

Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 45

Oct 30, 2020

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



November 8: Last names beginning with **F-O & P-Z**
November 15: Last names beginning with **A-E & F-O**
November 22: Last names beginning with **A-E & 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.

A Grace-filled Sunday to remember... Rachel and I want to thank all of you at Fairhill Manor for the gracious sendoff last Sunday. The monetary gifts, the special remembrances, your words, cards, and the kids bell choir made it a day we will long remember. And how will I ever forget you all after my unique pandemic pastor brick? You are a very special and faithful people. May God richly bless you all!

With love, Rachel and Darwin Collins



Children Worship and Wonder
and
the 4th-7th Grade Group
Will **NOT** meet this Sunday, November 1.



October Webinar discussion – November 2, 7 pm via Zoom
Women's Stories from the Old Testament – November 5, 5 pm via Zoom
November Board Meeting – November 11, 7 pm via Zoom
Stewardship/Finance – November 17, 5:30 pm via Zoom

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

October Webinar Discussion

Join us as we discuss the October webinars on Monday, November 2 at 7 pm via Zoom.

Topic: Webinar Discussion

Time: Nov 2, 2020 06:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87027844296?pwd=aHE5WFlacFJkSktkWURvUFVjT0F5dz09>

Meeting ID: 870 2784 4296

Passcode: 806025

New Webinars for November!

Questions? Difficulty registering? Contact the Church Office.

1. Imagining a New World

Presenter: Rev. Teresa Hord Owens

In these unprecedented times, more than ever, we must have the courage to imagine a new church for a new world. We must give ourselves permission to change and live in freedom from fear.

- Participate in a live Zoom session with Rev. Teresa Hord Owens, General Minister & President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), on November 7, 2020 from 1:30-3:30 pm. Register at <https://www.lextheo.edu/webinar-series/> to participate in the live Zoom session. Cost: \$10.
- Receive a link to watch a recording of this webinar by registering at <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/webinars>.

Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens is the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She has served as a former Dean of students at the University of Chicago and has more than 20 years of experience leading diverse teams in corporate America.

2. The Local Church & Social Justice: Bringing Church to the Streets

Presenters: Rev. Dr. Don Gillett and Rev. Megan Huston

When ministers are at their best, they are preachers, organizers and chaplains, but balancing these roles can be challenging, especially in the midst of our current political divide. Rev. Dr. Don Gillett and Rev. Megan Huston spent two years working together as clergy leaders for Kentucky's Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. They will share stories and best practices about navigating the difficult path of balancing the pastoral and the prophetic. During this webinar, participants will be invited to ask questions and explore what it means to be called as a pastor or lay leader to live into the ministry of loving God and neighbor.

Rev. Megan Huston is in her 11th year of congregational ministry and is currently serving in her sixth year as Senior Minister of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Bowling Green, Ky. She also serves as a TriChair for the Kentucky Poor People's Campaign.

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett II is the Senior Pastor at East Second Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Lexington, Ky., where he has served since July 1999. He is the Executive Director of the Kentucky Council of Churches. He also serves as a Tri-Chair of the Kentucky Poor People's Campaign.

Register at <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/webinars> to receive a link to a recording of this webinar.



Church Office hours – Monday – Friday 9 am -2 pm.
Karen is at the Church on Wednesday & Thursday
and working from home on Monday, Tuesday &
Friday.

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.

DRIVE-THRU NATIVITY

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



BLESSING BOXES

Throughout these COVID19 months, God has remained faithful to us with many blessings. We can give thanks to God daily, by using our BLESSING BOXES. **This money will be collected each Sunday in November and dedicated on November 22.** Please give your BLESSING BOX money to Carol Davis or Linda Reese. A check can be written to: FMCC DWM. Boxes can be kept and used again.



