

June 2021

Manor Talk

A Publication of Fairhill Manor Christian Church

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Visit us online at **www.fairhillmanorchurch.org**

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Rev. Gena Sheller

Associate Pastor

Karen Thomas

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Congregational

Moderator

Brian Shaw

Financial Secretary

Jim Cope

Choir Director

Audra Allen

Organist

Jody Mullis

Pianist

Wray Adams

Custodian



As June arrives so with it comes the summer. School ends, kids play outside, the day seemingly lasts forever. When I think of the summer, I always think of two seemingly opposite things that apply equally well to this season. I think of rest and heat. The summer is a time to take a break. Whether we take a break from school until the fall or take a break from work by going on vacation, the summer routinely provides a rest and a time for renewal. The longer days also provide an opportunity to enjoy a good book under a tree, a picnic in the park, or a game in the yard with friends or family. If this was all that summer was, it would be the perfect season.

But the summer is known just as well for its heat. It is the hottest season and the long days give more time for the intense sun to heat the world. Growing up we didn't have air conditioning, and I remember many nights when I couldn't sleep because the night

brought no relief from the heat. In fact, sometimes the rest I got in the summer was because the heat would allow me to do nothing else. Sometimes the lazy days of summer are so not by choice; sometimes they are so by necessity.

The Bible portrays both sides of summer when in Psalm 32 it describes lack of faith like being "dried up as by the heat of summer" (Ps 32:4) while the gospel of Matthew compares the Kingdom of God to the flowering and blooming of a fig tree in summer. (MT 24:32-35) Ultimately the summer is what you make of it. If you are like me you hope to find rest, but you have crammed it full of things to do. If you are like me the heat can get to you, but it is better than the cold. As the days lengthen, I invite you to use the extra time to find some time for God in prayer, in scripture, and in worship. If you do, you will not only find rest and rejuvenation, but, as the mercury rises, you may find it easier to keep your cool. May your summer be joyous, restful, and exciting, and may it always be filled with God.

Rev. Chris

Fairhill Manor Christian Church will partner with First Church of the Nazarene, 1366 North Main Street, Washington, to help with their **food collection (June 19)** drive and their **food distribution (June 26)** through Heaven's Basket. The congregants at First Church of the Nazarene operate a food pantry called Heaven's Basket the last Saturday of each month. Fairhill Manor will be helping with either donations of food/money or helping on the day of their pantry to distribute food to their clients. 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. Thank you for your continued support of our outreach efforts. Please call or text Amy Caldwell with any questions at 724-207-3945 or acaldwell8898@gmail.com





During my vacation at the beginning of April, I spent a couple days at an Airbnb on a picturesque former dairy farm in Ohio. The little unit caught my eye because it was completely self-contained yet a part of the farmhouse, easy to get to, and looked like it had everything I needed for a couple of days. Sure enough, when I drove back the long gravel lane which cut through a gently rolling green crop field, between the barn and the farmhouse, I immediately relaxed in the new but familiar setting. Perhaps this place had more than I knew I needed.

My host greeted me out the back door but then left me on my own to explore my “summer kitchen” suite. It was decorated in a clean, crisp style with just the right touches. I unloaded the food I brought with me into the refrigerator, checked out the laundry and the bathroom, unpacked my suitcase into the closet, and then tucked myself in for the first of several naps.

I didn’t see much of my hosts until the morning of my departure. We had waved a couple times to each other as I set out on a walk or drove off to check out some of the sites they recommended in the area. I went at my own pace, soaking in the peacefulness of the place, marveling at the beautiful sunrises and sunsets, listening to the rain dropping on my umbrella, and watching the big pine trees on the corner of the house sway in the wind. It was lovely.

As I packed up my car that morning to leave, my host stuck her head out the back door and asked if I was indeed a pastor. She must have gathered that from the information in my Airbnb profile, because I certainly hadn’t been “pastoring” much of anyone but myself while staying at their farm. As I stepped just inside their back door to chat, I told her about my son (also mentioned on my profile).

I asked if they had built the unit I stayed in just so they could rent it out to folks online through Airbnb; it was just perfect for that purpose. No, they said, that part of the house had always been a summer kitchen. They built it in and added on for one of their children some years before when she and her family needed a place to live. Since they began listing the unit on Airbnb more than 4 years ago, it has been occupied almost all the time.

“It’s so funny,” my host said, “My brother-in-law just can’t figure it out. He keeps asking, why would anyone want to come to stay on your farm? Who are these people that come?” She laughed and said people come for all different reasons – some for college visits, some for shopping, some for time in the countryside with their children, some just for rest and quiet. “We’ve met the nicest people,” she said. “Some come back over and over again. We’ve met people of other religions and from other countries. And, you know what, people are just people.”

What a gift it was to spend a couple days on a quiet, peaceful, beautiful farm. I was grateful that the summer kitchen was there for me to stay in, even if her brother-in-law can’t figure out why I would want to do that.

