

Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 42

Oct 9, 2020

NEW Sanctuary Worship Schedule

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

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.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

October 18: Last names beginning with F-O & P-Z

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

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

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 take a couple minutes to complete this survey from the Calling Commission:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BW MKJ6F>

Thank you!!



Stewardship/Finance – October 13, 5:30 pm via Zoom
Elders Meeting – October 14, 6:30 pm via Zoom
Calling Commission – October 19, 6 pm via Zoom
Women's Stories of the Old Testament – October 22, via Zoom

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



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.

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!!**

October Webinars

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

Ask a Rabbi

Presenter: Rabbi Moshe Smolkin

The Torah emphasizes the importance of asking questions. It provides us with sample questions our children might ask and offers us possible responses depending on how the question is asked and on who is asking the question. Asking questions is essential in Judaism, and we encourage our children to ask questions from a young age. Questions allow us a chance to understand a subject in new ways and from multiple perspectives. This is imperative if we are to deepen our understanding of the Holy Blessed One, of Torah, and of each other. This webinar is a chance for you to ask your questions.

Rabbi Moshe Smolkin is in his 10th year as the rabbi of Ohavay Zion Synagogue in Lexington, Ky. He holds a B.A. in Mathematics from Brandeis University and a M.A.T. in Mathematics Education from Tufts University. He taught high school math before attending the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at American Jewish University in Los Angeles, where he interned as an interfaith chaplain at UCLA Hospital. He also spent a year learning in Jerusalem. During the last two years of rabbinical school, he interned at Mishkon Tephilo in Venice, California. He was ordained in 2009 and moved to Lexington with his wife, Talia.

Your Money and Your Life: Stories of Stewardship

Presenter: Rev. Cindy Maybeck

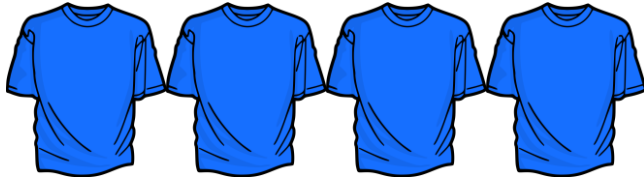
Do you dread the liturgical season of stewardship in your church? What if our approach to money was as fun, humorous and loving as the telling of a favorite Bible story? As we share biblical and personal stories about money, we move from dread to joy, from fear to trust, from a view of scarcity to one of abundance. Learn how to bring this spirit of creativity and joy into your church, creating community on the way.

Rev. Cindy Maybeck, founder of Spirit Story Ministry (www.cindymaybeck.com), has over three decades of experience in the pulpit. She served as pastor of multi-denominational congregations related to the American Baptist Churches USA, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ. An accomplished teacher and engaging preacher, she tells biblical stories by heart and leaves people transfixed and inspired by her personal stories.

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



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: 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!

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.



CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Carmen Oliverio and Chuck Wiseman have resigned from their respective offices with the Christian Men's Fellowship. Many thanks for all of your hard work and leadership.



A big thank you shout out to Louie & Steve Skariot for all of their sprucing up in the Memorial Garden. They cleaned the memorial plaque and repaired parts of the post. They also took the garden bench home and refinished it a couple weeks ago. Please take a minute to check out their hard work. It looks amazing!



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 11, 2020

Prelude*

Jeremy Olisar, Clarinet

Welcome*

Pastor Gena

Call to Worship*

Donna Stemski

Rejoice, my sisters and brothers.
God provides a family of faith to support and sustain our lives.
God gives a peace that surpasses our understanding and expectations.
Christ will protect our hearts and minds.
Rejoice!

Opening Hymn

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Audra Allen, organist

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer*

Pastor Gena

God, we come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving for your faithful love.
Your love never fails—not even we turn away from you. When we ignore your invitations or desert you
for gods of our own making, you do not abandon us. Your love never fails! We praise you, faithful God.

Lord, you know we are in the midst of a very confusing political season. Partisan shouts often deafen us
to the needs of those around us. Help us to remain focused on your call to service, to ministries of hope
and healing. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the chaos that we forget your presence. Give us
courage and strength to truly serve you by serving your people.

Thank you for your healing and forgiveness. For your promise to go with us on our journeys of ministry.
Thank you for this congregation of your people at Fairhill Manor. Tune our ears and our hearts to hear
you speaking. Tune our eyes to see where you are working in our homes, our community and our world.
Show us clearly the gifts you have given this congregation and where we can join your work already in

progress. Bless us as we say thank you to Pastor Darwin and as we welcome Pastor Chris. Open our hearts to embrace the gifts Pastor Chris brings to us and to work with him in your name.

We know that you welcome our prayers, our time spent in your presence, listening for your voice.

