

Fair Grove Church

The Messenger Monthly Newsletter

November 2024

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

Voting Information from Preacher Mark

Ah, the month of April; The weather changes, we say goodbye to autumn, we celebrate our Thankfulness, prepare for the Advent season, our nominations committee prayerfully seeks those who would fill the committees and offices of our Church, and every four years, we elect a president, senators, congressmen and women, and all of the other governmental offices of our nation. (English teachers and English majors, please forgive the elongated sentence.) So, my newsletter article will address two of these issues.

First, with regards to Fair Grove Church, I am requesting that every member and every attendee of Fair Grove to prayerfully consider our gifts and talents that God has given each of us and how we can best use them for the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God. There is a place for any and every one to serve here. And we wish to spread out the workload so that more people are involved in the life of Fair Grove Church. Everyone of us have been given gifts by the same Grace of God that saved us. As Romans 12:6 tells us, "Having gifts (faculties, talents, qualities) that differ according to the grace given us, *let us use them:*"

Secondly, I am urging everyone to get out and vote. George Barna of the Cultural Research Center at Arizona Christian University, indicates that millions of Christians are unlikely to vote. "Barna's latest research shows that only 51% of all faith voters are likely to vote in November. That means a full 104 million faith voters are unlikely to vote this election—including 41 million born-again Christians (defined by their beliefs regarding sin and salvation, not self-identification), 32 million regular Christian church attenders, and 14 million who attend an evangelical church. Apathy among Christian voters could be "a game changer" this election, according to Barna."

These figures are constant throughout many other polls, but the bottom line is that IF Christians would turn out and vote, it would cause a major shift in election turnouts. Okay, then how should we vote?

I will not name anyone we should vote for, but I would ask that we consider the following criteria:

- 1. Make God's Word your primary voting guide.**
- 2. Pray before casting your vote.**
- 3. Vote for a candidate who upholds Christian principles.**
- 4. Vote for a candidate who is able to lead our country with justice.**
- 5. Vote for a candidate who has already demonstrated her/his ability to lead well**
- 6. Cast your ballot in good conscience.**
- 7. Recognize that from eternity past God has already ordained our next political leader.**
- 8. If the candidate who wins is immoral, remember that God is able to use even wicked leaders to accomplish his eternal plan.**
- 9. Never forget that God is causing all things—including the upcoming election—to work together for the good of his people.**
- 10. Finally, respect those who oppose your political position.**

(preceding information was found @ <https://www.reformation21.org/blog/10-guidelines-for-christian-voters.>)

- ◆ Nov 3 - Daylight Savings Ends
- ◆ Nov 5 @8am - Senior Breakfast at Sunrise - all are welcome!
- ◆ Nov 5 - Church Office Closed - no Bible study
- ◆ Nov 7 @10am - Prayer Shawl in the Parlor
- ◆ Nov 17 @12pm - Hot Dog Lunch to support WNC Hurricane Helene relief
- ◆ Nov 19 @11am - Susanna Wesley Circle Meeting in the FLC
- ◆ Nov 24 @ UWF Soup and Bake Sale in the FLC
- ◆ Nov 28 - Church Office Closed
- ◆ Dec 10 - @6pm - UWF Christmas Dinner in the FLC
- ◆ Dec 15 @5pm - Christmas Cantata with refreshments to follow in FLC
- ◆ Dec 24 - 25 - Church Office Closed
- ◆ Dec 29 - Children's Sabbath with the Youth
- ◆ Jan 1-2, 2025 - Church Office Closed



"I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart." Psalm 40:8

Lifting our prayers to God, we stretch out hands of love and hope for those suffering from the indescribable devastation of Hurricane Helene. Many of you have shared that your family members, friends, and you have given items, time, and labor to help our neighbors in western North Carolina. An ongoing endeavor at our church, a fund has been set up so you can donate at any time. (A check may be written to Fair Grove Church with WNC Disaster Relief on the memo line.) We also look forward to a meal of fellowship every other month for the next year! With church-wide participation being our goal, a hot dog meal on November 17th will ask for your service, as well as food and financial donations. (See Jane Gibbs.) The first proceeds will be offered through Samaritan's Purse. Look for the flier in this newsletter.

In November, we can share the bounty of God's abundance! Let's FILL THE ALTAR for the poor on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 24th. Please bring extra canned goods and non-perishables for the Bobby Owen Food Drive. Thanks to those who share food weekly.

