

Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 28

July 3, 2020



Zoom Worship
Meeting ID: 932-4557-4206
Password: 026316

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93245574206?pwd=cHdQMmlPWURmWkdqQUZmRXlMeGdudz09>

We invite all children to join in Worship via Zoom at 12:30pm. Materials for children to work with during Worship will be attached to the Manor Minutes each week. Look for the beginning of a new CW&W year in August!

Children



DRIVE-THRU COLLECTION PLUS

We still have neighbors in need so on Saturday, July 11th from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. FMCC/DOC will be hosting another **Drive-Thru Collection**. In addition to collecting non-perishable food items we will be collecting other items for the Community Circle Food Pantry, LeMoyne Community Center and the Salvation Army. Please read what is needed in the lists below.

Non-perishable food items most needed but not limited to: canned soups, meats, Spaghetti O's, Ravioli, vegetables. Pop-top cans are preferred but if not able to find them please consider donating a can opener. Other items - boxed mac 'n' cheese, individual servings as well, pancake mix, syrup, breakfast bars, cereal, oatmeal, individually wrapped crackers, pasta, sauces, rice.



ADDITIONAL ITEMS BEING COLLECTED:

Community Circle Food Pantry is collecting items for the hygiene bags they pass out monthly for their clients. Items needed are deodorant, body-wash, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, combs, female hygiene products, shampoo, and nail clippers.

LeMoyne Community Center is collecting sandwich bags and brown paper bags for their Summer Lunch Program.

Salvation Army is collecting school supplies and is in need of pens, pencils, backpacks, crayons, rulers, scissors, pencil boxes or pouches, markers, binders, erasers, pocket folders, lined paper, ear buds, and flash drives.

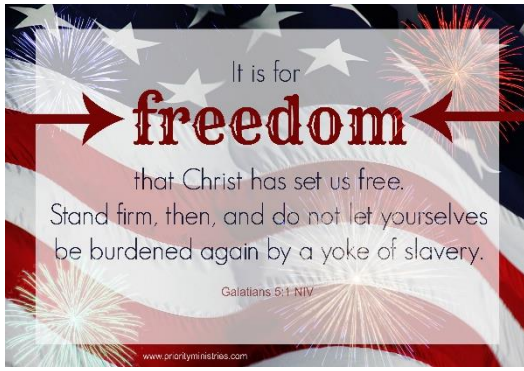
Monetary donations will also be accepted.

We are also offering a **Porch Pick-up Service** starting the week of July 6 for those who would like to donate but not able to make the day of the Drive-Thru. Please contact Amy Caldwell either at acaldwell8898@gmail.com or call/text her at 724-207-3945 to set up a pick-up time.

Information on ways you can help others can be found on the Fairhill Manor website:

<http://www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/how-to-help>

Any questions please contact Marsha Sams at msams822@gmail.com or call/text – 859-421-7227.



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
July 5, 2020

Welcome to our Home Worship Service!

Welcome*

Rev. Collins

Call to Worship*

Linda Reese

Come, O people of God, give thanks for the dedication of freedom and God-given rights of all. And mostly let us give thanks for God's grace upon this nation that we share and love.

Opening Hymn*

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

piano by Jody Mullis

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,
of thee I sing; land where my fathers died,
land of the pilgrims' pride, from every
mountain side let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, land of the noble free,
thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills,
thy woods and templed hills; my heart with
rapture thrills like that above.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer*

Pastor Gena

Holy One,
we come before you today:
full of hope, full of desire, full of promise.
Thank you for the gifts that you have given us –
The gifts you have given each of us as individuals,
The gifts you have given us as a community of faith,
that have enabled us to work together during this strange and difficult time
for the good of your church and for the good of our community.
Give us the grace and courage to continue to work together,
using our gifts of the Spirit to face the challenges before us.

Gracious Lord,
you have blessed us with freedom—
freedom to follow or to turn away;
freedom to love or to hate;
freedom to heal or to hurt.
You ask that we follow your ways, loving our neighbors as ourselves.
In the midst of our turbulent lives, forgive us for making choices that lead to hurt and fear.
Help us to see ourselves and others more clearly, as treasured members of your one family.

