

Fair Grove Church

The Messenger Monthly Newsletter

September 2024

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

Mark's Message - Invitation from Preacher Mark

Homecomings, I have found, are different things for different people. Homecomings are usually celebrations, for example, high school homecomings are a celebration where former students and teachers return to a special night of football against a rival, followed by the election of a homecoming king and queen, followed by a dance. Church homecomings are also celebrations whereby former members and families may gather to commemorate a milestone in the church, dedication of a new building, or some other event. They are often annual events by many churches as just a celebration of the return of past members to celebrate past memories. For our upcoming homecoming at Fair Grove Church, we have a somewhat different approach to this year's homecoming celebration.

This year, we are celebrating a beautiful resurgence of the Holy Spirit. No, the Holy Spirit has not "left the building" as Elvis may have done many times. I believe that the Holy Spirit has been dwelling in the hearts of a remnant of the people of Fair Grove, waiting for you to return. If you are already attending services here or have recently returned, then I am sure that you are aware of a different spirit, a different "feel" within the church. The Word is being preached, prayer has become a viable life-blood of the church, beautiful music echoes throughout the sanctuary and halls, and people are responding to the Holy Spirit at work in their lives as well as at work in the church.

God has a work for Fair Grove. That work is simply to take God's love to those who are without Christ, to those who are in need of comfort and compassion, and reaching out to those in our community who are less fortunate and who are in need. As far as the "lay of the land," Fair Grove Church is literally the church on the hill. And Scripture tells us in Matthew 5:14-16, "You are the light of the world. A city (or a church) built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. We are THAT Church on a hill.

I invite you, if you are actively attending and are involved in services somewhere else, then, by all means, continue to faithfully support your church with your service. However, if the Lord is leading you to return to fellowship with us, then believe me, we welcome you back with open arms. There is a place for you here to serve the Lord in this community and this city. We invite you to join us September 15 for our 11:00 service and "dinner on the grounds." Pastor Mark



- ◆ Sept 2 - Church Office Closed
- ◆ Sept 3 @8am - Senior Breakfast at Sunrise - all are welcome!
- ◆ Sept 5 @10am - Prayer Shawl in the Parlor
- ◆ Sept 15 @11am- Please plan to attend our Homecoming service and join us for a covered dish luncheon immediately following the worship service. Please bring your favorite covered dish to share. We hope to see you there!
- ◆ Sept 17 - Susanna Wesley Lunch at Sunrise
- ◆ Dec 15 @5pm - Christmas Cantata w/refreshments to follow in the FLC.

Also, please note that there is an open invitation to any and all who would like to meet to pray over the Sunday service at 10:40 am in the Prayer Room.

If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Mark.



Fair Grove Missions



Fair Grove has shown an outpouring of love and support for our community. You have brought a multitude of items for Triad Ladder of Hope, the organization that strives to serve victims and survivors of human trafficking. As United Women in Faith partnered with Missions, over \$2,300 has been given. Thank you!

Our opportunity to serve others continues right up the street. Statistics show the risk for food insecurity for children in Davidson County is 1 in 5. We can help innocent children through the Nutrition on Weekends Backpack Program, provided through the Fairgrove Family Resource Center. We strive to fulfill every targeted need at Fair Grove Elementary School. The FFRC packs each bag, and the child is assured of nutritious food all weekend. Any amount you can give is appreciated. \$35 will provide for an entire month. If you are able and feel led, sponsorship for a school year is \$250. Working together, we can insure that children will not go without food on the weekends. The donation form is in this newsletter, as well as available at each entrance of the church.

Please remember our ongoing projects:

- ◆ \$5 to \$10 grocery, gas, or fast food cards that are given by our office to those in most extreme need.
- ◆ A weekly non-perishable or a can of food. Always needed: Breakfast food, Mac and Cheese, Peanut butter, Jelly, Canned Fruit



FGUMC 2024 - 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, by 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. **\$250** 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 **\$250** at this time.
- I would like to sponsor a child with a pledge to give the **\$250** total by Dec. 2024.
- 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 Church. On the memo line, write **BACKPACK**. Please include this form with your gift or pledge.



United Women in Faith

School has started back, so let's be in prayer for our students and teachers! On August 21, the Fair Grove Elementary School staff was served breakfast in our FLC. The meal was provided by the Lucy Girls and other United Women in Faith. The teachers were able to select school and teacher supplies from our former afterschool/daycare program. The staff were very appreciative for the breakfast and supplies. We were blessed to have them in our church that morning! Thank you to all that helped make this morning possible!

Mark this date on your calendar: November 24. Our United Women of Faith will have their fall bake sale and vegetable beef soup sale. More details to come later.

"In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity." Titus 2:7

You Are Invited...

