



The Messenger

P.O. Box 1088 / 6930 Cold Harbor Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor
The Rev. Darren W. Utley, Associate Pastor
Brett Underdown, Pastoral Assistant

Web Site: www.fairfieldpcusa.org
E-Mail: office@fairfieldpcusa.org
Office Phone: (804) 730-7164

July 2017

I am writing this in the mountains of Tennessee with twenty-two of our young folks hanging around nearby and the three other adult chaperones as well. Every day we have a little free time when we get back from the work site in the afternoon and the beginning of dinner. The landscape is beautiful here and we have had a couple of great worship services led by the staff. We are working on a woman's deck tearing it down and then building a new one for her. She is out of town this week visiting a relative who is very ill. Her sister lives next door and another team is working on her house. Our young people are ready to work and are getting along with each other so wonderfully. We can really be proud of the way our young people are representing us on this mission trip.

Today at the mission site we had to wait for some materials to show up and a number of us had some free time while we waited. There is a playground next to our site so we decided to play some basketball and hang out at the playground. Several of the local young people about our youth's ages came around and joined in with the games we were playing. We told them what we were doing in their neighborhood and why we were there. It was a good experience to relax and enjoy ourselves with some of the folks from the neighborhood where we were working especially since we could not talk to the owner of the house we were working on. While we might have wished for more work at our mission site at times, these opportunities to make friends and show our Christian character may leave memories with these young folks that will last just as long as the deck will stand at our worksite.

We had a great mission trip this year and it is in large part thanks to Fairfield's generosity and support of our young people. We all want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your prayers and gifts throughout the year that made our trip possible. This experience is a formative one for our young people and we ask that you continue to pray that they will grow in faith and strive to stay true to the commitments they made on our trip to Tennessee. Thank you again and thanks be to God.

D Utley



Member News

Our sympathy goes out to the **Rigsby family** on the death of long time member **Earl Rigsby** who passed away on June 21st. Please keep Helen and their son Larry in your prayers. We also extend our sympathy to the Yates family on the death of **June Yates**, who passed away on June 9th. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Congratulations to **Richard & Deborah Wood** on the addition of their newest grandchild, Calvin Brandon Wood who was born on May 26 to Brandon & Jen Wood. Calvin is also welcomed by his brother Caden who is 7 and sister Caylee who is 3.

Margaret Barlow has moved to: 7090 Covenant Woods Drive, Apt. I-203, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers: **Cindy Cattoi's** husband Bill, **Dwight Clark**, **John Crowe**, **Rebecca Harvey's** nephew, **Charlie Hunt**, **Ken Moore**, **Calvin & Barbara Pearson**, **Charles Ransone**, **Lynn Rudolph**, **Faye Sandridge**, **Beth Weber**, **Woodfin family**, all those who serve as missionaries abroad and those who serve our nation. Also remember those who need jobs and those in our congregation who are unable to attend church regularly due to illness or limited mobility.

Please remember our shut-ins: **Evelyn Bailey**, **Ann Barlow**, **Voncile Baughman**, **Ruth Gatewod**, **Inez Hill**, **Stan Hiner**, **Marjorie Hughes**, **Laverne Longest**, **Gloria Meador**, **Myrtle Muire**, **Nancy Norment**, **Mack Perkins**, **Emerson & Sheila Shaw**, and **Bootsie Stevens**.

(Please update Pastor Steve or Pastor Darren as often as possible if you wish to keep your name or your loved one's name on this list.)



Brothers and sisters in Christ,
It has been said that a man's true wealth is measured by his circle of friends. If that is true, I am a very, very rich man!!! There are no words sufficient to express my deep appreciation for your prayers and well wishes. Even though Carolyn and I are relatively new members of the Fairfield family and have not enjoyed personally meeting many of you, we feel at home. So, thank you so much.

Ken Moore

A great big Thank You for all the prayers and good thoughts during my recent surgery and recovery. It made the difference and I truly appreciate it.

Bill Kerns

Don and I would like to thank everyone for their loving support through prayers, cards, calls, meals and a beautiful lap robe after my knee replacement surgery. You are truly living Christ's call to serve.

Pam Wells

What a great meeting and such tremendous hosts from the Fairfield Church. The weather was great, the facility was marvelous, and the people were incredible. Please express the appreciation of the entire Presbytery to the Session and members of the congregation for their fine work in hosting the 96th Stated Meeting of POJ.

