



Fair
Haven

Children's Home

A neighborhood of homes for children



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find us on facebook

www.facebook.com/FairHavenChildrensHomeStraffordMO/

Fair Haven Children's Home Administration & Staff

CEO / Executive Director Barney Crawford
 Board of Directors/Elders (Water Mill Church of Christ)
 • Barney Crawford • Gene Kenyon
 • Brendan Carrol • Gene Lund
 • John Ewing • Travis Morrison

Office Manager..... Donna Jordan
 Administrative Assistant Debbie Crawford
 Director of Child & Family ServicesBrad Fox
 Director of Development Brian York
 CounselorDon McFall
 Case Worker Sydney Murphy

60 Years of Service



*Barney Crawford,
Executive Director*

On the 13th day of November 1964, Missouri Governor, Warren E. Hearnes signed off on the certificate of Incorporation for a term of perpetual years, thus legally establishing Fair Haven Children's Home as a not-for-profit agency to serve and protect abused, neglected, or abandoned, children and teenagers. The 1st Board of Directors consisted of Rathel Smith, Fred Wilson, M. G. Pamplin, Wayne Coble, Bill Harris, Woodrow Loveland, and Ernest Porter. These men also made up the eldership at the North National church of Christ (now the Watermill church of Christ). The license to start receiving children into care after inspections and approvals arrived at Fair Haven on February 9th, 1965.

The home that was initially licensed was a two-story farmhouse that sat on the 61 acres that was acquired for Fair Haven. The farmhouse was licensed for up to ten children. Thane and Ruth McClurg were chosen to be the first set of houseparents. They moved here from their farm near Verona, MO, bringing with them four children of their own.

On February 11th, 1965, the first child to be placed at Fair Haven was fifteen-year-old Bonnie Kiado. Shortly afterward nine-year-old Billy Bryant came to Fair Haven. On March 26th, 1965, six siblings came to live at Fair Haven, Bobby, Sherrie, Teresa, Steve, Kathy, and Lynn Hodge. This made eight children living with the McClurg family. This was truly the beginning of Fair Haven.

This year we would like to recognize 60 years of serving! On Saturday, April 27th, we will be sharing Fair Haven with you! Please plan to attend our Open-House event. It will be an important day for us. Please make it an important day for you as well. We will be blessed and honored to see you on that day!

In His service,

Barney Crawford



**Fair
Haven**
Children's Home

A neighborhood of homes for children

Fair Haven 60th Celebration

April 27, 2024

10 am – 2 pm

You are cordially invited to Fair Haven's campus on April 27th to celebrate the past 60 years and look forward to the next 60. Feel free to bring family members and friends and spend some time with us.

Over the years, we have had so many who have been part of this work as houseparents, volunteers, residents, children of houseparents, administrative staff, and donors, that it is difficult to name them all. Some have donated time or money, and some have donated both. It is the bringing together of all the support over these last 60 years that we are able to keep doing what we do; take care of kids in need. Please bless us with your presence and give us the opportunity to thank you.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 10:00-11:45 | Come view campus, our homes, and the office. |
| 12:00-1:15 | Meal in the gymnasium with guest speakers. |
| 1:15-2:00 | Campus playground and kid activities will be available. |

We will have food, fun for the kids, and we will be opening the houses and office for viewing.





Fair Haven NEWS

Vol. 1, No. 1

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

MARCH, 1965

Establishment of Fair Haven

Very early in 1964, the National and High congregation in Springfield, Missouri, influenced by the sermons of their minister, Jack Hendry, and the leadership of their Elders, began to develop a much greater concern for the welfare of dependent children. Following discussions with Welfare Department officials, it was decided by the Elders that there was sufficient interest in the congregation to warrant taking more definite action with regard to establishing a home for unfortunate children.

Early in April, 1964, a sixty-acre farm was purchased, on which was to be established FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME. The property is located about six miles east of Springfield on old Highway 66 toward Strafford.

With the Elders of National and High serving as the directors of Fair Haven, Byron Nichols was chosen to undertake the responsibility of being Superintendent of the Home. With a need for a Christian couple to serve as houseparents for the children, Thaine and Ruth McClurg of Verona, Missouri, was hired.

Delivering three wonderful lessons filled with enthusiasm and reality, Brother Lloyd Connel, Superintendent of Turley Children's Home near Tulsa, Oklahoma, helped make Sunday, June 21, 1964, a great day in the establishment of Fair Haven Children's Home. With lessons on benevolence and some of the problems in the operation of a children's home, Bro. Connel spoke to the combined adult Bible classes at National and High, and then he delivered the morning sermon. In the afternoon an area-wide basket dinner meeting was held on the grounds of Fair Haven, with Bro. Connel speaking. This was truly a wonderful day, one very important in the progress of Fair Haven Children's Home!

