

“The Reminder”

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

March 2026

“A wicked person’s talk is prompted by sin in his heart; he sees no need to fear God.” Psalm 36:1.
“The heart is deceitful above any other thing, desperately sick; who can fathom it?” Jeremiah 17:9.

Hi again.

How many of you remember the story of Beauty and the Beast? My guess is most of us. What would have happened to the Beast if Beauty had not shown up? We know the story. There was a time when the Beast was handsome and his castle was well maintained. All this was before the curse, before the shadows fell across the heart of the prince and before the shadows fell upon the castle. When the darkness came, he sheltered in-place in his castle. He hid away. He was left with a snout and curly tusks and a very bad temper. All that changed when Beauty showed up. What would have happened if she had not shown up? What would have happened if she had not cared? Who would have blamed her for not caring? After all, she was gorgeous and contagiously kind. He was hairy, drooling, roaring and defying. In short, he was a very bad tempered soul. Who would have blamed her if she had not cared? But she did care. And because Beauty loved the Beast, the Beast became more beautiful himself.

This story is very familiar, not because there are countless books, movies and plays. It is familiar because it reminds us of US! There is a beast in each of us. It has not always been like this. There was a time when humanity’s face was beautiful and our palace was pleasant. That was before the curse, before the shadow fell across the Garden of Eden, before the shadow fell across Adam’s heart. Ever since the curse, we have been different. Beastly, ugly, defiant and angry. We do things we know we should not do and we wonder why we did them. We get angry with other drivers. We yell unkind things at referees, make obscene gestures, make scenes in public because we had to wait or did not get our way. We throw tantrums, just because we can. Yep, there is a beast in all of us. After we do such things, conviction surfaces. Why did I do that? The apostle Paul had similar struggles. “I do not do what I want to do, and I do the things I hate,” Romans 7:15.

Ever felt like saying those words? If you have, you are in good company. Paul is not the only person in the Bible who wrestled the beast within. King Saul chasing young David with a spear. Shechem raping Dinah. Dinah’s brother murdering Shechem and his friends. Lot selling out to Sodom and then getting out of Sodom. Herod murdering Bethlehem toddlers. Another Herod murdering Jesus’ cousin. If the Bible is called the Good Book, it is not because its people are. The evil of the beast was never so raw as on the day Christ died.

The disciples were first fast asleep, then fast afoot. Herod wanted a show. Pilate wanted out. The soldiers wanted blood, so they scourged Jesus. The legionnaire’s whip consisted of leather straps with lead balls on each end. The goal was to beat the accused within an inch of his death and then stop. Thirty-nine lashes were allowed but seldom needed. A centurion monitored the prisoner’s status. No doubt Jesus was near death when his hands were untied and he slumped to the ground. The whipping was the first deed of the soldiers. The crucifixion was the third. I will get to the second one in a minute. Though his back was bruised and bloodied, the soldiers probably placed the crossbeam on Jesus’ shoulders and marched him to the Place of the Skull for execution. We cannot fault the soldiers for these two actions. After all, they were just following orders. However, what happened in between is a bit harder to understand. Here is what Matthew says: He then released Barabbas to them; but he had Jesus flogged, and then handed him over to be crucified.

Pastor Mark’s Message continued on page 11

Mission Statement:

God’s Servants - John 13:1-11; **Celebrating Christ** - Luke 15:11-32;

Sharing His Love - Matthew 22:34-40; **Making Disciples** - Matthew 28:16-20

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.
- ◆ We continue to offer our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service on Facebook Live.
- ◆ Follow us on [facebook](#) at Fairview Center Church.

Please take a look at the small 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.



Visit our Church Library! There are lots of great books to read!

Fairview Center Church

Fairview Center Women's News:

Monday, March 9th: Mary Circle meets at 1:00 p.m.

Hostess: Kay Jenks

Lesson Leader: Sandy Shimmin

Lesson: " Mapping Our Meanders", page 26.

Heartseekers: March 20 & 21, 2026 at Bethel Baptist Church, Galesburg, IL.

Speaker: Margaret Feinberg, host of the popular podcast, The Joycast.

Registration brochures are on the main bulletin board. Registration due no later than March 10, 2026.

Thursday, March 26th: Illinois Great Rivers Conference West District

Personal Growth Seminar at Bethel Wesley UMC, 1201 13th St. Moline, IL

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Hospitality and Program 10:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

Bring finger foods to share for the lunch. Program is titled, Under the Skin.

