



the church Messenger

Fair Grove United Methodist Church
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER **JULY 2021**

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

Good News from the Pastor's Desk

Greetings Fair Grove Friends,

The time is fast approaching for the appointment process to become more than an anticipated change. On July 29, Jean and I, Oliver our dog, Bella and Izzy our cats, will move into the parsonage and we, along with the Fair Grove Church family will begin our season of ministry. Jean and I are very excited for the possibilities that lie ahead. Oliver, Bella and Izzy, do not seem to have an opinion. We look forward to meeting you all and getting to know you as friends and partners in ministry.

Jane and Sandra say I need to provide a biographical sketch so you have some sense of what the cabinet and District Superintendents have done to you. I am not comfortable talking about myself so I will make this brief and trust that as we live and worship and work together you will get a real sense of who I am, and more importantly who Jean is. (She is the jewel of this appointment for you.)

My educational background: graduate of Greensboro College with a major in Religion and minor in Gender Studies; graduate of The Divinity School at Duke University with a Master of Divinity (as if anyone could master divinity). I hold a certification in premarital and limited marital counseling. I also hold certification as a Stephen Ministry Trainer (this certification needs renewing).

Personal interests: an avid reader with interest in fiction/mystery, history: Middle Ages, American Civil War, Early Church History and the history of the Civil Rights movement in America and around the globe; Theology and the writings of Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, John Wesley (of course), Fr. Richard Rohr, to name a few. I enjoy reading and studying in community (book clubs). Love golf, although I play very little these days, Clemson football (spent many Saturdays in Death Valley growing up), Duke Basketball, Ocracoke Island and Nantahala Gorge.

I am a writer; a contemplative, somewhat introverted pastor. Jean and I are passionate about social justice and are socially active. We believe in and promote an inclusive church. And are progressive followers of Jesus.

Well, that's enough for now. See you all soon.

Blessings,
Tom+



In the April newsletter and again this month, I am urging all to be in prayer regarding their support (prayer, presence, gifts, service, and witness) of the church. Soon we will welcome our new pastor and begin the process of filling some key positions in the church. This month I am also asking everyone to take a moment and ask themselves one simple question, "What more can I do?" I am confident that if we answer this question honestly, we will find we all have more we can offer.
 Mark Myers
 Chairperson, Finance Committee

MISSIONS

...at home and around the world



Let's celebrate Christmas in July and August with AGAPE Shoeboxes for children! The people of the war-torn country of Armenia have endured countless hardships, living in unthinkable poverty. The WNCC and NC conferences have worked to help these people for 27 years. In 2020, they were attacked yet again and forced to defend their homeland, losing much of their land and homes. The AGAPE Center has a new headquarters and thankfully welcome our gifts of love for children from newborn to age 18! If you would like to shop and fill a plastic shoebox, pick up a form in the church entryway. (A smaller version is available below.) Want to help, but can't shop? Your monetary gifts can help with the \$5 shipping cost per box or for someone to fill a box for you, notify Janice Griffin in July.

2021 Project AGAPE Christmas Boxes for the Children of Armenia Packing List (Larger version at church)

1. Use only 6 quart plastic shoebox with lid. (Cardboard and larger boxes aren't accepted.)
2. Choose age level and sex of child. Cut out form for box top. Fill and check items you place in the box. (If quantity is different than listed, write the number in the blank line instead of a checkmark.) No toothpaste, candy, gum, batteries, used items or perishables! A note of greeting or encouragement, a photo of yourself or your group from church may be included, as well as your own address if you like.
3. Please enclose \$5 for transportation costs for each box. If you write a check: to FGUMC, with AGAPE on the memo line. (One check will be written from our church for all shipping costs.)
4. Tape your cut-out packing list to the top of the closed box and secure with 3 rubber bands.
5. Deliver your box to the side entrance display at church by August 29th.