In addition to the work that became necessary in order to meet state regulations, much remodeling and re-decorating has been done to the house. The following is only part of what has been done: the rooms throughout the entire two-story structure have had new paint and wallpaper applied; several windows have had to be replaced; two bathrooms have been added upstairs; and room for the storage of groceries was made out of what was formerly half of a double-garage; and the outside trim has been re-painted.

Many people gave of their time and talent in helping to improve the appearance of the house and its surroundings. We are quite proud of the appearance of the property now, and we are grateful to those who helped for their interest and willingness to work.

LICENSE RECEIVED

Supt. Byron Nichols opened the morning mail on February 9, and, at long last, there was the license for Fair Haven Children's Home from the State Department of Welfare! Finally the long months of preparation and waiting had ended.

From the very beginning we have been quite happy with the cooperation and understanding of the officials of the State Department of Public Health and Welfare. Miss Teresa Vaughn, state Consultant for Institutions and Agencies, has been working very closely with us, and has been most helpful and understanding. We have also enjoyed a fine relationship with Mr. Thad Fife, Director of Safety and Fire Prevention for the Dept. of Public Health and Welfare. We certainly are hopeful of a continuation of the past helpfulness and consideration of these people and the others involved in this work.



This is the House which will accommodate a maximum of ten children at FairHaven Children's Home.

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME

A Look Back in Time



The remodeled farmhouse on Fair Haven's new campus - 1965



**The elders - National & High church
of Christ, Springfield, MO**



**Byron Nichols - February 1965
Fair Haven's first superintendent**

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF GRIEF by Brad Fox

In the last newsletter, we started a four-part series of articles on Grief, with "Understanding Grief". We talked about what grief is and the stages of grief. Let's turn our attention now to some **Biblical Examples of Grief**.



First, let's consider Job. In the first verse of the first chapter of Job we learn that he was blameless, full of integrity, feared God and stayed away from evil. In the next few verses, we also find that Job is extremely wealthy.

In verse 12, the Lord allows Satan to test Job, with the instruction to do whatever

Satan wants with his possessions, but not to harm Job physically. Soon after this, Job loses his livestock, his servants and all of his children (Job 1:13-19)

Job 1: 20-22 says: *Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong. (ESV)*

Look at Job's response: First, he got up! He didn't allow himself to become paralyzed, he decided to do something. Next, Job mourned. He tore his robe and shaved his head, which as we read about on other occasions in the Bible, were visible and powerful gestures of grieving, and abasing oneself under the control of God. Lastly, he humbles himself, worships God, blessing His name, and in all this, Job does not blame God for his hurt.

In the next chapter, God allows Satan to test Job further, and Job finds himself covered from head to toes with terrible boils. As he is sitting in ashes, scraping his infected skin, Job's wife tells him he should curse God and die! Before we throw Mrs. Job completely under the bus, remember that she has suffered the loss of **her** children as well, along with the riches that they were accustomed to. Job challenges her that we shouldn't just expect good things from God, and in doing so, Job said nothing wrong. Even in his darkest hour, up to his neck in grief, Job did nothing wrong and did not forsake God.

Job then has three friends show up on the scene. They start off strong as we read in chapter two, verses 11 through 13. They came to comfort him and didn't even recognize him at first. They wailed loudly, tore their robes and threw dust in the air to show their grief. They sat on the ground with Job for seven days and nights, not saying a word. Job's friends were present. They knew his grief was great and that he just needed someone with him.

The three friends spend most of the rest of the book trying to get Job to confess to what he had done wrong. Job continually defended himself. Job eventually begins to challenge the wisdom of God and question Him. In chapters 38-41 God lets Job know "how the cow eats the cabbage," so to speak, and puts Job in his

place. The first six verses of Chapter 42 reflect that Job learned not to question God:

Then Job answered the Lord and said: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.' I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (ESV)

In summary, the account of Job suffering many hardships, offers us some insight into grief. He taught us that grieving is a natural part of life when tragedy strikes, but it is not a reason to blame God or forsake Him, even when the world around you is urging you to do so. God designed us to grieve for a time and to eventually come to a resolution that we can move forward with God's help. Job's companions taught us that sometimes simply being there is the best medicine for those who are hurting, and that advice, perhaps well intended, can sometimes make matters worse.

Let's turn our attention to a couple of examples from King David. After having an affair with Bathsheba, David learned that the son she had given birth to was going to die. This was a consequence of David's sin. In II Samuel 12:16-23 we learn that David sought God, fasted, and laid on the ground for seven days. His servants were afraid to tell him on the seventh day that the child had died. After learning of the child's death, look at verses 20 through 23:

Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate. Then his servants said to him, "What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive; but when the child died, you arose and ate food." He said, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, 'Who knows whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me." (ESV)



In his grief, David continually asked the Lord for help, fasted, and mourned for seven days. When the child died, David got up, put himself together, went and worshiped God and ate. He came to the resolution that the child couldn't come to him, but that someday he could go to the

child. David realized what he had control over and what he did not. He did what he could at that point and gave the rest over to God.

The last example I would like for us to look at is David's grief over his son Absalom, who had poisoned enough of Israel against David that he took over the throne and David had to flee. Although King David had given orders for Absalom not to be killed, David's commander, Joab, made sure that he was killed. II Sam 18:32-19:8 gives us the account of David's response and Joab's stern rebuke. David was weeping and mourning loudly for his son,

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stating that "If only I had died instead of you" within earshot of his fighting men. Victory gave way to shame for David's conquering army. Joab let David know that how he was handling his grief was destroying what was best for God's kingdom and that he needed to go out and present himself to his men. David did exactly that.

This example gives us an idea of how not to handle grief. If you notice, Joab never told David that he should not have grief over losing his son, but that how and where he was doing it was having a very negative impact on the folks who were trying to do what was right. So, when it is time to grieve, don't act in such a way that positive people around you are negatively impacted. Joab was very close to David and was likely the only person who could have spoken that way to the king, and not only have gotten away with it, but brought about change. On rare occasions, we may be the one who needs to help someone in a "tough love" type of situation. It should be a last resort from someone who is close to the grieving individual on a destructive path.

Hopefully, these examples have shed some light on grief situations in God's Word. Next time we will examine some scriptures that will give insight into the grieving process. Please pray for our work here at Fair Haven, as we offer support in helping children grieve all the various losses they have suffered. As we are in our 60th year, ask God to help us serve children as long as there is a need.

Brad Fox
Director of Children's Services



HOUSE PARENTS NEEDED



For the last 59 years, Fair Haven has depended on two factors in this great work; our donors and our houseparents. Being a houseparent is often a challenging work, but it can be just as rewarding. Some of our parents stay for a few years, while others may be with us for 5-10 years or longer. One set of parents on campus have been here for over 15 years.

Currently, we have a couple of openings for houseparents and we would love to speak with you if you have an interest. Most of the training involved is done onsite and the job includes a competitive salary, health insurance (includes dental and vision), and approximately 1 week off every month. Fair Haven also provides a 6 bedroom/6 bath home, groceries, and utilities and houseparents are provided with a 12-passenger van for transporting the children. Housedads are often hired by Fair Haven, however, they have the option of being employed off-campus if they desire.

If you have an interest in making a difference in the lives of children, please contact Barney Crawford at 417-862-6675 or barney.fhch@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

To request a free subscription, or to be added or removed from our Digital Newsletter, please email fhchinfo@gmail.com



WAYS TO DONATE

Cash or Check

- Mail to Fair Haven Children's Home | 3132 N. Fair Haven Loop | Strafford, MO 65757

Credit Card / Paypal Donations through our website

- <https://www.fairhavenchildrenshome.com/donate>

Change for Children

- Contact us at 417-862-6675 to have cans sent to you, then drop in your extra change.
- Return cans to Fair Haven or put them with your Grocery Run donations at your local congregation to have them picked up.

Time

- Donate your time by becoming a Volunteer at Thrift Haven
- Volunteers are needed for all days, but especially Saturday.
- Call 417-882-3392 and ask for Dan



CLOTHING AND OTHER NEEDS

- Bath Towels
- Brushes
- Combs
- Feminine hygiene products

- Hair Accessories
- Nail clippers
- Qtips
- Washclothes

- Boys and Girls clothes size 5T and up:**
- Pajamas
 - T-shirts
 - Sweat Pants
 - Sweat Shirts

GROCERY LIST

Thank you to all who have helped by donating groceries and money, and have participated in the Grocery pickups. We can't stress enough how important your donations are to keep our pantry fully supplied. See below for a list of current needs:

DRY GOODS / COOKING

- Baking Soda
- Canola Oil
- Chocolate Chips
- Cookie Mix
- Egg Noodles
- Graham Crackers
- Graham Cracker Pie Crusts
- Jello
- Pop Tarts
- Puddings
- Snacks

CANNED GOODS

- Canned Chicken
- Chili Beans
- Chili
- Pork N Beans
- Soups
- Spam
- Tomato Sauce
- Tuna

JUICE/BEVERAGES

- Juice

FRUITS/VEGGIES (CANNED)

- Peaches
- Ro Tel Tomatoes
- Spinach

PERSONAL ITEMS

- Body Wash
- Deoderant
- Hand Soap
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste

CONDIMENTS

- BBQ Sauce
- Honey
- Mayo
- Taco Sauce, Salsa
- Vinegar

MISCELLANEOUS

- Aluminum Foil
- Cascade
- Cleaning Supplies
- Dish Washing Liquid
- Microwavable Paper Plates
- Trash Bags (13 & 30 gal)
- Zip Lock Bags

Sometimes items are listed by brand name so our donors will understand exactly what we need. However, store and generic brands are always welcomed with great appreciation.

MEMORIAL & HONOR GIVING

You can also make Memorial/Honor Gifts Online at: www.fairhavenchildrenshome.org

Honor the life and/or memory of a loved one by giving to Fair Haven Children's Homes in the form of a Memorial gift or Honor gift. Gifts will be used in specific areas of service at Fair Haven Children's Home (ie. school supplies, needs for the houses, etc.) upon request.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION!

- In Memory Of: In Honor Of:

Send Acknowledgement To:

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Your Information:

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Daytime Phone (in case we have questions about the gift)

Congregation (if applicable)

E-Mail Address

MEMORIALS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY 2024

NATHAN PERRY ALLISON
KHARA R ALLISON JULLIAN
Carl & Earline Allison

DON AMES
ANA FEX YANCZE
Nadean L Davis

RUBY ANDERSON
BILL COOK
JUDY SMART
POLLY OUSLEY
GREG HAMPTON
Donald Amyx

DENNIS ANDREWS
JIM ANDREWS
Sue Andrews

GLENN ATKESON
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Sterling & Holly Coker
Jerry Engelbert
Ralph & Carol McClurg
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Clyde & Donna Roach
Tony Blevins & family
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John Kevin & Kristina Atkeson
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Lori Vines
Traci & Travis Atkeson
Jim & Mona Ingle

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RAYMOND & EVELYN ATKINSON
DWIGHT & MONTAREE SLAUGHTER
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Rocky & Deborah Slaughter

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PATSY WALKER
The Byrds

FRANCH & LUCILLE BARKER
PAUL & PAT BARKER
Mary Barker

BOB BASSETT
Bassett Kids

MATTHEW BASSFORD
Jacque Schaller

KRISTIN BETHEA
GERALD LOVELAND
Sue Gardner

INA BIRD
Nita M Tetrick

AUGUST BLAZER
Linda Blazer

OREN & EDITH BLOOMER
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Lincoln Church of Christ

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TOM BROCKMAN
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EVELYN EDERER
BILL HAYWORTH
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Frank & Ann Delo
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JACKIE BUCK
Bill & Gail White
Cathy Carter
Amy's Edibles
Thomas & Donna Swatzell
Jerry & Carolyn Young
Terry & Karan Young
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Exeter Church of Christ

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Gary Duvall

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Kerry & Sandy Cole
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Dr. & Mrs. Carl Claxton
Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Delta
Kappa
Water Mill Church of Christ
Stella Sharp
Joe & Vicki Bright
Joe & June Campbell

RUSSELL HARBER
JACKIE BUCK
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Lenette Smith
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BESSIE HENDERSON
Bobby & Dyana Crawford

KNIAL IORG
Sparta Church of Christ

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NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY 2024

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ADRIAN O'DELL KEPLEY
Aaron Fortson

HARLAN HICKEN
David & Betty Galloway
Antioch Church of Christ

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Steve & Joy Cole

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Raytown Church of Christ

MOSE & NADINE HOUSE
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Mark House

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Sharon Sue Hughes

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Madge Jennings

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Shiloh Beeman
Janelle Mueller
Galloway Baptist Church Joy Class
Dixie, Bert Thomas & family

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CAROL INGLE
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CLARENCE & LEONA LETTERMAN
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ALBERTA MATHIS
David Letterman

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SHARON LONG
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Joe Long

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JACKIE BUCK
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Tom & Marsha Stipp

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Leroy & Linda Collins
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ELLA OWEN
JIMMIE GOSS
Jerry Owen

FRAN PARR
Ella Snowden
Judy Stephens
Willie & Jeanne Smith

LLOYD PARR
James Merciel
Willie & Jeanne Smith

LLOYD & FRAN PARR
Cynthia Hannah
Amie Wheeler
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Priscilla & James Witthar
Janet Wyrick
David De Witt
Gilbert Rank
Pamela Rackers
John Haynes
James Merciel
Cathy Carter
Larry & Darleen Kopfer
Richard & Cindy Smith
DiAnn Gilmore
Kent & Alice Van Landuyt
Larry & Pam Oxley
Robert Morrison

KEITH PARSONS
Nancy Barnes & family

WARREN PEMBERTON
Ricky & Cathy Dull
James & Wallis

MEMORIALS / SPECIAL OCCASIONS

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY 2024

DONNA PORTER
Molinda Mitchell

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