The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives, and on the Health of our Nation by Linda Villarosa.

Fairview Center Church Men's News:

Sunday, March 15th: Men's Devotional Group will meet at 8:00 a.m.

Donuts and coffee will be served.

Fairview Center Church

2026 Head Usher Upcoming Schedule

February 15th - March: Dan Green
 April - May 10th: Tom Jenks
 May 17th -June: Craig Long
 July - August 9th: Chad Long
 August 16th - September: Brian Postin
 October - November 8th: Blake Burns
 November 15th - December: Adam Martin

Thought for March:

I still believe in *Amazing Grace* that there is **Power in the Blood** that **He Walks** with me and **He Talks** with me that because **He Lives**, I can face tomorrow all because of the **Old Rugged Cross**.

Submitted by Ruth Ellen

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 the COVID virus; 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
 Josie Blake
 Heidi Brown
 Charlie Burns
 Donald Canada
 Russell Carlson
 Minda Allbee-Diemer
 Jane Dolieslager
 Glenn Evitts
 Diane Hawk
 Bonnie Inman
 Carol Jenks
 Matthew Kuehn
 Becky Marshall
 Raquel Mercer
 Jim McCrary
 Emily Ray McIntyre

Mike McNall
 Dana Moon
 Lindsay Murdock
 Kenny O'Brien
 Steve Rennison
 Craig Rima
 Blaine Robinson
 Lana Schiefer
 Eldon Sipes
 Lane Sipes
 Elaine Slaughter
 Russell Stewart
 Barbara Goff Thomas
 Russell Trulson
 Raven Vank
 Owen Wyatt
 Joyce, Julie VanSlike's mom

The homeless, afraid, and lonely.
 Those with unspoken concerns.
 Those devastated world wide by severe weather.
 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 - March & April (regular print)

UPPER ROOM - March & April (large print)

OUR DAILY BREAD - March/April/May (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.

Let's celebrate!
Happy Birthday and Anniversary!

March Birthday's



March Anniversaries

1. Alyce Jenks
Jill Jenks
2. Emily Higbee
Brian Mohr
4. Jenna (Stewart) Phillips
5. Jeffery Long
7. Nancy Clark
Teresa Kuhnkey
8. D.L. Poole
Tia Tatman
11. Kristie Murdock
12. Elijah Barksdale
Jeremy Sprout
13. Chris Gaines
Joseph Slater
14. Janice Poole
15. Stephenie (Shimmin) Gambetta
19. Hank Shimmin
20. Heather Fillman
Alice Morales
21. Julia Conard
22. André Koorsen
23. Jacob Procino
24. Gracelyn Ogden
25. Tony Crain
26. Melissa Poole
27. Owen Jenks
28. Julie (Jenks) Kettmann
Luke Long
Cindy Mohr
Mandy Studer
29. Carrie Shimmin
Lane Sipes
Todd Sprout
30. Quinn Kettmann
31. Laura Conard
Carrie Flatt
Mary (Kuppler) Heller

14. M/M Jim Slater '98
30. M/M Russell Carlson



- Emma Poole 03.05.2000
Nicole Poole 03.05.2000
Ada Kunkle 03.06.2011
Susan Higbee 03.12.1961
Regina (Long) Sanberg 03.14.1993
Kimberly Long 03.19.1987
Lauren Higbee 03.20.2011
Janet (Conway) Sipes 03.24.1940
Judy (Jenks) Gilliland 03.25.1951
George Sprout 03.25.1951
Stephen Shimmin 03.28.1948
Krista (Jenks) Burns 03.29.1981

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!

Fairview Center Church

March Events:

Sunday, March 1st: Holy Communion Sunday.

Sunday, March 8th: Daylight Savings Time begins! Move clocks **FORWARD** one hour.

Friday, March 13th: Fairview Center Church leads the Lenten Lay Breakfast at Strom Center 6:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 15th: The Education Committee will meet following morning worship.

Sunday, March 29th: Palm Sunday.

Sunday, March 29th: All Church luncheon and Blessing Bag Pack Event after church service.

April Events:

Thursday, April 2nd: Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm at FCC. Pastor Mark will be giving the message.

First UMC will be joining us for the service. Holy Communion will be served.

Friday, April 3rd: Good Friday.

Sunday, April 5th: Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion.

