

**Manor Minutes**  
**Volume 13 Issue 34**  
**August 5, 2022**



No Book Club on Monday, August 8

Elders Meeting – August 10, 6pm via Zoom

**Pastor Gena will be on vacation August 5 – August 12**

Stay up to date, check [www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar)

## ABC123... It's time to make School Kits!

Our goal this year is to make **150** school kits to donate to children in need through Church World Service.

How you can help:

1. Purchase one or more items for the School Kits we will assemble together. Choose one or more tags from the bulletin board in the Narthex. Be careful to purchase exactly what is listed on the tag. If you have questions, ask Linda Reese or Pastor Gena. Remove all packaging from the items you have purchased and return the items to the containers in the Narthex by **Sunday, September 4**.
2. Contribute money to purchase bags for the School Kits or to help ship the School Kits. Take one or more coin envelopes from the bulletin board in the Narthex. Place your cash or check (made payable to Fairhill Manor with "school kits" in the memo) in the envelope and place the envelope in the offering plate. Or give on Givelify to "CWS Kits."
3. Make one or more complete School Kits. Find full instructions at <https://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/school-kits/>. Bring these to the church by Sunday, September 11.

Thank you,  
Gena



This is Katey Gardiner's address at school. If you would like to send her a card, please send it to:

Katey Gardiner  
1132 E Madison St, Room 0131  
Springfield, MO 65807

## PASTA FOR PEACE

Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022

4-7 p.m. (3 seatings 4-5; 5-6; or 6-7)

Fourth Presbyterian Church

1000 Jefferson Ave., Washington, PA

Adults (11 yrs. and up) - \$15 donation

Children (10 and under) - \$5 donation

Take-outs available – call/text 724-288-6435 by Sept. 8th

All proceeds benefit the people of Ukraine with needed medical supplies.

Please see Amy for tickets.





Fairhill Manor Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
351 Montgomery Ave.  
724-225-8610

Rev. Chris Stillwell, Senior Minister  
Rev. Gena Sheller, Associate Pastor  
Elders: Jackie Nelson, Bread  
Cara Hritz, Cup  
August 7, 2022 - 10:15am

**Prelude**

Audra Allen, organist

**Welcome**

Rev. Stillwell

**Call to Worship**

Shyla Rash

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**People: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Make your petitions heard, for God saves us in times of trouble.

**People: Christ's steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: God satisfies our hunger with good things, and quenches our thirst with living water.

**People: The Spirit's steadfast love endures forever.**

**All: Let us worship our steadfast God together.**

**Opening Hymn**

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

Audra Allen, organist

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

**Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Stillwell

Lord God, creator and sustainer of both heaven and earth, we come to you as needy people.

Our hearts need the warmth of your love.

Our spirits need the peace of your pardon.

Our minds need the light of your word.

Our bodies need your healing.

Our wills need the direction of your Spirit.

Come and grant us love, and peace, and light, and direction, through your son, Jesus Christ.

Surprising and persistent God, you never give up on us. You seek us, follow us, call us. We cannot escape from your yearning for us, and only when we turn to you, do we find the sweetness of life, the reason for living, an ever-flowing fountain of joy.

Thank you for your amazing grace that surprises us, comforts us and renews us. Bring your comfort to those in need, to those whose names have been spoken this morning, and to those whose names have not but whose needs are known by you.

We ask your renewal for ourselves, that we may follow better and live more joyfully, and we ask your renewal for this world that needs love, and empathy, and peace, and healing.

Eternal God, as people raised with Christ, teach us to seek the things that are above, where Christ abides in glory. Even as our true lives remain hidden in you with Christ, grant us a glimpse of our true selves,

made pure and whole in your love. Renew your Spirit within us, and make us fit to bear the glory of your image. This we ask in Christ's name as we pray as he taught us.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

**Prayer Response:**

*“Lord, Listen to your Children Praying”  
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.*

**First Scripture Reading**

**Isaiah 1:1, 10-20**

Amy Caldwell

**Special Music**

“But the Lord Is Mindful,” by Felix Mendelssohn

Jim Cope

**Children's Message**

Rev. Stillwell

Have you guys ever walked on the beach and picked up seashells? The best time to look for shells is early in the morning and after a storm. Do you know why? All those rough waves from the storms bring in lots and lots of shells.

