

# Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 37

Sept 4, 2020

Those with last names beginning with A-F and M-R worship in the Sanctuary this week at 9:30 am

## 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). Please be aware that we will be recording Zoom Worship this week and posting it to our website for folks to view later.

Children



We invite children to join in worship via Zoom at 9:30 am. Materials for children to work with during Worship will be attached to the Manor Minutes. Look for the beginning of a new CW&W year soon!



Thank you to Lou & Steve Skariot and Linda Reese for all of their hard work cleaning up the Memorial Garden. It looks AWESOME!

## Worship Attendance Schedule



September 6: Last names beginning with A-F and M-R  
September 13: Last names beginning with G-L and S-Z  
September 20: Last names beginning with A-F and S-Z  
September 27: Last names beginning with G-L and M-R



Board Meeting – September 9, 7pm via Zoom

2021 Budget Meeting – Stewardship/Finance and Trustee  
Tuesday, September 15, 6 pm via Zoom

Stay up to date, check [www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar)



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  
September 6, 2020

## Welcome to our Home Worship Service!

### **Prelude\***

steel drums by Josh Garrett

### **Welcome\***

Pastor Gena

### **Call to Worship\***

Marsha Sams

Let us gaze upon all creation as God does – with love and amazement.  
Let us see all people as God does – with love and blessing.  
Let us look into our own selves as God does – with love and hope.

### **Opening Hymn\***

“They’ll Know We Are Christians ”

piano by Jody Mullis

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:  
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love, yes, they’ll know we are  
Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love, yes, they’ll know we are  
Christians by our love.

### **Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer\***

Pastor Gena

Loving God, we are thankful for this hour to rest and focus on you.  
We worship you, we love you, for you so faithfully love us, even when we are difficult to love.  
We praise you for the many ways we feel your love and presence with us through those who care for us –  
our faithful friends, our caring teachers, our students and children and grandchildren, nieces and nephews,  
our doctors and nurses, our neighbors. Thank you for loving us.

Loving God, we come this morning seeking your deliverance from all that would keep us from loving you  
and loving each other.  
From evil, especially when it looks so much like goodness, deliver us.  
From selfishness and the things we want that lead to emptiness, deliver us.  
From irresponsible behaviors, quarreling, and jealousy, deliver us.  
From hurtful disagreements and irreconcilable differences, deliver us.  
Forgive us, we pray, and teach us to forgive.  
Lead us into the abundant life you bring.

We remember before you those who are at odds with one another in families, in neighborhoods or offices,  
and even in the church.

We pray for nations in the midst of struggles and conflict.  
Help us to speak the truth and to listen with understanding when perspectives are far apart.  
We pray for love to bring peace into every troubled heart and place.

We remember before you those who have physical needs today.  
People who are hungry and thirsty;  
people who are exhausted by the demands of work or caregiving;  
people who are sick, or undergoing surgery;  
and people who live with chronic pain.  
Bring relief and rest, we pray.  
Show us how to love.

We remember those weighed down with needs of heart and soul.  
Worries that keep us awake at night, grief that accompanies us everywhere we go, depression that clouds us, or an addiction that grips us.  
Lift all of these heavy burdens with the light and peace of your presence, we pray.

We remember before you our joys and concerns, spoken aloud in the midst of this community today and those you hear us speaking from our hearts in the silence of these moments....

We remember before you not only our cares,  
but also our joys—a birthday celebrated, an anniversary enjoyed;  
new beginnings—a baby born, a new school year begun, a new job, a new relationship.  
We thank you, O God, for the gift of laughter, for enduring friendships, and for cherished memories.  
We give thanks that with you there is always a new beginning, a way where this is no way, hope beyond hope, and life beyond death.

Re-center our lives in you, loving God. Set us on a path of sincere discipleship. Show us what faithfulness looks like in this time and place. For we yearn to live by loving, as did Jesus our Lord and Savior in whose name we pray together, saying...

*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\***

steel drums by Josh Garrett

## **Children's Message\***

Pastor Gena

What does good teamwork look like? Why is it important? What happens when there is a conflict between team members? How can conflicts be resolved?

One of today's scripture comes from the Gospel of Matthew (18:15-20), where Jesus shares how to handle conflict. The church is like a body. Different parts of the body each have their purpose or function. They are all important to one another and the body as a whole. When one part of the body is hurt, the whole body is affected.

