



AUGUST 2025

CHAPEL BELLS

A Letter From The Pastor

BY KEVIN ANDERSON

Years ago, I read a story about a woman who bought a new car. It was loaded with high-tech options. The first time she drove the car in the rain; she turned a knob she thought would start the windshield wipers. Instead, a message flashed across the dash: "Drive car in 360 degrees." She had no idea what that meant, and so when she got home, she read the car manual. She learned that while trying to turn on the windshield wipers she had inadvertently turned off the internal compass, and the car had lost its sense of direction. To correct the problem, the car had to be driven in a full circle, pointed north, and then the compass had to be reset!

Each time we gather to worship as a church, we are essentially resetting our internal compass. We place ourselves in the presence of a holy God, who establishes "true north" for us. Why do we need a "reset?"

- Worry and anxiety overwhelm us.
- Shame and guilt weigh heavy on us.
- Discouragement stagnates us.
- Fear of the future immobilizes us.
- We live as if we are the "true north" of our lives rather than the eternal God who has revealed Himself to us as Father, Son and Spirit.



A Letter From The Pastor continued...

Author Tim Keller in his devotional, *The Songs of Jesus*, points out how Psalm 95 gives us elements of worship, which I see as foundational for resetting our lives. First, we come to praise God our Creator -

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. (Ps. 95:1-4)

Second, we come humbly to confess our sin before Him -

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. (Ps. 95:5-7)

And third, we come to listen to the One who leads us –

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known my ways." Therefore, I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest." (Ps. 95:8-11)

I hope to see you Sunday (or "Reset Day!") for another opportunity for God to reset your life!

Kevin



Our Pathfinders Student Ministry recently attended Centrifuge Camp at Ridgecrest Conference Center July 14-18. Six students enjoyed the challenging Bible studies, amazing recreation time, and powerful worship, learning how to “Live in the Light!”



*Thank
you*

"Dear Chapel Family, I want to thank you all so much from the Board of Elders for their support to those who have given me rides for various appointments & groceries, brought food, sent cards, texts, emails, visited me, and especially all who have prayed. This has been a very difficult time, but God is faithful, and I'm greatly blessed to call you all family.
Much Love, Gale"



HNGO School Supplies and Backpack Drive

Thank you for all your donations to help local families with school expenses by providing school supplies and backpacks to Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach's annual school supplies drive!

Christian Sympathy

Chapel member Matthew Dolan passed away July 14th, 2025, at the Cleveland Clinic Main Campus after a long illness. Matt had returned to Ohio after Hurricane Helene to be close to his daughters and grandchildren and enjoy his final months with his family. Online condolences may be shared, and the full obituary may be seen at www.waitefuneralhome.com





We are excited to extend an invitation to you to serve on the Fairfield Mountains Chapel Mission Ministry Team.

The Mission Ministry Team plays a vital role in advancing our mission efforts, both locally and globally.

We focus on providing financial assistance to organizations that extend outreach to others beyond the reach of the chapel.

By serving on this team, you will have the opportunity to:

- Engage with meaningful mission organizations both near and far.
- Build relationships within our church family and the broader community.
- Share your heart for service and contribute to the expansion of the Kingdom of God in a tangible way.

We understand that each member of the team brings a unique perspective and skill set, and we look forward to seeing how your contributions will enrich the Mission Ministry Team at Fairfield Mountains Chapel. Your commitment to this important ministry would be a tremendous blessing to our church family.

If you feel led to accept this invitation, please contact the Chapel Office at 828-625-2411 to be put in contact with Laura Krejci so she can discuss the next steps in more detail. Should you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out. **The target date for responding is Friday, August 15th.**

Thank you for considering this invitation to join us in this exciting and meaningful work. We are eager to partner with you as we continue to serve God's people.

Chapel Finances (as of June 30)



General Fund Budgeted: \$203,000

General Fund Receipts: \$237,149.55

While this number is healthy, giving in July and August is usually below normal. This fund will have to cover whatever is approved for landscaping that exceeds money in B&G Reserve Fund.



Building & Grounds Reserve Balance: \$9,303.88

This is our most under-funded account. In addition to landscaping, our 7 heat pumps are getting long-in-the-tooth, the parking lots are going to need repaving, and several other facility needs have been identified.



Compassion Fund Balance: \$7,680.01

Compassion Fund YTD disbursements: \$8,106.89

(Disbursements from the Compassion Fund assists local people with housing needs, food, utilities, and car repairs.)



Scholarship Fund Balance: \$9,819.45

We give \$10,000 in scholarships each year. This fund is almost there for next June's awards, but it is never too early to start donating for 2027's awards.



To donate online visit www.fairfieldmountainschapel.org/donate
When you're ready, click "Donate Now" and follow the instructions



Coffee For Veterans

Meets Thursday, August 14th at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All veterans are welcome! Here's our group of Army veterans celebrating the U. S. Army Birthday at our June Coffee meeting.



Men's Breakfast

Meets Saturday, August 9th, at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the Chapel Office to attend.



Women's Ministry

Lake Lure Classical Academy Teachers/Staff Luncheon - Wednesday, August 6th - 12:00 noon

Women's Ministry will be providing lunch for the faculty and staff at LLCA during their week of in-service before the start of the new school year, and **we are in need of volunteers!**

Women's Ministry will be purchasing fried chicken and beverages, and we are asking for volunteers to provide the side dishes and desserts.



There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for volunteers to select what they'd like to bring.

We are also in need of volunteers to serve the meal, as well as help with set-up and clean-up.

Thank you, ahead of time, for volunteering and supporting the teachers & staff as they prepare for the school year ahead!



Ladies Fall Retreat - Saturday, October 25, 2025

At Fairfield Mountains Chapel, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Speaker: Stephanie Huxter Worship Leader: Janelle Flint



Summer Outing to Cooley Farms in Chesnee, SC

Friday, August 22nd @ 11:00 AM

Women's Ministry is sponsoring a lunch outing to Cooley Farms (Strawberry Hill) to enjoy lunch and shop at the produce market (peaches will be ready!).

We will meet at the church at 10:00 AM to carpool and everyone is invited! There will be a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for those planning to attend.



Fellowship, Friendship and More. Explore Our Calendar of Events

Visit our website: www.fairfieldmountainschapel.org/calendar



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