

**Manor Minutes
Volume 13 Issue 26
June 10, 2022**



Book Club – June 13, 7pm via Zoom

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

Rev. Chris will be on vacation June 9 – 13. Please Contact Pastor Gena, your Elder Shepherd or the Church Office if you have any needs during his time away.

ATTENTION – HELP NEEDED – FUNERAL DINNERS

Our church has created a Funeral Dinner Policy to provide a dinner for the family of a church member who has passed away free of charge. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the Narthex for anyone who wishes to participate in making a dessert for the dinner or help to set-up, serve, or clean-up. If you wish to participate, please provide your name, phone number, and check the box or boxes on the sheet on what part of the dinner you would like to participate in. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Zoom Worship will continue to be live at 10:15am each Sunday

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

Meeting ID: 932 4557 4206

Password: 026316

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

Text your prayer concerns to be shared during worship to
Pastor Gena (724) 263-0033.

\$2,000 Reese Grants for Post-Secondary Education

Reese grants in the amount of \$2,000/year are available for Fairhill Manor members pursuing post-secondary education. Members may receive the grant for up to 4 years of education but must re-apply for the grant each year. Applications are available at fairhillmanorchurch.org - Ministries - Stewardship/Finance and are due by **July 1**.

**FMCC Night at
Washington Wild Things
Friday, Sept 2, 7pm
Fireworks Night**

**Ticket - \$10/person
Parking Pass - \$2/car**

**Judy Mullis will be singing
the National Anthem**

**There is a sign-up sheet in
the Narthex for tickets and
parking passes.**

**Please turn in cash or
check (payable to FMCC)
to the office by July 31**



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

Rev. Chris Stillwell, Senior Minister
Rev. Gena Sheller, Associate Pastor
Elders: Rita Puskarich, Bread
Kevin Puskarich, Cup
June 12, 2022 - 10:15am

Prelude

Jody Mullis, piano

Welcome

Pastor Gena

Call to Worship

Diana Crowe

Leader: The Spirit of Truth is moving . . .

People: pouring out prophetic possibilities for all to see.

Leader: The Spirit of Truth is speaking . . .

People: offering words of vision and hope.

Leader: The Spirit of Truth is with us . . .

People: weaving dreams of unity and love.

Opening Hymn

"I Shall Not Be Moved"

Jody Mullis, piano

I shall not be, I shall not be moved. I shall not be, I shall not be moved;
like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

When my cross is heavy, I shall not be moved, when my cross is heavy, I shall not be moved;
like a tree planted by the water, I shall not be moved.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor Gena

O God, you are hope, you are salvation, you are shelter. As ones who know this good news, hear us as we put all of our confidence in you, pouring out our hearts to you, knowing that you hear us as we gather to worship and to praise you.

Merciful God, forgive us when we are quicker to listen to those who are trying to sell us something for their own profit, when we are more likely to trust and emulate those who appear successful in the eyes of the world. Forgive us when we are slow to listen to you, the one who created us and loves us without end. Renew our trust in you and help us to use this time of worship to deepen our relationship with you and to re-align our priorities with yours.

Forgive us when we are reluctant disciples. Renew our desire to follow you even if it means having the direction of our lives changed or loving those who the world has pushed aside, condemned and forgotten. Forgive us when we forget that we do not have to do everything in our own power when you challenge us to take risks of faith. Instead, you give us just what we need to do your work.

Loving God, thank you for the gift of prayer, through which we hold one another in our hearts and in your care. Hear now our prayers for the leaders and people of every nation; for the church and all who share your love; for those who are suffering in sorrow or pain; for refugees and travelers far from home; for those who sit in darkness or in the shadow of death. Hear now our prayers for those we have named aloud this morning and those in our hearts who need your special care...

Gracious God, this is our prayer: may your love overflow more and more in our lives, in your church and in all the world, until all know just how deep and how wide your love and mercy are. We pray this in the name of Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Lord, in whose name we pray together...

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.

Prayer Response:

*“Lord, Listen to your Children Praying”
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.*

First Scripture Reading

Jonah 4

Jackie Nelson

Anthem

“Come to the Water,” by John Foley, SJ
Choir accompanied by Pastor Gena on Piano

Children’s Message

J.C. Leasure

There is no type of comfort that can be found like that of a warm, snuggly blanket. Blankets can keep you warm and toasty on a cool night while sleeping. They make wonderful capes when we are playing pretend. A blanket is a good form of protection for the walls of a blanket fort or during storms. Some people keep blankets in their cars, while others use them to carry things. And some of us have blankets stored away in a closet just in case we have a visitor spend the night at our house.

Other than the ingredients for tacos, I don't know anything else that could be better to own. God's love is like a blanket. We are comforted by his love, and in his grace, we can find forgiveness for our sins. God's love is not like a tiny square of fabric that might cover a couple of our toes. It is like a big plush blanket that covers our entire body. When we have Jesus in our hearts, we aren't forgiven for just one or two of our sins, but all of them. God's grace covers all of our sin. Next time you are snuggling up with your favorite blanket, remember that God's love comforts you and covers you and protects you the same way.

