



The Messenger

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

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E-Mail: office@fairfieldpcusa.org

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The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor

August 2021



Dear friends,

As has become my custom, I take a few weeks in August to head to the hills of PA to "let my body and soul catch up with each other." I thoroughly appreciate the opportunity that this leave time allows me to step aside from the activity and responsibilities of being your Pastor. Equally important is the fact that it allows me to look ahead toward the next year together: planning sermons; pondering the goals for the next year and simply praying for God's direction for our life together.

Last year's trip was disrupted by my illness but more so by the concerns over the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact upon Fairfield Church. As I look forward to this year's trip, I carry with me some wonderful memories of the pandemic. I know! I know! That just does not sound right! Nobody has good memories of the pandemic! But wait a minute and let me explain!

Fairfield Presbyterian Church rose to the occasion and embodied the work of Jesus Christ during the crisis. Certainly, the rapidity with which we were able to offer online worship is commendable. But we also offered several different ways to include folks in the worship of God through both electronic and printed means. Untold hours were spent by people who went out of their way to make sure those who were homebound during this time, were checked on and reminded that they were not truly alone.

The one that amazes me though is this: your leadership team at the beginning of the pandemic was making plans to greatly reduce our budget, including laying off staff. However, that moment never came. We, of course, did reduce spending on non-essential items but at the same time, because of your generosity, we shifted a great deal of our resources to helping those for whom the pandemic was causing distress financially. Tens of thousands of dollars were shared with members of the church facing setbacks, as well as with carefully vetted folks within our community were helped as well. We were able to help with everything from food to mortgage payments to car repairs. Through the generosity of one of our members we now have a revolving loan fund to help people going through difficult times. Fairfield Presbyterian Church makes a difference in people's lives!

For these reasons and many more, I am heading to the lake with a happy heart knowing that I serve a congregation that has taken its call as followers of Jesus Christ seriously. I am proud to be your Pastor.

In Christ's love,

Member News

Our sympathy goes out to **Norman Wash** and his family on the death of his brother, Morris "Pete" Coleman Wash on July 22nd. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers: **Angela Blue's brother & his family, Beverly Burts' daughter Kathy, Myra Compton, Marcia Cramer, Reggie Crump, Jack Mitchell, Murrell & Joyce Nuckols, Calvin and Barbara Pearson, Betty Pittman, Gene Rosen's niece, Tracy, Bob Stevens, Buford Wade, Marge Wantz' husband Ned, Jack Ward, Deborah Wood's friend Courtney** 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, Nita Dunkum, Ruth Gatewood, Laverne Longest, Myrtle Muire, Nancy Norment, Murrell & Joyce Nuckols, Virginia Phipps, Helen Rigsby, Larry Rigsby, Faye Sandridge, Louise Setchel, Sheila Shaw, and Bootsie Stevens.**

Our Covenant Woods friends: **Margaret Barlow, Marie Blatt, Elizabeth Davis, Walt & Jan Fadeley, Nancy & Ivy Gallihugh, Mary Gayton, Bill & Phyllis Kerns, Doris McCalla, Glenn & Gerry Miller, Jack & Jo Mitchell, Calvin & Barbara Pearson, Rick & Diane Richardson, Bob Stevens, Libby Taylor, Billy and Nancy Walls.**

(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.)

Church Directory Changes:
Rev. Darren & Mrs. Deb Utley
335 Veranda Lane, #112
Mount Pleasant, WI 53406

Richard & Deborah Wood are not using their land line anymore. Please make a note of their cell phone numbers: Deborah 804-683-6855 and Richard 804-402-6570.



Dear Fairfield Presbyterian Family,
TEAMeffort wants to thank your church for sending the youth to serve on a Mission Trip to Blue Knob in July! They represented your church well as they painted, landscaped and spent time with four different homes in Altoona. You can be proud of their efforts and love for this community. We know many lives were changed by their words and actions. The TEAMeffort Staff thanks you for supporting your youth on their summer mission trip. We enjoyed serving with them.

The Staff from TEAMeffort

Dear friends,
Thank you for your gifts to Frontier Fellowship from the past year. We are beyond grateful that during a season defined by COVID, with no travel and no in-person meetings that faithful friends have continued to support our ministry. Through Zoom and phones we have worked hard to keep in touch with our international partners. Thank you so much!

In Christ, Rev. Richard Haney

Dear Fairfield Family,
Thank you so much for your phone calls and cards after the loss of my sweet grandmother. Your kind words were very much appreciated and we feel so blessed to be surrounded by such a caring church family. Thank you again for thinking of our family during this difficult time. Blessings,
Angela, Jeff, Madison, McKenna & Maisie Blue

Moving Forward!