All money goes to the DOC Church Mission Fund. 50% is used for women's studies, programs, and development nationally and internationally. When we recognize our daily blessings, we provide countless blessing for women in our world!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

RINGING OF THE BELLS FOR WASHINGTON'S SALVATION ARMY (SA) -2020 – It has been decided, by your Outreach Team, because of the concern for our congregants' health and the current COVID-19 situation, that as a Church, FMCC will NOT be participating in this year's Bell Ringing Campaign. However, if anyone would like to participate on an individual basis to ring bells please contact Capt. Jason at the Salvation Army, 724-225-5740, ext 113. We are encouraging that if you are out and about and see a red kettle to please make a donation and thank the volunteer for their time. Also a Givelify account has been set up through FMCC if anyone would like to make a donation that way.

TREASURES FOR CHILDREN - FMCC will be participating in the Salvation Army's Treasures for Children Program. Amy and Becca Caldwell will be taking the lead on this and is in the process of gathering all the information.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR – We would like to help provide some food to the Community Circle Food Bank for their clients during this holiday season. Please consider participating in the **Reverse Advent Calendar Food Collection** by filling a box with a different suggested food item on list. The food items will be donated to Community Circle Food Pantry. We are starting the collection a few days before Advent officially begins in order to get the food to the Pantry by, Tuesday December 22nd. We will have a drive-thru drop off for the food at FMCC on Saturday December 19th from 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Any questions please contact Marsha Sams by either texting, 859-421-7227 or e-mailing, msams822@gmail.com



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

Rev. Chris Stillwell, Senior Pastor
Rev. Gena Sheller, Associate Pastor
November 1, 2020

All Saints Sunday

Prelude

Audra Allen, organist

Welcome

Pastor Gena

Call to Worship*

Linda Reese

Through stories of faith and acts of grace, we are reminded that God is always here. By God's presence, we are guided. Through God's word, we are instructed. With God's Spirit, we are formed. Come, let us lift our voices in praise, and offer our lives in service to God.

Opening Hymn

"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"

Audra Allen, organist

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

And when my task on earth is done,
when, by thy grace, the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God thro' Jordan leadeth me.
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.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer*

Pastor Gena

O God, we are so happy to have arrived at the end of a long and winding road. We are relieved and excited to have reached this day when we can welcome our new Senior Pastor among us. We look back with thanksgiving on your presence with us during months of hard work and prayer, of discernment and waiting. Thank you for JC and Mike, for Diane and Becca, for Jackie and Rolinda. Thank you for their commitment and diligence in listening for your voice as you guided them to Rev. Chris Stillwell. Bless them as they help us get to know Rev. Chris and as they help him to find a new home in ministry here at Fairhill Manor.

And yet we know that the end of this road marks the beginning of a new journey together. Bless Rev. Chris and his family with strength and grace as they begin their transition into our congregation. Give us wisdom and sensitivity, patience and openness as we welcome Rev. Chris and his unique gifts for ministry among us. Unfold for us a vision of how all of our gifts will fit together, making something new and beautiful that is built upon years of faithful ministry in this place. Together may we bear much fruit as we share the good news of your love.

Gracious God, you call us your own children and overwhelm us with your love.
We want to be merciful as you are, and to show compassion as you do,
but we fail to live the life to which we have been called.

We are quick to judge and condemn, but slow to add our ideas and energy to help.
In spite of the grace you have shown to us, we are slow to show mercy and take time to understand.
We place our allegiances to party and team above our allegiance to you, forgetting that we are called to be moved with compassion for all your children.
Forgive us, O God, and wash us clean, that we may serve you with joy and thanksgiving, living and loving more like Jesus every day.
We rejoice that you always make a way where there seems to be no way.
In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven!

We bring now the concerns of our hearts to you, knowing that you hear and that you care.
We pray for this congregation and for your church throughout the world...
For those who are entrusted with power...
For those who have lost their way...
For those who suffer at the hands of others...
For those who waste away in hunger and thirst...
For all who teach and those who learn...
For those who are sick or dying and those who are caring for them...
For those whose needs are known only to you.

Loving God, we pray for our country as we approach Election Day.
We are full of emotions – worry and hope, fear and anger, certainty and confusion.
So today we ask for your guidance.
Open our eyes to see the needs of others.
Open our hearts to make room for empathy.
Give us wisdom as we navigate challenging conversations.
Give us patience to disagree with grace.
Give us compassion to make decisions for the greater good.
And when all fails, bring us back to love.
Bring our hearts and our hands, our dreams and our hopes, our anger and our frustration, our hurt and our fear, all back to love.

We pray all of these things in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, the one we follow and serve, who taught us to pray this way...

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- “Guide Me, Oh Thou Great Jehovah,” performed by Jim Cope, trombone and Audra Allen

Children’s Message*

Pastor Gena

Today is a special day in our church. Of course, every day is special when we can be together. But some days are more special than others. Can you think of some special days in the church year? Christmas is a special day at church. Easter is a special day at church.

Today is called All Saints’ Day. Can you say that with me? All Saints’ Day.

Did you know that you are a saint? A saint, in the Bible, is what people in the church called each other. A saint was a person who was trying to follow Jesus. So, you see, I think you must be a saint because I

know you try to follow Jesus; you try to love God and to love other people – those who are easy to love and even those who are a lot more difficult to love.

But sometimes you will hear somebody called “Saint So and So.” Like St. Vincent College, where the Pittsburgh Steelers have their training camp every year. St. Vincent was a French Catholic priest who served the poor. Or maybe you have heard of St. Hilary’s Church here in Washington. Sometimes famous people who did wonderful things get called saints.

And sometimes at church you might hear someone talk about someone who died. They might say, “He was a real saint”; or “She was such a saint.” This is a way of remembering someone that we really loved and admired who followed Jesus.

Today we are remembering some saints in our church. We are remembering people who died in the last year. Did you ever know anyone who has died? When someone dies, we usually feel sad. Sometimes we cry. Maybe you have seen your parents cry when someone died. We cry because we loved those who died. And because they were saints, because they tried to follow Jesus and helped us to follow Jesus, we do things to honor them. We have a special worship service called a funeral or memorial service. Sometimes we give special gifts in their honor to the church or some other program. And today, we remember them by reading their names in worship.

A Litany of Praise for the God of All The Saints

Gracious God, you are to be praised for the women and men whose faithful witness to your love inspires each generation of your people.

Mindful of all those who have gone on ahead of us, teach us to follow their example:

To feed the poor; to support and comfort those who mourn;

to cherish and learn from the merciful; to be humbled by, and stand with, the peacemakers.

Let us clearly recognize what it means to be called the children of God, and may we know that we are to be your saints,

neither by our own choosing nor in our own strength, but simply by the call of Christ Jesus our Savior.

Loving God, the generations rise and pass away before you.

You are the strength of those who labor; you are the blessed rest of those who have died. We rejoice in the company of your saints.

We remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who rest in you, whose names we remember before you now as we speak them aloud and in the silence of our hearts:

Earl Hatfield
Eleanor McConnell
Della Adams
James (Jim) Chase
Terry Herschell

Continue to inspire us by their faithful witness.

O God, we thank you for all of the people who have tried to follow Jesus and have helped us to follow Jesus. Help us to follow Jesus more closely. Amen.

Sermon*

“Thank the Saints”

Rev. Stillwell

Now that we have entered the month of November, we have entered the time of Thanksgiving. Not only the holiday, but also the act of thanksgiving itself. We should be thankful each day for what we have and the purpose of the Thanksgiving holiday is to set aside time to be especially thankful, but how many times do we wait until the turkey is on the table and the pumpkin pie is in the oven to give thanks? How many people might never pause to give thanks for all the blessings that they have received if it were not for this ritual? How many people see Thanksgiving come and go as just another day, and believe that they have nothing for which to give thanks?

Certainly, some people have more reasons to be thankful than others. Each one of us could think of someone who has more money, or more success, or seemingly more happiness, and we could look at them and become bitter and refuse to thank God for what we have, but then again, each of us also could think of another person we have known who has less and maybe that will make us more thankful in spirit.

The fact of the matter is that what other people have or do not have should not matter to us when it comes to counting our own blessings, for we all, each one of us, no matter what else we may or may not have in common, can claim two blessings that we share. The first is that Jesus Christ offers us forgiveness of our sins and opens the door to eternal paradise if we follow him through it. That is the blessing that is reserved for each of us in the next life. The second is that there is also a blessing for us, and that is that the more we pause to give thanks for whatever we have, no matter how small it may be, the more we become satisfied with what we have. The more satisfied we become the more thankful we become decreasing our anxiety and worry and increasing our peace and contentment.

Because these two incredible blessings are true for us each day of the year let us not wait until what has marked the fourth Thursday of every November to give thanks. The apostle Paul lived 1800 years before it became customary to set an entire day apart for giving thanks, but he gave thanks anyway. It is important, therefore, to notice how many things Paul has for which to be thankful.

It was a tradition in ancient Greece to begin letters and correspondences with a positive note. Even messengers who delivered bad news would start by thanking the Gods for the good health of their recipient before they proceeded to inform him of the bad health of his friends and relatives.

This is a tradition that Paul employs as he begins almost all of his letters with a note of thanks to God and to his readers for some blessing in his life. Sometimes he might follow his thanksgiving with a harsh or critical word, but he always made sure to begin with giving thanks for what was right.

In particular, Paul writes to the Colossians to address a religious debate that was dividing their community, but, before, he corrects their faith, he begins by giving thanks for it. He says:

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints

So, Paul is thankful for two things. First, he is thankful for the faith that the Colossians have in Jesus Christ. Without this, they would have no interest in the things that Paul says as he strives to teach them about Jesus Christ. Secondly, Paul is thankful that they do not just love Christ but also love the saints as well. In other words, they love other Christians, and this is what ties them to Paul, for we all know that sharing Christ does not always bring two people together. Many Christians have shared love of the same Lord but shared little love for each other.

Thankfully, this is not the case with the Colossians, so despite the trouble they are having- the arguments and debates that are confusing them- Paul is thankful, and he encourages them to be thankful as well. These Christians may have felt upset over the fact that some were teaching differently than Paul saying that following Christ was not enough to please God but specific holy times, ascetic practices, and worship of angels was needed to be saved, and the initial joy of conversion may have waned as they began to doubt their own salvation, but still Paul tells them that they too should give thanks. He says

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Again Paul comes back to the saints. He is thankful for the saints, thankful that the Colossians love the saints, and thankful that he and they may share the same inheritance as the saints. As the years have passed love and thankfulness for the saints has only increased and the first day of November has been set aside as All Saint's Day in order for Christians to give thanks to the saints who have come before.

Initially, this was set up by the church in the 9th century to honor those Christians that the church dubbed saints and to pray to them rather than for them. But when Paul talks about saints this is not what he has in mind. Instead, the saints were any Christian who died believing in Jesus Christ. Let me emphasize that he meant ANY Christian. Obviously some were more learned, others more committed, still others more eloquent in their sharing of the gospel, but all were saints for simply having believed the good news that the scriptures proclaim.

The church would later establish that no one could be a saint unless they performed three miracles, and that is impressive to be sure, but I prefer the idea that even the ordinary, everyday Christians are saints, not because of who they are, but because of who Christ was. Paul could have set up a hierarchy of believers and would have been justified placing himself at the top but, fortunately he did not. For Paul, all who followed Christ, even those whom he corrected, were saints and shared the same inheritance.

The same is true today. As we enter into this season of thanksgiving, let us begin by giving thanks that all people, even the worst sinner, even the person who does not believe the gospel until the end of his or her life, even people like you and me can become saints, not because of our greatness, but because of God's greatness, which we know in Jesus Christ.

Let us also give thanks that we have known saints in our lives. They may not rank up there with Francis of Assisi or Bernard of Clairveaux or St. Paul in terms of devotion or great deeds, but they were saints to us nonetheless. We may not celebrate All Saints Day the exact same way as Catholics do, but we all share a love of Jesus Christ and a love for the saints, therefore, let us leave this place remembering at least one saint who has set in these pews and had a profound effect on your faith journey just as Paul had for the Colossians. What was it about that person that was so important or memorable to you? What can you do to be a saint to someone else? If you ponder these questions than you will not only be faithfully celebrating All Saints day, but you may also give someone else a reason to give thanks one day as well.

May the love of the saints go with you this day.

Call to Offering*

Reaching Out, Rising Up, Responding in the Name of Jesus. This is the mission statement for Fairhill Manor Christian Church. The story of Fairhill Manor Christian Church is a testimony to this mission statement. This is our statement on how we serve in faith throughout our community and throughout the

Linda Reese

world. We have a wonderful history of supporting local, national, and international agencies. The Salvation Army, City Mission, Narcotics Anonymous, Disciples Women's Ministries, and Church World Service are just a few of the organizations we support. We will continue this legacy with your support in time, talents, and financial gifts. These gifts are essential in the caring for our pastors and staff and the maintenance of our beautiful sanctuary.

Today with Pastor Stillwell, we begin a new chapter in our story. During this difficult time, give as you are able so that we can continue the fulfillment of our mission statement.
Reaching Out, Rising Up, Responding in the Name of Jesus!

Dedication of Offering Prayer*

Rev. Stillwell

Accept these gifts as part of our prayer for those who will follow us in the faith, for we want them to carry on the work that has been advanced over the years with great dedication and sacrifice.

Invitation to Communion*

Rev. Stillwell

November is a quiet time in the midst of excitement. Before we had the changing colors of the fall the excitement of Halloween, and soon we will have Christmas and all the rush of excitement that season brings, but now is the time to pause, to breathe, to rest. It is also a time to remember for this month begins with All Saints Day, continues with Veteran's Day, and culminates with Thanksgiving, all of which are times that we set aside to remember. We as Christians have just such a time for pause, remembrance and Thanksgiving. For this is what communion is for us.

In the midst of work, family, stress, entertainment, worry . . . communion is a chance to breathe, pause, and rest. While we are doing those things we also remember. We remember the saints who have gone before, and who are with us now at this table, and when we remember we then give thanks. We give thanks for the faith that has been shared and the one who has inspired it and who has invited us to this table

So, as you take this bread and this cup take a deep breath. Breathe out all your anxiety and breathe in the presence of Christ

Prayer for the Bread & Cup*

Tammie Wallace

Let this bread and cup fill us with wisdom and understanding so that we may please you in every way. Let it also remind us of your son giving his life so we may be forgiven of sin. 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

"Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In"

Jody Mullis, pianist

Oh when the saints, go marching in,
Oh when the saints go marching in
oh how I want to be in that number
oh when the saints go marching in.

Oh when the stars, begin to shine,
Oh when the stars begin to shine,
oh how I want to be in that number
oh when the stars begin to shine

Oh when I hear, that trumpet sound
oh when I hear that trumpet sound
oh how I want to be in that number
oh when I hear that trumpet sound

Benediction*

Rev. Stillwell

As you go clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony, and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Amen



Do you have a prayer request or need help? Please feel free to contact Rev. Chris (412-956-6590) 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 to 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
Rick & Dawn Couch
Irma Davis
Libby Eberhard
Fred Engle
Jay Freudenberg
Joe Greene
Bonnie Gregg
Sloan Amelia Hagy

Judy Hanning
Gilbert Haught
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
Joe Palfreyman
Deborah Patterson

Denny Paul
Sadie Reese
Betty & Charles Riecks
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

835 S Main Street
Washington PA 15301

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



Take a minute to send a card to someone that you haven't seen in a while or who may not be able to have visitors at this time! I'm sure they will be happy to hear from you.