



The Messenger

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

The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor
The Rev. Shannon Hendricks, Associate Pastor
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January 2022



Gabrielle Earnshaw compiled works from Henri Nouwen into a devotional titled "You are the Beloved." Below is the excerpt from one of his works that she selected for January 1st.

"We must learn to live each day, each hour, yes, each minute as a new

beginning, as a unique opportunity to make everything new. Imagine that we could live each moment as a moment pregnant with new life. Imagine that we could live each day as a day full of promises. Imagine that we could walk through the new year always listening to the voice saying to us: "I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it!" Imagine.

Is it possible that our imagination can lead us to the truth of our lives? Yes, it can! The problem is that we allow our past, which becomes longer and longer each year, to say to us: "You know it all; you have seen it all, be realistic; the future will just be a repeat of the past. Try to survive it as best you can." There are many cunning foxes jumping on our shoulders and whispering in our ears the great lie: "There is nothing new under the sun . . . ?don't let yourself be fooled."

When we listen to these foxes, they eventually prove themselves right: our new year, our new day, our new hour become flat, boring, dull, and without anything new.

So what are we to do? First, we must send the foxes back to where they belong: in their

foxholes. And then we must open our minds and our hearts to the voice that resounds through the valleys and hills of our life saying: "Let me show you where I live among my people. My name is 'God-with-you.' I will wipe all the tears from your eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone" (Revelation 21:2-5)."

We have reached the time of the year where the message everywhere seems to be New Year, New You! Many people will be taking on resolutions trying to add a new good habit or take away a bad one. It is a time of year where we reflect on the past year and think of the ways that it was good to us or the way that we wish next year will be different. As we are going into this new year, I hope that our reflections can be prayerful and focused on listening for the voice of the one who reminds us that we are not alone and that God is with us always. It is easy to become disheartened as January rolls on. The lights and songs of Christmas and the reminders of the joy brought to earth in the form of a baby fade away and it seems that the sludge part of winter rolls in. Henri Nouwen refers to the other voices that can pop up in our lives as the many cunning foxes. These things that want to distract us, our fear of failure, a culture that seems to push hate more than love lately, and on and on. Nouwen's response to these foxes is to open our minds and hearts and listen to that voice that doesn't want to bring us down, but instead reminds us over and over of the love of God for us each day. God is with us. We may not have those ever present lights and carols singing of the joy now in the world, but if we keep our hearts and minds open there can be signs everywhere for us in this season. I don't think

that we need to find a “new you” this year. We are God’s beloved, known and loved deeply by the Creator. What it may be that we need and what it is that we are actually searching for is a new connection- a deeper prayer life to connect us to God, a renewed connection with friends and family, or a connection with humanity. Nouwen says imagine if we went through the world always listening to the voice saying “I have a gift for you.” I wonder what it would be like to go a little bit further and imagine if we listened to that voice and responded to it by seeing

everyone we encounter as the beloved child they are. What if we led with kindness and love in our hearts giving everyone the benefit of the doubt? What if instead of seeing those we encounter as the “other” we saw them as loved first? Each opportunity is a new beginning a new chance to defy those cunning foxes and see God in the world through the faces of the beloved creation that is each and every one of us.

Happy New Year!
Shannon

Member News

Bryant, Julie & Heather Lowery have moved. Their new address is 4629 Battleline Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Please make the change in your directory.

Fairfield would like to congratulate our own **Rick Heretick** who was elected by his peers as the Honor Graduate of Academy 60 of the Hanover Fire/EMS. Our hats are off to you!!

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers: **Laura Arnette, Jack Briel, Myra Compton, John Crowe, Gloria Dunham, Willies Fishburne’s son, Brett and his wife Joanne, Nancy Hart, Gerry Miller’s sister-in-law Marguerite Whitmere, Jack Mitchell, Myrtle Muire, Joyce Nuckols, Calvin and Barbara Pearson, Betty Pittman, Pam Roberts’ mother, Gene Rosen’s niece, Tracy, Louise Setchel, Buford Wade, Jack and Beverly Ward, Ryan Westphal, Deborah Wood’s friend Courtney, Dale Woodfin & her son Gregroy and daughter Stacy, Beth Young’s brother Bill and all those who serve as missionaries abroad and those who serve our nation.**

Please remember our members who are unable to get to church due to illness or limited mobility: **Ann Barlow, Reggie Crump, Nita Dunkum, Dot Gammon, Ruth Gatewood, Eva Ladd, Laverne Longest, Marie Maida, Myrtle Muire, Nancy Norment, Joyce Nuckols, Virginia Phipps, Helen Rigsby, Larry Rigsby, Faye Sandridge, Louise Setchel, Sheila Shaw, and Bootsie Stevens.**

Our Covenant Woods friends: **Carl & Ann**

Barkley, 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, Richard Walden, Billy and Nancy Walls.

