

The Chimes

First Presbyterian Church, Danville, Illinois

April 2021

Volume 67, No. 4

Dear Members and Friends,

Almost 13 months to the day when we last gathered in the sanctuary for worship, we will open the doors again. The Session has voted to resume in-person worship on **April 18**. While it probably won't feel completely "normal" for a while, we can pray it is the first safe step toward familiar.

The Session understands that this is not without risk. Therefore, we urge you to stay home if you or a family member have serious health conditions or if you simply are not yet comfortable in large gatherings. (Or when you don't feel well . . . please stay home!). We will continue live-streaming the services on Sunday mornings, so you can watch from the comfort of your living room. And we can, for those who desire it, keep mailing the liturgy and sermons and gathering on Zoom for our mid-week check-ins.

Thanks to the vaccines, more of us are worrying less and relaxing more. But we are still in the midst of a global pandemic. To that end, the Session has established a substantial list of guidelines that have been blessed by the Vermilion County Health Department. Even if *you* feel safe because *you* have gotten one or two shots and are inclined to throw caution to the wind, please abide by these for the safety and well-being of everyone else in the congregation and on staff.

The Session is *not requiring* that you be vaccinated in order to attend worship. However, fully vaccinated people do not count against the 50 people who can gather, according to public health policy. So please call the church office before April 18 (or whenever you are fully vaccinated after that) *if* you are willing to go on record as being fully vaccinated. That information will be known only by the office staff and the session member at the door on Sunday mornings who is counting everyone who enters the building. Having that information will help us know when we have reached capacity on Sundays.

Here's what else you need to know:

- Masks worn correctly (over your mouth and nose) will be **required** for the duration of time every individual is in the building. Masks will be available at the door if you forget yours at home.
- Because the Health Department strongly encourages it, we will keep track of who comes to worship, in the event that someone tests positive soon after being in the sanctuary and contact tracing is necessary.
- Social distancing of 6 feet apart will be maintained. Families/those who live in the same household should sit together. Pews will be marked to assist everyone in maintaining the appropriate distance.
- Session members will be directing people to their seats and dismissing them following the service to avoid congestion.
- Current guidelines for group capacity will be followed. Currently we are at Phase 4, or 50 people. The limit applies only to unvaccinated people. However, with the 6-foot restrictions, we cannot fit many more than that.
- We will not require registration for attendance, although if we have the blessing of "too many" attending, we may need to revisit this.
- Enter and exit through the main Sanctuary door. If you require a handicapped-accessible entrance (either the ramp or the Christian education wing), let someone know on Sunday morning, and we will arrange for that.
- The nursery will be open and fully staffed.
- We are working on arrangements for Sunday School for children and youth and will contact parents and youth directly about those plans.
- We will resume the children's time during worship, with socially distanced seating for the

children in the front pews. Obviously, parents will choose if they feel comfortable allowing their children to participate.

- There will be no congregational singing. Kelly Holden will continue to sing on our behalf.
- The congregation will be invited to speak in low volume with masks on for unison responses.
- Communion will be provided in individual packets that you can pick up when you enter the Sanctuary and dispose of as you leave.
- We will not use paper bulletins, hymnals, or handouts. Everything will be displayed on the screens.
- Rather than passing the offering plates, you are invited to put your weekly offering in the wooden box that will be placed in the center aisle. You can also continue to mail it to the church.
- There will be no coffee/cookie hour or fellowship time after the service.
- Meetings and adult classes will continue to be held virtually.
- Changes to these guidelines will be made based on the most current information and recommendations from the IDPH and the CDC. This information will be reviewed to make changes for either restricting or loosening of restrictions and approved by Session prior to making those changes.

It is going to be a powerful experience to be together again in the sanctuary again, although I anticipate a gradual return of folks to their usual seats. Not everyone will be ready to come back at the same time, and that's okay. As we have throughout the pandemic, we will continue to be the church and share God's love wherever we are. Please know that your safety remains our primary concern.

I am so grateful for each of you and your faithfulness during this difficult and stressful year, and I am so eager to be together "in the flesh." This feels like a gift of resurrection hope!