Infant – 2 years Male Female

1 Baby Blanket 3 Bibs 1 Book w/Pictures 1 Comb/Brush 3 Cloth Diapers

6 Diaper Pins 1 Rattle 1 Sippy Cup

4 Pairs Socks 1 Teething Ring 1 Soft Toy (no buttons or eyes) Other (List)

Ages 3-6 Male Female

1 Cap/toboggan 1 pair Mittens/gloves 3 pairs Socks 1 Comb/Brush 1 Book

1 pack Hair band/Bows 1 Toothbrush

1 Coloring Book 1 Box Crayons 1 Box Markers 1 Notepad 1 Car 1 Doll

1 Ball 1 Toy or Game Other (List)

Ages 7-12 Male Female

1 Cap/toboggan 1 pair Mittens/gloves 3 pairs Socks 1 Comb/Brush 1 Mirror

1 pack Hair band/Bows 1 Toothbrush

1 Coloring Book 1 Box Crayons 1 Ruler 1 Toy or Game 1 pack Erasers 1 Box Markers

1 Notepad 1 Box Colored Pencils

1 Box Lead pencils 1 Pencil Sharpener 1 Stuffed Animal Other (List)

Ages 13-18 Male Female

1 Cap/toboggan 1 pair Mittens/gloves 3 pairs Socks 1 Underwear 1 Comb/Brush 1 Toothbrush 1 Mirror

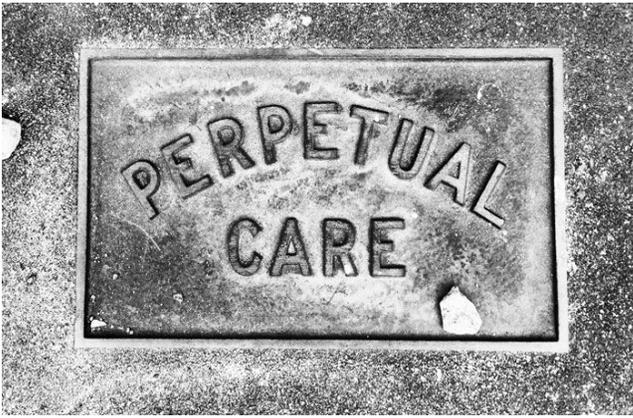
1 pack Hair band/Bows 1 Toy or Game 1 Ruler 1 pack Erasers 1 Box Markers

1 Notepad

1 Box Colored Pencils 1 Box Lead pencils 1 Pencil Sharpener 1 Picture Frame

1 Tool Other (List)

Private Yow Receives New Monument



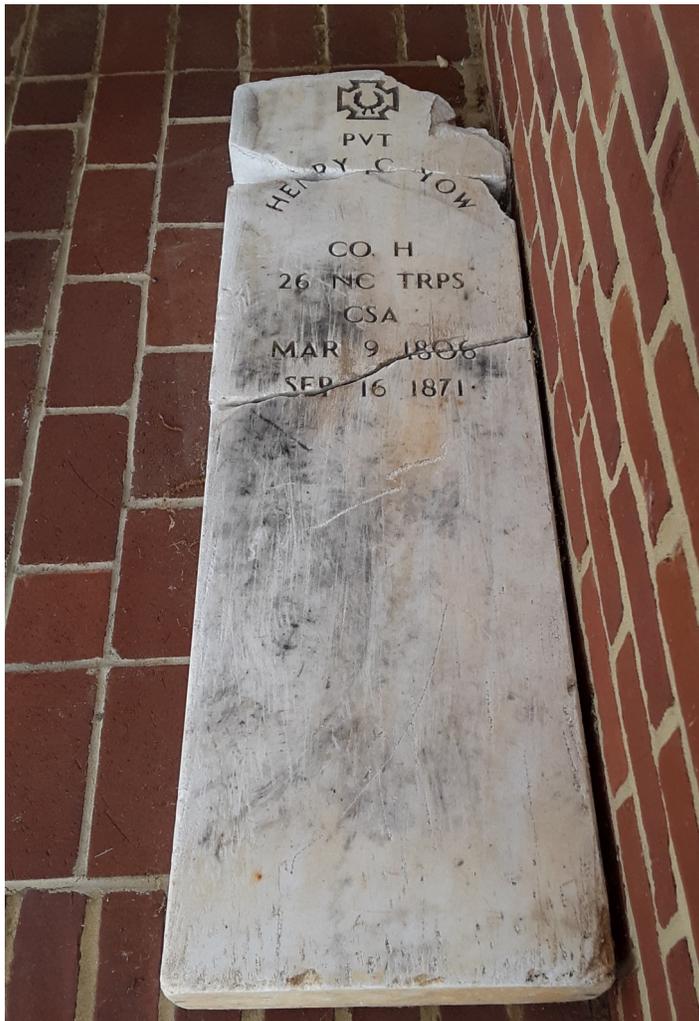
The Cemetery Committee is pleased to report that Private Henry C. Yow, Company H 26th North Carolina Troops, CSA, now has a brand new monument in our historic cemetery! Mr. Yow is one of the Confederate Veterans interred here at Fair Grove UMC. Unfortunately, at some time Private Yow's monument was stolen from the cemetery and vandalized. We discovered this approximately 2 years ago when a Sheriff's deputy transported it back to the church. It was found in Rowan County near Bill's Truck Stop. It had been broken into three pieces. No one knows how long it had been separated from its sacred location.

After we told him what happened, Mr. Jim Spangler of Spangler's monuments here in Thomasville, got to work and contacted the US Veteran's Administration Memorial Programs Service. The V.A. remade and shipped Mr. Yow's monument to the church at no charge. They did a remarkable job of making the monument just like the 1871 original! The only noticeable difference is the size, and his rank of Private is not designated on the new stone. Jim informed me that this was the second monument sent by the V.A., the first one somehow disappeared in transit to Private Yow's resting spot beside of his wife Elizabeth. Over the decades, her gravestone has fallen over and is partially covered but will soon be cleaned and upright again beside her husband's new monument.

We have some exciting plans for restoration, security, and mapping of our beautiful, "National Historic Places" designated cemetery that we hope to begin very soon!

