

# The Messenger

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

Web Site: <a href="www.fairfieldpcusa.org">www.fairfieldpcusa.org</a>
E-Mail: office@fairfieldpcusa.org
Office Phone: (804) 730-7164

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

**April 2023** 



Dear friends.

Sometimes life comes at you full bore. I think it is safe to say that has

been true for the STARZER household for the past 6 months. It all started with my "emergency" surgery to relieve the blood clots that had developed in my legs. I just start to feel 100% after that, when I find myself being the latest victim of the Covid Virus. Feeling better from that, we were then heartbroken when Debby's Dad fell and broke his hip and was unable to recover from the surgery to repair the break. At some point in time I started to sing the old song, "If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all."

But I know that isn't true. I, and my family, are people who are greatly blessed. I have a wonderful physician who gave me excellent care and guidance. I have a wonderful wife and great "children" who have shown love and compassion. God has richly blessed me and my family in ways immeasurable.

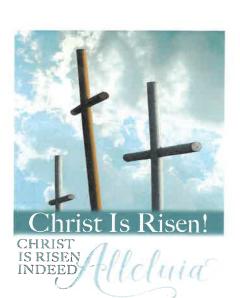
One of the greatest blessings we have received are the people of Fairfield Presbyterian Church. The kindness, grace, generosity and love that I and my family have experienced in ways both great and small are beyond our ability to express.

I can say this with great certainty. I am deeply grateful to God that I was led to be here with all of you. First and foremost, I give thanks to God for every one of you – for the many ways you have touched and enriched my life. But I also

want to say a very heartfelt thank you to all of you for the love you have shown to me and my family. I will always be grateful.

I'll look forward to seeing everyone as we continue through Lent into the Joy of Easter. I guess it makes sense that it took Good Friday with its tears for us to enjoy the wonder and happiness of Easter.

In Christ's love.



### Member News

Our sympathies go out to the family of Joan Sprinkle who passed away on March 2. Joan was a member of Fairfield for 10 years and her presence will be missed. One of her daughters, Leslie Vance is also a member here. There will be a memorial service for Joan on Saturday, April 22 at 2:00pm with a reception to follow. Please keep Joan's children in your prayers.

**Victoria Tanner** has a new address. It is: 1880 Cook Road, Powhatan, VA 23139.

Ed Baggett, Myra Compton, Faye Sandridge, Bonnie Wrightly 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, 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, Bob Stevens, Bootsie Stevens, Libby Taylor, Tony Underdown, Billy Walls and Jack & Beverly Ward.

(Please update Pastor Steve or Pastor Mike in 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

- Holy Week, April 2-9, 2023
- Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2, 2023
- Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023
- Good Friday, April 7, 2023
- Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

Fairfield! Firstly, a word of deep gratitude for all who helped plan, lead, and attend my installation service. While I've already been at work among you, this service was a sacred moment to acknowledge our shared commitment to one another. It was a wonderful time to spend with all of you. Thank you!

I continue to enjoy taking time getting to know you all, making first visits to all our homebound members, taking part in our special services and events, and more. I've been learning what is important to you and how I can help shape particular ministries in our church. As teams are built back up and programs return to full force, I will be walking alongside you and hoping to create new inroads for those seeking to get involved for the first time or in a new way.

Please don't hesitate to reach out, I am here to support you as we, together, listen for Christ's sacred call upon our congregation.

Grace and peace, Mike



Liz Crowe	April 2
Betty Ransone	April 3
Jeff Schwartz	April 3
Brooke Magill	April 4
Wray Palmore	April 7
Clare Harvey	April 8
Jeff Wash	April 8
Allison Letourneau	April 9
John Daugherty	April 10
Fran Hansbrough	April 10
Gerry Hinig	April 10
Grady Hutchison	April 10

Leigh Lafferty	April 10			
Parker Hohman	April 11			
Glenn Miller	April 12			
Katherine Wollerman	April 12			
Brenda Blue	April 14			
Marge Wantz	April 14			
Maurine Wolfgang	April 14			
Stephen Leigh	April 15			
Julie Lowery	April 15			
Kevin France	April 16			
Neal Stevens	April 19			
Susan Ballmer	April 20			
Carson Spott	April 20			
Emily Hastingsl	April 21			
Brennan Wash	April 22			
Amy Hale	April 23			
Bryant Lowery	April 23			
Norman Wash	April 23			
Tara Hilbert	April 24			
Evan Whitaker	April 24			
Marsha Young	April 24			
Becky Clark	April 25			
Anne Sorensen	April 25			
Wyatt Wills	April 25			
Ann Zweckbronner	April 25			
Molly Zweckbronner	April 29			
Laura Gaspar	April 30			
Joyce Nuckols	April 30			



Spring is here and so are the pastel and deep hued colors in Ministry nature. Our prayer shawls and lap robes follow that trend while baby blankets tend to stay in the pastel range. We gather the first Wednesday of the month for fellowship and to

share ideas and help with each other's projects. Do you know how to knit or crochet? Would you like to join us? If you don't know how to knit or crochet, we would be happy to help you learn and we would welcome your company.

