Dear Friends in Christ,

As summer winds down and the program year begins, I am looking forward to serving as your Interim Pastor. Meeting the search committee, members of session and the staff filled me with enthusiasm for joining you on this journey of transition. My first official day will be September 3rd, but I am praying for you already, and planning steps we might take together to best move into God’s future for Fairmount.

Beginning September 8th, Celebrate Sunday, we will be walking through the theme of “Unraveling” during worship, using Sanctified Art resources: What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity — or the path we’re on — comes undone? In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope — with a new beginning we couldn’t have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed. (see page 2)

I hope you will join us regularly for worship and for the many other activities this church offers. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me; I would love to hear about your journey of faith. Soon I will be moving back from the state of Delaware to our home in Bay Village. My husband and I are empty nesters these days, watching our young adult sons navigate the world. We are blessed to live close to his parents and my newly widowed mother. Next year we will both celebrate our twenty-fifth ordination anniversary and thirty years of marriage. Throughout it all, I am learning to trust God more completely, which seems to be taking a lifetime! Lately I have been pondering a quotation used by spiritual pilgrims around the world,

“Traveler, there is no path.
The path is made by walking.
Traveler, the path is your tracks
And nothing more.
Traveler, there is no path
The path is made by walking.
By walking you make a path
And turning, you look back
At a way you will never tread again.”

– Antonio Machado,
Border of a Dream: Selected Poems

I’m looking forward to walking this path with you, and trusting God along the way,

Pastor Jessie
Stewardship
Peggy Roberts

It’s a time of new beginnings for Fairmount, with a wonderful Interim addition to our staff as we prayerfully discern our leadership needs for the next chapter of our church. And meanwhile, the work of the church continues, supported by each of you. As we head into the Fall, it will be time to begin the season for Stewardship. Thank you so much to all of you who consistently give to Fairmount Presbyterian Church! Your gifts make a huge difference to the church and to the people served by our ministries and missions. We will again be asking for your support, not only financially, but of your energy and time.

We do not anticipate the church will have increased financial needs in 2020, but our stewardship campaign for 2019 was about $30,000 short of our goal. We hope to have more support in our 2020 campaign. We start the stewardship campaign in October on purpose — getting your pledges in the Fall for the next calendar year allows our staff and leadership to discern how to build the budget and goals for the next year in a fiscally prudent way.

There is more to come on the campaign for 2020; however if you are one of the individuals or families who have yet to turn in a pledge for 2019, it is never too late! Please contact the church office (216.321.5800) or visit the ‘donate’ page on our website (https://fpccle.org/donate) to enter your pledge or make a donation electronically.

Thank you for reviewing this update. Engagement from each member on this important topic is essential to ensure the growth of our church. If you have any questions about Stewardship, please call Peggy Roberts (216.268.9303).

What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity—or the path we’re on—comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be?

In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn’t have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed.

Drop by the church office and pick up an “Unraveled” story journal to accompany this series. There are also coloring sheets we will put in the worship materials for you to utilize as well.
Celebrate Sunday
September 8th

Join us on Sunday morning, September 8th, for one service of worship at 10:00am in the sanctuary as we kick off the “new year” at Fairmount! We are excited to join in worship as one family, and to welcome our new Interim Pastor, Rev. Jessie MacMillan. Following worship we will join together for a potluck lunch. Fried chicken will be provided, and we are asking people with last names beginning with A-P to bring a side dish and Q-Z a dessert. Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer for this event, cwinters@fpcccle.org.

(Upholders comprised the Church’s most longstanding and largest volunteer group. It consists of five teams each serving only once every five weeks. There are now openings on several teams. If you are interested in this service and want to find out more, call Usher Coordinator Bob Pfeifer at 440.510.8139 or rpfe104675@aol.com.

We are getting ready for a new church directory! We will be looking for everyone to sign up. An email will go out in September for you to sign up for a photo sitting October 14th through 16th between 2:00pm-9:00pm or November 1st, 2:00pm-9:00pm and November 2, 10:00am-5:00pm.)

