

NOVEMBER 2025

THE SOUNDS OF FAIR VIEW

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FAIR VIEW
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FAITHFUL IN EXILE

BY REV. NATHAN FINSEL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As I have been reflecting on the book of Daniel, I am struck by how timely his story feels for us today. Daniel and his friends were carried into exile, far from home, surrounded by a culture that sought to rename them, retrain them, and reshape them into its own image. Exile was not only about geography—it was about identity. Would they forget who they were as God’s people, or would they remain faithful in a foreign land?

In many ways, we too live as “resident exiles.” The world around us often pulls us toward values and identities that compete with the Gospel. We are tempted to define ourselves by success, politics, or possessions rather than by the truth that we are beloved sons and daughters of God through Christ. Like Israel in Babylon, we face the question: Will we lose our identity, or will we live faithfully as God’s people in this season?

Daniel shows us what faithfulness looks like:

- He resolved not to defile himself, even in small daily choices (Dan. 1:8).
- He spoke with courage and humility, honoring God while respecting those in authority.
- He engaged fully in the life of Babylon, yet never compromised his allegiance to the Lord.
- He trusted in God’s sovereignty, even when circumstances looked bleak.
- He bore witness through hope, pointing to the eternal kingdom that would outlast every earthly empire.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

This Issue:

Angel Tree

Operation
Christmas
Child

Fall Festival Fun

Aspire is
coming back!

Walk for Life

CHURCH APP

We are excited to continue to utilize the features of our new web-based platform, Subsplash. Please download the church app to:



- watch or listen to past messages
- stay up-to-date with small groups announcements and notifications within the app
- share your favorite messages via Twitter, Facebook, or email, and download messages for offline listening.
- sign-up for events and service opportunities
- check your recent giving
- read the current newsletter via access to the website



Watch your inbox each Wednesday for the View from Fair View.

This weekly newsletter regularly contains upcoming events and opportunities to serve the church

and the greater Mooresville community. Not receiving church emails? Let us know by emailing us at info@fairviewumc.org.

Dates for birthdays and anniversaries come from the church database, so if there are any errors, please contact the church office.



TXT2GIVE

Text **FVUMCgiving** to 1-888-364-4483 in order to receive a reply with the link to your giving interface. The code is not case sensitive.

If you already have a Subsplash giving account, you will be able to login and give immediately!

Don't have a Subsplash account? You can create one in seconds!

The privacy of your personal information is our first priority and is secure through our giving platform!

Truly Grateful for you.

YOUR TITHES & OFFERINGS KEEP OUR CHURCH ACTIVE AND THRIVING!

Fair View United Methodist Church
1430 Mecklenburg Hwy
Mooresville, NC 28115



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Senior Minister: Rev. Nathan Finsel
Office Manager: Cat O'Brien
Music Minister: Isaiah Cornelius
Children's Minister: Krystal Davis
Staff Technology Lead: Kimi Turner
Youth Minister: Danyel Williams

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

connect:



FAIR VIEW HAPPENINGS

Faith Study

Faith Study meets every Monday night, 5:30 – 7:00, in Wesley for study, fellowship and a meal. We are working through a RightNow Media study with Lisa Harper study titled *“Why Do We Need the Bible?”*

Our door is always open to those who would like to join us.

Exceptions: we will not meet December 1 (following a busy Thanksgiving weekend and first Sunday of Advent worship experiences) and through the busy Christmas and New Year weeks, December 22 and 29.

Communion Servers

November 2

Heather Gray, Andrea Adams,
Mandy Wright, Danyel Williams

December 7

Peggy Jones, Krystal Davis,
Mark & Vicki Gurley

Christmas Eve

Todd & Matthew Danner
Susan & Judy Donaldson

Prayer Shawls

Prayer shawls are available from the church office for all members as well as Stephen Ministers to share with family, friends, or neighbors who need a reminder that we care about their loss or difficulty. In their time of need, a shawl says “I’m thinking of you and want to share God’s love with you.”

Church Directory

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

Church directory photos are being taken December 2 through December 8. Sign ups are available through our online platform or in person Sunday mornings.

Online sign ups are available through email blasts or the website.

Movers & Shakers



On October 16, we went to Valdese, NC, to visit the Waldensian Trail of Faith. We learned how much the Waldensian people suffered in Italy just because they wanted to worship a loving God. They had to worship in hiding and many lost their lives. In the late 1800s they migrated to and founded the town of Valdese, NC. Visiting this site sure makes me glad that I have the privilege to live and worship a loving God in this time and this country.