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



I would like to thank the Deacons for the delicious brunswick stew and rolls they delivered to my house. It is so nice to be remembered.

Marie Maida

Dear Fairfield Presbyterian Members,
Thank you so much for your generous donations you have made to several of our families here at Cold Harbor Elementary School. We appreciate your kindness and support!

Love, the Cold Harbor Staff

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your gift of \$1,350 to the ministry of Samaritan’s Purse. I am thankful for your gifts that equip our teams to meet the needs of victims of war, poverty, famine, disaster and other crises. As we care for hurting people, our teams tell them that they are not alone, but that the Lord is near during times of struggle. Please continue to pray for the work of Samaritan’s Purse.

Merry Christmas, and may God bless you.
Franklin Graham

The Deacons would like to thank you for all the items given to help create the prepackaged bundles of blessings we were able to put together on December 4th and also with your help to give them to those in need. We are still in need of \$5-10 gift cards to common fast-food chains. Please drop them off in the blue buckets or put them on the church secretary's desk. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness!

Pam Roberts

Thank you so much for the blood drive on Tuesday, December 7. We had a great turn out and collected 33 units which can help as many as 99 lives! This is truly a big help as we head into the holidays and are still facing a nationwide shortage. Our next blood drive is February 1st. Please feel free to go to our website and sign up!

Christine Homan
Account Manager II



Brenda Harris	January 2
Zachary Letourneau	January 3
Collin Humphrey	January 4
Tess Wenninger	January 4
Kelly Wolfgang	January 5
Kathryn Zweckbronner	January 6
Ashley Clark	January 9
Dale Woodfin	January 10
Eva Ladd	January 11
Richie Tanner	January 11
Ryan Westphal	January 12
Richard Wood	January 12
Cooper Irwin	January 13
Debby Starzer	January 13
Jo Mitchell	January 14
Sydney Westphal	January 14
Jack Briel	January 15
Jeff Harding	January 18
Nancy Hart	January 19
Morgan Wills	January 19
Diane Brown	January 20

Anna Barrowclough	January 21
Louise Setchel	January 23
Elizabeth Davis	January 24
Troy Horn	January 24
Will Dunn	January 25
Mike Hohman	January 26
Virginia Phipps	January 26
Hailey Weis	January 26
Rick Richardson	January 27



Jeff & Becky Cumins	January 4
Scott & Megan Stevens	January 30
Tracy & Beth Young	January 31

Special dates

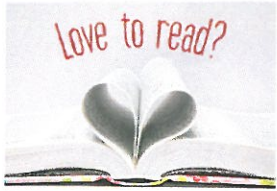
- New Year's Day, *January 1*
- Epiphany, *January 6*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 9*
- Religious Freedom Day, *January 16*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 17*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25*

Attention All Ladies!



The Fellowship Circle will get together again on January 22 in the Heritage Hall at 10:00am. All ladies are invited to join us! The Bible study will be very active as we study the line and lineage of Jesus as recorded in Matthew and angels.

Beverly Burts



The Joyful Readers Circle will meet again on **January 11 at 7:00pm** in the Heritage Hall. All ladies are invited to join us as we begin a new year!

Barbara Wash



Prayer Shawl Ministry

We delivered a Prayer Shawl...really it was a Lap Robe. When we unfolded it and put it on her lap we noticed it coordinated well with her outfit. While this is not a common occurrence, it is not uncommon to hear "Oh,

that is my favorite color" or "This matches my decor" or "It's so soft and warm." The person we are choosing for is not always well known to us but many times, we find we have chosen perfectly. This can only be because God is with us in the choosing and for that we are eternally grateful.

If you would like to join us in the Ministry, we meet the first Wednesday of every month and we would welcome your input. **The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is Wednesday, January 5 at 10:00am in the Barlow Parlor.** We welcome you there.