(Clockwise from bottom left - Brogan, Colin, Kyle, Tom, Duncan, Jessie)
Parents’ Night Out is the first Friday of each month from 6:00-9:00pm. Children Birth-3rd Grade are welcome to join us for a night of fun at the church with our staff and volunteers.

We know life is full and we hope this night will help our kids build community while allowing parents to take a break and connect with one another. This ministry is as much for the kids as it is for the parents.

We ask families to pack a sack dinner for their children, along with a reusable water bottle.

Please go to the Events tab of www.fpccle.org to sign-up.

Contact Nike or Amy Kim about this opportunity: youth@fpccle.org or amykim@fpccle.org. Non-members of Fairmount are welcome to utilize this night for $10/child payable to FPC.

Volunteers are always welcome to contact us to sign up to help. Every volunteer must be background checked prior to helping out.

Parents Night Out Dates for the year are as follows: September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3 & May 1.

We know the youth of Fairmount are outstanding and we are hoping you will share your gifts with the congregation. We are searching for young people (5-18 years of age) who can sing, read scripture, play an instrument, dance……what are the gifts you would be willing to share with our community of faith? Please contact Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks so that we can get you connected in worship.
MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH will meet on the second Sunday of each month from 11:15am-1:00pm in the upper Youth Room. We will have lunch and time for community building and fun. Parents, please be on the look-out for more information and for the sign-up sheet for food and volunteering.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH will have a lock-in on Sunday night, September 29th starting at 7:30pm. This is the night of Rosh Hashanah and we are thankful to have time we can spend as a youth group since there will not be school on the 30th. We will be sending out an email with more information. This event will cost $30. Friends are always welcome and we hope you will put this date on your calendar NOW. The lock-in will end Monday morning at 10:00am.

All Church Book Study

Watch for an invitation to join us for a rich conversation about the book *Raising White Kids* by Jennifer Harvey. We will discuss the book on a Sunday morning over lunch. Books are available for purchase from the front office for $15.00.

On Saturday, October 26th, we will be hosting Jennifer Harvey for a community-wide event where she will speak about the book and teach us more about how we can model community to and with our children in the midst of divisions. Please look for more details about this event and invite others in the community to join us! For questions, please contact Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks, Director of Spiritual Formation.

Our breath is our life-force, but the air we breathe can restore our life or kill us. We are living in a world where the sins of racism infect the very air we breathe; killing many, sicken us all. What happens when we pay attention to how much breath we give to scarcity, competition, and fear? What happens when we choose to focus our breath on giving oxygen to liberate our imaginations for a world where the air is full of abundance, hope, and equity? Learn more at https://montreat.org/coinspire.

Join us for the CoInspire Conference on October 7-10. CoInspire will examine ways that we, as members of Christ’s body, might co-inspire one another to liberate imagination for new ways of being, and examine ways we can conspire to eviscerate the racism within our church. **WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US AT MONTREAT.** The cost for the conference and lodging is approximately $500. If we get enough folks interested, we can caravan to the conference and make the travel more affordable. Please contact Pastor Lindsay or Amy Kim if you are interested in joining us for this meaningful week.
Music Ministry

MUSIC ENSEMBLES RESUME FALL 2019

September 5th –
Choir Kickoff Party! (6:30-8:30pm, Choir Room)

September 12th –
Crescendo Choir (5:15-6:30pm, Dining Room/Room 214. Dinner Included!)
Handbells (6:30-7:30pm, Undercroft)
Choir (7:30-9:00pm, Choir Room)

Questions? Contact Leah at lwyman@fpccle.org.

Join us on Thursday, September 5th, at 6:30pm in the Choir Room! We’ll do a full read through of our upcoming anthems for Fall, followed by games, laughter, fellowship and refreshments. Bring a friend or neighbor! We have a great time in the Choir and we’re eager to have more of our Fairmount fam to make a joyful noise with us on Sunday mornings. Regular rehearsal times will resume at 7:30pm on the following Thursday, September 12th.

Welcome Chris Fader, our new Children’s Music Coordinator!