Your Adult Discipleship Team is planning for the full reopening of our Adult Sunday School classes starting the Sunday after Labor Day. They are also planning for a small group study for October and one for the season of Advent. Look for more information in next month's newsletter and in the church bulletin!



Dave Starzer	August 1
Ivy Lightsey	August 2
Myrtle Muire	August 2
Kendall Underdown	August 7
Keelyn Underdown	August 7
LeVonne Neuharth	August 8
Louise Kellum	August 10
Tena Behling	August 12
Donna Horn	August 12
Rob Blue	August 13
Rick Heretick	August 13
Peggie Rosen	August 14
Brandon Stevens	August 14
Calvin Pearson	August 15
Todd Leudesdorff	August 17
Helen Rigsby	August 17
Lori Briel	August 18
Barbara Cooper	August 19
Tim Sutton	August 19
Billy Putze	August 20
Hunter Glass	August 21
Lexie Horn	August 21
Jake Lake	August 21
Ken Hayden	August 22
Jean Plott	August 22
Robert Wilson	August 22
Linda Daugherty	August 24
Mark Schneck	August 24
Topher Carson	August 25
Linda Canyock	August 27
Justin Harvey	August 29
Sue Coulter	August 30
Faye Sandridge	August 30



Bruce & Cathy Jenkins	August 1
Harry & Ann Zweckbronner	August 2
Larry & Fran Hansbrough	August 3
Mike & Beth Weber	August 3
Justin & Rebecca Harvey	August 7
Linwood & Carolyn Ingram	August 8
Sean & Melanie Magill	August 10
Dennis & Tracey Sulser	August 11

Arnold & LaVonne Neuharth	August 12
Gerry & Celeste Underdown	August 12
Buford & Betty Wade	August 12
Todd & Joanne Leudesdorff	August 14
Bob & Sharon Gaston	August 21
Bill & Cory Walter	August 22
David & Tina Cunningham	August 23



On behalf of the Personnel Committee and the Session, we are very pleased to let you know that we have hired two wonderful people to fill some of the void left by Darren's call to Racine, WI. **The Rev. Shannon Hendricks** will be joining us as (temporary P.T.) Associate Pastor starting August 16th. While she will be a generalist, her specialty will be in the area of youth, young adults and discipleship. Shannon will be returning to ministry after taking time off for her 20 month old twin boys. Prior to their birth, she was a campus minister for the University of Mary Washington.

Working side by side with Shannon will be **Rev. Sandy Shaner**. She will also be joining us as (temporary p.t.) Associate Pastor. Like Shannon, she will be a generalist in ministry, but her areas of specialty are music/worship and pastoral care with the joy of guiding the Deacons. Sandy joins us after two short term pastorates in the Presbytery following a joyful ministry in Southern, New Jersey. Some of you may remember Sandy from her years of serving at the Salem Presbyterian Church. Sandy will begin her time with us September 1st.

Sandy and Shannon will each by 40% time with us and will be what the Presbytery calls Covenant Pastors, meaning they will be one-year contracts approved by the Presbytery. They are excited to come and be a part of the Fairfield family and we know you will welcome them and enjoy their presence with us!



Stitch by stitch skeins of yarn become prayerfully made prayer shawls and lap robes. Baby blankets are joyfully made to celebrate a new birth.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets monthly to share fellowship with each other as well as ideas for new projects. Don't know how to crochet or knit would you like to learn? We are always looking for new members with new and different ideas. If you are interested please join us.

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is **Wednesday, August 4 at 10:00am** in the Barlow Parlor.

Anna Barrowclough

The Joyful Readers Circle looks forward to returning to regular meetings hopefully in September. Here is a list of books they plan to read from September to December:

September: This Tender Land
by William Kent Kruger

October: Big Lies in a Small Town
by Diane Chamberlain

November: This is How It Always Is
by Laurie Frankel

December: The Christmas Doll
by Elvira Woodruff

Check the September newsletter for more information on the circle getting back together.

Summer Nursery Schedule for 8:45am Service

- Aug. 1: Majken Whitaker & McKenna Blue
- Aug. 8: Linda Daugherty & Abbey Glass
- Aug. 15: Anne Young & McKenna Blue
- Aug. 22: Allison Letourneau & Marge Wantz
- Aug. 29: Nikki Glass & Abbey Glass

Day of Prayer

We are excited that Fairfield will be fully reopened in September! That means that all of our adult Sunday School classes will resume, starting the Sunday after Labor Day. In addition, we will be looking towards some additional small group Bible study opportunities - one in October, and one during Advent. As we return to our commitment to Worship + 2, which means participation in at least 1 activity that nurtures your Christian growth and discipleship, as well as 1 activity that ministers to and serves others, we are asking that you begin to prayerfully consider what that Worship + 2 looks like for you personally. In the coming months, we will be sponsoring an information fair and will be doing a mass mail out which explains all of your options for learning and Christian growth.

