

**All In**

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# Connection

FELLOWSHIP ALLIANCE CHAPEL — MEDFORD, NJ — NOVEMBER 2015

P.8

## THANKSGIVING

WE ASKED OUR MINISTRY LEADERS AND  
ELDERS TO TELL US WHAT THEY ARE  
ESPECIALLY THANKFUL FOR AT THIS  
THANKSGIVING SEASON.



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## MINISTRIES

### GUEST RECEPTION

Held after each worship service in Room A-08 next to the Sanctuary, Guest Receptions are for visitors and anyone else who would like to learn more about FAC and how to get connected.

No registration is necessary. Just join us!

### NEXT STEPS

**New group begins Wed., Nov. 4 | Room C-01**

Next Steps is the place to get more connected and discover more about FAC while exploring our values and beliefs based on faith in Jesus Christ.

We meet for three consecutive Wednesday evenings, beginning Nov. 4. Join us in Room C-01. Dinner is included.

You can register for Next Steps at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register).

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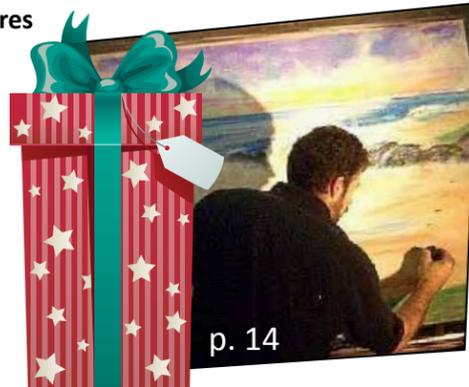
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# THANKSGIVING

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fellowship alliance  
 CHAPEL

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Nursery and Kids' Bible Study (KBS) are provided during every service for babies through fourth graders. Ask a greeter for directions to classes.

The Friendship Class for teens and adults with special needs meets during the 9:00 a.m. service in Room B-10.

Interpretation for the hearing impaired is available during the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

# ALL IN

Dear Church Family,

Our church is arriving at a very strategic time in its history. I've been on the journey with the great people of this church for 35 years now, and I think I am more excited than ever to enter the next stage God has planned for us.

In Biblical history, God always challenged His people to follow Him to the next stage in His strategy to bring as many people as possible under His Kingdom rule, and into His eternal family.

In Genesis, we see God calling Noah and his family to be "all in" the ark to fulfill God's redemptive plan. Next God called Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and then Joseph (one of my favorites) to be "all in." In Exodus, God called Moses to be "all in" to redeem His people from slavery in Egypt. Then Joshua was challenged to be totally committed to being "all in," or he would not be able to win the battles and gain the Promised Land for Israel. On and on the stories go throughout the Bible as God always challenges His followers to be "all in."

At FAC, it is really no different. As God's children in His church, you and I are at one of these places where I, as your leader chosen by God, must ask you to be "all in" so we can move into our new building and into the larger calling God has for us. We are privileged to be at a place few churches ever get to — a place where we can literally change our local culture and actually reach thousands of people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. By being "all in," we can build thousands of Christians into strong disciples who reproduce thousands more. I can hardly contain my emotions when I think of the impact you and I can have with our lives. Wow! I just thank the Lord so much that He has brought us to this point, and now we get to have more of a significant impact on this fallen world than we've ever had before! This world we all live in desperately needs hope right now, and you and I have the only hope that will last forever.

So I am asking all of you to recommit yourselves to being "all in"— those who have been with me from the start and everyone who has joined us since. I am asking you to recommit your time, money, and energy to completing our new building — from kitchens and bathrooms to other small jobs that will need our work to finish off and decorate.

Next, I am asking you to be "all in" helping me and others to renovate our present facility for our youth and kids. The little kids, kindergartners and younger, will be in the new building, but for the older kids, first graders and up, we will need to completely renovate our present facility for their use. You know, it will be like a make-over but nothing too big like moving walls. Plans have already been put together to minister not only to our kids better than we ever have, but to enable us to welcome thousands more. As many of you know, your experiences in church as a kid are huge in helping you hear God's call and follow it.

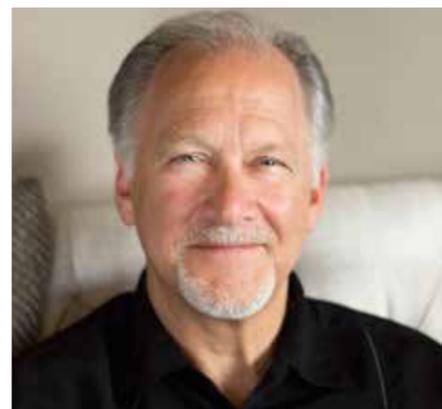
In this article, my goal is just to give you a heads up on what is going to be happening in the next six to eight months in our church. We are heading into a very exciting, fun, and exhilarating stage. I am calling on you now to be "all in" by praying about how you can be a part of this exciting stage in our growth. I have already been in several meetings and will be in many more, where we are planning and preparing for ways to keep you informed and "all in" as God leads us forward.

Thanks for being "all in" with me!