Compassionate God,

We name before you now the concerns of our hearts, those who need your tender care.

We pray for the church throughout the world, that it might continue finding creative ways to care for each other, to speak for truth and justice, and to share the good news of your love for all.

We pray for governments and leaders everywhere that they might make courageous decisions for the common good.

We pray for those in need of healing – of body, mind and spirit. Come and ease their pain, come and ease their loneliness, come and hold them in your loving arms.

We pray for those who are overlooked and left out. Help us to find connection and community.

We pray for those who are working long hours and those who cannot find work.

We pray for those in positions of power and those who are powerless.

We pray for those living in freedom with plenty and those who are bound with not enough.

Help us face the turmoil within and around us, that we may face the future unafraid.

Show us your way, your truth, and your life.

We pray together in the name of Jesus who gives us true freedom the prayer 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* “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” performed by The United States Army Field Band
<https://youtu.be/Jy6AOGRsR80>

Children’s Message*

Pastor Gena

I don’t remember if it happened on the July 4th holiday, but it happened sometime during the hot days of summer. The whole family on my mom’s side was at our house. And just as it was getting dark, we all - parents, kids, aunts, uncles, cousins – got in the pool. And then we started going around and around, all in the same direction, making a whirlpool. I can still see it in my mind. And I can still feel the wonderful feeling of having family all together in the same place, all having fun and laughing, all doing something together. Everything was good with the world.

What is one of your favorite things about your family? Are there other people in your life who feel like family too? What makes people feel like family to you? How do you think a family acts toward each other?

One of today’s scriptures – the one from Genesis 24 – tells the story of one of Abraham’s servants finding a wife for Abraham’s son, Isaac. God had promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a big family, which seemed impossible because they were very old and had no children. But then God gave them a child anyway. His name was Isaac, and when he grew up, he wanted to get married and begin a family of his own. So Abraham sent one of his servants to find a wife for Isaac. In our coloring page this morning, we see the servant meeting Rebekah at a well, watering camels. He introduced Rebekah to Isaac, and they joined together to become a family.

Families come together in all sorts of ways: birth, adoption, and marriage are a few ways. Sometimes even people who aren’t related at all can feel like family to each other. It’s good to tell and retell stories about how families can grow in lots of different ways. We are all children of God, so we are really all family to each other. When we treat each other like we are family, the world is a better place.

Let’s pray together. Holy God, thank you for our families and for all of the many ways a family can look. Help us love each other like family, remembering we are all family. Amen.

I love the Fourth of July! The parades, the rousing Souza music, the family picnics...and of course, the fireworks. They all revive in me the excitement I felt as a child on this hot summer holiday. And deep in that memory lies the see for the meaning of this national holiday. How do we live...do we live as free people or captives to fear?

I love Philadelphia...it was one of the first places I can remember as a family vacation...I still feel a chill as I stand outside of Independence Hall, of viewing again the Liberty Bell or reading that still remarkable document which declares that all men are created equal...that Declaration of Independence. I still marvel at its concise prose...it flows so beautifully it well could be poetry...and at times we forget how bold and audacious its words really were to declare that as citizens we are given God-given rights that cannot be denied by anyone...for we are equal in God's sight and free to determine our future as a people endowed with these rights by our Creator. Against all the odds and threats on their lives those early patriots claimed that even the greatest power on earth at that time, King George and his troops, could not enslave them and deny them their rights...for no power, no government, no despot, however strong, could deny us our right to be free. The recent Black Lives Matter protests have recalled to me that same passion and desire for freedom...for a recognition that we all are equal.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” When I first read those words, they sounded beautiful, but I had no idea of what they really meant or how they applied to the conditions of those early colonial years. Even after reading scores of texts of early American history and spending hours in museums I'm still not sure I can fully appreciate what it was like in colonial America.

We have so enshrouded the Revolutionary War with sentiment to almost make it seem bloodless and as if there were not divisions among the citizenry, but we know on closer reflection that so many lost their lives, communities were broken, there were divisions among families...and nearly a third of the population experienced the war from the shackles of slavery...it was a horrendous price to pay, but these patriots believe the sacrifices were necessary to break the grip of fear that kept them from having a say in their future and allowing them to hope.