On November 20, we plan to visit the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, NC. The library tells the story of Billy Graham and how he became an evangelist to the world. We will gather in the workroom at 9:30 and leave at 10. Admission is free, but they do have donation buckets to help support the library if you feel so lead. Of course there will be lunch. And of course there will be social time. Please join us (and bring a friend) for a fun day of food and fellowship and learning! If you have any questions, please contact Mary Stutts at 704-664-4274 or mommamary1@windstream.net.

Book Club

November 10 @ 7pm

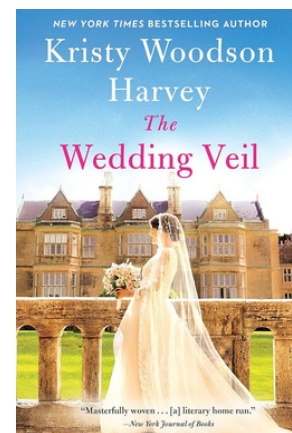
We meet the second Monday
following Faith Study in Wesley

Open invitation to all readers!

Present Day: Julia Baxter's wedding veil, bequeathed to her great-grandmother by a mysterious woman on a train in the 1930s, has passed through generations of her family as a symbol of a happy marriage. But on the morning of her wedding day, something tells her that even the veil's good luck isn't enough to make her marriage last forever. Overwhelmed, she escapes to the Virgin Islands to clear her head.

Meanwhile, her grandmother Babs is also feeling shaken. Still grieving the death of her beloved husband, she decides to move into a retirement community. Though she hopes it's a new beginning, she does not expect to run into an old flame, dredging up the same complicated emotions she felt a lifetime ago.

1914: Socialite Edith Vanderbilt is struggling to manage the luxurious Biltmore Estate after the death of her cherished husband. With 250 rooms to oversee and an entire village dependent on her family to stay afloat, Edith is determined to uphold the Vanderbilt legacy—and prepare her free-spirited daughter Cornelia to inherit it—despite her family's deteriorating financial situation. But Cornelia has dreams of her own, and as she explores more of the rapidly changing world around her, she's torn between upholding tradition and pursuing the exciting future that lies beyond Biltmore's gilded gates.



FAITHFUL IN EXILE

Continued from page 1

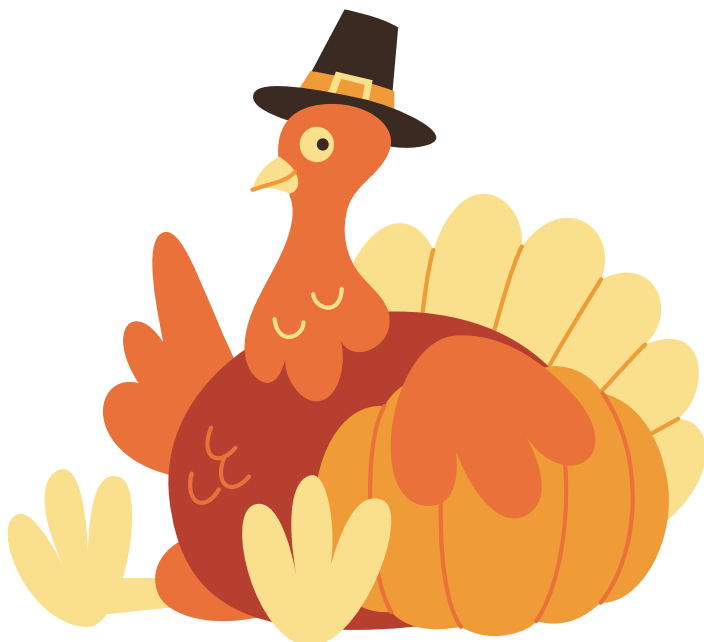
This is our calling too. To live distinctly, yet not withdrawn. To be courageous, yet humble. To trust that even in seasons of cultural exile, God is still at work, refining His people and advancing His kingdom.

Beloved, exile is not the end of the story. For Israel, it became the soil where faith was deepened and hope was renewed. For us, these days can be the same. Let us remember who we are in Christ, live with integrity, and bear witness to the unshakable kingdom of God.