Love never fails,



Pastor Marty Berglund  
Senior Pastor



Make friends with  
Pastor Marty Berglund



# NEWS & NOTES

## HELPING OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES THIS THANKSGIVING

For some members of nearby communities, providing a festive, healthy meal this Thanksgiving can be difficult. Answering God's call to show His love to those in need, here are some opportunities to serve:

We will be stocking our own FAC Food Pantry with complete Thanksgiving meals for those in the area, including our Fresh Hope families. We are also partnering with Seeds of Hope to provide dinner to the Angel Tree families. Non-perishable items needed are:

- Gift card for a turkey (Shop Rite preferred)
- Stuffing mix
- Box of instant potatoes
- Canned gravy
- Cranberry sauce
- Canned yams
- Olives
- Canned Vegetables
- Boxed dessert mixes (brownies or cakes)
- Packs of napkins
- Foil turkey pan



There is a bin in the Welcome Center marked "Thanksgiving Donations." **Please bring in your donations by Fri., Nov. 20.**

You can also join Seeds of Hope volunteers to sort the collected food items, pack the boxes, pray, and/or make deliveries to families in Camden. **The team will meet at the Fellowship House (1722 Broadway, Camden) at 11:30 on Nov. 21** and will work until all the meals are delivered. To participate in this group, register at [myfac.org/serve](http://myfac.org/serve).

If you have any questions, contact Kristen Potter, [kpotter831@gmail.com](mailto:kpotter831@gmail.com), or Tracy LaRosa, [tracy.larosa@yahoo.com](mailto:tracy.larosa@yahoo.com).

## SNOW DEN

FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

SNOW Den provides a place for adults with special needs to connect to God and to friends. SNOW Den meets in the Sanctuary on select Friday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to participate in events such as bingo, karaoke, summer barbecues, bowling, pizza, and so much more!

Upcoming dates for SNOW Den are Nov. 6, 20, and Dec. 11.

For more information, send an e-mail to [snowden.fac@gmail.com](mailto:snowden.fac@gmail.com).

## What's Your News?

Do you have an announcement that you would like to share with your church family? Engaged? Getting married? New baby? Graduating? Please let us know!

We are planning a new page for this newsletter. It will be called "Family News," and we want to include your information. Send up to 50 words to [lynn@myfac.org](mailto:lynn@myfac.org). Deadlines are the 5th of every month so if you want something in the January issue, please send it by Dec. 5. We would love to have a photo (JPG format) to accompany your announcement.

## Are You a Survivor of a Loved One's Suicide?

*Every 40 seconds, someone dies by suicide. Every 41 seconds, someone is left to make sense of it.*

We are ready to help. The Helping Hand Grief Support ministry is offering a seminar on Nov. 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at FAC. To register, go to [myfac.org/register](http://myfac.org/register).

For more information, call 609-953-7333, x309, and leave a message.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30, and 6:00 p.m.



# Encouragement for the *Journey*



2 Corinthians 4:17, 18: "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

*These* verses brought such encouragement to me on a recent trip I took to visit my brother Joel, as well as my friend Linda. My purpose in going was to spend time with people I dearly love who are suffering deeply with grief. My brother Joel lost his 22-year-old son suddenly and tragically three years ago. And my friend Linda lost her vibrant, loving husband last spring.

When you sit with people who are experiencing grief that heavy, it's easy to be overwhelmed by the pain of it. It feels anything but "light and momentary." But fortunately, we're not left to live only by our feelings. God gave us truth to fix our eyes on. And He also gave me a very tangible illustration from His creation to reinforce that truth.

I took off on this trip on the day that Hurricane Joaquin began moving into our neighborhood. From Philly all the way to Cleveland, the ground was completely covered with clouds that were bringing days of rain with it. There was not even one little break for those thousands of miles. It was easy to believe if you were down on the ground that the clouds had taken over the world — and that thought was frankly depressing!

But it wasn't true. The plane hadn't been in the air but a few minutes when all of the sudden, you know what happened. It broke through the ceiling of clouds and there was nothing but beautiful blue sky and sunshine all the way until just before we landed! When we were on the ground, it seemed like the sun was gone — over — done. But it was right where it always is. You just have

to believe that the weather is more than the sum total of what you see on the ground.

The same is true of our lives. When we're surrounded by pain and suffering, it can make the world seem clouded over and leave you wondering where God's presence is. But to believe that God isn't there — showing grace and mercy like He always has — just because you can't see Him in the darkness would be like believing that the sun is no longer lighting and warming our earth just because the clouds have moved in to stay for a while.

What is seen is temporary — tears, gravestones, empty places at the table. It is real, but it is not eternal. What is unseen is what's eternal — God's presence, joy, redemption, hope. For those of us who are in Christ, living in faith means learning to see beyond the clouds.

*Laurie Berglund*

Laurie welcomes your comments. Send her a message at [laurieb@myfac.org](mailto:laurieb@myfac.org).



## STAFF PROFILE

# WARNESIA TRAVASSO



In 1996, our family moved to Vancouver, Canada. I went to an all-Italian, Catholic elementary school and high school. I attended Briercrest College & Seminary in Caronport, Saskatchewan. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Music: Worship Leadership Emphasis, which basically means a major in music and a minor in Biblical studies.

### WHEN DID YOU ACCEPT CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOR AND WHAT WERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES?

I became a Christian after I graduated from high school. My very atheistic brother became a born-again Christian. I was annoyed. Why didn't he just come back to Catholicism? He was also immensely verbal about all of us going to Hell. I started looking into Baha'i morals, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and other religions. Eventually, I became frustrated. These religions said that I could "attain" heaven or eternal fulfillment or become a god or live in different bodies. I knew that in and of ourselves, we can be awful people. So, one day, I shouted in my car, "God, or whoever you are, if you want me, come and get me." And suddenly, the entirety of the Gospel unfolded in my mind. God did come and get us in the person of Christ. We cannot attain Heaven. We cannot be made pure, but we have a God who loves us so incredibly much and who chose to rescue us.