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is Wednesday, April 5 at 10:00am in the Barlow Parlor. We would love to have you join us. Anna Barrowclough



The Men of the Church will get together again on Tuesday, April 11th 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!



Philip & Susan Ciejek April 5 Mike & Terri Joyce April 7 Chuck & Janet Chelette April 7 April 10 Rusty & Amy Hale Ivy & Nancy Gallihugh April 14 Norm & Susan Ballmer April 19 Bruce & Laura Arnette April 26 Bill & Judie Thompson April 26



The Fellowship Circle will ellowship meet again on April 11th in the Circle Open Door Class at 10:00am. This is a daytime circle that studies the Bible. All are

welcome to join us!

The Joyful Readers Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 11th at 7:00pm in the Heritage Hall. They will be discussing the book The Boys in the Boat by Daniel



James. We hope to see you at the meeting! Everyone is welcome!

## Easter at Fairfield

- **April 1** Children's Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am in the Family Center.
- April 2 Palm/Passion Sunday
  Services at 9:00am & 11:00am.
  Sermon "Now What?" Scripture:
  Matthew 26: 14-35
- **April 6 Maundy Thursday** Service at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary
- **April 7 Good Friday** Service at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary
- April 9 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 7:00am (at the crosses), Regular services at 9:00am & 11:00am. Sermon "Where to?" Scripture: John 20: 1-8

## Easter Tulips

The church has ordered 45 potted tulips (assorted colors in pot) for Easter morning services. We have placed order forms in the bulletins at both 9:00am & 11:00am services. If you are interested in purchasing a potted tulip or two, please fill out the order form and attached your check made out to Fairfield Presbyterian Church. The cost is \$15 each and they will be available to take home after the Easter Sunday services. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office (804) 730-7164.





We had our first Separate Check Club lunch after the 11:00 AM worship on March 19<sup>th</sup> at Anna's Restaurant, with 22 members in attendance. The food and the fellowship were wonderful! We hope to schedule the next luncheon this summer. Any suggestions for a restaurant with a separate room for a group setting should be directed to a Deacon.

Marge Wantz gave the Deacons an in-service on serving as Ushers and serving communion. Deacons signed up to volunteer for serving as both usher and serving communion for the rest of the year.

Plans for Joan Sprinkle's service on April 22<sup>nd</sup> were made for following the service.

An appropriate storage room for the medical equipment is still being discussed.

A separate subcommittee was formed to work on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Day of Service, and determining what service plans will be offered on July 30th.

The next day for communion is April 2<sup>nd</sup> and the deacons and Pastor Mike discussed home service of communion to those unable to attend church. Volunteers will go to various locations and homes to administer communion to the homebound.

Pastor Mike's ordination service on March 26<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Plans for set-up, luncheon, and take-down were made.

Flower delivery of the flowers to a homebound member with a visit as was previously done in the past was discussed. Deacons make take any extra flowers left after the 11:00AM service and take it to a homebound or sick member to brighten their spirits and let them know that their church members were thinking of them.

Deacons are working on sending Easter cards to the homebound and college students.

Your Deacons



# Fairfield Launches New Podcast & Website

In early April, Fairfield is launching its new podcast and website. The podcast, titled "Tea with the Preacher," features the weekly Sunday messages and is available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or your favorite podcast player (ask Alexa to "play the podcast, Tea with the Preacher" to hear the latest episode). Episodes begin with Advent of 2022. In the future, we plan to add other types of episodes. If you have any suggestions, please let David Starzer know.

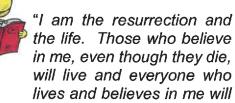
The website (<a href="http://www.fairfieldpcusa.org">http://www.fairfieldpcusa.org</a>) has also gotten a refresh and new design. This new design fixes many problems people have been having viewing it on cell phones and tablets. It is also reorganized to make it easier for members and guests to find the information they are looking for. As always, comments and suggestions are welcome!

Dave Starzer

Foot of the cross
unworthy sinful
forgiven washed loved
I sit with humility
saved

by Jo Mitchell

# Library News "Lam the resurrection



never die." (John 11 v. 25 & 25)

As we prepare to celebrate the season of Easter, let us never forget that Jesus died on a cross for our sins but he arose from the dead so that we could have life everlasting.

