



The Steeple Chimes

The E-Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn
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Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef, Pastor

May - June, 2024

Pastor's Message

My Beloved Church Family,

We have certainly had a lot going on at church this past spring, starting with our wonderful St. Patrick's Day celebration: a delicious dinner and entertainment by Irish step-dancers. Then there was the solemnity of Holy Week and the joy of Easter. We observed Earth Day with a churchyard cleanup, celebrated the important women in our lives on Mother's Day, and instituted a recycling program for plastic bags. We had a wonderful Pentecost Sunday with our choir and other musicians celebrating with a musical Service. On Memorial Day Sunday, we thanked God for those who made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedoms.



Meanwhile, our Organ Committee has been planning the first concert of our three-concert series to raise funds for a new organ. Committee member Marian Adams wrote a wonderful essay about music in the church and gave me permission to share it with you. I would like to devote the rest of this space to Marian's words.

I praise and thank God for all of you and the gifts you bring to our church family.

With love and blessings,

Pastor Ann

Essay Elder Marian Adams

This church has a history of praising God through the glory of sacred music. I knew Donald Studholme, who was the organist in this church. His wife, Audrey Melrose Studholme, also a talented musician, was a dear friend. I know the caliber of music they performed, so I know that this Sanctuary resounded through music to the glory of God, and can again.

Martin Luther said of sacred music, "Die Noten machen den Text lebendig," – "The notes make the words live."

When I was a child and started to study music, I quickly discovered the darker a page became with all those little black notes, the more difficult the music was going to be. Last year, when we attempted to start a bell choir, I found in the space behind the Chancel a large file cabinet filled with music for bell choir alone. Some of that music had very dark pages. The sounds must have been glorious.

We have been given an opportunity to have the Sanctuary filled again with that glorious sound. Are we going to let that opportunity pass by because of doubt?

The church in which I grew up had a stained-glass window depicting the Lord Jesus knocking on a door. The door was very rustic, and it was different from other doors in a particular way. It had no keyhole, latch, or knob. It could not be opened from Jesus' perspective. Only the people on the other side of that door could open it to let the Lord in.

I truly believe that this opportunity is knocking on our door. Are we going to open it, or keep it closed and say, "That could never happen here."

We have a chance to make a miracle happen and once more have organ music fill this Sanctuary.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly for more than all we can ask or imagine, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus, to all generations for ever and ever. Amen.

Zoom Worship

We will continue to "simulcast" our Sunday worship on Zoom for those who cannot be in the Sanctuary. You may log on as early as 10:00 a.m. for our 10:30 Celebration of Worship.

The easiest way to do Zoom is to download the Zoom App from the App Store. Zoom will work on a computer, a laptop, an I-Pad, or a Smartphone.

What is the Meeting ID?

Good news! We were able to program ZOOM so that the log-on information is the same now through the last Sunday in June. Hooray! **Meeting ID: 820 9580 8348 Passcode: 128114**

From July 7 through September 1: **Meeting ID: 873 3089 9585 Passcode: 192961**

If you are on the church e-mail list, you will get a weekly e-mail with the Zoom link.

I don't have a computer or a Smartphone. What can I do?

You may telephone the following number: **1-646-558-8656.**

You will be asked for a Meeting ID and a passcode. (Please see paragraph 4.)

You won't be able to see us, but you can still hear what's going on.



