



the church Messenger

Fair Grove United Methodist Church

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021

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

Good News from the Pastor's Desk

Recently Jean shared an article by the Rev. Dr. Diana Butler Bass, which I shared in part with church council last evening. In the article, Dr. Butler Bass told of an experience that produced a challenging metaphor for revitalizing (my word) the institutional church and rethinking what being church could and should be. Let me share a bit of that story with you.

*On a recent trip to the Southwest United States Butler Bass and friends went on an outing into the "high ground" above the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico. This outing took the group to an altitude "high" in the mountains to 8500'. Dr. Butler Bass' **fear** of heights surfaced as the group made its way to a small town, which she described as hanging precariously off the side of the mountain. That fear led her to "feel panicky" resulting in her reticence to "get out of the car and walk around." At her request, the group returned to the lower altitude around Santa Fe.*

*This story is a segue to a conversation Butler Bass had several years later with then Archbishop of the Church of England Rowan Williams. As the two discussed their shared concern for the fate of the institutional church, BB asked Archbishop Williams where he found hope for the church going forward. His response – "**at the edges. Look to the edges. There's always hope at the edges.**"*

The story continues and if you wish to read it in its entirety, the email address is dianabutlerbass@substack.com.

I want to take Archbishop Williams' advice and apply it to the ministry of Fair Grove Church going forward. The shared opinion of the gathered Council was our (FGUMC) need to reach out "**beyond the walls of the church building and campus**" to do and be church "**at the edges.**" I shared the story of one church in our annual conference (and there are others) that took "hope at the edges" seriously, offering Bible study in a pub in the church's town. This type of outreach is part of local, risk taking congregations' ministry around the country.

As we at FGUMC begin to vision and fashion our ministry outreach going forward, my hope is that we will take seriously an "**at the edges**" approach to being church in Thomasville. To follow the wisdom and vision already at work among our leadership to do church in new and fresh ways, such as Bible study off campus in places that might seem counter-intuitive to "church life" inviting our neighbors to participate in our shared experience of faith, meeting them where they are. We just might experience **our** own faith and encounter with Jesus in a new and fresh way, "**at the edges.**"

Blessings,
tom+

¹Diana Butler Bass. THE COTTAGE. Article "On the Edge" written August 20, 2021. Internet post August 20, 2021.

What's Happening

- * The church office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 6 for Labor Day
- * Missions Committee meeting: Sunday, Sept. 12 @3pm in the FLC
- * Susanna Wesley Circle meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 21 @11am in the FLC
- * Evangelism Committee meeting : Sunday, Sept. 26 @3pm in the FLC
- * Nominations Committee meeting: Sunday, Sept, 26@4:30pm in the FLC
- * At all meetings we will observe physical distancing and please wear a mask. Thank you for your cooperation.

A colorful illustration of ten children of various ethnicities and ages standing in a circle, holding hands. In the center of the circle is a large, stylized globe showing the continents of North and South America. The children are smiling and looking towards the globe. The background is white with some green grass and small white flowers at the base of the circle.

Project AGAPE Shoeboxes – THANK YOU!

N.O.W. Backpack Program

Fairgrove Family Resource Center, we strive to help every targeted child at Fair Grove Elementary School, as we have done in the past. FGFRF packs each backpack with food for the entire school year. The child takes it home each Friday, a promise of nutritious food all weekend. If you are able and feel led, please sponsor a child. A donation in any amount is wonderful! \$230 will eliminate weekend hunger for a child all school year. It is our prayer that working together, we will feed every child in need at Fair Grove School on the weekends. If we exceed our goal of 50, we will be providing food for children in the immediate surrounding schools as well. A donation form can be found at church or below.

Blessed to serve with you,
Janice Griffin

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.

\$230 will feed a child every weekend for the entire school year.
Any dollar amount is appreciated!

- ☐ I would like to sponsor a child and donate \$230 at this time.
- ☐ I would like to sponsor a child with a pledge to give the \$230 total by Dec. 2021.
- ☐ 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.**



Fair Grove United Methodist Church

138 Fairgrove Church Road

Thomasville, NC 27360

www.fairgrovechurch.org

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

Rev. Thomas Jolly, Pastor

September 1, 2021

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 19th with the inside worship service beginning at 11:00 a.m. Due to the resurgence of Covid-19 we will not be able to host a Homecoming meal.