In our libraries you will find many titles that will help us as we reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus. Look for He Chose The Nails, He Still Moves Stones and No Wonder They Call Him The Savior. In the children's library you will find God Gave Us Easter, God's Love At Easter and The Story of Easter.

May we all celebrate Jesus' resurrection and have a joyous Easter.

Easter blessing to everyone! Elizabeth Covington



# Free Hymnbooks Available

Do you enjoy the old hymns? Fairfield Church has a number of the 1955 edition of the Hymnbook (jointly printed by the PCUS, The PCUSA and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.) Some consider it the finest hymnal the Presbyterians ever produced. If you would like one, please let us know. We would love to find a good home for all these great Hymnbooks that came to us from Beulah Church.



"All we like sheep have gone astray and we have turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. This night, as darkness falls, we gather to remember the events of the evening when Jesus shared his last supper with his friend." Join us on April 6 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.



There will be a tenebrae-style service in the sanctuary meditating on the depth and breadth of God's love for us revealed in the cross. We pray that this service will help bring home to your head and heart the profound meaning of this day for the follower of Jesus. Join us, Friday, April 7 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.



### 9:00am Nursery

- Apr. 2 Marge Wantz & McKenna Blue Apr. 9 Angela Schwartz & Angela Blue Apr. 16 Anne Young & Majken Whitaker Apr. 23 Linda Daugherty & Allison Letourneau
- Apr. 30 Barbara vanSteenburgh & McKenna Blue

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



The youth had a pancake breakfast on Sunday, March 19 and \$1,332 was raised. Thank you so much for your support of our youth who will be going on a mission trip to Altoona, PA this summer!

**April 23 - Youth Sunday Practice -** We really want to do a skit this year and are hoping to have good attendance for the practice session.

**April 30: Youth Sunday!** 

May 21 - Scavenger Hunt or Bowling

June 25-30, 2023 - Mission Trip to Altoona Pennsylvania!

Mitzi Marker



The annual Mission Drive continues through April 16<sup>th</sup>. This drive gives each of us a chance to share the love of Jesus Christ with others both near and far. The committee looks forward to being able to continue reaching out and helping to draw many to Jesus and to the Good News of the Gospel. Won't you help us accomplish our mission? Please write "Mission Drive" on your check and/or envelope so it will go directly into the Mission Fund Drive account. Thank you for helping our church out!

### Notes from the Session

Your Elders met in Session on Tuesday March 21st at 7:00 p.m. during which they:

- Heard a devotion on trusting others to God's care
- Listened to an impressive list of accomplishments by the Board of Deacons
- Received the correspondence of the Clerk
- Approved the minutes of the February Session meeting
- Learned that Megan McWilliams will be graduating from Union Presbyterian Seminary in May and will be pursuing teaching opportunities
- Joyfully are anticipating Mike Watson's installation as Associate Pastor on March 26<sup>th</sup>
- Heard a report from our Pastor, Steve Starzer on his recent continuing education event
- Gratefully learned of the efforts of the Facilities Team on managing our building and grounds
- Supported the Personnel Committee as they further update and improve our policies and procedures including our sabbatical policy
- Commended our financial team for their work in maintaining proper procedures for our finances
- Rejoiced at the success of the Lenten study group
- Learned that the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will receive their Bibles on Youth Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Discussed ideas about revitalizing our community outreach and evangelism efforts
- Celebrated a successful pancake breakfast where our youth raised over \$1,300 for their mission trip to Altoona, PA
- Learned that the Music and Worship Team is meeting to answer the challenges of worship and music.
- Were updated by the Columbarium/Memorial Garden Team on the slow progress they are making since the questions are more complex than realized
- Adjourned to meet again on April 18, 2023



## Sunday Worship Service

In-person worship:

#### **Sunday mornings**

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

<u>11:00am</u> - 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 <u>YouTube.com</u>, 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.

### An Easter Prayer

From the grave's depths, Lord Jesus Christ, you emerged, breaking the hold of sin, death and hell, that those who trust in you might share in your righteousness, life and beloved community with God the Father and all God's children. We bow in awe before your majesty, giving thanks for your grace extended so bountifully to us. By the power of your Spirit who lives within us, may we share the astonishing news of your resurrection with others, that they also may know your saving grace. Amen.

# Under-Age Thinking...



Make this meaningful decoration for your Thanksgiving table.