And so we pray for the world you created, and the people who share it with us: for countries caught up in violence; for regions of the world struggling with increased cases of COVID-19; for those whose homes and lives are threatened by natural disaster. For these and all the other areas in our world where there is need and despair, hear our prayers.

We pray for our country and for its people: for all of our government leaders; for our judicial system, police forces and military; for those who are in the majority and those who are in minorities; for our cities, towns, and rural communities; for employers and employees. For all who are part of our country, hear our prayers.

We pray for our local community: for the people of Washington and nearby towns; for those who are unemployed; for those in prison; for those who are hungry; for those who are alone and afraid. For all our neighbors, both known and unknown to us, hear our prayers.

We pray for this congregation, our brothers and sisters in Christ: for those who are ill or whose loved ones are ill; for those who are anxious about the future; for those struggling with their faith; for those who minister among us. For all your people in this place, hear our prayers.

We pray now in the silence of these moments for those whose joys fill us with gratitude and those whose concerns weigh on our hearts...

Pour out your Spirit on us, loving God! Fix our hearts and minds on what is true and honorable and right. Give us the joy and peace that comes from knowing and doing your will. Keep us faithful to the call we have received to extend your loving invitation to the world around us in Christ Jesus, our Lord, 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

“Sonata for Clarinet,” by Handel
Performed by Jeremy Olisar

Children’s Message*

Pastor Gena

What kinds of things sometimes make you feel worried? What do you do when you’re worried about something? What makes you feel better?

Today’s scripture comes from Philippians. The apostle Paul is writing to a church in a place called Philippi, and they were going through some challenging times. Paul offered the people in Philippi encouragement and reassurance because they had some big worries. Paul told the Philippians to find things that are true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and commendable. He told them to focus their attention on those things to help them through the hard times.

When times are difficult, and everything can feel overwhelming, we can bring all those things to God. That's what prayer is! When we focus on what is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and commendable—the things that bring hope and love—we can find hope and strength to keep going.

I wonder what we can focus on when we are worried or struggling. Let's keep this list in mind when things get hard.

Dear God, thank you for always being with us and for surrounding us with goodness. When we are worried or struggling, help us remember and focus on the things that bring hope and love to help us. Amen.

Scripture Reading*

Philippians 4:1-9

Donna Stemski

Sermon*

“Gentle Rejoicing”

Rev. Collins

I certainly hope you are enjoying our extended reading of these emails from Paul to some of his closest friends in that small church in Philippi. This was a special place for Paul...for those of you who are students of the scripture you might remember that Paul had to recalibrate his GPS when he set out on his missionary journey. He wanted to head east into Asia, but he was awakened one night on his journey with the warning not to go east, but to turn toward the west and go to Macedonia...and on that small bridge of land that links the East to the West sits this little town of Philippi...probably about 10,000 people, was a town that became famous for its history, not its present or future. The gold mines had been mined out and now was mainly a farming community. Paul felt at home since its residents were mostly Roman citizens, like him. He spoke the language and knew the culture.

He also knew of the tensions of living in between cultures and differing perspectives...the Romans, the Jews, the Greeks...and in these shared experiences Paul developed a relationship with them that went beyond a shared faith to a deep appreciation and respect. So, in this letter...or as he might write them today, emails, he demonstrates some of the same habits that I find myself resorting to at times--he repeats himself. I think it happens because he so loves them, he wants to impress upon them certain advice. Evidently there were some squabbles among the members, we know from last week there were those outsiders who wanted to convince them of a single, narrow path of life, a pattern set by traditional Judaism, of keeping the laws as a path to righteousness when Paul reminded them that they had been set from those old ways by their faith in Jesus. As one who loves them, he wants to protect them.

But we also know that he repeats the message of unity, of staying together to resolve differences, of respecting one another in Christ, to find that same mind in the Lord. In our email text for today, Paul becomes very personal by calling by name these two women who evidently Paul knew to be both equally committed to the church and the ministry, but there was some small thing dividing them. And the reason for encouraging them to work out their differences of seeking be of one mind is that with all of its faults, with all of the times when people in the church hurt one another and fail to live up to the example of Christ. We still, as Paul describes the church are the colony of heaven on earth. The church remains God's choice to show grace and love to the world.

And perhaps the most repeated word of advice to this church is the word...Joy. Either as a noun or its verb form of rejoice. In this passage we find those words to a most popular round...rejoice in the Lord, always, again I say rejoice...seems somewhat odd for a prisoner in a Roman cell to be encouraging people that he has only known for a short while to rejoice, begging them to make his joy complete, to be that joy and crown of a church.

I suppose it is better to be joyful than not...but what did they have to be joyful about? In so many parts of life it is so much easier to find reasons to be sad or cynical or pessimistic...they may not have been living with a pandemic at the time, but it appears that joy and the hope that it brings were a needed commodity. To have joy, that lasts beyond the momentary giggle or smile, we must sink our feet into a security, a comfort that lasts. For Paul, that security, that assurance was the knowledge that no matter what the world offers us we are inseparably connected to God...in other words, the transitory ups and downs of life are only temporary...our ultimate security, as Paul Tillich called it, our ultimate concern was secure.

And the meaning of that unshakable joy in our secure connection with God for that congregation and for us is that then we can live it with gentleness with one another. The language of our discourse in life, our politics, our dealings with customer service people, even sadly our communications with our families are often marked by harsh and angry words...a disposition power or even fear...wanted to come on strong. That's the style of our society...be assertive or aggressive...that's being strong and standing up for yourself.

But as Christians, as those for whom joy in our secure relationship with God in Christ lasts, we can relate to one another not with sharp or harsh words, but with gentleness. That Greek word for gentleness that Paul uses needs some unpacking. For us gentleness often is described as weakness, cowering, soft, victim-like, not possessing any power or authority...but 'euyevns' means noble, grace-filled courteous, respectful and in light of that hymn that Paul uses in the 2nd chapter...it was the way of Christ, humbling himself. He had the power and the authority, but he used it intentionally to be gentle toward others and the world.

Paul reminds us all that because we have the security of our connection with God that can never be severed, we can intentionally be both filled with joy and gentle as we live with one another in the church...my prayer for you all at FMCC is that you can be filled with gentle rejoicing! Thanks be to God!

Call to Offering*

Donna Stenski

In our Scripture text for today we hear these words: "Beloved, do not worry about anything, but in everything let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." In the assurance of this promise, let us confidently offer ourselves to God, knowing that God has already provided all that we need.

Dedication of Offering Prayer*

Rev. Collins

O God, creator of all that we have and all that we are, we cannot inventory all your mighty acts or declare all your praise. Yet accept these gifts, we pray, both as tools for the work of the gospel and as signs of our pledge to be coworkers in Christ's name. Amen.

Invitation to Communion*

Rev. Collins

Fred Craddock was in the estimation of most among the greatest preachers of the 20th century...a Disciple pastor and professor. He not only taught at Phillips Theological Seminary in Enid, OK, but had been educated there as a graduate student. During his years in seminary he served a small country church, miles outside of Enid. One Sunday morning during a horrific thunderstorm, the church canceled services, but forgot that the young Mr. Craddock didn't have a phone. They just assumed he would know not to come. But drive he did, through the pounding rain on dirt roads that were washing out. A few of the men decided that maybe that preacher would try and come in that bad weather, so they made their way to the church...not sure what to do, one of the men reached into his glove compartment and took out a deck of cards.

When Fred Craddock arrived at the church, he went in to find the men seated around the communion table dealing cards. Fred hurried to the front and asked, “What do you think you’re doing?” One of the men responded, “Playing poker and waiting for you.” “But on this table?” Fred asked. The men looked at him and said, “A table’s a table a table.” “No” responded Fred, “This isn’t just a table.”

Oh, this is a table, but when we gather as God’s people around it to receive the bread and cup blessed by God...it is much greater than itself. Not just wood but sanctified for a purpose—set aside to provide a blessing for God’s beloved. And here we find more than just ourselves, we are joined by the masses of God’s people around the world...and as well, by the crowd of witnesses and saints of this church who have gathered here before us. Come...for this is more than just a table!

Prayer for the Bread & Cup*

J.C. Leasure

God,

You alone are our joy. You are with us always. In you, we have peace that exceeds all human comprehension. At this communion table, remind us of your love. Remind us that you will never forsake us. Though our world may be spinning out of control, you are our firm foundation. As we dedicate our lives to you once again, here our prayers, we rejoice in you. 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

“Rejoice in the Lord Always”

piano by Jody Mullis

Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say Rejoice!
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, Rejoice!

Benediction*

Rev. Collins

Rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to everyone. Do not worry about anything, but with prayer give thanks to God. And may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Go, gently rejoicing!

* 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
Teresa Herschel
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

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





Nominations for 2021 church officers are now being accepted.

Calling Commission Members:

Linda Reese	Gary Ford	JC Leasure
Cara Hritz	Ruth Campbell	Bette Jo Puskarich
Candy Wasalasky	Jim Ulery	

Please turn in by
October 15

To submit your nominations:

Call the Church Office – (724) 225-8610

Email the Church Office – fairhillmanor@yahoo.com

Complete the online survey - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BWMKJ6F>

For a list of congregation members, see <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/member-list>

I would like to nominate the following person/people:
(Number after each is how many positions available)

- Moderator (1)
- Church Clerk (1)
- Personnel Committee member (2)
- Elder (4)
- Deacon (10)
- Trustee (1)