Anna Barrowclough

The **Super Singles** will be getting together on **Sunday, January 9th** and will be going to Applebee's on Bell Creek Road. Everyone is welcome to join us! We will meet right after the 11:00am service and go to the restaurant. Call Melanie Rubeck (730-5994) if you have any questions about the Super Singles.



December Nursery Schedule for 8:45am Service

- Jan. 2 Nikki Glass & McKenna Blue
- Jan. 9 Majken Whitaker & Abbey Glass
- Jan. 16 Allison Letourneau & McKenna Blue
- Jan. 23 Anne Young & McKenna Blue
- Jan. 30 Angela Schwartz & Marge Wantz

Camp Hanover News

Camp Hanover is bringing the power of Summer camp to a new year-round program! Want to get outside after school? The **CHASE program - Camp Hanover After School Explorers** - is launching on **January 3** for students in grades K-5. This nature-based after-school program will get children outside to learn and grow in God's creation. Daily activities include everything from hiking to fishing, archery to gardening, and fire-building to canoeing. Plus, a daily devotion, snack, and assisted homework time, all in a Christ-centered community. Enrollment is open now!

Learn more at www.CampHanover.org/After-School

Looking for a new place to recycle your plastic grocery bags? You can bring them to church! Place them in the marked bins located in the Narthex and outside the Family Center. They will be used in delivering meals for Meals on Wheels. Please contact Janet Chelette for any questions.



Angel Tree Celebration

The Fairfield angels (that's you!) have been busy. Since the last report, Cold Harbor Elementary School found two more families with two children each that needed our help. Because of the generosity of Fairfield's angels, we were able to make this Christmas very special for ten children and their families, along with providing gift cards to all 13 families that the school is helping this year. Grab your halo and enjoy that warm feeling that comes from sharing your joy with little ones and their families!

Joy abounds! The Mission Committee





The following is a list all of our Elders & Deacons currently serving our church.

2022 Session (Elders)

Moderator: Steve Starzer

Clerk: Fran Hansbrough

Class of 2022: Bruce Arnette
Tom Lake
J. R. Marker
Marge Wantz
Beth Young

Class of 2023: Vicky Brady
David Cunningham
Jim France
Donna Hohman
Allison Letourneau

Class of 2024: Jeff Blue
Patty Gulliver
Billy Putze
Stuart Settle
Deborah Wood

the elders and deacons who rotated off in 2021
They are:

Gene Rosen (elder)
Wyatt Wills (elder)
Jessica Ingerman (deacon)

These members served our congregation well and did a wonderful job! Please be sure to thank these individuals when you see them.

We now welcome our new Class of 2024! The following individuals will be installed and/or ordained as **deacons** in January:

Sandra Brewster
Shirley McGhee
Melanie Rubeck
Majken Whitaker
Richard Wood
Dale Woodfin

The following individuals will be installed and/or ordained as **elders** in January:

Jeff Blue
Patty Gulliver
Billy Putze
Stuart Settle
Deborah Wood

Please pray for these individuals as they serve our church and the members herein. Give them your support when asked to help in some small way. Volunteer to help them out when the need arises. Our leadership is only as strong as our members!

2022 Deacons

Class of 2022: Pat Daugherty
Nikki Glass
Myra Moore
Wray Palmore
Angela Schwartz

Class of 2023: Cindy Cattoi
Dwight Clark
Elizabeth Moorhouse
Pam Roberts
Debby Starzer

Class of 2024: Sandra Brewster
Shirley McGhee
Melanie Rubeck
Majken Whitaker
Richard Wood
Dale Woodfin

Under-Age Thinking...

Golden GIVING

Live out Jesus' golden rule by preparing gift bags for people in need.



What you need:

- Gallon-size zip bags
- New socks
- Hand warmers
- Bus fare or tokens
- Bottled water
- Nonperishable food
- Toiletries and first-aid items
- Paper and markers

What you do:

1. Gather supplies, using the ideas above. Fill bags to make care packages.
2. Write notes or draw pictures for recipients, placing one in each bag.
3. Zip bags and keep them in a vehicle to distribute. Or deliver them right away to people in need (or to sick or homebound people, nursing home residents, a homeless shelter and so on).
4. Pray that God will use your gifts to help and encourage each recipient.



A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.

