



THE FAIRVIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH VISITOR

Upcoming Events

July 26—Garden N Grow (FH & Kitchen); S.A.S.S. Group (Conf. room)

July 28—Chapel Res. (C. A.); Distribute Back to School Supplies (Linden Square)

July 29—Intercessory Prayer; Worship; Koffee Klatch

July 30—Monday Morning Men (Cornerstone); Garden N Grow (FH); Mats Project (Family Life); Micah Ministry

July 31—Rotary (FH); Cub Scouts (FH); Faith In Him; Boy Scouts (Family Life)

Aug. 1—Christian Ed Mtg. (Conf. Room)

Aug. 2—Garden N Grow (FH); CCCC Planning Mtg. (FH); Fairview Connect (FH)

Aug. 4—Chapel Res. (C.A); Garden N Grow Lunch (FH & Kitchen)

Aug. 5—Intercessory Prayer; Worship; Koffee Klatch; Water Fun Day

Aug. 6—Monday Morning Men (Cornerstone); Garden N Grow (FH); Mats Project (Family Life); Micah Ministry

Aug. 7—Primary Elections (FH); Cubs (FH); Faith In Him; Boy Scouts (Family Life)

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A Few Reflections

This last weekend, there were a few of us who went out to Walmart and collected supplies for the back-to-school drive. What I love about getting out in such a direct setting with the public is you get to meet people of all kinds. And especially for a Saturday mid day, we end up seeing a great majority of our community.

Sometimes the experiences are trying. Within minutes of starting, one of our volunteers had been told off. A man was not happy to be bothered while he was going to grab his groceries for the week. Sometimes they are monotonous. How many times can you say, "we are doing a back to school supply drive, can you help?" without feeling like a broken record?

But then, when I went to check on one of our volunteers, they told me that right as they felt a bit fed up, right as they felt a bit hopeless about why they were out there, a kid walks up to her with a bag of school supplies. Full of hope, this child hands off the bag, knowing they are helping others, even though they don't realize one of those people they were helping was our volunteer.

Trust me, church can often feel this way as well. They can often feel like we do something and we do not see a direct result. Sometimes it can often feel like fishing, we cast out dozens of times before we finally see a reward. But I want to offer a different kind of reflection, a perspective of risk through community.

See, when I was standing out there and asking people to help, I encountered many people who would just turn away. They would seem to ignore that I was even standing there. There were many more who politely took a flyer but then had no plans to buy supplies. And, there were still many more who did buy supplies. By the time we left, the bins were mostly full. And then there was this one conversation...

This couple was very sympathetic to the needs we were aiding, and seemed eager to join in. When they came out, I had started packing away our display table and was getting close to the end of our time. And they came out with a bag full of supplies. "Are you a teacher?" "No, I'm a minister with Fairview." "Oh! That's where we recognize you from!"

We had a conversation about a time they visited our church, their perceptions of what our worshiping body looked like, and were pleased that the church was out in the community like this. I helped fill in the story that we do things like this all the time, told about other areas that we are helping out in, and got to know them better through our conversation. And at the same time, they got to know the story of our church better. While they assumed we were an older congregation, they now knew we are A caring and partnering congregation. They saw the role we play in gathering and strengthening community.

After I packed up, they found me again and this time they had a check. It was a donation to help out with this school supply drive and a reassurance they would stay involved with what Fairview is doing in our community. And all of this came because we took the risk to be in community. We put ourselves out there, telling our story through actions, and people saw who we are.

If you want to be assured that no conversations will happen with your neighbors, stay indoors. If you want to be assured that no good news will be shared, don't speak. If you want to be assured that your story is over, write "The End." But if you believe there is hope, take a chance. If you want to talk with people you haven't met, extend your hand. If you want to share good news, tell it in everything you do.

If you believe there is a future, take the risk and embrace it.

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Sunday Services

8:30 a.m.

Intercessory Prayer

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:00 a.m.

Worship Service

Co-Pastors

Kassie & Travis

Sharing the Good News of God's Love through Faith, Worship, Service and Community



A Few Reflections (continued from page 1)

I can tell you a lot of stories about what's going on at our church. And they are stories that are not always the most visible.

I see families and individuals being transformed by having a welcoming community. I see outside groups coming in and identifying Fairview as their space. I see a neighborhood that is shifting, but I also know that means hope. Because there are people moving in, they are looking for a place to create community.

Fairview has the space, Fairview has the drive to be involved and to care. The question is are we telling our story? Are we taking risks to get out and share that story with our friends, with our neighbors, with our community? It isn't a one to one ratio that every time we share our story we see a new "church member," but that we invite people to know the good news and involve them in sharing it.

Kassie and I have nothing but hope for this congregation in this space. We hope you share that same excitement and are willing to take the same risks in community.

— Travis



CHURCH GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

July 28 Kids Fest 9-1pm at Linden Square

Fairview once again is helping with the School Supply Giveaway from 10 a.m. – Noon.

