

“The Reminder”

Fairview Center Church
1495 90th Street, Monmouth, Illinois 61462

October 2026



Hi again.

It is hard to believe this will be my last newsletter article. For the past few years I have been thinking about what my last newsletter article should contain. Now that it is here, I am a bit lost for words. I will admit to being emotional about retiring and moving to North Georgia and leaving all of the wonderful folks here at Fairview Center and beyond. For Tina and I, you have been more than another congregation, you have become family. We have laughed a lot together, shed tears together, worked together to build God's Kingdom, struggled together to forge a new path forward and we have walked with each other experiencing life's ups and downs. Y'all have shown Tina, Megan and I tremendous love. I cannot express how much that means. When Sylvester contacted me about moving way up North, I honestly was not sure. However, Sylvester said something that has stuck with me for eleven years, he said "Fairview Center is not like any church you have ever served." Boy, was he ever right. Fairview Center is what a church should be. You put God first. You are about God's mission of helping your neighbors, anyone who is in need no matter where they live. You are about God's ministry, proclaiming Jesus Christ Crucified, Risen, and Returning. You love one another in thought, word and deed. Tina and I have truly been blessed during our time here at Fairview Center and are going to miss all of you very much. I know it is going to take a long while for us to find a new church home because we will compare each church we visit to Fairview Center. God has truly blessed me by allowing me to be your pastor and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing us to stay as long as we have.

My prayer for all the wonderful folks associated with Fairview Center is: May the Heavenly Father, out of the treasures of His glory, grant you inward strength and power through his Holy Spirit, that, through faith, Jesus Christ may dwell in your hearts in all love. With deep roots and firm

foundations may you be strong to grasp what is the breadth and length and height and depth of Christ's unconditional love. May you put on the garments that suit God's chosen and beloved people: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. May God himself, the God of peace, make you holy through and through, and keep you sound in spirit, soul and body, free of any fault when our Lord Jesus Christ comes. As I close my last newsletter article allow me to borrow a few words from Dolly Parton: If we should stay, we would only be in your way, so we'll go, but we know we'll think of you each step of the way, and we will always love you. Forever in our hearts. If y'all are ever in or around North Georgia stop by, come on in, take your shoes off and sit a spell.

Your fellow servants

Pastor Mark, Tina, Megan & Noodles

14068 Highway 225 N.

Crandall, GA. 30711

If you have an article, story, or picture to share in the Newsletter, please send it to:

fairviewcenter@gmail.com

No later than the 20th of the month.

Thank you!

As we continue to broadcast our Worship Service on Facebook Live, there are limitations on what can be streamed. There may be times that the sound will be muted on Facebook Live during the service because it is not legal to rebroadcast certain elements that are copyright protected or may be muted due to confidentiality issues. The sound will return once that part of the service has concluded.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

PLEASE JOIN US!

SUNDAY SCHOOL & WORSHIP

- Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.
- Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.
During the months of June-August, our Worship Service will be in, as weather permits, The Pavilion.
- We continue to offer our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on Facebook Live.
- Follow us on **facebook** at: Fairview Center.

Please check out the bulletin board in the educational hallway to see current newsletters from: Strom Center, Henderson Settlement, Galesburg Rescue Mission, Navigators, Athletes in Action and Long Journey in Thailand.

Fairview Center Church

United Women In Faith News:

Monday, October 12th: Mary Circle 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Hut for lunch.

Hostess: Carol Magnuson

Lesson Leader: Ruth Ellen Shimmin

Lesson: “THANKS FOR EVERY PART”, page 86. Our thank offering will be collected that day.

Wednesday, October 14th: Spiritual Growth Retreat, Nature Soul Care at Jensen Woods, Mounds Station, IL.

THANK YOU

Thank you all who donated money for the Blanket Sunday, which will go to Church World Services. We thank you for your generosity.