Second Scripture Reading

Romans 11:13-24

J.C. Leasure

Sermon

“Amazing Grace”

J.C. Leasure

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see!*

This timeless hymn has brought a smile to the faces of millions. The lyrics are imprinted on the hearts of Christians along with The Lord's Prayer, The 23rd Psalm and John 3:16. How often do we sit and ponder on God's amazing grace? How many times do we recount our own stories of being a lost wretch, but now we're found? God reveals his grace throughout the Bible, and probably the most dramatic display of grace is in the book of Jonah.

Jonah, a prophet of God, was called by the LORD to go to Nineveh and call them to repent or face impending doom. Nineveh was a terribly wicked place, and Jonah disobeyed God's direct orders and headed in the opposite direction. We all have heard the story of how lots were cast to throw someone overboard so God's wrathful storm would be calmed. Our disobedient hero confesses and is swallowed by a great fish after walking the plank. The story could end there and be considered quite a whale of a tale. Yet

in God's amazing grace, Jonah was given a second chance. Jonah goes to Nineveh and calls the people to repentance. Everyone from the king down to the lowliest of peasants falls down in worship to God. In his amazing grace, God forgives Nineveh and gives them a second chance. A place so evil that the people do not know their right from left is forgiven. God shows his mercy to someone other than his chosen people! Jonah was offended. The person who was graciously forgiven himself was ready to see the greatest firework show since Sodom and Gomorrah was mad because God showed some other wretch grace.

Just like the weed that God gave and took away from Jonah, God can show grace to whoever he chooses. God will give forgiveness and mercy to anyone who asks. He gives this to us freely and without merit. We cannot pay for forgiveness because it costs too much. We cannot earn any amount of mercy because a wretch can do no good. God would have been just in destroying Nineveh just as he would be in our destruction. Jonah's weed was created by God. We too are God's creation. God made us in his image, and we rebel against him while his breath is still in our lungs. Surely, we deserve the wages of our sin. But God freely and without merit forgave us, and forgives those who call out to him. Like the weed, God can cut justly cut us down at any time, but it is his desire that none should fall in judgement.

"There is nothing that keeps wicked men at any one moment out of hell, but the mere pleasure of God." -Jonathan Edwards (Sinners In The Hands of an Angry God; July 8, 1741)

All Ninevites were spared that day because they all repented. Every lost wretch in Nineveh was found because of God's amazing grace.

God's grace is not available to the outsider only, but for God's chosen people. Jesus' ministry on Earth was first to the Jew, then to the Gentile (us). Jesus calls God's chosen people to abide in him (John 15:1-11). The Israelites no longer had to make atonement through sacrifices because Jesus is the final atonement. Christ became the perfect lamb so that all sins can be forgiven once and for all. If we make Jesus our Lord and Savior, then we abide in him. If someone does not abide in Christ, then they are "thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned (John 15:6)." Israel is God's chosen people through the covenant given to Abraham, and affirmed in the Mosaic Covenant. When Jesus came, those that did not follow him were broken off the vine; they fell out of the kingdom of God. They were no longer under his grace. When Christ commanded his apostles to preach salvation to all the world, God's grace was open for everyone who accepted Christ. Like Nineveh, we are covered by God's amazing grace if we accept the forgiveness given through Christ. We then are fully adopted into God's chosen people. We are grafted onto the vine (Romans 11:17,18). If we can be grafted onto the vine by grace, though we are not originally from the vine, then by God's grace those who started as the chosen people can be grafted back onto the vine.

"Note then the kindness and severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you too will be cut off." - Romans 11:22

God's kindness is his grace. If we do not abide in him, we will be cut off from the vine. God will give us a Jonah moment to wake us up. He will show us we have been broken off the vine. Like Nineveh in the face of impending judgement, if we repent of our wretchedness we will be blanketed by God's amazing grace. Wouldn't it be wonderful if revival ran through our land? How lovely would it be for America to have another Great Awakening! Revival starts with you! Come to Christ if you haven't before. Return to the Vine. Come under grace once more. Christ is waiting to wrap you in his abundant love. Once we have revival in ourselves, then let us go and share our Jonah stories with others so the lost can be found in God's amazing grace.

Call to Offering

Kevin Puskarich

Bring your different gifts, your many languages, your unique ways of offering yourself to God and God's world. All of your gifts are welcome here, in whatever way you are ready to offer them.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below! Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Dedication of Offering Prayer

Pastor Gena

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation! Through your goodness, we have this money to offer, the fruit of our labor and of the skills you have given us and of the kindness of others. Take us and all that we have and are to do your work in the world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Pastor Gena

The merciful love of God is a gift, much like the shade of the plant that God caused to spring up to cool Jonah down – from the heat and from his anger. But after a while, after God's mercy has been there for us so much and for so long, often we begin thinking that God's mercy is our right, that we deserve it, that we earned it somehow. And when it seems like it's being taken away from us, like the plant eaten by the worm, we cry out to God about the unfairness of it all. But God's merciful love is and always has been a gift. It's not ours; we don't own it.