Western Illinois Area on Aging- Advisory Council Opening

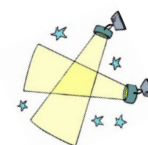
The Western Illinois Area on Aging (WIAAA) is seeking individuals interested in planning for the needs of older adults in a ten-county area of western Illinois to serve as Advisory Council members. Council members act in an advisory capacity to the WIAAA Board of Directors and staff. The Council assists in determining priorities, identifying problem areas and needs and defining agency goals.

Currently there are three openings, one in each region. The regions are Region One Rock Island, Mercer, and Henry Counties. Region Two Bureau, Putnam, and LaSalle Counties. Region Three Knox, Warren, McDonough, and Henderson Counties.

Advisory Council meetings are conducted four times a year at the WIAAA office in Rock Island. Milage is reimbursed. Interested parties should contact Amy Phillips for an application at 309-793-6800, or aphillips@wiaaa.org.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR AMAZING YOUTH!

CONGRATULATIONS to our AMAZING Youth!



First semester 2025 - 2026 Honor Rolls from United and ICS were announced at the beginning of the year and our Youth were recognized for achieving the requirements to be named to the list!

Congrats! We are PROUD of all of you!



Aiden Martin named to the 2026 IHSA All-State Academic Honorable Mention Team.

Every IHSA member school was invited to nominate one male and one female student for this honor. The IHSA All-State Academic Team includes 26 members and 50 honorable mention recipients. The students chosen for this honor are recognized for their excellence in academics, athletics and citizenship.

CONGRATULATIONS Aiden for this prestigious honor!

Thank you Fairview Center Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your gift to Midwest Mission Matters...maybe even more than you realize! Your recent donation of 91 onesies, 16 sleepers, 4 baby outfits, 21 receiving blankets, 61 baby washcloths, 4 baby hats, 1 bib, 2 baby slacks, light jacket, 52 small pads, 50 diaper pins, 7 birthing kits, 2 compression systems, 2 stethoscopes, 3 creams and 3 Cover Them With Love Quilts to our ministry allows live change to happen. We are reminded, especially right now, how much difference each person's contributions makes. We were able to send a shipment to Jamaica, only three days after Hurricane Melissa brought unprecedented devastation and catastrophic damage to those in her path.

Because you and others give to Midwest Mission, we are able to swiftly move into action when disasters hit. We know for those in Jamaica, and in other areas we serve, the help has to be ongoing. It is never a sprint, always a marathon. The devastation will take years of healing, helping and providing hope and empowerment. We can't always plan for disasters in advance, but God always knows the timing. He multiplies your gifts and allows us to steward them in the best ways possible to make the biggest impact today and tomorrow.

Your support is not a simple monetary gift; it is a vote of confidence in our mission to show God's love in practical ways and to partner together to turn resources into humanitarian aid. We cannot thank you enough for choosing to partner with Midwest Mission. We cannot do it without you! We are grateful for you!

Be Blessed,

Chantel Corrie, Executive Director



Dear Fairview Center Church,

We are so grateful that you made the decision to partner with Friends of WATS in supporting the ministries of West Africa Theological Seminary (WATS). Donors give so students can receive scholarships to further their education as pastors, evangelists, missionaries, teachers, music ministries, film ministries, and so much more. Others give toward special needs and projects. Through all donations the Gospel of the Kingdom of God has increased and been enriched as He used the faculty, students, and staff of WATS to take what they learn at the Seminary and go forth, spreading the Gospel in their churches, communities, on mission fields, and beyond. Your love, prayers and financial support have been used of God in mighty ways.

Thank you!



Dear Friends,

Thank you for investing in our community through Jamieson Community Center. Your donation of \$750 will be used for our general fund. 2025 proved to be a challenging year for people in our community, with more than 1,000 families served by our pantry. Other programs saw similar increases. Because of people like you, no one was turned away.

I had a chance to connect with many of our families during our Community Christmas Store. I was reminded that while I many think a person looks fine on the outside, things may not be fine at all. Whether they faced illness, homelessness, or even the death of a child, their stories weigh heavy on my heart, I admire their courage in the face of the obstacles they work to overcome. They were so grateful for ALL of the people in our community who make the store possible. Not only would their children have a good Christmas, but each parent who stopped left feeling valued and lifted through the compassion and generosity.

When basic needs are met for every person, our community is healthier and better. Thank you for the role you play in lifting neighbors in need through compassion, kindness and service.

