

AUGUST 2026

The Flame

FAIRVIEW CHURCH



FROM PASTOR RYAN BEAVERS

Matthew 19:13-15

Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

This short story tells us something important about ourselves, as well as something important about Jesus.

About Us

We're certainly not as bad as the ancient culture surrounding Jesus, but sometimes we're still guilty of neglecting or diminishing the needs of children. We may assume their concerns pale in comparison to ours, or that maybe just don't measure up to the big issues of "the real world."

About Jesus

This story tells us that, even in a culture that valued children far less than we do now, Jesus was still adamant to see the next generation as having immense worth.

Why This Matters Now

Much to the disappointment of many kids and teenagers (and maybe to the delight of some parents!) school is getting ready to start back. Sometimes it's tempting to diminish a child's anxieties and angst during this season because it's just stuff we've all gone through. However, if we really thought about it, we might agree that childhood itself is markedly different today than it was when many of us were children. If we're really listening to our kids and teenagers, their issues and concerns are altogether unique and it would be a mistake to assume it's just stuff we've all gone through.

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What We're Going To Do About It

For all of these reasons (and more) we're going to take a special moment in our August 9 services for a "Blessing of the Backpacks." In the story from Matthew it seems that many parents wanted their children to receive a blessing from Jesus. The disciples, however, diminished these concerns. We're not going to repeat that mistake. I would encourage you to start praying even now for the kids, teenagers, college students, and teachers who are headed back to school.

School offers an environment for joy and learning and friendship and new experiences... Unfortunately, for some it also provides a space for bullying and comparison and anxiety and peer pressure.

On August 9 let's lift all of these concerns up to Jesus... who beckons the next generation (with their worries... big and small) to Him.

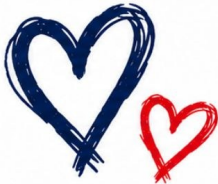
I'm here for it... I hope you are as well!

Ryan

MISSION: GIVE UPDATE FOR AUGUST

Because of your generosity and willingness to serve by donating items for our monthly projects, we will not have an August Missions: GIVE project. Because we are celebrating Random Acts of Kindness with our GO project today, we ask that you continue the movement by doing your own Random Acts of Kindness this month. Be a blessing by blessing others! Happy August!

FAIRVIEW CHURCH **MISSION:GO**

GET 
RAK'D

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Join us after worship on
August 2nd as we spread
random acts of kindness
throughout our local community.



OPEN TO ALL AGES
Everyone welcome!



TIME
12:30 PM – 4:00 PM



LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Together, we can share God's love
in practical ways.

REGISTER HERE





FAITH FAMILIES

"WE ARE GOD'S ACCOMPLISHMENT, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS TO DO GOOD THINGS. GOD PLANNED FOR THESE GOOD THINGS TO BE THE WAY THAT WE LIVE OUR LIVES." --EPHESIANS 2:10

It's hard to believe summer is winding down. Our children and teachers head back to school in just 2 weeks. Our children have a wide range of feelings about going back to school. Some look forward to being back with friends, others dread the routines of the school day. All of them are a little anxious about the new year beginning. As we talk together about this new beginning we claim God's promises. "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. (Phil 4:13) "Be Strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9) No matter where we go, God is with us. We can do hard things!

Do you ever wonder what the children do when they leave the sanctuary to continue in worship together? Godly Play is a worship experience for children grounded in the belief that our children are created in God's image and His spirit is at work in them, guiding them and teaching them, just as the Spirit guides and teaches adults. Godly Play trusts the promise that God's word is alive and active and changes lives. When children hear God's Word, the Holy Spirit works in their hearts drawing them into a relationship with God and teaching them to be in relationship with each other.



Our Godly Play Circle begins with lighting the Christ candle to remind us that whenever we gather to worship, Jesus is with us! The shelves in our Children's Chapel hold baskets of wooden figures, colorful fabrics and other pieces that tell the stories of scripture. Each basket is a story. The baskets are arranged from creation to Pentecost, to the stories of the early church.

Each Sunday, a story basket is chosen and the storyteller shares God's story using the materials in that basket. At the close of each story we wonder together about the characters and how God is at work in their lives and ours. After talking together about what the story might really mean for us, children have time to respond to the story using art materials in the studio, or using story materials to retell the story.



We close each session with a prayer circle. We keep a prayer journal to remember who we want to pray for and to celebrate when those prayers are answered. We close each session by "changing the light" As we extinguish the light we remember that the light of Christ isn't just in our Children's chapel. It's everywhere we go.

If you would like to experience worship with our children, contact Margaret Snider @ kids@gofairview.org and plan a visit. To explore more about Godly Play check out www.godlyplayfoundation.org.

