

The Messenger

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

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The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor The Rev. Mike Watson, Associate Pastor

January 2023



Dear Fairfield Presbyterian Church,

Hi everyone! Over the past months, our family has been eager and

excited to join you all. Sometime in mid-January, we will be traveling up with our family to get settled. My wife Melody, will be working remotely with Boys and Girls Club of Atlanta for our first few months. Our almost 4 year old daughter, Hazel, is eager to meet new friends and share her love of horses, play-doh, singing, and dancing. Our 1 year old son, Bruce, is eager to cruise around the church, playing with toy cars and balls along the way. We can't wait to be part of your family.

I look forward to beginning my ministry with you all. This may not surprise you, but your APNC (Associate Pastor Nominating Committee) did an amazing job representing your church and making me truly feel my call to ministry at Fairfield. I'm grateful for their hard work. I bring a warm personality, a good sense of humor, and a passion for connecting faith with our everyday life, with a God who is present in every moment. The Holy Spirit has clearly been at work in your community and I'm eager to be part of it.

Your prayers have been greatly appreciated. Know that I'm praying for you too as we enter 2023, looking forward to what God has in store for all of us. See you soon!

Grace and Peace, Rev. Mike Watson



Member News



Mike grew up in the golf capital of the world, Augusta, Georgia. As his golf career was clearly not going anywhere, he soon found his call to ministry while at Presbyterian

College in Clinton, South Carolina. He attended seminary at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. After pastoral residencies at Broad Street Ministry in Philadelphia and Southminster Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Mike was called to University Presbyterian Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in the summer of 2012, as an Associate Pastor. While there, Mike and his wife Melody were married and grew to enjoy travel, live music, and building community. In January 2018, Mike was called to serve as pastor of Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia. While there, their family grew as their daughter, Hazel, and son, Bruce, were born. Beyond spending time with his wonderful family, Mke enjoys running and pickin' on his guitar and mandolin.



Libby Pitts' email address is: Pittslibby@yahoo.com.

<u>Congratulations</u> to <u>Kelsey Young</u> who graduated on December 17 from JMU with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing & Chronic Illness Minor. Kelsey has accepted a position in the Emergency Room at Memorial Regional Medical Center. We are proud of you Kelsey!

We also congratulate **Jake Lake** on graduating from Mary Washington College with a BA in Historic Preservation! We are proud of you Jake!



Myra Compton, Merrillyn Jones, Joyce Nuckols, Helen Rigsby, Gene Rosen's niece, Tracy, Joan

Sprinkle, Herta Wenninger, and all those who serve as missionaries abroad and those who serve our nation.



Please remember our homebound members who are unable to get to church: Ann Barlow, Myra Compton, John Crowe, Reggie Crump, Nita Dunkum, Dot Gammon, Eva Ladd, Laverne Longest, Glenn Miller, Jack & Jo Mitchell, Nancy

Norment, Joyce Nuckols, Calvin Pearson, Virginia Phipps, Jean Plott, Helen & Larry Rigsby, Faye Sandridge, Louise Setchel, Sheila Shaw, Barry Snedker, Bob Stevens, Bootsie Stevens, Libby Taylor, Tony Underdown, Billy Walls and Jack & Beverly Ward.

(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.)

Special dates

- New Year's Day, January 1
- Epiphany, January 6
- Baptism of the Lord, January 8
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 16
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25



Dear Fairfield Family,

I want to thank you for the calls and cards I received at the passing of my wife Bonnie. I also want to thank Steve Starzer for conducting the service and the Deacons for

the reception after the service.

Thanks again, Sam

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Your prayers and gifts allow us to send these shoebox gifts to more than 100 countries each year, respond to disasters across the globe, and provide other critical relief. "We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks! For Your wondrous works declare that Your name is near." (Psalm 75:1) May God bless you.

Franklin Graham President

Thank you all for the blood drive yesterday and for Patty staying the whole time to sign in donors! We collected 23 units which can help as many as 69 lives, this is a big help heading into the holidays. The next drive is **February 14**. We look forward to seeing as many donors as possible!

Christine Homan American Red Cross Classical Conversations would like to demonstrate its gratitude for the body of Christ by supporting local churches on their journey. Our local leader has chosen you for this year's gift of \$500. We recognize that your mission and our mission cannot be measured in dollars. This joint mission is to reclaim education and edification of the family and the glory of God. We strive to show others that God has given us these precious children and the sole responsibility for their education. We consider it an honor to support local churches across the nation. Thank you for all your labors. You are the hands that build the kingdom of God.

