

Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 43

Oct 16, 2020

Those with last names beginning with **F-O & P-Z** worship in the Sanctuary this week at 9:30. The Worship Schedule can be found at: <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/sanctuary-schedule>

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

October 25: Last names beginning with A-E & F-O

November 1: Last names beginning with A-E & P-Z

November 8: Last names beginning with F-O & P-Z

ZOOM - LIVE

Zoom Worship this Week - Live from the Sanctuary at 9:30 am!

"Join a Meeting" on Zoom at 9 am using the same Meeting ID and password.

Meeting ID: 932 4557 4206 Password: 026316

Fellowship with other "Zoomers" from 9 - 9:30 am.

Text your prayer concerns to Pastor Gena (724) 263-0033. She will share these during worship. At 9:30 am, mute yourself on Zoom (Not sure how to do that? Login at 9 am and someone will help). Those on Zoom are visible on the screen at the front of the Sanctuary until the Children's Message and to others on Zoom for the entire worship service. Please be mindful of this. If you would like to see but not be seen, click Stop Video on your Zoom screen.

Children Worship & Wonder

Children Worship & Wonder has begun! To learn more and register Children age 3 – Grade 5, <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/children-worship-wonder>

We invite children to join in Worship via Zoom at 9:30 am. Materials for children to work with during Worship are emailed weekly with the Manor Minutes.

Please remember for the safety of others, anytime you enter the Church (even if you are the only one around):

Wear a mask

Sign in on the bulletin board inside the back door

Use the hand sanitizer as you enter

Thank you!!



Calling Commission – October 19, 6 pm via Zoom
Stewardship/Finance – October 20, 5:30 pm via Zoom
Women's Stories of the Old Testament – October 22, 5 pm via Zoom

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



Bo Pryor will celebrate his 90th birthday on October 28.

Let's all join together to wish him a very happy birthday.

If you would like to send him a card, his address is: 140 Lagonda Rd, Washington PA 15301

DRIVE-THRU NATIVITY

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and requirements, the annual Drive-Thru Nativity will NOT be held in December.



October Webinars

Ask a Rabbi and Your Money and Your Life: Stories of Stewardship

Register for October webinars here: <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/webinars>

Discuss these webinars via Zoom on Monday, November 2 at 7 pm.

A link/call-in number for this discussion will be sent to you during the last week of October.

T-Shirts Needed

Fairhill Manor Church Folk - As you are cleaning out your closets and drawers in preparation for the cooler weather please consider donating some clean, good, used T-shirts to be transformed into tote bags. I will be involved in a project helping the homeless in the area I will be at when I go back to Dayton, OH later this month. Please bring them to the church and put them on the table in our Caring and Sharing Center. Any questions please contact me by either e-mailing me at, msams822@gmail.com or text/call me at 859-421-7227...Thank you all and many blessings....
Marsha

Saying Good-Bye and Thank You to Pastor Darwin

Please take time over the next few weeks to thank Pastor Darwin for his love and care for our congregation over the 16 months of his Interim.

Because we continue to care for each other by limiting our numbers in the Sanctuary each Sunday, be sure to say good-bye to him when you see him – or send him a note or give him a call! We will be forever grateful for his leadership during this time.





Pastor Gena's day off is Friday. If you need to reach Pastor Gena on Friday, please call the Church Office at (724) 225-8610.

New Group for 4th-7th Graders!

We are excited to announce that we will be gathering online via Zoom with 4th-7th Graders on Sunday evenings from 5-6 pm. Our time together each week will be based around "The Beatitudes," a curriculum by Illustrated Ministry designed specifically for online interaction and focused on Matthew 4:23-5:12. JC Leasure and Pastor Gena are co-leading this time. Please contact Pastor Gena or the Church Office to find out more. Would you like to see more children and youth in our congregation? Invite the young people in your life to join us!

Fairhill Manor Christian Church extends its deepest sympathy to the Terry Herschell family who passed away on Tuesday, October 13.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to her friends and family.



Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column to discover the sentence that begins and ends Psalms 146, 147, 148, 149 and 150.

FEAST
KHAKE
MOUTH
ESSAY
LLAMA
ORBIT
CARRY
UDDER
BRUSH
ITEMS
APPLE
LEARN
CIDER

A				

Answer:

----- !