I love to walk on the beach and look for shells. Lots of times I will stand in the water and look for shells as the waves go out. Me and my kids and my nieces found lots of shells when we were at the beach last week. When we got back to our towel my niece looked at my shells and exclaimed, “They're all broken”. I said, “No, they're pretty; see this one has a beautiful peach color in it that turns to pink. And this one has a pretty edge, except for that one broken part on the side. And this one changes colors in the sunshine. And this sand dollar still has the little dove inside it; and you couldn't see the dove if the shell wasn't broken! This starfish is almost perfect, except for that one tiny arm broken off at the end. It is nice to find a whole shell but I also enjoy the ones that are broken because they are beautiful in their own way.

You know I wondered what Jesus would do if He went walking on the beach looking for shells. Would He just pick up the perfect shell; or would He see something beautiful in each shell, even if it was broken, or maybe even because it was broken.

I remember the stories from Sunday School when I was your age about how Jesus stopped what he was doing to help broken people. The blind man he healed or the man who couldn't walk or the man who had sores on his body, Jesus stopped every time to pick up people who might have been imperfect in some way. Sometimes the imperfections were physical and noticeable, but everyone had something in their life that was imperfect and Jesus could see and Jesus could help.

I'm so glad Jesus is not only interested in perfect people because then he'd never even stop to give me a chance. He would walk right on by most of us because we sure don't look perfect, but Jesus sees something beautiful in each of us, and He knows just where He can use us. And He especially likes the broken ones, cause we've been stepped on and thrown back so many times, we're just happy He could see something pretty in us.

Let's Pray: Lord, We know God made us all, and even though we aren't perfect, there's something beautiful in each of us that you can see; Teach us to have eyes like Jesus; Eyes that look beyond the broken parts to find something in everybody that is beautiful. Slow us down so that we take the time to look, stop, and pick up the beautiful people and shells scattered in our path, just as you do. Amen.

**Sermon****“The Rich Fool”**

Rev. Stillwell

Jesus often gets hit with difficult questions. Sometimes, like the lawyer who wants to inherit eternal life, they are questions that are genuine and concern things that are central to Jesus' ministry and mission. Other times they are tricks devised by the Pharisees to get Jesus into trouble or to test him. Sometimes they are people just arguing who want someone to solve their dilemma and they figure who better than Jesus? These are often small minded issues that should be beneath Jesus's concern, but nothing is beneath his concern so he answers them, just not in the way the questioners had hoped or expected that he would.

For instance, two people fight over an inheritance. These were not the first and certainly not that last to fight over an inheritance. Nothing divides a family like money. One of the hardest things to deal with immediately after the death of a parent besides the accompanying grief is what to with the estate. Too often the love and support siblings and cousins showed one another in their greatest time of need disappears in their greatest time of greed.

Jesus is not a lawyer. He is not interested in the particular claims to this inheritance, but he answers the question anyway. However, he chooses, as he often does, to use this question as a teaching moment about the Kingdom. The questioners wanted Jesus to hand them a decision, instead he gave them a parable. Jesus tells a parable of a man who is so wealthy that he cannot keep all of his goods. Rather than give them away or use them, he simply builds bigger buildings to hold them and retires and lives at ease for the rest of his life. Unfortunately, unbeknownst to him, the rest of his life is very short and he dies unable to enjoy all the wealth he spent his life accumulating, and when he died, his possessions were enjoyed by someone else.

This parable is described as the parable of the rich fool, because of what God calls him. The man is a fool not because he is rich. He was fortunate to be wealthy, and we must assume that he worked hard and came about his wealth honestly. His foolishness came because of what he did, or did not do with his wealth. Tony Campolo is a preacher that I cannot recommend highly enough and he once said, “There is nothing wrong with making a million dollars. There is something wrong with keeping it,” and when I hear this story or many like it in the gospels I always come back to that statement. I do not pray to be poor or have no money. Rather I pray that I will use my money wisely according to God's will and not my own.

We are not all called to live monastic lives of self-denial. Rather, we are called to give at least a tenth of our wealth and to give it gladly so that others may be blessed in the same way that we have been blessed. In doing so, we ensure the continuance of the church and the maintenance of the Christian community that has been handed down throughout the ages.

It is important to remember that the root of all evil is not money, nor is it the possession of money, the striving and working to attain more money, or the spending of money. The root of all evil is the love of money, and that is an important distinction.

Jesus refers to it as the worship of Mammon, Mammon being a fertility God that people prayed to at that time for wealth and prosperity. Worship of mammon is not having money or things, but seeing in it our source of ultimate security and to some degree our salvation.

Giving money such power over our lives comes at quite a price, even the very selling of our soul, for making the love of money are highest ideal causes us to be consumed with making more, so that everything we value the most has no real value, because it cannot ever satisfy us. So many crimes are

committed because of the love of money, and yet that is not the case in this parable. The rich fool commits no crime, he breaks no law.

