



FAIRMOUNT

PRESBYTERIAN Church

FOLLOWING CHRIST | GROWING IN FAITH | SERVING TOGETHER | CARING FOR ALL

Spring/Summer
2021



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Fairmount Friends,

As I write this piece, we are only days away from gathering for the first time since the pandemic hit in March 2020.

I am filled with anticipation to see all of you and gratitude for God's faithfulness in the time we have spent physically apart. I'm also aware that it will take some time for us to get used to speaking to one another in person, and patience as we each adjust to emerging freedoms in different ways. Our Christian ethic of love for one another will guide us.

In thinking about a sermon theme for the summer, I wanted to arrive at something that feels invitational, respectful and patient. I plan to do a lot of hiking as the weather warms up and walking reminds me of the ways Jesus invited others to join him on the journey, asked questions on the way, and listened. I came across such a theme in material created by *Sanctified Art*: **"I've been meaning to ask...a series for curiosity, courage and connection."**

The guiding principles of this summer worship series, which begins June 13, will be:

... where are you from?

We believe everyone is beloved, shaped from the dust of the earth and the breath of God. Everyone has a story to tell. Our stories are messy and beautiful, painful and hopeful—being written and rewritten over time. We commit to disrupting our assumptions and staying curious.

... where does it hurt?

We believe everyone carries hurt and has the capacity to acknowledge the pain of others. We believe God draws close to us in

every moment of suffering. We commit to vulnerability and compassion.

... what do you need?

We believe everyone has needs, but each of us needs different things at different times. We believe God calls us to care for one another—in seasons of joy, transition, and hardship. We commit to listening and being present.

... where do we go from here?

We believe courageous conversations have the power to change and transform us. We believe God bridges connections in unexpected ways. We commit to continuing the conversation.

Through vulnerability and authenticity, may our courageous conversations lead us to glimpse hope, joy, and beauty—and to become the community God created us to be.

Looking forward to seeing you this summer in worship!

Peace,
Pastor Jessie





2021 Stewardship

The 2021 Stewardship Campaign is coming along. So far, we have received 144 pledges, for \$556,730. This is an increase by 14 pledges since our last update! This wonderful congregation is responding to our call, thank you so much!

As you might recall, our theme for the 2021 campaign was *Keeping Connected*. If you were able to come to our outdoor worship on May 23rd or June 6th, maybe you did reconnect with some friends and familiar faces. Fairmount's leadership and staff are working hard to keep us safe, and keep us connected, with different options for worship through the Summer.

Our stewardship goal for 2021 is \$710,000. To make this goal, we need another \$153,270 in pledges from our congregation. Any amount helps. If you are one of the individuals or families who have yet to turn in a pledge for 2021, it is never too late. Please contact the church office (216-321-5800) or visit our website at fpcclle.org/giving to enter your pledge electronically.

Thank you for reviewing this update. I dearly hope we can see you in person, soon!

If you have any questions about Stewardship, please call Peggy Roberts (216-268-9303) or talk with Pastor Jessie or Pastor Lindsay.



FLOCK TENDING

As part of the Deacons' service, we are looking to mobilize people to periodically check in with every member of our congregation. This is one way we seek to build church community, involve all members, and strengthen the ties that connect us as a church. Can you, and will you, answer the call to take on this role?

Commitments: A training session with the Pastors and then having an informal conversation with approximately 10 individuals twice a year.

Purpose: To ensure each member or friend of the congregation has a connection to the church. These connections will include having conversations, connecting members to ways they can be more involved in the church, and becoming a known and friendly voice and face of Fairmount.

If you're interested in responding to this call, please reach out to Pastor Lindsay at lindsayhl@fpcclle.org or 216-321-5800 ext. 105.

Meet Your PNC

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has begun its work to find and call Fairmount's next Senior Pastor. Meeting weekly, the PNC has created a covenant to guide its work, centering on the needs of our congregation, and actively discerning God's will for our church.

