

Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 33

August 7, 2020

On Friday, July 31, 2020, the Congregation of the Fairhill Manor Christian Church approved the calling of the Rev. Chris Stillwell as their next Senior Pastor. The vote was an overwhelming affirmation of his call and conformed to the requirements in the Church Constitution. The formal Letter of Calling has been signed by the Church officials and also by Rev. Stillwell. Once Rev. Stillwell submits his resignation to his present pastorate in Connellsville, a date for his arrival at Fairhill Manor will be announced. Watch your Manor Minutes for further information. We offer great thanks to our Pastoral Search Committee for their dedicated leadership in this process.

Those with last names beginning with A-F and S-Z worship in the Sanctuary this week at 9:30 am.

ZOOM - LIVE

Zoom Worship this Week - Live from the Sanctuary at 9:30 am!

"Join a Meeting" on Zoom at 9 am using the same Meeting ID and password.

Meeting ID: 932 4557 4206

Password: 026316

Fellowship with other "Zoomers" from 9 - 9:30 am.

Text your prayer concerns to Rev. Collins (412) 337-4293. He will share these during worship.

At 9:30 am, mute yourself on Zoom (Not sure how to do that? Login at 9 am and someone will help).

Please be aware that we will be Recording Zoom Worship this week with the hope that we can post it to our website for folks to view later.

Children

**WORSHIP &
WONDER**

We invite all children to join in Worship via Zoom at 9:30 am. Materials for children to work with during Worship will be attached to the Manor Minutes. Look for the beginning of a new CW&W year soon!

PINT JARS - \$5/dozen

There are rings for the jars but no lids. If interested please contact Amy Caldwell at acaldwell8898@gmail.com or phone/text her at 724-207-3945.



Worship Attendance Schedule

WORSHIP



WITH US!

August 16: Last names beginning with G-L and M-R
August 23: Last names beginning with A-F and G-L
August 30: Last names beginning with M-R and S-Z
September 6: Last names beginning with A-F and M-R



Zoom Stewardship/Finance – Tuesday, August 18, 5:30 pm

Stay up to date, check www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar

Opportunities to Serve.

Contact the Church Office or Pastor Gena if you are interested.

- We are looking for 2-3 people to volunteer in a rotation with Rick Couch to video the Sanctuary worship service. You will sit in a designated pew near the front of the Sanctuary, connect your own smartphone to Zoom, mount your phone to a provided tripod, and follow the action in the Sanctuary for those connecting via Zoom at home. Training provided.
- We are scheduling folks to lead worship either in person in the Sanctuary or via Zoom. Worship pieces include the Call to Worship (provided), Scripture Reading, and Call to Offering (you write - assistance is available). Would you consider leading one or more pieces of worship? Would you write a reflection about "why I give" that someone else could share as a Call to Offering? Take this opportunity to learn and grow and share!



Pastor Gena will be on vacation August 3 – 16.
Please contact Pastor Darwin or your Shepherd Elder if you have a need or prayer request.

Givelify
Tap. Give. Done.



Fairhill Manor has entered a new era: the age of anytime, anywhere giving. We are now signed up with **Givelify**, the mobile giving app for places of worship and charities.

Givelify gives you a beautiful, easy giving experience using your smartphone. There are no frustrating web forms to fill out, and recurring gifts are easy to set up and modify. Even better, it's free to download and use. It's safe and secure and gives you access to your complete giving record.

Want to see how it works? [Watch the demonstration video](#) that shows you all about how to make and track donations.

Ready to get started? [Download](#) the Givelify app for Android or iPhone.



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

Rev. Dr. W. Darwin Collins, Interim Pastor
Rev. Gena Sheller, Associate Pastor
August 9, 2020

Welcome to our Home Worship Service!

Prelude*

Joshua Garrett, Steel Drum

Welcome*

Rev. Collins

Call to Worship*

Linda Reese

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!
We proclaim here and now the marvelous works of our God!
God's ways are not our ways.
God's works are too wonderful to behold.
We proclaim here and now
the marvelous works of our God!