May the Lord strengthen you to be faithful in this season, and may His light shine through you in every place He has called you.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Nathan Finsel



UPPER ROOM PRAYER GROUP

Every Wednesday from 11:00 am until noon, we gather in Wesley for a time of worship and fellowship. The table is always open - come and bring a friend.

We read scriptures, pray and share our concerns and are there to encourage each other in our daily walk with Jesus.

THE VINE BIBLE STUDY

The Vine Study group meets wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30pm in the Wesley Building. Join us for an hour of prayer and study led by Pastor Nathan Finsel. All are welcome as we seek and cling to the vine.

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know are homebound and would like to request one of our communion servants to administer communion at your home, please call the church office to schedule a time.

Communion servants have been trained to serve communion and are Stephen Ministers and congregants. We appreciate their service to the church body.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Each Thursday, the Fair View Church volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels. Many recipients are widows or widowers, some are in ill health and dealing with disabilities or aging restrictions. We would ask you to keep them in your prayers as we have ministered to their needs and have developed friendships.

If you would like to join this ministry, contact Judy at judithdonaldson@windstream.net.

MISSION OUTREACH



MISSION OVERVIEW

By Kathy Schilling

October has been a busy and joy-filled month for our missions team! With the help of our youth, we've been hard at work filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, sharing God's love in a tangible way with children around the world. We are also continuing to provide weekend meals for 22 local children through the backpack ministry—ensuring that no child goes hungry when school is out.

Looking ahead to November, we'll be finishing and delivering the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes and beginning our partnership with Prison Fellowship Ministries. Through this ministry, we'll help provide toys and gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated—a powerful way to remind these kids that they are loved and not forgotten, especially during the Christmas season.

In addition, our backpack ministry will once again share extra food and a Food Lion gift card with the Coddle Creek children and their families, helping to provide many of the fixings for their Thanksgiving meal. It's a blessing to serve our community and to be part of what God is doing through these acts of kindness and compassion.

WALK FOR LIFE RECAP

By Brenda Harvey

We are ecstatic to report that the 34th Annual Walk for Life supporting the Community Pregnancy of Lake Norman surpassed their goal of \$150,000 by raising \$181,107.36. There was a large turnout of walkers on a beautiful October Saturday morning. The director announced that 61 babies lives had been saved since last year's walk and a heart for each life was featured around the site. Fair View walkers ranked 18th out of 40 teams by raising \$2,320. This was our mission outreach for the month of September. Thank you for your continued support for this Christian ministry in our community.



WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING AT FAIR VIEW?

25 years of Stephen Ministry

We are celebrating twenty-five years of Stephen Ministry at Fair View! And it is not just about the people who have been trained as Stephen Ministers. A caring nature permeates throughout our church with a spirit of compassion and empathetic relations.

This ministry has gone beyond providing one-on-one confidential emotional and spiritual caregiving for those who have experienced a recent loss. Our Stephen Ministers' attention is on general congregational care as well as one-on-one care. Stephen Ministries is continuing to evolve and we are now providing free Christ-centered resources for those interested in a more fulfilling life through effective relationship skills or improved coping skills for resiliency through challenging times. If you would like more information, please contact Kia Whittlesey, Ann Goode, or the church office.

Laity Service Award

The Laity Service Award, sponsored by the Western North Carolina Conference Board of Laity, honors laypersons whose dedication and service reflect true Christian stewardship in both the church and the community. This year Fair View is proud to recognize Tim Gibson for his faithful commitment and all the hard work he has given over the past year. Congratulations Tim, and thanks for all you do!



Happy Anniversary

Nov. 7
Barry & Amy Boling

Nov. 9
Bill & Ellar Hicks

Nov. 14
Mark & Vicki Gurley

YOUTH

5th
Sunday Lunch

Sunday November 30th
Following Service



SOUP, SALAD,
ROLLS, &
DESSERT

RSVP BY NOV 27th
Proceeds to be split
between youth retreat &
Angel Tree Event

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



is coming back to Fair View
Saturday, March 7, 2026

HAPPY birthday

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 Clay Rogers
- 7
- 8
- 9 Betsy Danner
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13 Ava Rogers
- 14
- 15
- 16 Barry Boling
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24 Thomas Danner
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28 Mary Stutts
- 29
- 30 Kelly Stapleton

COME JOIN US!

SUNDAYS AT FAIR VIEW

WORSHIP at 10 AM

Fair View Kidz

every Sunday

Fair View Kidz meets each Sunday immediately after children's church during worship for crafts, Bible study and fun activities!



