# Manor Minutes Volume 12 Issue 3 January 22, 2021



This week continues our **annual stewardship** emphasis celebrating what we have accomplished together and asking each member to pledge to take part in the upcoming year's efforts through the use of their time, talents, and treasure. I hope you enjoyed the video Mike Sweeney gave us concerning the way in which Narcotics Anonymous is able to help people through the use of our church, and this week we will hear voices from other groups as well. If you miss the videos you can view them on our website, <a href="https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/together-for-joy.">https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/together-for-joy.</a> As we continue to give thanks to God for our blessings and the things that have brought us joy in this difficult time, this Sunday we will be talking about how we should respond to God's gifts. One way we can respond is to pledge our continued support to Fairhill Manor Christian Church in the coming year as we are able. Therefore, we hope you will fill out a pledge card; either the one you received in the mail, or the one on our webpage, by <a href="Sunday, January 31">Sunday, January 31</a>, when we offer up our pledges to God in worship. This is a time to give thanks and give back and we give thanks for your graceful generosity and support. As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask Rev. Chris, Pastor Gena or the chairperson of our Stewardship/Finance Ministry, Jerry Puskarich.

# ZOOM - LIVE

Zoom Worship this Week - Live from the Sanctuary at 10:15 am!

"Join a Meeting" on Zoom at 9:45 am using the meeting ID and password.

Meeting ID: 932 4557 4206 Password: 026316

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

Text your prayer concerns to Pastor Gena (724) 263-0033. She will share these during worship. At 10:15 am, mute yourself on Zoom (Not sure how to do that? Login at 9:45 am and someone will help). Those on Zoom are visible to each other for the entire worship service. If you would like to see but not be seen, click Stop Video on your Zoom screen.

## Children Worship & Wonder

We invite children age 3 – Grade 5 to participate in Children Worship & Wonder. Join CW&W on Zoom around 10:30 am (contact Pastor Gena for the login information). To learn more and register your child(ren), <a href="https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/children-worship-wonder">https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/children-worship-wonder</a>

#### **Tween Team**

Gather online via Zoom with 4th-7th Graders on Sunday evenings from 5-6 pm. We center our time together around "The Beatitudes," a curriculum designed specifically for online interaction and focused on Matthew 4:23-5:12. JC Leasure and Pastor Gena are co-leading this time.

February Newsletter Deadline – January 25 Installation of 2021 Officers – January 31 during Zoom worship Stay up to date, check <a href="www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar">www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar</a>



Ministry Leaders and Officers – The Church Office is ready to assist with setting up Zoom meetings. Please contact Karen to get these set up and on the church calendar.



## Fairhill Manor Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ) 351 Montgomery Ave. 724-225-8610

Rev. Chris Stillwell, Senior Pastor Rev. Gena Sheller, Associate Pastor January 24, 2021

**Prelude** Audra Allen, organist

Welcome Pastor Gena

Call to Worship\*

Linda Reese

For God alone our souls wait in silence.
In God alone do our spirits find peace.
For God alone is our rock and our salvation.
In God alone does our faith remain unshaken.
Pour out your hearts before God.
For God is our refuge and our strength.
Put your trust in God.
God's steadfast love endures forever.

#### **Opening Hymn**

"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"

Audra Allen, organist

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine; by waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis thy hand that leadeth . (Refrain)

[Refrain:] He leadeth me, he leadeth me,

by his own hand he leadeth me: his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

#### Stewardship Video

Amy & Becca Caldwell

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

Pastor Gena

From you, O God, comes our salvation.

For you alone our souls wait in silence.

For only you are our steady rock and the one who saves us.

You are our fortress, in whom we can find deep rest while you keep watch.

Living in your presence, we have nothing to fear, for in you we find the source of true power.

We praise your steadfast love!