Answer: Praise the LORD!



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
October 18, 2020

Ministers Appreciation Sunday

Prelude

Audra Allen, organist

Welcome

Pastor Gena

Call to Worship*

Marsha Sams

The creative artistry of God surrounds us as nature continues the cycle of renewal and life. In the church God continues to provide for renewal and life through the gifts and graces of our leaders. Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn

"Blessed Assurance"

Audra Allen, organist

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer^*

Pastor Gena

O Source of Transformation, we turn our hearts to you on this Children's Sabbath. We pray for the Church, that we become an ever more true reflection of your welcome. Lead us in our witness to your justice. Teach us to be the embodiment of your love, especially for the youngest, impoverished, and most marginalized of your beloved children.

Source of Transformation, we pray: Make our lives a living prayer.

Source of Compassion, we pray for the world, in which disease knows no boundary and suffering is a shared language. We ask that love will unite us in action that recognizes our common humanity. Give us your desire that all may live in the fullness of life.

Source of Compassion, we pray: Make our lives a living prayer.

Source of Hope, we pray for our nation wounded by disease and death, division and distrust, pain and poverty, and so many uncertainties. Instill in us calm and trust in you that helps us reimagine our future with justice and joy for all children.

Source of Hope, we pray: Make our lives a living prayer.

Source of Strength, on this Children's Sabbath, we pray especially for the children and youth of our congregation and our communities. We hold in our hearts those who struggle with disrupted learning, delayed plans, disappointment and loneliness. We pray for those whose families struggle to make ends meet. We pray that we will be inspired to work with our children toward your vision of justice and joy.

Source of Strength, we pray: Make our lives a living prayer.

Source of Comfort, we pray for those who have died, especially those who died too young, too soon, from causes we could have prevented. We pray for the families of those whose lives were lost to disease and despair, to brutality and bullying, to shootings and to suicide. Help us to be your arms of care for those who grieve and your voice to prevent unnecessary losses.

Source of Comfort, we pray: Make our lives a living prayer.

Source of Love, we pray now for those we have named aloud this morning and those who we name in our hearts now in the silence of these moments.

Source of Love, we pray: Make our lives a living prayer.

These things we ask in Jesus' name, who came among us as a living prayer of transformation, compassion, hope, strength, comfort, and love. We pray together in his name as he taught us to pray...

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.

A Time of Appreciation and Gratitude

Anthem

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”
Performed by Jim Cope, trombone, and Audra Allen, organ

Children's Message^{^*}

Pastor Gena

In the Bible are the words of one of God's special helpers we call Isaiah, who told people God's message. This Isaiah was speaking to families who were having a very hard time—some of them were far from their homes and everything seemed different from what they were used to. Some were hungry, or sick, or didn't have work to do. Grown-ups and kids were feeling sad and scared. Isaiah told them that God's message was “*Don't be scared. I have called you by name, you belong to me.*” God said, even during the scariest times, “*I will be with you.*” (Isaiah 43:1b)

God has called you by name, [say child's name], you belong to God. God will always be with you.

Then, Isaiah told the people, God had a hopeful message for them. God said, “*I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it?*” (Isaiah 43:19a)

God wanted the people to use their imaginations to try to see the new world that God was creating—when things would be better than in a scary or hard time. God wanted people to see pictures in their minds of the world God wants.

We've all been going through a hard time kind of like the families Isaiah was speaking to. For lots of kids, school is different and they haven't been able to play with their friends. Lots of people are worried about getting sick. Some parents don't have jobs anymore. Lots of us are upset when people are treated unfairly because of the color of their skin.

I think God would like us to use our hopeful thoughts to imagine what it will be like when things are better and more fair for people—especially for children. Let's close our eyes and imagine. I can imagine a time when all children can go to good, safe schools and play with their friends. There it is! Can you see it in your imagination? Can you see those pictures in your mind?

I can imagine a time when people aren't worried about getting sick and don't have to wear masks any more, and anyone who is sick gets good care from a doctor. There it is! Can you see it in your imagination?

I can imagine a time when parents have jobs and there are homes and food for every family. There it is! Can you see it in your imagination?

I can imagine a time when everyone is treated fairly and kindly whatever color of skin they have, and everyone knows that all colors of skin are beautiful and that each person has value. There it is! Can you see it in your imagination?