I believe I can say it was the shortest Stated Meeting in my 20 year history here in POJ. But, good work and great discussion ensued among the Commissioners. There was a grand spirit of energy and excitement of being together as the Body of Christ.

Again, many heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in hosting the presbytery. May God

continue to bless the Fairfield Church and her ministry.

Sincerely yours,
H. Carson Rhyne, Jr.
Stated Clerk



Dear Fairfield Church,
A BIG thank you for your support and participation in the **Rise Against Hunger** event we held last week at New Hanover Presbyterian church. Who says a small church can't do big things! With your help we were able to package over 10,000 meals in under 2 hours! That is amazing and we are grateful for everyone who came to support this global mission. We are thankful for your monetary contribution as well which allowed us to end up just short of our goal! We will get there! Thank you again and we look forward to other opportunities to work together where God calls us!

Christy Presseau
Elder/Nurture & Discipleship
New Hanover Pres. Church

Thank you so much for hosting the CARITAS Shelter Program. We appreciate your time and dedication

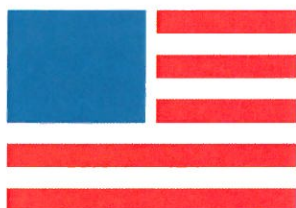
Without you, your volunteers and your congregation we could not do the work That we do without you.

With gratitude,
The CARITAS Shelter Staff

The Blood Drive was a great success on June 27. We had 33 people to sign up, also a number of walk-ins and 3 power reds donated which is the equivalent to 2 whole blood donations each. All-in-all we collected 29 units. This is absolutely fantastic. Thanks to all who helped with the blood drive and a special thanks to the donors!

Bill Dobson

Marcia Cramer	July 1
Matthew Holloman	July 1
Tanner Lightsey	July 1
John Longest	July 1
Chuck Chelette	July 2
Rebecca Mumpower	July 2
Bonnie Penny	July 2
Charles Ransone	July 3
Mac Spencer	July 3
Kadie Duggan	July 4
Debbie Palicia	July 4
Sharon Tuckwiller	July 4
Sarah Wash	July 4
Rae Hayden	July 5
David Utley	July 5
Jerry Williamson	July 5
Crystal Bessette	July 6
Linda Gruenhagen	July 6
Carolyn Moore	July 6
McKenna Blue	July 7
Arlene Butchyk	July 7
Jackson Wash	July 7
Ryan Lafferty	July 8
Phoenix Leigh	July 8
Bill Lythgoe	July 11
Debbie Lynn	July 14
Deb Utley	July 15
Harry Zweckbronner	July 16
Ben Hohman	July 17
Jenny Young	July 18
Judy Thompson	July 19
Andrew Young	July 21
Garrett Gauntt	July 23
Jack Ward	July 23
Gloria Dunham	July 25
Madeline Dunn	July 25
Graham Magill	July 25
Nancy Walls	July 27
Robin Wilson	July 27
Merrill Hastings	July 28
Rachel Underdown	July 29
Mary Gayton	July 30
David Schwartz	July 30
Gerry Nuckols	July 31

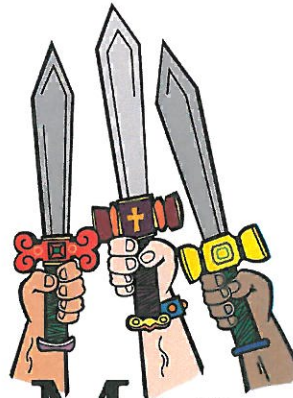


Special Dates

- Independence Day,
July 4



Charles & Betty Ransone	July 2
Brett & Katy Underdown	July 2
Sue & Herb Coulter	July 3
Brian & Allison Letourneau	July 5
Gene & Peggie Rosen	July 9
Courtney & Miheer Kulkarni	July 11
Troy & Ana Horn	July 12
Mike & Erin Reasor	July 12
Jack & Lori Briel	July 13
Allen & Kathy Boyle	July 19
Riley & Anne Young	July 24
Mark & Lindsey Irwin	July 25
Bryant & Julie Lowery	July 25
J .R.. & Mitzi Marker	July 28
Darren & Deb Utley	July 28
Darlene & Rick Shegogue	July 29



Men of the Church

We continue to be blessed with another wonderful day of fellowship together. Our devotion cautions us to be patient and wait for God to show us where He wants us to serve. We should always remember that God is patiently waiting on each of us for our willingness to do His will.