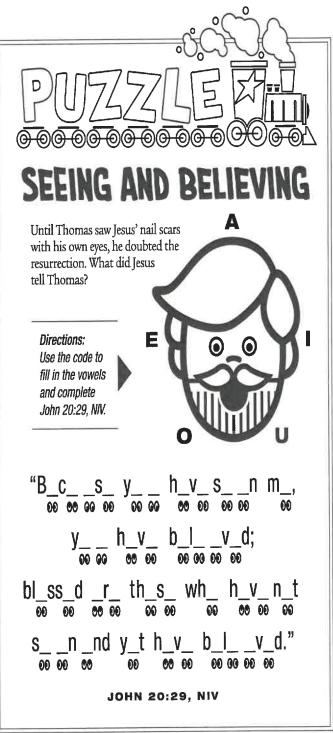


#### What you need:

- Construction paper (in fall colors)
- Scissors
- Pen
- Iar
- Stapler
- Adult help

#### What you do:

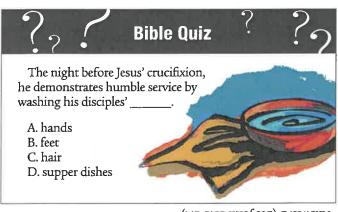
- 1. Cut the paper into strips about 2 inches wide.
- 2. Place the strips and pen in the jar. Then set it in a prominent place in your home.
- 3. Throughout November, have family discussions about what you're thankful to God for. Write or draw each item on a paper strip.
- 4. Make a paper chain by linking and carefully stapling the strips.
- 5. Keep adding to your decoration and display it during your Thanksgiving meal.



Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV

#### April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 5th Sunday in Lent Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org Youth Group Bowling 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) 4:00pm –5:00pm Rev. Mike Watson's Installation Service (FC)	27 8:00am -4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm -7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29)	28	29 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 7:00pm –8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	30 12:00pm -2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm -9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm -8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	31	1 Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen) 9:00am –12:00pm Easter Egg Hunt (FC) 12:30pm –13:0pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
2 Palm/Passion Sunday 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) 4:00pm –5:00pm Lent Study (Heritage Hall)	3 8:00am –4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	4 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm Personnel Team (#26)	5 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 7:00pm –8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	6 Maundy Thursday 12:00pm –2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –7:30pm AA Workshop (#29) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	7 Good Friday	8 12:30pm –1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
9 Easter Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org 7:00am –8:00am Sunrise Service (at the crosses) 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)	10 Church Office Closed Classical Conversations End of Year Program 5:30pm -7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29)	11 7:00am -8:00am Men's Breakfast (Cracker Barrel) 10:00am -11:00am Fellowship Circle (#20) 7:00pm Joyful Readers Circle (Heritage Hall)	12 5:00pm –7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 557 (#20) 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 7:00pm –8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	13 12:00pm –2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –7:30pm AA Workshop (#29) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	14	15 12:30pm –1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
16 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)	17 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	18 7:00pm Session Meeting (#20)	19 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 7:00pm –8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	20 Newsletter Deadline 12:00pm -2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm -7:30pm AA Workshop (#29) 6:30pm -9:30pm Civil Air Patrol (?) 7:00pm -8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	21	22 12:00pm -4:00pm Ashley Clark Gender Reveal Party (FC) 12:30pm -1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 2:00pm -4:00pm Joan Sprinkle Memorial Service (Sanctuary & HH)
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) 4:30pm –5:30pm Youth Sunday practice	24 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	25 6:00pm –8:00pm Clothes Swap Collection Day (FC)	26 5:00pm -7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 557 (#20) 5:30pm -7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm -8:00pm AA Group (#29) 7:00pm -8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	27 12:00pm –2:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –7:30pm AA Workshop (#29) 6:00pm –8:00pm Clothes Swap Collection Day (FC) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	28 9:00am –12:00pm Clothes Swap Collection Day (FC)	8:00am –11:00am Clothes Swap Day (FC) 12:30pm –1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
30 Worship on-line with us at www.fairfieldpcusa.org Youth Sunday 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:00am –10:00am Presentation of 3rd Grade Bibles (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am NBC Worship (FC) 11:00am NBC Worship (FC) 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	1 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29) 6:00pm –7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	2 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm Personnel Team (#26)	3 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 12:00pm –4:00pm MHH IB Exams (FC) 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#20) 6:00pm –7:00pm Pilates Class (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm –8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	4 12:00pm —4:00pm MHS IB Exams (FC) 6:30pm —9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm —8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	5	6 Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen) 12:30pm ~1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)



Answer: B (See John 13:1-17.)

#### **Church Staff**

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Stephen Starzer
Associate Pastor	•
Minister In Residence	
Administrative Assistant .	Donna Carson
Children's Ministry Assista	int Angela Blue
Music Director	Amy Wenninger
Choir Director	Celeste Underdown
Organist	Dave Starzer
Praise Band Leader	Matt Wenninger
Custodian	John Longest



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

**Return Service Requested** 