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

My mom and dad have been separated for a few years. I have a brother five years older than I am. My brother, Warren (Yep, Warren and Warnesia), his wife, daughter, and their toy poodle live in Grande Prairie, Northern Alberta. Other than that, the love of my life is a budgie named Horatio. He's cute, blue, and moody.

### TELL US SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE THINGS.

- **BOOK** (other than the Bible): *Three Men in a Boat*, by Jerome K. Jerome. I reread this book every year — this one and the *Chronicles of Narnia*, by C.S. Lewis.

- **FOOD**: I can eat my own weight in lasagna!

- **MEMORY**: I accidentally caught a fish when I was eight years old after being super discouraged because I hadn't caught anything. As I was reeling in my line, a little fish bit it, and I reeled it in. In Oman, there weren't fishing restrictions, but we had to eat what we caught. It was the best day.

- **VACATION SPOT**: I haven't traveled much, but I love the beaches in Oman, which have golden sand and teal-blue-you-can-see-the-bottom seas.

- **VERSES**: Romans 8:11 and 2 Corinthians 3:18, but I think my all-time favorite is Psalm 27:4.

### WHAT IS YOUR POSITION AND WHAT DOES THAT ENTAIL?

I have the privilege of giving oversight to the Children's Ministry and the SNOW Ministry. This entails supporting the staff, setting up organizational systems, setting the vision, and, the best part, getting to know God's heart for FAC in these areas.

### WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO YOU ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Loving and supporting our families in their discipleship journeys and empowering volunteers to fully use their gifts to love our kids.

### WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH THROUGH YOUR POSITION?

To humbly love and serve our families and continue a ministry that children are excited to attend. It is also crucial for us to encourage our children to serve as contributing, vital members of FAC.

### WHERE ARE YOU FROM? WHERE DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL?

I was born in a little kingdom called Oman, a beautiful, small country in the Middle East. Oman was incredibly safe, and the Sultan loved his people so much that he donated land to every religion and encouraged us to practice our faith openly.

**Marty Berglund, Senior Pastor**

I'm so thankful to be a part of a church where the people take God's call on their lives as seriously as they should. Those people in this church with me are the reason we are building our new building and getting set to reach thousands more people for Christ. I thank God for His church.

**Jim Entwistle, Pastor of Missions & Service**

In addition to thanking God for His grace towards me, I'm especially happy this Thanksgiving for my wife who inspires and pushes me to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. She is truly a Proverbs 31 woman who exudes confidence in the marketplace, wisdom in our home, and love towards others.

**Dave Krilov, Pastor of miniChurches & Small Groups**

I am thankful for my beautiful wife, three incredibly cute kids, a loving church family, and a God who always satisfies my thirsty soul.

**Erik Rebstock, Pastor of Men's Ministries**

I am thankful for the amazing men's leaders at FAC. They stand in the gap and fight to build men who build men for the glory of God.

**Don Hay, Executive Pastor of Ministries**

I am incredibly thankful that God still moves around me — even with my weaknesses — and includes me in His eternal plan. I'm thankful for my wife who is tireless by my side and for my children who inexplicably still laugh at my jokes.

**Jack Hibbard, Elder**

I'm most thankful for God's faithfulness to my family. I'm grateful for a loving, supportive wife and for children who love Jesus and have married girls who also have a passion to follow Christ. And I'm also thankful for the example we all see in my father who continues to follow his call to preach as he fights cancer.

**Brent Brendle, Pastor of Pastoral Care Ministries**

I'm thankful for being forgiven of my sins. I'm thankful for my wife and my kids. Also I am thankful for a community of Believers at FAC.

**Carol Batten, Director of Women's Ministries**

I am thankful for God's forgiveness (it's really a BIG deal!) and for being created new each day; for the Lord's Prayer as a way of life; and for my family, who never cease to stir my deep love for them — for just being them!

**Brian Snyder, Executive Pastor**

I'm always thankful for my family, friends, and salvation. This year, I'm extremely thankful to see the building going up and people sacrificing to accomplish it. It's not the building that excites me as much as the changed lives that will occur as a result. The people involved in sacrificing now will grow in their relationship with the Lord because of their obedience and faithfulness to Him, and they will get to see individuals getting saved, marriages renewed, families restored — and all to the glory of God.

**Bryan Russell, Elder**

I personally give great thanks for God's sustaining hand in my life. I am blessed with a wonderful wife and kids, a glorious church family, and His infallible Word that guides us in truth.

**Nick Simpson, Pastor of Worship & Media Pastor**

I'm thankful for supportive and selfless volunteers. Sometimes they are seen; many times they are not. They give their time every weekend so that people can connect to God. Many show up like clockwork, never having to be reminded or hounded. They faithfully give God their best.

**Erik Jarvis, Associate Pastor**

I'm very thankful for the privilege of seeing how God works in my life and the lives of my wife and daughters and in my church family. When I really think about all the ways God has poured out His blessings, it is overwhelming and humbling to consider what He is doing. I have also been grateful for the way God is moving in our community.