Being the church means we are responsible for one another by really listening to each other and taking care of each other. When we each depend on one another and work together, we are interdependent. Sometimes we do this well. Sometimes we don't.

Jesus gives instructions on how to restore relationships when we choose to do something self-serving instead of what helps and tells us he is there with us as we do this work. Sometimes we have a hard time seeing how the actions we believe are right only for ourselves can do real harm to others.

Jesus says it's essential to work together to repair that breaking of the unity in the church body. He recognizes that when we fight and argue between ourselves, we are distracted from our real work: to bring about God's love and justice by caring for and defending people who are oppressed and creating a world where all can flourish.

What are some ways we can help create a world where we repair relationships, and everyone can flourish?

Dear God, thank you for making us all one community as the body of Christ. Help us work together well, serve one another with love, and heal when there are conflicts between us. Amen.

### **Scripture Reading\***

### **Romans 13:8-10**

Marsha Sams

### **Sermon\***

### **“Our Joyful Debt”**

Rev. Collins

It's not often that I quote Shakespeare, but he certainly was an insightful student of human behavior and in light of our text for today, his famous line from Hamlet seemed most appropriate: “Neither a borrower, nor lender be; for loan oft loses both itself and friend.”

I trust we have learned this great lesson in life, debt is not a very comfortable way to live or to establish and grow relationships. That's why this passage beginning in that 8<sup>th</sup> verse seems like just common-sense good advice: “Owe no one anything.”

It was no less than the great philosopher, Rocky Balboa, who spoke the truth to his friend and brother-in-law, Paulie, “Come on, you act like everybody owes you a livin'...Nobody owes nobody nothin'. You owe yourself.”

We realize however that for all of us life would not be possible without some debt, whether a mortgage on a home, or a loan for a car, or for far too many these days, large debt to finish an education. This text speaks directly at debt in our lives and how they can come between not just ourselves and financial institutions or friends...but between us and God.

After spelling out the responsibility that Christians have to the government to be good citizens, Paul speaks again of the commandments of God...our responsibility to be good children of God. And although he has celebrated our freedom from the burden of the law through the grace of Christ...he still wants to clarify that we do have a greater obligation...a debt, that seemingly is never repaid.

In the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter Paul sets out a lifestyle for Christians to follow in relationship with others by declaring that “If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” There is, you see, an obligation that we ‘owe’ to our neighbors, to our communities, to our church, to our God...a debt that lasts forever, that never arrives at a zero balance. It is the obligation to love. All of the commandments Jesus declared are contained in those two lovely responsibilities: to love our God and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Most loans or obligations that we have in life are based in our own needs or desires to purchase a home, car, vacations...all of these have a limited lifespan. Psychologists have even defined the inclination of debtors to forget their responsibilities and to become lax in repayment of debt as mental malfeasance...once our interest passes, we can rewrite our brain and thinking to not recognize the importance of that old debt or to forget it altogether.

The debt of love to which Paul refers is different. For the debt of love was created by our relationship with God. A relationship that brought us into a family and community, a relationship that affirms our importance in Christ's sacrifice, a relationship that connects us to one another. I would describe it not as mental malfeasance, but of spiritual presence. St. Claire of Assisi said that "we become what we love and who we love shapes what we become. If we love things, we become a thing. If we love nothing, we become nothing. Loving Christ, we become like Christ and are transformed into vessels for God's compassionate love for others." We focus not on our needs or desire, but the needs of others, our neighbors, our friends, the community, the world...and most importantly the building of our relationship with God. In Christ we have received the great gift of grace...a love that never ends...a debt we repay by sharing God's love to our community and world.

Contrary to Shakespeare's wise counsel or even Rocky, Paul reminds us that as Christians we shouldn't be debtors..."Owe no one anything...**EXCEPT** to love one another." An unending and joyous obligation! What's your repayment plan?

### **Call to Offering\***

Marsha Sams

Good morning. Offerings come in many sizes and shapes whether they are of your time, talents and/or treasures. In August I had the opportunity to finally do my internship with the Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) in Dayton, OH. Our own Disciples Volunteering is in Partnership with BDM. In 2019, over Memorial Day Weekend, 15 tornadoes, a couple of them being F-4s, went thru that area doing extensive, extensive damage. There are still people displaced from these storms and BDM is in the area to help people get back on their feet.

