

Manor Minutes

A Publication of
Fairhill Manor
Christian Church

Rev. Chris Stillwell
Senior Minister

Rev. Gena Sheller
Associate Pastor

Karen Thomas
Administrative Assistant

Gene Sheller
Congregational Moderator

Brian Shaw
Financial Secretary

Jim Cope
Choir Director

Carson Throckmorton
Organist

Jody Mullis
Pianist

Wray Adams
Custodian

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When I was a child the Christmas season would begin for me in October. Even though Halloween had not yet arrived, even though Thanksgiving was yet a month away, even though Christmas was an entire season away, I began to get incredibly excited about the prospect of another Christmas. That is

because early October marked the arrival of the Sears and JCPenny Christmas catalogues. As soon as they came I would go straight to the back past all those boring pictures of clothes and furniture to the majestically colored toy pages. Everything children shows and cartoons told me I wanted was there, and I had to have it all. I marked every page and put stars by the things I REALLY wanted and hoped and prayed.

Christmas was a wonderful day full of joy and fun, but as the teen years hit and my joy came less and less from toys I began to feel that Christmas was just not as meaningful as it once was, and I had to face the cold hard truth that one day, the worst thing in the world would happen. I would become an adult, and all the wonder and magic of Christmas would cease. It was a heavy realization.

I went through a rough period for a while, thinking that Christmas would never be like it was, but then I came home from being in Puerto Rico for several months, and I enjoyed a Christmas like none other. I enjoyed being reunited with family and friends. I soaked up every bit of Christmas Spirit in the decorations and music on the radio. I even found the snow to be the perfect complement to a perfect Christmas. I do not remember the gifts that were under the tree that year, but I still cherish the gift of Spirit that kindled a renewed and deepened appreciation of Christmas.

Since then I look forward to the entire Christmas season as an opportunity to reunite with loved ones, to connect with new people, to extend peace and grace to all, and I even began taking more seriously the things I had heard in church. As I got older I eventually learned that Christmas is not about the gifts of toys we receive but the gifts of love that we receive from our friends, family, and our God. I remembered that the season before Christmas was called Advent which means waiting, and while I hated to wait when I was young, I found as I got older that the longer the wait the greater the joy. Though I do still get an itch in early October for those catalogues of yesteryear, I am eternally thankful that Christmas will never be like it was.

Rev. Chris



- 1 Cadence Shetler
- 3 Beverly Lane
Tammie Wallace
- 5 Ed Palfreyman
- 7 Cathy Anderson
Chris Crowe
- 8 Von Lacock, Jr.
Linda Martin
- 9 Richard Sumney
- 10 Linda Hainer
Joshua Hatfield
- 11 Kristin Ramirez
- 12 Lauren Kunkle
- 13 Chuck Riggle
- 17 Lela Davidson
Rita Puskarich
- 18 Elizabeth Herrnberger
Ty Lacock
Owen Stillwell
- 19 Avery Allen
Linda Dallatore
- 20 Carol Daniels
- 21 Waylon Newman
Walter Viehmann
- 26 Hollan Martinek
- 29 Lisa Shriver
- 31 Elinor Newman
Carmen Oliverio



- 1 Zach & Laura Houston
- 3 Terry & Jeannie Allison
- 6 Kirk & Debbie McDonough
- 8 Charles & Patty McConnell
- 28 Kevin & Sharel O'Connell
- 31 Justin & Courtney Gatten

Poinsettia Orders

The deadline to order poinsettias is December 4!!!

There is still time to order red and white Poinsettias for our Christmas Eve display. The Poinsettia Tree needs at least 33 poinsettias to complete. Turn in your paid order to the office by December 4.



Angel Tree

There are a few Salvation Army Christmas **Angel Tree** tags remaining on the tree in the Narthex. Please return your unwrapped presents to the Church by December 11.



