

Manor Talk

**A Publication of
Fairhill Manor
Christian Church**

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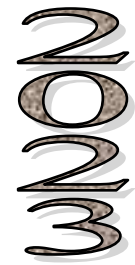
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Thoughts from Rev. Chris



Garrison Keillor had a long running radio show on National Public Radio entitled, "A Prairie Home Companion" where he told the stories of the idyllic location of his dreams, Lake Wobegone. Lake Wobegone was a wonderful place made of equal parts of the romanticized past, the glorified present, and the heralded future where, Keillor reminded his listeners each week, "All the men are strong, the women good looking, and every child is above average."

Because "A Prairie Home Companion" was a radio show I can't tell you what the men and women of Lake Wobegone looked like. I'm sure the men and women here at Fairhill are just as strong and just as good looking as Keillor's characters but I can tell you that every child here at FMCC is above average. I am not referring to being above average when it comes to solving math equations, taking geography tests, or playing kickball, but, when it comes to determining the worth of each child, none could be considered simply average. No child that God has blessed us with here is a less than average creation of God. Rather, each one is a unique, priceless treasure, and the task that we have to raise them, teach them, and instill in them a faith that will last their lifetime, is a serious one.

Therefore, as our children go back to school with the passing of summer, they also need to get ready to go back to Sunday School. In the middle of August we resumed Children's Worship and Wonder for children from pre-k to 5th grade and blessed their backpacks at the end of August. Now that September is here, we are gearing up again to teach lessons of God and Jesus Christ to the children in our Sunday School classes, and we will have a youth activity after church for all youth 5 and up on September 24.

Because Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me," and because every child here at Fairhill Manor Christian Church is above average, our teachers and volunteers have worked incredibly hard to provide them with fun and informative lessons that will help them grow in the faith.

No matter how strong or good looking you may be, you would not be where you are today without the church. If the church has been a blessing to you, why not bless your children and grandchildren as well? If you believe that they are above average then get them involved in the church.

Rev. Chris



- 2 Declan Kunkle
Beth Teagarden
- 3 Susie Macik
Shelva Morrow
- 4 Dawn Couch
- 5 Adelaide Hess
Lynsey Johnson
- 7 Maureen David-Furshman
Phyllis Doria
- 9 Dorothy Morgan
- 12 Robert Bakaitis
- 13 Russel Knight
Brian Shaw
- 15 Steve Skariot
Lauren Ware
Lynn Ware
- 18 Joy Barnhart
Michelle Ringer
- 20 Sammi Waters
- 21 Brooke Barlow
Eliza Barlow
Megan Faust-Piatt
Mike Nelson
Rolinda Sprowls
- 22 Sharon Ingram
- 23 William Leitsch
- 24 Thomas Foutz
Eric Meier
Nicole Wolf
- 25 Norma Antill
- 28 Kathryn Hess
- 29 Conner Gatten
- 30 Windsor Keene

- 1 Steve & Louie Skariot
- 2 Rick & Dawn Couch
- 5 Gage & Morgan Swartz
- 7 John & Anna Berg
Chris & Lisa Gardiner
- 8 Ty & Kerri Lacock
- 11 Daniel & Kassi Riffle
- 15 John & Cathy Anderson
- 24 Mike & Jackie Nelson

Blessing Boxes

Money from your **Blessing Boxes** will be collected and dedicated on Sunday, November 19. You can bring your money or a check to FMCC with Blessing Box in the memo that day and keep your box for continued use. All money goes to the Church Mission Fund with 50% used for national and international women's studies, programs and development. This is sponsored by our Disciple's Women's Ministry. Thank you for recognizing your daily blessings in this way! If you have any questions, contact Connie Sheller.

Drive-Thru Nativity

Yes it is August. Yes it is extremely hot outside. But the planning for the 2023 Drive-Thru Nativity has begun. The Drive-Thru Nativity dates are **December 9 and 10**. Please be praying and thinking about how you can serve in this large event.



Church Picnic

September 10

1:03pm

Kiwanis Pavilion Washington Park

Provided: Utensils, Paper Products

Water, Coffee, Iced Tea, Chicken, Hot Dogs

Surprise Bingo

Bring a side dish and/or dessert

Everyone is welcome!



If you have any non-perishable food items you would like to donate to the **Community Circle Food Pantry**, you can continue to bring them in and place them on the table by the coffee station in the front entrance of the church. Rev. Chris will take them to the pantry at the beginning of each month. **Items needed most at this time are: cereal, jelly, peanut butter, shampoo and soap.** If you or someone you know would like to volunteer or are in need of the Food Pantry's services, they distribute the food every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9-12. The Community Circle Food Pantry is located at 69 E. Pine Ave in Washington, and they can be reached at 724-225-1540.



Y o u t h

There will be a youth activity for all children 5 and older on **Sunday, September 24**. After packing the CWS School kits, the youth will have lunch and then participate in a Jenga tournament which will lead into a conversation about the way in which we build our faith. We will also have a Sundae bar and conclude at 2:30pm. Please let Rev. Chris know how many are coming by September 17 so that we can plan lunch accordingly.



Fairhill Manor continues to collect:

Plastic caps – We are still collecting bottle caps for the Washington Park bench project. Place your caps in the container in the Narthex. Please make sure your caps are CLEAN and do not have any paper in the caps.

Empty medicine bottles - We are collecting **empty medicine bottles**. The bottles will be sent to Matthew 25 Ministries in Cincinnati. Place bottles **with caps** in the collection container in the Narthex.

Acceptable collection items include:

- Prescription pill bottles (large and small)
- Pill bottles with and without secure caps (child-resistant). Must include cap.