Grace and peace,

Ann

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday

Our 6:30 p.m. Zoom worship service on **April 1** will include a guided meditation on Jesus' washing the feet of his disciples. Have a washcloth or hand towel with you. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper, so prepare your bread and juice/wine before we begin. You will *not* need a written liturgy/bulletin for the service. The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89877895370?pwd=ZnhvRzduYnB3VlFpR2dsd0JHeTdJZz09>

Meeting ID: 898 7789 5370 / Passcode: 376198

One tap mobile. +13126266799,,89877895370#,,, *376198# US (Chicago)

Good Friday

Our live-streamed service from the sanctuary on **April 2** will begin at 6:30 p.m. Luke's powerful witness to the passion story will lead us from Jesus' arrest to his crucifixion and tomb. Prayers and music will amplify the sorrow of his final hours.

Holy Saturday

If you are looking for fun on Saturday morning, **April 3**, come to the church at 11:00 a.m. New Edition will have an Easter egg hunt on the lawn north of the church for children and youth. Bring a lawn chair and watch the festivities. The weather forecast: warm and sunny!

Easter Sunday

On Sunday morning we will praise God for Jesus' resurrection and the hope of new life that gives us and the world! We will share in the communion feast, so have your juice and bread ready.

Easter Flowers

The following individuals and families have provided flowers for our Easter Sunday worship:

Linda Curtis in memory of Ernie and Rosemary Curtis

Dotty de Torres in memory of Larry Voorhees

Bob and Judy Iverson in memory of John and Margaret Mehalic

Bob and Judy Iverson in memory of John and Mercedes Iverson
Janet and Bob Martin in honor of our children
Janet and Bob Martin in honor of our church
Ruth Pancoast in memory of Frances and Herb Peterson
Jean Quick in memory of Emma Riggle
Jean Quick in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riggle, Sr.
Bev Royce in memory of Don and Rosella Newton
Bev Royce in memory of Albert and Jane Royce
Bev Royce in memory of Ross and Dorothy Newton
Bev Royce in memory of Gilbert and Alberta VanCamp
Mary Thompson in memory of my husband, Victor, and my son, Bobby Thompson
Marguerite Torrey and Family in memory of George Torrey

April Worship

Guest Preacher

Michael Rohall, director of Love INC, will be our guest preacher on **April 11**.

Virtual Worship and Fellowship

Opportunities for worship and fellowship in April:

- **Daily Devotions:** A brief time devotion and prayer most weekdays (Monday through Thursday) at **9:45 a.m.** on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FPCDANVILLE61832>. They can be accessed on the church FB page if you miss the livestream.
- **Sunday Worship:** Although in-person worship will resume on April 18, we will continue to stream the services on the church Facebook page at 9:45. Use this link to connect: <https://www.facebook.com/FPCDANVILLE61832>.
- A recording is posted simultaneously on the First Presbyterian Church, Danville, IL YouTube channel. Access it here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjf1HVK8gZCU5Bes4yj08PQ>.
- **Mid-week Check-ins:** We will gather on Zoom most Wednesday evenings at **6:30** for a mid-week check-in. The invitation, password, and link are unique to each meeting, and are sent a day or two before.
- **Coffee Talk with the Session:** On the Sunday after most Session meetings, we will hear from the Session about important news and activities. Stay tuned for instructions for our April 25 Coffee Talk.
- **Tech Deacons:** If you need assistance accessing Facebook or Zoom, contact: Anne Binette (217-799-5004), Jason Binette (217-597-3021), Becky Briggs (217-474-9730), Josh Compton (217-516-2897), Matt Smiley (217-799-1039), or Sheila Smiley (217-799-0018).

News from the Facilities Team

Church Spring Clean-up Day

The Facilities Team is asking for your help cleaning up the outside of the church property. A spring workday is scheduled for **Saturday, May 1**, from **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. Please bring rakes, gloves, brooms, clippers, and lots of energy. The more people who show up, the less time we will work. We hope to see you there. Bring your children, your grandchildren, and even your neighbors. Thank you for your help. Please wear your masks for the safety of everyone. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Binette (217-799-5004) or Judy Iverson (217-260-2684).

