

PRAYER CONCERNS

Tony Brodfuhrer, continuing to combat rare blood disorder. Things are challenging.

David Dahle, at home, scheduled to return to Houston in August for an exam and treatments.

Larry Dorr, acute vision problems, now declared legally blind.

Margie Hornaday, recovering from surgery to deal with infection in her spine. Cards may be sent to **Pisgah Manor, Sinclaire 14, 104 Holcombe Road, Candler, NC, 28715.**

Paul Lussier, taking treatments for lung cancer.

Elmer Perry, recovering at home..

Nancy Sherfey, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, has opted for no more chemotherapy.

Bill Silvey, at home under Hospice care.

Jane Wright, undergoing dialysis treatments at home as she deals with renal failure.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

July 25—Danny Bird and Jane Wright;
26—George Nixon; 27—Mary Kay Cassano & Nick Rutherford;

28—Sydney Beck, Ellen Huber

29—James Marlett; 31—Adrian Delk;

August 2—Harold Fike, Jana Moravec;

3—Kathy Lindgren, Reed McNutt;

4—Royce Mosely, Margarette Rutherford;

5—Sandra King Dolan; 7—Susan Hagan,

Jim Nordberg; 8—Rick Mettetal;

9—Tom DeVenuto; Brennan Oates,

Bill Silvey; 10—Carla Lemmons;

11—Rhonda Cook, Ed Ditmer, Diane Hagan;

12—Tracy Czajkowski;

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

July 25—David and Sharlene Kohler (25)

July 26—Bob and Patti Cobbett (10)

July 29—Tom and Laurie DeVenuto (20)

August 1—Kevin and Kelly McFarland (35)

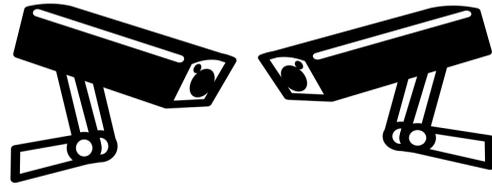
August 2—**Jim and Sharon Wuamett (43)**

August 3—George and Margaret Nixon (24)

August 6—John and Ruth Shaw (26)

August 7—**David and Peggy Dahle (55)**

THE PASTOR IS DOING WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS FOR THE CHAPEL WEBSITE. HERE IS HOW YOU ACCESS THEM.



Last week the Pastor begin recording a weekly devotional. If you wish to access the devotional please visit our Chapel website by accessing fairfieldmountainchapel.org.

We hope that the weekly devotionals will help us stay in touch with each other during these days of waiting and missing.

FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

The mid-year contribution reports will be mailed out this week. If you feel that there is an error on your report, please contact April at the Chapel office at 828-625-2411. Our office hours are limited at this time, but you may leave a message, and she will return your call. Thank you for all the generous donations.

Reflections...

In the golden days of the settling of the West, one of the major means of transportation was the stagecoach. According to Louis L'Amour, there were three classes of tickets for riding on the stagecoach - first-class, second-class, and third-class. To be sure, they all sat in the same coach, with the same accommodations, but there were differences between the classes. Let me elaborate.

A first-class ticket was more expensive, but it offered better conditions. Having a first-class ticket meant that you could sit down for the entire trip unless you elected to get out of the coach for some reason. If the stagecoach got stuck in the mud, had trouble going up a steep hill, or even if a wheel fell off and had to be put back on again, you never had to leave your seat. You were allowed to sit in the stagecoach during any of these eventualities.

A second-class ticket, however, meant that you could sit down until there was a problem, and then you had to get off until the problem was resolved. If the stagecoach got stuck in the mud, you had to get off. If it was having trouble going up a steep hill, you had to get off the coach. If a wheel ran off, you had to get off until it was replaced. What you did was just stand to the side and watch until someone else took care of the problem, because you had a second-class ticket.

On the other hand, if you had a third-class ticket, things were different yet. If the stagecoach got stuck in the mud, you got off. If it had trouble making a steep grade or if a wheel ran off, you got off. But there is where the fun began. With a third-class ticket, you had to help shove the stagecoach out of the mud, help push the stagecoach up the hill, and lift the stagecoach while the driver replaced the wheel.

In evaluating those classifications of stagecoach transportation, James W. Moore, in his book, Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses, compares stagecoach riders to folks in the Church. According to him, he has seen the same kinds of classifications in the congregations he has served.

Some folks act as though they have a first-class ticket. They just sit there and wait to be catered to, waited on, and pampered. If the Church goes through some rough times, they just sit as comfortably as they can until the trouble is taken care of. They are riding on first-class tickets.

Some folks, however, seem to have second-class tickets. They ride along in style until a challenge comes, and then they step outside, stand off to the side, and wait for someone else to take care of the problem. They become detached spectators until things are good again, and then they are right back on board.

Still others, thankfully, no doubt see themselves as third-class ticket-holders. They ride along too, but when there's work to be done, they quickly set themselves to getting off to push! They address the problem creatively, work on the situation productively, and do everything they can to make things right. They devote their energies to getting the Church back on track and moving in the right direction.

The analogy breaks down of course. On the stagecoach, those who invested the most wound up with the least amount of effort expended or dirt under their fingernails. Those who invested the least wound up doing the bulk of the work when trouble came. In the Church it seems to work the other way around. Those who invest the most of themselves—their time, their abilities, their money—seem to be also those most willing to work, help, encourage, and take ownership of their church in good times and bad. They try to help the Church overcome its obstacles, repair its faulty “machinery,” deal with its challenges, and stay on task in trying to get the Church to where it is supposed to go—“to the ends of the earth.” I often pause to thank God for those who, in terms of the work they do, have “third-class” tickets, but who are first-class members of God's Church. May their tribe increase and flourish.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP**



**Contributions in March - \$24,203.51
Contributions in April - \$14,790.00
Contributions in May - \$27,507.00
Contributions in June—\$16,040.00
Contributions Thus Far in July—\$10,000.00**

***THANKS FOR SUPPORTING
THE CHAPEL DURING THE
CRISIS. MAY GOD REWARD
YOUR FAITHFULNESS!***

**FROM THE ELDERS
ABOUT RESUMING OUR
SERVICES**



Phase Two” of Governor Cooper’s re-opening plan has been extended until Friday, August 7. At that time, we expect new directives and the definition of the new set of restrictions.

The elders have met and decided to hold-off on re-opening the Chapel at that time. Once NC is in “Phase Three” their decision will be reevaluated. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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Our Pastor Search Team has been quite busy since our last update. We know that God is fully in control of our search and He recently led us to interview 2 candidates. While we are not going to share any specific details at this time, I can share that we enjoyed meeting both individuals in person and we are encouraged by the caliber of candidates God has sent us thus far. Either one of these pastors may be the person God has chosen to serve Him at Fairfield Mountains Chapel, so please pray for God to share his wisdom and discernment with us as we move forward.

With that being said, we are still receiving new resumes and we will continue to prayerfully consider each candidate until we have a new pastor in place. Therefore, please regularly lift our team up in prayer and ask God to speak clearly to each member of our team as we continue to seek His will for our church.

Incidentally, inasmuch as one of our members is out of town most of July and another is recovering from knee-replacement surgery, the Search Committee has cancelled its meetings for a few weeks, but will resume them in August. Keep praying.