*to celebrate Juanita Welborn - 90 yrs young
Sunday, Sept 8 @ 3pm - 5pm - floating*

Please join us at the Ball Park Community Center
7003 Ball Park Road, Thomasville.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Barbara: 336.457.1280, Pam: 336.451-1149, or Terri: 336.471.2463.

We hope to see you there!



Fair Grove Church

138 Fairgrove Church Road

Thomasville, NC 27360

www.fairgrovechurch.org Phone: (336) 475-2598

Email: fgcthomasville@gmail.com

Rev. Mark Helms, Pastor

August 26, 2024

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 15th with the worship service beginning at 11:00 a.m. where Preacher Mark Helms will deliver the sermon. Immediately after the worship service there will be a luncheon in our Family Life Center, so please bring your favorite covered dish to share.

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:

Ruth Dorsett	October 15, 2023
Tom Sink	December 16, 2023
Charles Lyndon	April 4, 2024
Barbara Harris	April 15, 2024
Eddie Richey	June 8, 2024
Arnold Fuller	July 13, 2024

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

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

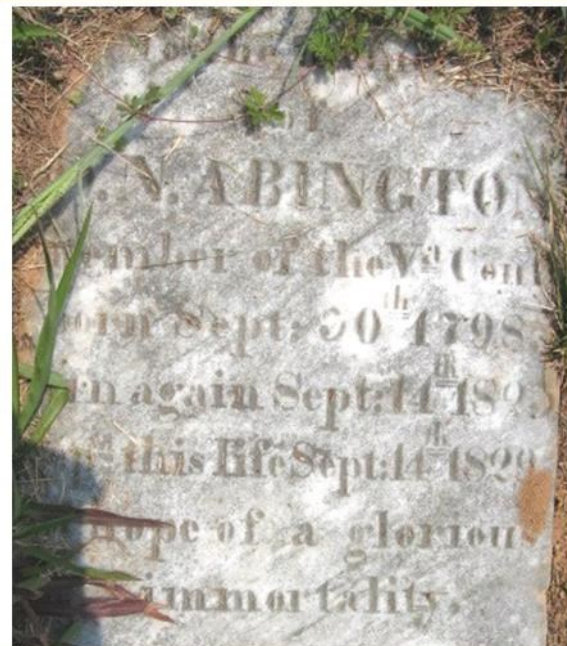
Mark Helms, Pastor

A Cemetery Mystery

This is the grave marker of The Reverend William N. Abington.
Row 9 Number 7 in our old cemetery.
Inscription:

Member of the VA Conf. (Conference)
Born Sept. 30th, 1798
Born Again Sept. 14th, 1823
Left This Life Sept. 14th, 1829
In hope of a glorious immortality.

Reverend Abington was found shot to death near the church on September 14, 1829. But may have died the day before. No one ever knew who shot him or why. Interesting that the inscription included the date he was "born again", and his death occurred exactly 6 years later, also on September 14th. His passing is perhaps just one of many mysteries in our cemetery. Mysteries to us, but certainly not to God! -Mark Black



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 FG Church is offering Kids Own Worship time!

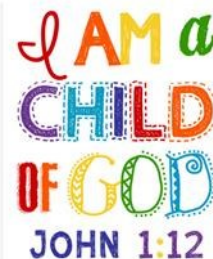


All children, Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to participate in a special KIDS OWN WORSHIP just for them during the 11am hour. This will include a lesson with hands-on activities.

Kids Own Worship will now meet in the youth room permanently. The room has been updated to accommodate both children and youth. Meeting there will allow easier access to the outside area and playground plus use of the smart TV to incorporate into lessons. There is a full kitchen plus bathrooms available as well.



Our Nursery is located across from the old Kids Own Worship classroom and is staffed each Sunday by 10:30am. Babies and toddlers are well cared for while parents enjoy the worship service. Toddlers are chaperoned to Kids Own Worship and participate in the lesson.



We have had a lot of people contacting us asking how they can volunteer. So, TLH is very excited to share their current and upcoming volunteer opportunities, and hopefully grow our band of volunteers. You are probably wondering, "what can I do to help survivors of human trafficking?"

There are actually many ways that YOU can be a part of the anti-human trafficking movement in a way that helps not only TLH but survivors and victims as well!

We need volunteers to: provide transportation for clients needing to attend appointments, pack fresh start bags, deliver fresh start bags, organize donations, help TLH with admin work, deliver water to showrooms during the HP Furniture Market, organize a donation drive for fresh start items, lead a prayer group, host a fundraiser, and there are more opportunities to come! To learn more and apply to help, please go to our website: www.triadladderofhope.weebly.com, then click on "Join the Fight".

FG Missions partnered with Mara Lovejoy and the Davidson County Foster Elves to help three foster children and their families fulfill their Back to School supply lists.