Opening Hymn*

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

Piano by Jody Mullis

Like the woman at the well I was seeking for things that
Could not satisfy; and then I heard my savior speaking: "Draw
From my well that never shall run dry. Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it
up, Lord! Come and quench this thirsting of my soul; Bread of Heaven,
feed me 'til I want no more fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

So, my friend, if all the things this world gave you leave hungers
That won't pass away, my blessed Lord will come and save you,
If you kneel to him and humbly pray: Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it
Up, Lord! Come and quench his thirsting of my soul: Bread of Heaven,
feed me 'til I want no more fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer*

Rev. Collins

God, you who created this world and called it all good, we come before you because it somehow has gone off the rails. Life seems to get so crazy and uncertain. We long for the smooth times when all is well, but, O Lord, like those disciples in the boat, we have serious problems with wind and waves. We want you to "fill our sails with a lovely breeze that guides our little boats across the glassy sea"; but you know that life, although good isn't just glassy seas and gentle breezes. Sometimes things get rough. Help us place our trust in you during all these rough times. You call to us to reach out, to take our focus off our own panic and place our trust in your love. Then you ask us to reach out to others with the same kind of love and compassion that you have given to us. Be with us, loving God. Remind us to place our focus on Jesus,

who calls us to trust in his mercy and care. Keep the needs of others in our hearts and minds; needs for healing, for comfort, for friendship. Help us to reach out to them and offer our gifts and service in your name. We name these dear ones with our voices and in our hearts to you in these next moments of silence _____. As you have loved and healed us, so we ask your healing mercies on these whom we have named. We also ask your guidance and patience with us as we march through the last weeks of summer. Confident in Jesus' love for us, we pray. Today we have come to you with burdens and cares. Our "seas" are not calm, but you offer to us a lifeline. Be with us. Guide our lives. Give us courage and hope. Strengthen us to truly be your disciples. May we take heart through Jesus our Christ, who taught us to pray saying:

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.

Anthem*

"Stand By Me," by Ben E. King
Performed by Joshua Garrett on the steel drum

Children's Message*

J.C. Leasure

Have you ever received a gift when you were going through hard times? What was that gift? How did it help you? Did it remind you that someone is always there for you and loves you very much?

When I was a senior in high school, my friend Amber and I were the leaders of the Bible Club at Trinity. Every week, we would meet after school to study the Bible with other students, pray with them and have fun playing games and eating snacks. One week early in the year, Amber's grandfather came to the school to speak with the Bible Club about his own club he was a member of called the Gideons. The Gideons are a group that goes around and prays with people and teaches them about Jesus. They also pass out little Bibles to everyone they see so they can be able to read God's Word and experience his love first hand.

Amber's grandfather wanted to speak with us when the Bible Club meeting was done and pray that we would be faithful to what God called us to do at school. He also gave each of us a gift. He gave us a box of little, orange Gideon Bibles to pass out in school to our friends, but he told both of us to take one for ourselves. He said that whenever we need help with anything, make sure we read it so that we're reminded of how God is always with us.

This reminds me of our Scripture today. When Peter was walking on the water to go see Jesus, he saw the stormy weather and waves all around him and he began to sink. When he cried out to Jesus for help, Jesus was right there and rescued him, and the storm went away.

When I would read that orange Bible throughout the school year, I was always reminded that Jesus was there with me even through the hardest times. Even now, I always remember that Jesus loves me and is always with me.

Remember that when you read your Bible's or see something good going on. Jesus is always there for you because he loves you very much, and you are very special to him.

Take heart! Buck up! Stand strong! Be brave! Have faith! Be positive! Be hopeful! Be confident! All of these idioms find their way into our daily communications with our kids, our grandchildren, our friends on cards or emails or texts. Anyone who finds themselves in a time of challenge, disappointment or trouble can expect to hear these words of advice and counsel.

As a Pirates fan, I've learned to expect them as a daily diet...yep, this year we only have 60 games to wait until we hear, take heart, wait until next year!

Here in our text for today, we find Jesus sharing that wondrous bit of advice with these same disciples who had just been amazed at his wondrous catering of the 5000...but now in their fear, Jesus has to strengthen and calm them once again. Remember this is a continuation of that same eventful day when he learned of John's death, was surrounded by the demanding crowd seeking satisfaction of their physical needs and of the poor disciples just trying to figure out how to be like their teacher.

