

# The Columns -Online.

October 27, 2021 | Waynesboro, Virginia | a newsletter supplement.

# HALLOWEEN FUN FACT:

THE FIRST JACK O'LANTERNS WERE MADE FROM TURNIPS ...

...AND WERE SERIOUSLY CREEPY



COVID average Incidence Rate per 100,000 from the Virginia Dept of Health.

 Augusta County:
 28.8

 Harrisonburg
 20.4

 Rockingham
 24.1

 Staunton
 20.6

 Waynesboro
 29.0

 Average/100K
 24.58

Level of Community Transmission

High

Substantial

Moderate

Low

#### This Week in History.



SOLIDARNOSC

United Nations founded October 24, 1945

Polish Communist authorities recognize Solidarity Trade Union October 24, 1980



Battle of Balaclava, featuring the Charge of the Light Brigade October 25, 1854



Gunfight at the OK Corral October 26, 1881



Theodore Roosevelt born October 27, 1858



Sir Walter Raleigh beheaded October 29, 1618

#### All Saints Day.

In early Christian tradition, saints' days began as a way to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death — his or her "birthday" as a saint. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs (particularly due to the persecution of Diocletian) that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown. Originally celebrated in Eastertide as the Feast of all Martyrs, All Saints' has been celebrated on November 1 since 835 AD.

All Saints' Day has a rather different focus in the Reformed tradition. While we may give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, the emphasis is on the ongoing sanctification of the *whole* people of God. Rather than putting saints on pedestals as holy people set apart in glory, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord, reminding us of the great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). The knowledge that others have persevered, can lift us out of the unhealthy focus on our own situation and lift our discouragement with the present. odds. We are reminded the God who was with the faithful of the past is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time. In this context, it is appropriate for a congregation on All Saints' Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year.

#### Sources of Information

click on the links

<u>PC(USA)</u> News Virginia Department of Health updates

### Sources of Inspiration

click on the links

<u>Daily Readings from the Lectionary</u>
<u>Jan Edmiston's Blog</u>
The Upper Room Devotional

Sources of Fun click on the links

Today's Holiday

Mr. Boffo

# 2 Sundays for the Future

November 14 and 21, we will again celebrate our common life and talk about the future of FPC.

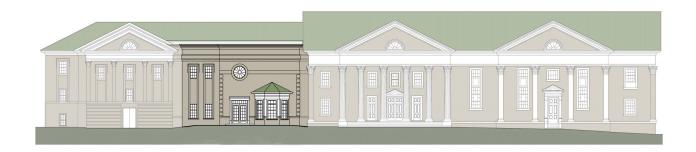
Following worship we'll adjourn to the Fellowship Hall, where lunch will be provided.



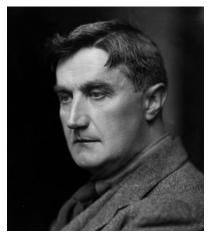
The first Sunday will focus on Finances - one of the most important, yet misunderstood facets of the church's ministry. We will examine the challenges and opportunities of the current situation.

The second Sunday we will discuss the direction of our mission and ministry for the future.

If you care about FPC, then plan to attend both Sundays.



# Music Notes for this week.

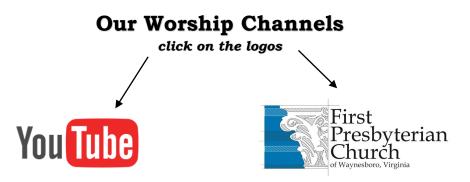


Vaughn Williams

This Sunday, on All Hallow's Eve, we celebrate All Saints' Day! The two hymns we sing this week reflect this celebration, beginning with *For All The Saints*. The music was composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) for the 1906 publication of the English Hymnal. Vaughan Williams called the tune SINE NOMINE, translated as "without name." This original hymn has been described as one of the finest hymn tunes of the  $20^{\rm th}$  century.

The closing hymn, *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*, shows that everyone can be a saint. Lesbia Scott (1898-1986) wrote both the words and the music and published it in 1929 in the collection, "Everyday Hymns for Little Children." The tune we sing on Sunday was composed by John H. Hopkins, Jr. (1861-1945). Hopkins wrote the music, now known as GRAND ISLE, in 1940, named for the community on the island where he lived in Lake Champlain, Vermont, during his retirement.





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