A FULL CALENDAR OF
EVENTS CAN BE FOUND
AT FAIRVIEWUMC.ORG

Youth
11:00AM IN CHAPIN



2nd SUNDAYS
8:00AM IN 204A

monday

FAITH STUDY
MONDAYS
5:30PM IN WESLEY

wednesday

THE VINE STUDY
WEDNESDAYS
6:30PM IN WESLEY

thursday

STEPHEN MINISTRIES
2ND/4TH THURSDAY
7 PM IN WESLEY

BOOK CLUB
2ND MONDAYS
6:30PM IN WESLEY

UPPER ROOM
WEDNESDAYS
11 AM IN WESLEY

**MOVERS &
SHAKERS**
3RD THURSDAYS

M.O.M. BIBLE STUDY
2ND MONDAY
6PM IN 204A

CHOIR REHEARSAL
 WEDNESDAYS AT
7 PM

I am thankful for...

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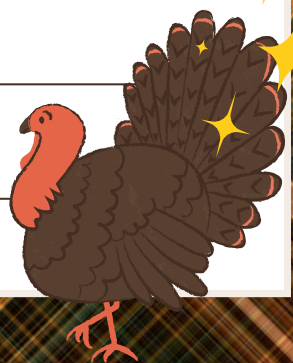
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FAIR VIEW KIDZ



In October we hosted our annual fall festival, a joyful evening filled with laughter, fellowship, and plenty of autumn fun! Around 50 children came out to enjoy the festivities, playing games, picking pumpkins, winning prizes, and of course, filling their bags with more candy than they could carry. Families gathered to share hot dogs, conversation, and smiles as the church grounds buzzed with excitement.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our congregation, we were even able to send candy bags to the children in our backpack ministry, spreading the fun and sweetness a little farther. A heartfelt thank-you goes out to everyone who donated supplies, volunteered their time, or helped in any way to make the night such a success. Your efforts truly made a difference and reminded us once again what a wonderful community we have here at Fair View!



Nov. 2 - Dec. 14 - Our Santa Mailbox will be set up outside of the office door for the community to mail letters to Santa. Each letter that has a return address on it will receive a letter back from Santa before Christmas.

Sunday, Nov. 9 - Veterans Day luncheon in the fellowship hall following the worship service. All veterans and their families are invited for a meal and fellowship.

Sunday, Nov. 16 - Friendsgiving in Wesley (on patio, weather permitting) following service. All kids, youth and their families are invited.

Saturday, Dec. 9 - Breakfast with Santa, 9-11am in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to attend. This is a community outreach event.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Minister - Krystal Davis
Contact: fairviewkidz@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



Fair View Kidz Invite Kidz and Youth Families to our
Fifth Annual Friendsgiving
Sunday November 16th following service
Come enjoy a Spaghetti lunch and fellowship!



Breakfast with Santa
Saturday, December 6 9-11am
1430 Mecklenburg Hwy, Mooresville
Breakfast, crafts, goodies and a special visit
from the big man himself!
Photo opportunities available!
Free community event!



Mail your
Santa
Letters Here
Today!

Now through
December 13!

Don't forget your
return address!



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VETERANS DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR

Fair View Kidz and Youth invite you to enjoy a
free lunch with us!

When: Sunday, Nov 9
Service at 10:00
Lunch 11:00am-1:00pm
or until all are served

All veterans welcome. You do not have
to be a member of Fair View.



Fundraiser \$40
Scout Troops 173 & 4173

Boston Butt Sale
Pick up @ Scout Hall
November 21
from 7-8pm!

Tickets available in the church
office!

129 Centre Church Rd
Mooresville, NC 28117

FAIR VIEW YOUTH

October has been a busy month for youth and the rest of the year just gets busier! We enjoyed having Ms. Kathy come talk to our about finances and teaching us how to avoid getting into debt and how to save money. We learned the importance of giving every month as well. Thank you, Ms. Kathy!

Ms. Mary came to teach us how to make pillows. Fun was had and some great work was done by our youth members and they have been enjoying their new pillows that they made themselves. Thank you Ms. Mary! We still have our fall fun evening coming up and will share pictures from that next month. We are currently getting shoeboxes ready and still have a couple items on our wish list if anyone wants to help us out.

In November we have Veteran's Day luncheon and Friendsgiving coming up that we will team up with children's ministry for. We are looking forward to these joint events.