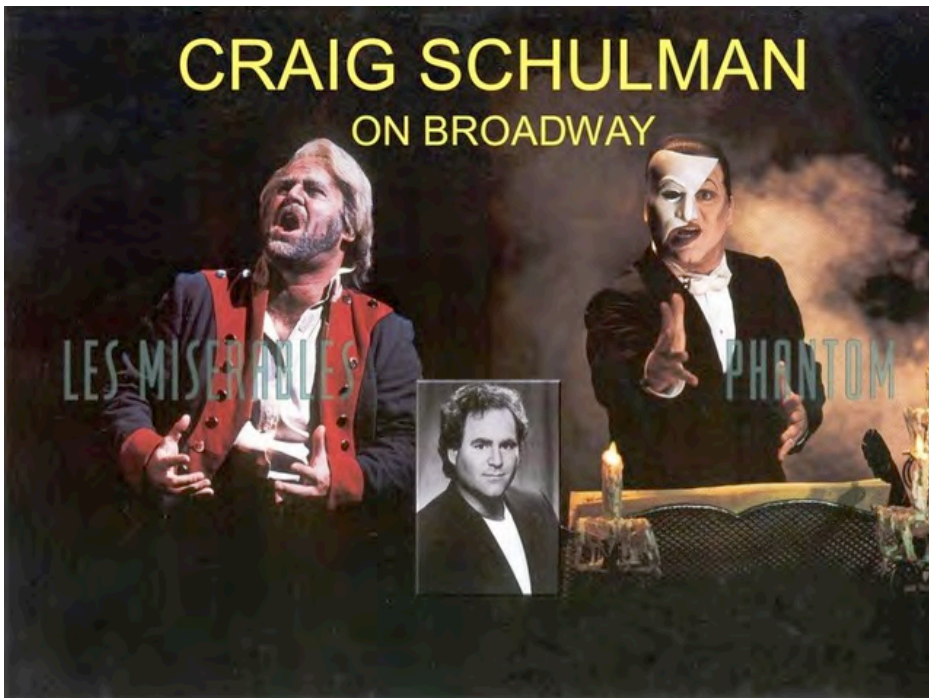
Birthday Blessings



May 6 – Gloria Arelt
 May 11 – Barbara Charnews
 May 12 – Simone Pennino
 May 16 – Laurence Foray
 May 17 – Christopher Perrotta
 May 18 – Daniel Charnews
 May 20 – Peggy Monitto
 May 21 – Jane Longstreet
 May 27 – Paul Proctor

June 18 – Gary Prentiss
 June 20 – Darlene Jacobs
 June 20 – Michelle Perrotta
 June 22 – Frances Woodward
 June 23 – Marian Adams
 June 24 – Craig Satterlee

July 6 – Barbara Small
 July 9 – Rev. Fred Woodward
 July 12 – John Eric Proctor
 July 28 – Tatiana Crosby



Announcing our June 9th Concert

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn proudly presents “Craig Schulman on Broadway,” the first in a series of concerts to raise funds to purchase a new organ for the church.

Craig Schulman is the only performer in the world to have performed three of the most extraordinary musical theatre characters ever written. He has appeared in the title roles of *Jekyll & Hyde*, Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *The Phantom of the Opera*, and nearly 2,000 performances of Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*, on Broadway and around the world.

He was chosen to represent the U.S. at the *Les Miserables* Tenth Anniversary Concert at Royal Albert

Hall, which can often be seen on the PBS broadcast of the event. He has played Che in *Eita*, Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Archibald Craven in *The Secret Garden*.

Mr. Schulman moves freely between the worlds on Broadway, opera, and symphonic pops programs. He has sung Don Jose in *Carmen*, Judge Danforth in *The Crucible*, and Einstein in *Die Fledermaus*. Other important roles include Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, and Hoffman in *Tales of Hoffman*. Television credits include singing on *The Rosie O’Donnell Show*, *NBC Weekend Today*, and *Guiding Light*.

The concert will take place in our Sanctuary on Sunday, June 9, at 3:00 p.m. Tickets will range from \$40 to \$65, with student tickets at \$25. (The \$65 ticket includes seating in the front, and an after-concert reception, including a Question-and-Answer Meet-and-Greet with Mr. Schulman.) Please see Pastor Ann for tickets, or go on the church website: www.greenlawnpresbyterian.com



Prayer Corner

A FATHER'S PRAYER

~Douglas MacArthur

Build me a son, O Lord,
who will be strong enough to know
when he is weak,
and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid;
one who will be proud and unbending
in honest defeat,
and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishbone will not be
where his backbone should be;
a son who will know Thee
and that to know himself
is the foundation stone of knowledge.

Lead him, I pray,
not in the path of ease and comfort,
but under the stress and spur
of difficulties and challenge.
Here let him learn to stand up in the storm;
here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clear,
whose goal will be high;
a son who will master himself
before he seeks to master other men;
one who will learn to laugh,
yet never forget how to weep;
one who will reach into the future,
yet never forget the past.

And after all these things are his,
add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor,
so that he may always be serious,
yet never take himself too seriously.

Give him humility,
so that he may always remember
the simplicity of true greatness,
the open mind of true wisdom,
the meekness of true strength.

Then I, his father, will dare to whisper,
"I have not lived in vain."

