



# The Chimes

September / October 2024

203 Years Strong  
doing Christ's ministry

## Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church



The Church Picnic and Pool Party is **Sunday, September 15** after church! Sign up and let us know what you'll bring and how many are coming!



Drone photography by Keith Torrey

Your Session has been working on Elder Training, understanding how the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) both proclaims our faith and guides our shared ministry.

Church treasurer Ruth Saylor reports that church finances are strong this year.

Session is working with those who expressed interest in joining Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church!

### HALLOWEEN IS COMING!

Cranston's annual party for the village during Halloween trick-or-treating is on the horizon. Look for news about how you can help!



### New Richmond Area Ministries

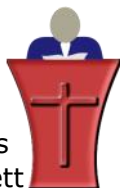
(NRAM) is seeking a new home for the food pantry currently at the Nazarene church. They also are experiencing increased need. Please help: pray that we find a new location; check with Greg Roberts for more information about how you can contribute!

### Sept / Oct Birthdays!

- September 3** —Dawn Butler,  
William Murphy  
5—Chuck Feldkamp,  
Cathy Kirschner  
7—Ron Stang,  
Madison Feldkamp  
10—Martha Misheff  
11—Silas Spoonamore  
15—Roger Loth  
16—Ruth Saylor  
19—Pat Irwin, David Zion  
**October 5**—Amy Heekin  
6—David Fisher  
10— Lisa Kuhn  
11—Betty Bradshaw  
16—Braeden Price  
17—Caleb Price  
20—Moss Barkley  
22—R.H. Varble  
24—John Hamilton  
26—Barbara Carnes Cowden  
29—Brelynn Martin  
30—Sidnie Reed

### Who's Preaching?

- Sept 1 —Chris Torrey  
(Communion)  
Sept. 8 — Greg Roberts  
Sept. 15 — David Annett  
Sept. 22 — Chris Torrey  
Sept. 29 — Becky Bosarge  
October 6 — David Annett  
(Communion)  
October 13 — Chris Torrey  
October 20 — David Annett  
October 27 — Becky Bosarge



We celebrate communion on the First Sunday of each month.

Elder Greg Roberts completed the Presbytery Lay Preachers training. He is our preacher on Sunday, September 8!

The Rev. Becky Bosarge returns to our pulpit on Sunday, September 29 and looks forward to preaching here on a regular basis going forward.

The Rev. Dr. David Fisher has retired from preaching. See the interview on the next page!

### Sept / Oct Anniversaries!

- Sept. 3**—Micheall & Sidnie Reed  
16—Gary Gleason & Amy Heekin  
**Oct. 18**—Greg & Theresa Roberts

Let Jackie Nelson know if we can add your name(s) to the lists!

### The Chimes Interview: The Rev. Dr. David Fisher

David and Gloria Fisher joined Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church earlier this year. This Summer, the Rev. Dr. David Fisher announced that he was retiring from preaching.

The CHIMES sat down with David for an interview:

#### What is God doing in your life these days?

God is teaching me how to be retired, how to age gracefully, and blessing me with vitality each new day.

#### You've been a preacher for many years, including these last several here at Cranston. What stands out?

I was fascinated with preaching and homiletics since boyhood. My own father was a good preacher. I was 26 when called to my first church. The Spirit of God was moving in that place. The congregation grew; the experience shaped me.

The effectiveness of preaching is measured over time: what preaching does over ten years is what matters. Fred Craddock said preaching is moving an idea: getting from here to there. Moving an idea and moving a congregation. From Craddock I learned inductive preaching: asking one question and engaging the listeners to become active participants, moving on a journey to a certain destination where they can make their own conclusions.

#### How has your education helped you in ministry?

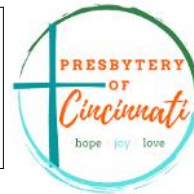
My work was in New Testament Interpretation. My advisor, George Beasley-Murray was one of the three great influences in my ministry, along with my father and Fred Craddock. I stuck my toe in the pool of academia but got out after earning my PhD. The academic world taught me to think theologically. That helped me to preach, making theological thinking available to the congregation.

#### What signs of possibility at Cranston give you the most hope?

The arrival recently of younger families and children! The question for Cranston (and all churches) is where are we going and how do we get there? The Session must provide leadership which provides vitality in the congregation and inspires people as they are part of the church. The presence of children and their families in the church is a sign of hope.



Watch for news of what our children and youth are doing in the days and weeks ahead! You see us in church and as we head off to Sunday School. We meet during the week as well!



<https://www.cranstonchurch.org/>

<https://www.pcusa.org/>

Special thanks to Mary Campbell for reminding us that we "Welcome all Christians: people of other faiths, people of little faith, and people of no faith."

This prayer from the Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship* (the 1946 edition) says it well:

**A**lmighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations to witness to the healing



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**  
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

love of Christ through caring for communities affected by crises and catastrophic events. Through One Great Hour of Sharing and direct contributions the compassion of Presbyterians is expressed in time of need. Our Presbytery organizes work trips for volunteers to go and be of help in time of need after tornadoes, hurricanes, fires, and other disasters. You can learn more at <https://pda.pcusa.org/>

Find out where we are currently responding and how you can be of help in meeting the need. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is part of the Mission of Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church.

*A tithe of contributions received goes to Missions at Cranston!*