Foster parents do not receive any extra money for school supplies, just a monthly stipend that doesn't cover food or clothing. This is one way we, as a community and a church, can tangibly show our support and appreciation to those families who foster, while giving the children a bit of confidence when they walk into their new classroom. We have included a photo of one of the backpacks put together. Each child's list was completed with an added book for them to read.

The Foster Elves had a Back to School Pool Party for the foster families and Mara wanted to share this encounter with us: "One of the foster moms made it a point to speak with me. She thanked me for all you guys do, time and time again. Then she said that while lots of places give out free school supplies, she REALLY appreciated that you guys took care of everything on the list, and especially-- especially-- that the kids' got the backpack they really wanted instead of whatever was left. In other words, the kids were tickled with their backpacks and felt heard."

It's amazing what a difference one simple gesture can make in a child's life. Please keep an eye out for future notices of us partnering with the DC Foster Elves as we may need your assistance for collections or events. Thank you in advance!




Prayer List


Leon Beusse Family
Lulu Pemberton Family
Brother of Iris Duncan
Arnold Fuller family
Anne Jones
Alex Young
Mark Duncan
Curtis Ingram
Lynette Jones Scott
Scott Reese
Margaret McCaskill
Ricky Wray
Alice Colwell
Sarah Lambe
Cindy Medlin
Cristall McCaskill
Joel Craddock
Michelle Miller Harris
Ty Parker
Benny Clodfelter
Shirley Fuller

Dick Davis
Juanita Welborn
Roger Ferguson
Coach Howard Hayes
Linda
Jamie Wray Huepel
Wendy Smith
Jim Cline
Brenda Smith Ward
Daune Biggins
Steve Avre
Caleb Dunlin
Jimmy Holliday
Beverly
Hill family
Betty Richey
Carolyn & Wade Lane
Carol Sena
Terri Carpenter
Kathryn Swaim
Drew Newby
Mary
Clyde Bailey

Kathy Shoe
Rick Wilson
Ira Buckalew
Aubrey Lawson
Jennifer Kinley
Joy Wray Tucker
Candi Williams
Sandra Workman
Roy McMahon
Heather Hardister
David & Linda Lambeth
Dot Russell
Bobby Swaim
Evelyn Parks
Riley Honeycutt
Kendall Conner
Jamie Wray Heupel
Juan Gome Voglino
Kasey Redfern & family
Roger Burkhardt
Katie Coment husband
Lillie Lim
Cindy Sprague

Len Beusse
Meridith Bame
Tommy Vernon
Judy Harrington
Kevin McAdams
Lanley Suttle
Mary Wallace
Vince Mounts
Ophelia Timmons
Bobbi
Deb Lawson Brooks
Alice Workman
Rob Nelson
Denise Barker
Dennis Harrison
Johnny Odom
Chad Blevins
Teresa Rhodes
Leslie Rierson
Lucy Hayes
Bryce Hunt
Mary Lou Payne



"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!

Celebrate!
Life

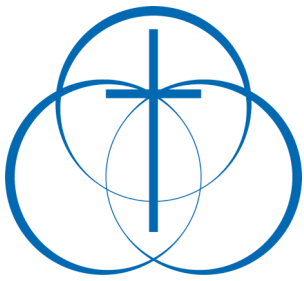
HAPPY
anniversary

3 Eric Bebber
3 Juanita Welborn
4 Alan Dorsett
5 Toni Nicholson
7 Aurelia Hampton
9 Helen Perdue
11 Roy Tucker
13 Haley Kennedy
14 Matthew Barringer
14 Christopher Barringer
15 Phil Gibbs
15 Emily Hill
15 Austin Hill

16 Margaret McCaskill
18 Carol Hepler
19 Dick Davis
20 Cristall McCaskill
22 Brent Blair
23 Paden Hall
26 Mark Everhart
26 Sandra Workman
28 Scott McCaskill
28 Cathi Smith
29 Emma Whitman



7 Rocky & Debbie Brooks
7 Todd & Darla Gallimore
21 Tony & Deborah Brooks



Fair Grove Church

138 Fairgrove Church Road, Thomasville, NC 27360

www.fairgrovechurch.org Phone: (336) 475-2598

Email: fgcthasville@gmail.com

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 - AUGUST 18

YTD SS Attendance AVG		20
YTD Worship Attendance AVG		92
YTD Budget Offering	\$	152,292.14
YTD AVG Weekly Offering	\$	4,614.91
Needed each week to make budget	\$	4,624.65

GLEANNING

August: 308 Year-to-date: 2658

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!

Make sure to check out our website: www.fairgrovechurch.org

and **Facebook page:** www.facebook.com/fairgrovechurch/

Office Email: fgcthasville@gmail.com

Phone: (336) 475-2598

Pastor: Mark Helms **Email:** helmsmark39@yahoo.com

Minister's Office Phone: (336) 475-3191