



FAIR GROVE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

the church Messenger

Fair Grove United Methodist Church

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

Growing our church from inside out and outside in; creating a Christian family of God.

Good News from the Pastor's Desk

The Challenge of Change

Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.

Proverbs 4:25

As parents we face difficulties when our children play a dirty trick on us by growing up and leaving the comforts of home. The same is true in the life of the church. We nurture the children, help form their faith in God, and pray continuously for their success in life. The goal of our participation in their lives is to teach them to be faithful to God and always trust in His Word. Now it is time to let go and allow these young adults to put into practice all that their parents and church family have instilled in them. With a blessing we send them off in trust that they will live out their faith. We wish each of our college students a great success in higher education and in life.

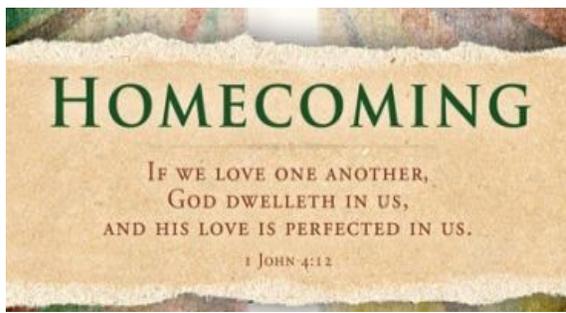
As the Christian community our role is to give support to the students, teachers, and parents. We do this by sharing our wisdom, offering our love, and teaching the knowledge we have gained. The new school year has begun, and we are extremely excited for the opportunities to grow in faithfulness together. The *focus* is to not allow one's self to be distracted by unnecessary obstacles. The *goal* is to keep our sights on God and motivated to serving Him in every situation we face. All youth, no matter what level of education, deserve prayers and dedicated attention from each of us. This is a renewed goal for a new school year. Transition is indefinite in our lives. From preschool to elementary, into middle and high school, all the way through college, change is inevitable. The difficulty we face is in not holding on to the past but stepping into the future with the light of Christ before us.

A favorite game I played as a child was *Follow the Leader*. We never knew what the leader was going to do, but we knew we were to follow in pursuit. The past few months have felt like we are playing this game of being led by people that do not know how to lead in uncharted circumstances. We are all facing confusion and frustration not knowing what tomorrow will bring. We are now facing new challenges while deciding if we should return to the classroom or through virtual teaching. Parents must make hard choices without knowing the long term affect it may have on the children. What are we to do? Scripture teaches us to trust in the Lord. This is an act of faith in God's guidance.

Yes, change is difficult. True as well, change is inevitable. May we not lose sight of what is most important but accept the challenge to keep pressing onward and living into the joy of Christ within us always. Being led by the Lord is an assurance we are headed in the right direction.

*I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you. (Psalm 32:8)*

Pastor Sandra



Homecoming will take place on Sunday, September 13, 2020 at our 10:00am outside service. Crawford Crenshaw will be our guest minister. He is the pastor at Trinity Heights Wesleyan Church in Trinity, NC. Crawford is the son of Jim and Gail "Sister" Crenshaw (our past organist) and the grandson of Glenn and Rachel Trimnal. He was baptized at Fair Grove and attended as a child. His wife's name is Tina and they have three children, three grandchildren, with one on the way. We hope you will be able to join us.



Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries (DBOM) Offering will take place at FGUMC on Sunday October 4. For 21 years DBOM has offered volunteer led Disciple Bible Study ministry in our state and federal prisons and juvenile training schools. Thousands of inmates have received ministry from DBOM. Now, in light of changing times, DBOM is re-

visioning to provide even greater work among our churches! While DBOM will continue to offer sound Bible teaching, DBOM will respond to urgent societal needs to adding advocacy, education and prison reform to thier work.

A recipient of DBOM's ministry recently said, *"While cement walls, razor wire, and locked gates remind us daily of our past mistakes, your ministry reminds us that the chains of failure need not blind us from the redemption of Jesus Christ."*

Please keep DBOM strong by participating in the special offering. Please take moment to learn more about the DBOM at <https://disciplebibleoutreach.org/>. God bless you!

