

December 2021

Manor Talk

A Publication of Fairhill Manor Christian Church

351 Montgomery Avenue

Washington, PA 15301

724-225-8610

fairhillmanor@yahoo.com

Visit us online at www.fairhillmanorchurch.org

Rev. Chris Stillwell

Senior Minister

Rev. Gena Sheller

Associate Pastor

Karen Thomas

Administrative Assistant

JC Leasure

Congregational

Moderator

Brian Shaw

Financial Secretary

Jim Cope *Choir Director*

Audra Allen *Organist*

Jody Mullis *Pianist*

Wray Adams *Custodian*



As the nights lengthen and Christmas approaches, we begin to see Christmas lights spreading across the night sky. It is like a negative of springtime. Instead of seeing longer days filled with beautiful color as the trees bloom forth, now we see longer nights filled with beautiful color as the lights on trees, houses, and bushes bloom forth. It is such a stark contrast and yet the two have the common goal of declaring God's majesty throughout the world. In springtime we see evidence of the wonder of God's creation and celebrate the new life that resurrection brings. At Christmas

we see evidence of God's love in the world, and God's light even when all else seems dark, and we also see the way in which God exists in the world through the way human beings greet the cold and the dark.

You see, the thing about Christmas lights, is that most people see very little of their own. There is a house near me that is decorated from top to bottom and with every lawn ornament you can imagine, but unlike say a Christmas tree, the people living in the house can't see them all like I can when I drive by. Likewise, I just put up my own lights, and when I sit in my living room, I can probably see one tenth of their light. So why do we go to so much trouble? It is because we remember Jesus teaching us to do unto others as we would have others do unto us. I enjoy driving by that house and others with my kids. I love coming home and seeing all the different lights (more each time than the day before) so much that I actually enjoy the fact that it is getting darker earlier. Because of this I put up my lights that others may enjoy as well.

Christmas lights can be tacky. They can be expensive. They can be a hassle. But they also are the best example of the spirit of Christmas. For if God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son to be the light of the world so that we might know eternal life, then it seems to me that sharing the gift of light is the most appropriate response. May you shine a light this Christmas. May you be a light as well.

Rev. Chris

There have been recent updates to the outside of the Church. Several trees and bushes were removed. The beloved magnolia tree was removed because the roots had damaged the drainage system in the front of the church and was keeping the new roof wet and filling the gutters with leaves which hinder the flow of rainwater. The removal of these trees and bushes may have been upsetting to some, but necessary for the health of the building. New landscape ideas for the Spring will be developed. If you have concerns or ideas, please keep them in mind and they can be discussed at future board meetings.

If you would like to change your recurring gift on Givelify, you will have to cancel the current amount and set up a new donation. Please remember to mark as recurring. To cancel the recurring gift, follow these steps:

1. Open the Givelify app and sign in to your account.
2. Tap on **Profile** at the bottom right of the screen.
3. Select **Recurring** from the menu.
4. Tap **Cancel** next to the recurring donation you want to cancel.
5. Confirm that you would like to cancel when prompted.
6. Once this is done, you will click on the **Give** button, select your donation amount, select the envelope you wish to have your gift go to, then click on set recurring and the frequency.



Any questions, please call the office.



- 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
Owen Stillwell
- 19 Avery Allen
Linda Dallatore
- 20 Carol Daniels
- 21 Waylon Newman
- 26 Hollan Martinek
- 29 Lisa Shriver
- 31 Elinor Newman
Carmen Oliverio

BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries

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

Dates to Remember

December 12 – Youth Christmas Caroling after Church. Contact Pastor Gena or Rev. Chris for more information.

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7pm (in-person worship and Zoom)

January 5 – Board Reports and Annual Reports due in office. Board Reports will cover November/December 2021. Annual reports will cover from January through December 2021.

