

The Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood

JUNE 2023 SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE Service shifts to 10:30AM on 6/11

Sunday morning worship begins at 11 AM in the sanctuary. **Beginning** June 11, we will start the service at 10:30AM and will move to the Gathering Place for the summer. The service is livestreamed on Facebook and then posted to YouTube. If you are not receiving the weekly emails and would like to, visit fpcedgewood.org/contact, and fill out the sign-up form.

June 4 – Trinity Sunday



On this first Sunday of June, we will celebrate God in Three Persons as we observe Trinity Sunday. We will also share in the sacraments of communion and baptism.

June 11 – 10:30 Worship Begins

We move our Sunday worship to the Gathering Place for the summer beginning this Sunday and the service will also shift to a 10:30AM start. Nathan Salamacha will serve as our guest preacher while Pastor Jason is away.

June 18 - Father's Day

Last month, we honored the women in our lives in a Mothering Sunday worship. This month, we honor Fathering Sunday and also pay tribute to Juneteenth.

June 26

Hunter Steinitz returns to lead worship on this Sunday as Pastor Jason is on vacation.



Summer Community Dinners Resume in June

The Community Dinners are back! We'll again be hosting the ever-popular FPCE **Community Dinners starting in June!**

Save the Dates: The First Wednesdays of June, July, August, and September, from 6-8PM we'll be firing up the grill on the side

lawn with your favorites, plus some new, soon-to-be-favorites. And, as usual, they're FREE! So bring your family, friends and neighbors for good food and fellowship!!!

June 7: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and all the fixins' July 5: Sausage & Pierogi Fest August 2: BBQ (Ribs, Brisket, Chicken, Pulled Pork) September 6: Burgers and Dogs or Something Yummy

Help is always needed with set-up, side dishes, desserts, serving, and tear-down. Contact the church office to let us know how you can help us make these important community outreach events happen successfully!



120 East Swissvale Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15218 www.fpcedgewood.org 412-241-4613



Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ, our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pastor **Rev. Jason Dauer** pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org

Office & Cleaning Manager Judy Mysels office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager **Rob Mysels** building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music Shaun Cloonan music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist Sunny Sakai sunny@fpcedgewood.org



Why do we worship together?

"What's the point? Can't I worship alone?"

Well, yes, you can. Our whole lives are to be worshipful. Worship is more than coming to church on a Sunday morning. Worship is a way of living that happens throughout the week and throughout our lives.

But there is something about the gathering of God's people that gives life. When our worship is Spirit-inspired, we experience wonder in the presence of God. However, our worship is often not Spirit-inspired.

When Dietrich Bonhoeffer visited the US in 1930-1931, he was taken aback by the churches he visited. He writes, "They preach about virtually everything except... the gospel of Jesus Christ." He described one famous American pastor's gospel as bereft of miracle, modernized, and Americanized. It wasn't until he visited Abyssinian Baptist Church and experienced the exuberance, "eruptive joy," and seriousness of black church worship that he knew the Holy Spirit was present.

Wow. That's a condemnation. It's also a challenge I readily accept. It names our need for repentance and true experience of God's Spirit at work in our worship because God does meet us in our worship.

The Vital Congregations Initiative of the PC(USA) writes, "Worship should challenge, teach, transform, convict, and call us into deeper relationship with God and one another; not gratify our comforts and entertain our desires. Worship is an encounter with God that we understand and do not understand. It is an act filled with mystery and awe, but in worship we have the opportunity to express our deepest desires to God and listen for God's voice. In worship, we also experience the call to serve and be on mission."

Through our time together in worship, we are nourished and equipped to be the Church as the body of Christ in the world. Our ministry emerges from the baptismal font, arises from the Communion table, and takes shape from the Word. Through all these things, we are invited into active participation with the triune God.

As we think about worship as a church community and becoming a Vital Congregation, how might we meet God in prayer, through the Word proclaimed, in the bread, juice, and water? How might we meet God in the songs of praise and passing of peace? How might we take Bonhoeffer's words and adapt? How might we experience God's Spirit and presence in our worship more fully? How do become exuberant, joyful, and serious in the Spirit?

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Jason



Deacons' Annual Strawberry to be held Wednesday, June 14, 6:00-8:00PM

Hey strawberry lovers: we are welcoming you to our Strawberry Festival, **Wednesday, June 14 from 6-8PM** on the side lawn. \$5 for a strawberry dessert, \$1 for hot dogs. Lemonade will also be served. Proceeds to benefit Deacon projects.

盖 Session Notes

At the May 9 meeting, Session voted to:

- Add new members David Falk, George Horner, and Mandy Rineer to FPCE's membership rolls.
- Begin worship at 10:30 AM year-round.

Zoom Bible Study Continues this Summer

Elder Tim Hoffman reports that the Wednesday night Zoom Bible Study will continue throughout the summer at 7:30PM. The link can be found on the website and in our weekly email newsletter sent out. No password needed – just click the link!



Tuesday Morning Book Club

The Tuesday morning Book Group Continues to meet each week at 10:00AM at the Apessos home (361 Maple Ave), generally outdoors, weather dependent. We are beginning *The First Phone Call From Heaven* by Mitch Albom. All are welcome. Snacks and coffee provided.