*My son, keep your father's commands, and do not
forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them upon
your heart forever; fasten them around your neck.*

*When you walk, they will guide you; when you
sleep, they will watch over you; and when you
awake, they will speak to you.*

Proverbs 6:20-22 NIV

FOR OUR MALE GRADUATES:

IF

Rudyard Kipling

(1865-1936)

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breath a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings - nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run -
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And - which is more - you'll be a Man my son!

NOW FOR OUR FEMALE GRADUATES:

"IF" For Girls

J.P. McEvoy
(1895-1958)

If you can hear the whispering about you,
And never yield to deal in whispers, too;
If you can bravely smile when loved ones doubt
you,
And never doubt, in turn, what loved ones do;
If you can keep a sweet and gentle spirit
In spite of fame or fortune, rank or place,
And though you win your goal or only near it,
Can win with poise and lose with equal grace;

If you can meet with Unbelief, believing,
And hallow in your heart a simple Creed,
If you can meet Deception, undeceiving,
And learn to look to God for all you need;
If you can be what girls should be to mothers:
Chums in joy and comrades in distress,
And be unto others as you'd have the others
Be unto you - No more, and yet no less;

If you can keep within your heart the power
To say that firm, unconquerable "No";
If you can brave a present shadowed hour,
Rather than yield to build a future woe;
If you can love, yet not let loving master,
But keep yourself within your own self's clasp,
And not let dreaming lead you to disaster,
Nor pity's fascination loose your grasp;

If you can lock your heart on confidences,
Nor ever needlessly in turn confide;
If you can put behind you all pretenses
Of mock humility or foolish pride:
If you can keep the simple, homely virtue
Of walking right with God - then have no fear
That anything in all the world can hurt you-
And - which is more - you'll be a Woman, dear.

Submitted by Betty Chatfield



Services of Worship:

- May 5: Jesus said, "This is my commandment: that you love one another as I have loved you." The sermon was titled, "It's about Love." The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated.
- May 12: Mother's Day Sunday. We thanked God for the great gift of mothers and other ladies who have touched our lives.
- May 19: Music Ministries Sunday. We celebrated the work of our choir and our Worship Accompanist, Leonora Knight. We also heard from several guest musicians. It was Pentecost Sunday, and that theme was woven into the Service.
- May 26: Memorial Day Sunday. We praised God and remembered those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Upcoming Services:

- June 2: Jesus was a rule-breaker in many ways. The sermon will be "Doing the Right Thing, Even If It Means Breaking the Rules."
- June 9: "Who Is Our Family?" Not necessarily our blood relatives. Our family members are those, like us, who seek to do the will of God.
- June 16: Father's Day Sunday. We will thank God for the great gift of fathers and other men who have touched our lives.
- June 23: "The Storms of Life." God does not promise to quiet the storms. God promises to give us the strength to withstand them.
- June 30: "Equipping the Called." Have you ever accomplished something you thought you could never do? You know whom to thank!



Churchyard Cleanup

On Sunday, April 21, we observed Earth Day with a churchyard cleanup. Trash was picked up, gardens were raked, railings were painted, and shrubs and flowers were planted. We at FPC Greenlawn try to be good stewards of the gifts that God has given us.

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday's 10:30 morning Service commemorated Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, with people chanting "Hosanna" and waving palm branches. We blessed the palm branches and encouraged people to take them home.



Jack, Rosalie, and Lydia, with Larry in the background.



Sus

an picks up sticks.

Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday, March 31, we celebrated Jesus' resurrection and triumph over death with a joyful Service of Worship. The choir sang, the congregation sang beloved Easter hymns, and we celebrated our traditional Flowering of the Cross.



Claire preps the railings for painting.

Pentecost Sunday

The Holy Spirit was indeed present on Pentecost Sunday as we celebrated with a musical Service. The choir sang, and several friends of our church performed, including Jack Knight on 'cello, Frances C. Roberts on piano, and Claudia Levy singing with her sister, Leonora Knight.



Leonora and Claudia singing "The Prayer."

Plastic Bag Recycling Program

We recently learned that the local Girl Scouts are collecting plastic bags, which will eventually be turned into earth-friendly park benches. We have set up a box to accept these bags. A volunteer will take the bags to the Elwood Library, which is serving as a collection point.

Please feel free to deposit the following bags:

- Produce bags, store bags
- Ice bags, cereal box liners
- Ziploc and other reclosable bags
- Bread bags, newspaper sleeves
- Dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap



Mother's Day at Our Church

We celebrated Mother's Day by placing photographs of our mothers and other beloved women on the Communion Table. Thank you, God, for the gift of motherhood.