Thank you to all who donated gift cards for Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House and Cunningham Children’s Home. Also taken down to CCH was a beautiful quilt from the Sewing group plus a baby quilt that was sewn for their gift store. We know someone will be thrilled to receive those quilts. They truly are so grateful and appreciative of the gifts they receive. Thank you for caring!

Sandy Shimmin, President

Mary Circle of United Women in Faith

Quilters:

Fairview Center Quilters meet every Tuesday from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Alyce Jenks’ home.

Fairview Center Church Men’s News:

Sunday, October 18th: Men’s Devotional Group will meet at 8:00 a.m. Coffee and treats will be served.

Head Usher Schedule for the remainder of the year:

October - November 8th: Blake Burns

November 15th – December: Adam Martin

Thought for October

“If you see someone without a smile today, give ‘em yours.”

-Dolly Parton



Prayers & Concerns

Fairview Center is....**Prayerful!** In this world today, I think everyone would agree with me that there is a lot of prayer needed. Do I hear an amen? Please continue to pray for our country and its leaders, our military and their families, those who struggle with poverty and the homeless, Christians under persecution, our state and local government leaders, the lonely and disheartened, our elderly, healthcare providers, and those who have not experienced the joy of knowing Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. During worship we have also been praying for a number of people. Please continue to pray for:

Those affected by severe weather; political and civil unrest in our country; those battling cancer-families & caregivers; students, parents, and school personnel; and those with unspoken concerns.

Please help us keep this prayer and concern list up-to-date. Please let us know of a misspelled name. Also, let us know if someone has returned to good health. We want this list to be accurate and current. Send information to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com Thank you!

Jay & Alice Benoit	Dana Moon
Charlie Burns	Lindsay Murdock
Donald Canada	Kenny O'Brien
Russell Carlson	Steve Rennison
Mindi Allbee-Diemer	Craig Rima
Jane Dolieslager	Blaine Robinson
Diane Hawk	Lana Schiefer
Bonnie Inman	Eldon Sipes
Carol Jenks	Lane Sipes
Matthew Kuehn	Elaine Slaughty
Dorothy Long	Russell Stewart
Lowell Long	Barbara Goff Thomas
Lynn Long	Russell Trulson
Becky Marshall	Raven Vank
Raquel Mercer	Owen Wyatt
Jim McCrary	Joyce, Julie VanSike's mom
Mike McNall	

The homeless, afraid, and lonely.

Senseless violence throughout our country.

Senseless violence throughout the world.



If you have immediate need to prayer, please call Pastor Mark at 815-531-9081.

New devotionals are available:

UPPER ROOM - September & October (regular print)

UPPER ROOM - September & October (large print)

OUR DAILY BREAD - September/October/November (regular print)

These publications can be picked up on a table located in the Education Wing Hallway or on the table located inside the west entryway. If you would like one delivered to you, please send an email to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com or call the church at 309-734-2300. Tell us which devotional(s) you would like and the best time for them to be delivered.

Please help us keep the prayer list up-to-date.

Contact the church if you would like to add a name, make a correction or remove a name. *Thank you!*

“Celebrating Our Special Days”

October Birthdays

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mark Ray
Sid Vaughn | 17. Brad Clark |
| 2. Hallie Ray | 18. Ben Kulczewski |
| 3. Dalton Chenault | 19. Allen Parrish
Wayne Ray |
| 5. Kourtney Kay Brauhn
Amber (Martin) Postin | 20. Esther (Gibson) Liesemer
Aaron Robinson
Jeff Sprout |
| 6. Ed Folkerts | 21. Kristi Green
Allison Hamil |
| 7. Adam Crain
Ruth Ellen (Ault) Shimmin
Troy Sprout | 22. Freddy Allen
Cydney Henson
Sandra (Davis) Shimmin |
| 8. Kathy (Shimmin) Brauhn
Andrea (Jenks) Kozak
Bill Slater | 24. Brenda Clark
Lee Giddings
Sidney Stewart |
| 9. Donald Dolieslager
Kristen Robinson | 25. Will Ornduff |
| 10. Troy Calhoun
Cameron Postin
Bill Robinson | 26. Kim Olson
Hayden Postin |
| 11. Craig Long
John Curtis (Jace) Shimmin
Kent Stegall | 30. Debbie Farris |
| 13. Owen Postin | 31. Jill Henson
Jeff Place |
| 16. Kate Olson
Cody Winbigler | |