Nature-Based Climate Action Natural Landscaping Grant

Thanks to the efforts of the “North 40” Team and the Green Team, First Presbyterian Church has received a grant of \$5,000 for a natural landscape and educational project. The funds will be used to plant native species trees and plants in the land just north of the church building, using environmentally beneficial landscaping strategies. Work on the project will begin in April. Church members and other volunteers will provide the labor. Claudia Ferrell, a Master Gardener, is coordinating the project.

The funding is a subaward grant from Faith in Place funded through The Lumpkin Family Foundation. Faith in Place is an environmental non-profit that works with communities of faith across Illinois to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities.

Members and friends may recall that FPC is the only church ever to win the Illinois Sustainability Award presented by the University of Illinois. We were recognized in 2017 for our efforts to replace old, inefficient lights, heating, air conditioning, and windows.

If you would like to help with the project, contact Claudia Ferrell. Also, save your newspapers for the next several weeks (newsprint, not the glossy advertisements), which will be used to cover the ground before mulch is added to the new beds.

News from the Faith Development Team

Camp Carew Scholarships

Scholarships of \$200 each are available to church youth, grades 5-12, for a week of fun at Camp Carew near Carbondale during the 2021 camping season. Activity options include General Camp (a little bit of everything), MAD Camp (music, art, and drama), Horseback Camp, Photography Camp, Discovery Camp (includes special nature adventures), and High Adventure Camp (high schoolers only). Check out the camp website for more information and registration forms: www.campcarew.org. It is the responsibility of parents to transport your youth to and from camp. Contact Pastor Ann if your youth would like to apply for a scholarship.

Camp Carew is now a mission of Kemmerer Village and is accredited by the American Camping Association. Camp Carew is a member of the Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association.

Staff News

Office Open with New Hours

The church building will officially re-open on Monday, **April 12**. Our new office hours will be Monday through Friday, **8:30 to 3:30**.

Happy Anniversary

Paula Spriestersbach's work anniversary is **April 6**. She joined the staff of FPC as Accounts Manager in 2015. Thanks for all you do, Paula!

Staff Recognition

Administrative Professionals' Day is **April 21**. Please take the opportunity this month to express your gratitude to Sheila Smiley and Paula Spriestersbach for the work they do at the church.

Members and Friends

April Birthdays

Jeanne Burke	April 1	Virginia Wiederhirn	April 12
Skilea Hall	April 1	Justine Whitehair	April 15
Mark Mullins	April 1	Marlene Edwards	April 16
Tom Wagner	April 2	Lee Miller	April 17
Emma France	April 2	Nancy Boesdorfer	April 20
Irma "Slick" Keith	April 5	Jan Goodwin	April 24
Kelly Whitehair	April 6	Glenn Murray	April 24
Norma Burch	April 6	Matt Smiley	April 25
Jennifer Debenham	April 11		

April Anniversaries

Mike & Bobbie McHone Apr 28

Goodbye, Friend

The good news is that Glee Cumbow will soon be living closer to family. The sad news is that she will be leaving Danville . . . and we will be unable to formally say goodbye. After **April 9**, Glee's new address will be 601 Lutz Rd., Apt. 1202, Bloomington, Illinois 61704.

Glee served as the organist at First Presbyterian from 1993 until her retirement in 2008. She became a member of the church after she retired.

Mission Matters

Medical Debt Mission Project Update

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the presbytery-wide Medical Debt Mission Project. Our goal was to receive \$216.19 from our members. As always, you exceeded expectations and gave \$1,517! The Mission team will update you on the total amount given from the other 78 churches in the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois as soon as that information is available.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

The OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. We will receive the traditional Easter special offering **until the end of April**.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please give generously.

Per Capita

Each member of the congregation is asked to pay \$42 for the year's per capita charge. The fees are divided among the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, and support the work of the larger church. What is not paid by members must come from the General Fund. Please send a check for your \$42 (per member) to Paula at the church address. Write "2021 per capita" in the memo line.

Malawi Fundraiser Final Update

The total amount given by members and friends to support the construction of the Malawi maize mill project is an astounding \$21,232.80. The Mazunda family has promised to send reports and pictures as the construction progresses. Thank you for giving!

Coffee Sale

There are a few bags of whole coffee beans and ground coffee from Malawi remaining. The coffee that was grown on the Mazunda property in Malawi. The bags are \$35 per 12-ounce bag. Proceeds will support the operating expenses of the Dorcas Maize Mill Project. You can either pick up your purchase at Lisa Taylor's home or she will deliver. Make your checks payable to the church.