We continue to seek new leadership for this Men's group, with fresh new ideas. Please prayerfully consider this rewarding service.

All men are encouraged to join us and the experience this group's fellowship first hand. You won't regret it.

We look forward to seeing you for our next breakfast on **Tuesday, July 11th**. Join us at The Cold Harbor Restaurant, every 2nd Tuesday of the month starting around 6:00 to 6:30 am. Call or email Bill Dobson 804-314-3127 or Bill.dobson@comcast.net with any questions about the men of the church activities. You never have to reserve a seat, we will always have an opening for you.

In Christ Service,
Billy Putze, Bill Dobson



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

has been busy this year creating a variety of prayer shawls, lap robes and baby blankets. Each one is uniquely and lovingly made. We are at the mid-point of the year and so far we have given 4 prayer shawls, 18 lap robes and 2 baby blankets.

With the summer heat we will begin concentrating on making hats and scarves for MCEF for fall and winter. If you would like to join in these efforts we would welcome your participation.

Due to the 4th of July holiday, the Prayer Shawl Ministry **meeting has been canceled** for July. We will meet again the first Wednesday in August.

Anna Barrowclough

the **FRUIT**
of
the **SPIRIT**



family CONNECT

An interactive Bible School
experience for ALL ages!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for **August 12th at 4pm!** ALL are welcome to attend our churchwide Vacation Bible School Event! We will be traveling back in time and checking in with Abraham and Sarah and a few of their descendants all while playing crazy games and connecting with our individual and church family! See you there!



At our June 6th meeting, the Deacons decided that the Shepherd's program would start transitioning in the fall to focus on our new members and our less involved members. We will continue to send cards, etc.

to our flocks at least until the end of this year.

Debby Starzer and Jessica Ingerman showed us the proposed bulletin insert for the Take Them A Meal website and it was agreed that it should be used this summer.

Anna Barrowclough reported on the homebound communion for this quarter and announced that Kristi Harden would be taking over this position at the end of the year.

We will continue to coordinate any receptions. We appreciate the continued support of the congregation with food donations and setup, serving and cleanup.

We agreed that we need to make sure the chancel flowers are being taken to those on the prayer list and the homebound. We will each sign up for a Sunday and be responsible for seeing the flowers are delivered. We will have a calendar available at **our next meeting on September 5th.**

There are times when a member of the congregation needs a ride to a doctor's appointment and although they usually drive themselves are not able to. It was suggested that there be a list of people who would be able

to provide this service and Donna Carson would be the contact person. If you normally have a morning or afternoon available during the week, please let Donna know.

Marge Wantz



If you have a child or grandchild in the nursery, you will notice a few changes taking place. The first is that we have added a landline for emergency purposes. The second is that there will be a new nametag policy. Our children's safety is our primary concern and having the pertinent information readily available if needed is very important in the case of an emergency. Each child when they come in will be given a nametag to be clipped to their back. The front will have their name and if they have any food allergies. On the back on the nametag will be the parents/cargivers name, phone number, location, and child's date of birth. These tags will be locked in the cabinet during the week and brought out only for nursery on Sundays. This is in addition to the current sign in sheet. We have had a lot of visitors and some new nursery volunteers and want to make sure that all of our children are kept safe and have a wonderful experience in the nursery at Fairfield! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Angela Blue. Angela@fairfieldpcusa.org

Session News

Your Session met June 20th for its summer meeting (we don't have stated meetings during July and August) and we accomplished a great deal after a full and active day.

- As always our meeting began with devotions and prayer to center ourselves in why we were gathered and for Whom we were working.
- Heard a report from Brett Underdown as he continues in his search for a call in his process of being ordained.
- Learned that the 22 youth and 4 adults were all doing well in their mission trip to the Gatlinburg, TN area. They are staying in a prep school there and working on home repairs as well as worship and devotions every day.
- With great gratitude for her many years of service as our Charter Organization Representative to the Boy Scouts, we reluctantly accepted Donna Horn's resignation.
- Session then appointed Dwight Clark to replace Donna Horn in this vital role.
- Session established a Task Force to review our 11:00 a.m. service simply to see if there is anything we need to do to improve it. Those named to the Task Force will be known to you as soon as we confirm their acceptance of this short term appointment.
- Your Elders committed themselves to reading a book entitled Growing Young. This is a study on how churches in today's generation attract, involve and retain the rising generation.
- Learned that the Children's Nurture Team will be using a new curriculum which will coordinate the Sunday School lessons with the sermon texts. The hope of this is to not only enable the students to get more out of the worship services but to allow for more meaningful conversation between parent and child following Sunday morning worship and Christian Education.
- Family and Children's VBS will be on the theme of Abraham's Descendants and will be interactive and intergenerational and will include a picnic on August 12th.
- Heard that a new security procedure for the

nursery will be put into place to further assure the safety of our youngest members.