October Anniversaries

1. M/M Steve Vaughn '87
3. M/M Matthew Bradley '09
13. Nick & Allison (Lam) Janusz '12
14. M/M Tim Newman '88
15. Rev. Jim & Nichol Brown '73
23. Clint & Jennifer Smock
26. Craig & Kathy (Tate) Sheagren
28. M/M Kent Stegall



October Baptism Birthdays

Emma Anderson 10-03-2010
 Kimberly Jo (Shimmin) Crain 10-19-1969
 Kenneth Higbee 10-08-2006
 Carsyn Long 10-21-2012
 Adam Robinson 10-30-1983

Happy heavenly birthday to all our family and friends.

“Your life was a blessing,
 your memory a treasure.
 You are loved beyond words
 and missed beyond measure.”
 - Renee Wood

Please notify the church office of any names which need to be added, corrected, or removed.

Thank you!



On Sunday, August 23, before church service we held our first OCC Shoebox packing event in the Pavilion. A crowd of 46 church members and guests helped pack 150 Shoeboxes. Mason and Owen brought a few of their fellow school friends/football team members to help us with this special ministry. It was a great, and meaningful way to start off our Sunday service.

The afternoon of August 30th was our second OCC Shoebox packing event. This took place in the Fellowship Hall and we packed shoeboxes for 80 girls. Each box contained one of the beautiful pillow case dresses that were handcrafted by Velda with finishing touches added by the Quilters.



The Church Mouse asked our Youth these questions. What amazing and awesome answers they gave! Parents, you should be PROUD!

How do you feel when you pack an OCC Shoebox?

- *It makes me feel good and shows me how lucky we are and if this is a way to make them feel loved then it makes me feel very good.*
- *I feel grateful that we get the opportunity to give such loving gifts to others.*
- *It makes me feel good and happy to be sharing the love and gospel.*
- *I feel excited to pack an OCC Shoebox because I know how much it means to them!*

How do you think the boy or girl who opens our boxes feels?

- *I think the boy or girl feels extremely grateful & happy when they open an OCC box.*
- *I'd like to think they'd feel happy and loved!*
- *I can imagine that those kiddos feel so loved and happy that they were able to receive a gift and all for themselves.*
- *They are probably very excited and can't wait to use all their new stuff they just received and they can't wait to show everyone else.*

If the size of the box was not an issue, what would you put in the box?

- *If the size of the box was not an issue and shipping cost was no problem, I would put roller skates in the box.*
- *If the size of the box was not an issue, I'd probably put more clothes, toys, even shoes in there!*

Fairview Center is Host to the Warren – Henderson Farm Bureau's 4th Grade Ag Day



The Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau held its annual 4th Grade Ag Educational Day at Fairview Center on September 10th. Area 4th graders from ICS, Monmouth-Roseville, United, and West Central rotated through 7 different stations: Soil & Fertilizer, Machinery, Dairy, Sheep, Corn, Beef, and Soybeans.

Our very own Jared and Stan taught the Machinery Station where the students enjoyed learning about a combine.

Craig taught the students all about corn! From planting to combining.

Despite the gloomy weather, the students and teachers learned a lot and were very appreciative of the efforts of everyone who helped put this event on.



"Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful and most noble employment of man." – George Washington

United Women In Faith Sunday

Sunday, August 20th was United Women in Faith Sunday and Blanket Sunday. Ruth Ellen Shimmin lead our service.