Your financial gifts to the Nutrition on Weekends Program will allow 21 children to take food home each weekend for a year. Our goal here at FGC is to provide for 50 children. Please prayerfully consider giving the amount for one child, \$250 or ANY amount that you feel led to provide. We will continue seeking to fulfill this need until the end of the year, even though another much needed project begins in November, "Gifts from the Heart!"



2024 "Gifts from the Heart"



Through your donations and Fairgrove Family Resource Center, we can give children in need a wonderful Christmas morning. If you'd like to shop yourself, a form with the child's clothing and shoe sizes, as well as a few "wish list items" will be provided. Your bags of gifts will be delivered by missions or you to the resource center to be given to the parents who will wrap the gifts. You may choose to shop for a child on your own and spend the \$125. If you prefer, monetary donations in any amount may be given. Designate "Gifts from the Heart" on the memo line of a check or on your envelope. The mission team hopes Fair Grove will be able to "adopt" 50 children. Donations will be used for purchasing so we need to send those in as soon as possible. See or contact Janice Griffin (336-242-4547) with questions or if you would like a shopping list.

_____ I would like to sponsor _____ child/children at a cost of \$125 per child.

_____ I would like to give a donation of _____ toward the purchase of a child's gifts.

If this gift is given in honor or memory of someone, please indicate:

In honor/memory of _____

Your name: _____

Make check payable to Fair Grove Church ("Gifts from the Heart" on the memo line)



GUMC 2024 - N.O.W. - Mission Opportunity

Fairgrove Family Resource Center provides nutritious food for children to take home over the weekends to four area schools, including Fair Grove Elementary. Our own church has sought to alleviate hunger through this program, by providing weekend food 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!

- o I would like to sponsor a child and donate **\$250** at this time.
- o I would like to sponsor a child with a pledge to give the **\$250** total by Dec. 2024.
- o I would like to give a general donation in the following amount to help: _____

Is this 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 N.O.W.

Please include this form with your gift or pledge.



FG Church Friends & Family

Let's make a difference for our neighbors in those beautiful mountains!



Join us for a hot dog lunch!

All proceeds will go to help those in Western North Carolina affected by Hurricane Helene.

Sunday, November 17 at 12:00

in the Family Life Center

Cost - donations only!

Menu: Grilled Hot Dogs, with all of the fixings, baked beans, chips, dessert and drink.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2



Please take a moment to look for the Big Pink Chair at FG that will be in the foyer through the second week of November! All donations will help provide care for women in Davidson County through the Big Pink Chair Project who is partnering with Cancer Services of Davidson County. If you have a loved one who needs assistance in their fight against cancer, please call them at 336.249.7265.

The chair display has informational flyers for you. So, please take a moment to check out the Big Pink Chair and help us support this missional project. If you would like to make a donation through the church, **please write your check out to FG Church and write Big Pink Chair on the memo line.** Thank you!

Our staff at Fair Grove has led us through a wonderful year of worship and service. We would like to show our appreciation by giving them a Christmas Love Offering.



If you would like to donate, write checks to Fair Grove Church and on the memo line write "Christmas Love Offering". You may either mail your donations to the church or place in the offering plate on a Sunday. **Deadline for all donations is Sunday, December 8.**

The total love offering will be divided evenly among our staff: Mark Helms, Pastor; Susan McCurry, Choir Director/Organist; Carolyn Lane, Pianist; Sharon Sink, Custodian; Jane Evans, Administrative Assistant. Thank you.

Staff Parish Relations Committee

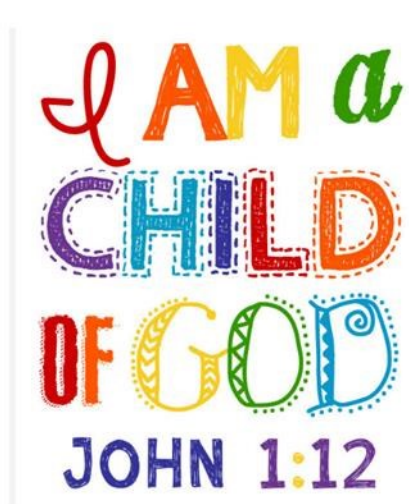


On Sunday, September 29, our church family was privileged to have our youth lead the 11:00 Worship Service.

Their enthusiasm and joy showed through all they did - opening and welcome, reading of scripture, acolyte, and offering/offertory prayer.

