



The Messenger

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

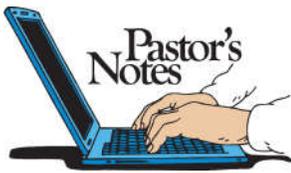
The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor
The Rev. Darren W. Utley, Associate Pastor

Web Site: www.fairfieldpcusa.org

E-Mail: office@fairfieldpcusa.org

Office Phone: (804) 730-7164

September 2020



I've been trying to come up with a way to talk about my sabbatical with you all. At this moment, the best I can do is share a quote from my daily meditations. Throughout this year I have been reading through a collection by Henry Nouwen called You Are the Beloved. This quote about prayer kept challenging me as I tried to devote myself more fully to praying for the church in the world. The Christian believes that God is a person who is love, perfect love. The Christian knows it is possible to enter into dialogue with this loving God and so work at renewing the earth. Praying, therefore, is the most critical activity we are capable of. For when we pray, we are never satisfied with the world of the here and now and are constantly striving to realize the new world the first glimmers of which we have already seen. I know that I was very fortunate to be able to set aside much of the day to day obligations of my life for an extended period of time. Blessed to take time to focus more of my attention on my "dialogue with this loving God," but I think we can all find pockets of time for this dialogue.

Clearly there are so much "work at renewing the earth" that needs done, especially when we look at the last few months. As I tried to stay committed to the dialogue with the loving God over these last months, I found that we can begin to see the glimmers of the new world God is creating in our midst. I know that this is not really saying much about what happened on my sabbatical and of course I didn't go anywhere so

there's nothing to report. Even so, just as if I had traveled to a beautiful place and would encourage you to visit sometime, perhaps the best I can do is encourage you in these troubling times is to seek out that dialogue with the loving God.

I pray we can all find the time to listen for the ways that you are called to renew the earth around you. We can all enjoy the glimmers of the new world God will show us.



Member News

Our love and sympathy goes out to **Vicky Brady** on the death of her mother, Betty Jo Deaver on July 31st; to **Robin Wilson** on the death of her mother, Ruby Burks on August 23rd; and to **Dwight Clark** on the loss of a cousin in Texas and a nephew on the Eastern Shore. Please keep both of these family in your prayers.

Gary Helfrich has moved to 9425 Amberleigh Circle, North Chesterfield, VA 23236-1498.

Courtney & Randy Street have moved to 9105 Shakopee Trail, Mechanicsville, VA 23116.

Rachel Underdown has moved to 2010 Cricket Creet Court, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.

Please make these changes in your directory.

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers: **Becky Clark, Kathy Dixon** and her daughter-in-law Cathy, **Robbie Dobson, Danny Guertler's** friend Conrad Kurtz, **Calvin Pearson's wife Barbara, Gene & Peggie Rosen's** neighbor Karen, **Bob & Gen Stevens, Marge Wantz'** husband Ned, **Buford Wade, Jack Ward, K. C. Whitaker, Deborah Wood's** friend, Courtney and friend Madison, and 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 members who are unable to get to church: **Evelyn Bailey, Ann Barlow, Marie Blatt, Ruth Gatewood, Inez Hill, Stan Hiner, Laverne Longest, Myrtle Muire, Calvin & Barbara Pearson, Mack Perkins, Virginia Phipps, Helen Rigsby, Larry Rigsby, Faye Sandridge, Louise Setchel, 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.)



Dear Fairfield Family,
Your kindness means the world to me! Thank you so much for all the flowers, calls, cards, and prayers. It means so much to be a part of the Fairfield family. Thank you again.

Gen Stevens & Family

Dear Fairfield Family,
Thank you so much for the many calls, texts, Facebook messages and cards that you sent us as condolences for the recent passing of my mother and Heather's grandmother. Needless to say, when one loses three immediate family members over the span of five months, it is extremely difficult and to do so during a pandemic is even more challenging. Your constant love, support, and prayers have meant so much during this time.

With much love and appreciation,
Vicky & Heather Brady

A huge thank you to Sue Putze, Beth Young, Janet Chelette and Nancy Gallihugh for filling in for me while I took a vacation in August. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Donna Carson

Members of Fairfield Presbyterian Church,
I am eternally grateful for all the support you have shown me over the years. This church community, along with the word of God that was taught to me, has truly raised me into the person I am today. I am so happy I was able to spend my childhood in the church. I will miss all the services, dinners, Sunday School classes, Fall Festivals, and especially the people while I'm away at VMI. I wish you all the best.

Sam Patterson

Sam's college address:
Virginia Military Institute
VMI Box 81314
Lexington, VA 24450-0304



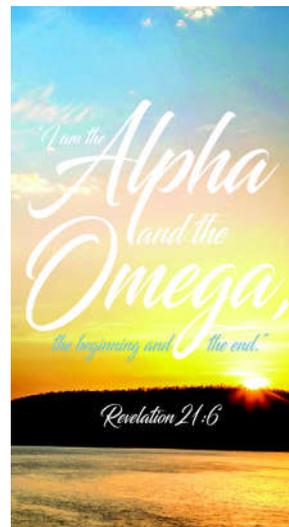
Laura Arnette	September 3
Sawyer Harding	September 3
Ruth Gatewood	September 5
Karen Hastings	September 6
Courtney Starzer Kulkarni	September 6
Melanie Rubeck	September 6
Gerry Miller	September 7
Brian Croy	September 8
Thomas Cunningham	September 8
Kim Boehme	September 9
Tom Lake	September 9
Charles Warren	September 9
Austin Wilson	September 9
Megan Leigh	September 10
Wyatt Schneck	September 10
Tanner Franklin	September 11
Alissa Helfrich	September 11
Chris Palicia	September 12
Emily Helfrich	September 14
McKenzie Marker	September 14
Madison Stevens	September 15
Kylee Smith	September 17
Scott Stevens	September 17
Julie Sutton	September 17
Debbie Atkins	September 20
Kelly Daugherty	September 20
Bettina Tanner	September 20
Henry Atkinson	September 22
Sandra Brewster	September 23
Matt Joyce	September 23
Dawn Williamson	September 23
Mary Beth Adams	September 24
Marie Maida	September 24
Aaron Marker	September 24
Joan Sprinkle	September 24
Angela Blue	September 28
Heather Lowery	September 28
Tracy Pope	September 30