Blood Drive

The next blood drive is scheduled for **July 25**. Mark your calendars. Registration information will be available later in the spring.

Finance Team

Online Giving

We have two secure options for giving to the church online, which you can continue to use, even as we return to in-person worship. You can indicate when you give if you want your offering to go to the general fund, the deacons' fund, or memorials.

- 1) Use the GivePlus Mobile App which you can access from your smart phone. Review [this video](#) (YouTube link) for assistance in setting up an account.
- 2) [Click here](#) to use online giving on your home computer. As with the Mobile App, you will set up an account with your email address and a password.

The Deacon Board

The 2021 Deacon Board includes: Rita Adams; Jim Anderson; Anne Binette; Joanne Chacon; Myanne Compton; Eva Cornwell; Dotty de Torres; Doni Duckett; George Schildt; Karen Schildt; Jessica Sykes; and Diana Szaras (moderator). We thank them for their service.

The Session

The 2021 Session is: Becky Briggs (chair, Worship); Linda Curtis (Personnel); Claudia Ferrell (chair, Faith Development); Bill Garrison (Finance); Stan Hardy (Facilities); Judy Iverson (chair, Facilities); Bobbie McHone (chair, Mission); Ruth Pancoast (Finance); Bev Royce (Treasurer, Finance and Worship); Matt Smiley (chair, Finance); and Rita Torrey (chair, Personnel).

Session Meeting Highlights

The Session met via Zoom on March 16, 2021 for a stated meeting:

- 11 out of 11 elders were present
- Received Pat dePlace's resignation from the Session
- Voted to accept bid from Country Carpentry for \$9,975 to repair the collapsed roof above the outside steps (that lead to The Dwelling Place)
- Voted to receive a National Climate Solutions grant of \$5,000 from Faith in Place (and the Lumpkin Family Foundation) for the North 40 Project
- Approved formation of a task force to propose a plan for re-opening the church for weekly worship
- Approved new office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Heard that Paula Spriestersbach, Accounts Manager, will retire in spring 2023

The Session met via Zoom on March 28, 2021 for a called meeting:

- Approved proposal from task force to resume in-person worship on April 18 and safety guidelines (on page 1 of newsletter)

Prayer List

Current prayer needs (updated **March 31**)

Wilma Cornwell-Schultz (R. Cornwell's mom); **Lee DuBois** (M. Crabb's brother); **John Smiley**; **Suse Townsley**; Rev. Eddie Knox (M. Thompson); Carolyn Conrad (J. Land's mom); Glenn Murray (F. Bahr); Colty Long (L. Milner); Jay Willett (K. Delzell); Nancy Winchester; Dotty de Torres; Jean Quick; Molly Anderson (B. McHone); Tim Prunkard (J. Laker); Larry Lawson (L. Curtis); Jim Gilliland; Helen Bury; Meghan Verkler; Mark Thompson (P. Tarr); Julia Vehlewald (F. Pancoast's mom); Patsy Stevens and family (E. Cornwell); Steve Bowler; Janet Martin; Vickie Klein; Jay Cline; Lisa Cline; Carryl Fox; Jan Goodwin; Garicke Rubin (L. Curtis); Bob Martin; Mike Schmitt; Gary Whitson (L. Taylor); Marilyn Williams (N. Boesdorfer); Norma Burch; Jean Davidson (G. Cumbow's sister); Vera Weaver (L. Milner); David Minesinger (S. Creamer's son); Alexandra and Annette Nunez (S. Smiley); Joyce Schmitt; Bill Thornton (M. Thompson); Konner Biava (L. Taylor); Joanne Chacon; JB Jenkins; Tom Harrigan; Kasen Middendorf; Mary Thompson; Sam Carey (L. Taylor); George Milner; Jennifer Debenham; Nicole Zoyer (S. Smiley); Kendra McClure (B. McHone); Virginia Wiederhirn; Rossi Rennaker (B/J Martin); Lindsay (L. Taylor); Holly White (S. Smiley); Linda Pyles (R. Pancoast's sister); Linda Foster (C. Lovell's sister); Frank Jones (R. Cornwell's brother-in-law); Steve and Esther Rhodes (B. Creamer); Shirley Creamer; Zoe Luchetti (J. Laker's great niece); Erin Cox (S. Smiley); Lincoln Downing (S. Smiley); Brad Larson; James Dixon; Jeanette Smith (F. Smith's mom); Joyce Varcoeur (E. Williams' sister); Sally Masters; Melvin Robinson (J. Laker); Morris Cline (J. Cline's dad); Jeff and Cindy Benefield; Phronsie Hart (P. Tarr's sister-in-law); Larry Mullins (L. Cline); Linda Knoblett (E. Cornwell); Amanda Weaver; Laurie Keys (L. Cline); John Grygiel (L. Curtis' friend); Wayne Styck (K. Delzell's brother-in-law); Edward Conrad (J. Land's dad); Leonardo Luchetti (J. Laker's great-nephew); Ramona Barnes (M. Hardy's friend); Pat Stevens (Cornwells)