Mark Black

Perpetual Care Cemetery Committee Chair





United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

What a blessing it was to be together at our June UMW picnic! Thank you to David Smith for cleaning the shelter for us! At our picnic, we collected 12 hats for cancer patients, a grocery cart full of food for the Fair Grove Resource Center, and an offering of \$200.00 to be used for worldwide missions of the United Methodist Women. Wow! What a giving group of women! Thank You!

If you are not a member of the UMW, and would like to join, please contact Jane Gibbs. We would love to have you serving with us.

Our UMW would like to welcome our new minister, Rev. Jolly, to Fair Grove! We would also like to wish Rev. Ireson the very best with her new appointment. We will miss you!

FAITH ***HOPE***LOVE IN ACTION



Many thanks to Bryce Hunt for volunteering to lead up the call list for the prayer chain to notify those without e-mail access of prayer requests as they are received. We have pieced together what we believe to be the updated call list, which is as follows:

1. Sarah Bailey
2. Peggy Harvey
3. Anne Jones
4. Bill & Morning Lopp
5. Judy Pierce

Bryce will initiate the call to the first person on the list, then they will call the next and so forth until everyone has been notified of the incoming prayer request. If there are others who do not have e-mail access who want to be included, please notify the church office or contact Judy Black at 336.561.6524.



The Susanna Wesley Women's Circle will not meet in July.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 24
at 11:00am in the Family Life Center.

Have a wonderful July and we'll see you in August.!

We hope to see you there!



Anne Jones cordially invites the congregation of
 FGUMC to celebrate her 94th birthday with
 her on Sunday, July 25.

Come join her for lunch in the family life center
 at the conclusion of the Sunday morning service.

We hope you will be able to attend and help
 her celebrate! We'll see you there!



Pastor Sandra Ireson
 Pastor Tom Jolly
 Peggy Harvey
 Sarah Bailey
 Scott Reece's niece
 Cindy Goss Rivers
 Michael Emerick
 Jonathan Crouse
 Lewis Edwards
 Lawrence and Dot Russell
 Troy & Joyce Segers
 Our homeless friend and neighbor Jimmy
 Karen Spaul
 Jean Widder
 Eva Smith
 Chad Blevins,
 Carolyn Lane's father-in-law
 Sarah, friend of Gale Smith
 Evon Hughes
 Tom Nelson, Myers' friend
 Anita & Doug Bame
 Nina Leonard

Matthew Darr
 Family of Sonya Draughn
 David Trimnal
 Anne Jones
 Todd Lomax
 Tony Clark
 Evelyn Parks, 1 year old
 Riley Honeycutt, 10 year old girl
 Tom Scott and wife/caregiver Lynette
 3 year old Lynix Nichols and family
 Susan Jester
 Darlene Mercer
 Debbie Mayer-Matthews
 Teresa Rhodes
 Rev. Michael Bailey, Yadkin Valley D.S.
 Fidel Goodnight
 Joe Bales III
 Bill Barker
 Leslie Rierson
 Kendall Conner
 Tim White
 Scott Smithers

Charles Everhart
 Lucero Prieto
 Regan Sink/ SMA patients
 Kay Jenkins
 Lisa Foster
 Scarlett Merand, age 2



"This is the confidence we have
 in approaching God: that if we
 ask anything according to His
 will, He hears us."

1 John 5:14



3 David Lowder	23 Mark Coman
4 Peggy Harvey	23 Madison Kennedy
6 Carolyn Wilson	24 Thomas Petley
6 Ryan Lee	25 Gesele Hall
7 Stephen Blair	25 Anne Jones
7 Jerry Thomas	26 Brooke Blair
7 Travis Vertefeuille	26 Sheree Jones
8 Rosalee Hall	28 Doug Reynolds
8 Lauren Workman	29 Judy Pierce
8 Lindsay Workman	30 Ron Boles
9 Bryce Hunt	30 Scott Miller
11 Jamie Sweitzer	
13 Tammy Murphy	
15 Cam Trotter	
16 Richard Griffin	
18 Zachery Gallimore	
18 Ashlyn Lyndon	
18 Kent Vernon	
19 Peggy Bumgardner	
20 Sarah Bailey	
20 Tim Bell	
20 Alice Colwell	
21 Mike Miller	
22 Doak Gallimore	



5 David & Linda Lomax
 7 John & Jodi Perry
 9 Darryl & Meredith Leonard
 13 Buck & Ann Hall
 14 Keith & Diane Overcash
 15 Gene & Susan McCurry
 23 Randy & Debbie Barnette
 24 Clyde & Sarah Bailey
 25 Mike & Alice Workman
 28 Dick & Brenda Davis
 29 Richie & Ruth Ann Barker



Fair Grove United Methodist Church

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

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**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

We Thank God For You



STEWARDSHIP *A way of Life*

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1 - JUNE 27, 2021

YTD SS Attendance AVG	0
YTD Worship Attendance AVG	38
YTD Budget Offering	\$ 97,411.00
YTD AVG Weekly Offering	\$ 3,746.58
Needed each week to make budget	\$ 5,692.21

GLEANNING

JUNE: 0 Year-to-date: 84
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