



The Messenger

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

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

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June 2025

FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Now that I have made up my mind that God is leading me into retirement from full-time ministry, I have been reflecting a lot

on the past. Some may call this "being nostalgic," and that may be right. I prefer to think of it as considering how God has moved wonderfully in and through my life. I am entering this next phase of my life, maybe not happily, but at least I am entering it with a great deal of gratitude.

I am deeply grateful that God placed on my heart a great love for the Church of Jesus Christ. The local congregation is at the heart and core of what God is doing in this world. I have seen Jesus Christ working in so many ways through the congregations I have served. I have seen Jesus Christ use the church to change individual lives, the lives of families, and yes, even communities have been blessed by the work of these churches.

I consider myself greatly blessed. I have had the honor and privilege to serve three of the finest churches in our denomination. Each has been a lighthouse in a darkened world, offering community and compassion both for people within the congregation and those in their communities.

Each church has been unique. Wyalusing, a small town in the Endless Mountains of Northern

Pennsylvania, Conklin in the Rust Belt region of the Southern Tier of New York State, and of course, here in Mechanicsville, where I have been truly blessed to serve these past 14-plus years. Each was different from the others, but I have to give thanks to God for the blessing of nearly forty-five years as a Pastor to wonderful congregations filled with wonderful people who all have desired to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

Maybe it is not so much nostalgia as it is counting my blessings. I have so many to count that I guess it will take me a long time to consider every Time God has blessed me.

Thank you for being a blessing to me.

In Christ's love,



Member News



We CELEBRATE with **Grayson Palmore**, who has recently been accepted into the MDIV/MACE degree program at Union Presbyterian Seminary, starting this Fall!

We CELEBRATE with **Kaylyn McGhee**, after our session's endorsement of her journey toward ordination beginning as an "inquirer" in our denomination. Keep her in prayer as we walk alongside her as she follows God's call to ministry.

Tim & Patty Gulliver have moved back to California to be with their family. Their new address is 44986 Corte Zorita, Temecula, CA 92592.



Ed Baggett, **Kathy Boyle's** father, **Linda Canyock**, **Sally Kovac's** husband, **David**, **Elizabeth Moorhouse**, **Herta Wenninger**, **K. C. Whitaker's** uncle, **Bruce**, **Deborah Wood's** friend **Cathy Hicks**, **Tracy Young**

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**, **John Crowe**, **Reggie Crump**, **Dot Gammon**, **Ruth Harpster**, **Eva Ladd**, **Laverne Longest**, **Nancy Norment**, **Virginia Phipps**, **Helen Rigsby**, **Larry Rigsby**, **Jack Ward**, **Herta Wenninger** and **Sherri Woodburn**.

(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

- Pentecost, *June 8*
- Flag Day, *June 14*
- Trinity Sunday, *June 15*
- Father's Day, *June 15*
- Juneteenth, *June 19*
- First day of summer, *June 20*



High School:

- **Madison Blue** - Mechanicsville H.S.
- **Munira Dunn** - Mechanicsville H.S.
- **Ella Glass** - Veritas Classical Christian School

College:

- **Caroline Hastings** - LaSalle University MBA in Finance
- **Grayson Palmore** - VCU
- **Lucas Settle** - Christopher Newport Univ. Bachelor of Science in Business Admin.
- **Grant Sulser** - James Madison Univ. Degree in Engineering
- **Emily Sutton** - Bridgewater College Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science with minor in Wildlife Biology
- **Nicole Sutton** - Bridgewater College Summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Education
- **SuLing Trexler** - Univ. Of Virginia



Robby Stevens	June 2
Madeline Atkinson	June 3
Beth Patterson	June 3
Cooper Schwartz	June 3
Caleb Sutton	June 3
Kathy Boyle	June 4
Dot Gammon	June 5
Sharon Gaston	June 5
Brian Letourneau	June 6
Sue Putze	June 6
Barbara Wash	June 6
Matt Wenninger	June 6
Kaiden Kulkarni	June 7
Ella Glass	June 8
Jenny Lake	June 8
Suzanne Weeks	June 8
Margaret Barlow	June 9
Larry Covington	June 9
Janice Baily	June 10
Will Glass	June 10
Martha Ingram	June 10
Austin Weis	June 10
Beth Young	June 10
Edward Wolfgang	June 11
Sarah Palicia	June 12
Ginny Patterson	June 13
Leslie Vance	June 13
Jack Dobson	June 14
Chuck Lorch	June 15
Liz Patterson	June 16
Rebekah Wenninger	June 16
Beverly Burts	June 17
Jessica Ingerman	June 17
Gerry Rudolph	June 17
Larry Hansbrough	June 18
Alexander Wills	June 18
Majken Whitaker	June 19
Ray Stevens	June 20
Cathy Wenninger	June 20
Bremner Lancaster	June 22
Melanie Magill	June 23
Megan McWilliams	June 23
Sarah Dobson-Heretick	June 24
Cory Walter	June 24
Taylor Hale	June 25