CWS School Kits – There are still tags on the bulletin board in the Narthex for needed supplies to complete the Church World Service School Kits.

- Choose one or more tags from the bulletin board in the Narthex. **Be careful to purchase exactly what is listed on the tag.** Remove all packaging from the items you have purchased and return the items to the container in the Narthex by **Sunday, September 10**.
- If you are unable to purchase items for the School Kits you can contribute money to purchase bags for the School Kits or to help ship the School Kits. Take one or more coin envelopes from the bulletin board in the Narthex. Place your cash or check (made payable to Fairhill Manor with "School Kits" in the memo) in the envelope and place the envelope in the offering plate. Or give on Givelify to "CWS Kits."
- Plan to stay following worship on **September 24** to pack School Kits.



September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Worship 10:15am		Wedding Policy Task Force 5:30pm Library Dartball Practice 7pm	Stewardship/ Finance 5:30pm Library NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm Board Reports Due		Sanctuary and Large Fellowship Hall Reserved 11am-4pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Church Picnic 1:03pm	NA 7pm	Dartball @ Bethlehem Lutheran 7pm	Elders Meeting 5:30pm Board Meeting 7pm NA 6:45pm	Personnel Committee 3pm Library NA 7:30pm		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am	NA 7pm	Dartball @ Home 7pm	NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Pack School Kits after Worship & YOUTH activity	NA 7pm	Dartball @ Jefferson Ave 7pm	NA 6:45pm	NA 7:30pm		

Sunday School Begins

Sunday School begins on **September 10** from 9-10am. Children and Youth classes and their parents/guardians will participate in a Safe Conduct Orientation during Sunday School that day.

Children (K-2nd grade): Cara Hritz, Children's Room downstairs next to women's restroom

Youth (3rd grade +): Rev. Chris, Youth Room next to Small Fellowship Hall

Bykota Class (mixed age adult): The BYKOTA Class will not meet until **September 17**. This class will meet in the Small Fellowship Hall. Anyone not attending a class is invited.

Bethany Class: Linda Reese, Library
The Bethany Class will begin on September 10 with a Zoom/in-person lesson at 9am using standard curriculum.

DONUTS!!!

Glazed and Chocolate-Iced **donuts** from Krispy Kreme will be available for purchase before Sunday School for \$1 each. Any remaining donuts will be available for \$1 each in the Narthex prior to worship. Krispy Kreme **cinnamon rolls** will be sold for \$2 each when they are available. The Bykota Class will have **coffee and tea** available in their classroom.

Each class will collect a **weekly offering** at the beginning of Sunday School. The offering will go toward Church World Service projects. At the end of the Sunday School year, together we will choose projects to support from the CWS Best Gift catalog (see more at <https://cwsbestgift.org/>).

Our Sunday School classes will use

FaithWeaver Now curriculum.

FaithWeaver NOW is a quarterly, age-graded curriculum covering all ages. The 3-year scope and sequence covers the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. Each quarter we will experience 13 sequential Bible events through our lessons. Each lesson includes age-appropriate "Getting Started" activities, interactive learning to help take head-knowledge to heart- and life-change, applications of God's truth to everyday life, and take home resources to spark family faith conversations all week long. Learn more at <https://www.group.com/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/faithweaver-now/>.

Sunday School participants are invited to donate toward the **cost of books** each quarter. Each student book costs \$7. Donations can be given to your Sunday School teacher. Everyone is always welcome, regardless of your ability to contribute financially. We all contribute in unique ways!

Safe Conduct Policy Orientation

As required by our **Safe Conduct Policy** at Fairhill Manor, we will be hosting a yearly orientation to the policy and how we interact in safe and healthy ways while in church programs. All children/youth ages 3+ who anticipate participating in any programs at Fairhill Manor during the 2023-2024 year (Children Worship & Wonder, Sunday school, youth activities, etc.) are required to participate. At least one parent or guardian needs to be present for each child. If the young person in your life lives out of state and participates in Fairhill programs while visiting you, you need to attend the orientation and share this important information with them.

This year's orientation will be held **during the Sunday School hour (9-10 am) on September 10, 2023** (the first week of Sunday school). A donut breakfast will be provided. Please respond to Rev. Chris with the names of those who will be attending by **September 3**. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask. You may also reach out to Jerry Puskarich, Personnel Committee Chairperson, at jerrypuskarich@yahoo.com or 724-503-5658.

This is an interesting article concerning scams. Please read to protect you and your loved ones.

Protect Yourself from Scams

In the wake of recent arrests involving scams against older Pennsylvanians, the Office of Attorney General (OAG) is again reminding people of all ages to be on the lookout for someone trying to cheat them out of their hard-earned money.

Some tips to keep in mind:

- Never send money or gift cards to someone you do not know. Also, gift cards are for gifts, not for paying debts or bills.
- If you are suspicious or have concerns about a solicitation, call your local police or the OAG hotline at 800-441-2555.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. “Sweepstakes” scams have been common for years, so be vigilant and use common sense. If you did not sign up for a sweepstakes, you could not have won.
- [Sign up for scam warning text alerts from the Office of Attorney General.](#) Mobile carrier rates may apply.



Additionally, the OAG recommends an acronym to evaluate unsolicited phone calls or emails:

- **S:** Sudden – The call or email is unexpected.
- **C:** Contact – Scammers will contact you by phone, email or in-person.
- **A:** Act Now – The request will be urgent and assert penalties if you do not act quickly.
- **M:** Money or Information – The scammer will request money or personal information.

Pennsylvanians who believe they have been victims of a scam should file a complaint with the Office of Attorney General’s Bureau of Consumer Protection by calling 800-441-2555 or emailing scams@attorneygeneral.gov.