

Manor Minutes

Volume 11 Issue 19

May 1, 2020



Meeting ID: 932-4557-4206

Password: 026316

Instructions for Zoom Worship and CW&W are attached in a separate document.



Meeting ID: 735-805-8215

Password: 550943

DRIVE-THRU FOOD COLLECTION



We will be collecting non-perishable foods, especially but not limited to, canned tuna, Spaghetti-O's, canned ravioli, peanut butter, jelly, mac n' cheese, pancake mix, syrup on Saturday May 2nd from 9am-noon in the front drive at FMCC. Please make sure the donated items are not expired. Enter the driveway from Montgomery Avenue. We will have someone at the top of the ramp in the circle drive to collect your items. There will be no need for you to get out of your care. This food drive is not limited to only our Church so please spread the word. We will be masked and practicing safe social distancing. Any questions, contact Marsh Sams, phone/text 859-421-7227 or email msams822@gmail.com. Thank you!!



All Outreach information can be found on the FMCC website, <https://fairhillmanorchurch.org/how-to-help>.



Disciples Mission Fund: The Church at Work

In this Easter season, even as we continue to walk through the wilderness of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Church is at work.

In the past few weeks, pastors have figured out how to care for their parishioners from afar and how to lead worship from their living rooms. Regional ministers have prayed for those pastors, leaned on each other for support, and dug deep to find resources to help congregations enhance their technology. General ministries have come together to provide resources and financial support to congregations and ministries across the Church.

Disciples Mission Fund has made that possible.

Because of DMF, we have been able to:

- Equip our churches with resources for online worship
- Offer grants to congregations and pastors in crisis
- Share the work of our financial ministries in helping congregations access aid

- Help congregations transition to electronic giving
- Provide weekly prayer opportunities with our General Minister and President
- Support our global mission co-workers as they serve around the world

Disciples are stepping up in incredible ways, but financial giving will continue to be a challenge as the pandemic goes on. It is likely that this will be a difficult year for DMF.


And yet, we all know that the work of the Church is needed now more than ever.

Here are two ways you can help:

1. Make a gift to Disciples Mission Fund. You can make a one-time or recurring gift [here](#).
2. Encourage your congregation to continue its support of DMF. Let your leadership know how important this work is right now.

As we begin to imagine a new world on the other side of this crisis, there is no doubt that the Church will stand strong as a witness to God’s presence and unending love.

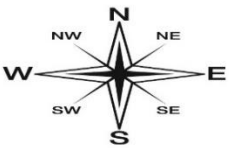
Thank you for being part of this work.



Wherever we go

No matter where we journey, God always protects us.

Directions: Use the map and compass to answer the clues. Then write the boxed letters in order in the spaces below to complete Psalm 121:8, NIV.



Start at the SHIP.
Move 1 space N, 3 spaces E, and 2 spaces N

Start at the WORLD.
Move 1 space W, 1 space S, and 1 space SE

Start at the SUITCASE.
Move 1 space NE, 2 spaces S, and 1 space E

Start at the PLANE.
Move 2 spaces SW, 1 space S, and 1 space W

Start at the CAR.
Move 1 space E, 1 space N, and 1 space NW

Start at the SIGN.
Move 1 space SE, 1 space W, and 2 spaces NW

The _ ORD will watch ove_ your comi_g and go_ng
both no_ and for_ verm ore. Psalm 121:8, NIV

Answer: plane, car, sign, ship, world, suitcase. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8, NIV



4th Sunday Of
Easter

"Whoever enters through the gate is the Shepherd of the Sheep. The Gatekeeper opens it for Him, and the Sheep hear His voice, as the Shepherd calls His own sheep by name and leads them out."

—Jn 10:2-3

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
May 3, 2020

Welcome to our Home Worship Service!