Our Mary Circle is sure a busy group! The list of ministries they support is impressive! Lessie Bates Neighborhood Home, Cunningham Children's Home, Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Jamieson Community Center, Teen Recharge Center, Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank, Gifts for Baby Jesus, OCC Shoeboxes, and the FCC Comfort Quilts were some of the organizations Ruth Ellen mentioned that were supported by the FCC Mary Circle.

From close to home to across the globe, our Mary Circle works hard to collect items, make items, and contribute monetary donations for their missions.

On behalf of the Mary Circle, Ruth Ellen thanked the congregation for all their support and stated the group is so appreciative of all our donations.



“To share Jesus with others & to praise God”

*Ruth Ellen Shimmin
on the purpose of United Women in Faith*



\$334 was the total collected on Blanket Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this cause.



Thank You Fairview Center Church

Dear Friends,

Thank you for helping us lift our community through connection, compassion and service. Your donation of \$150 will help families utilizing our general program and your donation of 160 pounds of food in July will help families utilizing our food pantry program. As costs associated with daily living continue to rise, your gift ensures no one is turned away.

Many of us have the luxury of taking things for granted: a home to live in; water to drink, bathe, and do laundry; and plenty of food on our tables. For many of the people we serve, having the basics in place is a struggle. They are working families. The money simply does not stretch far enough to pay all the bills necessary for day-to-day living.

When basic needs are met for every person, our community is healthier and better. Thank you for the role you play in helping us lift our community.

Sincerely,
Nancy Mowen,
Executive Director



Fairview Center Church October Events:

Sunday, October 4th: Holy Communion Sunday

Monday, October 12th: Mary Circle 11:30 am at Pizza Hut in Monmouth.

Sunday, October 18th: Men's Devotional Group 8:00 a.m.

Below is a list of items that the Quilters have packaged up to send to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on September 20th;

- 1 - Shower Bench
- 12 - Baby washcloths
- 12 - Cover with Love Quilts
- 4 - Receiving blankets
- 26 - One-handle bags
- 44 - Girl pads (small)
- 3 - Bibles
- 12 - Water proof zipper bags
- 4 - 3-6 Month baby sleepers

Hand in Hand Delivering God's Grace



Breaking News!

Guatemala is the destination of our rice bags.

We were notified by MMDC that the 847 rice bags from our "Blessing In A Bag" mission event held on March 29th, 2026, were sent to Guatemala.



Saturday Nite Alive in Jesus

Southern Gospel Music Group Concert Series

First Church of God
1080 Harrison Street, Galesburg, IL
309-343-2179

SALTLIGHT

Saturday, October 10th



We play and create music to glorify God and point people to the truth of the Gospel message. Matthew 5:13-16 calls us, as Christ followers, to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, which we hope to display through our music,

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Food will be served before the concert.

Concert begins at 6:30 p.m.

Free will offering will be collected to cover expenses of this ministry.

Church Mouse Had A Sit Down Interview With Pastor Mark & Tina



The Church Mouse thought it would be fun to play “Who Said It?”
The following questions were asked to Pastor Mark and Tina.
Here are their answers.

Pastor Mark's answers.



Favorite Bible Verse? Psalm 116

Favorite Hymn? Hard to pick just one, I like most Hymns. Amazing Grace, Silent Night.

Favorite Book of the Bible? Jeremiah.

Favorite Bible Story? Jeremiah 13, God tells Jeremiah to buy a linen loincloth and wear it around town so everyone can see it. Then God tells Jeremiah to hide it in a crevice in the rocks. After a long while Jeremiah is to retrieve it and wear it. It symbolizes the wickedness of Judah and Jerusalem.

Favorite VBS theme? Power UP! With the Holy Spirit (Summer 2026).

Favorite Christmas carol? I like all the Christmas hymns, probably “Mary Did You Know” and “Silent Night” are my top two.

What has been your favorite or most memorable sermon? Wow, there have been so many sermons, many of which have not been that memorable. I would say either Christmas Eve the Shepherd’s Story or Maundy-Thursdays message Jesus is the honey in the rock.

