

# CONNECTION

FELLOWSHIP ALLIANCE CHAPEL — MEDFORD, NJ — JULY 2016



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## NEW? GET CONNECTED!

### GUEST RECEPTION

**July 9/10 & 23/24**

Guest Receptions for visitors are held after worship services in Room A-08 next to the Sanctuary. Get some coffee and learn more about FAC!

For more information, contact Pastor Doug Bazigian, dougb@myfac.org, or 609-953-7333, x124.

### NEXT STEPS GROUPS

**New group begins on July 10 | Room A-09 | 12:30 p.m.**

Next Steps is the place to get connected and learn more about FAC while exploring our values and beliefs based on faith in Jesus Christ. Lunch is included. The group meets for three sessions.

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



## WORSHIP SERVICES

**Saturday:** 6:00 p.m.

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

Nursery and KBS classes 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.

# CHANGE IS A COMIN'!

*Not all change is good change... be careful not to change from the essential truths that brought us here.*

Dear Church Family,

**O**ur church is in the midst of all kinds of change. Our ministry growth and new building are helping us change. Most of it is good change. But, it's still change, and with change always comes stress. This is the major reason we often avoid change in our personal lives and feel an inner repulsion to it. But good change actually moves us forward.

I probably don't need to remind you, but as the lead pastor of our church, I've seen change happen lots over the last 35 years. Again, most of it was good change, and as a result thousands of peoples' lives were touched by God and many brought to Christ, as well as many more growing in their relationship with God. As followers of Christ (Christians), we are actually called to bring change to this world. It is our assignment from God Himself. "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." [Matthew 28:18-20] "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." [Acts 1:8] We are change agents sent by the Lord to bring others to the changed hearts, minds, and lives we've found in Christ.

But not all change is good change. So as we make these good changes to help even more people find the Lord like we did, I need to warn all of us to be careful not to change from the essential truths that brought us here. That's why this summer and through September, I feel God calling me to lead all of us in a series of sermons on a central topic that must stay at the center of our church and our lives. The series is on "The Cross." That's right — the Cross of Christ is central and essential to all

our theology and all our ministries. We dare not change that, or we will be denying what God has been doing in and among us.

For Jesus Christ, the Lord we follow, going to the Cross was the core assignment of His ministry. Without the Cross, there would be no sacrifice for our sins, no forgiveness of our sins, no justification, no sanctification, no redemption, no reconciliation, no propitiation, no church, no fellowship, no hope, and no eternal salvation — just to mention a few of the reasons the cross is important to us.

I am not exaggerating to say that the Cross gives us all we have in Christ. Without the Cross, we are dead and hopelessly destined to eternal damnation.

So you will hear me and other staff in church reminding us for several weeks why and how we must "cling to the old rugged cross" so that we do not change the essential Truth of the Gospel and so we major on the major, not the minor things of being a church. Actually, as you hear me and others explain, the Cross is the solution to the stress of change we face in the coming months. I hope we can all learn to walk with the Lord to the Cross. For the Cross of Christ is the source of all we have as Christians.

Love never fails,

Pastor Marty Berglund  
Senior Pastor

Stay in touch with Marty through social media:



# MAJORING ON THE MAJORS



On the previous page, Pastor Marty writes about his current sermon series, "The Cross." He said, "The Cross of Christ is central and essential to all our theology and all our ministries." He goes on to discuss the importance of majoring on the majors. In this article, we're focusing on our majors: our foundation and our mission.

## Our Foundation: The Cross

Perhaps the most well-known verse in the Bible is John 3:16. In a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus, a teacher in Israel, Jesus told him that a new birth and faith in Him were required for entrance into heaven. He told him the plan of salvation: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

In this one sentence is all the information you need to understand salvation. Christianity is based on the Bible as a whole, but that one sentence from Jesus is considered a summary of all that is contained in the Bible. The Old Testament prophesies about it, and all of the New Testament is built on it. Through His death on a cross, Jesus offers the forgiveness of sins, making a bridge to a Holy God.

When we choose to believe the words of John 3:16; ask forgiveness for our sins; and accept the free gift of salvation, Jesus says that we have eternal life in heaven. In this life, Jesus wants to have a relationship with us. He wants to help us live a righteous, blessed life. That does not mean that we will be perfect or that we will have everything we want. It does mean that He will be with us every day and in every situation until we meet Him in heaven.

At FAC, salvation is the foundation for everything we believe, every decision we make, and every ministry we have.

What you believe about salvation is the most important decision you will ever make. Ask any of our leaders to pray or talk with you about salvation.

## Our Mission

Accepting the gift of salvation is just the beginning of life with Jesus. At FAC, we emphasize the importance of connecting to God, His people, and His work.

Ephesians 2: 8-9, says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." These connections, then, are not for our own merit; rather, they are a recognition of what we owe to Jesus coupled with a desire to grow in an understanding of who He is and what He wants us to do.

### CONNECT TO GOD

Read the Bible regularly; start with the first four Books of the New Testament. Take time to pray. Attend worship services.

### CONNECT TO GOD'S PEOPLE

Choose to participate in a Bible study at FAC. We offer groups for all ages and life situations.

### CONNECT TO GOD'S WORK

Find ways to actively serve Him: work with children or youth; get involved in missions; participate in caring for people in need; be a greeter. Ask Him to show you the right area for your service. There are many opportunities to serve right at FAC.

These are the majors at FAC. Don't miss Pastor Marty's messages about The Cross. The Cross is our central focus; it's foundational. We pray that you will make it your foundation and that you will join us in our mission.

# ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE Journey



*"Rest – the gift of Sabbath God gave us – helps us find meaning in our work and relationships"*

**A**s I'm writing this article, summer is just around the corner, and as always, I'm really looking forward to it. Last summer we were planning a month of sabbatical, which was a rare and wonderful gift. This summer we aren't, but we're still hoping to find time for rest and renewal, as I'm sure you are.

I was just re-reading some notes from a book I read last summer, *The Resting Place*, by Jane Rubietta. These were some of the things I learned from her that I'm still trying to absorb:

Fatigue has become a fact of life. We are a tired society, even though we have an industry dedicated to pursuing leisure. We work hard, volunteer hard, buy expensive toys so we can play hard, and sleep little. We exhaust our children by our efforts to provide them with an education and entertainment that will rival their peers. We live with weariness as though it were expected and accepted and somehow spiritual. Isn't that crazy?! Where did we get the idea that there were prizes being given out for the most exhausted among us?!

God made it clear that He doesn't value that. The day after we were created in the Garden, He invited us to rest — and we hadn't even worked hard enough to earn it yet! Entering that rest — choosing God as our resting place — is more about our hearts and less about our hands. It's what is going on inside far more than what is going on outside. Rest is an internal state of the soul, a relaxing into God's chest even when life is busy. It has everything to do with whether we will allow God to shepherd us — feed and water us, rest us, restore us, guide us, protect us.

Rest — the gift of Sabbath God gave us — helps us find meaning in our work and relationships, gives us places to evaluate what we're doing with our hours and our hearts, and determine whether it's making a difference or not. Rest — reflection, meditation, being in God's presence — lowers stress, calms our heart, and redirects our attention from the created to the Creator. Rest takes a load off. And who among us doesn't need that?!

You might be saying to yourself by now, "Hey, hasn't she written about this before?" And the answer is "Yep! And I'll probably write about it again," because the idea of Sabbath rest is deeply Biblical and foundational to a meaningful life with Jesus. But VERY FEW of us practice it — to our detriment. We prefer to try hard and trust ourselves, and so we are missing out on this truth: that God's purposes may best be accomplished through our inactivity, rest, and dependence on Him. But you can't know that until you stop, which is why He created Sabbath.