Peace be with you, Robert Bortins, CEO

On behalf of our staff, board of veterans we serve, we express our sincere appreciation for your kind and generous contribution of \$300 which provides support to our clients in our transitional program for homeless veterans. We truly thank you for your generosity and compassion.

Lynne Berkness, Chief Advancement Officer Liberation Veteran Services



Jeff & Becky Cumins Scott & Megan Stevens Tracy & Beth Young

January 4 January 30 January 31





New Year's Prayer

Brenda Harris January 2 Zachary Letourneau January 3 January 4 Collin Humphrey 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

January 12 January 13

January 23

January 24

January 24

January 25

January 26

January 26

January 26

January 27

Debby Starzer January 13 Jo Mitchell January 14 Jack Briel January 15 Jeff Harding January 18 Nancy Hart January 19 Morgan Wills January 19 Diane Brown January 20 January 21

Anna Barrowclough Louise Setchel Elizabeth Davis Troy Horn Will Dunn

Richard Wood

Cooper Irwin

Mike Hohman Virginia Phipps Hailey Weis

Rick Richardson

Thank you Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should as each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom that I might help a friend. Give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things. Each new day filled with joy and the happiness it brings.

Please give the leaders of this world A courage born of peace. That they might lead us gently and all the fighting cease.

Please give to all upon this earth, a heart that's filled with love. A gentle happy way to live, with your blessing from above.

Charlotte Auselino



the elders and deacons who have rotated off in 2022. They are:

J. R. Marker Beth Young Pat Daugherty Nikki Glass

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

We now welcome our new Classes of 2023. The following individuals will be installed and/or ordained as deacons in January:

John Daugherty **Becky Clark**

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

Norm Ballmer Larry Hansbrough

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!



The New Year is upon us and the closet is full. God has Ministry blessed us with some very creative members who prayerfully create beautiful shawls and lap robes. We can always welcome anyone who

wants to stretch their creativity. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, we will happily help you learn. The joy of creating something to provide warmth and comfort in a time of need is immeasurable. Come and share your talents.

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

Anna Barrowclough



lowship The Fellowship Circle will not Circle meet in January but will resume their meetings in February. Stay warm and safe in January!

Joyful The Readers Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 10th at 7:00pm in the Heritage Hall. They will be _ discussing the book Christy



by Catherine Marshall. We hope to see you there!



The Men of the Church will get together again on Tuesday, January 10 at 7:00am at Cracker Barrel on Bell Creek Road. We invite all men, young and

old to attend a breakfast meeting. We look forward to seeing all who can attend!



This is a little note to let you know some of the things the Deacons have been working on and what we plan to do in the future. As always, we welcome participation in any of these projects. We are making bagged lunches for the homeless at the Richmond Greyhound bus station. In the new year, we will discuss making a more formal commitment for providing lunches on a regular basis. The ministry is called Fishers of Men and they always welcome small life tents (\$10-12 dollars), Bibles, jackets and backpacks.

We have been accepting new or gently used medical supplies that can be loaned out to the congregation when needed. We do make sure they are sanitized before being loaned out. We have some walkers, wheelchairs, and a knee scooter among our supplies. Please contact Cindy Cattoi or Angela Schwartz if you have any questions.

We have been collecting supplies for blessing bundles. This is a long pair of socks where one sock is put in the other sock as well as hand warmers, a small water bottle, hand sanitizer, toothbrush and toothpaste, and a fast food gift card (\$5-10). A resource sheet will also be included. We hope members can take one or two bundles and hand out if they see someone in need. We understand this small bundle will not solve their problems but will possibly give them hope and show them they are loved.

On January 20th, 2023, we will have chicken noodle soup available to take home. We only ask that you bring a canned good for MCEF.

Finally, we are brainstorming many possible ideas for church-wide activities on our 5th Sundays in 2023. We are excited to be in service of our Lord in many practical ways. The Deacons wish you a blessed New Year and look

forward to sharing acts of service with members of Fairfield Presbyterian Church.

Angela Schwartz, Deacon



9:00am Nursery

Jan. 1	No nursery for the combined service.
Jan 8	Marge Wantz & Abbey Glass
Jan. 15	Anne Young & Majken Whitaker
Jan. 22	Linda Daugherty & Nikki Glass
Jan. 29	Donna Hohman & Angela Schwartz

The nursery is available for children up to 3 years of age.



June 25-30, 2023 - Altoona Pennsylvania Mission Trip - If you are interested in going, let me know so I can reserve the correct amount of spots. This will mean we need to have our usual fundraisers of the Talent Show, Pancake

Breakfast, etc.