Help Support Our Veterans Christmas 2020



Veteran Services is sponsoring a Christmas 2020 gift drive for veterans at the NC State Veterans Home in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Donations of the following items will be accepted at the Davidson County Veteran Service Office, 913 Greensboro Street, Suite 101, Lexington, North Carolina, from now until Wednesday, **December 16, 2020**.

Items: Hand Sanitizer (bulk and personal sized), Name Brand Disposable Razors, Electric Razors, Kleenex, Shampoo and Body Wash, Paint by Number, Velvet Art Poster Boards (for coloring), Adult Coloring Books, Crossword Puzzle Books (extra large print), and Wallets (men's). ***All personal hygiene items (with the exception of hand sanitizer) should be alcohol free.***

For more information, please contact the Davidson County Veteran Service Office at 336-242-2037.

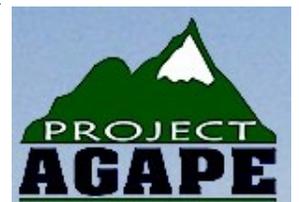


September Missions

Thanks to those of you who have opened your hearts to others this summer, both locally and over 6000 miles away. Our financial donations for project AGAPE in Armenia will help with a variety of issues, like water filtration, utilities, and shipping for clothing and supplies for children. There is still time to give. Checks may be made payable to FGUMC with AGAPE on the memo line.

In light of Covid-19 conditions and FGFR's ability to purchase food from Second Harvest for only 19 cents a pound, we will be bringing financial donations instead of canned goods at this time on Sundays for gleaning. Our dollars will be go farther and the resource center will target the exact foods needed for those who hunger.

Children at risk of hunger in the Fair Grove area need our help again this year. Working together, we can make a difference. Please see the attached form and consider giving in any amount.





Fair Grove United Methodist Church

138 Fairgrove Church Road

Thomasville, NC 27360

www.fairgrovechurch.org

Phone: (336) 475-2598 Email: fgumc@northstate.net

Rev. Sandra Ireson, Pastor

August 18, 2020

Dear Friends,

As part of our church family, we want to issue you a special invitation to attend our Homecoming Service this year. Our Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 13th with the outside worship service beginning at 10:00 a.m. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we will not be able to host a Homecoming meal.

We are pleased to announce that Crawford Crenshaw will be with us to offer the morning message. During the worship service, we will remember in love and faith the following persons who have entered the church triumphant since last year's Homecoming:

Kathryn Jane Walsh	December 3, 2019
Sherri Smith	December 5, 2019
Alta Hunt	December 11, 2019
William Cline	February 5, 2020
Nancy Lyndon	March 17, 2020
Barbara Hepler	March 19, 2020
Helen Everhart	April 14, 2020
Edna Coman	April 18, 2020
Janie Manuel	May 13, 2020

If you would like to make a special gift to the church, please make your check payable to Fair Grove UMC and note on the memo line where you want your gift to be used. In addition to our General Fund, special funds include Agape, Capital Improvement, Perpetual Care, Backpack Ministry, Missions and Community Ministry.

We look forward to seeing you on this special day. Your presence will add to the joy of our time together.

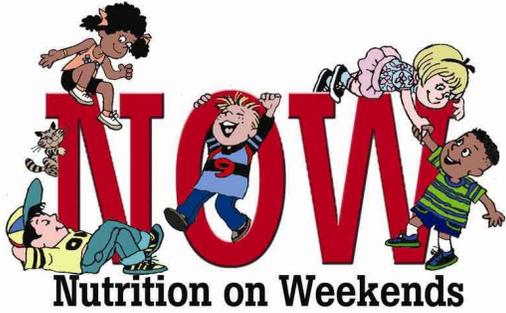
Yours in Christ,

Janice Grubb, Chairperson
Worship Ministries

Sandra Ireson, Pastor

JBE/jbe

FGUMC 2020 - N.O.W. Backpack - Mission Opportunity



Fairgrove Family Resource Center provides nutritious food for children to take home in a backpack over the weekends to four area schools, including Fair Grove Elementary.

Our own church has sought to alleviate hunger through this program, providing backpacks for years, meeting the need of every single targeted child at Fair Grove School. We prayerfully hope to meet and exceed that goal.

\$220 will feed a child every weekend for the entire school year.

