

CONNECTION

FELLOWSHIP ALLIANCE CHAPEL — MEDFORD, NJ — JANUARY 2018

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” (Isaiah 43:18-19)



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Kingdom Café Hours

Mondays Closed	Saturdays 5:00 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesdays to Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Sundays 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday Evenings 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	<i>For all your catering needs, contact the Kingdom Café, 609-953-7333, x751. Catering menus are available at the Café.</i>




WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Nurseries and classes are provided during every service for babies through fourth graders. Ask a greeter for directions to classes.

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

The Friendship Bible Class for teens (Grade 9 and above) and adults with special needs meets during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday service in the Worship Center (children's area at the top of the steps).

New to FAC?

Stop by the Guest Services area after worship services. Get some coffee and snacks and find out more about FAC.

Prayer Line

If you have prayer requests, call the Prayer Line, 609-953-7333, x308. Leave your requests and the Prayer Team will pray for you.

NEW? GET CONNECTED!

CHECK OUT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

-  /FACMedford
-  fac_snaps
-  fellowshipalliance



CREATE A PROFILE ON THE HUB
Get e-mail updates from your groups, set up automatic giving, or search the church directory. Go to myfac.ccbchurch.com.



DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP
Watch or listen to sermons, register for events, or view the church calendar. Available for Android and iPhone: *myFAC Mobile*



DEVELOP

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,

“To grow or advance, to set forth or make clear by degrees or in detail”; that is the Webster’s Dictionary definition for the word “develop.” I’ve chosen this word “develop” as the word of the year for 2018 at FAC. Every year in our recent history, I’ve picked one word to be the word we as a church rally around to move forward. I feel like now that we are in our new building, we need to “develop” in our overall vision, as well as in every ministry in our church from children’s ministry all the way up to our seniors’ ministry.

This same idea is what the Apostle Paul told his young pastor, Timothy, to do in the church he pastored in Ephesus. I underlined the words that refer to this idea of development.

I Timothy 4:6-7, 13, 15-16: “If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness . . . Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. . . Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.”

These Biblical admonitions clearly teach us that church is supposed to be a place of development. Do you feel like you are being developed by coming to and being involved

at our church? You should! I believe God wants to use this church to develop you spiritually, emotionally, socially, intellectually, and relationally — just to mention a few of the ways God intends church to develop His people.

Or, let me put it another way: Do you feel you are developing someone else by being involved at our church? You should! After all, isn’t that what Jesus commanded us to do in Matthew 28:18-20 when He told us to go “make disciples”?

At our last quarterly Elders’ meeting, I spoke a lot about this. I challenged them to help us all to do three things:

1. Focus on development.
2. Set development directives.
3. Take development action steps.

You will hear more about development as 2018 unfolds for us at FAC. I’ll be leading our entire church in a sermon series on how we can develop ourselves and others in every ministry of our church.

But for this article at the beginning of 2018, I’m only asking you to pray and contemplate how you can be developed at our church and how you can help to develop others. May God guide us all as we seek to develop into the church He wants us to be.

Love never fails,

Senior Pastor Marty Berglund

Stay in touch with Marty through social media:



Explore the Basics of Christianity

Begins January 10

Wednesday evenings (10 sessions)

Between 150 and 200 people attend FAC’s Alpha sessions! Come out and see why it is packed for every session!

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is a series of informal classes that examine the basics of the Christian faith. It’s a place where you can explore what you believe in a safe, open environment.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Alpha is for anyone who wants to investigate Christianity and find out how it relates to him/her. If you want to move past religion and explore what it means to have a real relationship with God, Alpha is a place where you can ask all your questions.

Alpha is open to all adults! Invite your friends, family members, and co-workers and attend with them! Are there people you have been praying for that you can invite?

More than 30 million people worldwide have tried Alpha!

WHAT HAPPENS AT ALPHA?

A catered dinner is served. After that, the group listens to a talk about a specific topic which is then discussed in smaller groups.

WHAT ARE THE WEEKLY TOPICS?

Here is a sample of the kinds of topics that are discussed at Alpha:

- > Is there more to life than what I have now?
- > Who is Jesus and why did He die?
- > How can I have faith?
- > Why and how should I pray?
- > Why and how should I read the Bible?
- > If God is good, why is there suffering?

WHERE, WHEN, AND HOW MUCH?

Alpha meets in the Fellowship Center on Wednesday evenings, beginning January 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., for 10 consecutive weeks.

Alpha with dinner included is FREE!

REGISTRATION

Register online at www.myfac.org/events.



For more information

Go to www.myfac.org/alpha. You can also contact Dave Shoemaker, 609-504-2745, or shoemaker23@comcast.net.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE *Journey*



Several people have asked me what my “one word” is going to be for 2018. For a couple reasons, I felt hesitant to share it. First, because this article isn’t supposed to be about me. It’s for you — encouragement for the journey. The reason I share about my own journey at all is because I hope God will use it to encourage you.

The second reason I didn’t want to write about my “one word” is that I was a bit afraid. Not of you — of the word! For the last couple weeks, I felt like God was nudging me about where my focus should be this coming year. And the word that kept popping up was JOY! You would think that I’d be happy about that, right? But instead, I felt concerned. Because the last few years have been so full of suffering on so many different fronts, I felt to pick the word JOY would be to get my heart set on something that might not happen. I felt like maybe it was better to just “hunker down” and settle in for another year of suffering without getting my hopes up. Warped thinking — I know. I’m just being honest.

But the word JOY kept cropping up so much that I knew I couldn’t ignore it. I wrote these thoughts in my journal one day in December after reading Ann Voskamp’s advent writing in the *The Greatest Gift*:

“Ann says, ‘Sadness is not the end of the story. Jesus is the end of the story. And the beginning of our story. And the best part of our story.’ I’ve been so surrounded by sadness this year that it’s hard to believe that’s not the whole story. I want 2018 to be about laughter and joy. Is that the one word You’re choosing

for me this year? That would be great, but I’m afraid to pick it because I don’t want to have to fight for joy. I want You to just shower it down on me!”

When I was done writing in my journal that morning, I opened my little *Jesus Calling* devotional to the reading for the day and laughed out loud! This is what it said:

“What I search for in My children is an awakened soul that thrills to the JOY of My Presence. I created mankind to glorify Me and ENJOY Me forever. I provide the JOY; your part is to concentrate on staying close to Me.” This comes from Psalm 16:11: “You will fill me with JOY in Your Presence.”

And so there you have it! My word for 2018 is JOY — and Jesus is the One who’s going to provide it if I’ll just stay focused on Him.

I’d love to hear if God has given you a word for your journey this year!

Laurie Berglund

If you have comments or questions, send an e-mail to Laurie, laurieb@myfac.org. She’d love to hear from you!



NEW STAFF PROFILE

Christine Petersen

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Some people seem to stumble into their jobs by a random lead or a friend’s referral. But for me, I knew God planned my journey at FAC from the start. I first discovered the church through my aunt and uncle—David and Judi Shoemaker, who help to lead Alpha and Angel Tree here at FAC. This past winter they introduced me to FAC’s Administrative Director, Chris Rose, and before I knew it I was typing up church policies as a contracted technical writer. Three months and five policy manuals later, I ended my contract work at FAC to spend three months teaching in the Great South Land of Australia. I taught writing and art—two of my greatest passions—at a school in rural Queensland. Yes, I went snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef and no, I didn’t get attacked by a kangaroo. But I did create some sensational memories, and now many of my closest friends live in the Land Down Under. I reluctantly left my colorful and casual Aussie life to return to America and further pursue my writing career. As God would have it, doors opened up for me to work full time at FAC. I’m now positioned as the church’s Communications Coordinator, carrying responsibilities in professional writing, editing, and marketing. I also work as a contractor for a company based in North Carolina which specializes in the field of medical and pharmaceutical writing.

To share some background on my history before FAC, I grew up in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. I’ve lived in several states, but the oxygenated mountains, the Amish farmland, and the abundant deciduous

trees of Pennsylvania will always feel like home. My journey as a writer began ironically when, as a young teenager, I reluctantly agreed to write a story due to the begging of my older sister. She, unlike me, had always enjoyed writing and wanted me to join in her creative pursuits. In two hours I had cranked out a halfway decent start to a historical fiction novel set in colonial America. My sister’s overwhelming support of my writing from that day onward — along with many more encouraging voices along the way — has inspired me to become the writer that I am today. I have a B.A. in Creative Writing, along with a strong background in technical communication.

Apart from my writing career, I’m a portrait artist, nutritionist to my friends and family, lover of classic literature, good stories, and high-quality coffee—preferably still steaming, in a ceramic mug. If you cracked open my heart, you’d also find a world map. I love exploring new lands and cultures, and have traveled the continental United States, Canada, the Dominican Republic, and of course, Australia. I also enjoy public speaking to large audiences, and getting my hands dirty at a pottery wheel.

My relationship with Christ began as a young girl, but my maturity in that relationship didn’t develop substantially till my teen years. Facing rejection from peers, I realized that my security couldn’t be found in friends or popularity. I decided to pursue relationships with the less-popular girls like myself. That was one of the best decisions I have ever made.

God gave me a ministry with them, and allowed me to experience firsthand the joy of selfless love. Since then God has led me to many more opportunities to serve Him, from speaking opportunities in Australia, to leading as Chaplain, and eventually President, of my collegiate society of 120 women. Now as I take on this writing position at FAC, I see another ministry God has called me to. My greatest desire in this role is to give Christ the honor He deserves through my writing. Even now as I write these words, I’m humbled by God’s kindness to me. I’ve faced hard times—including my Mom’s battle with cancer and a dearly-loved sister who has suffered chronic health problems. But through it all, I’ve come back to the stabilizing truth that I can trust God. He is able to sustain me through anything life throws at me. And most of all, I’ve come back to the truth that He is Good. All the time. No matter what. •

**MY SISTER’S
OVERWHELMING
SUPPORT OF MY
WRITING FROM
THAT DAY ONWARD
...HAS INSPIRED ME
TO BECOME THE
WRITER THAT I AM
TODAY.**



Starting Point

Connecting at FAC

If you are new to FAC and would like to get more involved, Starting Point groups can help. These groups meet in homes on various nights of the week and in different areas so you can find one that is convenient for you. In these groups, you will learn more about our church and work with our guides to find the right areas of involvement for you.

You can either register online at www.myfac.org on the homepage or in person at a Guest Reception.

For more information, contact Pastor Doug Bazigian, doughb@myfac.org, or 609-953-7333, x128.



SNOW Den

Next Meetings: January 5 & 19

SNOW Den provides a place for adults with special needs to connect to God and to their friends. SNOW Den meets in the Fellowship Center from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to participate in events such as bingo, karaoke, and so much more!

For more information, send an e-mail to snowden.fac@gmail.com.



Serenity Support Group

**New Series Begins on January 9
7:00 p.m. in the Barn**

The Serenity Support Group for those affected by family members with addictions is kicking off the New Year with a lineup of guest speakers every month. Join us beginning on January 9 and continuing weekly.

One group member recently said, "Addiction touches so many families. Often, family members suffer the same physical and emotional symptoms the addict does — sickness, headaches, loss of appetite, inability to concentrate, stress, and financial problems. Suspicion, worry, and codependency consumed me. The Serenity Support Group helped me put the pieces of my life back together."

The Serenity Support Group is dedicated to helping individuals with addictions learn how God's promises for a peaceful future can be realized.

Facilitators of the group, Joyce Gilmore and Sue Sager, are amazed by how God has been using the ministry to give encouragement, strength, support, and love to individuals who have friends or family members struggling with addictive behaviors. Joyce said, "If you think your loved one has a problem with alcohol, prescription drugs, heroin, or other addictive behaviors, the Serenity Support Group exists to help you through the study and application of God's Word."

For more information about the ministry, contact Joyce Gilmore, mdlkbirder@verizon.net.



Joanne Horner Has Retired

For 16 years, Joanne has been working behind the scenes to provide assistance to the ministries of FAC. Her conscientious attention to details has been a great asset to our leaders. She has typed and assembled hundreds of booklets and brochures, as well as countless weekly bulletins. She has overseen much of the printing that takes place at FAC, including the monthly newsletter. Joanne's proofreading skills are legendary!

Joanne says, "I will miss the people I have worked with over the years. I did enjoy doing my job, but now I'm looking forward to spending more time with my family and friends."

Joanne is married to Earl Horner. They live in Delanco and have three adult children and four grandchildren.

Thank you, Joanne, for your commitment to God and His people through your work at our church.



Adoption & Foster Care WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 20, 2018 | 9:00 a.m. to Noon

January 20, 9:00 a.m. to noon | In the Chapel
Learn More about Adoption, Foster Care, Kinship Care, & Financial Aid

Thousands of children in New Jersey and around the globe need homes. If you have been considering adoption or foster care, join us for this informative workshop. If you are an adoptive or foster care parent, information will also be available for you.

The workshop will feature guest speakers; breakout sessions; vendors to answer questions; and representatives from Bethany Christian Services, the NJ Department of Family and Youth Services, the County Case Management Organization, and ARC, NJ Resource Center. In addition, panel discussions with families will give practical insight into foster care and adoption.

To register, go to www.myfac.org/events.



Is this a picture of your wedding?

No? Okay, that's probably not your wedding photo! But if you were recently married, would you let us know?

Are you engaged? Had a baby? Send an e-mail and photo to lynn@myfac.org.



After Alpha

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m., The Barn
Beginning January 16 (8 sessions)

Already attended Alpha? Try After Alpha!

We are currently exploring "Starting Point," a DVD series about faith, hosted by Andy Stanley of North Point Ministries in Atlanta, GA.

Whether you're new to faith, curious about God, or coming back to church after some time away, After Alpha promises to offer a place where your opinions and beliefs are valued, and no question is off limits.

If you have questions, contact Joe Jalkiewicz, 609-760-3001, or jfjalkiewicz@gmail.com.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Babies through Grade 4

NURSERY

HELD DURING ALL WORSHIP SERVICES

- Infants (newborns through 14 months)
- Toddlers (15 through 24 months)

PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY

- KID BLAST CHURCH
Age 25 months through Grade 4
Held during all worship services
- KID BLAST SUNDAY NIGHT CLUBS
Age 4 through Grade 4
6:00 p.m. at FAC

SNOW KIDS

FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Babies through Grade 8

Held on Sunday mornings at 11:00 in the Fellowship Center in Rooms B-7 and B-8.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM: JUSTIN WRIGHT, ALEX TRACEY, MEG PREIM, and KRISTI PETERSON

PRESCHOOL NEWS



We're on Facebook!

We now have a brand new preschool ministry Facebook page! You can find it by searching for "Preschool Ministry at Fellowship Alliance Chapel." Request to join the group so you can see all of our updates.



Musicians Wanted

We are looking for musicians who would like to lead our preschool-aged kids in worship. If you are interested, contact Meg Preim, megp@myfac.org.

ELEMENTARY NEWS



In January, we will be learning about —

- The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18)
- The Parable of the Wicked Tenants (Matthew 21)
- Jesus, the Miracle Worker (John 2)
- Jesus Walking on Water (Matthew 14)
- Jesus and the Bread from Heaven (Matthew 14)



A Tip for Parents

Parents, we are so thankful for each and every child in this ministry. We are always here to support your efforts in raising your children in the Lord. Teaching that your children receive at home is critical to the development of their faith. If you're not already having regular times of family Bible reading and prayer, that's a great place to start.

Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."



We love our teachers and assistants!



CONTACTS

Children's Ministry Director

Justin Wright
justinw@myfac.org

Preschool Ministry Coordinator

Meghan Preim
megp@myfac.org

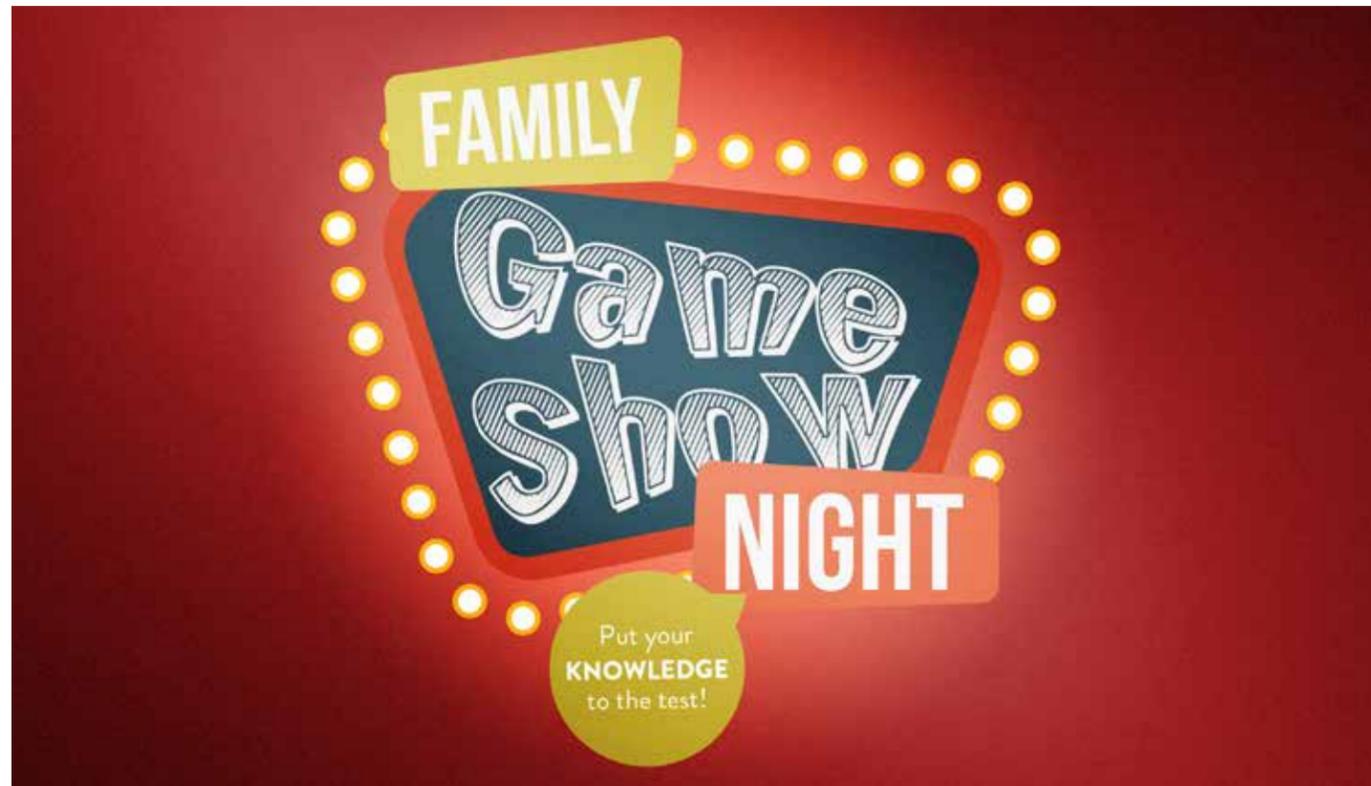
Preschool Volunteer Coordinator

Kristi Peterson
kristip@myfac.org

Elementary Intern

Alex Tracey
alexat@myfac.org

SPECIAL EVENTS



AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Friday, January 26 | 7-9 PM | Fellowship Center | \$5 per family | Register Online (no walk-ins)

For students in Grades 5-12 and their families. Register by January 23. This event showcases gameshow-styled entertainment, desserts, and prizes for the whole family. Parents will also receive an update on youth ministries at FAC.



GREATER IMPACT

Friday Nights, January 12-March 23 | 7-9 PM | Grades 11-12 | Pederson House | Free
Join a Bible study that challenges upperclassmen to impact their family, church, and community. Questions? Contact Chuck Pederson, charlespederson@yahoo.com.



OPERATION RISING PHOENIX

Saturday, March 10 | 5:30-8:30 PM | Grades 5-8 | Camp FAC | Register Online
Bring your friends and join us for a night around a bonfire with dinner, a message, snacks, a night game, and a free T-shirt. Drop-off and Pick-up are at Camp FAC. Cost is \$10 for FAC youth group students; friends are free.



MS SPRING RETREAT

April 6-8 | Grades 5-8 | \$180 | Register Online by March 18
This retreat is the highlight for our middle school students each year! Friendships are created, memories are made, and students grow closer to Christ. We will bus students to High Point Retreat Center in Geigertown, PA.



YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM: Pastor Russ Batten, Pat Vickery, Pastor Erik Jarvis, and Pastor Eddie Jurimas

WINTER CALENDAR

MIDDLE SCHOOL

LEVEL 5 & PLANET 678 MINISTRIES
STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 5-8

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
January 21, 28; February 11, 18, 25
6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at FAC | Free
(No Youth Group on February 4)

"GRAPPLE," SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
Beginning on January 21, Grapple will meet during the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services in the Fellowship Center. Students in Grades 5-7 are welcome. (Eighth graders, please sit with your parents in the Worship Center)

JANUARY 26 - FAMILY GAME SHOW NIGHT
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. | FAC | \$5
More details on page 12

MARCH 10 - OPERATION RISING PHOENIX
5:30 to 8:30 p.m. | Camp FAC | \$10
More details on page 12

APRIL 6 TO 8 - SPRING RETREAT
\$180 | High Point Retreat Center
Register online by March 18.
More details on page 12

HIGH SCHOOL

IMPACT MINISTRIES
STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 9-12

MONDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
January 22, 29; February 5, 12
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. | FAC | Free
(No Youth Group on February 19 or 26)

"GREATER IMPACT," FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY
Friday Nights, January 12-March 23
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. | Grades 11-12 | Free
More details on page 12

JANUARY 26 - FAMILY GAME SHOW NIGHT
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. | FAC | \$5
More details on page 12

FEBRUARY 23 TO 25 - WINTER RETREAT
\$150 | Spruce Lake, Canadensis, PA
Register online by February 5.

TO REGISTER
Go to www.myfac.org/events.

CONNECT ON INSTAGRAM

LVL 5 & Planet
FACmiddleschool

Impact
FACHighschool

CALENDAR

Pick up a copy of the winter/spring calendar at FAC, or view it online at www.myfac.org/youthcalendar.

CONTACTS

Pastor Erik Jarvis
erikj@myfac.org
Pastor Eddie Jurimas
eddie@myfac.org
Pastor Russ Batten
russ@myfac.org



SINGLES GROUP

AGES 21 AND UP

The FAC Singles Group meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 7:45 p.m. in the Chapel. It's open to anyone who is single and over the age of 21.

Two Upcoming Events

THE UNTALENT SHOW

Saturday, January 20 | 7:45 p.m. | Chapel

No talent? No problem! Pre-register your "untalent" with Chuck Fox, or just show up and go for it!

GAME NIGHT

Saturday, February 3 | 7:45 p.m. | Chapel

Join other singles for a fun-filled night of games and snacks. Bring your favorite appetizer and come prepared to laugh and compete!



CONTACTS

Women: Amanda Buck,
856-371-3806
Men: Chuck Fox,
609-458-8909



VENTURE

YOUNG ADULTS

Tuesday nights | 219 House | 6:30 p.m.

Venture is a community of young men and women who are building genuine relationships, influencing one another, making decisions, and facing challenges — particularly in the area of understanding God's leading.

To stay up to date on meetings and events, request to join Venture on www.myfac.org. You can also follow us on Twitter (@venture1823) and on Instagram (Venture1823) for regular posts.

CONTACT

Contact Bryan and Lisa Russell, venture1823@myfac.org, with any questions about the program or events.



GROUPLINK

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 7:00 P.M. | FAC

Join a small group!

GroupLink is a two-hour event where you can meet people in a similar stage of life and area of town with the goal of joining a group for men or women or both. Volunteers will be on hand to help you find the right group for you!

Please register at www.myfac.org/events as soon as possible.

CELEBRATING STEPS TOWARD JESUS!

Thank you to all who participated in the "Your Chance, Your Next Step" wall during the "Your Chance" sermon and small group series. May God continue to bless you as you "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18)

INTERESTED IN LEADING A SMALL GROUP?

To get started, go to www.myfac.org/leaderapp and fill out the application online, or contact Pastor Dave Krilov, davek@myfac.org.



Fresh Hope For Single Moms

CLOTHING DONATIONS FOR FRESH HOPE MOMS

Sunday, January 21 | 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

You can help support our single moms by donating winter and spring women's clothing in like-new condition to the Fresh Hope Boutique. Donations may be brought to the garage next to the 195 House in the exit lane from the front parking lot. Someone will be there to accept your donation. Please note: We can only accept women's clothing; no toys, please.

For questions or to volunteer to help, contact Kathy Foering, 609-458-9222, or kfoering@comcast.net.

FRESH HOPE FOOD PANTRY AND CLOTHES BOUTIQUE

Sunday, January 28 | 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

The FAC Food Pantry and the Fresh Hope Clothes Boutique in the basement of the Care Center will be open to all single moms on Sunday, January 28, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

FRESH HOPE MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday, January 28 | 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. | The Barn

FREE Dinner and Program

Fresh Hope is a ministry for single moms and grandmoms who are raising children under the age of 23 and individuals with special needs under the age of 28. Fresh Hope connects single moms who share a common life experience to God's love through friendships, encouragement, and support. Dinner is provided for the moms and their children. Children's/Youth programs are available at 6:00 p.m., including Kid BLAST Clubs, Level 5, and Planet 678. Childcare is provided for children ages three and younger.

Register no later than January 21 at www.myfac.org/events. If you have questions, call Debbie Schneck, 609-953-7333, x125. Note: No registration is required for youth meetings, Grades 5 to 8.

IF: Table

January 19 | 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. | Fellowship House
Cost: \$5.00

The aWAKEN ministry invites you to IF:Table on the third Friday of every month. The table is a place to gather, share a simple dinner, and share real-life stories and Christ-centered conversations. It is 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.

Register at www.myfac.org/events. Registration will close when maximum space has been reached or on Thursday, January 18.

Connecting

Connecting Women to One Another and FAC

Wednesdays, January 3 and 10 | 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Thursdays, January 4 and 11 | 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

In the Fellowship House

The Connecting ministry helps women connect to God, to one another, and to our church. Our 90-minute format includes reviewing the weekend's sermon, discussing questions and ideas, sharing FAC ministries and upcoming activities, prayer, and good coffee or tea. No registration; no fee.

If you have questions contact Susan Bartholomew, 609-321-0708.

#Momlife

Begins Thursday, January 25 | Fellowship Center

Ever feel like you are doing the "mom" thing all on your own? #Momlife is for mothers and is led by mothers. It is a place for fun, sharing, friendships, and spiritual and emotional enrichment. All women with children, babies through high school seniors, are invited to attend. Childcare is provided for infants through kindergartners. The registration deadline is January 16.

Time: 9:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Dates: January 25, February 8 and 22, March 8 and 22, April 12 and 26, May 10

Cost: \$60.00

To register, go to www.myfac.org/events. If you have questions, contact Debbie Schneck, 609-953-7333, x125, or debbie@myfac.org.

Mentor Moms

Begins February 6 through mid-May.

Beginning on February 6 and running through mid-May, Mentor Moms meets weekly at FAC on Tuesday mornings from 9:15 to 11:15.

In this unique ministry, older moms meet with younger moms to offer support, encouragement, and validation for all that comes with motherhood. It is an intertwining of two generations who are committed to growing in their relationship with their husbands and children using God's Word as their compass. Together they embrace the blessings and challenges as they seek to raise and nurture our children. The format is large group presentations and small group discussions.

The cost is \$30. Childcare is provided for infants through kindergartners.

Register online at www.myfac.org/events. If you have questions, contact Karen Cariss, kjcariss@aol.com.

BE the BRIDGE

MOVING TOWARD
RACIAL RECONCILIATION

Have you ever wondered what the "Be the Bridge" group is all about?

Do you have a heart for diversity, racial justice, restoration, and reconciliation?

Would you like to join in conversations about racial unity and reconciliation?

Join us for desserts and great discussions about God's heart for racial unity and how we can play a part.

When: January 20

Where: The Family Room

Time: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

AWAKEN BIBLE STUDIES FOR WOMEN

TUESDAYS, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 27 | MORNINGS — 9:15 TO 11:15 | EVENINGS — 7:00 TO 9:00

aWAKEN invites all women to the spring semester of classes that are designed to equip and empower women as they aWAKEN to how God has gifted them to serve in His Kingdom. All the studies include teaching, interaction, and small-group discussions. Service opportunities are also available throughout the semester. Short-term classes are held at FAC. The long-term class is off-site at a home in Medford.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, February 20. To receive \$10 off the prices listed below, use the code EARLYBIRD when you register before January 31.

Free childcare for the morning classes is available for babies through kindergartners. Childcare for the evening classes for babies through kindergartners is free. For first through fifth graders, the cost is \$30 per child or \$50 per family.

Register at www.myfac.org/events. Scholarships are available. Contact Debbie Schneck, 609-953-7333, x125, with questions and/or to request a scholarship.

Short-term Groups

IF:REDEEMED

Tuesday Mornings & Evenings
Cost: \$40

Do you want God to use you to communicate His love to those around you? A powerful way to do that is through sharing your story of God's redemption in your life. Together, we will practice communicating that story.

Note: Internet service or a smartphone is required for this class.

PLAY WITH FIRE

Tuesday Mornings & Evenings
Cost: \$35

In this video-based Bible study, Bianca Olthoff delivers a message that will bring new insight into God's character. We will discover the personal and powerful nature of the Holy Spirit and grow to understand the unique fire God places in each of us, helping us to fulfill our God-given calling. God has huge dreams for you — dreams that are far greater than any you have for yourself.



WE SAVED YOU A SEAT

For Mothers & Their Daughters
Tuesday evenings
Cost: \$35

In a culture where friendship is measured in follows, likes, mentions, and snaps; and being “unfriended” is a very real worry, girls often think they need to have it all together. The pressure for perfection creates distance instead of real, authentic relationships. *We Saved You a Seat* takes mothers and daughters deeper into Scripture to learn how to create, invest in, and keep up lifelong friendships.

Note: Mothers and daughters, ages 12 to 17, must register individually. Cost is per person.

Long-term Group (18 months)



SHE READS TRUTH

Tuesday mornings, every other week at FAC
Thursday evenings, every other week at a home in Medford

Cost: \$45
(First book; subsequent books, \$2.99 to \$40)

She Reads Truth started as a small group of strangers on the Internet who wanted to be more intentional about reading God's Word. What began as a casual conversation is now an entire community of women all over the world who are in pursuit of Jesus. God's Word is a gift, and reading it is a privilege. We will open the living and active Word of God daily to find the Gospel of Jesus Christ on every page.

Note: Internet service or a smartphone is required for this class. Childcare is not provided.



SHE SEEKS ————— SHE BELIEVES

She is Free

Walking in Grace Conference

May 18 / May 19

Seek

We seek after things that promise love, approval, worth, beauty, security, comfort or control. But ultimately, these things do nothing more than make us slaves.

Believe

What if we decided to believe something different? Instead of believing the lies of the world, we dared to believe the truth about who we are in Christ.

Be Free

Freedom is found when we surrender to Christ and let Him change us. We can live in the power and strength of the Holy Spirit. We can experience peace and joy despite our circumstances. We can trust God's promises and plans for us, and we can help set other captives free. We can boldly live this life of freedom because in Christ we are free!



INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!



BAND OF BROTHERS

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

**In the Fellowship Center from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m.
There's no cost to attend, but breakfast is \$5.00.
The coffee is always free.**



**If you have questions about Band of Brothers,
contact Michael More', bandofbrothers@myfac.org.**



FRIDAY
FEB. 23
6:30 PM TO 10:30 PM

SATURDAY
FEB. 24
7:30 AM TO NOON



DRIVEN

SOUTH JERSEY MEN'S CONFERENCE

In February, men from all around our region will get together at FAC for our annual men's conference.

Cost of \$59.00 includes dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday, along with snacks, coffee, shirts, and giveaways. Please note: After February 16, the cost is \$69.00.

The conference is open to all men, including young men, ages 13 and older.

REGISTER ONLINE!

WWW.DRIVENCONFERENCE.ORG



Want to join the FAC Choir for 2018?

Contact Pastor Doug Ingram, 609-953-7333, x137, or dougi@myfac.org.

Photos are from the December 2017 Annual Dessert Cantata.

WANT TO BE IN LOVE?

A Study for Adults of All Ages

Everyone loves to be in love. There is no sensation like it. Even people who tell you that they have given up on love would still have to admit that they desire it. They just believe it is unattainable, unpredictable, or not worth the risk.

We can feel that way about our relationship with God. Often we have a “daisy” kind of relationship with God: “He loves me; He loves me not.” When we sense His nearness or He answers a desperate prayer, we think, “He loves me.” When things go wrong — maybe with our finances or our health or other unanswered prayer — we aren’t so sure.

There’s a better way to live. How can we throw out the uncertainty? How can we have the security of undoubted love? After all, that is what God says He has for us. That is what God desires from us — love from our hearts, our souls, and our minds. So, if God and we both want it, why don’t we always have it? How can we get it?

For answers, come to SAGE Builders, beginning on Thursday, January 11, at 12:30 p.m. We’ll have a meal together, watch a short thought-provoking video by Francis Chan, and then move into small groups to discuss the video. We’ll end each week at 2:30. We meet the second, third, and fourth Thursdays of each month for the 10-week study. It is open to adults of all ages.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, contact Pastor Glenn Kantner, 609-953-7333, x106, or glenn@myfac.org.

In the event of inclement weather, call 609-953-7333, x303, for updates.





GOD @ WORK...

In the Life of Ricky Britner, Jr.

I "SHOULD" HAVE BEEN KILLED THAT MORNING

One day, I was sitting behind my grandfather's car to wait for the bus to pick me up for school. I was living with my dad in Martinsburg, WV, at the time, and I was in the ninth grade.

As I waited, I saw a white Jeep Wrangler pulling out of the driveway of a house up the road. I watched the Jeep come down the road toward me, and suddenly the driver lost control. The Jeep slammed into me, pinning me between the Jeep's front bumper and the rear of my grandfather's car.

I "should" have been killed that morning. After all, I was born with a genetic disorder called *Osteogenesis Imperfecta*, which causes my bones to break extremely easily and leaves me confined to a wheelchair. I've broken about 25 of my bones more than 150 times during my lifetime. But I wasn't killed. As I was recovering in the hospital a few days later, my grandfather said he had parked the car in the driveway to work on his brakes, but the Holy Spirit had suddenly prompted him to leave the car alone. Had he fixed the brakes

as he had planned, he would have driven the car home, and the Jeep likely would have run over and killed me.

My grandfather's belief in God didn't extend to me. Instead, I began to think of

myself as invincible. I started getting high, drinking, smoking marijuana, and sneaking into strip clubs. Although I had grown up knowing the Christian faith — my parents divorced when I was four and I have a younger sister, Melissa — most of what

I learned about Christianity consisted of works. There were a lot of "do's and don'ts" in our family, and the grace of God wasn't a key element.

My salvation was a gradual one. It wasn't until I was in my late teens when I first felt the Lord tugging on my heart. He reminded me of all that He'd done in my life. God also showed me the people who loved and cared so much about me and how distraught they'd be if they knew the life I was living.

It was late 2005 when I felt this conviction, and I was baptized in April of 2006. I started to read the Old Testament, and I saw how God loved His people and was creating a way for them to come to Him through Jesus. I realized I needed Jesus as much as Israel did.

Indeed, I began to see Him in a new light; my desire to know Jesus on a deeper level grew, and I began to pray for Him to prune out of me what did not belong. Psalm 119, verses 9-11, in particular, became very dear to me:

⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

¹¹ I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. (ESV)

I read this passage often because I knew my depravity was great.

A GOD-ORDAINED MEETING LEADS TO A LIFE OF MINISTRY

Around the same time, God began doing all this work in my heart — actually even a couple of years before — I met Ciara McDowell at a Christian festival in Pennsylvania called Creation Fest. Ciara and her family were camping at the festival, and I got to know them. They invited me to visit them over the years.



"I recently did a 5K race with a friend. Doing that race meant so much to me. For one, it meant that I could overcome a challenge I didn't think was possible."



Ricky with Caleb Carrasquillo and Ciara and Kevin McDowell

During my visits, I prayed about moving to New Jersey because there weren't many opportunities for people like me with disabilities in West Virginia. Practicing my faith had also been a struggle as I was stuck in old lifestyles and a very difficult family situation.

Ultimately, Ciara and her husband, Kevin, invited me to come live with them, and I moved to Medford in July 2016. Since coming here and to FAC, I have served in the Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings, and I lead a group in the C33 Catalyst Men's Ministry. I was also part of a men's group that met on Wednesday nights in the summer. During that time, I was encouraged to start a ministry. I prayed about it, and it gave birth to "Ricky Speaks Life." I post videos to YouTube, share quotes on Instagram, and I am praying about taking the ministry further so I ask God to lead me constantly.

MY LIFE TODAY

Today, my walk with Jesus consists of being in the Word daily, seeking the Father, and being guided by His Holy Spirit. The Father allowed me to come to saving faith through Jesus' death; and the Holy Spirit convicts,

directs, guides, and molds me more and more every day into the likeness of Christ.

The perspective I hold today is found in Romans 8:28: God uses all things — good and bad — for the good of those who are called according to His purposes and for His glory. My being hit by the drunk driver in my driveway in ninth grade may have been a bad thing, but I see it as the catalyst God used to work on me later and bring me to faith in Jesus Christ.

I see that God has used all of my past experiences, though many of them seemed bad, to get me to a good place here in New Jersey. God has shown me that every time I broke a bone, every surgery I had, and in every other type of obstacle I encountered, He was there. He still is. I trust Him, and I believe in Him. He alone is my hope in the hard times that arise in life.