Charles & Pamela Walsh	September 2
John & Suzanne Weeks	September 2
Jeff & Angela Blue	September 3
Dave & Myra Compton	September 3
Pat & Linda Daugherty	September 4
Justin & Katelyn Weis	September 7
Merrill & Karen Hastings	September 12
Mike & Myra Moore	September 14
Keith & Dana Franklin	September 19
Cameron & Erica Hutchison	September 19
Edward & Maurine Wolfgang	September 20
Buck & Barbara Smith	September 22
Billy & Sue Putze	September 26
Jack & Jo Mitchell	September 27

Special dates

- Labor Day, *September 7*
- Patriot Day, *September 11*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 13*
- Hispanic Heritage Month *Sept. 15 - Oct. 15*
- First Day of autumn, *September 22*

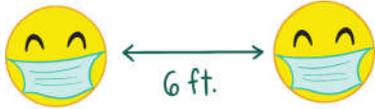


God created this world,
 everything that it holds.
 And God still is creating
 as each day unfolds.
 What we once called the
 future,
 we now call the past.
 While the present is
 fleeting,
 God stays - first and last!

Peggy Ferrell

Worship Services

We will continue to hold our Sunday morning worship service in the Family Center at 10:00am. We ask that members who attend to please wear a face mask and sit 6 feet apart from others (except family members).



THANK YOU

FOR PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING!



- YouTube.com (search up Fairfield PCUSA)
- On our Facebook page
- at our website: Fairfieldpcusa.org.

Fairfield held a community blood drive on August 18th. The American Red Cross registered 33 donors and collected 35 units of blood. Those units can help save as many as 105 lives! We appreciate all those who came and gave blood.

COMMUNITY
BLOOD DRIVE

Our next blood drive will be held on Tuesday, **October 13th** from 1-6pm. You can sign up now by going to RedCrossBlood.org.

Joyful Readers' Circle

I hope you have had a nice summer and have enjoyed reading a book or two. I enjoyed reading "The Heirloom Garden" by Viola Shipman. If you've enjoyed a good book, let me know and I will pass the information on to others in the group. I've missed seeing all of you and look forward to seeing you in the near future!

Barbara Wash

Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions

(MCEF) www.4mcef.com

The One Stop Shop (OSS) is currently open during the following times:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:30-11:00am and Thursday evening from 6:30-7:30pm.

Clients can come to get food and be taken into the building one at a time for clothing. Please wear a mask.

DONATIONS of food and clothing are now being accepted on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of a month from 2-3:30pm.

Current needs for Food Pantry: Spam and other canned meats, beef stew/Brunswick stew, boxed cereal, canned white potatoes, boxed mashed potatoes, pork & beans, vegetable soup, canned navy beans, pinto beans, canned tomatoes, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, personal hygiene items.

At Fairfield you can still bring your food donations to the church for the regular 1st Sunday contribution.

MCEF continues to be grateful to all the church, business and individual partners who keep the doors open with generous donations. God is good.

Under-Age Thinking...

A BUSHEL OF BOOKS



Design a handy bag to tote your books this fall.

What you need:

- Plain canvas bag
- Cardboard scrap
- Acrylic paints (2 colors)
- 2 small paper plates
- Apple
- Knife (and adult help)
- Foam brush
- Scrap paper

What you do:

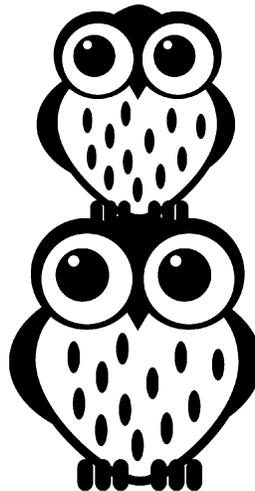
1. Lay the bag flat on a table, and place cardboard inside for protection.
2. Pour a paint dollop on each plate.
3. Slice the apple in half, keeping the core intact.
4. Brush a thin layer of paint on the cut side of an apple half. Practice making stamps on scrap paper. Use the other color on the other apple half.
5. Paint and stamp the bag with your final design. When dry, remove the cardboard.
6. Use the bag for school and Sunday school. Happy reading!



WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.



school	— ○ — — —
paper	— ○ —
wisdom	— — ○ —
read	— — — ○
play	— — — — —
learn	○ — — — —
grow	— ○ — — — —
pencils	— — — — —
pray	— ○ — —
art	— — — — —
student	— — — ○ — —
kids	— — ○ — — —
apple	— — ○ — — —

“... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful.”

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answers: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom, prosperous



**WE WILL
NEVER
FORGET**

■
PATRIOT DAY



Please make sure the toilet stops before exiting the restroom! We incurred a \$636 water bill recently because a toilet was continuously running. Help us be good stewards of our resources!



**Fairfield Church
P.O. Box 1088
Mechanicsville, VA 23111**

Return Service Requested