Loving God, we need your grace and want to share your grace with others. During this time of confession, help us to pour out our hearts to you, for you are the God of second chances. Forgive us for

all of the ways we turn from you. Forgive us for not listening when you have called us. Forgive us for going our own way even after you have shown us your path. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you, we pray.

Thank you for your assurance that we live forgiven and loved by you. We are grateful that we don't have to go through life alone, wondering if anyone cares about us or knows our heart. You know us and love us. Thank you for being with us. We are grateful that we don't have to wander through life aimlessly, chasing after that which does not satisfy. You give us purpose and equip us to do your work. In serving and loving others, we find deep meaning, satisfaction, connection and peace. Thank you for calling us for a purpose.

God of new visions, we pray now for people placed in power, that they may focus their eyes on you. And we pray for the victims of power, that we may focus our eyes on them and help to lift them up.

We pray for those who bless with their lips but curse with their mouths, including ourselves. Help us to be people of integrity, loving with pure intentions, matching our hearts and our actions.

We pray for those who are ill and those facing the end of life. We pray for all whose struggles and burdens seem too heavy to bear. We pray for those who are lost, who are lonely. We pray for those struggling to pay their bills, those struggling to work and care for their children, those struggling to make decisions of consequence for so many. We pray for those who feel misunderstood, hated for who they are.

We pray for the church and its leaders, that we all may hear and respond to your call to be fishers of people.

We hand to you now the burdens of our hearts and minds – our fears, our worries, those whom we love who need your special care...

Rock of our salvation, through Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit, bring us into the new world that you are shaping. Give us courage to pick up the tools you give us to carry out your work and use them to share your love and mercy with all we meet. In the name of Jesus our Savior, 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.

**Anthem** 

"Praise the Lord, O My Soul," by Samuel S. Wesley Performed by Jim Cope

Children's Message\*

Pastor Gena

Have you ever been invited to do something new to you? Do you think it's easy or difficult to try something new? Have you ever given up one thing to do or have something else?

Today's Bible story, from the Gospel of Mark, is about some fishers—Simon, Andrew, James, and John—who gave up being fishers to go with Jesus and become his disciples. Disciples are students who learn from a rabbi, which means teacher.

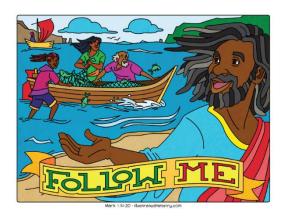
Disciples are very different from fishers! In Jesus' time, disciples did a lot of listening while fishers had to do very hard physical work! Fishers had to throw large, heavy nets into the water and pull them back

into the boat over and over again. They had to catch enough fish every day for their families to eat. Plus, they had to catch extra fish to sell or trade for other things they needed.

When Jesus saw Simon and Andrew throwing their nets into the sea, and James and John fixing nets that had been torn, he said, "Follow me."

Let's look at this illustration of this story by Illustrated Ministry. What do you notice?

I wonder what it would have been like to receive this invitation to do something new and give up a job they knew how to do. Jesus invited Simon, Andrew, James, and John to stop being fishers and join him in sharing God's stories and God's love with people. And they did!



I wonder how we follow Jesus today. Maybe we share God's stories and God's love.

Dear God, thank you that Simon, Andrew, James, and John listened to Jesus' call and followed him. Make us your disciples, too. Help us to follow Jesus by sharing your stories and your love. Amen.

Scripture Reading\* Mark 1:14-20 Linda Reese

# Sermon\* "The Facts and the Acts" Rev. Stillwell

The gospel writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are often referred to as evangelists, because they were dedicated to spreading the "evangelon" which is a Greek word meaning good news. In particular they spread the good news of Jesus Christ, which they did by writing about His life. When you think of it their gospels are short. All four gospels take up 116 pages in our pew Bibles, which isn't very much when you think of the effect of His life on others. I am a big fan of the singer, Billy Joel, and I just finished reading a thousand page biography of his life, and even I would not tell you that Billy Joel is ten times better than Jesus Christ.