Mark Buchanan says in *The Rest of God*, "Most of the things we need to be most fully alive never come in busyness. They grow in rest." I'm hoping to make more space for that kind of growth this summer, but truthfully, that's what He wants for us EVERY DAY!

*Laurie Berglund*

Laurie welcomes your comments,  
[laurieb@myfac.org](mailto:laurieb@myfac.org)



## The FAC Creative Team

### Opportunity for Service

The launch of our new building provides many new opportunities for service. One opportunity is offered by participation on the FAC Creative Team. Since the summer of 2015, this team has worked hard to provide the thought-provoking, attractive stage designs that we have enjoyed and appreciated. For the July designs, Bethany Miller worked with our children to help them create cross string art to complement Pastor Marty's sermon series entitled "The Cross." If you are interested in using your talent and skills by serving on the Creative Team, contact Bethany Miller, [bethanym@myfac.org](mailto:bethanym@myfac.org).

## Camp FAC Community Days

Invite your neighbors, your friends, your co-workers, and their families to join you at one of our two Community Days at Camp FAC. There will be swimming, boating, grills to use and lots of fun in the sun. But remember — you only have two chances so mark your calendar and start calling around!

Fri., July 15, Noon to 8:00 p.m.  
Sat., July 30, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

These events will be hosted by FAC Alpha. If you have any questions, contact Dave Shoemaker, [shoemaker23@comcast.net](mailto:shoemaker23@comcast.net), or Sue Bartholomew, [suejane@aol.com](mailto:suejane@aol.com).



## Join the Mission Field

### Here in your own backyard!

Did you know that at Urban Promise in Camden there are already FAC members who build relationships with students by helping them build and repair boats; teaching them to ride a bike and train for their own cycling fundraiser; spending time with

them at school; tutoring them; and financially partnering with them to help pay their tuition?

[Now you can join the team that considers Urban Promise their mission field! After the services on July 23/24 and July 30/31, stop by the Urban Promise table](#) to see how you can purchase a book for their new library and even volunteer to help in the library. Find out also what additional opportunities there might be for you with Urban Promise. For additional information, contact Sue Bartholomew, [suejane@aol.com](mailto:suejane@aol.com).



# NEWS NOTES



## [GRADUATES]



### BRANDON HUMPHREY

**Parents:** Louis & Keisha Glasper  
**School:** Rancocas Valley High School  
**Plans:** Going into the service upon graduation



### BRENDEN ROARK IRELAND RUBY

**Parents:** Roy Ruby & April Williams  
**School:** Rancocas Valley Regional High School  
**Plans:** Attending Drexel University; received Army ROTC scholarship



### HAILEY RUSSELL

**Parents:** Bryan & Lisa Russell  
**School:** Seneca High School  
**Plans:** RCBC



### ROBERT K. VOGEL

**Parents:** Carl & Marge Vogel  
**School:** Duke University, Mechanical Engineering w/ Aerospace Certificate  
**Plan:** Working for General Dynamics, Electric Boat Division, Groton, CT

## PARENTS & PRESCHOOLERS

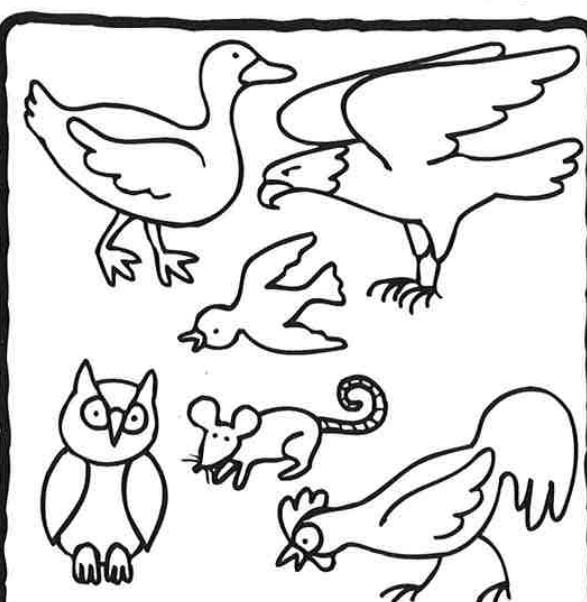
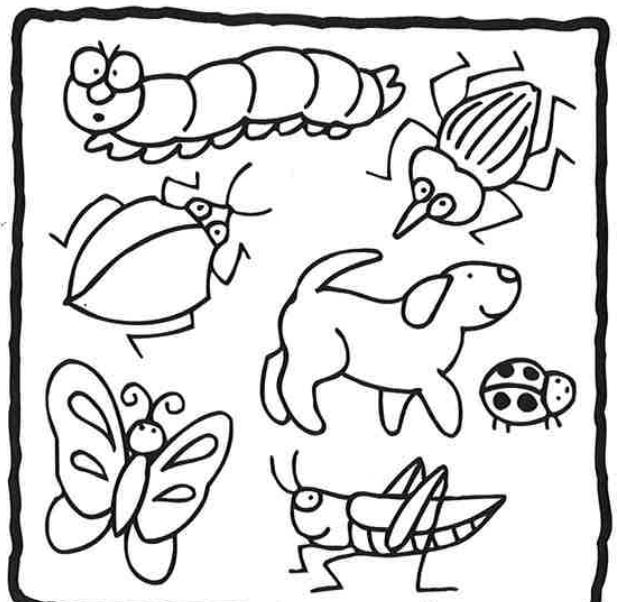
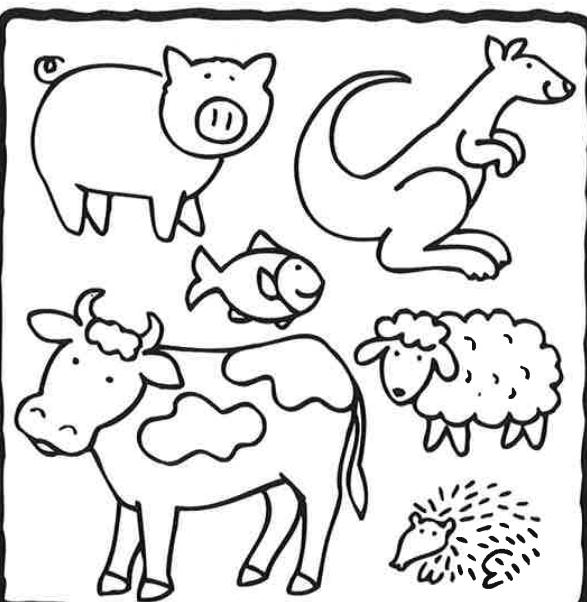
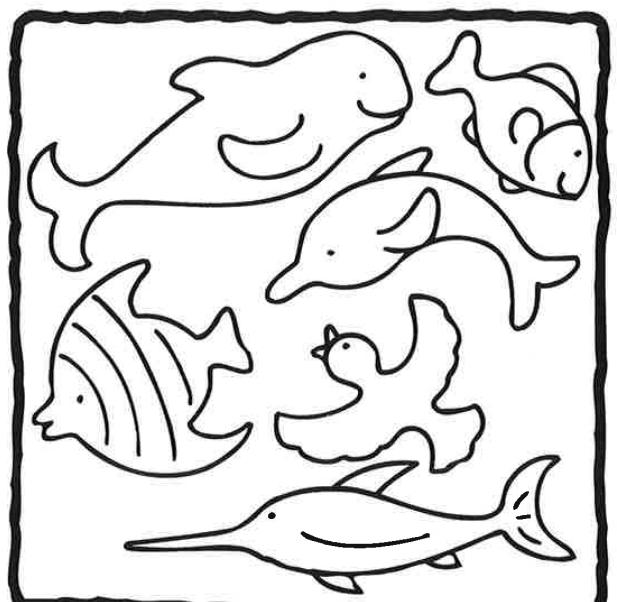
Preschoolers are continuing to learn this month about all the things God made. So far, we've visited light and dark; the sky and water; land, plants and sea; and the sun, moon, and stars! We still need to visit all of the birds God made and the fish and all the land animals. And they are about to find out the very best thing that God made — people. We are helping children know the God who made them and loves them. Parents, with your children —

- Spend some time in front of the mirror with your preschooler and thank God for everything you see.
- Thank Him for things that make you both uniquely you.
- Remind your child that God made each of you. You both are His creation, and He loves every single hair on your head — even that crazy, extra curly or straight one!