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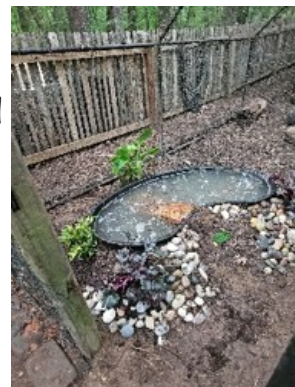
Telling others about the faith is a very important part of our faith. In this month's study **"Use Your Voice"** children will learn about ways others have used their voices to share their faith and be inspired to do so themselves. Children will learn that we each have unique and important ways of sharing our faith in God with others and begin to consider more ways they can use their voices.

J.U.M.P Kids on a Mission!



In July, we traveled to Jessica Driver's Turtle sanctuary to help build a new pond for turtles from Park Avenue School. We helped fill in around the pond and build a dirt ramp to give turtles access in and out. We also met the box turtles that live there at the sanctuary and some other interesting creatures.

We are looking forward to new mission projects each month this fall!



J.U.M.P Kids are building our Bible Skills! We are learning where different kinds of literature live in our Bible and how to find scriptures by their addresses. We are also exploring the important messages each book contains.



Raising Disciples Small Group

Our Raising Disciples small group began a new study, **Know Why You Believe**. Shawn Cleary is leading this study of our basic beliefs. We want to be equipped to give a strong answer as to WHY we believe. We want to help our children be ready when the world around them asks tough questions. There is still space for folks to join us in this study on Sunday mornings at 10:00.

End of Summer Schedule

Godly Play - Sundays @ 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Big Faith Sunday School - Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
J.U.M.P Kids - Sundays @ 4:00 - Learning to Use Our Bible
Supper & Swim Fellowship - Mondays 5:30 @ the Betterton/Rowland Home
Sunday, August 2 - Get RAK'd Project @ 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 8 - Potato Pick up for God's Storehouse @ 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 9- Blessing of the Backpacks at both services.

Email kids@gofairview.org to be added to our email list.

Follow [Fairview Church Kids](#) on Facebook to see what God is doing in our midst!

SUMMER FUN!





JOSH MARLOWE
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT
MINISTRIES
& CONTEMPORARY
WORSHIP

What a blessing all the rain has been recently! Who would have guessed that late July and early August would be the wettest part of the year so far?!?! Apparently, somebody prayed for rain and forgot to say, “That’s enough, Lord!” But after some of the dry weather we had earlier this summer, we are certainly thankful for it.

Speaking of blessings, we are also seeing some growth in ROOTS—and we are always thankful for that! We are seeing growth in the number of students coming and in the number of adults volunteering to help. Both are worth celebrating. Every new student represents another young person we have the opportunity to love, encourage, and point toward Jesus. Every new volunteer means another faithful adult is willing to invest in the next generation.

We are still going through our series called “**The Bible from 30,000 Feet.**” It is an overview of every book of the Bible and its major stories, showing our students how they all fit together to tell one big story.

Can you guess what that one big story is about?

Here comes the Sunday School answer...

JESUS!!!

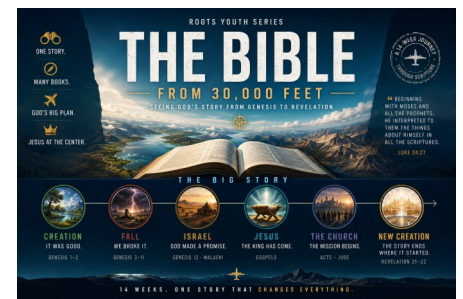
That’s right! From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is not a random collection of disconnected stories. It is one unified story about God’s plan to rescue and redeem His people through Jesus Christ.

So far, we have had some great discussions and heard some truly thought-provoking questions as we **cruise** through the Bible. See what I did there? *Cruise...Bible from 30,000 feet...* I thought it was funny, even if nobody else did.

We have also had a rotation of different people teaching the lessons. This allows our teenagers to hear other voices from within our church faithfully sharing God’s truth. Our students need to see that teaching, discipling, and sharing the gospel are not jobs reserved for the pastor or youth director—they are part of the calling God has given to His entire church.

Each lesson is modeled after an airplane flight. We have boarding announcements, a captain speaking to the passengers, and even in-flight snacks! So far, we have avoided turbulence, nobody has lost their luggage, and we have not had to make an emergency landing in Leviticus.

As fun as the theme may be, our prayer is serious: that our students will see that the Bible is not merely an old book filled with interesting stories. It is God’s Word, and every page points us toward Jesus. Paul writes that “**all things have been created through him and for him... and in him all things hold together**” (Colossians 1:16–17, NIV).



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That is true of creation, it is true of Scripture, and it is true of our lives. **Jesus is not simply one part of the story—He is the One who holds the whole story together.** And when life feels confusing, disconnected, or turbulent, we can trust the One who already knows the destination.

Thank you for continuing to pray for our students, our volunteers, and the ministry of ROOTS. Until next time, please keep your seatbelts fastened, your tray tables upright, and your Bibles open!

In His Service,
Josh Marlowe

BOOK NOOK

By Bobbie Nordon

We have 4 new books that will be added to our library for the month of August. A Slow Developing Story by Shae Layle. This is one of the mysteries of Lancaster County. A mystery about an old roll of undeveloped film that was discovered and everyone wants to get their hands on it. If you are in the mood for the classics we have The Complete Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway.



For our children, young people or the young at heart who love a good dog story we have Stella, a rescue dog by W. Bruce Cameron. We have also added The Most Scenic Drives in America for those who like to drive in their car or in their armchair as there are some very scenic pictures.

Happy Reading!

Potato Pick up

For God's Storehouse

Saturday, August 8 @ 8:00 a.m.

MEET AT THE OLD STONY MILL - 1653 STONY MILL RD

Wear shoes that can get muddy and bring a 5 gallon bucket if you have one.

For More Info Contact: Mary Betterton @ (434) 250-3324





HEATHER TAYLOR
DIRECTOR OF FAIRVIEW
PRESCHOOL

Wow! I can't believe our summer is almost over. It is a fun and sad time. New kids start, but our big kids go back to school. By the time you are reading this we will officially be Fairview Preschool. We are so excited for this change, and what the future holds. Great things are to come!

The preschool got its new floor. It made such a huge change and we absolutely love it. The teachers have all been excited to revamp their rooms for the new school year as well. If you are walking by, take a peek at the floors.



We had our pop-in state inspection a few weeks back. I am happy to say we had no violations. I am so proud of our team here at Fairview Preschool. We have some of the best teachers around and are so blessed. God is in the center of this preschool and it shows through each of their hearts.

Please pray for a safe and fun school year for us at Fairview Preschool. We can't wait to share all the fun throughout the year.

Much Love,

Heather



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>In-Person</u> <u>Worship</u>	<u>Online Worship*</u> <u>(YouTube)</u>	<u>Offering</u>
July 5	40/65	83	\$5,775.00
July 12	62/76	62	\$11,222.00
July 19	51/85	89	\$10,140.00
July 26	58/77	TBD	\$5,807.00

Average Weekly Giving in July 2026:
\$8,236.00

2026 Budget approved by Admin Board :
\$577,483.00

Average Weekly Giving Year to Date 2026:
\$8,062.57

2026 Weekly Contributions Needed to Meet Budget:
\$11,105.44

*Denotes views of online worship videos for the first week available for viewing.

YouTube views are multiplied by 1.5 to account for families watching together.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Wendy Brooks	7 Michele Holt	19 Jason Broyles
Lauren James	9 Parker Ashworth	20 Lindsey Brooks
Allison Beavers	Donnie Stevens	22 Miranda Harden
3 Forrest Burton	11 Nate Lewis	Jill Cleary
Barbara Nicholas	13 Dee McGibbon	24 Laura Ashworth
Peggy Soyars	14 Scott Thompson	Janet Ferrell
Ralph Fillion	Oleida Edge	26 Jackie Stevens
4 Evelyn Collins	16 Jody Broyles	John Hudson Thomas
Mary Betterton	17 Ronin Beaver	28 Emerson Davis
5 Anna Brooks Moore	18 Maggie Traynham	
Duane Davis	Carey Dallas	

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1st Julius & Sara Boles	18th Shawn & Miranda Harden
3rd David & Nancy Clark	19th Frank & Carol Black
10th Jonathan & Stacy Dillion	20th Bill & Sue Franklin
14th Rickey & Bettye Parker	

Fairview Church
1013 Westover Drive
Danville, Virginia 24541



Fairview Church is a Christ-centered, welcoming congregation that loves our community in visible and accountable ways.

STAFF:

REV. RYAN BEAVERS, SENIOR PASTOR

MARGARET SNIDER, DIR OF CHILDREN & FAMILY

JOSH MARLOWE, DIR YOUTH MINISTRIES/CONTEMP WORSHIP

DEBBIE DEANE, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

DEEDEE DILLARD, MUSIC DIRECTOR

HEATHER TAYLOR, DIRECTOR, FAIRVIEW PRESCHOOL

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