- o I would like to sponsor a child and donate \$220 at this time.
- o I would like to sponsor a child with a pledge to give the \$220 total by Dec. 2020.
- o I would like to give a general donation in the following amount to help: _____

Is this *Nutrition on Weekends* Backpack given in honor or memory of someone?

Your Name, S.S. Class, or Group _____

**Make check payable to Fair Grove UMC. On the memo line, write BACKPACK.
Please include this form with your gift or pledge.**



Peggy Harvey
Bill Bowser
Melvene Freeman
Cathy Freeman
Lora Lee Druhl
Cornelia Motsinger
Mike Edwards
Sonny Russell
Betty Gallimore
Lane Mabe
Madelaine Hodge
Susan Jester
Jean Widder

Evelyn Parks, 1 year old
Riley Honeycutt, 10 year old girl
Steve and Kelly Barratiere
3 year old Lynix Nichols and family
Carrie Ann Fulbright's granddaughter Sydney Miles, grandson of Sue Senter's friend
Our homeless friend Jimmy
Scarlett Merand, age 2
Regan Sink/ SMA patients
Tom & Lynette Jones Scott
Brindella Lutsie Family
Bobbie Lynn Bingham
Debbie Mayer-Matthews

Bob Williams
Steve Swaney
Darlene Mercer
Donna Miller
Dot Russell
Teresa Rhodes
Sue Barringer
Helen Bowen
Rev. Michael Bailey
Jo Citrin
Fidel Goodnight
Gail Mitchell
Harold Bean Family

Joe Bales III
Addison Hiatt
Bill Barker
Teresa Miller
Lawrence Russell
Roger Reece
Leslie Rierson
Kendall Conner
Lucero Prieto
Kay Jenkins
Lisa Foster
Roger Burkhart



The Lucy Girls will meet on Saturday, September 12 at Sharon Keever's lake home. Check with Jane Baity if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 3 Eric Bebber | 18 Carol Hepler |
| 3 Juanita Welborn | 19 Dick Davis |
| 4 Alan Dorsett | 19 Edna Coman |
| 5 Toni Nicholson | 20 Christall McCaskill |
| 7 Aurelia Hampton | 22 Brent Blair |
| 9 Helen Perdue | 23 Paden Hall |
| 10 Margaret Cline | 24 Marvine Myers |
| 11 Roy Tucker | 26 Mark Everhart |
| 13 Haley Kennedy | 26 Sandra Workman |
| 14 Matthew Barringer | 28 Scott McCaskill |
| 14 Christopher Barringer | 28 Cathi Smith |
| 15 Phil Gibbs | 29 Emma Whitman |
| 15 Emily Hill | |
| 15 Austin Hill | |
| 16 Margaret McCaskill | |



- 7 Rocky & Debbie Brooks
- 7 Todd & Darla Gallimore
- 21 Tony & Deborah Brooks
- 26 David & Gale Smith





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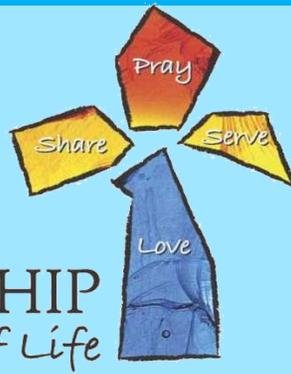
Pastor's Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am—1:00pm

Non Profit
Organization

US Postage Paid

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

**We Thank God For
You!**



STEWARDSHIP *A way of Life*

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1 - August 9 2020

YTD SS Attendance AVG	25
YTD Worship Attendance AVG	83
YTD Budget Offering	\$145,021.30
YTD AVG Weekly Offering	\$ 4,531.92
Needed each week to make budget	\$ 5,692.21

GLEANNING

August: Year-to-date: 1565
 Non-perishable food items donated to Fairgrove Family
 Resource Center

If your contact information has changed,
don't forget to let us know!



Have you...

...moved? ...changed your email address?

...changed your phone number?

Or, would you like to be added to our email list to receive the weekly announcement email?

If so, please call us or send us an email with your updated information!

Phone: (336) 475-2598

Office Email: fgumc@northstate.net

Pastor Sandra Ireson Email: fgumcpastor@gmail.com