They sought after freedom and hope over the fear that suffocated them. As Jefferson so beautifully described it, they recognized that deep within their souls they were created not to live in fear, but to live freely as children of a loving creator God. We to this day are still experiencing that power...that desire to be free. Women have felt it, the impoverished have felt it, people of color have felt it...everyone who has felt dominated by another has felt that same desire to be free. The power of this present pandemic is derived from a fear that comes as we feel powerless to stop it or control it...and yet, I think our patriot mothers and fathers would remind us, in the spirit of 1776...we can overcome great fear and powers as we work together to overcome...together doing those thoughtful things of distancing, of wearing face coverings and of being concerned for one another...we can live more freely and find a hopeful day ahead. Our text for today was a favorite among our ancestors in faith during the 18th and 19th centuries as it resonated with their causes for rebellion. There were even some early American preachers who actually believed that these words of a first century Paul were really meant for an 18th century struggle in America. But contrary to their belief Paul was writing about a revolution far braver and more elemental than even our beloved American one. Paul was referring to real freedom over our constant leanings toward fear and domination by our darker demons of prejudice and self-interests.

It would have been easier for those early Christians to just give in and follow the old laws...keeping the old traditions...doing it the old way. Much like the Israelites wondering in the wilderness...God may have saved them from their slavery in Egypt, but when problems arose they were willing to fall back into their old fears and longed for slavery rather than the freedom of keeping faith with God. For those early Christian, it was just easier to lean back on the law rather than trust the freedom of God's grace in Christ. Paul says, no, you were created for better than this! You are free in Christ...free to be God's people in love...not fear.

Historian Jon Meacham in the introduction of his classic book, *The Soul of America*, states that the genius of our Founders was that they recognized that this new Republic was as susceptible to human passions as human beings...there would be seasons of anger and frustrations, unhappiness and unrest. They knew that fear frequently defies our political meditation...but the founders accounted for these periods of sin and provided for amendments and adjustments to allow us to rise above, as Lincoln boldly and pleadingly added to his first State of the Union address, that the Union would be touched 'by the better angels of our nature.'

And still to this day...nearly 2000 years after Paul, 244 years after Jefferson's revolutionary treatise and 159 years after Lincoln's words we are still wrestling with how to live our lives fully and faithfully for the betterment of all...so all these years later, faced with this pandemic and cries for greater justice...do we make decisions for our individual lives and our national life based on the darker demons of our fears or as Paul reminds us by the freedom in Christ of faith working through love?

Call to Offering*

Linda Reese

Our fourth of July holiday may be a time for picnics and parties, but it is also a time to remember our heritage as a nation. We are grateful for those who have given their lives that we might be guaranteed the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is in that freedom that we assemble to worship our God. But there is a greater freedom still. "For freedom Christ has set us free, stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1). It is in response to that freedom from sin and the law that we offer our gifts.

Prayer of Dedication for our Offering*

Rev. Collins

Source of all giving, receive these offerings as a sign of trust and devotion to you. Bless them and those given electronically and by mail by your Spirit to extend your loving care and sustain Christ's ministry and mission to all. Amen.

Invitation to Communion*

Rev. Collins

This table may not hold the traditional holiday fare of hamburgers and hotdogs, no baked beans or corn on the cob, but this is the original table of freedom. Here Christ invites us to share of the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation...given from the source of all love and designed to meet our every need. As we share this meal, may we feel again the affirming and supportive love of God who gives us true freedom. Let us dine.

Prayer for the Bread & Cup*

Gary Ford

Heavenly Father we rejoice that we are together again, here, at your table. Lord, we have longed for this day and we are cheerful and joyous. So many things have happened in the past four months, so much has changed, but the one constant, the one thing that has never changed and never will is your love for each of us. We may have been separated from our church family, but, we were never separated from You. We are bound together by the love of Jesus Christ and it is that love which brings us to this table. The body and the cup, which we now share, represent a love stronger than anything we can imagine on this Earth. We

come to remember that sacrifice. Lord, no matter what the future may hold, may we always remember and be strengthened by the words of the risen Christ: "I am with you always even unto the end of the world." In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior - 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 in my blood 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*

"Oh Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

piano by Jody Mullis

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed full grace on thee,
and crown thy good with servant hood from sea to shining sea.