Favorite or most memorable Children’s sermon? The one with fire that scared Amber.

Most memorable thing to have happened during a sermon? Hands down, it happened at our first appointment. A young girl, Stormy Dawn Donovan was being potty trained. Stormy’s mom took her to the bathroom. On the way Stormy stopped where her Aunt was sitting and informed her, she had to poop. Stormy and her mom were gone for 7-10 minutes. When they returned Stormy’s mom had a hold of Stormy’s hand. As they were about to enter the sanctuary, Stormy shook off her mom and ran to her Aunt. Stormy announced that she had pooped a whole bunch in the potty and it was big. Measuring with her hands shoulder width apart. Needless to say, after Stormy’s announcement, which echoed throughout the church, we had prayer and went home.

Most memorable Christmas or Easter Program? Megan was two or three; it was the first time she was an angel in the Christmas program. Megan was to lead Joseph and Mary to the manger, carrying a big star on a stick. As they were standing in their assigned places, Megan’s little arms got tired and the star hit Joseph in the head, Megan thought that was fun so she kept hitting Joseph with the star, until the play director took the star away from Megan. That was the only time Megan was an angel.

Who do you think should have won the “Turkey of the Year Award” but didn’t? Everyone at Fairview Center is an excellent choice for Turkey of the Year.

Favorite “Fairview Center” tradition or event or thing about the church? Christmas at Plonka Terrace and Community Care Days.

Most favorite event that you enjoyed participating /attending in the Pavilion? VBS, anything in the pavilion. Most of all Russell and Maxine’s 70th wedding anniversary celebration.

What will you miss most about west central Illinois? Everything but winter and the trains.

Favorite potluck food dish? Anything Jared cooks, it is so good.

Favorite season of the year? Not winter.

What super hero trait would you like to have had during a sermon? The abilities of Professor X. Professor X has world class intelligence and telepathic ability. Use the telepathic ability to help folks open their ears, open their eyes and open their hearts to God and the needs around them.

Favorite mission moment/fundraiser done by the church? A lot of good and creative ones, hard to choose. The Church Mouse does an amazing job coming up with fundraiser themes.

Do you prefer pie or cake? Yes, to both. **Do you prefer soup or casserole?** Yes, to both. **Do you prefer fried or scrambled eggs?** Only scrambled.

When is the ideal time to put up a Christmas tree? When Tina says it is time to put up the Christmas tree.

When is the ideal time to take down a Christmas tree? When Tina says it is time to take down the Christmas tree.

Favorite Bible Verse? Philippians 4:13, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, and Jeremiah 33:3

Favorite Hymn? “Be Thou My Vision” and “Victory in Jesus”.

Favorite Book of the Bible? James

Favorite Bible Story? Queen Esther – For such a time as this.

Favorite VBS theme? Joshua 1:9. I have to choose a recent VBS theme, as my memory fails. Joshua 1:9 (Love that Verse) but the Western themed Ballad of Davey on the life of David is very memorable also.

Favorite Christmas carol? “Silent Night”.

What has been your favorite or most memorable sermon? Mark’s sermon from Isaiah 6:1-8 and another from Ezekiel 47 about going into deep waters.

Favorite or most memorable Children’s sermon? The first Sunday here at Fairview Center-not for the content but for the kids’ reception of it and the interaction between pastor & kids.

Most memorable thing to have happened during a sermon? During a sermon at Greenwood UMC, Stormy Dawn Donovan, a toddler, entering the sanctuary after a trip to the bathroom, ran from her mother to the front of the church where Aunt Leona was sitting and proudly (and loudly) informed her, ‘ I made a long poop in the big potty!’ Then Stormy ran back to her very red-faced mother standing in the aisle about ½ way to the front, unable to catch her in time to avoid the announcement.

Most memorable Christmas or Easter Program? The 2025 Christmas program because it was so simple, involved so many people, had humor but was still meaningful.