Our newly appointed pastor, Tom Jolly, will be preaching. 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:

Peggy Curtis	September 7, 2020
Gary Watford	November 7, 2020
Bill Bowser	December 30, 2020
Penny Wray Trotter	December 30, 2020
Sue Barringer	December 31, 2020
Melissa Everhart	January 7, 2021
Sandra Murphy	January 26, 2021
Bill Murphy	April 1, 2021
Pat Stanley	April 17, 2021
Bob Smith	May 16, 2021

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, 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,

Ashley Perdue, Chairperson
Worship Ministries

Thomas Jolly, Pastor

JBE/jbe

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



FAIRGROVE FAMILY

— RESOURCE CENTER —

Building a Better Future One Family at a Time

On **Saturday, October 2, 2021**, Fairgrove Family Resource Center will host our 16th annual **Howard Hayes Fore the Families** golf tournament. Your **tax-deductible donation** will help us raise crucially needed program funds. You can choose from one of the following **three levels of sponsorship**:

Gold Sponsor: \$500... This donation entitles your company to a **free 4-player team**. In addition to the free team, your company and logo will also be proudly displayed on our largest sign on a hole at the tournament. Your generosity will also be acknowledged in all promotional materials, and on our website and Facebook page.

Silver Sponsor: \$250... Your company and logo will be acknowledged on a sign displayed on the course at the tournament. Your support will also be acknowledged on all promotional materials, and on our website and Facebook page.

Bronze Sponsor: \$100... Your company and logo will be acknowledged and displayed on a sign displayed on the course at the tournament. Your support will also be acknowledged on all promotional materials, and on our website and Facebook page.

The center has humbly served Davidson County for 25 years. Our programs achieved the following outcomes this past year:

- ◇ Over **25,000 pounds of nutritious food** is distributed **monthly** to families needing supplemental food for good nutrition.
- ◇ **300,518 pounds** of nutritionally balanced food was distributed to **5,596** hungry children and families.
- ◇ **67%** of those served through our food pantry are our most vulnerable citizens; our children, senior citizens and the disabled.
- ◇ **99 families** avoided the loss of their home or utility services thanks to **\$13,307** in emergency financial assistance funding.
- ◇ **100 hungry children** took home a book-bag filled with nutritious food to end weekend hunger.
- ◇ **Youth ages 10-17** learned multiple, problem-solving skills to enable them to successfully navigate through the teen years.
- ◇ **Gifts from the Heart**, our Christmas program, provided clothes, shoes and toys to **364 children** in 2020.
- ◇ **Parenting Wisely Teen, Incredible Years, and Circle of Parents** programs taught dedicated caregivers' proven skills to nurture, love and support their children to succeed.

Emergencies and catastrophic events can quickly drag even financially stable families into the depths of poverty. While COVID19 knows no boundary, its economic impact continues affecting our center and community. Our client's economic disparity has been magnified. We need **your** support to continue providing our distinct and valuable programs in Davidson County.

I want support FGFR by becoming a hole sponsor in your 16th annual Howard Hayes Fore the Families golf tournament.

Enclosed please find my **tax-deductible donation**.

_____ \$500 Gold Sponsor _____ I have enclosed my team registration form and \$500 tax-deductible donation.
_____ \$500 Gold Sponsor _____ I have enclosed my \$500 tax-deductible donation. My team registration will follow.
_____ \$250 Silver Sponsor _____ I have enclosed my donation in the amount of \$250.
_____ \$100 Bronze Sponsor _____ I have enclosed my donation in the amount of \$100

Business or Church Name:

Contact

Mailing Address

Email Address

Phone Number

Please send your check made payable to Fairgrove Family Resource Center with your donation selection to the address below.

☎ 336-472-7217 ☎ 336-472-7242 ☎ www.fgfr.org ☎ 159 Myrtle Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360

HOWARD HAYES

Fore the Families

GOLF TOURNAMENT

All proceeds benefit Fairgrove Family Resource Center programs

Saturday
October 2nd



Lexington Golf Club
2112 Country Club Dr Lexington, NC

Entry fee:

\$75 per entrant

\$300 per team

12:30 pm - Hot Dog Lunch

1:30 pm - Shotgun Start

*Prices includes: one mulligan, lunch.

CASH AWARDS:

\$300 First Place Team

\$150 Second Place Team

\$100 Third Place Team

PRIZES:

Closest to the Pin

Longest Drive

Player 1 _____

Phone _____

Player 2 _____

Phone _____

Player 3 _____

Phone _____

Player 4 _____

Phone _____

50/50**

Call 472-7217 to register

(Mail check payable to:
Fairgrove Family Resource Center,
169 Myrtle Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360)

\$500 Gold Sponsorships includes - free four player team
Entry form is available on www.fgfrc.org

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE**

**October 1,
2021**



Good Morning!

Senior Breakfast will begin again the 1st Tuesday of each month beginning September 7. We will meet at Denny's at 8:00. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be a Senior Citizen. It's just a good chance to get together, eat, and have fellowship. We hope to see you there!



News from Weekday Children Ministries (WCM) now known as Fairgrove Children's Christian Ministry (FCCM)



The committee voted to try to open the Preschool only in the fall with operating hours Monday -Friday 4 hours a day. At this time, we are still actively seeking a director, we have had several applicates, but those individuals have taken other positions with benefits. I ask that you be in prayer for this ministry of the church as we seek God's plan for this outreach. The church has received several calls from parents with the desire to enroll their children. If you know of anyone would that maybe interested in the director position, please have them send a resume to the church at FGUMC@northstate.net .

Gale Smith



The church office will be closed on Mondays from 10am - 11:30am and on Wednesdays from 10am - 11am to allow for the uninterrupted completion of all the church's financial duties. If a Monday is a Federal holiday, the schedule will move to Tuesdays and Wednesdays of that week. If you have any questions, please speak with Rev. Tom.



Shirley Oldham
Judy Mason Family and Friends
Hudson, newborn, and his family
David Lambeth
Dorsett Family
Jeff Edwardh
Donna Miller
Peggy Harvey
Connie Harris
Bobby Swaim
Kevin Dodd
Rick Pacey
Jane Collett Black
Matthew Darr
Cindy Goss Rivers
Michael Emerick
Lewis Edwards
Lawrence and Dot Russell
Troy & Joyce Segers
Our homeless friend and neighbor Jimmy

Jean Widder
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
Anne Jones
Todd Lomax
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
Teresa Rhodes
Karen Spaul

Celia Phelps
Chandler Gibbs
Margaret Cline
Jamie Sechrist
Madeline Hodge
Darlene Mercer
Debbie Mayer-Matthews

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



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

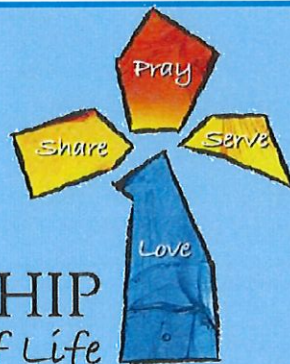
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Organization

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Thomasville, NC

Permit 16

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

We Thank God For



STEWARDSHIP *A Way of Life*

FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1 - AUGUST 29, 2021

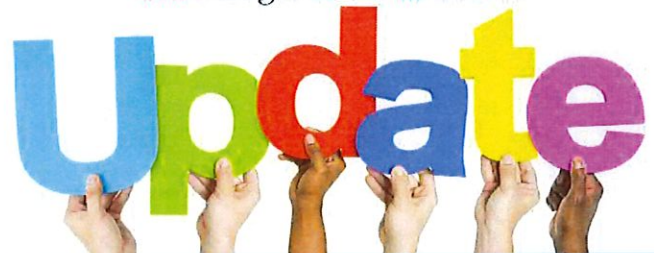
YTD SS Attendance AVG	9
YTD Worship Attendance AVG	47
YTD Budget Offering	\$ 131,333.75
YTD AVG Weekly Offering	\$ 3,752.39
Needed each week to make budget	\$ 5,692.21

GLEANNING

AUGUST: 113 Year-to-date: 241

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 Tom Jolly Email: tjolly@wnccumc.net