The point is that bigger is not always better, and when it comes to distilling the essence of a person's life, sometimes bigger is worse. We remember the gospels so well, because they are really just the right size. Each of them contains just enough stories and memorable verses to guide our lives, but not so long and tedious that we get bogged down in reading them.

Still, if I were to preach a gospel to you, you would revolt, for when it comes to preaching the good news, we want the message even shorter. It was said that Alexander Campbell used to go on for three hours or more, but, in His day, no one had a game to watch afterwards. The fact is that we are a people with short attention spans these days. The amount of information we receive in a day is so vast that it is hard to process it all and very difficult to find the time to digest anything that is longer than a few pages if that.

The news media and entertainment worlds are driven by what is called the soundbite, 60 seconds or so that sum up a political issue or a news event. They are easily digestible, but that is because soundbites do not have much info to digest. I think that this is a very bad thing, but just because I do not like a trend in our culture, does not mean I can ignore it if I too wish to be an evangelist.

An evangelist spreads the good news of Jesus Christ, but we rarely give it to people all at once. Who would listen to you reading all four gospels in one setting? Would you listen to such a person? Instead,

like the gospel writers we need to be concerned with getting the main points out. Of all the gospels written and there are many, these four were chosen, because they contained the essential facts that the church wanted to teach. Jesus was the son of God, as promised in the Hebrew scriptures, he was also human, and he taught and healed and did amazing things. He died on the cross and was resurrected, and he did these things for you.

These are the basics, and over the years there have been many methods for teaching the essentials of the faith to new converts. Often these took the form of creeds, which are usually short mottos that were memorized. The **Apostles' Creed** is one of the first with twelve lines, one for each apostle.

- 1. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- 2. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
- 3. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
- 4. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
- 5. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
- 6. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- 7. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- 8. I believe in the Holy Spirit,
- 9. the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
- 10. the forgiveness of sins,
- 11. the resurrection of the body,
- 12. and life everlasting.

Amen.

Then there is the **Nicene Creed**, a not too long treatise on the basics of Christianity:

We believe in one God, the Father the Almighty, maker of heaven and hearth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being, with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made men. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and their kingdom has no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Not too bad, but after the reformation, in the days of Alexander and Thomas Campbell, the division and splits among the churches required explaining not only the basics of Christianity, but also the basics of every denomination and every sect within each denomination so that you get the **Westminister**Confession, a catechism of instruction from the Reformed tradition that the Campbells were required to

understand fully before they were allowed to take communion. I will not read the Westminister Confession to you because it is 26 chapters long. Or ten chapters longer than the gospel of Mark. Campbell and others were so frustrated with this turn of events that they sought a simple way to share the essentials of the gospels with their followers and found one when Walter Scott told them of this **Five Finger Exercise:** 

His five steps were: faith, repentance, baptism, forgiveness of sins, receive Holy Spirit.

Have faith that Jesus is the son of God and can and will forgive your sins.

Repent of your sins and be baptized.

Believe that your sins have been forgiven, and then you will receive the Holy Spirit.

This is pretty good, but in the end, no one has been able to improve on what Jesus, Himself, did, for when he found His first disciples as he has done in this passage from Mark we have just read, he did so in one sentence. In the first chapter of Mark, Jesus presents the facts and the acts of the gospel when he proclaims, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Now, what does this mean? In the first half of the sentence Jesus tells us the facts of Christian belief.

First he tells us that **the time is fulfilled.** God had promised a Messiah and Mark begins by reminding us of what was written by the prophet Isaiah who wrote:

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice Of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight".

John the Baptist reiterates that one greater than he is to come and when Jesus arrives on the scene he immediately announces that it is he, after God announced it from the Heavens. So, the time for God's messiah has come.

Next, Jesus announces that The **Kingdom has come near.** The Kingdom of God is a powerful phrase with a rich history and many interpretations. It is tied to Jewish understanding that God will restore the nation of Israel to the land, following the Abrahamic covenant.