Susan Lorch	June 25
Connor Sulser	June 26
Martha Houchins	June 27
Jim Gruenhagen	June 28
Patty Gulliver	June 28
Bill Walter	June 28
Jake Lafferty	June 29
Beth Weber	June 30



Tom & Jenny Lake	June 1
Marci & Frank Uvanni	June 2
Richard & Deborah Wood	June 2
Jim & Barbara Cooper	June 3
Brian & Anne Wash	June 4
Rick & Diane Richardson	June 6
John & Janna Daugherty	June 7
David & Vivian Jones	June 7
Micah & Tiffany Clark	June 11
Rob & Brenda Blue	June 12
Don & Pam Wells	June 12
Mike & Donna Hohman	June 13
Keith & Debbie Curran	June 14
Gerald & Debbie Atkins	June 18
Matt & Lauren Joyce	June 19
Matt & Amy Wenninger	June 19
Bill & Lee Lythgoe	June 21
Rick & Sarah Dobson-Heretick	June 22
Steve & Debby Starzer	June 22
Chuck & Ginny Patterson	June 23
Stuart & Becky Settle	June 26
Tim & Patty Gulliver	June 28
Ed & Judy Baggett	June 30
Danny & Karen Couch	June 30



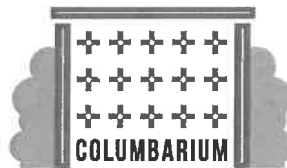


Prayer Shawl Ministry

A Prayer Square...small/medium/large! Hold it in your hand, feel the texture and see the color or colors. They come in a variety. Use it to center yourself during your prayer time or just hold it and feel the love that made it. Don't just take one for yourself but pick one up for friends who might be in need. They are located in the trays outside the Family Center and the Narthex.

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

Anna Barrowclough



The Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee

In this Memorial Day season, it is altogether fitting and proper to honor the legacy of those mothers and fathers who build the foundation of today's Fairfield Presbyterian Church. An ideal way to honor those who fostered us is to purchase a memorial plaque in the Fairfield Memorial Garden and Columbarium. For \$450 you can have the name of one of these church leaders permanently inscribed on the Memorial Wall in our church's garden. Please take part in this opportunity to memorialize our past, present, and future.

Beth Young



Men of the Church -

Join us on **Tuesday, June 10th** starting at 7:00am at Cracker Barrel Restaurant on Bell Creek Road for our monthly Men of the Church Breakfast! It is a great time

of fellowship and a good way to fulfill the mission statement of the church: ***As a Christian community, together we BELONG to God, GROW in Christ and SERVE led by the Spirit.*** We encourage any and all men of the church to join us. Bring a friend!

Call or email Billy Putze (804-510-8719) or billyputze@comcast.net with any questions about the Men of the Church activities. See you on the 10th!



The Joyful Readers

will meet again on Tuesday, **June 10th** at 6:30pm in the Heritage Hall. This is our annual Salad Supper and review of books for next year. Please bring your suggestions!



- The Fairfield Deacons met in May. Homebound communion for shut-ins was served in April and will be offered in June and August.
- The Deacons are happy to deliver any flower arrangements that are not accounted for by others after the 11am service. Any flowers left over after Sunday will be donated to the Hospice Coordinator on Mondays to brighten the days of their patients.
- The Deacon's bulletin board in the hall has been updated. Deacons will be nurturing FPC staff members, honoring one staff member each month.
- The next Deacon's meeting is Tuesday, August 5th.

Ginny Patterson

Youth Group

The Youth Group held a **pancake breakfast** on Sunday, May 18th. Through many generous donations, they raised **\$1,435**. Thank you so much for your support of our youth!