### Activity

In each group of the puzzle, put an X on the one that doesn't belong.

God made all of the birds, fish, and animals in the world. The Bible says, "God saw all that He had made, and it was good." [Genesis 1:31]



How many fish are there? \_\_\_\_\_

How many birds are there? \_\_\_\_\_

## CHILDREN'S REACTIONS TO A RECENT STUDY ABOUT GIDEON

In a story from Judges 6, the children learned that one day Gideon was hiding so that the Midianites wouldn't find him. An angel of the Lord appeared and called him a "mighty warrior." We asked the children if there were people in their lives who called them dumb, not fun, uncool, etc. We then asked how they felt when people said those things.

### Their answers:

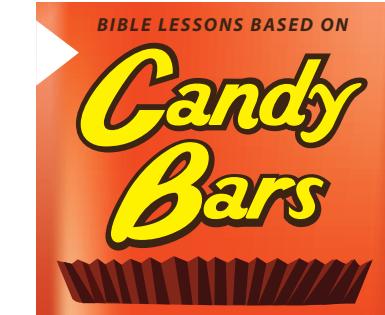
*I'm not good enough.  
I can't do anything. Even if I can, I still feel like I can't.  
I keep messing up.  
I won't measure up.  
I feel unloved.*

Warnesia Travasso, Director of Children's Ministries, said, "I was amazed at how none of the answers revolved around how the other person was being mean or unkind."

The children were then asked to close their eyes and listen to what God said to Gideon, "'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.' If you heard God call you a mighty warrior, how would you feel? Remember, Gideon was afraid and was hiding so that he wouldn't get caught. How would you feel?"

### Their answers:

*I feel strong.  
I feel like I can do anything.  
That God was thoughtful.  
How kind God is.  
I am strong.  
That what I do matters.  
That I can help.*



## THIS SUMMER'S LESSONS

The candy aisle of the grocery store is filled with so many sweet treats. Kids will learn that there is nothing sweeter than the love of God.



### PINK LEMONADE POPSICLES

**Yield:** 10, 3-ounce (1/3 cup) popsicles

#### INGREDIENTS

**3/4 cup** granulated sugar  
**1 3/4 cups** water (1 cup can be very cold)  
**1 cup** (about 5 ounces) fresh or frozen raspberries  
**1 cup** lemon juice (from approximately 7 to 8 lemons)

#### DIRECTIONS

Heat sugar with **3/4 cup** water in a small saucepan until sugar dissolves. Pour into large bowl, add remaining **1 cup** cold water. Let cool — a process you can hasten by setting it in a shallow bowl of ice water or placing it in the refrigerator (or freezer, but briefly) while you prepare the raspberries.

Meanwhile, puree raspberries in a food processor or blender until they're as liquefied as possible. To avoid raspberry seeds, stir the puree through a fine-mesh sieve, trying to press out all the raspberry puree that you can, leaving the seeds behind. You will end up with **1/3 cup** strained puree (more or less). If you're not bothered by raspberry seeds, you can skip this sieving step.

Add raspberry puree and lemon juice to cold sugar-water mixture and stir until combined. Pour into popsicle molds and freeze as manufacturer suggests.

No popsicle molds? You could use any kind of small cup to mold them instead. When the mixture is halfway frozen, insert a popsicle stick.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 5-8



## Summer Escape Retreat

Black Rock Retreat Center

Grades 6 to 8 | Aug. 19 to 21 | \$200

Register at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register), by Aug. 3.



## Level 5 All-Nighter

For students entering Grade 5, we will meet at Camp FAC at 7:00 p.m.

Aug. 5 to 6 | \$5.00

Register at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register) by Aug. 3.



## Level 5 Family Movie Night

For students entering Grade 5

July 20 | 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. | \$2.00  
Location: FAC, 184 Church Rd.

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



## HOW TO FACE LIFE'S BATTLES

### YOUTH GROUP

This summer, Level 5 and Planet 678 groups meet weekly at FAC from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. We are discussing ways to face the battles that life throws at us.

Pick up a calendar in the Welcome Center or visit our website, [www.myfac.org/youth](http://www.myfac.org/youth), for more events.

Follow us on Instagram!  
@Level5youth | @planet678youth

### Connection | Newsletter



### SUMMER EVENTS

If you are entering Grades 9 through 12 in September, join us for all the summer fun!

#### PAINTBALL

July 20, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cost is \$55.00, which includes gear, gun, and 500 rounds

Register online by July 14.  
Drop off and pick up at FAC.

#### POOL PARTY AT THE MENDILLOS'

July 6, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Drop off and pick up location: 8 Georgia Trail, Medford

#### TBS (THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY)

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the 219 House at FAC

On Thursday nights this summer, we are learning how to study the Bible and going through a series on digging deeper into God's Word!

#### OCEAN CITY BEACH TRIP

July 13, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Cost is \$10.00

Register online by July 11.

It's not summer without the shore! Take a day trip to Ocean City with us. Bring a lunch or money to buy lunch on the boardwalk! Drop off and pick up is at FAC.

#### HERSHEY PARK TRIP

Aug. 9, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Drop off and pick up at FAC.

We're taking a day trip to Hershey Park! The cost of \$60 covers your ticket and transportation. Bring money for food. Register by July 21.



To register for any of these events, go to [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register).

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Mike Williams, 609-953-7333, x108, or [mike@myfac.org](mailto:mike@myfac.org).

# IMPACT GRADES 9-12

### CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram:  
FACyouthImpact

Twitter:  
FACyouthImpact

Facebook:  
Youth Impact: Fellowship Alliance Chapel

# FALL AWAKEN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Semester begins Sept. 27 | Tuesday mornings, 9:15 to 11:15; Tuesday evenings, 7:00 to 9:00 | Registration deadline: Mon., Sept. 12\*

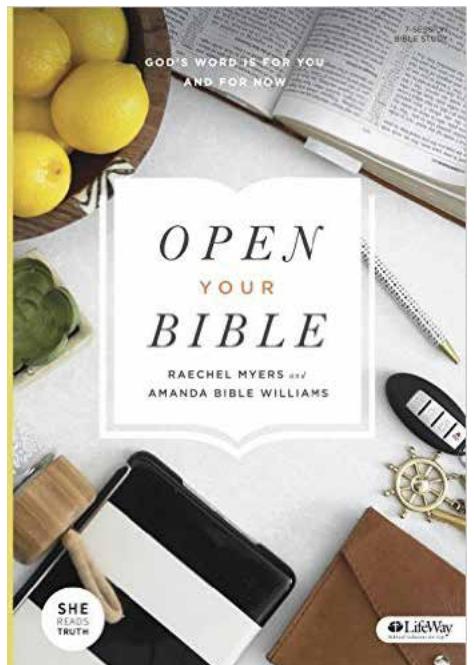
aWaken classes include teaching, interaction, and small group discussions. Service opportunities are also available. True Treasures, a Children's Ministry program, is available for children — babies through kindergartners — during the morning classes at no additional charge. Childcare is available during the evening classes for babies through fifth graders. There is no charge for babies through kindergartners. Fee is \$30.00 per child in Grades 1-5 or \$50 per family.