- Adult VBS will be extended to four evenings starting on July 9th at 7:00 p.m. Darren and Steve will be exploring the Book of Romans with us and will also invite us to see how this epistle helped to shape the Protestant Reformation whose 400th birthday we celebrate this fall. We will gather, appropriately, in Heritage Hall on those evenings.
- Evangelism has arranged for a new photo directory for us with a new company. Believe it or not it has been four years since we last did a directory! We are looking for 100% participation and we are guaranteed in writing that there will be no sales pressure at all.
- Had conversation about the possibility of doing more fellowship meals in the future. Several people have expressed the desire to enjoy more casual times together around the meal table.
- Heard that MCEF has signed their lease for a new one stop shop on the corner of Stonewall Parkway and Cold Harbor Road.
- Celebrated our continuing commitment to Camp Hanover with a \$3,000.00 gift to their capital campaign!
- Were delighted to have so much positive feedback on our hosting of the Presbytery meeting.

Adult Discipleship News

Our memory verses for the next year will be from Romans, Chapter 12. See how many you can remember! This is the one for July:

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

Romans 12:6-8

Mission Team News

In June we were able to send 105 pounds of children's and adult Sunday school material, devotionals and Bibles to The Helping Hands Project, located in Crimora, VA. This will go to missionaries to help them spread the gospel in many parts of the world. If you have any of these items that you would like to donate, please put them in the collection box located in the Union Classroom across from the small kitchen.

MCEF- Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions - www.4mcef.com

The next day to contribute non-perishable food items to the MCEF food pantry is Sunday, **July 2**. At the present time, anything you can share will be appreciated. All non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items are accepted. Use this list if you need some suggestions: Spaghetti sauce, tomatoes and tomato sauce, canned fruit, canned pasta, creamed soups, chicken noodle soup/ chicken rice soup, tea bags, jelly or jams, crunchy peanut butter, condiments, rice products, black eye peas, hand sanitizer

One Stop Shop (OSS). The Executive Board voted to sign the lease on Plan B – a 3200 square foot property at 7235 Stonewall Parkway, Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Before the doors can open there is some interior work that needs to be done which is being scheduled. **STAY TUNED!** The new space will need 100' of metal shelving for the pantry. If you have a contact for a business or grocery store that has closed that might like to make a donation please call Pat Hubert at (814) 449-2612. This move has been in the works for about six or more years. It is with the blessing of all the partnering churches in Mechanicsville. It will give MCEF a "face" in the community. Please pray for the future of this ministry in our community.

CARITAS

Mark your calendars – Fairfield will again be host to up to 32 men October 13-20, 2018.

STEVIE B's

The third Monday of the month from 5-8 a portion

of the proceeds goes to MCEF. Join us sometime! Good fellowship and food.

Independence Day lessons for church life

- ★ **Return to the basics** - On July 4 we commemorate the origins of our country. In terms of faith, we also periodically need to hear again the foundational stories of Creation, the Israelites and, of course, Jesus.
- ★ **Honor the gift of freedom** - "For freedom Christ has set us free ... do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Galations 5:1, ESV). We strive as citizens to preserve and live out our national freedom. Likewise, as citizens of God's kingdom we live gladly in the freedom of salvation and share that gift with others.
- ★ **Enjoy community** - July 4 is known for picnics, parades and other community gatherings. Similarly, the church is nourished by coming together for worship, meals and other special events.
- ★ **Be light in the darkness** - As fireworks brighten the sky with light and color, the church is called to display the Gospel's unique light in a dark world. Our word dynamite and the Greek word for power - as in, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you" (Acts 1:8) - share a root. Through God's power in us, we share Jesus - dynamically! - with others.

