

A special note to children and their parents:

We welcome all children in worship! Please pick up a worship bag filled with activities to engage the children, right outside the Sanctuary. For infants and toddlers (up to 4 years old) the nursery is available in room 245. For those wishing to attend the service with children outside the Sanctuary, the Gathering Room is located up the stairs from the Narthex and is equipped with a television that shows the service. Toys are also available.

Sunday Express is our Sunday morning program For Pre-K to 5th graders. *Sunday Express* begins at 10 am and continues through the end of the 11:15 worship service. As a part of the Christian Formation program, the children will join us in the Sanctuary at 11:15 am until the Conversation with Children and resume their *Sunday Express* in their respective classrooms. Parents are asked to pick up their children after the service. **TODAY**, children will remain in the service for Creative Worship. During the Sermon, they can go to the Interactive stations set up in the narthex to quietly explore the Scripture.

If you need a hearing assistance device, please see an usher. The sanctuary is equipped with a T Loop System; set your hearing aid to the "T" position.

**Service For The Lord's Day: 15th Sunday After Pentecost
8:45 & 11:15am Services of Worship**

*Please stand, if you are able. #The ushers will seat worshipers.

Gather Around God's Word

INTROIT

PRELUDE *Chaconne*
Louis Couperin (1626 - 1661)
Michael Michaelis, Guest Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) **Henry Brinton**

L: I will sing to the Lord,
P: For God has triumphed gloriously.

L: The Lord is my strength and my might,
P: And God has become my salvation.

(Exodus 15:1-2)

WELCOME

#* HYMN 749 *Come! Live in the Light!*

* CALL TO AFFIRMATION **Tempest Brevard**

L: As we say the Apostle's Creed, notice that one of the pillars of our faith is that we believe in "the forgiveness of sins." Together, let us affirm our faith:

P: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the

third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

L: Let us now pass the peace of Christ to one another ...

#* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Proclaim God's Word

ANTHEM *Praise His Holy Name*
Keith Hampton (b. 1950)
Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Dan Stevens (8:45)**
Kristen Hart (11:15)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 18:21-35

L: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

P: Thanks be to God.

(11:15) CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN

Because worship experience with parents is an important component of Christian Formation for children, we ask children to remain in the service during Creative Worship Sundays. They are invited to explore and quietly engage the Scripture at the interactive prayer stations set up in the narthex during the sermon and return to the sanctuary.

* HYMN 701 *Lord, Prepare Me / Sanctuary* (sing twice)
(Pass prayer cards to the center aisles)

SERMON "Jesus the Forgiveness Trainer" **Henry Brinton**

Respond to God's Word

* **(8:45) CALL TO CONFESSION**

L: Trusting in God's forgiveness, let us confess our sins:

* **(8:45) PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**
Merciful God, we confess that we have been less than you created and called us to be. We have forgotten your blessings toward us and have failed to be a blessing to others. We have taken for granted the limitless depth of your love and forgiveness, and in so doing, we have withheld love and forgiveness from others. In our misguided efforts to maintain control, we have clung to bitterness, hurt, anger and disappointment, rather than letting go in faith and trust, releasing ourselves to the

healing and cleansing power of your Spirit. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive us for our willingness to settle for so much less than you desire to give us and to do in us. Restore us to right relationship with you and with one another, for the sake of your Son, our Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

* **(11:15) CALL TO CONFESSION**

L: Please walk over to the nearest table, pick up a rock, write on the rock a word, a name, or a symbol that represents that which you want to forgive and let go. Placed the rock in the bowl, let go of the bitterness, hurt, anger and disappointment, and release yourself from the pain.

* **(8:45 & 11:15) ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsive)**

L: As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us. Friends, this is the message of the gospel, the Good News which we believe and proclaim: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

P: Alleluia! Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER CONCERNS

(11:15) MORNING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF CHRIST'S PEOPLE

OFFERTORY *Amazing Grace*
arr. James Erb (1926-2014)

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Lord Jesus, we thank you for your gift of forgiveness, and for giving us the power to forgive others. Accept these gifts, and use them to spread your love throughout the world. Amen.

(8:45) THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion will be received at the table. When instructed, please walk to the table via the center of the Sanctuary, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and partake. You may then return to your seat by the front aisles. Please raise your hand if your need to be served in the pews.