**Ryan King, Elder**

I'm thankful for my beautiful wife and extraordinary daughters; how God has answered my prayers while my dad battles cancer; FAC's wide-open doors in our community; the new building; and the kindness of Jesus Christ to forgive our sins forever.

**Mike Williams, Pastor of High School Ministries**

I'm especially thankful for my family and how they continually grow closer to the Lord and each other. I am thankful for the Lord's provision in our lives, which never ceases to amaze me. I'm thankful for the amazing team of volunteer leaders who work with our youth. I'm thankful for the privilege to be a part of what God is doing in the lives of our high school students.

**Doug Bazigian, Pastor of Assimilation & Guest Services**

This Thanksgiving season, I'm especially thankful that God has blessed me with such a wonderful wife and daughter and that they are both healthy and growing in the Lord. As I transitioned from elder to pastor, I'm also very thankful for the love and support of my church family — staff, elders, lay leaders, and volunteers.

**Jane Beebe, Director of Preschool Ministries**

I'm thankful for God's faithfulness, which is new every morning; for His love, grace, and mercy; for being His child; and for all of the faithful workers who serve the preschool children God sends our way.

**Eddie Jurimas, Pastor of Middle School Ministries**

I'm thankful for the opportunity to be spending my first Thanksgiving as a married man. I am thankful for the amazing team of solid leaders that I work with in the ministry.

**Bill Adams, Elder**

I'm thankful for how my family and church family demonstrated God's love after the loss of my beloved father this year. He demonstrated God's love every day of his life. I'm thankful to be able to watch the staff and congregation show such amazing commitment and love for each other.

**Glenn Kantner, Associate Pastor**

I'm thankful for the unchanging God and His unchanging promises; for several major answers to prayer; for my family who all love God and are serving Him; for my wife who is so thoughtful, encouraging, and forgiving; and for all of the volunteers who serve God through the various ministries.

**Julie Durdin, Director of Kingdom Kids**

I'm so thankful to serve in a church and with a staff that's so outreach-focused. They enthusiastically support me as I create new ministry opportunities. I'm so very grateful for the many volunteers in our church, who are uniquely qualified to lead and serve and who also support me.

**Warnesia Travasso, Director of Children's Ministries & SNOW**

I am grateful to live in a country where I can disagree with my government without fear of death; where I can go to church without fear of violence; and where as a woman, I can work and have value in society.

I am grateful for God's grace. Grace is not free but required the highest price, which Christ paid. How He found us lovely enough to do that for us, I'll never know. But He did, and I'm grateful.

**Jody Adams, Elder**

As I look back at this past year, I'm very thankful for Christian friends and family that God has placed in my life as a source of encouragement to seek and to follow the Lord wholeheartedly. God has used so many people through times of prayer and conversation to bless my heart and strengthen my resolve to pursue the Great and Mighty God!

# THANKSGIVING

WE ASKED OUR MINISTRY LEADERS AND ELDERS TO TELL US WHAT THEY ARE ESPECIALLY THANKFUL FOR AT THIS THANKSGIVING SEASON.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## Nursery & Preschool Ministry

Newborns through kindergartners; held during all worship services:

- Infants (*birth through 14 months*)
- Toddlers (*15 – 24 months*)
- Preschool (*25 months to Kindergarten*)

Kingdom Kids' Clubhouse  
Ages 4 through kindergartners

- Sunday evenings during the school year
- 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel

**No meeting on Nov. 29**

## Elementary Ministry

- Kids' Bible Study (*KBS*)  
Grades 1-4

Held during all worship services

- Kingdom Kids' Club  
Grades 1 through 4

Sunday evenings during the school year, 6:00 to 8:00 in the Sanctuary

**No meeting on Nov. 29**

## SNOW Kids

For Children with Special Needs

- Babies through Grade 5
- Provides one-on-one "SNOW buddies"
- 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. during Sunday worship services in Room B-02

Ask an usher or greeter for directions to children's classes held during worship services.



## PRESCHOOL ANGEL BREAKFAST

SAT., DEC. 5, 9:00 TO 11:30 A.M.

AGES 3 THROUGH KINDERGARTNERS

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, announcing a dazzling opportunity for preschoolers and their adult guests on Sat., Dec. 5, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. This is the date for our gala Preschool Angel Breakfast, which is an extraordinary morning planned just for them.

We would like to encourage all of the big people to invite a very special preschooler in their life to come and experience a fun-filled time together. Breakfast will be served at 9:15 a.m. and then everyone will be directed to the fun-filled activities which are focused on the true meaning of Christmas.

All angels must be accompanied by at least one adult. We encourage each child to come dressed in angel attire — angel wings, halos, swords, shields, or any other creative idea. Our photographer will capture a special memory for you to cherish.

The cost per person is \$3.00. If you have questions or would like to help us decorate, set up, or assist with food, contact Jane Beebe, [jane@myfac.org](mailto:jane@myfac.org), or 609-953-7333, x101.

To register for the event, go to [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register).

# YOUTH MINISTRIES

GRADES 5 THROUGH 12

## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH -- FOR GRADES 5-8

### LEVEL 5 FOR GRADE 5

Sunday nights at Haines Sixth Grade Center

Level 5 dates for this month are Nov. 1, 8, 15, and 22. Nov. 22 is our last meeting until 2016.

Drop-off is at 55 Mill St., Medford Memorial Middle School.

### GRAPPLE FOR GRADES 5-7

Grapple meets during the Sunday morning, 9:00 and 11:00 services.