Theologian C. H. Dodd argued that the kingdom was fully manifest in the present teaching and actions of Jesus. Through His words and deeds the kingdom was brought into the present reality of Palestine. Dodd coined the term "realized eschatology" and largely based this argument on Luke 11:20 and Luke 17:21, claiming that "the kingdom of God has come to you" and "the kingdom of God is within you".

Albert Schweitzer and others argued that Jesus' kingdom was intended to be a wholly futuristic kingdom. These scholars looked to the apocalyptic traditions of various Jewish groups existing at the time of Christ as the basis of their study. In this view, Jesus was an apocalyptic preacher who would bring about the end times, and, when he did not see the end of the cosmic order coming, Jesus embraced death as a tool in which to provoke God into action.

The most common view of the kingdom in recent scholarship is to embrace the truths of both these claims as a present reality and a future manifestation, known as inaugurated eschatology. Some scholars who take this view are N.T. Wright. In their view, the Kingdom that Jesus spoke of will be fully realized in the future but it is also in a process of "in-breaking" into the present. This means that Jesus' deeds and words have an immediate effect on the kingdom even though it was not fully manifested during His life.

Leo Tolstoy used the idea of the kingdom of God being within you to influence perhaps this most influential writing named "The Kingdom of God is Within You" which spoke of the transformative power that is unleashed when people follow Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount, specifically to be peacemakers and turn the other cheek. His writings directly influenced Ghandi, Martin Luther King Jr, and Nelson Mandela.

So these interpretations are all different but all agree that the kingdom of God begins with Jesus Christ. So Jesus is not only the son of God, but he brings with Him God's reign in this world.

Those are the facts, now here are the acts that we must do. First we repent. Repenting is hard, and often people believe that it is too late for them. It is like losing weight. People get to a point and imagine not how hard it would be to lose a pound, but how hard it would be to lose all the excess weight they carry, and it feels overwhelming and hopeless. Likewise, people often think of their sins, accumulated over a lifetime and imagine how hard it would be to atone for each and every one.

I have heard someone say "I already know I am going to Hell so it doesn't matter what I do", and that nihilism is dangerous; dangerous to that person and dangerous to the whole world. Repentance is confession as John said, and it is feeling sorry, maybe even guilty for what you have done, but not so much that it paralyzes. That helps no one.

Repentance means, literally, to turn around. That is all you have to do. Turning around is hard in itself, but it can be done. Just start walking in the other direction. You don't have to overcome all your sins at once. Just start going in a different direction. But which direction? If you are lost and unsure which direction to go the good news is that Jesus is willing to be your guide, if you will only believe in Him.

So the first act is to believe and the final act is to follow. It is one thing to talk the talk of Jesus Christ, to say that you are Christian, to say you believe, to say each part of any creed you choose. Anyone can say those things, but the next part is to walk the walk.

One of the most important passages in the Bible comes from one of its shortest books. In the Letter from James the apostle affirms that salvation comes from faith in Jesus Christ but gives a very important correction about what that means when he says:

<sup>14</sup> What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? <sup>17</sup> Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. <sup>18</sup> But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

If we say we follow Jesus Christ then our life should give evidence that we follow His example, and from our faith should flow, mercy, and forgiveness, outrage over injustice and deceit, compassion for the lowly and dispossessed, an aversion to haughtiness and self-righteousness.

In the end we can get people to believe the facts largely by our acts. That is what Jesus' disciples did. He saw them on the shore and told them to follow Him. Who knows what sins they had committed, who knows their past? All that mattered is that they stopped what they were doing and followed Him. Once they did, then they learned the rest. They learned of forgiveness and compassion. They learned of righteousness and justice. They learned of atonement and salvation, but they didn't need to learn all of that at once. They just needed to believe that Jesus was going in the right direction, and they responded.