I wonder if we hesitate to tell others about the home we’ve found at Fairhill Manor because we just can’t figure out “why would anyone want to come here?” Why would anyone want to come to Fairhill? What is it that you have found here? Is it a community that puts God’s love into practice? Is it a peace from hearing the Good News preached and shared from week to week? Is it a firm foundation when everything else is tossing to and fro in our life? Is it a questioning, curious group of people who wants to learn and grow in their relationship with God?

Let’s not hesitate to tell others about our Fairhill home and invite them to come and stay awhile with us. We may never know what they are looking for or why they’ve come, but we will surely welcome them when they do!

Peace,
Pastor Gena

Worship Assignments

Date	Call to Worship, Call to Offering	Scripture	Elder	Deacon
June 6	Jeanie Allison	Linda Reese	Tammie Wallace	Daniel Leasure
June 13	Kathy Ford	Von Lacock	Jackie Nelson	Candy Wasalasky
June 20	Serena Dube	JC Leasure	Cara Hritz	Ruth Campbell
June 27	Amy Caldwell	Kevin Puskarich	JC Leasure	Bette Jo Puskarich



- 1 Gerry Huntsman
- 3 David Waters
- 6 Darla Lewis
- Jane Teagarden
- 8 Becca Caldwell
- 9 Julie Meier
- Diane Palfreyman
- 12 Eleanor Boyles
- Shawn Dallatore
- Nan Sekorky
- 14 Jaymen Britton
- 15 James Cope
- Sandy Paul
- Grace Vanatta
- 17 AJ Rizor
- 19 Diana Crowe
- 21 Sandy Vanatta
- 22 Jeanne Riffle
- 24 Ray Ingram
- Jakob Mountain
- Garrett Newman
- Jace Simpson
- 26 Ed Yeash
- 27 Cami Allison
- Katey Gardiner
- 28 Johanna Vanatta
- 30 Liliene Hess



- 1 Bo & Patty Pryor
- 4 Gary & Carolyn Blackhurst
- 7 Aaron & Johanna Vanatta
- 8 Perry & Jeanne Riffle
- 17 Chuck & Betty Jo Riggle
- 21 Doug & Maggie Graff

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Literacy Council of Southwestern PA. They received a \$10,000 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Laurelview Camp News

June 24-27 Family Camp

Tentative dates for two camps in July:

July 8-11 Grades 10- Graduates

July 15-18 Grades 7-9

August 5-8 Family Camp

For more information: www.laurelview.org

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			NA – 6:45pm	Personnel Committee 3pm, Library NA – 7:30pm		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:15am Congregational Meeting following Worship	Prayer Shawl – 11am (Parlor) NA – 7pm	Stewardship/ Finance Ministry 6pm via Zoom	Elders – 6pm Shepherds Room NA – 6:45pm	NA – 7:30pm		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:15am	NA – 7pm		NA – 6:45pm	NA – 7:30pm		Food Drive Collection With First Church of the Nazarene 10am-11am
Karen on Vacation (June 14 – 18) ----- Rev. Chris Vac						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10:15am	Prayer Shawl – 11am (Parlor) NA – 7pm		NA – 6:45pm	July Newsletter Deadline NA – 7:30pm		Food Drive Distribution With First Church of the Nazarene 10am-11am
Rev. Chris Vacation June 19 – June 26 -----						
27	28	29	30			
Worship 10:15am	NA – 7pm		NA – 6:45pm			

Fairhill Manor Christian Church
Board Meeting
Secretary Report
May 12, 2021

We assemble in God's name

Moderator J.C. Leasure called the meeting to order at 7 PM. The lighting of the Christ Candle was done by J.C. Leasure. Associate Pastor Gena Sheller provided devotions and prayer.

We celebrate our past

The FMCC Board reviewed the submitted reports from the Senior Minister, Associate Pastor, Board Secretary, Treasurer (from the Financial Secretary), and Church Clerk.

The Church Clerk Report should be corrected for the birth date of Ty and Ivy Lacock. It should be changed to Feb 26, 2021

Brian Shaw talked about the "Ending Balance" of the General Budget Fund on the Funds Activity page of the Treasurer's Report. The Payroll Protection Plan Loan of \$31,000 is not reflected in this total. At Jerry Puskarich's suggestion, the Payroll Protection Plan Loan will be posted as a line item, similar to the roof fund.

A motion to accept these reports was made by Gary Ford and 2nd by Jerry Puskarich. The motion carried.

We present our offerings

The FMCC Board reviewed the submitted Ministry Reports. Reports submitted were from The Pastor's Cabinet, Elders, Deacons, Trustees, Stewardship/Finance Ministry, Evangelism/Outreach Ministry, Personnel Committee, Disciples Women's Ministries, FMCC Croppers, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Tween Team.

A motion to accept the Ministry Reports was made by Peggy Oliverio and 2nd by Ed Palfreyman. The motion carried.