Meetings for this month are on Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

### PARENTS' NIGHT AT LEVEL 5 & PLANET 678

Nov. 22 is Parents' Night! For more information, contact Pastor Eddie Jurimas, [eddie@myfac.org](mailto:eddie@myfac.org), 609-953-7333, x104; or Russ Batten, [russ@myfac.org](mailto:russ@myfac.org), 609-953-7333, x134.

### PLANET 678 FOR GRADES 6-8

Sunday nights at Medford Memorial Middle School

55 Mill St., Medford

Planet 678 dates for this month are Nov. 1, 8, 15, and 22. Nov. 22 is our last regular Planet meeting until 2016.

### PLANET & LEVEL 5 CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Date:** Dec. 6

**Location:** Medford Memorial Middle School

**Cost:** \$2.00

**Registration:** [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register)



## YOUTH IMPACT -- FOR GRADES 9-12

### INSIGHT

Join us on Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. for Insight, our regular high school ministry meeting, where we will hang out, have some fun, enjoy some worship music and a message from God's Word.

Don't miss this awesome chance to spend time with other high school students from around the area!

Insight will meet on Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Insight will not meet in December.

### SUNDAY BREAKFAST RESCUE MISSION

**Sat., Nov. 7, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Join us as we serve at the Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission! We'll head into Philly to feed, clothe, and pray for those who are in need. This is a great opportunity for us as a group to give back to God in a very practical, meaningful way. Don't miss out! No charge. Sign up online, [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register).

### ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

If you'd like to get involved with guiding students in their walk with Christ, contact Pastor Mike Williams, 609-953-7333, x108, or [mike@myfac.org](mailto:mike@myfac.org).



aWAKEN will offer a variety of Bible studies, events, and service opportunities. We invite you to join us for our next semester of aWAKEN classes, which will begin in February. Look for class details and registration information in upcoming issues of this newsletter.

## HEART TO HEART HAS A NEW NAME!

The new name for the FAC women's Bible study ministry is now aWAKEN.

## FRESH HOPE

FOR SINGLE MOMS

SUN., NOV. 22  
5:00 TO 8:00 P.M.

The women of Fresh Hope would like to invite all single moms to join them at their next meeting on Nov. 22 for dinner, teaching, encouragement, and fun.

Fresh Hope meets one Sunday evening each month from 5:00 to 8:00. Dinner is provided for the moms and their children. Children's and youth programs are available at 6:00, including Kingdom Kids' Clubs, Level 5, and Planet 678. Childcare is provided for children who are too young to participate in the FAC programs. Note: Please register your children prior to the meetings.

There is no cost to attend Fresh Hope.

For more information, contact Debbie Schneck, 609-953-7333, x125.

To register, go to [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register), or call Debbie Schneck, 609-953-7333, x125.

Walk-ins are always welcome!

## DEEPENING GROUPS

A Deepening Group offers an accepting, long-term, safe community that allows its members the freedom for open and honest sharing. The Deepening Groups focus on discipleship through the following process:

### 1. ADOPTING THE GOSPEL NARRATIVES OF JESUS

As Jesus reveals His Father to us, we are challenged in our understanding of who God is and who we are to God.

### 2. PRACTICING SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

Exercises are designed to deepen and enrich our mind, body, and soul and allow space for God to transform us.

### 3. TRANSFORMATIONAL COMMUNITY

God has designed us to be part of a life-giving, transformational community of Believers who want to help each other follow Jesus.

### 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT

It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we adopt the Gospel narratives of Jesus, experience a Christ-centered community, and discipline ourselves to make space for God.

If you are looking for a small group that will encourage and challenge you to become the person God created you to be and if you desire to support and serve others to help them become all that God intended them to be and if you are driven to pursue your place and purpose in the Kingdom of God, a Deepening Group is designed to offer that and more.

## JOINING A DEEPENING GROUP

Go to [www.myfac.org](http://www.myfac.org); click "Get Connected" – For Women – Deepening Groups; and complete the Deepening Group Participant Interest Form. If you have questions, contact Carol Batten at [carol@myfac.org](mailto:carol@myfac.org).



2015 Men's Conference

## FAC MEN'S CONFERENCE 2016

FEB. 26 & 27 IN THE SANCTUARY

SAVE THE DATE!

Find out more about the four essentials to a man moving forward in life: courage, faith, action, and memory. Reserve the dates for the FAC Men's Conference 2016.

For all men and "future men," ages 13 and up

## BLACK FRIDAY PAINTBALL



**DATE:** Fri., Nov. 27

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** On Target Paintball, 35 Sheep Pen Hill Rd., Pemberton

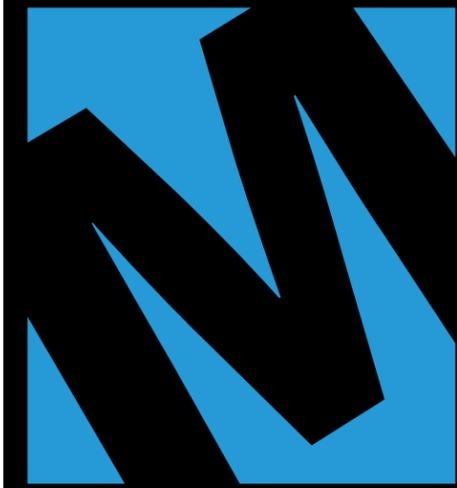
**COST:** \$20.00 for gun, mask, air pass to charge gun, ammo belt, hot dog, and field access

\$65.00 for a case of paint (2000, 4 bags of 500)

You will pay at On Target Paintball.

Register at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register). Deadline for registration is Nov. 23.

If you have questions, contact Rodney Sager, [rsagerjr@comcast.net](mailto:rsagerjr@comcast.net).



MEN OF FAC



The FAC Men's Ministry is designed to build men who make a difference. Whether you're in a small group studying God's Word, enjoying camping or hiking, or attending the annual Men's Conference or Pig Roast, we want to help you grow in your relationships with Christ and those around you.

For more information, contact Pastor Erik Rebstock, 609-953-7333, x116, or [erikr@myfac.org](mailto:erikr@myfac.org).



James Snyder, Chalk Artist

JOIN US FOR  
OUR CHRISTMAS  
CELEBRATION  
ON DEC. 17,  
AT 12:30, IN THE  
SANCTUARY.

# LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS?

## WE CAN HELP!

A catered lunch of ham, turkey, and delicious side dishes will be followed by a very special presentation of the Christmas story.

Our guests will be James and Tracy Snyder, who use their God-given gifts of drawing and singing to share the Gospel in a unique way. The special chalk drawings, elaborate lighting, and Christian music leave a memorable and impactful reminder of the real message of Christmas.

This luncheon would make a wonderful gift for a friend, neighbor, or family member. All are welcome to attend.

You can purchase tickets in the Church Office, Suite 197, or by contacting Pastor Glenn Kantner, 609-953-7333, x106.

Cost is \$12.00. The deadline for ticket purchase is Dec. 8.

# SOMETHING MISSING?



## JOIN A MINICHURCH!



Go to [www.myfac.org/joinmc](http://www.myfac.org/joinmc). If you have questions, contact Pastor Dave Krilov, 609-953-7333, x105, or [davek@myfac.org](mailto:davek@myfac.org).

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## FAC WHEELS

The goal of FAC Wheels is “to help people connect to God, to His people, and to His work by creating a ministry that brings people to the house of the Lord.”

FAC Wheels has recently begun! Team members are currently providing transportation on a limited basis for those who don't have the means or ability to drive. We are asking for your help to offer additional service to many more who are in need.

We are looking for volunteer drivers to help for just one service each month. We have a church vehicle or you can use your own. If you are interested in becoming part of the team or if you need transportation to FAC for services/events, contact Jim Hogan at [facwheels@myfac.org](mailto:facwheels@myfac.org) or 609-953-7333, x306.

## THE BEN CENTER

Are you a good listener? Do you have gifts of compassion, mercy, or hospitality? If so, consider volunteering at the Benevolence Center as an Intake Representative.

Intake reps talk to people who are applying for assistance; they hear their stories; they pray with them and direct them to ministries at FAC that may be just what they need. For more information, contact Tracy Cossabone, [bcenter@myfac.org](mailto:bcenter@myfac.org). Training is provided.

## WORSHIP MINISTRY TECH TEAM

Looking for a way to serve as we move into our new building?

Join us on Sat., Nov. 14, in the Chapel at 7:30 p.m., immediately after the Saturday night service. We will take a look at the many new technical positions that will be needed when we transition into our new Sanctuary! We will need additional team members in all of these areas: Audio, Camera, Video, Lighting, Creative, and Stage Crew.

This is an informational meeting that will give you a chance to be one of the first people to learn about the new teams and to sign up.

If you are interested in attending or serving, register at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register), select “FAC Tech Team Meeting.”



# 3 CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECTS!

This year, we are offering **three** opportunities for you to bring joy to children in need — **globally, regionally, and locally.** You may want to participate with your family, your small group, your classmates, or your co-workers. It's fun, and it's a great way to connect to God's work.

*Choose a project — or as many projects as you would like — and begin now to pray for the children who will receive your gifts.*

## 02

### REGIONAL



## ANGEL TREE

A REGIONAL SERVICE PROJECT

- Pick up tags through Nov. 22 (or for as long as they last)
- Dec. 19, meet in the Sanctuary for additional items
- Dec. 19 through 25, deliver your gifts

Angel Tree is an outreach that connects us with children who have a mother and/or father in prison. Not only are we able to give gifts to more than 350 children, but we are also able to spend some time with the children and their families when we deliver the gifts.

For more information, contact the Shoemakers ([shoemaker23@comcast.net](mailto:shoemaker23@comcast.net)) or the Henrys ([stcahenry@gmail.com](mailto:stcahenry@gmail.com)).

## 01

### GLOBAL



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A GLOBAL SERVICE PROJECT FOR CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

*Return your Shoeboxes by Sun., Nov. 8; place in bin marked “Operation Christmas Child.”*

The Service Projects Team is partnering with Samaritan's Purse to collect and distribute shoebox gifts to children in need worldwide. Shoeboxes will be filled with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and a personal note. Along with each box, each child will also receive a book with a colorful presentation of the Gospel in his/her own language.

Shipping will cost \$7.00 per box (overall total \$2,800); however, if you want to discover the destination of your gift, you can donate \$7.00 online and receive a shipping label to follow your shoebox. To give a larger donation, to assist with shipping, give a check to FAC with the desired amount; include OCC in the memo line. If you have any questions, contact Kristen Potter, [kpotter831@gmail.com](mailto:kpotter831@gmail.com).