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			NA 6:45pm	Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		Large Fellowship Hall Reserved Noon-6pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am	Prayer Shawl 11am Parlor NA 7pm	No Dartball	Elders Meeting via Zoom 6pm NA 6:45pm	Personnel Committee 4pm Library Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		Food Collection with First Church of the Nazarene 1336 N Main St, Wash 10-11am
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Youth Christmas Caroling after Worship	NA 7pm	Stewardship/ Finance Ministry 5:30pm Library Dartball 7pm @ Home	NA 6:45pm	Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		Food Distribution with First Church of the Nazarene 1336 N Main Washington 10-11am
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am	Prayer Shawl 11am Parlor NA 7pm	January Newsletter Deadline	NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm	Christmas Eve Service 7pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am	NA 7pm		NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		

**Fairhill Manor Christian Church
Board Meeting
Secretary Report
November 10, 2021**

We assemble in God's name

Moderator J.C. Leasure called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM with the lighting of the Christ Candle. J.C. opened with 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.

A motion to accept these reports was made by Craig Dotson and 2nd by Connie Sheller. 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, and Disciples Women's Ministries.

A motion to accept the Ministry Reports was made by Linda Reese and 2nd by Jerry Puskarich. The motion carried.

Concerns of the Past

There were no concerns of the past.

Issues of the Future

1. Presentation of 2022 Church Officers

The incomplete list of the 2022 Church Officers was presented to the Board. The Elders list consists of only 7 members. The Calling Commission has exhausted the membership list while trying to find 2 additional Elders. Associate Pastor Gena Sheller noted that this was a concern with only 7 Elders and the share of the church members which these Elders must mentor. There will also be extra Sundays which the Elders must serve at the communion table.

The Board of Trustees is also in need of 1 person.

As for the absence of Financial/Secretary officers, Assoc Pastor Gena Sheller said that they may not be needed, as there is no counting of the offering due to Covid.

A motion to present the 2022 Church Officers to the congregation as is, was made by Serena Dube and 2nd by Diane Palfreyman. The motion carried.

2. Proposed 2022 Budget

Jerry Puskarich of the Stewardship/Finance Ministry, talked about The Factor Analysis Sheet which he prepared for the 2022 Budget.

A motion to present the Proposed 2022 Budget to the Congregation was made by Ed Palfreyman and 2nd by Craig Dotson. The motion carried.

3. FMCC Vacation and Sick Day Policy

Jerry Puskarich, Chairperson of the Personnel Committee reviewed the new Vacation and Sick Day Policy with the Board. Since the choir director is off during the summer, it was noted that he should only have 3 Sundays off per year. Also, it was suggested that holidays which are on a weekend, should give the option of taking Friday or Monday off. The choir director and organist should not take 4 Sundays off in a row, including choir practices during that week.

This policy takes effect in 2022. It begins from the date of hire.

Motion to accept the FMCC Vacation and Sick Day Policy with the above changes was made by Connie Sheller and 2nd by Carmen Oliverio. The motion carried.

Leaving in God's name

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15PM was made by John Anderson and 2nd by Carmen Oliverio. J.C. Leasure closed the meeting in prayer.

In Attendance

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

* Indicates non-voting member

Next Board Meeting: Jan 12, 2022

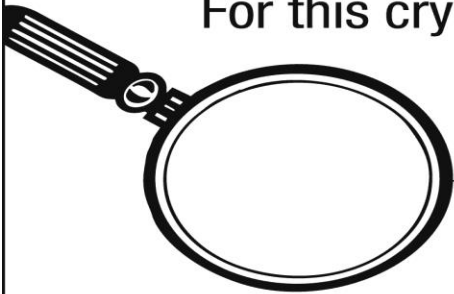
Submitted in Christian love,
Sandy Todaro, FMCC Board Secretary



Fairhill Manor will be ringing the bells for the **Salvation Army Red Kettle** fund drive December 6 through December 10 from 9am-5pm. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex or you can contact the office for available times.

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