

Manor Minutes
Volume 17 Issue 35
September 11, 2026

- Dartball – September 15, 7pm @ Home
- Stewardship/Finance Ministry – September 16, 5:15pm

Stay up to date at www.fairhillmanorchurch.org/calendar



Sunday, September 13
1:04pm
Washington Park Kiwanis Pavillion

Mark your calendar.
It's time to make Church World Service School
Kits!

Please plan to stay after Worship on
September 27
to put the kits together.



The Blessing of the Pets service will take place
Sunday, September 27 at 5pm on the front
lawn. You are invited to bring your pet on a leash
or carrier to receive a blessing from Rev. Chris
and Pastor Gena. Photos of your pet can also be
brought to the service.

To celebrate your pet during the month of
September, text a **photo** to Pastor Gena, or bring
a photo to have the office scan, for us to display
on the photo frame in the Narthex. Pets are an
important part of our lives. Let's share photos of
our pets with one another!



Choir practice will be on hiatus while Jim Cope
is recuperating. When Choir practice is ready to
resume, we will make an announcement.



The Literacy Council will be holding their
Annual Charity Trivia Event, Scholar's Bowl, on
Thursday October 22, from 5-9pm at the
Washington Elks Lodge, 138 E Maiden Street,
Washington.

Would you like to be a part of a Fairhill Manor
team (4-8 people) participating in the Scholar's
Bowl? If so, contact the Church Office by
September 22.



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

Rev. Chris Stillwell, Senior Minister
Rev. Gena Sheller, Associate Pastor
Elders: Jody Mullis, Bread
Chuck Riggle, Cup

September 13, 2026 – 10:15am

Prelude

Sam Johnson, organist

Welcome

Pastor Gena

Call to Worship

Chuck Riggle

Leader: Come, let us sing to the Lord!

People: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down!

People: Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

Leader: Come, the Lord our God is in our midst!

People: Let us sing to our Lord!

Opening Hymn

“O, How I Love Jesus”

Jody Mullis, pianist

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth; it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth. O, how I love Jesus, O, how I love Jesus, O, how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor Gena

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of our grandparents, and for all those who have come before us who have blessed us with their wisdom and guidance. We are grateful for the grandparents who paved the roads that have led us here – to this place and to this faith. We thank you for grandparents who have helped us and made us strong, and for grandparents who love us no matter what.

Bless the grandparents among us with health, strength, and joy in the days they live. May they feel the tenderness and encouragement of your presence, and may their lives continue to bear fruit as the years go by. May they find healing and comfort in the midst of every sickness and pain, and may they see your love for them in the love of their children and grandchildren. Give them inviting and meaningful ways to share the love they have come to know in you with their children and grandchildren.

Help those of us who are grandparents to remember the energy and vigor we had as young people, anxious to make our own way in the world, excited to discover what lay ahead. Give us the curiosity to learn along with our grandchildren, to see life through their eyes – not only through our eyes of judgment and fear. May your Holy Spirit serve as interpreter as we listen and learn from each other, patiently and with kindness, even across generations that seem to live in different worlds and speak different words.

Grant those of us who are children and grandchildren the patience and longing to hear from those who want to share what they have learned through all of the joys and struggles of life. Help us to find common ground with our elders and to witness their lives as they age. Help us to make the time to be

present. Give us a heart that is thankful for all that we have received from those who have walked this journey before us.

Bless those we have named aloud this morning. We remember those whose names are on our prayer list and thank you for your activity in their lives wherever they may be. We lift to you now in our hearts these dear ones who need your loving care...

Breathe into our hearts the consolation that we do leave traces of faith among those who are coming along after us. Even as we feel the limits of this life, assure us that beyond it lies your warm embrace in a life that never ends. We ask this through your Son, Jesus the Christ, who teaches us to pray, 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.

Prayer Response:

“Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Hymn

“My Life Flows On”

Sam Johnson, pianist

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I hear the clear, though far
off hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that
Rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

First Scripture Lesson

Psalm 40

Serena Dube

Special Music

Children's Message

Rev. Stillwell

Today our worship is filled with music, even more so than usual and that got me to wondering, do you have a favorite song? Do you like to sing? I find that many people say no, but if you ask, do you like to sing when no one else is around, the answer is almost always yes. Just about everybody I know likes music even if we do not agree on the song. Do you know what God's favorite song is? I expect it is any song we sing to God. The Bible often talks about praising God with song and that is why we are glad and grateful for Sam and our choir, but we all like to sing along. In fact, often times the most important lessons we learn in church are from songs. There is much to learn and know about God and Jesus, but I think that it doesn't get much more important than the song Jesus loves me. Let's sing that together.

Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Sam Johnson, organist

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown; Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Second Scripture Reading

Psalm 100

Rev. Stillwell

Hymn

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Sam Johnson, organist

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Hymn *"In the Garden"* Jody Mullis, pianist
I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses; and the voice I hear, falling
on my ear, the Son of God discloses. And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and
he tells me I am his own, and the joy we share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

Hymn *"My Jesus, I Love Thee"* Sam Johnson, organist
My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Hymn *"I Love to Tell the Story"* Jody Mullis, pianist
I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, "twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Hymn *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"* Sam Johnson, organist
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy
wounded side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Hymn *"Here I Am, Lord"* Jody Mullis, pianist
I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin my
hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will
bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Hymn *"Softly and Tenderly"* Sam Johnson, organist
Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me; patient and loving, he's
waiting and watching, watching for you and for me. Come home, come home, ye who
are weary, come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling—calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Call to Offering Von Lacock
God is our strength and our might and has become our salvation. With joy we give thanks to our God,
shouting aloud and singing our praises. With these gifts we proclaim that God has done great things for us
and is worthy of our worship, praise, and offering.