## 03

### LOCAL

## A GIFT OF HOPE

A LOCAL SERVICE PROJECT FOR SINGLE MOMS AT FAC

*Tags available in the Welcome Center: Nov. 28/29; Dec. 5/6  
Gift Return Date: Dec. 13*

A Gift of Hope is a Christmas ministry for our Fresh Hope single moms and their children.

Fresh Hope moms will fill out gift requests for their children, and those gift requests will be placed on gift tags located in the Welcome Center. To participate, choose a tag and purchase that gift for one of our Fresh Hope children.

If you have questions, contact Debbie Schneck, [debbie@myfac.org](mailto:debbie@myfac.org).



# GOD@WORK

IN THE LIFE OF...  
PATRICIA BLOCK

I was raised Catholic, and I always believed in God, but only after my second husband died did I acquire a personal relationship with Jesus.

I was married for the first time at a very young age. My husband died in a car accident at the age of 23, leaving me with two small children. My daughter was one, and my son was three.

I met my second husband three years later. He was Jewish and afraid if I practiced my religion that the church would turn me against him because he was not a Christian. So for 35 years, I had to worship very quietly. This was very difficult. I felt an emptiness inside of me. I felt that yearning and emptiness inside and out as I would drive by churches. I would stop and pause for a while, wanting desperately to go in and worship, but because of my marriage to a Jewish man, I would just drive by and feel very, very sad.

My husband got ill in 2007 and was sick for many years with end-stage renal failure and COPD. I stopped work to care for him. I devoted my life for those seven years to care for him. I wanted to give him the best quality of life possible considering his illness and limitations. He didn't have the energy to go out which left us housebound. The only outings were for visits to doctors and to physical therapy. God blessed me with the ability to do this for my husband with loving thoughts, kindness, and no regrets.

My husband died in February of 2014. One month later, I found FAC's Helping Hand Grief Support ministry. I know that it was God who led me to this wonderful church. I started attending services. I would sit in the back and watch the families worshiping together and think to myself, I hope they know how fortunate they are to be able to be worshiping together in this wonderful church.

Every Monday night, I would go to Helping Hand Grief Support meetings. As I was getting stronger, I saw these wonderful people who had also lost their spouses hurting so much. I wanted to help them in some way. I started having small dinner parties for some of the widows and widowers. Everyone seemed to enjoy this very much, but I believe that I enjoyed it much more than they did. During these dinner parties, I could see hurting people enjoying themselves, laughing and having fun, and I knew ▶

for that brief time they had set aside their grief and were just having fun living. This was so gratifying to me that I continued to do this, and the parties grew. I had to ask my son-in-law to make some wooden additions to my dining room table so that we could fit as many people as possible.

During Helping Hand Grief Support meetings, I would hear the men talking about how they were not eating properly. That made me sad. I offered to teach some of the men how to cook. This turned out to be so much fun! It started slowly with just one and then grew to four. After they'd cook, we'd invite our group members to dine with us. It was a lot of fun.

Last year, I had a New Year's Eve party at my house for our entire grief group. It meant that no one had to celebrate their first New Year's Eve alone and sad. They could be with people who understood what they were going through. If they needed to have a moment to sit and think about their lost loved-one, that was fine.

I believe when something bad happens to you, God gives a seed of equal or better benefit. But, it is up to us to look for the seed and nurture it so it grows into something wonderful.

The fall of 2014, I attended Alpha for the first time. It was absolutely incredible. During Alpha, someone gave me *Jesus Calling*, a daily devotional. On that same day, someone else gave me a Bible. About three days later, a friend gave me an engraved Bible. I know that God was sending me a loud and clear message.

On Nov. 29, 2014, I was baptized at FAC. It was the most incredible experience of my life. I have never felt more at peace and complete as I do now having Jesus Christ as my personal Savior.

I have become a helper at Alpha, and I am now in my fourth Alpha session. Alpha has been so rewarding for me. It is wonderful watching the newcomers share their questions and stories and help one another grow in their faith. Alpha helps me to continue to grow in my faith.



I'm also a facilitator-in-training with the Helping Hand Grief Support ministry.

I have been so incredibly blessed to be able to do this.

"And he said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'" (Mark 4:30-32 ESV) •



**I BELIEVE  
WHEN  
SOMETHING  
BAD  
HAPPENS  
TO YOU,  
GOD GIVES  
A SEED OF  
EQUAL OR  
BETTER  
BENEFIT.**



## FASA (FELLOWSHIP ALLIANCE SOUTHERN AFRICA) A YEAR IN REVIEW

In our last two *Connection* articles, we gave first-hand accounts of team members' experiences in Southern Africa. God is doing amazing things there and in the lives of FASA team members.

This month, FASA's ministry leaders, Jim and Tammy Walter, review the work of the teams in 2015. As you read, consider how God might want you to be involved in 2016.

### QUESTION: WHERE CAN YOU SEE GOD MOVING IN YOUR MINISTRY?

**ANSWER:** God is moving all over the FASA ministry! This year we have had five trips to Southern Africa. In those trips we trained men and women to equip them for ministry. We helped church leaders understand how to better disciple their people. We trained young adults how to create and run a youth ministry. We had a day camp for kids where they learned about Biblical truths and were presented with the Gospel. And we conducted a men's conference, which is the first the town has ever had.