We need to be evangelists, and it can sometimes be hard to figure out what to say to people and what words to use, and how much of the Christian faith to share with a person, but let's just do what Jesus did and tell people the facts as we have come to know them - Jesus is the messiah and he brings the kingdom of God. Then lets us do the acts - repent, believe, and follow.

His a soundbite, but because they proceed from the Son of God, I would simply call them sound.

These are the words that Jesus has given us to summarize His ministry. I would not call these words of

Call to Offering\*

Linda Reese

God of abundance, you teach us the dangers of setting our hearts on earthly riches. May these offerings be symbols of our faith in your bounty, and of our commitment to follow your call in our lives wherever you may lead. Amen.

### Stewardship Video

Kris Drach, Literacy Council of Southwestern PA

### **Dedication of Offering Prayer\***

Rev. Stillwell

We give this morning because we love—we love you, our God; we love Jesus Christ, your Son; and we love and care about others, even those whom we will never meet.

#### **Invitation to Communion\***

Rev. Stillwell

Each week we seem to get the full range of winter. The week comes in like a lion with biting wind and freezing cold, and by the middle of the week it is mild as a lamb. These little glimpses of nice weather can seem cruel at times. Having this good fortune and then having it taken away from us makes the winter weather seem worse when it returns. But I believe that the trick is for us to savor those beautiful days and let the joy and blessing they bring carry us through the dark cold days.

I think the same is true of life. We can have isolated moments of pure joy and happiness, and sometimes they are few and far between. Each one lasts for only a short while and we go back to life as usual. I see these moments as glimpses of the kingdom, previews of the reign of God, that is to come and that we can share in, if only we will take the joy and blessing from those moments and use it to help us through all of our days, including the dark and cold ones.

Here at this table we are given an opportunity to thank God for each moment of joy and happiness we have received and we can ask for God's help in stretching that joy into a lifetime.

As Jesus fed a multitude with a little bread and fish, so too can Christ give an abundance of joy with just a little bread and wine. Take and eat, share with one another, and may the springtime of God's grace grow in your hearts throughout this winter.

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

Gary Ford

Lord,

Jesus proclaimed that the kingdom of God had arrived. God, through his Son Jesus, had come to establish justice with love and compassion for all mankind. But, even Jesus needed help, so He called simple fishermen to help him spread the good news! Just as Jesus invited those fishermen, He is still calling out "Follow me!" We are here, at His table, to accept His calling. We take this bread, His broken body, and cup, His blood, and by this action we become His followers. We are ordinary people too, just like those fishermen, so may this communion give us purpose, to answer His call and may we develop a personal relationship with Jesus and share the good news of eternal life. Amen

Words of Institution\* Rev. Stillwell

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: That the Lord Jesus Christ, on the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is broken for you; eat this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; that is poured out for you. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat of the bread and drink of the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. (I Corinthians 11:23-26)

Closing Hymn "Lord, You Are More Precious than Silver" Jody Mullis, pianist

Lord, You are more precious than silver;
Lord, You are more costly than gold;
Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds;
And nothing I desire compares with You.

Lord, Your life is divine, eternal.
Lord, Your life regenerated me.
Lord, Your life is growing within me,
Until I am fully conformed to Thee.

Benediction\*

Rev. Stillwell

Let us go forth as workers together with God proclaiming the Good News, performing deeds of mercy and kindness and giving evidence of Christ's love in all that we do. And may the grace of God be with us all. Amen.

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

Previous Worship services can also be found on the Church website or on Youtube, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlH3qzih\_fzHCC2X0Jhc\_sfniJ7C1O3X">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlH3qzih\_fzHCC2X0Jhc\_sfniJ7C1O3X</a>



**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) 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!

# **Prayer List:**

Avery Allen Donna Bakaitis Bill Behrens Bristol Allan Berry Abby Blanchard Mark & Susan Britko Jordon Burk Wanda Chicone

Joanne Coburn Emily Cope Robinson

Emily Cope Robin Ruth Cox Irma Davis Sue Donaldson Jessica Duke Libby Eberhard Fred Engle Jay Freudenberg Joe Greene Bonnie Gregg Sloan Amelia Hagy

Judy Hanning

Sadie Reese
Betty & Charles Riecks

Judy Hanning Betty & Charles
Aryn Hess Betty Jo Riggle

James Hritz Chip Rogers and his parents

Ed & Harriet Jackman
Dallas Jacobovitz
Bob Lanning
Cheryl Leach
Jim and Barb Roupe
Theresa Shape
Colby Simkovic
Doug and Tracy Smith

Rick Lewis Troy, Tammy, Walker & Kolby Smith

Cathy Stewart Lee & Betsy Martin John Stewart Don Melvin Victoria Strawn Ruth Mikuta Beth Teagarden Dick Moninger Melissa Teagarden Jody Mullis Frannie Venan Georgette Murray Gary Weaver Carmen Oliverio Nikki Wells Peggy Oliverio Tom Williams Deborah Patterson

Denny Paul Chuck & Mary Wiseman

Preparing for Baptism – Nyka Rash

#### **Southmont-Presbyterian Medical Center**

Bill Behrens Rm 437 835 S Main Street Washington PA 15301

#### **Homebound Members:**

Phyllis Cimino 317 Wellness Way Strabane Trails #325 Washington PA 15301 Mrs. Mary McDonough 949 Bruce Street Washington PA 15301

## 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



Ruth Cox has been moved to a facility from where she lived to near her daughter. Her new address is:

Ruth Cox 3821 Wilson Blvd. Apt. 515 Arlington, VA. 22203



The IRS will begin processing 2020 tax returns on February 12, 2020. The date has been extended from the normal time of around January 23 because of the major tax changes from the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 that was signed into law on 12-27-20. Taxpayers can begin filing with IRS Free File on January 15 and their tax return will be held until Feb 12 when processing begins. The IRS Tool, "Where is my Refund" is projected to be available starting on Feb 22 for those who wish to track their refunds.

In a previous Tax Tip, I provided information about the \$300 above the line tax deduction for charitable contributions for those taxpayers who do not itemize for the 2020 tax year. This applies to all filers except those who are married filing separate. In that case the deduction is limited to \$150.

Under the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 that was signed into law on 12-27-20 the deduction for the 2021 tax year increases to \$600 and remains at \$300 for all other filers. If you have any questions, contact Jerry Puskarich at (724) 503-5658.

#### **Church Office hours:**

Karen is working from home on Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 9 am - 2 pm. She will be in the Church Office on Wednesday & Thursday, 9 a - 2 pm. The Church phone is forwarded to Karen's cell phone.

Pastor Gena is off on Friday.

Rev. Chris is off on Friday.

If you need anything at any time, please call the Church Office phone at 724-225-8610.

Weekly Schedule

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.

Give	lifu
Tap. Give.	Done.
AppStore	Cooje play

[ D	DU742	
The Bible mentions many kinds of birds. How many have you seen?  Directions: Unscramble the bird names, using the Bible references and pictures as clues. Then insert the final unscrambled bird name to complete the passage below.		
	VDEO LWO * GEELA TOKRS APROSWRS	(Genesis 8:8) (Psalm 102:6) (Isaiah 40:31) (Jeremiah 8:7)
tw	by God Don nore than many	sold for into one of them is forgotten it be afraid; you are worth  /"  E 12:6-7, NIV

You can help Fairhill Manor Christian Church all year through this program, not just at Christmas.

Choose Fairhill Manor as your charity on *Amazon Smile*. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Sign in to smile.amazon.com. Go to "Your Account," then select the option to "Change your Amazon Smile Charity." Type "Fairhill Manor Christian Church" into the Search box. Choose FMCC as your charity!



LOST & FOUND: This dish and pan have been on the coffee table for quite a while. If any one can claim them, please contact the office ©