***The Doxology**
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below! Praise God above, ye
heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Dedication of Offering Prayer Rev. Stillwell
Bless these gifts, O God, that they may bring mercy and grace, compassion and love, and healing and
hope, through the ministries and missions we support. In Christ's gracious name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to Communion Rev. Stillwell
By the rivers of Babylon where he sat down and there he wept,
when he remembered Zion but the wicked carried us away in captivity
required from us a song how can we sing King Alpha song in a strange land?

This Jamaican folk song is based upon Psalm 137:1-4 in which the Israelites in the midst of their exile
lament not only their distance from their homeland but also their inability to worship God without their

temple. Truly this was a sad time and a spiritual crisis, and this song brought me comfort on September 11, 2001. On that day we were not removed from our country but there was much destruction and loss of life and a feeling of how could God let something like this happen. I remember turning to that song again during the pandemic as it is a song about exile and, in a way, we felt like we were exiled. We had not left our country or even our home, but we had been largely exiled from our house of worship in a way we probably never had been before.

But in all things let us give thanks, and one reason for giving thanks is that we are never exiled from God. We can sing a song of God in any land and in any part of that land. Of all the gifts God has given us in this life the gift of song is possibly the greatest, and there are many reasons that it is wonderful and special. When we sing, regardless of how it sounds to others, it always sounds good to us. I am always so thankful that when I am in my car singing along to the radio it sounds so good to my ears. When we sing, we always sound wonderful to God. Finally, we do not need to wait until we are happy and all is good to sing for when humans are caged by bars of metal, or walls of fear or, fences of doubt we are freed through our song.

The poet, Maya Angelou, wrote:

*I know why the caged bird sings, ah me, when his wing is bruised and his bosom sore,
When he beats his bars and would be free; It is not a carol of joy or glee,
But a prayer that he sends from his heart's deep core,
But a plea, that upward to Heaven he flings - I know why the caged bird sings."*

We do not need to wait for all to be well in our life and in our world to sing. Rather we sing as a prayer to God to help us to make things right. God has heard our cries and lifted us out of our pits. The Lord has set this table before us; a table of mercy and grace, and if love is the Lord of Heaven and Earth, how can we keep from singing?

Communion Hymn

"One Bread, One Body"

Sam Johnson, organist

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this
one Lord. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.

Prayer for the Bread & Cup

Jody Mullis

Words of Institution

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Sharing Holy Communion

You will receive the bread and cup together. Please hold them; we will take each together as one body. Disciples of Christ believe in an Open Table. All who profess Christ and follow Him are welcome to share His meal. Gluten free wafers are available in the Narthex.

Call to Discipleship

If you need a community to belong to, if you are thirsty for the word of life and want to live as a disciple of Jesus, join us in his ministry and mission. You are welcome and needed here. If in the work and



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 Rev. Chris. We are One Body in Christ!

Homebound Members

Mrs. Mary Lou McDonough
949 Bruce Street
Washington PA 15301

Alice Cokeley
900 N Cass Lake Rd, Apt 324
Waterford MI 48328

Southminster Residents

880 S Main St
Washington PA 15301
Patty Pryor, Apt 102

Evergreen Personal Care

336 N Main Street
Washington PA 15301
Donna Bakaitis, Room 224

Premier Resident

36 Old Hickory Ridge Rd
Washington PA 15301
Carol Brown, Room 213

Transitions Healthcare Resident

90 Humbert Lane
Washington PA 15301
Doris Haniford, Room 121

Mary Allison
Barb Bailey
Terry Bailey
Donna Bakaitis
Todd Barnhart
Vanessa & John Berezney
Jacquie Best
Gary Blackhurst
Jeff Caldwell
Maci Caster
Wanda Chicone
Jim Cope
Angel Corbett
Jane Correll
Ruth Cox
Mickey Cunningham
Benjamin Dube
Kathy Moninger-Ford
Raymond Fraley
Terry Gahagen
Barb Graff
Judy Hanning
Irma Harper
Sheila Harris
Aryn Hess

Danni Iams
Dave Kania
Charlie McConnell
Pam McCord
Norm McDonough
Barb Moninger
Dick Moninger
Joe Neckerman
Carmen Oliverio
Peggy Oliverio
Michelle Oneal
Sandy Petry
Jeannie Riffle
Joan Riffle
Lori Riffle
Perry Riffle
Mike Ryan
Valerie Shetler
Doug Smith
Darci Sprowls
Kristie Sprowls
Wayne Starnes
Cathy Stewart
Beth Teagarden
Ginger Throckmorton
Cece Watson

In the Military

Lance Dague	Andrew Gregg
Terrell McClain	Zachary Keene
Brandon Lipscomb	Sarah Lipscomb
Travis Ringer	Emily Chase
Dylan Demain	Noah Rudolph

The brave men and women who serve our country make incredible sacrifices every day. We are forever grateful for their service and dedication. Please remember the military members that are deployed and away from their family that they may return to their homes safely.