All these trips resulted in extremely positive feedback from the South Africans about how God was at work in their lives through the FAC teams. Almost every single team member from FAC has talked about how God has used the trip to change them in ways that are significant and deep.

In addition, we had an intern, Jenn Dallow, spend six months in SA establishing a public school ministry. This went extremely well. Jenn was able to establish relationships with five different schools. Three of those schools have allowed a regular program of Biblical teaching and discipleship during the regular school day. This program is now positioned to be developed with a continual and regular presence in these public

schools to share the Gospel, disciple believers, and build up strong Christian leaders for the church of tomorrow.

### QUESTION: HOW ARE YOUR MINISTRIES PLANNING FOR THE NEW FACILITY AND THE NEW GROWTH?

**ANSWER:** 2016 will be a significant year for FASA in terms of development. We are expanding into Zimbabwe with two different trips next year. We are working on an operational/logistics base in SA to be manned full time by a single person or couple. We are also planning to add to our intern team. We are developing a different level of short-term trip. And we have four more trips planned to SA like we had this year. All this will need a whole host of additional workers on both sides of the ocean.

### QUESTION: WHERE ARE YOU EXCITED TO SEE PEOPLE CONNECTING TO GOD'S WORK?

**ANSWER:** We are excited to see people connect to God in all the new developments listed above, as well as the repeat trips that we will conduct in 2016.

We are also very excited to see our Friends of FASA (FoF) team develop. FoF is an open sharing time that is conducted once a month for the purpose of sharing all that God is doing in the ministry. But it also provides an opportunity for past trip team members to reconnect.

We have a whole team of men and women who are involved in this part of the ministry who have not been to SA. They are able to support the ministry, use their gifts, and feel the satisfaction of knowing they are being used — at home.

## STATISTICS FOR 2015

Trips: 5 trips with 38 team members (28 new, 10 returning)

Friends of FASA: 5 people on the team (all new!); monthly meetings with 50 to 70 in attendance

Participants on the HUB group: 135 people (28 new)

Interns: 1

Leadership team: 11 (3 new)

## CONNECT WITH US!

[www.fasafac.com](http://www.fasafac.com)

 Instagram: [fasa\\_fac](#)

 Facebook: [FASAFac](#)

 Twitter: [@facFASA](#)

 Google+: [fasafac](#)

Join the FASA group on The Hub ([www.myfac.ccbchurch.com](http://www.myfac.ccbchurch.com))

## FRIENDS OF FASA MEETING

Join us to learn more about FASA on Sun., Nov. 15, at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

	DATE	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
<b>General Fund</b>				
	9.6	\$ 64,706	\$ 63,396	\$ ( 1,310)
	9.13	\$ 64,706	\$ 59,469	\$ ( 5,237)
	9.20	\$ 64,706	\$ 49,656	\$ ( 15,050)
	9.27	\$ 64,706	\$ 65,873	\$ 1,167
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 258,824</b>	<b>\$ 238,394</b>	<b>\$ ( 20,430)</b>
Year-to-Date		\$ 2,518,552	\$ 2,332,040	\$ ( 186,512)
<b>Missions Fund</b>				
	9.6	\$ 4,804	\$ 4,005	\$ ( 799)
	9.13	\$ 4,804	\$ 4,164	\$ ( 640)
	9.20	\$ 4,804	\$ 9,453	\$ 4,649
	9.27	\$ 4,804	\$ 4,513	\$ ( 291)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 19,216</b>	<b>\$ 22,135</b>	<b>\$ 2,920</b>
Year-to-Date		\$ 186,983	\$ 189,629	\$ 2,646
<b>Benevolence Fund</b>				
	9.6		\$ 2,539	
	9.13		\$ 2,894	
	9.20		\$ 3,288	
	9.27		\$ 2,514	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 11,235</b>	
Year-to-Date			\$ 115,654	
<b>Building Fund</b>				
	9.6		\$ 17,934	
	9.13		\$ 26,189	
	9.20		\$ 17,376	
	9.27		\$ 18,075	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 79,574</b>	
Year-to-Date			\$ 779,261	

DATE	ADULTS	WORKERS	CHILDREN	TOTAL
9.6	1734	60	285	2079
9.13	1878	80	400	2358
9.20	1820	155	323	2298
9.27	1753	99	402	2254

*This report is based on a 12-month, evenly distributed budget. Actual expenses fluctuate throughout the budget year. We conduct regular financial reviews to determine whether ministry expenses need to be trimmed.*

**MINISTRIES DIRECTORY****Tel: 609-953-7333****Adults****Alpha**

Explore the meaning of life  
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**50+**

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**miniChurches**

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**Middle School (Grades 5-8)**

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**For more information about FAC ministries, go to [www.myfac.org](http://www.myfac.org).**

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Please submit family announcements to [lynn@myfac.org](mailto:lynn@myfac.org) by the 5th of the month prior to publication.



## Our Vision

We want people to hear God's call and follow it.

## Our Mission

We want to help people connect to God,  
to His people, and to His work.

## Our Core Values

Lost people matter to God.  
He wants them found.

*~Luke 19:10*

Prayer is the primary work of the  
people of God.

*~Philippians 4:6,7*

Everything we have belongs to God.  
We are only stewards.

*~1 Chronicles 29:14*

Knowing and obeying God's Word is  
fundamental to all true success.

*~Joshua 1:8*

Without the empowering of the Holy  
Spirit, we can accomplish nothing.

*~1 Corinthians 2:4,5*