It's a passage we've heard and loved before...but may have confused it a bit with other boating episodes. Did you listen carefully to discover that the disciples weren't afraid of the rising waves and rushing wind? Matthew tells us that what startled them and caused a loss of bravery was the very appearance of Jesus walking on the water. No doubt, startled in a semi-sleep of the night, they believed, at least, initially, that Jesus was a ghost approaching them in the boat. Fear was not because of the water...most of them were fishermen and had experienced, no doubt, many storms. And notice, unlike other occasions of Jesus calming waters...Jesus on this occasion doesn't calm the storm or rebuke the wind...the weather wasn't the source of their fear. So, what caused their fear?

What shocked them was this figure approaching. I must admit, I think I might have been afraid of both, but a person approaching on the top of white caps of a lake...yeah, I might be terrified!

Still in this challenging scene that supposed ghost became their source of solace as he offered this advice—"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

But what does it mean to take heart...what was Jesus asking of them in this time of fear? Obviously, Peter took it as a personal challenge...so in this passage only, he thinks he can walk on water and come out to Jesus...he'll be brave. I'm not sure what exactly he thought this would prove...maybe if he just jumped out his faith would be demonstrated by his courage. Maybe he needs to prove his belief to himself. Lord, if it is you...Is it really you? Are you really with us? We need to know. We're fearful and doubtful? So just tell me to come and that will prove it.

Been there, at the bedside of a loved one, on the night before surgery, maybe feeling anxious over a child's departure? Lord, are you really to be trusted? Will you really be there? Can I trust and have faith that you'll see me through? For Peter that meant taking a leap of faith and jumping out of the boat. For many preachers this is a perfect example of reminding us to have faith and move forward boldly. I'm not quite sure that's what Jesus was requesting of Peter...as a matter of fact, Jesus didn't say, "Take heart, Peter, come walk on the water just like me."

No, Jesus words were to have heart, which can also be translated, have courage...have faith, not in our human ability to walk into danger without thinking, but to have courage that Christ is with us. Our faith is in Christ, not ourselves.

Christ's admonition to Peter was not saying, what a coward, what a lunatic...but what doubts arose, what happened to your faith in me being with you? Taking heart was a way of encouraging his disciples to remember what they had experienced with him, to remember the love that they felt in their hearts from him...to remember all of the times he had blessed them, saved them...Take heart, it is I.

No, we don't have to walk on water to prove our faith, we don't have to worry about some doubts that seep into our thinking during hard times, what we need is to search our heart...there we will find the one in whom we can trust...and find our peace.

Call to Offering*

Amy Caldwell/read by Linda Reese

So usually when I give an offertory message I try to base it off of the scripture being studied that Sunday. This time Pastor Gena has asked me to talk about how giving has helped me grow in my faith and why I give to Fairhill Manor. She goes on vacation and tasks me with self-reflection!

I've always wanted to save the world! I can't bear knowing there are injustices for others.

I wasn't raised in the church. I was able to choose Fairhill. I had attended services at many different churches. When we were seriously looking for a faith family I knew it had to be the right one for us. I researched different churches beliefs and values and discovered that the Disciples of Christ most aligned with our beliefs and values. The broader church of Disciples continuously reaffirms their commitment to be open and affirming of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, they stand up for equality in the lives of POC, they speak out and lend a hand when injustices are found the world over.

Then I became a part of our family here at Fairhill and we not only talk about our beliefs and values we actively live them out wherever we can be of service.

This is why I give to Fairhill Manor. We don't only talk the talk we also walk the walk. I am proud that we are a congregation that reaches out, raises up and responds in the name of Christ.