Youth Sunday School

We continue to offer weekly Youth Sunday School during worship. Our classes generally follow the lectionary as well as provide basic Bible Study. If interested, please stop by the nursery.



Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women met after church, Sunday, May 21. We talked about how we could best use our funds to help FPCE. We decided to donate \$100. in memory of our dear friend Mary Ross and \$200. to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. We also will buy 10 light-weight tables to use for our outdoor events.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

...is shifting to individual meetings throughout the Summer. Jason is always looking to get coffee with folks. Scheduled weekly hours will return in August. Please reach out to Jason or schedule something at www.calendly.com/pastorjasondauer



Property Update

Our Property Committee chair Tim McKee reports the following items have taken place regarding our facilities and grounds:

- Side lawn project: Lisa Segedy is working on acquiring a grant to help support this upgrade of our landscaping.
- Rick Masten hauled all of the debris away from the shed and has organized it so that we can keep the tables and chairs for our community dinners outside for ease of set-up and teardown.
- Summer cleaning: building manager Rob Mysels has completed cleaning of the carpet at the bottom of the steps by the side door leading to the Social Room.



Musical Chairs...

What a joy it has been to have our choir and worship ensemble leading our music the past several months. A special thanks to Mandy and Tyler for leading the choir while I was on a very wet trip to NYC with my high school students at the end of April! Over the next few months, we scale back our music leadership with the choir on break, and working around vacations will be a giant round of musical chairs with who is at the keyboard or microphone! We wish Sunny and her family safe travels as they make a long-awaited return trip to Japan that has been postponed a few times.

Sing a Psalm

Those who have been attending worship since around Easter will notice that we've added a "responsorial psalm" to our services. We've read the psalms responsively in the past, but now there is an addition of a sung refrain. These musical responses are found in the *Book of Common Worship* and have been well-received by many in the congregation. We plan to cycle through the tones until they become familiar to all of us.

Music Ministry Picnic

Covid, weather, and schedules have prevented us from holding a proper music ministry picnic for a while now (it's been a few years!), but after tossing out a bunch of dates and even doing an email poll, we've settled on Thursday, June 15 at 6:00PM as the time our choir and worship ensemble members will gather for a "year-end" celebration. Look for an email with more details about who is bringing what!

Upcoming Musical Performances in our Sanctuary

Vocal Confluence presents

Marvelous Night for a Moondance: An Evening with Vocal Confluence

Saturday, July 1, 2023 at 7:30PM and Sunday, July 2, 2023 at 3:00PM

Mark your calendars! Vocal Confluence's summer show is going to be one you do NOT want to miss! From classic barbershop arrangements to modern a cappella charts, there is something to be enjoyed by everyone! Vocal Confluence also has talented members who will be performing songs in small groups throughout the performance, including their currently active chapter quartet, Revenge of the Fifth.

We are thrilled to announce that VC is bringing in *Gimme Four*, the 7th place 2022 Barbershop Harmony Society International Contest Finalist quartet. This will be their last performance before they take the stage in the BHS 2023 International Contest, so you are sure to hear some great music from them!

We follow a donations-only model, so there are no tickets available for purchase ahead of time; seats are first come, first served. You are welcome to donate in-person or online at <u>www.vocalconfluence.org/sponsor</u>. We thank you for your generous support!

And looking ahead:

Voces Solis presents Summer Singers 2023 Saturday, August 12 at 7:00PM

We have nearly 100 singers joining us this year and look forward to sharing our music with you!

See you in church!

Shaun Cloonan, minister of music



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Room, CE=CE Offic	e, GP=Gathering Plac	Room, BE=Biddle's Es e, L=Lounge, O=Offic =Side Lawn, SR=Soci	e, PS=Pastor's	1 7:00 Milepost6 (B) 7:00 SAA (L)	2 8:30 AA (SR)	3 8:30 AA (SR)
4 11:00 Worship/ Communion & Baptisms	5 2:00 Flute (CE) 7:00 VC (S)	6 10:00 Book Club 2:00 Flute (CE)	7 6:00 Community Dinner (SL) 7:30 Zoom Study	8 2:00 Flute (CE) 7:00 Milepost6 (B) 7:00 SAA (L)	9 8:30 AA (SR)	10 8:30 AA (SR)
11 10:30 Worship (GP)	12 2:00 Flute (CE) 7:00 VC (S)	13 10:00 Book Club 2:00 Flute (CE)	14 6:00 Strawberry Festival (SL) 7:30 Zoom Study	15 2:00 Flute (CE) 6:00 Music Picnic 7:00 Milepost6 (B) 7:00 SAA (L)	16 8:30 AA (SR)	17 8:30 AA (SR)
18 10:30 Worship (GP)	19 Juneteenth Office Closed 2:00 Flute (CE) 7:00 VC (S)	20 10:00 Book Club 2:00 Flute (CE)	21 7:30 Zoom Study	22 2:00 Flute (CE) 7:00 Milepost6 (B) 7:00 SAA (L)	23 8:30 AA (SR)	24 8:30 AA (SR)
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6/11 Worship moves to 10:30AM for the months of June, July, and August.

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