ANGEL TREE



Fairhill Manor Christian Church continues to partner with First Church of the Nazarene, 1366 North Main Street Washington, to collect and distribute food through **Heaven's Basket** to help our neighbors in need in the community. The items that Heaven's Basket is most in need of are: mashed potatoes, rice, condensed soup, pasta/pasta sauce, macaroni & cheese, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pancake mix/syrup, oatmeal, peanut butter, and jelly. You can place your donations in the **"basket"** in the **Caring and Sharing Center** and they will be delivered to Heaven's Basket for you.

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Poinsettia Orders Due	Advent Bible Study 7pm via Zoom NA 7pm	Dartball @ St James 7pm	Bethany Class Zoom 11am NA 6:45pm	Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		Drive-Thru Nativity 6-8 pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Drive-Thru Nativity 6-8pm	Prayer Shawl 11am Parlor Advent Bible Study 7pm via Zoom NA 7pm	Bethany Class Christmas Party 1pm Small Fellowship Hall Elders 5:30- 6:30pm via Zoom Dartball @ Bethlehem Lutheran 7pm	Bethany Class Zoom 11am NA 6:45pm	Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
“Breakfast at the Manger” 9am Worship 10:15am	Advent Bible Study 7pm via Zoom NA 7pm	Dartball @ Home 7pm	Bethany Class Zoom 11am NA 6:45pm	Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Merry Christmas No Sunday School Worship 10:15am	Office Closed NA 7pm		NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		

Welcome to Fairhill Manor – Carson Throckmorton – Our new Organist, November 20

I asked Carson to tell me a little about himself and yes I asked him what his favorite cookie is, because you never know when someone might make some cookies 😊

Carson Throckmorton is a 17-year-old Highest Honors' student at Peters Township High School. He began taking piano lessons in kindergarten and has been playing ever since. Carson also plays trombone in the Wind Symphony, violin and viola in the Orchestra, bass guitar and piano in the Jazz Band, and snare drum in the High School Marching Band, where he is also the Drums' Section Leader.

Carson enjoys his Chemistry, Physics and Spanish 4 classes in school. He has performed at Coffee House and the Library Arts Café with numerous bands. For this year's Coffee House, he is performing with his band, *Big Big Big*, and two other acts. Carson was the piano player in last year's high school musical, *Beauty and The Beast*, and is currently preparing for this year's show, *Anything Goes*.

When Carson is not hunting, fishing, riding his bike, or playing video games, he's working at Franco's Trattoria in McMurray. He is a self-proclaimed choc-o-holic, with his favorite cookie being... yep, you guessed it, chocolate chip! Carson holds a Second-Degree Black Belt in Nejad Martial Arts.

Carson is the son of Rob and Jill Throckmorton of McMurray. His sister, Elisabeth, 24, is a Travel Nurse in South Carolina, and his brother, Parker, 21, is a junior at West Virginia University. Carson also loves his 2-year-old rescue pup, Ellie.



Congratulations

Congratulations to **Major Daniel J. Robinson, USMC, Ret.** on the occasion of his retirement after serving 20 years in the Marine Corps as a helicopter pilot and flight instructor, among other duties. We thank you deeply for your service to God, your country and to the rest of us. Congratulations also to his wife Emily (Cope) and children Maddie (14) and Liam (10). They also served and sacrificed as they supported their husband and father during those 20 years.

Thank you all for your service and best wishes for the future. God Bless You!

Jim & Diane Cope

A few pictures from.....



Rev. Chris getting ready for Trunk or Treat.



Thanksgiving bounty from the BYKOTA Class.



It takes a "village" and a "boss" to put up the stable.



The beautiful poinsettia tree that adorns our sanctuary each Christmas Eve is a tradition that we all look forward to every year. Please fill out this form and return it to the church office by **December 4th with payment**. Indicate the color and number of poinsettias you would like to order. Cost per plant is \$10. Please **make checks payable to "Fairhill Manor" and indicate "Poinsettias" in the memo line**. Plants may be picked up following the Christmas Eve service.

_____ RED Poinsettias

_____ WHITE Poinsettias

ORDERS are due by December 4th

Given by

In Memory/Honor of

(circle one)

In Memory/Honor of

(circle one)

In Memory/Honor of

(circle one)