We’re excited to announce the hiring of Chris Fader to the position of Children’s Music Coordinator. Chris brings with her a passion for music and a love of working with kids. Chris is a music education professional who has instructed students of all ages and specializes in working with elementary education groups. We are thrilled that Chris will be leading our Crescendo Choir, participating weekly in W.E. Time on Sunday mornings, offering special workshops for CONNECT, and casting vision for what’s next in music ministry for our young people! Crescendo Choir rehearsals will resume at 5:15 pm on Thursday, Sept. 12th, and is open to all kids grade K-6. Please check bulletin announcements and E-News for additional details as we approach the program year. As the Children’s Music Coordinator, “Miss Chris” looks forward to sharing her experience in music and excitement for working with kids to help us better understand our faith through song. Please extend Chris a welcome at chrisfader@fpccle.org!

A NOTE FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, LEAH WYMAN

I want to offer a heartfelt thank you to my Fairmount family for all the prayers and support I received as I recovered from my surgery in late May. The visits, cards, food, gifts and well-wishes all meant so much to me. Although major surgery wasn’t what I’d anticipated for the end of my first year in Cleveland, this congregation reminded me that God was at work in and through that experience. I’m thrilled to be back at work, looking forward to what’s ahead, and truly grateful.

—Leah Wyman, Artistic Director
Are you receiving our weekly E-News and Bible Study in Your Inbox emails? Would you like to receive these and other Fairmount event emails? If you are not currently receiving emails from the church, contact Christine Winters, cwinters@fpccle.org. Our office staff will make sure we have your correct email and will add you to our email distribution list.

Are you searching for sermons, Fairmount events, or church resources? Do you want to verify worship and event times or look at our church calendar? Would you like to make a donation to Fairmount? You can do all of this and more on our website, www.fpccle.org.

- The landing page displays our worship times and general information.
- Under the CONNECT tab you will find a link to Realm and a link to our calendar.
- Click the DONATE tab at the top of the website to make a donation.
- Under the MINISTRY tab you will find links to our Admin, Care, Serve and Faith Formation Councils; Youth Ministry; and Music.
- Upcoming Fairmount events are featured under the EVENTS tab.
- Under the RESOURCES tab you will find newsletters, audio/printed sermons, and church and worship forms.

If you have any questions about our website or need help navigating our website, please contact the church office.

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**FAIRMOUNT BELL CHOIR RESUMES SEPTEMBER 12th!**

**THURSDAY NIGHTS, 6:30-7:30PM (UNDERCROFT)**

The Fairmount Bell Choir is always looking for more to join us as we have a full 5 octaves of handbells and 4 octaves of handchimes! We affectionately call ourselves the “Ding-a-Lings” as we like to make beautiful music, but also have fun. The only prerequisite for joining is the ability to read music. The ensemble plays roughly once a month. In addition, we are often asked to play during the holidays at venues around the city, such as Severance Hall (pre-Christmas Concert entertainment) and the Botanical Garden (“Glow”). For more information, please contact Amy K. Carlson, Handbell Director, at 216.978.7445 or via email, acarlson@key.com.

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**Keeping in Contact!**

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**Have you tried REALM?** REALM is our online secure database that connects our congregation and helps us accomplish our mission of: Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Serving Together, and Caring for All. Through REALM you can update your profile and contact information, manage your giving, communicate and share information within groups and missions, and stay in touch with your Fairmount friends.

REALM Coaching! If you need assistance setting up your REALM account and profile, or using REALM, contact Nancy Chism, Church Administrator, nchism@fpccle.org.
HELP NEEDED!
THE 42ND ANNUAL
HEIGHTS HERITAGE
HOME & GARDEN TOUR

On Sunday, September 15th, Fairmount Presbyterian Church will host a refreshment stop here at the church during this tour. We are looking for a few Fairmounters to greet tour participants and provide hospitality from 1:00 to 4:00pm. If you can help during this event, please contact Nancy Chism, Church Administrator, at nchism@fpccle.org, and provide the time slot you are available. For more information about the Heights Heritage Home & Garden Tour, visit www.heightscongress.org.