Let's open our eyes now. The world is different than the hopeful pictures we saw in our imaginations. But today, on what we call the Children's Sabbath, our church and people who love God everywhere are saying that they are going to be God's partners in helping create that hopeful future for all children. Dear God, thank you for promising us that you will always be with us even during scary times. Thank you for reminding us that you are creating something new. Help us to keep using our imaginations to see a better world for all children. Thank you for our church on this Children's Sabbath that will be your partner in making our world better. Amen.

Scripture Reading*

Philippians 2:19-30

Marsha Sams

Sermon*

“God Provides”

Rev. Collins

In 1993, one of your former illustrious pastors, John Haniford, called me to ask permission to submit my name for consideration as the Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in PA. He did his best job to try and convince me that he felt certain that I was a perfect candidate and should consider leaving a 22 year ministry as the Senior Pastor of the Central Christian Church in Uniontown...the church where he was raised, to assume an episcopal position where I would cover some 65 congregations and oversee more than 126 pastors.

Feeling somewhat like so many people of scripture, I doubted that God was leading me to assume that ministry but as I naively said at the time, I can't hear the call, but I'll await what God thinks through the search committee. Throughout the history of the church God has encouraged people to serve in ministry...and as Pastor Gena so beautifully explained several Sundays ago with Moses, most of those selected come with reluctance and doubts, but eventually respond, hineni. Here I am. It happened to me in

January of 1994 when I accepted God's call through the church to become a bishop, a regional minister as we Disciples call them.

The responsibility that was novel for me in this new ministry most was of speaking with people wrestling with that same kind of call. I spoke to teenagers in high school wondering after a vespers service at Laurelview whether God was calling; then there were people who had completed a career but felt unfulfilled and wondering if ministry may be their goal. Unlike most other positions that are a rational consideration of skills and compensation and responsibilities, ministry is a calling. Now I believe there are other professions that are equally a calling...nursing, medicine, teachers, social workers. But for ministry the distinction is the way you decide. Most callings are an acknowledgement of what fulfills you...a sort of human puzzle piece fitting into the place marked and fitted for you. For a pastor, I have always believed the real question to ask is can I really say no. As that hound of heaven, God, will pursue those who are to serve until the calling is accepted. And if you can refuse and still find peace, that is your answer, the call is not yours.

As Regional Minister I also found myself in the prayerfully agonizing position of advising congregations and search committees to seek out for the right fit of a pastor to call.

Your Search Committee recently acted on your direction, but really, they were commissioned to seek to follow God's wishes. To determine who among those who have said Here I am, was correct to become your pastor. That's a responsibility of the church, not the pastors seeking the calling. Oh, it's happened here before...among those I have known from your history, AC Young, John Haniford, Patty Getty, Pat Donahoo, Connie Sheller, Bob Brooks, David Mansfield to Gena Sheller and Michael Lehman...this congregation has been blessed by God with pastoral leadership. None of them perfect...all gifted with differing talents and strengths...but all of them providing what you with God's mission needed at the time of their calling.

In only two weeks you will be welcoming your newest recipient of that call, the Rev. Chris Stillwell. Called, sent by God with gifts and graces to lead you into the future. Paul in his email communication with those Philippians referred to this holy process as he talked of his blessings upon both Timothy and Epaphroditus as they were called to serve these early Christians. He clearly speaks of the those who are called to be ministers as partners in serving the gospel. That's the joy of being a minister of Christ...we are not called to do it all, or to complete the work in any one place. In Corinthians Paul reminds those members of that congregation not to revere any one minister over another. Oh, I trust each of you found one slight favorite over another of the pastors who preached and taught in this place...but each of them were called to share something most needed, none were perfect...and neither will be Chris. But I encourage you to look for the special gifts that he brings and rejoice in the unique leadership he offers.

I've found you all to be most receptive to the guidance from Pastor Gena and myself even during these past eight months of the pandemic, I encourage you to continue to provide that openness to Rev. Chris...respect him as one prepared for ministry and called by God...I would expect that in this colony of heaven, he will extend that same respect to you as you together discern God's leading. As Paul related to those Philippian Christians, welcome him and his family with joy and extend honor to them. As Paul never ceased to offer words of encouragement to those he loved, so may you encourage Chris with expressions of thanks and gratitude...thank him for not just the big obvious things, but the more trivial, daily responsibilities of calling, phone conversations, Manor Minutes articles, his teaching. Ministry provides few other encouragements in a world where the church is diminishing in appreciation by our culture...may thanks and joy be always in your mouth.