To register, go to [www.myfac.org/forwomen](http://www.myfac.org/forwomen). Scholarships are available; contact Debbie Schneck, 609-953-7333, x125.

## CLASSES

\*Prices listed are "early bird pricing" for registrations received by Aug. 31. After that time, there is an additional fee of \$10.00.

## learning



### OPEN YOUR BIBLE

#### AM & PM (9 WEEKS)

We're all longing to hear from God, aching to know who He is, and to know His heart. The beautiful truth is that we can encounter the living God today in the pages of His Word. Whether you already open your Bible every day, have never read it before, or struggle to keep up with studying Scripture, *Open Your Bible* is a study that will leave you with a greater appreciation for the Word of God, a deeper understanding of its authority, and a stronger desire to know the Bible more fully.

**Homework:** 20 minutes, 5 days a week

**Cost:** \$25

**Text:** *Open Your Bible*, RaeChel Myers and Amanda Bible Williams

### WHAT LOVE IS PM (7 WEEKS)

This study by Kelly Minter focuses on the letters of 1, 2, and 3 John, which were written to encourage followers of Jesus to remain faithful to the Truth. We will consider the contrasting themes, such as walking in the light instead of darkness, truth versus lies, loving God more than loving the world, and the meaning of true fellowship rather than shallowness.

**Homework:** 20-30 minutes, 5 days a week

**Cost:** \$25

**Text:** *What Love Is*, Kelly Minter



## healing

### FAITHFULLY FIT, UNGLUED

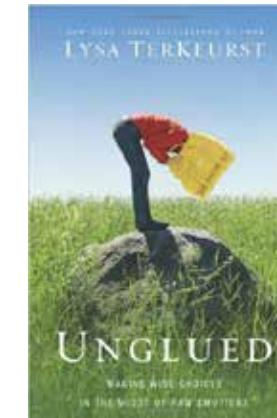
#### AM (8 WEEKS)

What do we often do with our emotions? We stuff; we explode; or we react somewhere in between. Is it really possible to make emotions work for us instead of against us? Yes! *Faithfully Fit* will explore how we can process emotions and resolve conflicts in ways that lead to a more peaceful and healthy life. Each class will include health topics and wellness resources.

**Homework:** 20 minutes, 5 days a week

**Cost:** \$25

**Text:** *Unglued*, Lisa TerKeurst



## living

### PROPEL: PERSONAL LEADERSHIP

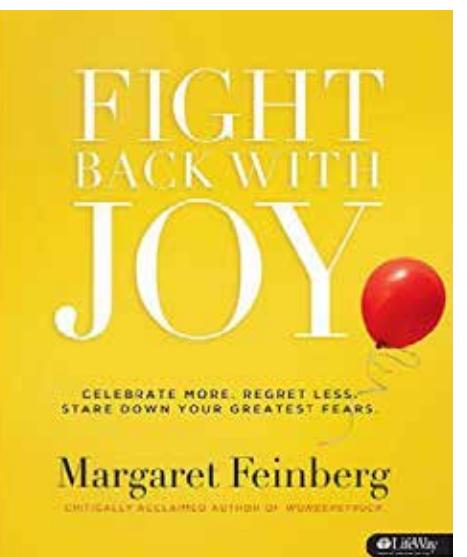
#### AM & PM (8 WEEKS)

Whether you are a college student; a stay-at-home mom; or a leader at work or ministry or your community, this study will help guide you as you lead in your day-to-day sphere of influence. In *Propel*, you will discover how to develop balance, make confident decisions, have a healthy mindset, develop a full prayer life, practice self-care, and communicate effectively.

**Homework:** 5-15 minutes, 5 days a week

**Cost:** \$25

**Text:** *Propel*, Christine Caine, et al



### FIGHT BACK WITH JOY PM (8 WEEKS)

Learn to practice a defiant joy. Celebrate more. Regret less. Stare down your greatest fears. If you're facing challenging circumstances, God wants to empower you to fight back with joy. This class will include hands-on activities to help participants experience a mindset of joy.

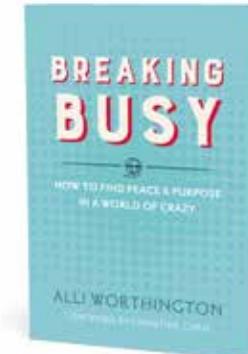
**Homework:** 20 minutes, 5 days a week

**Cost:** \$25

**Text:** *Fight Back with Joy*, Margaret Feinberg

### BREAKING BUSY PM (9 WEEKS)

In a fun, no-nonsense way, *Breaking Busy* tackles the big questions about finding happiness and God-given purpose in a society where the message is "be more, do more, and achieve more." *Breaking Busy* marries research with Biblical principles, instilling confidence that we can move from crazy busy to confident calm. Full of uproarious true stories, we'll unpack truths that dismantle common myths about happiness.



### MIGHTY SISTERS IN CHRIST AM (6 WEEKS)

Learning about art and creativity can help us better understand our mighty, creative God, and we can be rewarded with strength, healing, and peace. In this class, discover the joy of coloring and creating jewelry while we highlight topics such as the meaning of color in the Bible, the art of true beauty, creativity in Scripture, the beauty of abiding in Christ, and the art of developing beautiful friendships. No experience necessary!

**Homework:** Suggested journaling

**Cost:** \$25

**Text:** *Mighty Sisters in Christ*

**Homework:** Weekly reading  
**Cost:** \$25  
**Text:** *Breaking Busy*, Alli Worthington



## Mom's Time Out Camp Dates

Dates: July 28, Aug. 25  
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We have reserved Camp FAC, north side, for our Mom's Time Out members and their families and friends! Dates are July 28 and Aug. 25. Pack your lunches and beach toys, and you are all set for a day of fun at the camp! Mom's Time Out Camp Days are free; no registration is necessary.

### REGISTRATION FOR FALL SEMESTER

The leaders of Mom's Time Out have planned another great semester to encourage moms in their very important role as mothers. All women with children — babies through eighth graders — are invited to attend.

The dates for the fall semester are Sept. 15, Sept. 29, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Nov. 17, and Dec. 1. Times are 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. The cost is \$55. Childcare is provided. To register, go to [www.myfac.org/forwomen](http://www.myfac.org/forwomen).

## Deepening Groups

A covenant community for maturing Christians

In a Deepening Group, you can experience:

- Communion — a deeper intimacy with the Trinity and personal intentionality in spiritual formation
- Community — participation in a Christian group that will encourage and challenge participants in the isolating society of our time
- Ministry — support and service to others as you pursue your place and purpose in the Kingdom of God

To join a Deepening Group, go to [www.myfac.org/women](http://www.myfac.org/women) and complete the Participant Interest Form. If you have questions, contact Carol Batten, [carol@myfac.org](mailto:carol@myfac.org), or Jennifer Green, [jenniferg15@verizon.net](mailto:jenniferg15@verizon.net).

## Summer IF:Tables

*"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." (Acts 2:46)*

The aWAKEN ministry for women is inviting you to join us for summer IF:Tables. We believe the table is a place to gather women, share a simple meal, and dive deep into real stories and Christ-centered conversations. This will be a time for a whole lot of laughter — and maybe a few tears — but time spent that leaves us with glad hearts, full hearts, and grateful hearts.