Meanwhile, we will be observing a special day of prayer for Fairfield Church. We, as a church, have been really blessed that during the past 18 months, so many of our members remained faithful in so many ways. We are asking as we move forward starting in September, that we increase our faithful efforts by considering consistent attendance at in-person worship (as long as you are physically able), as well as participating in all of the exciting opportunities for discipleship and service.

Our **Day of Prayer** for Fairfield will be Wednesday, **September 1**. Please consider committing an hour of your time that day in focused prayer for our church. You can pray from home, or a church. Starting Sunday, August 1, there will be a sign up sheet in the lobby of the Family Center, and another one will be in the Narthex. Please pick an hour and sign up! There is no limit of people who can sign up for each time slot! If you cannot sign up but would like to, you could also email Vicky Brady at vgbrady81@gmail.com to let her know.

Vicky Brady



The miracle of summer

A team of Sunday school teachers faced boisterous youngsters on Rally Day, the start of a new education year. Because kids were reuniting after a break, they were eager to chat about vacations. To restore order, a teacher, a teacher asked the children to take turns sharing a favorite Bible verse, story or miracle. One, who still had summer on the brain, exclaimed, "I like the time when everybody loafes and fishes!"

Dear heavenly Father



Open my eyes, Creator of the universe, that I may see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; open my ears, that I may hear what the heavens are telling me about your glory, which transcends

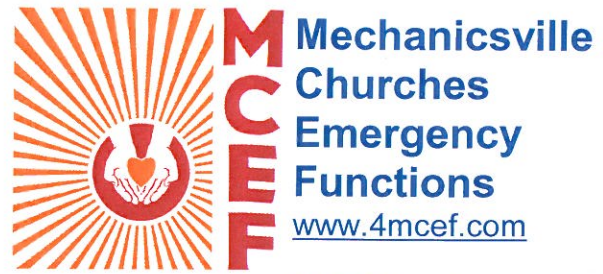
all material bounds and yet designs to reside with human beings. May I ever marvel at your tender care for us, and give you thanks and praise forever. Amen.

Prayer suggested by Psalms 8 & 19

A prayer about slowing down

God beyond time... teach us to pause in this moment to tuck ourselves into the curve of your slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we measure, and standing with us in it. May we see the goodness of our still hours and days, sunrises, sunsets, and the darkness where our rest is found.

Micha Boyett in A Rhythm of Prayer
(edited by Sarah Bessey)



MCEF is planning to host a Back to School shopping day for our current clients (preschool through high school.) This will be held on Tuesday, August 12 from 6-7:30pm and Wednesday, August 18 from 9:30-11:00am. There is no food shopping on these days.

Items needed to help with this project include:

- underwear (preschool through adult/high school sizes), especially girls size 14-16, boys boxer briefs sizes small and medium, and women's sizes for teenager girls
- summer and early fall clothing for girls sizes 4, 5, and teenage girls sizes
- boys jeans sizes 6 and 7
- boys shorts (basketball type) all ages (men's sizes for teenage boys)
- any clothing in good/excellent condition appropriate for preschool thru high school students (also sweatshirts - regular and hooded)
- basic school supplies such as pencils, spiral notebooks, notebook paper, glue sticks, pencil pouches, ballpoint pens, colored pencils, crayons, scissors, markers, binders

Donations can be brought directly to the church through August 15th. As always, we are very grateful for all our donors! We could not do any of this without you!

Nancy Gallihugh



Endowments & Bequests

I was recently asked a question about endowments and bequests to the church. I thought maybe there might be others who would have the same questions in the back of our minds. So, let me share my answer with everyone. If you have further questions, please feel free to call upon Gene Rosen or J. R. Marker or myself.

Fairfield Presbyterian Church maintains an Endowment Fund to help the Church to be able to do all of the work we are called to do. This Endowment Fund is made up of a number of individual accounts which are named in honor of the donors or whomever they designated. I mentioned that one we have is the John A. Starzer Fund which I established for my late brother. The income from that particular fund is used for the building needs. All of our endowment fund monies are invested in New Covenant Funds which is owned by the Presbyterian denomination. They are invested to protect against inflation while at the same time producing a string of income that continually helps the Church. These investment accounts are overseen by our Stewardship and Finance Team which boasts some excellent skills in this area.

If you wanted to establish a fund, you could name it whatever you wished, such as for a family member you would like to have remembered, including yourself. Or you could establish more than one fund each with a different purpose. Each fund goes toward one of four areas: Building, Mission, Music, or Christian Education.