Dedication of Offering Prayer*

Rev. Collins

Generous and loving God, you who provide for our needs with such care, you who provide for food and necessities in abundance to the earth, help us by your example and in thanksgiving seek to return a portion of our blessings to provide for those denied what is rightfully theirs. You have blessed us to be a blessing, so use these our gifts to be that blessing to others. Amen

Invitation to Communion*

Rev. Collins

One advantage of aging is we can gain a wider perspective on life and God's presence in our world. When I was young, this Table was mysterious and imposing as I knew it was a special part of the service when we became so quiet and focused. There were more people involved with the elders and deacons...but it frightened me a bit with its reverential atmosphere. As I grew in young adulthood, it was not nearly as imposing. I understood its symbolic value of remembrance, but still it seemed so mysterious...for there seemed to be something more than met the eye. Now as I've aged and experienced more of life, I realize it is for me a safe and necessary place to be in God's presence, to experience God's love more closely than at any other time. To remember the cost of God's love, but more importantly the peace of being in God's love. It remains as mysterious as always...that hasn't changed, but in a world where reality can be so threatening and dark, I value more than ever this mystery of God's love in this bread and cup...they have become for me a more certain reality. Come in this mystery find God's peace and hope.

Prayer for the Bread & Cup*

Gary Ford

Dear Lord... In our daily lives there are so many times we have fears and doubts and we forget that when we are weak, that is when you are there to lift us up. Lord, we are weak when we try to walk on our own but when we walk with Christ, in faith, our fears and doubts disappear and we become strong. Every day there are winds and waves of life which test our faith. Father give us the courage to cry out "Lord, save me," when our fears and anxieties become too strong for us to control. We come to this table to remember the sacrifice of Jesus. May this bread and this cup renew our strength and refresh our spirits so that we may always remember when we are at our weakest that is when You, Father are there to save us. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Words of Institution*

Rev. Collins

Gathered with his followers around the table, Jesus took the bread and offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God, broke it and gave it to them and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you." Later in the meal he took a cup and offered a similar prayer of thanks to God. He gave it to them and said, "Take and drink. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for many for the forgiveness of sin." Join with all of us by eating and drinking these gifts of God for us, the people of God.

Closing Hymn*

"We are Walking"

piano by Jody Mullis

We are walking in the light of God,
we are walking in the light of God.
We are walking in the light of the light of God.
We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking,
we are walking in the light of God

Benediction*

Rev. Collins

Go, beloved people of God, go into your week, your jobs, your leisure, your lives facing the winds and storms before you always knowing that you can take heart through the one who is beside you! Peace and grace to you all!

* You can listen to these pieces of worship at <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/worship-audio-files>.



Thank you to the Pastoral Search Committee for their hard work and dedication.

J.C. Leasure (Chairperson), Becca Caldwell, Jackie Nelson, Diane Palfreyman, Rolinda Sprowls and Mike Sweeney

Do you have a prayer request or need help? Please feel free to contact Pastor Darwin (412-337-4293) directly and confidentially. Or scroll down on the opening page of our website (www.fairhillmanorchurch.org) to "Requests for Prayer or Help." There you can send an email which will go directly and only to Pastor Darwin. We are One Body in Christ!

Prayer List:

Avery Allen
 Bill Behrens
 Bristol Allan Berry
 Eleanor Boyles
 Mark & Susan Britko
 Jordon Burk
 Wanda Chicone
 Emily Cope Robinson
 Nick Cross
 Libby Eberhard
 Fred Engle
 Jay Freudenberg
 Joe Greene
 Bonnie Gregg

Judy Hanning
 Aryn Hess
 Ed & Harriet Jackman
 Dallas Jacobovitz
 Tom Lane
 Bob Lanning
 Cheryl Leach
 Lee & Betsy Martin
 Ruth Mikuta
 Dick Moninger
 Jody Mullis
 Georgette Murray
 Joe Palfreyman

Denny Paul
 Sadie Reese
 Betty Jo Riggle
 Chip Rogers and his parents
 Jim and Barb Roupe
 Cathy Stewart
 Beth Teagarden
 Melissa Teagarden
 Shirley Teagarden
 Gary Weaver
 Nikki Wells
 Tom Williams
 Chuck & Mary Wiseman
 Preparing for Baptism – Nyka Rash


Southmont-Presbyterian Medical Center

Bill Behrens Rm 437
 Rev. Marge Frank

Homebound Members:

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

Mrs. Mary McDonough
 949 Bruce Street
 Washington PA 15301



The flowers on the Altar this morning are in honor of Von & Lynn Lacock's 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 8.

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