Follow God's Word Into the World

* HYMN 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE
"Presto" from *Concerto in G Major after Johann Ernst*
J. S. Bach (1685 - 1750)

*We invite you to remain and listen to the Postlude.
If you prefer to greet the pastors or visit with other members, you may proceed to the Narthex.*

NOTES ON WORSHIP

OUR USHERS today are **Isaac Bumgardner, Eleanor Duffield, Carolyn Gore-Ashe, Gary Sowers, Ellen MacGregor, Rob Updegrave, Bill Staples, Mike Stewart, Jennifer Browne, and Clark Bowden.**

2020 VISION

Lunch and Launch of Capital Campaign

All are invited to a catered lunch and program on Sunday, October 22, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Adults, youths and children are encouraged to attend, with children and youths being dismissed after lunch to decorate pumpkins. Adults will remain in Fellowship Hall for a 45-minute program launching our 2020 VISION Capital Campaign, which promises to renovate and revitalize our church for ministry and mission to the community and world. The lunch will be free of charge, but we do need responses in order to plan for the meal. Please fill out this form and put it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

___ I/we will attend the 'Lunch and Launch'. # of adults ___; youths ___; children ___.

___ I/we can't attend the 'Lunch and Launch but we're interested in learning about the 2020 Vision Campaign.

Name _____

Email _____

TODAY AT FPC

Youth Fellowship is at 4:30PM Tonight!
JOY! Event and lunch is after the 11:15 worship in the Multi-Purpose Room!

Upcoming Messages

- * September 24 8:45 & 11:15AM - Sermon by Henry Brinton, "Writing Your Own Obituary." Romans 13: 8-14. Congregational Meeting at 12:15PM.
- * October 1 8:45 & 11:15AM - World Communion Sunday. Sermon by Henry Brinton, "MAYA Jesus." Matthew 21:23-32.

Leadership at Fairfax Presbyterian Church

The Session

Christian Formation Ministry: Rochon Bumgardner, John Williams.
Member Connections Ministry: Susan Chesson, Cate Rodman.
Mission Outreach Ministry: Mike Stewart, Becca Peterson.
Property Management Ministry: Tom MacDonald, Catherine Potter.
Staff Personnel & Administration Ministry: Carolyn Gore-Ashe, George Falck.
Stewardship & Finance Ministry: Tim Leslie, Jessica Harrison, Brad Pontz.
Worship Ministry: Sara Bowden.
Clerk of Session : Gary Sowers
Treasurer: Ed Bowen; *Associate Treasurer:* Sonja Hancke.

Board of Deacons

Linda Belger, Andy Blomme, Frances Bowen, David Campbell, Diana Carlson, Kristen Hart, Matt Kraft, Frances Larsen, Kristin Larsen, Zach Lawrence, Susan Mangin, Tracey Moss, Michael Mulvihill, Angie Ninde, Vasantha Rayman, Jennifer Richcreek, Katie Sievers, Dan Stevens, Mary Yee.

Board of Trustees

Margaret Ralston, Daryl Salmons, Brad Ward.

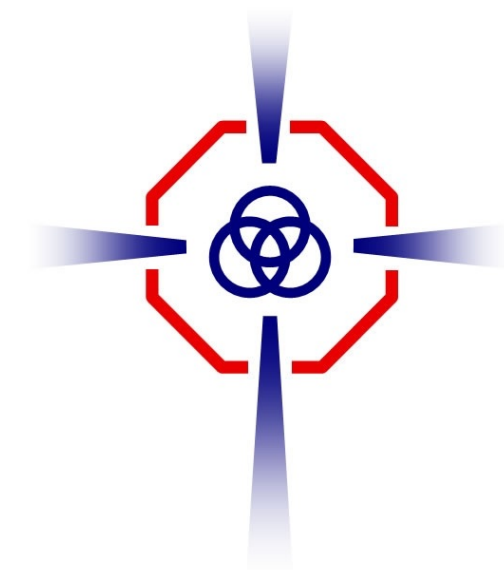
Staff

Henry G. Brinton, Senior Pastor
 Yena Hwang, Associate Pastor
 Tempest Brevard, Youth Director
 Nini Johnson, Preschool Director
 Gretchen Kuhrmann, Director of Music
 Erin Sanzero, Associate Director of Music
 Boyd Harrison, Church Administrator
 Festus Danso-Sakyi & Tracey Moss, Custodians

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Fairfax Presbyterian Church



*Fairfax Presbyterian Church is
An Uncommon Christian Community
Embracing all people with God's love and grace.*

*By the power of the Holy Spirit,
We at FPC worship God with honesty, joy, and imagination;
Nurture our lives of faith in Christ;
Extend hospitality and grace to all people;
Serve a world in need; and
Work for reconciliation among people of diverse perspectives.*

September 17, 2017

Visitors: Welcome to Fairfax Presbyterian Church

We are glad you have joined us for worship and want you to feel warmly welcomed to this community of faith. We hope you will experience the Holy Spirit moving in this place through our worship, fellowship and mission. Please sign the red friendship pad, including your name, address, email and phone number so that we might be in touch to welcome you to our congregation. You are invited to join us for a cup of coffee or tea in the Narthex outside the Sanctuary following the service.