They were honored to serve God and are looking forward to leading again on December 29. The Worship Team has asked them to lead every Fifth Sunday.

Jesus said, "Well done, good and faithful servants!" (Matthew 25:21)



United Women in Faith Important Dates



- * November 22 - UWF members meet to make soup in the FLC kitchen at 10:00 am
- * November 24 - UWF vegetable beef soup and Bake Sale in the FLC!
- * December 10 - United Women in Faith Christmas covered dish dinner @ 6:00 in the FLC (all women are invited!)
- * December 29 - Children's Sabbath with the Youth

Don't forget to preorder your vegetable soup! It is \$8.00/quart.



"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord lift up His Countenance upon you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26

Have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

Don Osborne family
Daniel Miller family
Mary Lou Payne family
Grace Shoemaker
Joan Everhart
Tasha Edwardh
John Everhart
Timmy Bailey
Mark Workman
Mark Duncan
Curtis Ingram
Lynette Jones Scott
Scott Reese
Margaret McCaskill
Ricky Wray
Cindy Medlin
Cristall McCaskill
Joel Craddock
Michelle Miller Harris
Ty Parker
Benny Clodfelter
Len Beusse

Shirley Fuller
Juanita Welborn
Roger Ferguson
Coach Howard Hayes
Wendy Smith
Brenda Smith Ward
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
Connie Yarborough
Kathy Shoe & Rick Wilson
Ira Buckalew

Aubrey Lawson
Jennifer Kinley
Joy Wray Tucker
Candi Williams
Sandra Workman
Roy McMahan
Heather Hardister
David & Linda Lambeth
Dot Russell
Bobby Swaim
Evelyn Parks
Riley Honeycutt
Kendall Conner
Kasey Redfern & family
Anne Jones
Kim Edgerton
Jamie Wray Heupel
Juan Gome Voglino
Roger Burkhardt
Katie Coment husband
Lillie Lim
Cindy Sprague

Meridith Bame
Tommy Vernon
Judy Harrington
Lanley Suttle
Mary Wallace
Vince Mounts
Ophelia Timmons
Bobbi
Deb Lawson Brooks
Alice Workman
Rob Nelson
Denise Barker
Dennis Harrison
Johnny
Chad Blevins
Teresa Rhodes
Leslie Rierson
Lucy Hayes
Jimmy Robbins
Brittany East
Bryce Hunt
Victims of hurricanes Milton and Helene



"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

EVERYONE
IS
Welcome!

Please note that there is an open invitation to any and all who would like to meet to pray over the Sunday service at 10:40am in the Prayer Room. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Mark.



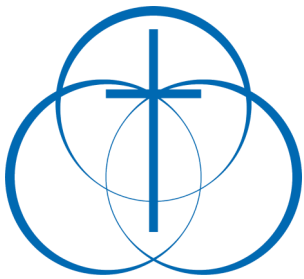
1 Janie Sink
1 Mindy Vernon
2 Wayne Lyndon
4 Jessica Baldwin
5 Jane Blair
5 Jesse Gilbert
8 Jamie Porter
9 Gary Sink
12 Sharon Keever
12 Patrick Porter
13 Christopher Waters
14 Emily Barringer

16 Sara Fowler
17 Dillon Murphy
18 Mike Faircloth
19 Tony Brooks
20 Monica Moser
21 Roger Burkhart
22 Carol Everhart
25 Adam Gilbert
26 Kenneth Hepler
26 Austin Kennedy
29 Lea Austin



Happy Anniversary

6 Clay & Sara Fowler
14 Curtis & Cinde Ingram
21 Roger & Janet Burkhart
26 Tim & Kathy Fuller
28 TW & Susan Boston
29 Stephen & Libby Blair



Fair Grove Church

138 Fairgrove Church Road, Thomasville, NC 27360
www.fairgrovechurch.org Phone: (336) 475-2598
Email: fgcthamasville@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 - OCTOBER 20

YTD SS Attendance AVG	20
YTD Worship Attendance AVG	95
YTD Budget Offering	\$ 191,980.14
YTD AVG Weekly Offering	\$ 4,570.96
Needed each week to make budget	\$ 4,624.65

GLEANNING

October: 260 Year-to-date: 3292

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: fgcthamasville@gmail.com

Phone: (336) 475-2598

Pastor: Mark Helms Email: helmsmark39@yahoo.com

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