*Sign up for the July and/or August dinners! Space is limited so sign up early.*

**When:** July 15 and Aug. 19 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Where:** 219 Fellowship House at FAC

**Cost:** \$5.00 for each IF:Table

*Register online for each IF:Table you plan on attending. Registration will close when maximum space has been reached or the Friday prior to the date of the event. Registration deadlines are July 14, and Aug. 18.*

*To register, go to [www.myfac.org/forwomen](http://www.myfac.org/forwomen).*

## Fresh Hope

For Single Moms

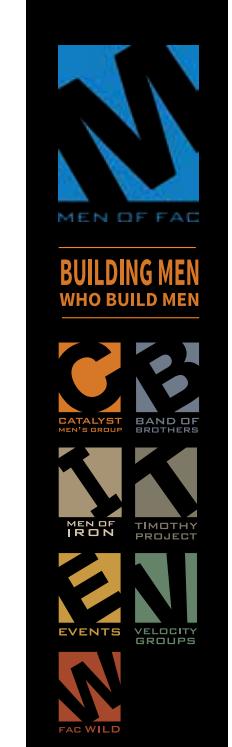
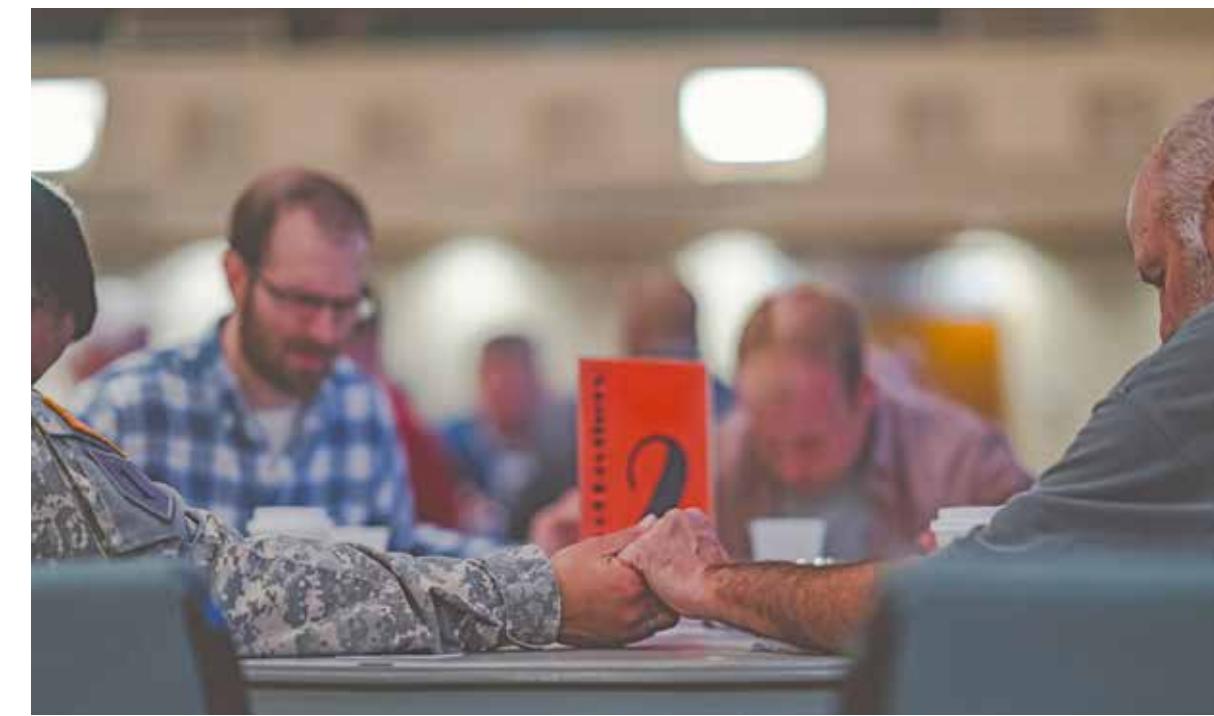
### Fresh Hope Food Pantry and Clothes Closet

The Food Pantry and the Clothes Closet will be open to all Fresh Hope moms on Sun., July 10, and Sun., Aug. 14, from 10:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

### Clothing Donations for Fresh Hope

You can support our single moms by donating seasonal women's clothing in like-new condition for the Fresh Hope boutique. On Sun., July 31, from 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., clothing donations may be brought to the garage next to the 195 House by the Church Road exit. Someone will be there to accept your donations.

*For questions or to volunteer to help, contact Kathy Foering, 609-458-9222, or [kfoering@comcast.net](mailto:kfoering@comcast.net).*



### BAND OF BROTHERS

Wednesday Mornings | 6:30 to 7:45 a.m.  
in the Sanctuary.

#### Our July Schedule

- July 6: Ask It
- July 13: Real Life  
Because every man has a story
- July 20: Real Life  
Because every man has a story
- July 27: Open Microphone

*We will be taking a break from Aug. 3 to Sept. 14.*

There is no cost to attend Band of Brothers. Donations are accepted.

*If you have questions, contact Michael More, [dembums1@gmail.com](mailto:dembums1@gmail.com).*



### FACWILD CAMPING TRIP & HIKE

Round Valley Reservoir, Lebanon, NJ  
Dates: Fri., July 8 to Sat., July 9

Cost: \$5.00

We will be leaving from FAC on Friday at 8:00 a.m. for a 1.5 hour drive. The hike is a 3 to 6 mile (depending on the course we get) moderately difficult one to the campsite.

NOTE: This is a backpacking trip to a primitive campsite on the edge of the reservoir. There is no running water, no showers, no swimming, no potable water. There is a fire pit for cooking.

*Register at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register) by July 3. Contact Phil Bunk for details, [phil.bunk@gmail.com](mailto:phil.bunk@gmail.com).*



### FACWILD TRIP TO POCONO NASCAR RACE

Sat., July 30 to Sun., July 31  
For single men, fathers, sons  
(8 years of age and older)  
Bring your own camping supplies!

Cost is \$75.00 for men and \$50.00 for boys, ages 8 to 12. Cost includes group camping, dinner, breakfast, and tickets.

Register at [www.myfac.org/register](http://www.myfac.org/register) no later than July 8.

*For more information, contact Kevin Hamm, [kevin.hamm@me.com](mailto:kevin.hamm@me.com).*



## SAGE BUILDERS

### For retirement-aged men and women

We're taking a trip! It's not until November, but we wanted to give you a heads-up on this one!

We are going to Sight and Sound in Lancaster on Thurs., Nov. 3 to see the production, "Samson."

The cost of the trip is \$99.00, which includes transportation, tickets to the show, and lunch at the Shady Maple Smorgasbord. A \$25.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve a spot. The balance of \$74.00 is due Sept. 8.

We only have space for 45 people so act quickly. For more information and to reserve your spot, contact Dick Keim, dickkeim@comcast.net, or 609-388-4230.

#### SUMMER DATES

##### JULY 28

1:00 in the Sanctuary

"Drive Thru History" with Dave Stotts

Join us as we tour Rome via video giving us a fast-paced encounter with the people, places, and events that shaped our world and the Christian faith.