The PNC includes:

Carol Adrine	Raleigh Smith Duttweiler	Vanessa Whiting
Peter Bush	Bill Leahy	Rev. Arvid Whitmore,
Mike Chevraux	Sarah Stone	<i>Presbytery Liaison</i>

We will update you every month on the progress of our work, and you can find those updates here in our Church's newsletter, in worship, by email, across our social channels, on the website, and on a bulletin board in the Welcome Center. Stay tuned!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Fairmount is exploring becoming a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministry would deepen, expand, and extend the caregiving capacity of our congregation. To do that we need your help.

WHAT IS STEPHEN MINISTRY?

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

WHO ARE STEPHEN MINISTERS?

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.

WHO ELSE IS INVOLVED?

Stephen Leaders are lay leaders and pastors trained to provide ongoing leadership for their congregation's Stephen Ministry. They are equipped for this key role through the Bridge Leader's Training Course offered by Stephen Ministries St. Louis.

COULD I BE A STEPHEN LEADER OR A STEPHEN MINISTER?

Yes! If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please reach out to Pastor Lindsay at lindsayhl@fpccle.org or 216-321-5800 ext. 105.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

Check out www.stephenministries.com for more information and lots of videos on what it's like to be a Stephen Minister, Stephen Leader or Care Receiver.



CHILDREN & FAMILIES

This Summer, we will still be providing Worship Enrichment online for all families. Each month, we will focus on a theme, such as water, food, animals etc. During our time, Miss Chris will tell a Bible story, reflect on what we can learn from God's word, as well as provide an activity and coloring page for each week. Story Cards and coloring sheets for each week's story can be found on the church's website or can be picked up at the Church during its office hours. Miss Chris will gladly deliver materials as requested by families. When outdoor worship is scheduled, you can always join Miss Chris before service for a short story or craft in the lawn!

The playground will reopen this summer! Please contact Chris Fader at cedirector1@fpccl.org to sign-up for times to come and play! Popsicles and water will be provided for the little ones. Due to social distancing and family comfort, we will be currently asking only 2 families at a time during scheduled hours. Please reach out to Miss Chris for any questions.

Be on the lookout for this summer's Compassion Camp! It is entitled LovingKindness and will focus on how we can live to be our best selves. Later in July, Miss Chris will be hosting a hybrid model of our VBS that was introduced last year. We would love to get your feedback! Did you like the setup from last summer? Would you be comfortable with a few outdoor activities during our camp time? Is there anything you would have changed from last summer? Please let us know! Contact Chris Fader with any comments.

Do You Hear the "buzzing" around Fairmount?

This spring, there has been a *buzz* around Fairmount! You may have noticed a *buzz* in our monarch garden, the floral planters in front of the Sanctuary, and in our Garth courtyard, but that's not all! Fairmount has been buzzing along this spring with some wonderful events!

On Sunday, May 23rd, we welcomed all to our side lawn for Sunday Worship! This was our first in-person worship since March 8, 2020! It was a very special morning, to worship with folks at church, while still being connected to everyone via our live-streamed worship. We look forward to Sunday Outdoor Worship on July 4th, August 1st and September 5th.

During the afternoon of Sunday, May 23rd, Fairmount was thrilled to partner with St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Plymouth United Church of Christ, St. Mark's Presbyterian, and Church of The Saviour United Methodist Church to host *New York Times* Best Selling Author, Austin Channing Brown, for a virtual conversation, as she discussed her book, *I'm Still Here*. You can view this conversation on our Events page, www.fpccl.org/events.

Beginning in May, renovation began on the men's and women's restrooms on the first floor of the church which will address functionality, aesthetics, and access. During the renovation, available restrooms include the single restroom in the Narthex, the men's and women's restrooms off of the Dining Room, the men's and women's restrooms across from the Choir Room, and the restroom on the upper level northeast corner. We will continue to inform the congregation about the progress of this project.

On Sunday, May 2nd, Fairmount held its Annual Meeting virtually. We welcomed our new Pastor Nominating Committee – Carol Adrine, Peter Bush, Mike Chevraux, Raleigh Duttweiler, Bill Leahy, Sarah Stone, and Vanessa Whiting.