November 21 - 23 We will be traveling back to Pigeon Forge for the Hearts on Fire Youth Conference. Last year we had a great time and the youth asked to go back this year. We are looking forward to hearing the message from some great speakers and worship with Tauren Wells & Maverick City Music. It is going to be an amazing weekend.

November 28 Youth will be heading to Charlotte to help process shoeboxes at the Operation Christmas Child processing center. We have a few extra spots if anyone feels called to join us. We will leave at 12:00 PM for our shift 1:00-5:00 PM, then stop for dinner on our way back to the church.

November 30 will be our next 5th Sunday luncheon. Join us for soup, salad, rolls, and dessert right after service. Proceeds will be split between the youth retreat costs and the Angel Tree Event.



BRINGING HOPE TO CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS



I am excited to share about the Angel Tree program we will be participating in this year at Fair View. I know when you hear prison fellowship it may feel off-putting to some, but let us remember that Jesus calls us to be disciples to all, to love all, and to bring the Gospel to all.

The children of incarcerated parents did not ask to face this difficult time during the holidays, and we have the opportunity to be a light for them. I will be sharing more details after my kickoff meeting on October 1. For now, I can tell you that with this program you only purchase one \$20 gift for a child, and we will have a group of volunteers who will personally hand these gifts to the children and witness the impact we are making. This program also allows us to continue building relationships with these families throughout the year. I look forward to sharing more details once the kickoff has taken place.

— Danyel Williams

About Angel Tree® Christmas

Approximately 2.7 million children in America have an incarcerated parent - that's about one in 28. Many of these children experience heartache, loneliness, and shame. Angel Tree provides incarcerated parents with a pathway to strengthen and restore their relationships with their children and families.

Prison fellowship mobilizes local churches and community organizations to give hundreds of thousands of children a Christmas gift, the Gospel message, and a personal note of love on behalf of their incarcerated parent. In addition, many partner churches continue ministering throughout the year by meeting the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of prisoners' families through programs like camping and mentoring.

Angel Tree Christmas gives incarcerated parents a way to provide a Christmas gift and a personal message, delivered by caring local volunteers, as a tangible expression of their love. Every Angel Tree family also receives access to a free, easy-to-read copy of the Bible. And through the church, which embodies the hope and grace of the Gospel, families can continue to be supported throughout the year.



A big
THANK YOU goes
to Fair View from
Pack #173, Troop
#173 and Troop
#4173 for facility
use.

SCOUTING AROUND WITH CUB SCOUT PACK #173

By Bill Hicks

October was a busy month for the scouts, especially the new ones, as all worked hard in passing off requirements in their scout handbooks. Twenty-seven scouts are now registered with the Pack with 12 adult leaders.

Scouts that just joined this fall participated in a big countywide day event for Cub Scouts known as "Trail to Bobcat" that included teaching sessions to allow them to be awarded their first achievement in scouting. Also, each scout assembled a rocket and painted it, and then were assisted in launching it. Other learning and fun activities were done at the event.

The October pack meeting was held at the Coddle Creek School where the scouts received recognition for requirements they had completed. Another highlight of the meeting was all the scouts, parents and siblings coming dressed in Halloween costumes.

In addition to all the regular den and patrol meetings in November, the scouts will be placing American flags on the graves of veterans at Centre Presbyterian Church and at Fair View. The scouts and leaders will march in the Mooresville Veteran's Day Parade and Mooresville Christmas Parade.



On November 22 , the scouts will collect food for the annual Scouting for Food Drive for the Mooresville Christian Missions. The goal set by Pack #173 along with Troops #173 and #4173 is to collect more then the two pickup loads collected last year. Even with a successful fall roundup of new scouts, children in kindergarten thru 5th grade can still join the pack anytime during the year. Contact any scout leader you know or Bill Hicks at wchicks@hotmail.com or 704-650-1026 for information needed by anyone about joining scouts.

Be sure to pass this month's newsletter on to a friend. You never know, that might inspire them for a visit!

The Power of an Invitation

6-8% *Walked in by own initiative*

2-8% *Liked a program offered*

8-10% *Liked the pastor*

8-4% *Had a need met by the church.*

1-2% *Were Evangelized*

8-4% *Attracted by Sunday School*

70-85% *Invited by a relative or friend!*

Fair View UMC
P. O. Box 27
Mt. Mourne, NC 28123

TO: