the top;
so this is the stair
where
I always
stop.

Halfway up the stairs
Isn't up
And it isn't down.
It isn't in the nursery,
It isn't in town.
And all sorts of funny thoughts
Run round my head.
It isn't really
Anywhere!
It's somewhere else
Instead!

This poem could certainly describe where the early Christians found themselves after the still confusing resurrection and Pentecost. It may well describe us as well in three ways.

- ✚ First, we're in between the up of being out and about, the gathering and going of the pre-pandemic and post-pandemic and the down of being virtually prisoners in our own homes. It may seem like nowhere or at least nowhere we have been before.
- ✚ Second, we're in between the place where we had our installed pastor and our next installed pastor. While this certainly isn't "nowhere," it does feel like somewhere else.
- ✚ Third, we're in between having a pastor serving only us to having a yoked pastor serving us and a sister congregation. This is more like sitting on the stairs when we've never been to one of the floors.

[An aside, if I may: while yoking is not new, this may be the first with our denomination for having yoked congregations in an urban/suburban setting. The eyes of Texas may not be on us, but the eyes of presbyteries trying to discern how to serve smaller, viable congregations are.]

I contend that the somewhere else can be likened to a fallow time. A time to rest from all the busyness, a time to recharge, and a time to burst forth anew. Worship and study continue. Just as much as the rising sun calls the sleeping plants to come forth, the risen Son calls us forth

Dudley Elvery



TRUSTEE REPORT



Property Board

The Trustees met via Zoom on April 13, 2021. Laura Dillman reported that some springtime work has been started in the Aki Garden and that it is in good shape. She also noted that she will be checking expiration dates on any food in the kitchen following the long pandemic related non-use of the facility. Paul Gerrish noted that since Tim VanNasdale had been successfully using the organ recently for our virtual services, nothing further would be needed in preparation for when the sanctuary is re-opened. Earl Anker reported a successful pressure test on the elevator by the state in early February. The boiler has also passed an inspection. Ron Shropshire noted that contact information has been provided to those that have requested training on the new copier.

Rod Dunlap



STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

Legacy giving. What is that? Did you know there is a special Sunday in May for encouraging everyone to plan to leave a legacy or bequest gift to the church in your estate plan? This year it is on Sunday, **May 2, 2021**. This is a topic that should be discussed with your estate attorney or financial advisor. Your legacy is that the church can continue its ministry in your name after you have passed into God's glory. The Presbyterian Foundation has a wide range of resources available to assist you in making the choice(s) that best fit your circumstances and wishes.

The summary of receipts and disbursements for the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood for the month ending March 31, 2021, is in the following chart:

	Through March	2021 Budget
General Fund Income		
Identified Giving	\$29,948	---
Loose Offering	0	---
Initial Offering	228	---
Required Min. Dist./Stock Sale	0	---
Community Dinners Donations	0	---
Other Income	16,577	---
Dividends & Capital Gains	509	---
Sale of Investment Shares	0	---
Endowment Fund Distributions	0	---
Transfer from Designated Fund	0	---
Total General Fund Income	47,262	---
General Fund Expenses		
Missional Ventures	\$0	---
Faith Formation	6	---
Facilities	12,343	---
Staff	19,757	---
Transition	11,131	---
Administrative Support	2,159	---
Purchase of Investment Shares	0	---
Transfer to Designated Fund	0	---
Total General Fund Expenses	45,396	---
Designated Fund Income	\$2,989	
Designated Fund Expenses	0	
Total Active Members—March 2021		103
Summary through March 2021 (3/12 of Budget):		
Income Over/(Under) 2021 Budget		---
Expenses Over/(Under) 2021 Budget		---
2021 Total Net Income (Loss) to Date		---

On-line giving is ready for your use. You may also use regular mail at the following address for maximum safety:

First Presbyterian Church of Homewood
P.O. Box 1519
Homewood, IL 60430

Two other special offerings are normally collected in May—Pentecost and Mother’s Day. If you send a check for these special offerings, please use the memo line to tell us which one you are helping. Thank you.