Welcome*

Rev. Collins

Call to Worship*

Dawn Couch

Though the way seems long and the road rough. Yet will we trust the One who leads us. Though the direction is unknown and we don't know the outcome. Yet will we place our lives in Christ's loving care. It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls. It is Christ who gives us hope and peace. Praise be to Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Opening Hymn*

"Thine is the Glory"

organ by Audra Allan

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen, from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer*

Rev. Collins

Lord, help us approach the gate of your pasture with confidence. Let us walk through from our fears and doubts to lands of hope and peace, trusting in the Shepherd who seeks us, guides us, and cares for us. In so many of our ways, we are stubborn; yet you gently call our names, reminding us of your eternal love. As we have offered the names of those near and dear to us before you seeking your healing grace, help us remember that we also stand in need of your healing mercies. Help us place our trust in you. Help us reach out to others in confidence because of your love for us. In these days of uncertainty, open our eyes to see the need of others and to extend our resources and care to them in your name. We pray especially in these uncharted days that you will grant your wisdom and patience to the leaders of our world to make wise and compassionate decisions. Bless with your strength and protection those who risk their health to serve the need of others so that one day soon, we pray, our world may be lifted from the shadow of this dreaded coronavirus. For we ask this in Christ's name who taught 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.

Anthem*

"The Lord is My Shepherd," by the Georgia Boys Choir

<https://youtu.be/7O1nijBP7LE>

Children's Message*

J.C. Leasure

Have you ever been afraid of something? I know I have! I'm afraid of snakes and germs and a ton of other stuff. I wonder if you've ever been somewhere that was pretty scary. Sometimes even going to the store can be scary; we're surrounded by people we don't know and there are so many aisles that we might get lost. Have you ever been lost in a store? I have and I was really scared. I couldn't find my parents or anybody I knew. It's a very scary feeling being alone or lost. I was really happy when I heard my mom calling for me. I recognized her voice and when I turned around, she was right behind me. I was so happy to see her again!

It's okay to be scared sometimes, but the Bible tells us that God is always with us. How cool is that! The very same God that made all the animals, mountains, plants and even us is always with us. The 23rd Psalm says, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me." That valley sounds like a pretty scary place and I don't think I would want to hang out there! But even in the scariest places, God is always there with us and he is protecting us. So whenever you start feeling scared - whether you see a snake or are in a really high building or lost in a store - always look for something that is good and let that remind you that God is always there for you.

Let's pray:

Dear God, we sometimes get scared. Help us to remember that you are always there for us. Amen.

Scripture Reading*

John 10:1-10
Psalm 23

Amy Caldwell
Our Children

Sermon*

"Lingering Fears and Longings for Home"

Rev. Collins

So, a little word association for this Lord's Day...what comes to mind when you hear the word, COMFORT? I have a feeling that with our experiences of the past two months you've got a quick answer for this. In these fearsome times of uncertainty, the quest has begun for the things that bring us comfort or reassurance. And although the desire is shared, the specifics are so personalized...perhaps that comfy chair or sofa with the afghan to wrap around you...for others, it's foods...mac and cheese, or for Audra, meatloaf...maybe you pictured a certain television show or a movie. I know for many in these video gatherings and work-from-home times, it may be the freedom to wear your pajamas...from the waist down at least.

It's so hard these days with life being so out of order to find some normalcy and calm to bring us comfort. We've largely reverted to a simpler life. Game night at home, jigsaw puzzles, reading those books that you have always intended to read, but didn't have the chance. Or perhaps comfort comes through talking with family and old friends on the phone.

In times of anxiety it is only natural to seek out those things which bring us a sense of calm and peace...a feeling of comfort!

Much of the story of God's relationship with the people of Israel involved God's response to their fears and anxiety by bringing concrete signs of comfort and provisions. Whether the manna and quail in the wilderness or the return of the exiles from Babylon, when Isaiah was granted that most welcome announcement from God to comfort, comfort my people.

And, as if on cue, the lectionary sends along on this the fourth Sunday of the season of Easter, the Good Shepherd Sunday and what I believe to be among the most beloved and comforting scripture texts, the

23rd Psalm. I suppose for many of us this beautiful lyrical passage carries with it some history. For me it brings back memories of Sunday School and memory recitations...of a flannel board (yes, I am dating myself) presentation...for those of you who don't remember the 1960 Pirates, that was a slightly ancient, slowly-animated picture story with the cut-outs of sheep, the water of the stream, a shepherd...and a baby lamb wrapped around the shepherd's neck. I still see that picture in my memory. But for me this passage brings another memory as well...of my Grandparent's home in the mountains near Ohiopyle State Park. And hanging on the wall of the living room above the potbelly stove was a needlepoint of this passage. It had been made by the hands of my Grandmother who I loved so dearly and I remember that she would sit with me and read it and give her commentary of how God loved me and how God would always be with me. That memory remains a powerful presence in my life...as I walk along a stream, as I see the green fields or as I consider what it means when the things that I have relied upon and believed to be dependable in our world, become less sure and dependable. I don't know about you, but in anxious times I find myself reverting to memories that are comforting and trustworthy.

So, imagine my joy, in this fearsome time, to be reminded of these memories in the Psalmist words. Consider the testimony of the psalmist writing of what God provides...not having to want...lounging in the green wonder of a pasture...of walking along the calm waters...to be renewed or restored in your soul...to be led by God in the paths toward righteousness.

This is a wonderful testimony to us of how blessed the writer is in receiving these from God. But then, the direction of the psalm shifts. The testimony that had been directed to us as an audience is now shifted as the psalmist talks not to us, but with God directly. It moves from talking about God in the third person (he or she) to talking with God...a close presence, as if God is standing by the side of the writer...a companion...not above, not removed, but close by. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me, your rod and staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Although at times I can become so frustrated with the modern technology that has been linking us in these months...our smart phones, Facetime, Zoom, Google Hangout...surely they do remind me of my lack of technological intelligence, but they also satisfy a deep longing that becomes so powerful as we traverse our stay at home times, or as we walk in that valley of death's shadow...it's the comfort of connecting, of belonging...of home!

T. S. Eliot wrote years ago that "The end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and to know the place for the first time." Comfort is to feel at home...and to know you belong! I realize that for some the memory of our childhood home is not of a warm and happy time, but the fact that we recoil at the thought of a child not finding love and peace at home merely strengthens that image of home as comfort and peace.

So, the psalmist ends with that image to speak to us in our fears and troubles...of dwelling in the house of the Lord, forever. Isaac Watts sets that promise to music in a most eloquent way when he writes:

"Your sure provisions, gracious God, attend me all my days; O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise. Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home."

Welcome home!

Call to Offering*

Marsha Sams

Good a.m. - I want to take a brief moment to give you an update on how Fairhill Manor has helped our neighbors this past week. We held a drive-thru non-perishable food drive on Saturday and were pleased with the outcome. A group continued to help pack supplemental food bags at the Salvation Army and as of this past week over 10,000 bags have been passed out. We donated some Styrofoam take out containers, napkins and some plastic ware to the LeMoyné Center who continues to provide takeout meals to their neighbors. Thank you all for your participation in these efforts. After I read both of the scriptures for today, my thoughts went to how we are being led by our “Gatekeeper”, our Shepherd, we are on the right path. We are good sheep; we follow our Shepherd. Let’s stay on that path by continuing to offer our tithes, time and talents. One of my favorite singer/songwriters, is Andra Moran. She is a Disciple based in Nashville and I would like to share the lyrics to one of the songs she wrote; It is called “Offering” - “If you want me to lead, If you want me to follow, I will. If you want me to go or if you want me to stay here, I will. I will give my all – Here we are, Here we are, Here we are, an Offering. If you want me to grow or bloom where you plant me, I will. If I should let go or if you want me to hold on, I will. I will give you my all – Here we are, Here we are, Here we are, an Offering. Sacrifice from me, you do not require. I delight to do your will. Here we are, Here we are, Here we are, an Offering.”
May the Peace of Christ be with all of you.

Invitation to Communion*

Pastor Gena

The first story our children hear in the Children Worship & Wonder Sanctuary is the story of “The Good Shepherd,” based on our two Scripture passages for today. Before they hear the grand stories of Creation, before they are introduced to Jesus through the stories of his birth, life and death, they meet the Good Shepherd. They feel the safety of his sheepfold. They hear him calling his sheep by name, walking in front of them to show them the way to good, green, grass and clear, cool, still water. They are assured that even in places of danger, the Good Shepherd is with the sheep, showing them the way to pass through, until they are safely home again.

Slowly, the children begin to realize that the sheep have names ... they have our names ... we are the sheep ... I have a Good Shepherd ... I am cared for, I am loved, I am known – by name – I belong. Someone will notice if I am missing.

In today’s Children Worship & Wonder story, “The Good Shepherd and the Lord’s Supper,” when the Good Shepherd leads the sheep from the sheepfold, they follow him to the good, green, grass. And there is a table. The table of the Good Shepherd. A special plate and a special cup are on the table. At this table, the Good Shepherd feeds his sheep.