*No lunch will be served, but we will have ice cream at intermission.*

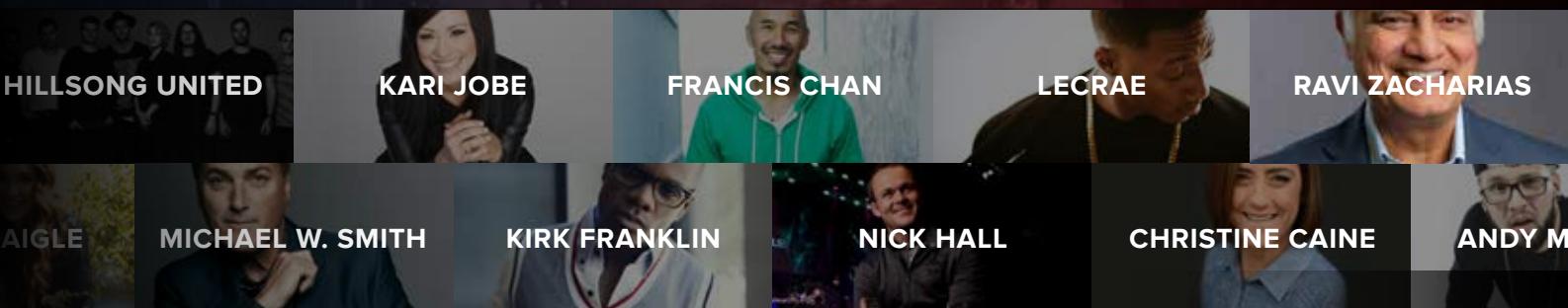
##### AUG. 18

1:00 in the Sanctuary

Game day and desserts

Level 5 will once again be joining us this year to serve dessert and play games. No lunch will be served.

The poster features a large, stylized American flag graphic in the background. Overlaid on the flag is the word 'TOGETHER' in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of 'TOGETHER' is the American flag. Below the main title, the text 'THE DREAM:' is followed by 'ONE MILLION PEOPLE STANDING TOGETHER FOR JESUS ON THE NATIONAL MALL.' In the bottom right corner, there is a smaller section titled 'STAND UNITED WITH:' featuring several small portraits of speakers or performers.



AND MANY MORE // FREE ADMISSION  
YOU CAN BE A PART OF TOGETHER 2016.

RESET2016.COM

# GOD@WORK

## IN THE LIFE OF CHARLENE RENNE

*"I didn't want my life to change too much. I still wanted to go out and live the way I wanted to."*



Charlene Renne

**C**har was brought up in a Christian home — at least she thought she was. Her parents and grandparents told her she was a Christian, but church was not on the agenda. "We would go to church on Easter, but to me it was more about the outfits than anything." Char did go to Sunday school and enjoyed it but never had any kind of relationship with Jesus.

"My dad passed away when I was 16, and it was just Mom and me at home. My sister had married, and my brother was at school. Church? Not even a flickering on my brain."

In 1990, things changed. "My brother and sister-in-law were saved about 15 years before that. They never really put it out there, but I just saw something about the way they lived their lives that was different. They had gone through some challenges, and I watched them. I couldn't figure out what it was about them, but it had me curious.

Char says, "Around that time, we were all at the shore, and my brother brought up being a Christian. I said, 'Well, I'm a Christian. I believe in God.' But I knew I wasn't. My sister, my mom, and I began talking about attending church. Maybe it was time.

"I worked at a car dealership, and a

customer came in. I asked him what he did for a living and he said, 'I'm a pastor at Fellowship Alliance Chapel.' It was Dennis Episcopo. He was so funny and so engaging. That wasn't my perception of a pastor. He gave me his business card, and I put it on my refrigerator.

"At the same time, a client at my sister's travel agency starting talking to her about how much he loved his church. It was FAC. So by the end of the week, we were pretty sure God was directing us to a specific church — FAC."

Within a year of attending every Sunday, Char gave her life to Christ. "God put so many people in my path, so many conversations. It was a no-brainer, but I was still a little afraid. I didn't want my life to change too much. I still wanted to go out and live the way I wanted to. One of the guys at work said, 'Well, you can still do whatever you want. You're just going to find that God will change your heart, and you are not going to want those things. You are going to want more of what God wants for you.' I was still afraid of the cost — but he was so right, about the changed heart!"

In 2009 after Char and her mom had been attending FAC for almost 20 years — sitting in the balcony, keeping to themselves, and dashing out after the service. But things got a little more challenging.

**“**At the end of the day, either I trust Him or I don't. My answer is always 'I do.' I can't believe I waited so long.

"In December 2009, my mom had a very bad fall and spent 2 ½ months in the hospital before she passed away. That broke me. Totally broke me. It had been just my mom and me for so long. She was my secure base. Now I was lost. I was so blessed and had my family, and I don't know where I'd be without them, but they couldn't help me. I felt so alone. I would go to work, put on my happy face, be exhausted from all that effort, cry all the way home, and then escape into my home and spend time alone. This went on for a long time, but looking back I see God was drawing me closer and closer to Him! Nothing in life stays the same. It's always changing, but God wanted me to know that no matter what, He would never change or leave me."

One Sunday, Pastor Jim Entwistle was preaching. "At the end of the service, Jim spoke about the food pantry. I thought, all right, maybe I can do that. I don't have to talk to anybody. I can just go in and put stuff on the shelves. That's perfect." So I sent Jim an e-mail, and he sent me the application. I went in to see Jim, and he connected me with Pastor Don Hay and with Phil Morgan. Don and Phil suggested I get connected by doing a little administrative work. Just little things — thank you notes, memos, stuffing envelopes — little stuff that I didn't think mattered at all."

An old friend moved back north from Florida. Char immediately began to lean into her, looking to replace the companionship she'd had with her mom. When her friend suggested they attend a women's Bible study at FAC, Char backed away. "She said, 'Come on. Let's go and try.' She assured me we didn't have to stay. Well, we went and it was love at first

sight! We did two Bible studies and got to meet some amazing, beautiful women like Suzanne Kim Chung and Trini Mandy. Everyone I met began carrying me out of the hole I was in. I got more involved and started helping out with the Bible studies. They just loved me into the Kingdom and into the community."

In the middle of that, Pastor Marty preached a sermon and said, "You'll find no greater joy than in serving the Lord."

"I recognized right away that he was so right! I had thought that I had to be doing amazing things, and I was just doing little bits and pieces. But God was using everything I did to get me involved with more and more people. He was moving me out of the hole — out of my comfort zone — and into a loving family.

"Last year, can you believe it, I went to South Africa with FASA. I was so frightened, but I went! What a blessing it was! I hesitated and procrastinated as much as I could. I couldn't even find my passport. I searched every nook and cranny of the house. I challenged God if He wanted me to go He had to find that passport. The moment I prayed that to God, I knew where the passport was. When I got home, I went to a keepsake box that I looked in occasionally, and there was my passport on top! There was no question, God wanted me on that trip, and I had to go!

"I often feel like a misfit — never married, no children, no grandchildren. But when I am at FAC and surrounded by the love and the community there, I'm home. I can't believe I wasted 20 years just attending. You've got to plug in. You'll just never believe what God can do and where He will show up. If there was anything I could

share, it would be that you can't be afraid to just step out and do something — even if it's a little thing. Just trust Him. He knows what He is doing!

"I'm just an average woman. I have a lot of fears and insecurities. I don't think I do anything special. I like to do things in the background, but God has other plans and His plans are always best.

"Today, I have a deep relationship with Jesus. He is my "everything"! All I want to do is serve Him. All I want to do is be able to glorify who He is and what He's done in my life. I can clearly see God's unseen hand working in my life. Sometimes He has to get us to the point where there is nothing else but Him before we open our eyes. I love Jesus, and He is all that I am ever going to need no matter how tough it gets.

"At the end of the day, either I trust Him or I don't. My answer is always 'I do.' I can't believe I waited so long." †

# FASA

## (Fellowship Alliance of Southern Africa)

### JULY CAMPS

It's time for FASA Summer Camps! This month FASA will be involved with two camps in Lephalale, SA. The first is a youth camp (July 3-6), a discipleship-focused, overnight camp for ages 16 to 22. The second is a day camp (July 11-14), a camp full of fun and love for ages 7 to 12. Team members will be travelling in two groups: one left on June 29; the second will be leaving on July 6. All team members will be returning home on July 18. Check out the teams' blogs at [www.fasafac.com](http://www.fasafac.com); click on Blog and come to the Friends of FASA Gathering on July 31 to see pictures and hear stories in person! We will meet in the Chapel starting at 12:30 p.m.