Benediction*

Rev. Collins

We have come before our God this day, assured that we are created to be one people, beloved by this same God. Let us go into this week committed to live as God's family! Amen

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



Please keep the Pastoral Search Committee in your prayers:

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) or 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 and only to Pastor Darwin and Pastor Gena. We are One Body in Christ!

Prayer List:

Avery Allen
Bill Behrens
Bristol Allan Berry
Eleanor Boyles
Kassidy Brightwell
Mark & Susan Britko
Wanda Chicone
Emily Cope Robinson
Nick Cross
Fred Engle
Joe Greene
Bonnie Gregg

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

Denny Paul
Betty Jo Riggle
Jim and Barb Roupe
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

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



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.

Puzzle!

Fit the names of these Bible-times places in the puzzle. Then write the circled letters on the lines below, in the order found, to find out where your citizenship is.

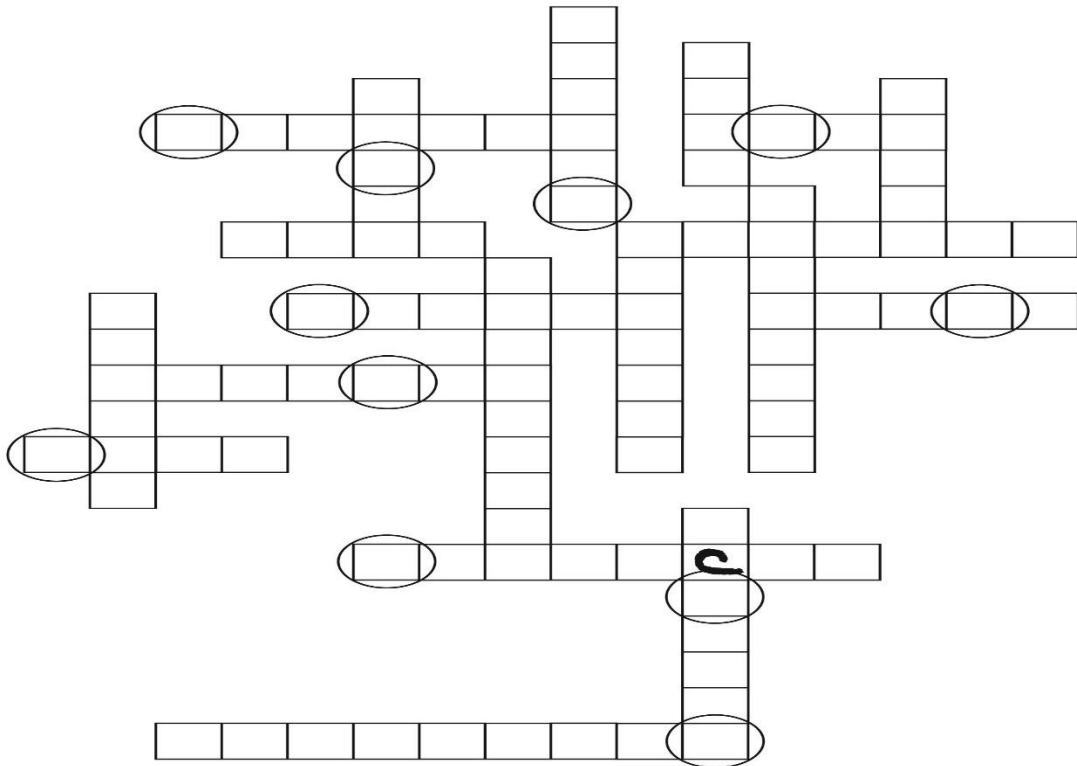
Tyre
Cana
Rome
Gaza

Sidon
Berea
Lycia
Athens

Kedesh
Sychar
Galilee
Ephraim

Ephesus
Corinth
Iconium
Damascus

Philippi
Bethlehem
Jerusalem



God's kingdom