Can you hear the Good Shepherd calling you – by name? He is calling you from the sheepfold, walking in front of you, leading you to this, his table, where he feeds you. Here we are reminded that the love of the Good Shepherd never ends - the Good Shepherd walks in front of us to show us the way, even through death. Here we are known and loved. Here we belong.

Prayer for the Bread & Cup*

Gary Ford

Father, we are in isolation right now, we are not able to come together in fellowship like we wish we could. But, now it is even more important that we open our hearts to others in need. Let us not be afraid to help others. Jesus gave all he had for each of us. He wants us to be generous and continue the work of the disciples from so long ago. Today, it seems that we are drifting in a world of darkness. A world that is empty and cold in fellowship. But we come together today, to this table, to break the bread and drink from the cup which can open our hearts and minds to bring joy and happiness to all who need it so desperately at this time. Lord, thank you for the warmth of your Spirit, your power and your grace. Let each one of us be the light to guide others to this fellowship with Jesus Christ. Amen

Words of Institution*

Pastor Gena

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do 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; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Corinthians 11:23-25, NIV)

Benediction*

Rev. Collins

Having walked through pastures of green and along still, flowing waters with your shepherd, do not then fear the darkness or uncertainty of this week...for the rod and staff of God's assured presence is with you!

Go, now in peace!

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



Please keep the Pastoral Search Committee in your prayers:

J.C. Leasure (Chairperson), Becca Caldwell, Jackie Nelson, Diane Palfreyman, Rolinda Sprowls and Mike Sweeney

Fairhill Manor Christian Church extends its heartfelt sympathy to Mary Chase and her family at the death of James (Jim) Chase who passed away April 25. A memorial service to celebrate his life will be scheduled at a later time when all of his family and friends can gather.

If anyone is in need of food or knows of anyone who is, please contact Marsha Sams. She can be contacted by phone/text message at 859-421-7227 or e-mail at msams822@gmail.com.

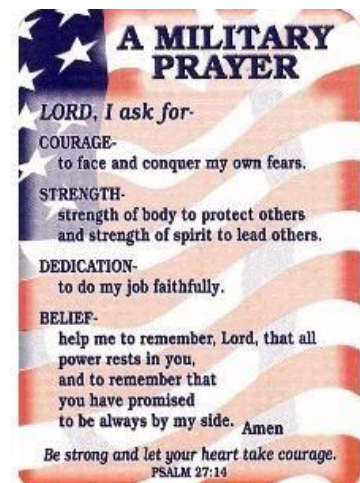
Do you have a prayer request or need help? Please feel free to contact Pastor Darwin (412-337-4293) or Pastor Gena (724-263-0033) directly and confidentially. Or scroll down on the opening page of our website (www.fairhillmanorchurch.org) to "Requests for Prayer or Help." There you can send an email which will go directly and only to Pastor Darwin and Pastor Gena. We are One Body in Christ!

Prayer List:

Avery Allen
Bill Behrens
Bristol Allan Berry
Kassidy Brightwell
Mark & Susan Britko
Diane Cope
Emily Cope Robinson
Nick Cross
Phyllis Doria
Fred Engle
Bonnie Gregg
Judy Hanning
Aryn Hess
Ed & Harriet Jackman
Dallas Jacobovitz
Tom Lane
Cheryl Leach
Lee & Betsy Martin
Ruth Mikuta
Dick Moninger
Jody Mullis
Elinor Newman
Ed Palfreyman
Joe Palfreyman
Denny Paul

Jeannie Riffle
Lori Riffle
Betty Jo Riggle
Barb Roupe
Shirley Sanders
Beth Teagarden
Melissa Teagarden
Shirley Teagarden
Gary Weaver
Nikki Wells
Tom Williams
Chuck & Mary Wiseman
Preparing for Baptism –
Nyka Rash

In the Military
Lance Dague
Terrell McClain
Brandon Lipscomb
Daniel Robinson
Shawn Dallatore
Andrew Gregg
Zachary Keene
Sarah Lipscomb
Travis Ringer
Emily Chase



During this time of precaution and limited visitation, take a moment to send a card or note to those in nursing homes or who are homebound to let them know that you are thinking of them.

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



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.

Scriptures for May 10:

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Rev. Collins is available to you for your pastoral needs.

Cell: (412) 337-4293

Email: wdar1950@gmail.com



Choose Happy 😊 Have a Great Day! Karen 5/1/2020