Heidi Mann



NURSERY SCHEDULES

9:00am Infant/Toddler Nursery Schedule

July 2	Sandra Brewster & Angela Blue
July 9	Mitzi Marker & McKenzie Marker
July 16	Linda Daugherty & Brenda Blue
July 23	Sandra Brewster & Angela Blue
July 30	Karen Couch & Beverly Burts

10:00am Infant/Toddler

July 2	TBD
July 9	Cathy Wenninger & Allison Letourneau
July 16	Janet Chelette & Martha Houchins
July 23	Majken Whitaker & Jennifer France
July 30	Katy Underdown & Linda Gruenhagen

11am Infant /Toddler

July 2	Angela Schwartz & Pam Gigliotti
July 9	Nikki Glass & Donna Hohman
July 16	Pam Roberts & Anne Young
July 23	Angela Blue & TBD
July 30	Angela Blue & TBD

Stop, look and listen

Literature, painting, music - the most basic lesson that all art teaches us is to stop, look and listen to life on this planet, including our own lives, as a vastly richer, deeper, more mysterious business than most of the time it ever occurs to us to suspect as we bumble along from day to day on automatic pilot —

When Jesus [says] that the greatest command of all is to love God and to love our neighbor, he too is asking us to pay attention. If we are to love God, we must first stop, look and listen for him in what is happening around us and inside us. If we are to love our neighbors, before doing anything else we must see our neighbors. With our imagination as well as our eyes, that is to say like artists, we must see not just their faces but the life behind and within their faces. Here it is love that is the frame we see them in.

Frederick Buechner



You will go out
IN JOY
and be led forth
IN PEACE.

ISAIAH 55:12, NIV

July 2017

Fairfield Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
						1 4:00 PM Tanner Lightsey's Birthday Party (HH)																																																																																				
2 9:00 AM Contemporary Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Service	3 Church Office Closed	4 Church Office Closed <i>Independence Day</i>	5	6 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (HH)	7	8																																																																																				
9 9:00 AM Contemporary Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Service	10	11 6:00 AM Men of the Church Breakfast (off-site) 8:30 PM Men's Softball Game (Pole Green Park) 9:30 PM Men's Softball Game (Pole Green Park)	12	13 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (HH)	14 Hanover Firefighters Event (FC)	15																																																																																				
Adult Vacation Bible School																																																																																										
16 9:00 AM Contemporary Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Service	17	18 7:00 PM Session Meeting (#20) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM District Committee Meeting (#29/30)	19	20 7:00 PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting (#29)	21	22																																																																																				
23 9:00 AM Contemporary Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Service Twilight Camp Set-up	24	25 7:00 PM Children's Nurture Team (#20)	26	27 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (HH)	28	29 Twilight Camp Clean-up																																																																																				
2:00 PM - 9:00 PM Cub Scout Twilight Camp																																																																																										
30 9:00 AM Contemporary Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Service	31	<div> <div>June</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>August</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>					S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
				1	2	3																																																																																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																																																																																				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																				
25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																					
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
		1	2	3	4	5																																																																																				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12																																																																																				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19																																																																																				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26																																																																																				
27	28	29	30	31																																																																																						

Under Age Thinking....

Friendship Snack Mix



Life is more interesting when you have a diverse "mix" of friends. Show your variety of buddies how much they mean to you by making this snack for (or with!) them.

What you need:

- 1 cup fish-shaped crackers
- 1 cup chocolate Chex
- 1 cup mini pretzels
- 1 cup peanut butter crackers
- ½ cup mini M&M's
- Large bowl
- Snack-sized zippered baggies
- Permanent markers
- Foam stickers

What you do:

1. Mix all the food in the bowl.
2. Write a personalized message on each baggie. Decorate with stickers.
3. Measure some snack mix into each baggie. Seal them shut.
4. Share this snack with your friends!



Friends in the Lord

Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." It's important to choose friends who help us be more like Jesus. How many words can you make from the word *friendship*?

F R I E N D S H I P

2-letter words: _____

3-letter words: _____

4-letter words: _____

5-letter words: _____

Words with 6 or more letters: _____

Answers include: in, is, hi, he, hip, end, sip, dip, rip, nip, pie, sir, hid, ship, send, ride, dine, find, fine, drip, shed, dish, fish, rind, ripe, hide, tried, pride, siren, fresh, ferns, friend, fisher, diners, rinsed, shrive, finish, shinier, insider, hinders, inspired, reflash, finished

[illegible]