There is always the concern that money will be taxed if not handled properly. We all want to avoid that! There are two things to consider there, as I understand it, one is in a will, a good lawyer would help you to word it properly to assure that the Church receives the money and that the Church will use it in the manner you desire. Usually the wording is something like "... to the Fairfield Presbyterian Church or its successor ... to be used to establish theFund for...."

The other issue to consider to avoid the government taxing money is in mandatory distributions. I am told that this is easily avoided (and may help you establish the named endowment funds early) is to direct the company which manages the fund to make the payments directly to the Church. This will avoid any tax liability since this would be considered a tax qualified charitable distribution. A few folks in the Church do this and have found it advantageous in their tax liabilities.

I hope this is helpful to many of you. This kind of planning assures that Fairfield Presbyterian will remain strong even in challenging times. Again, if you have questions, please simply ask us.

In Christ's love,



Under-Age Thinking...

FAITHFUL followers

Play these fun variations
on Follow the Leader —
and remember to
follow Jesus
wherever you go!

What you need:

- Bean bags
- Tables, chairs,
pillows
- Painter's tape

What you do:

Players line up behind the
Leader, who moves around in
various ways. Followers must
copy the Leader's movements
faithfully. Try these variations:

1. Players must balance a
bean bag on their head as
they follow the Leader.
2. Set up an obstacle course,
and follow the Leader by
crawling under tables and
chairs, hopping over pillows
and so on.
3. With tape, make zigzags
and curves on the floor.
Then follow the Leader as
if walking on a tightrope.
4. The Leader designates types
of terrain to imagine, such
as mud, snow, ice and a
mountain.
5. Also try animal movements,
mirrored movements and
dancing movements.

Puzzle!

Answer each statement by circling the letter in the
correct column. Then write the circled letters on the
numbered lines below to complete the biblical word.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Naomi is Ruth's mother.	D	<input checked="" type="radio"/> R
2. Ruth is a Moabite.	T	P
3. Naomi wants Ruth to leave her and return to Moab.	N	L
4. Orpah is Naomi's hired hand.	H	S
5. Boaz lives in Bethlehem.	C	B
6. Boaz is a farmer.	U	V
7. Ruth makes a living begging at Bethlehem's gates.	X	E
8. Boaz instructs his field workers to leave extra grain for Ruth to glean.	E	J
9. Boaz invites Ruth to eat with the harvesters.	R	Q
10. Boaz is related to Naomi.	I	W
11. Boaz refuses to marry Ruth.	F	R
12. Ruth is the great-grandmother of King David.	O	G

R

9 7 4 6 1 11 8 5 2 10 12 3

Answer: 1. R, 2. T, 3. N, 4. S, 5. C, 6. U, 7. E, 8. E, 9. R, 10. I, 11. R,
12. O; RESURRECTION

AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	2 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	3 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM SonLight Learning Center (FC) 7:00 PM Personnel Team (#26)	4 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	5 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM SonLight Learning Center (FC) 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	6 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM New Beginnings Church (Heritage Hall)	7 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM New Beginnings Church (HH)
8 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	9 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	10 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM SonLight Learning Center (FC)	11 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	12 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM SonLight Learning Center (FC) 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	13	14 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM New Beginnings Church (HH)
15 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	16 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM CC Tutor Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	17  1:00 PM - 6:00 PM BLOOD DRIVE (Family Center)	18 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Greenbar Meeting (#19) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	19 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM SonLight Learning Center (FC) 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting (#20)	20 Eagle Scout Court of Honor Set-up (FC) <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 Eagle Scout Court of Honor (F/C) 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM New Beginnings Church (HH)
22 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	23 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Classical Conversations Open House 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	24	25 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	26 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	27	28 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM New Beginnings Church (HH)
29 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	30 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	31	1 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	2 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	3	4 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM New Beginnings Church (HH)

Help needed:

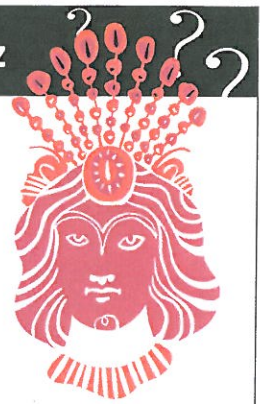
Elderly lady in Mechanicsville seeks live-in to assist with her care & light housekeeping duties. Room & board provided, salary negotiable. Call Ellen at 804-690-2643.



Bible Quiz

What was the name of the queen who refused to appear before the king of Persia and his guests and, as a result, was deposed?

- A. Esther
- B. Jael
- C. Vashti
- D. Milcah



Answer: C (See Esther 1:12.)



Fairfield Church
P.O. Box 1088
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Return Service Requested