My ALL time favorite memory from the past: When Megan was 3 years old she had her first opportunity to be an angel in a Christmas program. She carried a large yellow wooden star on a sign stick to hold over the stable. As the star became heavy, it fell to the side and hit Joseph on the head. Joseph tried not to notice. Megan decided that hitting Joseph was a fun distraction and did it again and again until the director had to step in and take the star away.

Favorite “Fairview Center” tradition or event or thing about the church? My favorite thing about Fairview Center is being part of the Fairview Center church family. The congregation truly feels like a family. I love that FCC cares not only for each other but reaches out in Christ’s love within our community and around the world. The sewing group creates beautiful comfort quilts, Cover them with Love quilts for MMDC, quilts for Cunningham Children’s Home kids. Pillow case dresses, school bags, sustainable period kits and so much more. I love that the congregation is generous in supporting a variety of missions – JCC, OCC Shoeboxes, MMDC, Community Cares, well pumps for Africa, backpacks and more for STARS, food drive and so much more.

I will never forget that we arrived two weeks before the Cameron tornado in 2015 and how so many from our church volunteered in the clean-up. I barely knew many names yet, but when I called and relayed the need for salads, side dishes, desserts for Cameron Christian Church, every single person I called brought whatever was requested and I delivered loads of food daily.

VBS, outdoor worship and shared meals are a summer highlight. Turkey of the Year as part of the Thanksgiving tradition is truly unique and a fun, special time. We had a blast when we were able to “create an awards show” to pass on the outstanding trophy.

Watching the children and youth grow over the past 11 ½ years has been a joy. I observed from the beginning how the children showed care toward each other. That is still true at FCC.

Fairview Center Church family shows up, they support one another, strive to live as the hands and feet of Christ and share His love. Being part of this church family is what I love most about Fairview Center. You all will always be a part of my heart.

Most favorite event that you enjoyed participating /attending in the Pavilion? Besides VBS, Russell & Maxine’s 70th Wedding anniversary celebration.

What will you miss most about west central Illinois? Our Fairview Center Church family and the fellowship and love here.

Favorite potluck food dish? I had never heard of ham balls before we came here, but I like them – even better than ham. I also vote for the raw veggies and dip.

Favorite season of the year? Autumn

Tina’s answers continued on page 11



Favorite mission moment/fundraiser done by the church? Silence the Pastor was great! The Church Mouse has been very creative with fundraising ideas and props. The Bacon eating contest was pretty creative also as a mission fundraiser. I also loved preparing brunch for the Period Kit Packing for Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank. I thought we had a good time assembling kits. OCC Shoebox packing is a highlight of the fall because of the participation of the whole congregation. Rice Meal packing is a fun all-church event too.

When is the ideal time to take down a Christmas tree? January 1st or a few days after.

C. Golden Calf

J O K E

CORNER

1. What's easy to get into but hard to get out of?
2. How is a baseball team similar to a pancake?
3. What do you call a cold dog?

You will need a mirror to read the answers!

1. Trouble 2. They both need a good batter 3. A chilli dog

PASTOR

One who loves God and others deeply

- *Anonymous*

You will be missed!

“For many people,
you are the only Bible
they’ll ever read.
So make sure your life
reflects Jesus.

- *Anonymous*

Fairview Center Church
1495 90th Street
Monmouth, Illinois 61462
Church Office: 309-734-2300
Email: fairviewcenter@gmail.com
Website: fairviewcenter.org
Visit us on Facebook: Fairview Center Church
Pastor Mark Canada
Parsonage Address: 1493 90th Street, Monmouth, Illinois 61462
Pastor's Cell: 815-531-9081
Pastor's email: ubnmission2@gmail.com

SEE YOU IN CHURCH



Mission Statement:

God's Servants – John 13:1-11; **Celebrating Christ** – Luke 15:11-32;
Sharing His Love – Matthew 22:34-14; **Making Disciples** – Matthew 28:16-20