The site's leader, Sammy Deacon's, goal is to get roofs put on 6 homes so they don't go another winter without a roof. I know that last winter was not so bad but if it were your home you would want a roof, wouldn't you? If you know of anyone who would like to volunteer for a week please let me know and also pray that this goal is achieved. My contribution to this ministry was to make meals for the volunteers that came in to help for the week and to make sure their housing area was kept clean. We did follow CDC guidelines regarding COVID and everyone was compliant and felt safe. Long days, but what a great pleasure to meet these people who unselfishly gave of their time, talents and treasures to help people they didn't know.

To me that is "loving your neighbor as yourself." Fairhill Manor has a wonderful reputation of knowing who our neighbors are and continues to be aware of the needs inside and outside of these walls. Do know that Week of Compassion, our church's Disaster Response Mission has responded to the requests that have come in because of the damage done by Hurricane Laura. If you would like to donate to WOC there will be information in the Manor Minutes. Your monetary support of this Loving place is still needed to ensure that this Church continues to love each other and our neighbors. God is good all the time and All the time God is good. May the peace of Christ be with you.

### **Dedication of Offering Prayer\***

Rev. Collins

Generous God, our lives are renewed as we remember your goodness. You have made us in your image and placed in our hearts the memory of your love made flesh in Jesus Christ. That memory calls us to give and to embrace your world as we offer these gifts of our love. May our lives invested through these offerings create a new reality and extend your grace in remembrance of Jesus, a payment of what we owe. Amen.

### **Invitation to Communion\***

Rev. Collins

One of the justifications for Claire of Assisi to be canonized as St. Claire was that during the invasion of the soldiers of Frederick II into Assisi, she showed a remarkable grace to these who came looting and raping and killing. As three soldiers approached the monastery where Claire and her sisters were cloistered, she led them in prayer and during the prayer God directed her to go out to the invaders and offer to them the Eucharist...the sanctified bread of Christ's body. Armed, not with weapons or anger, she presented what was for her the very presence of Christ. I'm sure there were those in Assisi that day who thought this a ridiculous way to approach these heathens, these ones who came to bring violence and death...they didn't come for a holy experience...but Claire, so committed to loving Christ and in turn then loving others could only extend to them what she loved...she became a vessel of God's love in that dark moment. Their reaction was to receive the gift of Christ's presence and to leave peacefully. In our world of tension and anger, let us, like St. Claire repay fear and anger with the love of Christ. Come be strengthened by the body of Christ!

### **Prayer for the Bread & Cup\***

Tammie Wallace

Love is the fulfillment of the law, as we take this bread and cup let it nourish us and let it use us to lead by example for loving our neighbors as ourselves.

### **Words of Institution\***

Rev. Collins

*Gathered with his followers around the table, Jesus took the bread and offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God, broke it and gave it to them and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you." Later in the meal he took a cup and offered a similar prayer of thanks to God. He gave it to them and said, "Take and drink. This is my blood of the new covenant 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**

*"Lord, You Are More Precious than Silver"*

piano by Jody Mullis

Lord, You are more precious than silver;

Lord, Your light is shining within us;

Lord, You are more costly than gold;

Lord, Your light drives darkness away.

Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds;

Lord, Your light is guiding us onwards,

And nothing I desire compares with you.

Preparing us for the coming wedding day.

### **Benediction\***

Rev. Collins

Go, beloved of God. You have freely been given God's grace and walk in the light of Christ's love. Go, freed from your debt to sin may you joyfully assume your debt to repay to others in showing love and respect. Go, the world needs you! Amen.

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

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**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](http://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  
Eleanor Boyles  
Mark & Susan Britko  
Jordon Burk  
Wanda Chicone  
Emily Cope Robinson  
Nick Cross  
Libby Eberhard  
Fred Engle  
Jay Freudenberg  
Joe Greene  
Bonnie Gregg

Judy Hanning  
Aryn Hess  
Ed & Harriet Jackman  
Dallas Jacobovitz  
Tom Lane  
Bob Lanning  
Cheryl Leach  
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  
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

**PRAYERS**  
**FOR OUR MILITARY**  
And Their Families



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.



Those who wish to contribute to the reclamation and recovery work from the devastation of Hurricane Laura can contribute through Givelify or a check with a special designation for Hurricane Laura relief. All of the contributions will be used for this relief effort in Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas.

More information can be found at:  
<https://www.weekofcompassion.org>

# Puzzle!

Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below to discover what Jesus says about his friends.



“ Y \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ”

JOHN 15:14, NIV

Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV