



the church Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2023

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

A Message From Your Pastor:

We have come to the month of July which is the month of the birth of America.

On July 4, 1776 our nation was born when a constitution was voted on and accepted by our representatives in congress. One of the main themes in the formation of our new nation was freedom.

Are we free? If so how free are we?

Jesus reminds us that we are often bound by commitments and dysfunctions that keep us from responding to him. Do we really want to choose the good choices that God has placed before us that compete with the values that the world places before us. In this season we hear words like "freedom" and "liberty" with the surroundings of red, white and blue flags. We have Fourth of July parades with fireworks that seem to express the idea that we are free.

Jesus asks, "Are you free to respond to what I am offering?"

So what is Jesus offering? He is offering us freedom in HIS name! When Jesus sets us free we are free in deed.

Jesus says, "Take my yoke upon you", Jesus offers it to us. He says "this yoke is kind, and my burden is light." Jesus says to us "

Discover the freedom of resting in my love and my teachings. You will find rest for your souls."

Jesus said it another way in Matthew 10:39, "Those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

Freedom with Jesus means finding life in the fullness of all of eternity. May we realize the gift of freedom Jesus gives will be for all eternity. So in this month when we celebrate the freedoms we have in our nation of America let us not forget to give thanks to God for the freedom he gave to us when Jesus went to the Cross of Calvary and died there to set us free from our sins.

Enjoy your freedom and have a wonderful July. God loves you! And so do I.

~Pastor Stephen



Kids Own Worship

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust,
O LORD, from my youth.
Psalm 71:5 ESV



Don't forget to spread the word that Fair Grove is offering
Kids Own Worship time!

All children, Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to participate in a special KIDS OWN WORSHIP just for them during the 11am hour. This will include a lesson with hands-on activities. Children will meet in the downstairs classroom directly beneath the sanctuary. Supervision will begin at 10:50am. For questions, contact Jane Baity.



Don't forget to write down these important dates:

- ◆ The Prayer Shawl group will not meet in July
- ◆ July 2 - Holy Communion
- ◆ July 4 - Church office closed
- ◆ July 11 - Senior Breakfast at Sunrise Grill - everyone is invited whether you are a senior or not. We hope to see you there.



Christmas in July!

A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great. Proverbs 18:16

Thank you for your continued gleaning for the poor each Sunday. Through the Fairgrove Family Resource Center, many with financial difficulties will not go hungry.

The United Methodist conferences in North Carolina work together in partnership some 6,000 miles away in Armenia. Long-standing, multi-layered conflict prevents any other humanitarian group from working with the people of this area, who struggle in life. Project AGAPE has shared the love of Christ by continuing projects for more than two decades. The Christmas boxes will go to Armenian children who would not have a Christmas gift without this project. If you would like to shop and fill a box, pick up a girl or boy's form in the church entryway. For someone to shop for you, checks may be made in July or early August to FGUMC (AGAPE on the memo line) or see Janice Griffin. We are also asked to provide \$5 per box for shipping.

Thank you for your continued gleaning for the poor each Sunday. Through the FFRC, thanks to you, many with financial difficulties will not go hungry. The gift cards to fast food, grocery stores, and gas stations have been helping those who have been in urgent need of assistance. We are now in need of gas cards. (Wal-Mart no longer accepts gift cards for fuel.) If you feel led to help, \$5 and \$10 cards to area service stations would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks also from the Missions Committee for your many donations for the Davidson County Women's Shelter.



United
Women
in Faith

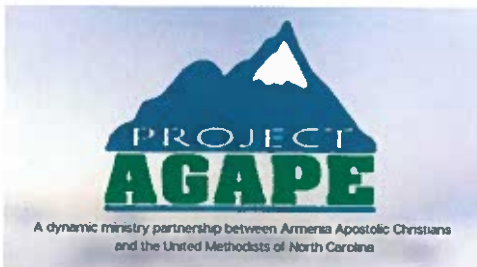
Join us on Saturday, July 15th as we take a walk with God on the beach. As we walk along the beach, we will learn how seashells can remind us to humbly serve our neighbors and to love the people God puts in our path.

Time - 11:00am

Place - FLC

Bring - a salad type dish to share

Who - ALL the women of Fair Grove and friends!



*Hands-on Mission project -
Bring a \$1 (or 2) to support
the Armenia shoebox ministry.*



You're Invited...

Anne Jones would like to invite everyone to celebrate her 96th birthday on Sunday July 23rd by attending the 11:00 worship service and enjoying a catered lunch afterwards in the FLC. She hopes to see you there!

You Are Invited...

to a
Baptism



Ryan Troy, one of our Youth, is being baptized on July 15 at Founder's Park Pool.

He has heard God's call to discipleship at Fair Grove and requested that he be baptized.

His baptism will be conducted at 7:00pm followed by a "pool party celebration" (lasting until 9:00pm).

Our entire church family is encouraged to attend this special and holy occasion as we support Ryan.

Please bring family and friends.

Everyone is welcome to stay for the pool party celebration as we praise God for Ryan answering his call.

Refreshments will be served.

Prayer List

Tom & Lynette Scott Family
Family of Jennie Brumley
Family of Jamie Koontz
Family of Ronnie Bumgardner
Family of Donald Hill
Kathryn Swaim
Drew Newby
Margaret McCaskill
Mike Workman
Cam Trotter
Sara & Clyde Bailey
Mike Workman
Keith Overcash
Robin Chester
Nancy Kearns
Susan Kearns Jester
Connie Yarborough
Bill Lopp
Ronnie Boone
Steve Avre
Tom Sink & his caregiver, Sandra
Bettie Richie

Jimmy, Mark & Judy's Black friend, in need of permanent housing
Susan Jester /Tom Kearn's Granddaughter
Carol Hepler
Stephen Blair
Kathy Shoe
Rick Wilson
Ira Buckalew
Robert Kleintank III
Michael & Nancy Emerick
Benda Lane
Eva Smith
Aubrey Lawson
Roger Burkhart
Jennifer Kinley
Margaret McCaskill
Craig Gallimore
Karen Davis
Joy Tucker
Candi Williams
Tommy Shoemaker
Sandra Workman
Lucy Hayes

Roy McMahon
Heather Hardister
Elsiohn Stewart
David & Linda Lambeth
Rusty Welch
Dot Russell
Bobby Swaim
Evelyn Parks
Riley Honeycutt
Kendall Conner
Robin Parker
Rob Nelson
Denise Baker
Dennis Harrison
Johnny Odom
Chad Blevins
Teresa Rhodes
Leslie Rierson

"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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 3 David Lowder
- 6 Carolyn Wilson
- 6 Ryan Lee
- 7 Stephen Blair
- 7 Jerry Thomas
- 7 Travis Vertefeuille
- 8 Rosalee Hall
- 8 Lauren Workman
- 8 Lindsay Workman
- 9 Bryce Hunt
- 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
- 23 Mark Coman
- 23 Madison Kennedy
- 24 Thomas Petley
- 25 Gesele Hall
- 25 Anne Jones
- 26 Brooke Blair
- 26 Sheree Jones
- 28 Doug Reynolds
- 29 Judy Pierce
- 30 Ron Boles
- 30 Scott Miller

Happy Anniversary

- 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 Nathan & Margaret Snider
- 25 Mike & Alice Workman
- 28 Dick & Brenda Davis
- 29 Richie & Ruth Ann Barker





Fair Grove United Methodist Church

138 Fairgrove Church Road, Thomasville, NC 27360

www.fairgrovechurch.org

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

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

Non Profit
Organization

US Postage Paid
Thomasville, NC

Permit 16

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

We Thank God For YOU



STEWARDSHIP A way of Life

FOR PERIOD JANUARY - JUNE, 2023

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----|-----------|
| YTD SS Attendance AVG | | 17 |
| YTD Worship Attendance AVG | | 78 |
| YTD Budget Offering | \$ | 82,656.70 |
| YTD AVG Weekly Offering | \$ | 3,179.10 |
| Needed each week to make budget | \$ | 5,105.07 |

GLEANNING

June: 329 Year-to-date: 1611

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

Interim Pastor Stephen Blair Email: stpsblair@northstate.net