It is only because Jonah is so familiar with God's merciful love that he can so boldly shout at God, "I knew it...I knew you were sheer grace and mercy, not easily angered, rich in love and ready to turn punishment into forgiveness!" (Jonah 4:1-2, *The Message*) In other words, "I was ok with your merciful love when it was directed at me and the people I love, but how dare you share it with those with whom I don't agree, who have hurt me, who weren't born as one of your people, who are coming in trying to take some of the love you have for me?" And God says, "What do you have to be angry about?" (Jonah 4:4), reminding Jonah that God's merciful love is still a gift that God gives as God chooses.

We don't have control over who Jesus invites to his Table and into his realm of merciful love any more than we have control over who God offers forgiveness to. Now that we have experienced the grace and mercy of our slow-to-anger God who is rich in love and ready to turn our punishment into forgiveness, let us not pretend that this wonderful good news is only for us. Let's open wide the welcome and trust the God who was wonderful enough to love us to work things out according to God's will and plan. You are welcome here; everyone is welcome to this feast of remembrance, thanksgiving and love.

Communion Hymn

"One Bread, One Body"

Jody Mullis, piano

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.
Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man no more.

Prayer for the Bread & Cup

Rita Puskarich

Words of Institution

Pastor Gena

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Sharing Holy Communion

You will receive the bread and cup together. Please hold them; we will take each together as one body. Disciples of Christ believe in an Open Table. All who profess Christ and follow Him are welcome to share His meal.

Call to Discipleship

Pastor Gena

If you have come to know Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior and you would like to profess that you intend to begin a life of faith, learning to walk in his way of Love, you are welcome to contact one of the Pastors to take this step. If you would like to join this part of the Body of Christ at Fairhill Manor Christian Church, to covenant to journey together in this life of faith, please reach out to one of the Pastors to learn more. We all take these moments to rededicate our lives to following Jesus.

Closing Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Jody Mullis, pianist

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou has been thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided – Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Benediction

Pastor Gena

May God bless you and keep you; may God cause God’s face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may God turn toward you, and grant you peace. Amen.

Recorded worship services can be found on the Church website or on YouTube,
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlH3qzih_fzHCC2X0Jhc_sfmiJ7C1O3X



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!

Homebound Members:

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

Mrs. Mary McDonough
949 Bruce Street
Washington PA 15301

Alice Cokeley
900 N. Cass Lake Road, Apartment 324
Waterford, MI 48328

Bernard and Jane Teagarden
441 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

Nadine Teagarden
826 Old National Pike
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Ed Alexy
Avery Allen
Terry Bailey
Donna Bakaitis
Jim Banish
Abby Blanchard
Susan Britko
Mabel Brooks
Sandra Carman
Denise Charles
Wanda Chicone
Emily Cope Robinson
Ruth Cox
Irma Davis
Benjamin Dube
Jessica Duke
Libby Eberhard
Fred Engle
Jay Freudenberg
Jett Fuller
Derek Gardiner
David & Lois Gayman
Doug Graff
Joe Greene
Bonnie Gregg
Nancy Gregg

Linda Hainer
Kyle Hallam
Judy Hanning
Aryn Hess
Ed Jackman
Dallas Jacobovitz
Kenger Family
Ty, Kerri, Allie, Ivy &
Ty James Lacock
Von Lacock
Bob Lanning
Libby LeDuff
John Lewis
Dolores Majesky
Lee & Betsy Martin
Dave McConnell
Don Melvin
Homer Nixon
Michaela Nixon
Carmen Oliverio
Ruth Mikuta
Deborah Patterson
Bo & Patty Pryor
Kayda Richards
Cathy Rentgen
Betty Jo Riggle
Dave Ross
Jim Roupe

John Shadeck
Hannah Simpson
Doug and Tracy Smith
Cathy Stewart
John Stewart
Bernard and Jane Teagarden
Beth Teagarden
Nadine Teagarden
Gary Weaver
Nikki Wells
Tom Williams
Chuck & Mary Wiseman
Sarah Wittenberg

In the Military

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

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 am – 2 pm. The Church phone is forwarded to Karen's cell phone and can be reached anytime.

Pastor Gena is off on Friday. Pastor Gena is working from home and comes in to the church as needed. Feel free to text, call, email or set up a time to meet with Pastor Gena.

Rev. Chris is off on Tuesday.

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

Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram puzzle, using the clues R=I
and M=T, to complete Psalm 111:10, NIV.

M Y L C L O Q Z C M Y L
P Z Q N R V M Y L
H L D R F F R F D Z C G R V N Z U ;
O P P G Y Z C Z P P Z G
Y R V B Q L T L B M V
Y O K L D Z Z N
J F N L Q V M O F N R F D
M Z Y R U H L P Z F D V
L M L Q F O P B Q O R V L

PSALM 111:10, NIV

Answer: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. Psalm 111:10, NIV