Concerns of the Past

Gary Ford presented a FMCC Constitutional Revision of Article IV, Section E, "Election of Honorary Officers". It will include four categories of honorary offices along with qualifications, and steps required to nominate a FMCC member. It now includes the Disciple Emeritus. A motion to approve the Constitutional Revision of Article IV, Section E, Election of Honorary Officers, was made by Serena Dube and 2nd by Linda Reese. The motion carried. The Revision will be presented to the congregation in the Manor Minutes. There will be a Congregational meeting after the June 6, 2021 service for approval of this change. We give thanks to Gary Ford and his committee for their hard work on this revision.

Issues of the Future

Jerry Puskarich, leader of the Stewardship/Finance Ministry and Chairperson of the Personnel Committee, spoke about the needs for a Records Retention Policy and safe access to records. Church records need to be organized and stored. Jerry would like to have a task force team to organize these records. A motion to form a task force to organize various ministry reports was made by Gary Ford and 2nd by Von Lacock. The motion carried. The Personnel Committee will lead the formation of this task force.

Jerry Puskarich also talked about the Safe Conduct Policy of FMCC and Child Clearance updates. FMCC will be entering into an agreement with Praesidium for use of their free training modules and reduced-cost background screenings in implementing our Safe Conduct Policy.

Leaving in God's name

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM was made by Carmen Oliverio and 2nd by Diane Palfreyman. Moderator J.C. Leasure closed the meeting in prayer.

In Attendance (virtually by Zoom app)

J.C. Leasure (Moderator), John Anderson, Craig Dotson, Serena Dube, Gary Ford, Von Lacock, Jackie Nelson, Carmen Oliverio, Peggy Oliverio, Diane Palfreyman, Ed Palfreyman, Jerry Puskarich, Linda Reese, Chuck Riggle, Brian Shaw*, Associate Pastor Gena Sheller*, Senior Minister Chris Stillwell*, Sandy Todaro

* Indicates non-voting member

Next Board Meeting: July 14, 2021

Submitted in Christian love,
Sandy Todaro, FMCC Board Secretary

The main objective of Fairhill Manor Christian Church, during the pandemic, has been the safety of everyone who enters the church. Continuing with that goal the following revised pandemic protocols were approved by the General Board on Thursday, May 27, 2021:

1. These revised protocols will take effect beginning on Sunday, June 6, 2021. There will be no restrictions on attendance.
2. Entrance and exit from the church will be by the rear door.
3. Masks will continue to be required for everyone entering the church. This is to protect the children who cannot yet be vaccinated as well as other vulnerable groups.
4. The table outside the library will remain in place.
 - a. Here you can pick up a communion pack and place your offering in the collection plate.
 - b. You may pick up a bulletin at the table.
 - c. Hand sanitizers will continue to be available.
5. The serving elder will continue to register attendance as you enter.
6. Social distancing will be modified as follows:
 - a. One half of the sanctuary will remain with the current seating restrictions (every third pew open). This section will be the side the zoom camera is located. Families with children will be seated in this section.
 - b. One half of the sanctuary will have every other pew open for seating.
 - c. Individuals can sit on the side of their choice, but, a guide will continue to seat everyone.
7. There will be Bibles in the pews.
8. Singing will not commence at this time, therefore, there will be no hymnals in the pews.
9. Children may go to the front of the Sanctuary for the Children's Message. There is no Children Worship and Wonder during the summer so children will return to their seats.
10. Sunday school classes will not commence until the fall.
11. At this time it is anticipated that the choir will return in the fall.
12. Trustee's will no longer have to sanitize the church as they have been doing during the pandemic. However, fans will continue to run during the services.
13. Water fountains will remain closed.
14. Groups such as elders, deacons, trustees, etc. can meet together at the church with those who have not been vaccinated wearing masks. However, if it is more convenient for the group to meet by zoom, then do so.
15. At this point, out of caution, there will be no outside groups, with the exception of the Literacy Council and NA, permitted to meet in the church.
16. At this time, out of caution, no weddings or memorial services will be permitted.
17. Zoom services will continue on Sunday for those who cannot attend in person.


18. The Pastor’s Cabinet has scheduled a meeting for July 15, 2021, to review all of the protocols and make recommendation to the Board for any changes.

There are a number of events, currently in the planning stages, occurring in upcoming months including: July corn hole tournament on the front lawn of the church, summer Wild Things game, the church picnic at Washington Park in September, baptisms are planned for October; church dart ball starts in September and the “Note of Thanks” concert held annually in November in the Sanctuary. At this time, planning for events can go forward with the understanding that if restrictions return due to a new surge or other virus related complications then they may not be able to take place.


These recommendations from the Pastor’s Cabinet to the General Board were approved on May 27, 2021.

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode
Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.



CLUES:
Y = T, D = I



Y K T P Y	D X	Y J Z	
— — — — —	— —	— — —	
V Q K R	F D Y J	O V V	
— — — — —	— — — — —	— — —	
C Q T K	J Z O K Y,	O X R	
— — — — —	— — — — —,	— — —	
R Q	X Q Y	K Z V C	Q X
— —	— — —	— — — —	— —
C Q T K	Q F X	D X P D L J Y.	
— — — —	— — —	— — — — — — — .	

Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart; and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV