# Manor Talk

# 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

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Custodian

Stacy Thomas
Wedding Coordinator

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When I was a kid I loved cars. Matchbox cars filled my room, and I learned the make and model of all the cars I saw. My tastes tended toward the fast and expensive, and I covered the walls of my room with posters of Porsches, Lamborghinis, Ferraris, and other cars I hoped to own one day. Now that I am grown and own my own car I think my younger self would be greatly disappointed to see the car I drive. I know he would because I often hear about it from my son who has not only inherited my love of fast cars but some of my t-shirts of those cars as well.

Still I must say that I like my car not because it is fast (it isn't) nor because it looks cool (it does not), but because it is the most reliable car I have ever owned. It is eleven years old and I have had no problems with it. I would like to get a new car with all the bells and whistles someday, but, so long as my car continues to be reliable, I will wait. I think that this is a good measure of how we should judge others and hope that others judge us. We are drawn to the exciting and the attractive. People who look good might be easy on the eye but that says nothing about their true worth, which I believe should be measured in how reliable, faithful, and trustworthy they are.

After all, that is how God measures us. Paul tells the church in Rome that we have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. "If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:6-8)

We are not judged on our looks, or our speed, or our power. Rather we are to be useful, reliable, dependable, faithful, and trustworthy. One day I will trade in my car, and, when I do, I will be reminded of Jesus' words "Well done good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23). Spend your life focusing on the things that matter and when you trade this life in for the next; the Master will say the same about you.



- 1 Angela Caldwell Andrew Glover Robert Sekorky
- 2 Jeff Caldwell Jason Vanatta
- 3 Robert Hanning
- 4 Nora Graff
- 5 Sharl Burk
- 6 John Berg Tiffany Shetler
- 7 Karen Tarentino
- 9 Amy Caldwell Sheri Leitsch
- 12 Vicki Casciato
- 13 Paige Keener Bernard Teagarden
- 14 Tom Burk Christian Caldwell
- 16 Julia Howsare
- 20 Misty Caldwell
- 24 Margot Hritz
- 26 Carolyn Blackhurst Mark Dague Matt Dague Judy Hanning
- 27 Amy Mountain
- 28 Karla Glover Von Lacock
- 29 Donna Bakaitis
- 31 Audra Allen Candy Wasalasky



- 4 Craig & Debra Dotson Terry & Janet Houston
- 5 Tom & Sharl Burk
- 8 Von & Lynn Lacock
- 9 Rev. Chris & Jessi Stillwell
- 11 Tom & Tammie Wallace
- 13 Jeff & Amy Mountain
- 19 Jonathan & Brittany Jacobovitz
- 20 Ed & Diane Palfreyman
- 21 Jim & Diane Cope
- 27 Chris & Shawn Rice
- 31 Jack & Mandy Henry



Children Worship & Wonder will begin on August 13.

Pastor Gena will be on sabbatical from **August 1 through October 31**. During this time, she will not have contact with the congregation.

Thank you for giving her this time of rest and rejuvenation.





If you have any non-perishable food items you would like to donate to the Community Circle Food Pantry, you can continue to bring them in and place them on the table by the coffee station in the front entrance of the church. Rev. Chris will take them to the pantry at the beginning of each month. **Items** needed most at this time are: cereal, jelly, corn, green beans, toilet paper, shampoo and soap. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer or are in need of the Food Pantry's services, they distribute the food every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9-12. The Community Circle Food Pantry is located at 69 E. Pine Ave in Washington, and they can be reached at 724-225-1540.





# Wild Things Tickets

Fairhill Manor has received **50 free tickets** to the Wild Things game on Saturday, September 2.

The tickets will be given out through the Church Office on a first come, first served basis.

If you would like tickets (limit 4 per family) Please contact the office (724-225-8610)



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. Tags will be on the bulletin board on August 1. If you have questions, call the Church Office. Remove all packaging from the items you have purchased and return the items to the containers in the Narthex by Sunday, September 10.
- 2. If you are unable to purchase items for the school kits you can 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 <a href="https://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/school-kits/">https://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/school-kits/</a>. Bring these to the church by Sunday, September 10.
- 4. Plan to stay following worship on **September 24** to pack school kits.

# August 2023

Sun		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4	5
				Stewardship/ Finance 5:30pm Library NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:15am		NA 7pm  Tri-County Men's Dinner RSVP Due to Office		NA 6:45pm Elders 5:30pm via Zoom	NA 7:30pm		12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:15am CW&W Begins		NA 7pm		NA 6:45pm	Tri-County Men's Dinner UCC Coal Center 6pm NA 7:30pm		
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10:15am		NA 7pm	Bethany Class Lunch Noon @ Eat'n Park Personnel Committee 5:30pm Library	NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		
	27		29	30	31		
Worship 10:15am		NA 7pm		NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		

## Fairhill Manor Christian Church Board Meeting Secretary Report July 12, 2023

#### We Assemble in God's Name

Moderator, Gene Sheller, called the meeting to order by lighting the Christ Candle. He gave a devotion.

#### We Celebrate our Past

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

It was stated that on the Treasurer's Report, \$920.91 was from Blanket Sunday.

A motion to accept these reports was made by Tom Ulery and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Von Lacock. The motion was carried.

### We Present Our Offering

The FMCC Board reviewed the submitted Ministry Reports. Reports submitted were from the Elders, Trustees, Stewardship/Finance Ministry, and Personnel Committee.

Jerry Puskarich presented a report from the Stewardship/Finance Ministry (see attached).

Jerry Puskarich also presented information concerning the new employee handbook. The employee handbook was sent via email to Board Members for their review prior to this meeting. It was noted that when the employees receive their handbook they must sign an acknowledgement form stating they have read and understand the contents of the book and return the signed form to the Personnel Committee. Employees must also take Safe Conduct online courses each year and return proof of completion of courses to the Personnel Committee.

A motion to accept the Ministry Reports was made by Gary Ford and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin Puskarich. The motion was carried.

#### **Old Business**

- **1. Elder Emeritus** The Elders brought forth a nomination from a congregation member for Peggy Oliverio to be named as an Elder Emeritus. A motion to recommend to the congregation that Peggy Oliverio be named Elder Emeritus was made by Von Lacock and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Reese. The motion was carried unanimously. This Elder Emeritus nomination will need to be presented to the congregation during a congregational meeting.
- **2.** Wedding Policy Task Force Report Gene Sheller gave a summary in a chronological report of changes to the Wedding Policy, the main contradictions being the use of the words "man and woman" and "two people or individuals". (see attached) A survey will be sent to congregation members to help decide the wording of the current wedding policy.

- **3. Stained Glass Task Force Report** Kevin Puskarich reported on the options for the dome on the stained glass:
  - Option A Do nothing, not leaking currently.
  - Option B Replace, not finished with estimates at this time.
  - Option C Extend roof so it is less likely to leak with light inside to illuminate glass. Having trouble finding contractors to do it.
  - Option D Possibility of solar panels has been given to task force. More information is needed for this option.

#### **New Business**

- **1. Presentation of Employee Handbook** A motion to accept the Employee Handbook as a living document which can be changed at any time was made by Kevin Puskarich and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Reese. The motion was carried.
- **2. Building Use Policy** We need to come up with a policy and pricing on using parts of the Church. The Trustees and Stewardship/Finance Ministry will decide on cost and add to the Building Use Policy.
- **3. Donation** Carmen Oliverio questioned donating money to the Fire/Police Pension Fund. This was tabled. Brian Shaw will research and present findings to the Stewardship/Finance Ministry.
- **4. Zoom on July 16** Chuck Riggle requested Zoom to be offered on Sunday, July 16. It was announced in the bulletin earlier in the month that there would not be Zoom on July 16<sup>th</sup> due to lack of someone to be in the Sound Room. Tom Ulery said he would be in church on the 16th and try to have Zoom up and running. Karen Thomas will publish the Zoom information in the Manor Minutes on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### Leaving in God's Name

Pastor Gena closed the meeting with a prayer.

#### **Board Members in Attendance**

Gene Sheller (Moderator), Gary Ford, Jerry Puskarich, Chuck Riggle, Kevin Puskarich, Rita Puskarich, Linda Reese, Candy Wasalasky, Carmen Oliverio, Brian Shaw, Von Lacock, Kathy Moninger-Ford, Tom Ulery, Associate Pastor Gena Sheller\*, Serena Dube (Zoom), Eleanor Boyles (Zoom), Jamie Hatfield (Zoom)

#### **Non Board Member in Attendance**

Peggy Oliverio

Next Board Meeting is Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Moninger-Ford Board Member substituting for Board Secretary

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates non-voting member