Mitzi Marker

Pickleball is Here!

Join us on Monday nights in the Family Center (5:30-7:30pm) and play pickleball. No need to know how to play, just come and have fun.

If you would like to play during the day, we will be playing on Tuesdays in the Family Center from PICKLEBALL PLAYERS 12:00-2:30pm.

Contact Jeff Blue (804-683-0689 or Patty Gulliver (951-966-2515) if you have questions.



...are HOT!

Another Year for God

Another year is dawning; dear Father, let it be, in working or in waiting, another year with thee...

Another year of progress, another year of praise, another year of proving thy presence all the days.

Another year of service, of witness for thy love; another year of training for holier work above.

Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be, on earth, or else in heaven, another year for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal

Sunday Worship Service

In-person worship:

Sunday mornings

<u>9:00am</u> - Contemporary Service in Family Center. A nursery is provided.

11:00am - Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

If you cannot make it to one of our services, you can watch them live on YouTube or watch at a later time. Once you are connected to YouTube.com, go to the search bar and type in: fairfield pcusa and it will bring up many of our Sunday services. Just click on the one you want to watch.

If you cannot make it to church and would like a written copy of the pastor's sermon, please let the church office know. We can e-mail it to you or put a copy in the mail to you.

Copies of our bulletins and announcements can be found on our church website:

fairfieldpcusa.org. We also have links to our worship services on our website.

We want everyone to stay connected to our church. Please call the church office and let us know how we can help you.



News from MCEF (www.4mcef.com)

Mechanicsville Churches
Emergency Functions (MCEF)
and One Stop Shop (OSS)

- For the month of November, the OSS served 151 families (representing 501 persons in household). MCEF signed up 20 new clients, gave out 218 bags of food, 19 second helpings of food, 99 Thanksgiving bags and 11 Holiday bags and distributed 100 bags of clothing. Never doubt that your donations of food and clothing are appreciated. 19 families were helped with financial assistance in November.
- Current Needs for the Food Pantry: mayo, ketchup, soups, mac and cheese, pasta sauce. Anything you can donate is appreciated by clients being served by MCEF. Don't forget dozen size egg cartons and brown grocery bags with handles (Kroger type). They are always needed too.
- <u>Fund raising:</u> Stop at Smile.Amazon.com and pick MCEF. \$53.67 was received in November. Connect your Kroger Plus Shopping card to MCED #GD661. Eat at Chicken Salad Chick on the 3rd Monday from 10am -8pm. Mention that you are supporting MCEF.
- Linen Needs: queen size sheet sets

As always, whatever you can donate is appreciated. Thursday night volunteers are needed for the One Stop Shop. The hours are 6:30-7:30 for clients. Volunteers work from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Stop by and pick up a volunteer application or download one from the website and mail to MCEF.

Nancy Gallihugh

Men and Women Working Together - Angel Tree

Cold Harbor Elementary School has 17 families that have been struggling this year. Friends and neighbors have joined together to help them have a blessed Thanksgiving and joyful Christmas.

For Thanksgiving the men were given four of the families, providing them with an abundance of food and gift cards to a grocery store to buy perishable items for their Thanksgiving meal. Through your donations, they gave each of their families 6 full bags of groceries and a good supply of J. R. Marker's apples from his family's orchard, along with the grocery gift card. The staff at Cold Harbor were delighted with your generous contribution!

The Fairfield Angels, (that's you!), overwhelmed the Mission Committee with your amazing support of this project. We were given five children from three families to provide basic needs and a few wishes for their Christmas celebration. Below is a list of the gifts you funded:

Pants - 5 pair
Shirts - 5
Sweaters/sweatshirts - 5
Winter coats - 5
Shoes/winter boots - 5
Socks - 5 sets of 5-6 pairs each
Underwear - 5 sets of 5-6 pairs each
Large fluffy blankets
Roblox toy set
Guess Who Game
Sketch book, set of colored pencils

Chess and checkers set
Connect 4 game
Large book on history of WWII
Battleship game
Fortnite action figures
Lego set
Fugitive film mini film packs
Art supplies
Barbie doll and accessories
Generous gift card for each family

In addition, we were able to supply funds to buy 20 additional gifts for some of the other families. The counselor who oversees this project was incredibly grateful for all that Fairfield has done to help each of these struggling families.

Grab your Angel halo and warm your heart as you think of the great joy that you are giving to these local families!!