Finally this spring, Session announced some good news! Thanks to the performance of our endowment this past year, as well as special funds set aside for such purposes, we were able to give a total of about \$120,000 to five organizations who are meeting the critical needs of our community during the pandemic in outstanding ways:

- The Cleveland Heights/University Heights Schools Foundation, for a Summer Camp Program and Emergency Needs
- Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless
- Greater Cleveland Food Bank
- Americans Making Immigrants Safe
- Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry (Breaking New Ground Campaign)

Learn more about these five organizations.

Visit www.fpccl.org/ministry/supporting-our-community.

2021 SUMMER of SERVICE

"In our first conversations about FPC youth programs, the top request from parents has been service opportunities. I am excited to unveil 2021 "Summer of Service" volunteer calendar for FPC youth and their families!"

- Kate McFadden

Director of Youth + Adult Faith Formation



JUN 10 - cleveland food bank 11AM - 4PM

Youth and young adults age 16+ are invited to join the whole FPC community in helping distribute fresh food to neighbors in need. Yes - parents can sign up, too! Distribution will take place at the "muni lot" (address: 1500 S Marginal Rd) between 11AM and 4PM on Thursday, June 10th. Wear sunscreen, bring water and a snack. [Register online here.](#)



JUL 9 - beach clean up 8AM - 10:30AM

Youth (6th - 12th), their friends, younger siblings, and parents are invited to a big Friday morning intergenerational beach cleanup at Edgewater (address: 6500 Cleveland Memorial Sh.) We'll start with bagels from Cleveland Bagel Co. and then get to work. Meet outside the Edgewater Park Pavilion. Plastic gloves and trash bags will be provided. Afterward, stay awhile and enjoy the beach! [Sign up here.](#)



JUL 30 - little free pantry 9AM - 1PM

The LFP is growing! The LFP team needs to create a "back stock" room to keep extra food and toiletry donations organized and ready for the outdoor pantry. Youth (6th - 12th) will clear a new, official, space in the church to house all items for the LFP. Tasks will be cleaning and organizing. Lunch will be provided. Volunteer project will be indoors, so participants are asked to wear masks. [Sign up here.](#)



AUG 12 - mystery service project TBD



This project is for youth ages 12 to 15. Mark the date on your calendar! Youth should plan to wear comfortable clothes they can get dirty. Wear sunscreen and bring a bottle of water. More info (time, location, details) will be shared with parents at a later date.

Questions? Email Kate: kate@fpccl.org or call/text: 216-616-9635



A Note from Our Pastors

As we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic which have limited our ability to see one another regularly, we may find that our fellow church members have gone through struggles and joys of which we are unaware. The burdens we carry have largely gone unseen by others, and coming together again may bring out feelings of both joy and grief. Maybe you've lost someone, or received a troubling diagnosis for yourself or someone you love. Maybe there has been a change in marital status, job or a child's health. Perhaps there are other reasons that re-entering church feels difficult for you and/or your family. It's important that we listen to and look out for one another

in Christian community, and offer help where we can. One way the church has to extend the compassion of Christ is through pastoral care.

Pastor Jessie and Pastor Lindsay really want to know how you are doing, and to provide care in any way we can. A large part of our calling is responding to the needs of members of the community, but we don't always know what is going on in your lives to be able to extend that care. We would be honored to talk with you through email, on the phone, or in person about the joys and concerns that are present in your life. If you or someone you know has been hospitalized – let

us know. If you or someone you know is experiencing loss and grief – let us know. If you or someone you know is discerning a big decision – let us know. If you or someone you know is celebrating a milestone – let us know. We are here to listen, to pray, to weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice.

Please give us a call at 216-321-5800 or email us at jmacmillan@fpccle.org or lindsayhl@fpccle.org. We are honored to walk with you in this way, and long for more ways to connect with you.

Pastors Jessie & Lindsay

FAIRMOUNT'S LITTLE FREE PANTRY

The Little Free Pantry team is looking for donations. Consider contributing to the Little Free Pantry! Here are some of our current needs:

- Canned or single portion applesauce or fruit
- Canned meat/fish: tuna, chicken, beef, salmon
- Soup
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Dried or packaged rice
- Granola bars
- Pancake mix
- All toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, tampons/pads, deodorant

And you can take these items off your list for now, as we have plenty of:

- canned vegetables
- canned beans
- spaghetti and pasta
- cereal
- diapers
- macaroni and cheese

Thank you! Please remember we can only accept non-perishable, shelf-stable food, especially now that the weather is warmer.