WORSHIP MINISTRY



Our worship continues to be online, created by the “Team” of Pastor Dudley—who structures the services, preaches the sermon, and reads our *Moments with Children* (in addition to assigning Homework); Tim VanNasdale—who, in spite of his new position, continues to provide the music for our services by locating previously-recorded hymns and anthems and/or by recording preludes and postludes; Karen Maurer and Laurie Ulrich—who contact people to be the online liturgists; Kathie Darman—who works with the online liturgists and records their readings; and Master Magician and Technician Kathie Hazlett—who, with the assistance of Shirley Armistead, takes all the pieces, adds her photographs and graphics and text, thereby creating a coherent YouTube piece, which then is posted to our website for us to access on Sunday mornings. It’s a collaborative effort, to be sure!

Since last month’s *Carillon*, we had a service that didn’t follow our “new normal” procedure. On April 11, we were able to provide a “sabbath” for the Team by using the worship service that was created and provided by our Chicago Presbytery, and the worship experience allowed us to worship with an even wider community of believers. It continues to remind us that, though we are physically distant, we are united in spirit by the Spirit as we worship together.

On Sunday, **May 2**, Rev. Jane Tuma will lead us in worship as Pastor Dudley will be out of town. He is so faithful and constant that it’s been months since we have seen Jane, and—once again—we are reminded of the fact that we are “One in the Spirit”: distance does not keep us from worshipping together!

On Memorial Day, **May 31**, we will be posting a **Healing and Wholeness Service** online. This service is a time of reflection, prayer, and meditation. You have the opportunity to access a *private* Prayer Time through Zoom with Pastor Dudley that Monday evening, but that opportunity—because it IS LIVE—is only available then. The service, of course, can be accessed at any time that day or in the following days.

For those of you who are wondering, we are discussing the possibility and necessary steps for holding worship

in-person. No decisions have been made, but it’s not being ignored! As vaccinations, CDC Guidelines, and information about the ways this might be accomplished all continue to develop and change, we are also continuing to talk, think, pray, and consider how and when to make this a possibility. Stay tuned! Laurie Ulrich

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

We continue to meet via Zoom with members of our faith community, enriching and growing our faith journey in a variety of ways. The necessity of gathering electronically has its problems, to be sure, but also its blessings. One blessing is that, regardless of the geographical location of the participants, everyone’s image is as close as the computer screen! There’s been some recent talk in the media about the fact that in real life we don’t usually stand/sit so close to each other as the image on our screen, and therefore we’re subconsciously “closer” than if we were actually in person! Who would ever have thought???

Our monthly meeting around the subject of Systemic Racism, using the Ibrahim Kendi book *Stamped from the Beginning* continues on the first Monday of every month, and you are invited and encouraged to join us at any point. The book, and the study, involve a historical look at the development of Systemic Racism, and at this point we are at the middle of the 20th century, so there is still plenty of time for you to join us as we complete this study. Just drop Kathleen O’Hanlon or Joyce Anders an email or phone call to let them know we should send you a link to the meeting.



There are approximately 15 people who join for study of the scripture on Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. every week. We used to meet at Panera Bread, but have been virtual for over a year, so it’s more properly called “Tuesday Bible Study.” We’ve begun a study of the prophecy of Jeremiah, and if you’d like to join us, please contact Laurie Ulrich so she can add you to those receiving a Zoom link to this Bible Study.

Our Wednesday Night Apologetics classes with Tim are on hiatus right now, but will be resuming as soon as Tim himself is settled into his new position on the east coast. He told the group that he’d get back to us a few weeks after his move—so perhaps by the time you are reading this, we will be back meeting weekly. Christian apologetics has nothing to do with an apology; rather it’s the practice of being prepared to talk about your faith with

people who may or may not actually have a personal relationship with God. If this appeals to you, let Tim know (or let Laurie know) so that you can get the information necessary for you to join.

Our faith journeys continue regardless of the Covid 19 restrictions and changes. God is, of course, unchanging so the challenges of the pandemic are an opportunity for us to pay attention to new ways in which our faith continues to grow. Certainly we've all been challenged to be patient, forgiving, and constant. And the necessity of learning to function digitally is a set of skills many of us now have even though we're not all that comfortable with them!