In a previous parable Jesus has a vineyard owner say to his workers, "Cannot I do what I please with what is mine?" and we must ask cannot the rich man do what he wishes with what is his? If he wants to build a bigger barn why can't he? If he wants to live at his ease, whose business is that but his? The man is a fool because he doesn't realize that it is not his. His wealth, though honestly earned is on loan to him only for as long as he lives. This parable may be the source of the saying "You can't take it with you" for it certainly exemplifies its meaning.

The man had built up treasures on earth and was content to relax for the rest of his life, but, when he died, those treasures, his wealth, his food, his barns, could not go with him and were useless to him. The rich fool immediately found that he was a poor fool for he had not built up treasures in heaven by being rich to God or to others. We all know how to build treasures and be rich on earth even if we are not able to do it, but what does it mean to store up treasures in Heaven and be rich towards God?

That's the question I get most often from the people who come through our doors or into my office. They ask it in a hundred different ways, but it's the same question. It is the question about depth and breadth and meaning in life. In all honesty, almost no one has ever come into my office concerned about going to Heaven or Hell. Not many have asked questions about creationism or evolution. But they have asked about meaning in their lives. They have asked about getting on top of their problems or dealing with a challenge or living down a tragic mistake. They have asked about direction and purpose after a divorce or after having been betrayed or after having had their shame made public. They have asked about being creative and finding hope when all hope is lost. By the time they come to me asking the questions, they are in full agreement with Jesus. They know by that time that the meaning they seek is not in what they own and have stored up. It is not in their possessions. So they ask me, "Where is meaning? In what does life really consist?"

Berkeley Breathed caught the dilemma gloriously in his "Opus" comic strip. The first panel reveals a fallen teenager, spread-eagled on the sidewalk. Around him are some electronic devices and some distraught passers-by. The alarm goes out that this young man has been "un-entertained" for twenty minutes! His IBook is dead, and his iPod. His blackberry, his game boy, and his web-browsing, instant-messaging, game-playing, musical phone are all gone! Imagine! Un-entertained for twenty minutes! The friends try to connect an archaic desktop computer, but the electrical cord is too short. In a final, last-ditch effort to revive him, they put a newspaper in front of him, but, alas, the newspaper takes too much effort. And in the final panel comes the somber news, "We lost him." And we have lost a good number in our culture who have retreated into themselves and their electronic worlds, eschewing the relationships and community around them.

We see this all around. The desire to accumulate possessions is possibly no more evident than in the life of the average American teen-ager who needs the newest game, the nicest shoes, the best phone. But we should not be so quick to go easy on the adults as well. Go to any place where there is new construction homes and you will see that the houses we are building today are twice as big as houses built in the middle of the last century, and this is at a time when there are more and more storage units being built to hold the things we cannot hold in our large homes.

Again that might not apply to you, but there is one more application of this parable to consider. On the surface this parable is aimed at the rich and by its description the rich are those who have so many possessions they do not know what to do with them, but really this parable is aimed at all people to teach them that they must use their wealth, whatever wealth they have, while they live, and use it for the



building of God's kingdom, and if they do so then they will store up treasures in heaven and will be rich towards God.

When Chet Atkins, that extraordinary musician, died in 2001, he was eulogized by his good friend Garrison Keillor. In that eulogy Garrison recounts Chet's long life and list of accomplishments and says that when Chet was 50 he had a stroke of good luck. He got colon cancer and thought he was going to die. When he didn't, he found a whole new life. He walked away from the corporate music world and fell in love with the guitar again and went all over, performing by his own clock, so he had time to sit and talk with people, pick music with them, and have more fun.

Sometimes there is grace in being reminded of our mortality. Some people see the grace of God in colon cancer. Some see just the sickness. Perhaps if the rich fool had had a scare he would have spent the remainder of his days using his wealth to better his world and help others.

Perhaps he would have learned that quality of life really isn't in the things we amass, but in our connection to the God who made us, and to the world around us, always in the assurance that the God of creation is still creating. The best inheritance we can leave to our children isn't money or possessions but love, life, and memories of a life that never grow old, do not wear out, and cannot be spent. However much wealth you have in this world, it can only help you in the next if you use it now to help build community, strengthen relationships, and make this world a better place. Do this and you will indeed be rich, but you will certainly be no fool.

### **Call to Offering**

Amy Caldwell

We sing your praises, O God, for your love is sure and true, your faithfulness is never ending. You satisfy the thirsty and fill the hungry with good things. In response we offer our gifts in gratitude and thanksgiving.