For those of us in ministry I offer one final encouragement as you look forward to the years ahead...remember, Rev. Chris and Pastor Gena are called to divine tasks, but they are still human with

needs for family time, privacy and their own spiritual and emotional needs and grace when they make mistakes. Give them the time they need to cultivate the love within their family and among friends and offer forgiveness and grace quicker than resentment and critiques.

As Paul ends this note about leaders I too say, “Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in God” who provides in all times.

Call to Offering*

Marsha Sams

Good morning. God is still speaking, are you hearing, God? And leading us to where we need to be and what we need to be doing. Are you ready? Please know that your Outreach team is working on several opportunities to help others in our community during this upcoming holiday season and information about those opportunities will be available soon.

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus the Christ, and in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that blesses others through the sharing of our love, our talents, and our material possessions. As we give today, may we have done so in love, in joy, in prayer, in thanksgiving and in unselfishness. May the Peace of Christ be with you all.

Dedication of Offering Prayer*

Rev. Collins

Accept and bless these wonderful gifts of our labor that they may be used to serve and please you by serving others in need. AMEN.

Invitation to Communion*

Rev. Collins

In this final chapter of his letter to that Philippian church, Paul expressed his gratitude for the gifts that this most beloved church had sent to him in prison. Perhaps, this was the first Minister’s Appreciation Day. The gifts that they wanted to send went not by postal service or carrier company, but by a person. They sent them with Epaphroditus whom Paul earlier had recognized as a partner in ministry, called by God to assist that early church in their ministry. So, it still happens in the church, ministers called by God to a special ministry also partner with others called to serve. Through the generations of God’s select the church is blessed and moves forward. The gifts of gratitude and love delivered through human love, and encouragement to satisfy every need according to the riches in Christ Jesus.

At this table, we are reminded of God’s gifts for each of us and the church in this challenging time, again delivered in person through the presence of Christ with us. Come God’s riches await you in this bread and cup.

Prayer for the Bread & Cup*

Gene Sheller

Lord God,

You have done so much for us here at Fairhill Manor Christian Church in many ways, especially in providing leaders for us that we need. We thank you for that.

But, at this table or in our homes, every Sunday we come to thank you and praise you for doing for us what we couldn’t do for ourselves – saving us from our sins. You have done that for us by sending your son Jesus to be the sacrifice for our sins.

We are so sorry that he had to endure the suffering that he did for us, but we are extremely thankful that we are saved.

With this meal we eat and drink, we remember his body and blood that he gave as our sacrifice.

We love you; we praise you; and we thank you, God.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Words of Institution*

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 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

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

Audra Allen, organist

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

Benediction*

Rev. Collins

Beloved of our gracious and providing God, go forth in peace to joyfully serve. Share your lives and your blessings with others as they need. Go in peace. AMEN.

^Adapted from 2020 Children's Sabbath "Reimagining Our Future: Justice and Joy for All Children,"
Christian Resources for the Worship Service from the Children's Defense Fund.

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



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
Donna Bakaitis
Bill Behrens
Bristol Allan Berry
Mark & Susan Britko
Jordon Burk
Wanda Chicone
Emily Cope Robinson
Irma Davis
Libby Eberhard
Fred Engle
Jay Freudenberg
Joe Greene
Bonnie Gregg
Sloan Amelia Hagy

Judy Hanning
Aryn Hess
Ed & Harriet Jackman
Dallas Jacobovitz
Tom Lane
Bob Lanning
Cheryl Leach
Rick Lewis
Lee & Betsy Martin
Ruth Mikuta
Dick Moninger
Jody Mullis
Georgette Murray
Peggy Oliverio
Joe Palfreyman
Deborah Patterson

Denny Paul
Sadie Reese
Betty Jo Riggle
Chip Rogers and his parents
Jim and Barb Roupe
Theresa Shape
Cathy Stewart
Beth Teagarden
Melissa 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

Answer to puzzle: Praise the Lord!

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.