Those who mourn: the families of **Gene Ulanowicz** (H. Bury); **Chris** (Cornwell's friend)

Ongoing needs: Diane Bales; Kay Barrett (R. Pancoast's sister); Phil Briggs (D. Briggs' dad); Iris McHone-Chase (B. McHone's granddaughter); Carlene Coddington (Mullins' friend); Roger Cornwell; Jim Cumbow (G. Cumbow's son); Mary Dison; Marj Gilliland; Ray Griffith; Mary Jane Johnson (R. Pancoast's sister); Irma "Slick" Keith; Deronda Kimberlin; Pat Kuhs; Brian Lemenager; Mike McHone; Bob Miller (C. McLinden's friend); John Mosser; Debbie Mullins; Natalie Mullins; Barb Nelson (S. Townsley's friend) Suzanne Otterbacher; Kathy Parks; Rick Reebee (S. Townsley's friend); John Rinkenberger (E. Gramm's nephew); Jayne Robinson (J. Laker's sister); Amie Rodgers; Jake Ruder; Katie Slezak (Curtis family); Denise Smith (B. Royce's cousin); Lois Stevenson; Virginia Stewart; Gary Waller; Carolyn Walser; Esther Williams; Marjorie Young

Babies on the Way: Liz Briggs (twins due in June); Zoe and Jake Kaylor (due in May/Pat and Nick dePlace granddaughter); Jessica (Bowler) Watson and Robert Watson (due in March)

Candidate for Ministry: James Potts

Health Care Workers: the staffs of OSF Danville, the VA, Carle Hoopeston, and all area nursing homes

APRIL 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01	02	03
				Holy Week No Devotions Maundy Thursday Service Z 6:30 <i>Communion</i>	Holy Week Good Friday Service Live 6:30	Men's Group Charlotte's 8:00 Farmers' Market 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt 11:00
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Easter 9:45 Worship Live <i>Communion</i> No Adult Study	9:45 Devotions Live 3:00 Mission Team Z 5:00 Facilities Team Z	No Devotions 5:00 Deacons Z	9:45 Devotions Live 6:30 Midweek Check-in Z	9:45 Devotions Live 7:00 Staff Meeting Z		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2 nd Sunday of Easter 9:45 Worship Live 12:00 Adult Study Z 12:00	9:45 Devotions Live 10:30 Personnel Team Z	9:45 Devotions Live 2:00 Faith Dvlp Z	9:45 Devotions Live Finance Z 5:00 6:30 Midweek Check-in Z	9:45 Devotions Live 1:00 Called Presbytery Meeting Z		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
3 rd Sunday of Easter 9:45 Worship In-person and Live 11:30 Worship Team Z No Adult Study	9:45 Devotions Live	9:45 Devotions Live 1:00 Stephen Ministry Z 6:00 Session Z	9:45 Devotions Live 10:30 Office Staff Meeting Z 6:30 Midweek Check-in Z	9:45 Devotions Live		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
4 th Sunday of Easter 9:45 Worship In-person and Live TBA Coffee Talk with Session Adult Study Z 12:00	9:45 Devotions Live	9:45 Devotions Live	9:45 Devotions Live No Midweek Check-in	9:45 Devotions Live		