God is working amongst us and has plans for our future. You are encouraged to take advantage of the ways the Spirit is speaking to you even in this time of uncertainty and to rely on the absolute certainty of God's care and sovereignty. Laurie Ulrich

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The complete membership of the 2021 FPC Nominating Committee is now set. If there is a suggestion for the next church officers or if you wish to self-nominate for Elder or Trustee, please contact one of the following people:

Elder Chair Kathie Darman	Charlene Hansen
Elder Sylvia Tufts	Lee Hilario
Trustee Rod Dunlap	Melodee Leimnetzer
	Janet Wahl

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Here is a repeat of a prayer request posted by Shirley Armistead on the **Prayer Chain**:

Let us continue to pray for our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) – Jan Bunker, Jay Ruklic, Melodee Leimnetzer, Laurie Ulrich, Bob James, and Phil Dillman, alternate.

They are interviewing, discussing, learning to work with one another, eliminating and adding possible candidates. Pray that they as a committee persevere at the work of discerning just what IS God's plan for this yoking ministry with First Presbyterian and Calvary. Also, pray that they continue to have confidence that God is working in this process and that they will be bold enough to make the decisions that God wants for us.



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 May 2

Tim VanNasdale
Dean & Linda VanNasdale
Ed & Janet Wahl
Deb Way
Nolan Way

Week of May 9

Jay & Nick Webster
Leighton Whitaker
Carolyn Wiley
Susan Zorns
Karen Allison

Week of May 16

Joan Alvers
Joyce Anders
Earl Anker / Jan Bunker
Dave & Shirley Armistead

Week of May 23

Marilyn Austin
RoseMary Baird
Karen Barge-Fillippo
Nancy Beaudoin
Bruce & Shirley Boersma

Week of May 30

Elizabeth Boersma
Barbara Bielawski
Doug Bonthron / Sally Wolford
Ian Bonthron
Leslie Bonthron
Michael Bonthron



HOSPITALIZED

In the hospital during the past month were Paul Tufts, Gina Hazlett, and Evelyn Dixon.

NURSING HOME / REHAB

Pat Steiner, Plymouth Place, LaGrange Park.

SYMPATHY

Church sympathy is extended to the family of Donna Anderson.



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.

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

The following has been recorded in the Memorial Book in the Narthex: Donna Anderson

 **BAIRD INVITATION**



**Called Home
to Heaven**

I am having a gravesite service for Andy and Raymond on Saturday, **May 15**, at 11 a.m. Rain or shine, it will occur. The Beverly Cemetery is located at 120th and Kedzie, east side of the street. Afterwards, I am inviting my guests to go to Aurelio's of Homewood for lunch. Flowers are not necessary, but that would be up to each individual. Thank you to the folks that have kept in touch with me. RoseMary Baird

 **GRADUATION LIST**

Help us be accurate with the June list of graduates that will appear in *The Carillon*. If you (or son, daughter, grandchild) are graduating this year, please **let Janet Wahl at ewahl@sbcglobal.net know by May 20**. Use the form below as a guide for your email. Please include the relationship if the name does not match yours.



GRADUATE'S NAME _____
SCHOOL _____
KIND OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE _____
PLANS??? _____

 **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

Linda Cantway Cook
Betty Owens



May God grant birthday blessings to you all this year

 **JUNE CARILLON**

The deadline for having articles placed in the June *Carillon* is **Thursday, May 20**. Please turn in all materials in writing and email the Editor at ewahl@sbcglobal.net. The Editor thanks all the May reporters for their assistance. JC =W=



MAY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Communion Guest Preacher Heavenly Perks on Website	3 	4 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	5	6 National Day of Prayer 	7	8
9 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website MOTHER'S DAY Heavenly Perks on Website	10 Stewardship Team on Zoom	11 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom 7:00 Trustees on Zoom	12	13	14	15
16 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Heavenly Perks on Website	17 7:00 Session on Zoom	18 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	19	20 Carillon DEADLINE	21	22
23 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website PENTECOST Heavenly Perks on Website	24 	25 10:30 Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom	26	27	28	29
30 10:30 Virtual Worship on the Website Heavenly Perks on Website	31 MEMORIAL DAY 7:00 Service of Healing and Wholeness	 Memorial Day <i>Remember Those Who Gave Their Lives</i>			 Mothers Day	