Pentecost Offering



Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come - children, youth, and young adults.

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.



Got Junk?

Our Spring Indoor Yard Sale, originally scheduled for April, had to be postponed due to schedule conflicts. It will take place in the early summer, date to be announced.

If you have been meaning to have your own yard sale but don't think you have enough "stuff," do we have a deal for you! Set up a table in our main floor hallway display your wares, and sell, sell, sell!

What's your cost? A tithe. If you make \$50 that day, your space rental will be \$5. If you make \$200, you'll pay us \$20. In other words, you get to keep 90%. That's what tithing is all about.

The only "vendors" will be church members and friends. We will not be opening this up to professionals. And, we will do all of the publicity for you.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get rid of some of your "clutter" and make a few dollars in the process! Please see Pastor Ann to reserve a space.

RMDs

RMD – Required Minimum Distribution. For those who have invested money for their "old age," your RMD is a two-edged sword. True, it's nice to have the extra income, but taxes must be paid on withdrawals, and those withdrawals are *required* after you have reached a certain age.

You can lower your tax obligation by paying your church pledge with your RMD. Your tax professional or investment fund manager can tell you how to do this.



You can support your church and lower your taxes at the same time. What a deal!

Upcoming:

Father's Day

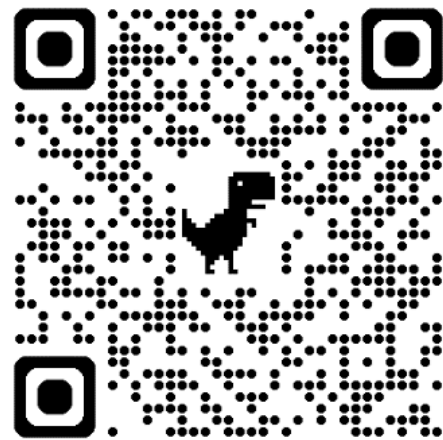
On Sunday, June 16, we will thank God for the gift of fathers and other important men in our lives. Please look around for a photograph of Dad to put on the Communion table that day.

Summer Worship

Starting Sunday, July 7, through Sunday, September 1, our worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will take place in our air-conditioned Parlor.

Church QR Code

Yes, we're making our way into the 21st Century. We have acquired a QR code. Simply put your cell phone into camera mode, hold it up to the funny little square thing (no need to take a photo), and the link to our church website should pop up.



The Session

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2024

Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta

Class of 2025

Marian Adams
Bill Becker
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2026

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach



Laughter is the Best Medicine

For my summer diet, I start with a nice, big salad bowl. And then I fill it with ice cream!

Junk is something you keep around for years ... and then throw out two weeks before you need it.

Not to brag, but I was alive when you could SLAM the phone down to hang up on someone. It was spectacular!

I stopped by my Tobacconist only to discover that his shop had been replaced with a Haberdashery.

Clothes, but no cigar!

I'm finally old enough to do anything I want. Too tired to actually do it.

I heard the more colorful your salad is, the better it is for you.

So I swapped my croutons for M&Ms.

To all the people who said I'd never amount to anything because of my procrastination: Just you wait!

I hate it when you can't figure out how to operate the iPad and the resident tech expert is asleep.

Because he's 5 and it's past his bedtime.

You know you're getting old when your vehicle's heated seat is no longer for warmth but instead it's for back pain.

Vintage Ramen Noodle Salad

Summertime, and the cookin' is easy! This is a great salad to bring to a barbecue. If you want to turn it into a main dish, just add cooked shrimp or chunks of cooked chicken. Or, for a bit of tang, add Mandarin oranges.

Ingredients:

- shredded green and red cabbage – you can use a shredded cole slaw mix or broccoli slaw instead
- green onions
- salted sunflower seeds – the salt pairs well with the sweet and tangy dressing
- slivered almonds or walnuts – you can toast the nuts, but it is not necessary
- raisins
- dry crunchy ramen noodles
- vegetable oil – you can use sesame oil instead
- rice vinegar
- granulated sugar
- honey

Instructions:

1. In a large bowl, mix shredded cabbage, green onions, nuts, and raisins
2. Mix the dressing of oil, sugar, honey, and vinegar
3. Pour the dressing over the salad and stir to coat
4. Just before serving, add the Ramen Noodle bits and mix to coat
5. Best if served immediately so that the noodles are crunchy.