### **Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below! Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### **Dedication of Offering Prayer**

Rev. Stillwell

Receive the offerings we bring before you this day, O Lord, that these gifts may continue your work of tending the needy, providing hope for the downtrodden, and blessing those who live in want. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

### **Invitation to Communion**

Rev. Stillwell

When I was young I went to church camp and I made great friends. I missed those friends terribly when it was over and I thought about them and on Sunday, during communion, I prayed for them.

When I was in college I made many new friends but I would still miss my high school friends who were scattered throughout the country, and on Sunday, during communion I would pray for them.

When I was in seminary I was surrounded by new friends but still I missed my college friends who were scattered throughout the country and on Sunday, during communion, I would pray for them.

When I left seminary the hardest thing to deal with wasn't the responsibility of leading my own ministry, nor was it the stress of real bills, it was being separated from the people who had supported me, taught me, and inspired me. They too were now scattered throughout the country and on Sunday, during communion, I prayed for them.

I have missed the church I grew up in, the churches I have been a member of throughout my life, and the churches I have served and on Sunday, during Communion I pray for them.

Despite all of this missing, all of these people who have come in and out of my life I am not sad for I am here with you, and on Sunday, during communion, I pray for you.

If each of you were to stand up here you could give a similar speech, for there are many people who have come into all of your lives only to go somewhere else, but they stay with you. You have friends and family living elsewhere; previous churches where there are still people who make you smile, past ministers who are no longer here, and loved ones who have passed away.

We do not know when or even if we will ever see these people again, and for those who have passed on we know that we will never see them in this world again, but we can rejoice because we know that we will meet them again, here, on Sunday, during communion.

For here, as we come around this table, even with many empty seats it is crowded.

Here we gather with one another and with the memory and thought of all whom we love, and we can be warmed by the thought that somewhere, across this world they may also be sitting somewhere, on Sunday, during communion, praying for us.

### **Communion Hymn**

*“Come, Share the Lord”*

Audra Allen, organist

We gather here in Jesus’s name, his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;  
for through the loving Son the Father makes us one:  
Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.  
No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs;  
finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.

### **Prayer for the Bread & Cup**

Jackie Nelson

Almighty and Eternal God, Three in One, Creator of all especially each one of us. You know, I like when there are pictures at funerals. At Nadine Teagarden’s funeral there were many pictures of her life. We saw pieces of her life we didn’t know anything about. Nadine’s parents and family, a baby picture, one of her in the high school band, a smiling teenager, a bride, a young mother with 4 little ones, friends, later in life, and lots of smiling happy times. Someone took a lot of time preparing the pictures for us to see. Thank you for those pictures. You, God, saw all her pictures. You knew Nadine before she was born, throughout her life on earth and now. We are amazed it is the same for each one of us.

At this Holy meal, a memorial for Jesus, help us to see the pictures of His life as we share and know that because of Him we have hope.

Holy Spirit, come, help us to remember; You know each of us by name, are with us every hour, care for and love us and, because of Jesus our time on earth is not the end. Amen.

### **Words of Institution**

Rev. Stillwell

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

### Sharing Holy Communion

*You will receive the bread and cup together. Please hold them; we will take each together as one body. Disciples of Christ believe in an Open Table. All who profess Christ and follow Him are welcome to share His meal.*

### Call to Discipleship

Rev. Stillwell

If you have come to know Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior and you would like to profess that you intend to begin a life of faith, learning to walk in his way of Love, you are welcome to contact one of the Pastors to take this step. If you would like to join this part of the Body of Christ at Fairhill Manor Christian Church, to covenant to journey together in this life of faith, please reach out to one of the Pastors to learn more. We all take these moments to rededicate our lives to following Jesus.

### Closing Hymn

*"There's Within My Heart a Melody"*

Audra Allen, organist

There's within my heart a melody—Jesus whispers sweet and low,  
"Fear not, I am with thee—peace, be still," in all of life's ebb and flow.  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus—sweetest name I know,  
fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go.

### Benediction

Rev. Stillwell

Go forth as people who have been raised with Christ to newness of life. Go forth as people whose lives are hidden with Christ in the living God. Go forth as people who will be revealed in glory when Christ's glory is revealed.

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Recorded worship services can be found on the Church website or on YouTube,  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlH3qzih\\_fzHCC2X0Jhc\\_sfniJ7C1O3X](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlH3qzih_fzHCC2X0Jhc_sfniJ7C1O3X)

**Zoom Worship** will continue to be live at 10:15am each Sunday  
"Join a Meeting" on Zoom at 9:45am using the following meeting ID and  
password:

Meeting ID: 932 4557 4206

Password: 026316

Fellowship with other "Zoomers" from  
9:45 – 10:15am.