Sincerely,

Nancy Mowen, Executive Director



Fairview Center's all call system: Call-Em-All

Our Call-Em-All messaging system provides the church with the ability to notify all on the call list of important information: prayer requests, special services at the church or Pavilion, important meetings of the church, weather related announcements, etc. If the message will not play through because it is repeating, press the number **1** and that should correct the problem. If you miss a call or would like to listen to the last message sent to you call: **(877) 565-8456**.

If you are not receiving the calls and would like to be on the call list, please let the church office know and your phone number will be entered into the system. Email your name and phone number to: fairviewcenter@gmail.com or leave a note on the desk in the church office.



Graduation is Right Around the Corner!

As in the past, we would like to recognize our **amazing students** in the May Newsletter who will be promoting from the 8th grade, and graduating from high school/college in 2026. If you would like your student recognized, please email the church, or leave the following information on the office desk by April 6th:

- ◆ Students name (First, Middle initial, Last)
- ◆ Parents name, and you may include the proud grandparents too!
- ◆ Name of school promoting from and the name of the high school your student will be attending.
- ◆ Name of high school or college student is graduating from.
- ◆ Student's plans after high school graduation (name of college/university, trade school or employment) or Plans after college graduation (more schooling, job, travel, undecided).



Eugene & Marcelyn L. Miller
Fairview Center Church Scholarship Fund
Eligibility

- The application shall be available to any high school senior or college student currently enrolled in college.
- The applicant must be an active member of the Fairview Center Church.
- The applicant must be applying to or attending an accredited college, university, community college or technical school.
- The applicant must submit a written essay to the Memorial Committee explaining why they wish to attend college and what they aspire to do with the education received.
- The applicant must also outline what Fairview Center Church has meant to them and how it has influenced their life.
- The recipient will be expected to send a yearly report to the Memorial Committee indicating how the scholarship was used in funding their education.
- Applications must be submitted to the Pastor and Memorial Committee by **Friday, May 1, 2026**.
- The winner of the scholarship shall be announced on Graduate Recognition Sunday.

If no person is applying as a high school graduating senior then the scholarship will be open to any applicant currently attending an accredited college, university, community college or technical school with preference being given to current freshman, then sophomore, then juniors, then seniors, then students in graduate studies.

THEN & NOW



The year: 2016

Pictured sitting are Delaney and Nolan.

Standing: Landon, Aiden, and AJ.

"We take photos as a return ticket to a moment otherwise gone."

Katie Thurmes

Nice to have our two college students home for the Christmas Break!

Picture Recreated on December 28, 2025!

The Church Mouse thought it would be FUN to recreate the photo since all our students were together for worship on Sunday morning!

Delaney-Senior at UHS.

Nolan-Senior at UHS.

Landon-Sophomore at Bradley University.

Aiden-Senior at UHS.

AJ-Junior at the University of Illinois.



Two of the greatest gifts we can give our children are roots and wings.

Hodding Carter

If you would like to view the Newsletter in color then visit our website! fairviewcenter.org

Congratulations Alex & Dalton!

New Beginnings at Fairview Center Church!

On Sunday, January 4, 2026, Alex Hofmann and Dalton Chenault became the FIRST members of the new Fairview Center Church.

On Sunday, January 11th, they celebrated their marriage at the church. The happy couple also made another first; The FIRST wedding in the new Fairview Center Church!

Congratulations

Mr. & Mrs. Chenault!



We at Fairview Center Church rejoice with you as you begin this beautiful life journey together.

*May Christ be at the center of your marriage,
and may your days be strengthened by His word,
and filled with joy that comes from following and
walking in His love.*



The UWF and Quilters Have Been Busy!

Another Load of Items Sent To MMDC

On Wednesday, January 14, 2026 our friends Merlin & Edith Ray delivered the following items that were donated from the Mary Circle's "Gifts For Baby Jesus" event held in December and items made by the Quilting Group.

Gifts For Baby Jesus

1 stocking hat
9 sleepers
3 short sleeved onesies
1 long sleeved onesies
3 long sleeved t-shirts
1 long sleeved t-shirt
1 long sleeved onesies
3 leggings
1 set of short sleeved onesies & cargo pants
8 receiving blankets

Quilting Group

4 Cover Them With Love Quilts
8 receiving blankets
23 baby wash cloths
24 small feminine pads