Questions? Contact Kate, Director of Youth & Adult Faith Formation, kate@fpccle.org.



Become a Little Free Pantry Curator

Do you love organizing and helping people at the same time? Sign up for a week as a Little Free Pantry Curator. You'll visit the Pantry 1-2 times a week to be sure it is stocked and that any overflow items are stored in our bins and indoor storage room. You'll also make sure the Pantry is well organized and its contents easily accessed by its users. This is also a good time to bring your own food and personal care donations to the Pantry. Visit <https://fpccle.org/home/little-free-pantry> for the sign up link.



Weekly Emails from Fairmount

Fairmount sends out our Sunday worship invite, worship reminders, special event announcements, spiritual messages, and church administration information through email. Are you receiving these weekly emails? If not, contact Christine, cwinters@fpcclle.org, so that you can Keep Connected with Fairmount.

Has Your Primary Email Changed?

Perhaps you were using an old work email address to connect with Fairmount. Or maybe, you have begun using a new personal email address which you check frequently. Email Christine at cwinters@fpcclle.org, with the email address you wish Fairmount to use. We will make sure we are sending communications to the email address of your choice.

Help! I am not receiving emails from Fairmount Presbyterian Church!

You may not be receiving our Fairmount Presbyterian Church emails sent from our email domain, **@fpcclle.org**, either through our Constant Contact email service or from a specific employee. Many of the email clients that members use have extremely sophisticated filtering systems. While those systems are advanced, they won't always be 100% accurate on where to send certain emails. Even with great content, a good sending reputation, and following the best practices for deliverability, a member or friend could still have filtering preferences set up in their email account and they may not realize those filtering preferences are affecting the deliverability of our emails.

To ensure you can receive our emails, see if your email program or email client will allow you to "whitelist", allow listing, or safe list emails which come from the church's domain of fpcclle.org, specifically, **worship@fpcclle.org**, which is the email address we use in Constant Contact. Each email client has different steps that you need to follow in order to "allow emails."

Learn more about how to whitelist our emails by visiting <https://fpcclle.org/connect-wfpc>. The process varies by the email system you use, and possibly by the preference or security filters on your home network or your work network. If you are at work, speak with your IT personnel about whitelisting Fairmount emails.

Stay socially connected with Fairmount! Here are some of the ways to keep in contact with Fairmount.

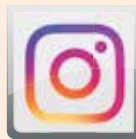
Facebook



Facebook is a wonderful platform to share information, inspiration and participate in events, like Sunday online worship. Visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/fairmountchurch/> then like our page. By liking our page, you will see Fairmount's content on your newsfeed, including all of our worship services, our Lenten devotions, fun Fairmount history, and more!

Join FPC on Instagram!



Install the Instagram app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store to follow our photos and videos. Once on Instagram, search for FPCCLE or visit https://www.instagram.com/invites/contact/?i=1a4go9plavbh&utm_content=eqwiraz

Fairmount's YouTube Channel



Did you know you can visit our YouTube channel and watch (rewatch) all of our worship services, musical selections, and more? Visit www.fpcclle.org and scroll down to the YouTube icon. Click that icon and you will be taken to our YouTube channel. Bookmark our YouTube channel on your web browser for easy, quick access to our channel.

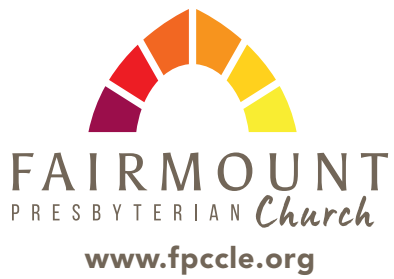
Realm



Realm is our secure, online Fairmount community, which offers tools for us to stay in touch with one another. <https://onrealm.org/FairmountPresby>

Think of it as sort of a 'Facebook' Christian Community. Through Realm you can connect with staff, other members, and communicate within small groups.

If you need help with logging into Realm, or need help accessing Realm, contact Christine, cwinters@fpcclle.org.



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OUR MAY 23, 2021 OUTDOOR PENTECOST WORSHIP