### Meet the Team Members

#### Q: WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THIS MISSIONS ADVENTURE?

**A:** Kristen Potter (Grad Student): This is my first missions trip! I am so excited to see how God uses this time to introduce kids to Jesus and to grow in a relationship to Him. I cannot wait to spend time with, encourage, and love the children in South Africa! Please pray that I will be able to connect with the kids and make a lasting impression for God's Kingdom.

**A:** Hannah Bartholomew (Preschool Aide and Grad Student): I am excited to love the kids while being able to freely share the impactful love that comes from Christ. With this being my first trip, I am excited to be part of a team with loads of energy and personality. Please pray for God to reveal Himself to the team and the kids in Africa in a new and meaningful way.

**A:** Jade Fleckenstein (Student): What excited me about this missions adventure is seeing what God can do for those who need His love. Also, I am excited to see their cultures and wildlife! Please pray that we will all be healthy throughout the trip.

**A:** Michele Fleckenstein (Jade's Mom; Fitness Director): I feel so privileged to be

### Connection | Newsletter

going on this trip with my daughter. This is our first trip together, and I'm super excited to see how God is going to work in both of our hearts! Please pray for our family members left at home!

**A:** Tammy Walter (Helpmate to My Wonderful Husband, Jim): What excites me most about this missions adventure is that the team will be staying on the new property, and we will also be doing our youth retreat and day camp there as well. God has provided beyond what we could have come up with! I'm excited to see all that He will enable us to do there to advance the Gospel. Please pray that the new property will be a place where youth and children feel safe, welcome, and loved by Jesus!

**A:** Cassie Jarvis (Student): I'm excited because I get to see my friends from the 2015 Day Camp again and make new ones, too! I can't wait to see God work in the kids' lives as well! Please pray that we can help bring many kids to know Jesus — and that we get to pet baby animals again.

**A:** Joy Jarvis (Cassie's Mom; Preschool Teacher): I'm excited about so many things — working with our long-term team, Jesse & Mer; serving with this team and with Cassie; running camps on the new property; and the amazing privilege we have to love and serve children and youth in Jesus' name! I am excited to see how the Lord uses each team member during these camps and how He draws people closer to Him as they come to understand His great love for them. Please pray that the Lord would bring all our camp plans and dreams to fruition, that we would trust and love Him more deeply, and that God would use us in mighty ways in South Africa.

**A:** Suzanne Collins (Lawyer): I'm most looking forward to being able to share God's love with the children in a tangible way, and I'm excited to see how God changes me through the whole experience. Please pray that I will have peace in knowing that God is in control of everything that concerns me at home while I'm away.

#### Q: WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO SEE GOD DO WHILE YOU'RE IN SOUTH AFRICA?

**A:** Lauren Zerillo (Teacher): I hope God opens my eyes and my heart to see what

He sees, love what He loves, and for His passions to become my passions. My prayer is that He would reveal Himself to me in new, life-giving ways. I just want to be a vessel for His work. Please pray that my heart would be open and teachable and that He would fill me to overflowing with His spirit so that I can give Him away to the children and people I meet in South Africa.

**A:** Laura Cava (Accountant): I hope to see God make me more flexible. I would like to become more easy going and not so concerned with things that don't go as planned. Pray for our long journey to and from Lephalale. Also pray that the children will be very receptive to us.

**A:** Kirsten Braatz (Lularoe Consultant): I am praying and hoping to see hearts be moved, hearts be softened, and hearts be ripe to hear God's Word. I am hoping the children we come face to face with, hug, and connect with will see Jesus in our team. I am praying the little ones will hear the stories about Jesus and feel loved and accepted and in turn spread that love to all they meet. Of course, I also know that not only will we as a team love sharing the joys of Christ's love with children, but I am really looking forward to seeing how God furthers my relationship with Him through this experience! Please pray for safety flying to and from SA, for team love and cohesiveness, for SA children to accept Jesus as their Savior.

**A:** Dave Schlessinger (Fire Fighter): I would love for Him to give me the strength to totally submit to His will, as well as show me how much good I am capable of. Please pray for safety!

### Connect with us!

[www.myfac.org/fasa](http://www.myfac.org/fasa)

 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))!



(From left) Kirsten Braatz, Cassie Jarvis, Jade Fleckenstein, Hannah Bartholomew, Kristen Potter, Michele Fleckenstein, Joy Jarvis, Tammy Walter, Lauren Zerillo, Olivia Perham, Suzanne Collins, Laura Cava, and Dave Schlessinger.

#FACLOVES

PRAY  
GIVE  
GO



## LIFE IS BETTER CONNECTED



### PLUG-IN GROUP LEADERS NEEDED

*Informational Meetings: July 17 or Aug. 7*

Starting in October, we will launch Plug-in groups that will follow the sermon series for nine weeks. There are Plug-in groups for both men and women, just men, and just women.

If you're interested in leading a Plug-in group, go to [www.myfac.org/plugingroups](http://www.myfac.org/plugingroups) to find out more.

*If you have questions, contact Pastor Dave Krilov, [davek@myfac.org](mailto:davek@myfac.org).*

### CAMP DAYS FOR MINICHURCHES & OTHER SMALL GROUPS

*Wednesdays, July 13 & Aug. 10, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.*

You can use these days as an opportunity for your miniChurch or other small group to get together at the camp. There will be swimming, boating, and relaxing.

Bring your own food; grills are available. Contact your group leader for more information.



## GOD'S FOUNDATION FOR FINANCIAL PEACE

### IT'S HIS MONEY, NOT OURS

When I was 10 years old, my friend's mom gave me and her \$5 to go buy milk and bread. When my friend and I got to the store, the first thing we saw was the candy aisle. All the bright colors and pictures of the kids enjoying all that candy that we couldn't wait to taste! It was just too tempting to resist!

When we got back to the house and my friend's mom asked us for the milk and bread, I didn't know what to say. I had a lot to think about as we raked leaves to earn back that \$5 — the consequence of our foolish decision.

As adults, the world today is a lot like that candy aisle. So many cool things to buy, and as easy as the click of a mouse! Fortunately, as Christians, God provides us with the power to make wise money decisions instead of foolish ones. That power starts with recognizing our divine role when it comes to handling money: We are stewards, not simply consumers.

### A DIFFERENT MINDSET

A steward is a person entrusted to take care of something on someone else's behalf. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Since God created everything, He owns everything (Haggai 2:8), and as His followers, we are stewards, essentially trustees, of the resources He owns but has so graciously given us, including money.

A trustee's mindset regarding money is different than that of a consumer. A trustee has no rights, only responsibilities to the one he or she serves. A consumer, on the other hand, views money

as a possession that is to be used exclusively for his or her own needs or pleasure.

### WIN THE STRUGGLE

It is so easy to get carried away by the pull of our American culture, which promotes a consumer mindset. How many times have you said to yourself, "If I could just get a little more money, all my problems would be solved." Or, "I really can't afford this right now, but I'm going to put it on the credit card anyway because I really need it."

I know I've said these things. To this day, it's a struggle to go in the opposite direction of what the culture expects. I have to constantly ask myself, "Is this something I really need or something I really want?"