Blessings, The Mission Committee







Notes from the Session

Your Elders met in Session on Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. during which they:

- Heard a devotion on the conversion of Clovis on Christmas 496
- Listened to an impressive list of accomplishments by the Board of Deacons
- Heard a proposal from the Deacons to have a Sunday of Service several times a year
- Received the correspondence of the Clerk
- Approved the minutes of the November Session meeting
- Said a very sincere thank you to J. R. Marker and Beth Young for their service
- Welcomed our two new Elders-elect
- Elected Fran Hansbrough to a new term as the Clerk of Session
- Authorized the Clerk, the Moderator and the Secretary to review the rolls
- Learned that Cool Springs has retrieved the remaining equipment they stored here
- Approved the new policy for family leave for our staff
- Reviewed the Treasurer's report noting that we are in good financial shape
- Were pleased to learn that the Reserve fund is getting closer to its goal of 6-9 months
- Rejoiced that the mortgage should be around \$125,000 by the end of the year
- Approved, with faith, the budget for the year 2023.
- Appreciated the good work of the Adult Discipleship Team in providing an excellent study for Advent.
- Were delighted to hear of the plans for the interactive children's Christmas Eve service called "The Starlight Express"
- Celebrated the Youth's activity raking leaves and caroling for some of our members
- Were thankful for a donated ping pong table
- Were updated on the progress of the Scout Troops dissolution plans
- Expressed their gratitude for those who organized the "farewell" gatherings for Sandi and Shannon
- Heard that over 40 people are involved in the new pickleball program
- Celebrated the news that we will be having a "Beat the Midwinter Blues" Dinner on February 11th
- Adjourned to meet again on January 17th, 2023



Under-Age Thinking...

TASTY CREATIONS

Make this yummy treat to remember what happened on each day of Creation.

What you need:

- 6 large pretzel rods
- Candy melts (white, chocolate and blue)
- Green sprinkles
- White or star-shaped sprinkles
- Fish crackers
- Animal crackers
- Adult help



What you do:

- 1. With help, melt the three colors of candy melts in separate dishes. Microwave for 30 seconds at a time, stirring until soft.
- 2. Decorate one pretzel for each day of Creation:
 - Dip half in white and half in chocolate to show light and darkness.
 - Dip half in white and half in blue to show separation of the atmosphere.
 - Dip half in chocolate, add green sprinkles and dip half in blue to show land, plants and water.
 - Dip in chocolate and add white or star sprinkles to show the stars.
 - Dip in blue and add fish crackers to show sea life.
 - Dip in chocolate and add animal crackers to show land animals.
- 3. Share the Creation story and the snack with a friend!



Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.

FIRST SECOND THIRD FOURTH FIFTH SIXTH

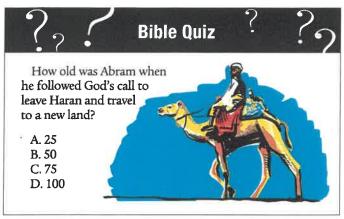
God made wild animals and livestock.	O
God said, "Let there be light."	
God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.	
God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."	
God created plants and trees.	
God separated the light from the darkness.	
God made the water teem with living creatures.	
God made the sun and moon.	
God made birds fly above the earth.	
God made stars.	
God created mankind in his own image.	
God _aw all tha_ he _ad ma_e, ant	was ve <u>y g</u> od.

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, fifth, fourth, sixth; God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

GENESIS 1:31, NIV

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 10:30am —11:30am Blended Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center)	5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm –7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm Personnel Team (#26)	3 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting (Heritage Hall)	4 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm -7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm -8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	5 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	6 Epiphany	7 Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen) 12:30pm –1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
8 Baptism of the Lord Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 9:00am -9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am -10:45am Sunday School 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am -12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	9 8:00am -4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm -7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm -7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	10 7:00am -8:00am Men's Breakfast (Cracker Barrel) 12:00pm -2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm Joyful Readers Circle (Heritage Hall)	5:00pm -7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 557 (#20) 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm -7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm -8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	13	14 12:30pm –1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 8:00am –4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm –7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	17 12:00pm –2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm Session Meeting (#20)	18 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm -7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm -8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	19 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 12:30pm –1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
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Answer: C (See Genesis 12:4.)

Church Staff

Pastor Rev. Dr. Stephen Starzer
Associate Pastor Rev. Mike Watson
Minister In Residence Rev. Dr. Keith Curran
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

The church is no longer collecting plastic grocery bags. Thank you for contributing this past year!



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

Return Service Requested