The Youth had a wonderful close to our year with "The Amazing Race" in May. We are grateful to all the members of our youth group and our fabulous advisors who have been coaches, companions, and friends to our middle and high school students. Pray for us as we prepare for our mission trip in July!

The Youth Mission Trip - July 20-26, 2025

The Fairfield Youth Group will be traveling to Wise, Virginia for a week of residential home repair work through the Appalachia Service Project. Our 10 youth and 4 volunteers will spend the week working on a number of projects in the region, before closing each day with reflection, prayer, music, and worship. Pray for us as we prepare for our trip. If you feel called to donate to support our work, make out a check to the church with "youth mission" in the memo line. Learn more about ASP here:

<https://asphome.org>

Summer Adult Sunday School

All of our adult Sunday School classes will continue to have opportunities during the 10am Sunday School hour throughout the summer. Drop by any of these classes - you're always welcome! Here's an update for what they are all doing over the next 3 months:

The Open Door Class will host Rev. Fred McCall and he will be doing Parables this summer.

- June 1: Luke 15:1-7 & 8-10; the lost sheep and the lost coin.
- June 8: Mark 4:1-20; the sower
- June 15: Luke 19:11-27; ten pounds
- June 22: Luke 20: 9-19; the wicked tenants
- June 29: Luke 18:1-8; the widow and the judge

Union Class: They are continuing their study using the Unified Lesson Plan using the book by D. C. Cook.

Cornerstone Class is doing an in depth study of the parables using the book Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes by Kenneth E. Bailey.

The Rock Class is not meeting officially. Interested people are using Richard Dunn's Wright Essential Biblical Text video and will meet to discuss and pray at various times. Please contact Richard if you have any questions about their plans or schedule.

Summer Update for Families

We're taking a summer break from Children's Sunday School and Joy Choir to give our volunteers and families a chance to rest and recharge. However, we will continue to offer Kids Worship during the 9:00am service throughout the summer. We look forward to seeing your children there!

Vacation Bible School



Fairfield will host an all-ages Vacation Bible School, the evenings of July 13, 14 and 15. Mark your calendars! More information to follow.



6/1 Emily Tayman & Abbey Glass
 6/8 Emily Tayman & Marge Wantz
 6/15 Emily Tayman & Barbara vanSteenburg
 6/22 Emily Tayman & Anne Young
 6/29 Emily Tayman & Angela Schwartz

NEWS FROM

Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions
 (MCEF) and the One Stop Shop (OSS)
www.4mcef.com

The One Stop Shop is seeing increases in our numbers each month. In April 161 households were served representing 501 persons in the household. Nine new clients were to help 17. 222 bags of food were filled and there were 29 second helpings given out.

MCEF's Donna Combs won the award for the Spirit of Dedication at Hanover County's Spirit of Volunteerism Celebration. All the nominees are doing great things in our County. I was a wonderful evening.

As MCEF prepares for its 50th anniversary next year, all our volunteers over the years will be celebrated. If anyone at Fairfield has been a volunteer at MCEF, please let Nancy Gallihugh know (innngalli@comcast.net) so your name(s) can be added to the list. This organization is alive only due to the efforts of many volunteers.

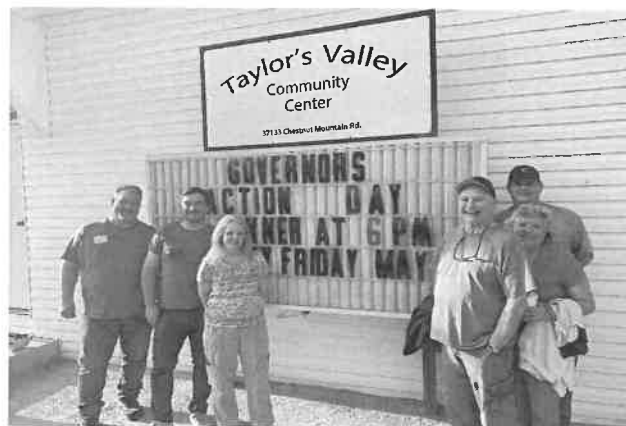
Pantry needs are instant potatoes, collard greens, spinach and boxed meals. Whatever you can help with is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all you do for your friends and neighbors in Mechanicsville