But the struggle can be overcome by embracing God's perspective. Serving God as a trustee of His money will radically change how we earn, give, save, spend, and borrow. It frees us from the bondage of materialism so prevalent in this fallen world to foster wise financial choices instead of foolish ones — choices that will first and foremost glorify Him, but that will also provide joy, peace, and freedom that we may never have thought was possible.

— Kimberly Hughey, Good \$ense counselor



Learn how to be a steward of God's money with FAC's Good \$ense ministry. For more information, contact Chuck Riley at [goodsense@myfac.org](mailto:goodsense@myfac.org).

# PASTORAL CARE GROUPS



Our Pastoral Care groups are for people who want to overcome hurt, heartaches, negative habits, and hang-ups. These groups seek to assist people in making choices that are God-directed toward Biblical wholeness, healing, forgiveness, and growth.

Pastoral Care Groups currently offered are as follows. If you are planning to attend a group for the first time, please contact the leader.

## HELPING HAND GRIEF SUPPORT

For adults who need support in their grieving

Meetings are held on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

*Contacts: Wanda and George Stein, 609-953-7333, x309*

## LAY COUNSELING

If you would like to meet with a lay counselor, call 609-953-7333. (Leave a message.)

## LIVING THROUGH SUICIDE

For those grieving the loss of a loved one through suicide

Meetings are held on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

*Contacts: Wanda and George Stein, 609-953-7333, x309*

## MARRIAGE MINISTRY

- Marriage Coaches
- Coaching and education for moving and improving marriages in all different stages

*Contacts: Steve and Julie Durdin, marriagematters@myfac.org, or 609-953-7333, x315. (Leave a message.)*

- Pre-Marriage Groups
- Giving marriages a healthy start

*Contacts: Mike and Tammy Mosier, 609-953-7333, x315. (Leave a message.)*

## MEN'S RECOVERY

For help towards God and sobriety

Meetings are held in the Red Barn in RB-04 on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

*Contact: Dave Botti, recoverymen@myfac.org, or 609-953-7333, x313 (Leave a message.)*

## PATH TO PURITY

For men struggling with sexual sin

Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. Call for location.

*For more information, send an e-mail to purity@myfac.org, or call 609-953-7333, x311. (Leave a message.)*

## RELATIONSHIP RECOVERY

For men and women who are going through separation and/or divorce and for those continuing to recover.

*For further information, leave a message for Susan at 609-953-7333, x316, or send an e-mail to relationshiprecovery@myfac.org.*



## SERENITY SUPPORT

For those with loved ones with substance abuse issues

Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Red Barn on Rt. 541.

*For more information, contact Joyce at serenitysupport@myfac.org or leave a message at 609-953-7333, x314.*

## WINGS (WALKING IN GOD'S STRENGTH)

For families of loved ones with eating disorders

Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in Suite 219, the Fellowship House.

*For more information, send an e-mail to janletts@comcast.net; jmiller.510@comcast.net; or janetworrell@verizon.net.*

## WOMEN'S REDEMPTION

For women who struggle with sexual purity

*Meetings are confidential. For times and location, contact puritywomen@myfac.org, or leave a message at 609-953-7333, x317.*

## WOMEN'S RECOVERY

For help towards God and sobriety

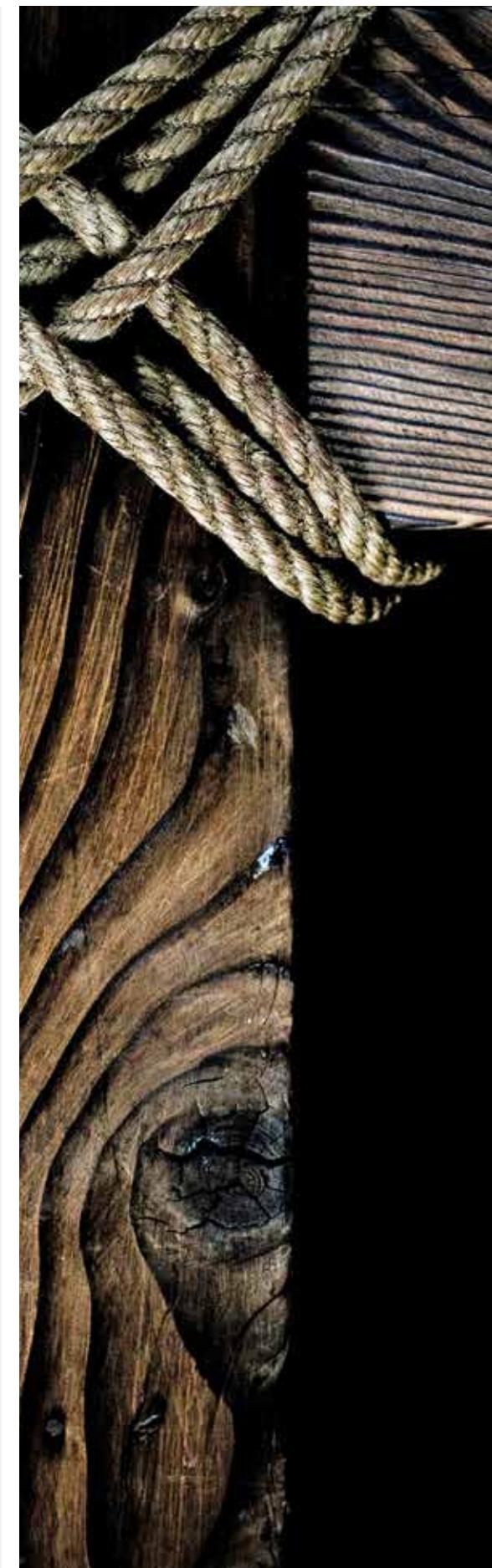
Meetings are held in C-12 (above the Chapel) on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

*Contact: Christine Botti, 609-953-7333, x313 (Leave a message.); or recoverywomen@myfac.org*

	DATE	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
<b>General Fund</b>				
5.1	\$ 69,615	\$ 60,576	\$ ( 9,039)	
5.8	\$ 69,615	\$ 53,136	\$ ( 16,479)	
5.15	\$ 69,615	\$ 63,532	\$ ( 6,083)	
5.22	\$ 69,615	\$ 46,920	\$ ( 22,695)	
5.29	\$ 69,615	\$ 50,953	\$ ( 18,662)	
Total		\$ 348,075	\$ 275,117	\$ ( 72,958)
Year-to-Date		\$ 1,531,530	\$ 1,237,692	\$ ( 293,838)
<b>Missions Fund</b>				
5.1	\$ 4,808	\$ 6,535	\$ 1,727	
5.8	\$ 4,808	\$ 5,187	\$ 379	
5.15	\$ 4,808	\$ 5,576	\$ 768	
5.22	\$ 4,808	\$ 4,917	\$ 109	
5.29	\$ 4,808	\$ 5,891	\$ 1,083	
Total		\$ 24,040	\$ 28,106	\$ 4,066
Year-to-Date		\$ 105,776	\$ 129,800	\$ 24,024
<b>Care Fund</b>				
5.1	\$ 3,950			
5.8	\$ 2,726			
5.15	\$ 2,433			
5.22	\$ 2,111			
5.29	\$ 3,252			
Total			\$ 14,472	
Year-to-Date			\$ 65,560	
<b>Kingdom Vision Fund</b>				
5.1	\$ 32,682			
5.8	\$ 36,118			
5.15	\$ 73,796			
5.22	\$ 31,480			
5.29	\$ 24,464			
Total			\$ 198,540	
Year-to-Date			\$ 687,639	

DATE	ADULTS	WORKERS	CHILDREN	TOTAL
5.1	1651	80	338	2069
5.8	1931	91	317	2339
5.15	1812	155	325	2292
5.22	1565	99	322	1986
5.29	1388	66	204	1658

*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.*





## 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