Text your prayer concerns to be shared during worship to  
Rev. Chris (412) 956-6590.





**Do you have a prayer request or need help?** Please feel free to contact Rev. Chris (412-956-6590) and Pastor Gena (724) 263-0033 directly and confidentially. Or scroll down on the opening page of our website ([www.fairhillmanorchurch.org](http://www.fairhillmanorchurch.org)) to "Requests for Prayer or Help." There you can send an email which will go directly to Rev. Chris and Pastor Gena. We are One Body in Christ!

**Homebound Members:**

Phyllis Cimino  
317 Wellness Way  
Strabane Trails #325  
Washington PA 15301

Mrs. Mary McDonough  
949 Bruce Street  
Washington PA 15301

Chuck and Mary Wiseman  
880 S Main St, Apt 214  
Washington PA 15301

Bernard and Jane Teagarden  
441 Valley Brook Road  
McMurray, PA 15317

Ed Alexy  
Avery Allen  
Terry Bailey  
Donna Bakaitis  
Jim Banish  
Mabel Brooks  
Carol Brown  
Sandra Carman  
Clayton Chalfant  
Denise Charles  
Wanda Chicone  
Emily Cope Robinson  
Ruth Cox  
Dottie Crawford  
Irma Davis  
Benjamin Dube  
Jessica Duke  
Libby Eberhard  
Fred Engle  
Jay Freudenberg  
Jett Fuller  
Lois Gayman  
Joe Greene  
Bonnie Gregg  
Nancy Gregg

Kyle Hallam  
Aryn Hess  
Dallas Jacobovitz  
Kenger Family  
Bob Lanning  
Libby LeDuff  
John Lewis  
Lee & Betsy Martin  
Dave McConnell  
Ruth Mikuta  
Paul Myers  
Joe Neckerman  
Elinor Newman  
Homer Nixon  
Michaela Nixon  
Carmen Oliverio  
Peggy Oliverio  
PA Lions Beacon Camp for  
the blind  
Deborah Patterson  
Bo & Patty Pryor  
Kathie Putorti  
Cathy Rentgen  
Kayda Richards  
Betty Jo Riggle

Dave Ross  
Jim Roupe  
John Shadeck  
Hannah Simpson  
Doug and Tracy Smith  
Cathy Stewart  
John Stewart  
Bernard and Jane Teagarden  
Beth Teagarden  
Gary Weaver  
Nikki Wells  
Tom Williams  
Sarah Wittenberg

**In the Military**

Lance Dague	Andrew Gregg
Terrell McClain	Zachary Keene
Brandon Lipscomb	Sarah Lipscomb
Daniel Robinson	Travis Ringer
Shawn Dallatore	Emily Chase
Dylan Demain	Morgan Sweeney

## Save These Dates:

- August 21 – Children Worship & Wonder begins again
- September 2 – Wild Things game
- September 11 –
  - Sunday School begins again 9am
  - Safe Conduct Orientation during Sunday School
  - Church Picnic **1:03pm** at Washington Park
- December 10 & 11 – Drive-Thru Nativity

## Safe Conduct Policy Orientation

As required by our Safe Conduct Policy at Fairhill Manor, we will be hosting a yearly orientation to the policy and how we interact in safe and healthy ways while in church programs. All children/youth ages 3+ who anticipate participating in any programs at Fairhill Manor during the 2022-2023 year (Children Worship & Wonder, Sunday school, youth activities, etc) are required to participate. At least one parent or guardian needs to be present for each child. If the young person in your life lives out of state and participates in Fairhill programs while visiting you, you need to attend the orientation and share this important information with them.

This year's orientation will be held **during the Sunday school hour (9-10 am) on September 11, 2022** (the first week of Sunday school). Please respond to Pastor Gena with the names of those who will be attending by Sunday, August 21. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask. You may also reach out to Jerry Puskarich, Personnel Committee Chairperson, at [jerrypuskarich@yahoo.com](mailto:jerrypuskarich@yahoo.com) or 724-503-5658.

# Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram puzzle, using the clues R=I and M=T, to complete Psalm 111:10, NIV.

M Y L   C L O Q   Z C   M Y L  
 P Z Q N   R V   M Y L  
 H L D R F F R F D   Z C   G R V N Z U ;  
 O P P   G Y Z   C Z P P Z G  
 Y R V   B Q L T L B M V  
 Y O K L   D Z Z N  
 J F N L Q V M O F N R F D  
 M Z   Y R U   H L P Z F D V  
 L M L Q F O P   B Q O R V L

**PSALM 111:10, NIV**

Answer: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. Psalm 111:10, NIV