Report from the Taylor's Valley Trip

On May 8th, we traveled to the very southwest corner of our great state, to a beautiful tucked away mountain village called Taylors Valley. Along with several other volunteers, we attended the Volunteer Action Day led by the Governor's Office. We worked hard to support the beautification of this oasis, which was ravaged by Helene, on 9/27/24. Tim McClure, who the church has adopted, received a new air conditioning and storage unit, a lawn mower, tools, and a fresh coat of paint in his kitchen. More importantly he was shown love and support during this trying time. What a wonderful experience it was to witness the many hugs, kisses, and handshakes in the valley that day, along with the stories of heroism and bravery. A man named Mike, thought he was going to get swept away in his home as the flood waters rose around him. He looked up and saw the clouds part ways and witnessed a ray of sunlight beam off the church steeple a few houses down from his. He felt peace and calm at the moment and knew he would make it out okay. The Lord has his hand on the people of Taylor's Valley, for there was not one casualty as a result of this historic flood. Miracles certainly do happen, ask anyone who lives there and they will be happy to tell you a story or two. Many thanks and gratitude to the continued financial support and prayers for the wonderful people in the place I call "Heaven and Earth." They are some of the nicest folks you will ever want to meet.

K. C. Whitaker



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am –1:00pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 2:00pm Amy Wenninger's Piano Recital (Sanctuary & HH)	2 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	3 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 5:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 6:00pm –8:00pm Power Soccer (FC) 7:00pm Personnel Nominating Committee (#19)	4 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 4:00pm –5:00pm New Beginnings Praise Team (HH) 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	5 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center)	6	7 Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen)
8 Day of Pentecost 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am –1:00pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	9 9:00am –4:00pm Classical Conversations Director Orientation (HH & #20) 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	10 7:00am –8:00am Men's Breakfast (Cracker Barrel) 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 5:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 6:00pm –8:00pm Power Soccer (FC) 6:30pm –7:30pm Joyful Readers Salad Supper (Heritage Hall)	11 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	12 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm –8:00pm Security Team Meeting (#26)	13	14
15 Father's Day Trinity Sunday 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am –1:00pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	16 8:00am –4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	17 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 5:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)	18 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	19 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center)	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30pm Game Night! (Family Center)	21
22 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am –1:00pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	23 8:00am –4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	24 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 5:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 7:00pm Session Meeting (#20)	25 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	26 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 6:30pm Classical Conversations Challenge Class Orientation (#20)	27	28
29 9:00am –9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am –10:45am Sunday School 11:00am –1:00pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am –12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 12:00pm –2:30pm New Beginnings Workshop (FC)	30 8:00am –4:00pm Classical Conversations 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm –8:00pm AA Group (#29)	1 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 5:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 7:00pm Personnel Nominating Committee (#19)	2 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 5:30pm –7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	3 11:00am –1:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm –9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center)	4 Church Office Closed Independence Day	5 Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen)

Under-aged Thinking

IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Make this keepsake to express love for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint

What you do:

1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same side) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.



FATHERS OF FAITH

Fathers do amazing things for their families, but the greatest gift our dads can share with us is their faith in God.

Complete this puzzle to read Isaiah's advice to fathers.

Directions: Working left to right, first write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's.

1 The	2 as	3 tell	1 living
2 I	3 their	1 the	2 am
3 children	1 living	2 doing	3 about
1 they	2 today	3 your	1 praise
2 parents	3 faithfulness	1 you	



_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____;
_____.

Isaiah 38:19, NIV

Answers: The living, the living—they praise you, as I am doing today; parents tell their children about your faithfulness. Isaiah 38:19, NIV

SCAM EMAILS

Please take great caution if you ever receive an email from pastor Steve or Mike requesting “money”, a “favor”, or anything else that raises suspicion. Our emails are not hacked in these incidents, but there are often attempts made to imitate us. If you receive one of these emails, first check that it is coming from the correct address: ‘mike’ or ‘steve’ @fairfieldpcs.org. These are the only email addresses by which you will receive communications from us. If you are even slightly in doubt of the validity of these emails, please call the church office. These phishing emails should be reported and marked as spam, however your email server allows..

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Stephen Starzer
Associate Pastor	Rev. Mike Watson
Minister In Residence	Rev. Dr. Keith Curran
Minister in Residence	Rev. Fred McCall
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Bob Temple
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