If you can volunteer to help distribute supplies, please reach out to Joyce T., Susan A., Bob H. or Fairview's Office.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS!

August 7th!

We get to have the chance to welcome people to our church when they come to vote.

Come join the fun!

We need people to help us welcome voters to our church.

To help, please contact Susan A. or another member of the Church Growth Department if you are free that day and want to help our neighbors feel appreciated.

AS ALWAYS, WE WILL NEED MUFFINS & COOKIES!!



5th Monday in July

Fairview going to Micah Ministry on **Monday, July 30th.**

If you wanted to volunteer to go to Micah Ministry but have not been able to go on the first Monday of the month—here is your chance.

We will meet up at Fairview at about 4:15 p.m. & then leave around 4:30 to get there. *Many hands make light work.*

Questions, contact Kathy C.

Fairview Connect Dinner & Discussion



After some conversations with our regulars, we are changing some of our format for the Fairview Connect gatherings.

In order to help our gatherings be more welcoming and to encourage more community building, we are switching to a Dinner & Discussion format.

In some ways, it could feel like a Bible study for those who are used to them, but there will be a little bit more. We will still have a little bit of music, we will still have some interactive elements, and the discussion is our primary focus. Those who are gathered, young and old, new and experienced, every one has a voice in what we are talking about.

Join us for our first revamped gathering on August 2. We will be discussing the beatitudes, specifically the first one: blessed are the poor in spirit.

Feel free to bring a side or dessert to contribute to the meal and remember to invite your friends!
See you at 6 p.m. on August 2.

Classic Crowd

Thursday, August 9th

11:30 a.m.— Fellowship Hall

Our meal will be pot luck dishes.

Our entertainment will be the OMB (One Man Band), Doug Lagham, a Musical Senior Entertainer.



FCC Classic Crowd's Branson Show Extravaganza
Tues., Oct. 16th — Thur., Oct. 18th

Final payment due:
Thursday, Aug. 9, 2018

Questions: contact Mildred C.



REMINDER
August meeting for the Elders
has been cancelled.

WATER FUN DAY
Sunday, August 5th



Hey kids (of all ages) we're having pizza at Noon followed by water games! Rumor has it "slime" might be involved! Come prepared to get wet, so bring a change of clothes!

Please call & let us know if you will be here ! Help with water activities is needed — let Wanda P. know if you are available to help.



Monday—August 13th
Department Meetings
6:30 p.m.
Meetings are in various rooms.

Opportunities to Serve Open

Would you like to provide service in 2019 through the Deaconate, Junior Deaconate and Elders?



If you would like to learn more about these opportunities or have suggestions, please contact a member of your 2019 Nominating Committee:
Debbie B., Mikel B., Kathy H., Gary L., Clarke N. and Tom S.

There are various areas of service remaining. Is it I, Lord? The Nominating Committee



Wally's Memorial Food Box Challenge

For **July**, the challenge item is canned pasta sauce.
For **August**, the challenge item is canned vegetables.

The Monday Morning Mats Team has been so busy turning plastic bags into mats for the homeless that they are in need of more plastic bags.



So if you have any plastic bags, bring them up to the Fairview office or feel free to come on a Monday morning at 9:30 in the Family Life Room where the team meets.

NEWSLETTER

Next published newsletter will be Wed., Aug. 8th; articles due by Noon on Monday, August 6th.



In an effort to increase the church's security, we will be implementing the following measures beginning August 1st :

- Before entering the church during **regular business hours**, please call or stop by the office and check in with Fairview's Admin.
- **On Sunday mornings**, you will be able to enter the church through the following doors **until 10:10 a.m.**:
 - Fellowship Hall
 - Office Hallway
 - Classroom Hallway
 - South Narthex
 - North Narthex
- **On Sunday mornings after 10:10 a.m.**, you will only be able to enter the church through the North and South Narthex doors (you will still be able to exit through the other doors)

We would also like to remind you...

- If you unlock a door be sure to lock it back
- If you observe a fire hazard or security issue, please report it to church personnel

Thank you for your cooperation making Fairview a safer place for you and your family to worship.

Dear Fairview Congregation,



On behalf of Clay County Clothes Closet, thank you for hosting "Christmas in July" in support of our Organization's mission to clothe Northland Community families in need! Your generous donation of new undergarments & socks helps our Organization continue clothing the disadvantaged families and individuals we are blessed to serve.

This is the time of the year Clothes Closet is restocking our shelves to insure adequate back-to-school clothing for the children referred for assistance, so your donations are very much needed and very much appreciated!

Below are the clothing items you so generously gifted to Fairview's "Christmas in July" benefitting Clay County Clothes Closet:
(156) pair female socks, (253) pair of male socks, (376) female underwear, (166) male briefs, (18) male undershirts, (1) t-shirt.

Thank you and Merry Christmas Fairview!
Debbie B., Executive Director
Clay County Clothes Closet