Do not seek **re**_____ or bear a grudge against anyone among your _____ople, but **love** your **neig**_____ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

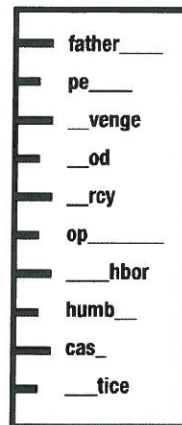
Learn to do **right**; seek jus_____. Defend the _____pressed. Take up the cause of the _____less; plead the _____e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown **you**, O mortal, what is go____. ...

To act **justly** and to **love** me____ and to walk _____ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV



So in _____ything, do to ot _____ what you would _____ve them
d _____ to you, for this s _____ms up the _____w and the Proph _____s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV

Answer: revenge, people, neighbor, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	27 Church Office Closed 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Group (#29) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	28	29 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	30 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center)	31 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM New Beginnings Church Watch Night Service (Family Center)	1 New Year's Day
2 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	3 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Group (#29) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	4 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 7:00 PM Deacon's Meeting (Heritage Hall)	5 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	6 Epiphany 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	7	8 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM NBC Choir Practice (#14)
9 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 12:30 PM Super Singles (Applebees) 4:30 PM Youth Group	10 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Group (#29) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	11 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Fellowship Circle (Heritage Hall) 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 7:00 PM Joyful Readers Circle (Heritage Hall)	12 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Girl Scouts (#20) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	13 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	14	15 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Compass Basketball Games (FC) 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM NBC Choir Practice (#14)
16 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	17 Martin L. King, Jr. Day 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Group (#29) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	18 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 7:00 PM Session Meeting (Heritage Hall)	19 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting (#20)	21	22 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Compass Basketball Games (Family Center) 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM NBC Choir Practice (#14)
23 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	24 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Group (#29) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	25 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center)	26 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Girl Scouts (#20) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	27 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	28	29 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Compass Basketball Games (Family Center) 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM NBC Choir Practice (#14)
30 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 4:30 PM Youth Group Movie Night	31 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Classical Conversations 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM AA Group (#29) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	1 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM BLOOD DRIVE (Heritage Hall) 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Compass Basketball Practice (Family Center) 7:00 PM Deacon's Meeting (#20)	2 Groundhog Day 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00 PM Praise Band Practice (FC)	3 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	4	5 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Compass Basketball Games (Family Center) 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM NBC Choir Practice (#14)

Youth Group News

- Jan. 2 No Youth Group
- Jan. 9 Youth Group meeting, 4:30pm
- Jan. 16 No Youth Group - Martin Luther King Monday
- Jan. 23 No Youth Group - Monday is Flex Day for Hanover County Schools
- Jan. 29 Volunteer at Compass Basketball
- Jan. 30 Movie Night!

SUMMER MISSION TRIP - We have decided to go back to Altoona Pennsylvania for our mission trip again this year. I need to make reservations ASAP, but I need firm commitments on who is going. As a result I need you to check your calendars and let me know if you want to go. Price will be \$50 as per usual. Pinkie promises are also accepted. We are planning on going June 27 - July 1, 2022. Let me know as soon as possible if you would like to commit to going.

Mitzi Marker

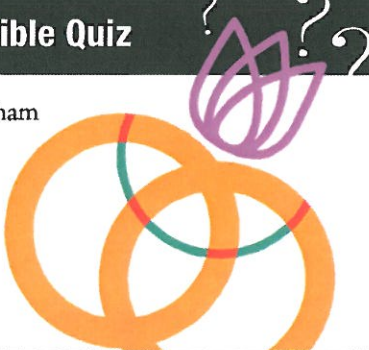
Happy New Year!



Bible Quiz

After Sarah died, Abraham remarried. What was his second wife's name?

A. Miriam
B. Keturah
C. Bathsheba
D. Tamar



Answer: B (See Genesis 25:1.)

Church Staff	
Pastor	Rev. Dr. Stephen Starzer
Associate Pastor	Rev. Shannon Hendricks
Associate Pastor	Rev. Sandi Shaner
Minister In Residence	Rev. Dr. Keith Curran
Intern	Caroline Carneal
Administrative Assistant	Donna Carson
Children's Ministry Assistant	Angela Blue
Music Director	Amy Wenninger
Choir Director	Celeste Underdown
Organist	Dave Starzer
Praise Band Leader	Matt Wenninger
Custodian	John Longest



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Return Service Requested