God is at work in my life by showing me His love on a daily basis. He's still working in me to prune out what does not belong, He's making me the man I am meant to be, and He's also opening many doors for me to serve, lead, and engage with others. I see Him in my time of prayer. He's working to bring about further maturity in my walk with Christ. I am growing in

my faith, growing in autonomy, building solid friendships, and have even started a speaking ministry.

I recently did a 5K race with a friend. Doing that race meant so much to me. For one, it meant that I could overcome a challenge I didn't think was possible. But more than that, I was able to practice for and do the race because I knew it would be another outlet to encourage others, whether or not they have a disability. It's those types of things that have people wondering what makes me the person I am — it's Jesus!

It is my hope and desire that everyone I come into contact with hears and knows about the amazing works of God throughout my life. God is active, and He does many awesome things today. I am blessed that He has used me as a tool and given me a platform to reach people. I want my story to inspire, motivate, and encourage others to know and see the goodness of God. I pray that God will always be glorified through my story and that those who hear it and read it would come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. •

"I trust Him, and I believe in Him. He alone is my hope in the hard times that arise in life."



SPIRITUAL & EMOTIONAL CARE

ADDICTION RECOVERY

For help towards God and sobriety

- **FOR MEN**
Wednesdays, Room C-12, 7:00 p.m.
recoverymen@myfac.org
609-953-7333, x312 (Leave a message.)
- **FOR WOMEN**
Contact Deborah Ryder for location, times, and dates.
609-304-5417

GRIEF RECOVERY

- **A Closer Walk with God through Grief**
For adults experiencing grief
Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m., Rooms A-1, A-3
- **Helping Hand Grief Support**
For adults who are grieving due to a loss
Mondays, 7:00 p.m., Chapel
- **Living through Suicide**
For those who are grieving because of a loss due to suicide
Mondays, 7:00 p.m., Chapel
- **Bereavement Support for Substance Addiction**
For those who have suffered a loss due to substance abuse
Mondays, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

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

PATH TO PURITY

For those struggling with sexual sins

- **MEN**
Tuesdays, 6:30 a.m. &
Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.
Contact: puritywomen@myfac.org or 609-953-7333, x311. (Request location, times, dates; leave a message.)
- **WOMEN**
Contact: puritywomen@myfac.org or 609-953-7333, x316. (Request location, times, dates; leave a message.)

RELATIONSHIP RECOVERY

For men and women who are going through separation or divorce

Contact: Jim Mathers, 609-953-7333, x316, 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 Barn.

Contact: serenity@myfac.org or 609-953-7333, x314 (Leave a message.)

WINGS (Walking in God's Strength)

For families of loved ones with eating disorders
First and third Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the Fellowship House
Contacts: janletts@comcast.net, jmiller.510@comcast.net, and janetworrell@verizon.net

COUNSELING

LAY COUNSELING

For appointments, call 609-953-7333, x329. (Leave a message.)

PASTORAL COUNSELING

For appointments, call 609-953-7333, x129. (Leave a message.)



FASA WISHES YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



With the new year comes a new calendar full of exciting missions opportunities with FASA!

In South Africa (SA), one of the most anticipated opportunities is a week of day camp, in which children from impoverished towns come to the FASA Lodge and Conference Center for days full of songs, laughter, and games. Even the food is a highlight for these children. Most important is the love and truth from God's Word they'll experience — many for the very first time.

But the day camps are more than simply children's ministry. In 2017, teams from the US partnered with students and young adults from SA and served the Lord together! Something special happens when you serve the One True God together. Relationships and bonds unlike any other form. Michele Fleckenstein, a July 2017 team member, shares this:

As much as I enjoyed working with the children in SA, my interactions with Kabelo, my team co-leader, were what I enjoyed the most. He not only bridged the gap between the children and myself (due to a language barrier), but we connected on a much deeper level. Since we worked so closely together, we were able to share our stories with each other and challenge each other spiritually. Each day, I watched as God stripped away the walls Kabelo had put up,



and he let God use him to minister to the children and even his siblings at home.

FASA's day camp ministry in SA is more than telling Bible stories and hugging children. It's joining with other young leaders and sharing the joy of serving the Lord and encouraging one another to do it well in all aspects of life.

New Year; New Opportunities

Is this your year to serve the Lord in South Africa? If the Lord is speaking to you about going, GO! Three day camps are planned for 2018 during which we will minister to almost 400 children and serve with many young leaders.

There are also two youth camps planned. You can see specific details for all the 2018 trips and start your missions adventure here: www.myfasa.org/trips.

CONNECT TO FASA www.myfasa.org

fasa_fac FASAFac @facFASA fasafac

Join the adventure! Check out www.myfasa.org and the FASA group on The Hub (www.myfac.ccbchurch.com).

	DATE	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE	
General Fund					
	11.5	\$ 68,750	\$ 60,833	\$ (7,917)	
	11.12	\$ 68,750	\$ 65,107	\$ (3,643)	
	11.19	\$ 68,750	\$ 61,935	\$ (6,815)	
	11.26	\$ 68,750	\$ 60,241	\$ (8,509)	
Total		\$ 275,000	\$ 248,116	\$ (26,884)	
Year-to-Date		\$ 3,300,000	\$2,875,365	\$ (424,635)	
Missions Fund					
	11.5	\$ 5,096	\$ 5,770	\$ (674)	
	11.12	\$ 5,096	\$ 6,825	\$ 1,729	
	11.19	\$ 5,096	\$ 4,718	\$ (378)	
	11.26	\$ 5,096	\$ 3,429	\$ (1,667)	
Total		\$ 20,384	\$ 20,742	\$ 358	
Year-to-Date		\$ 244,608	\$ 242,723	\$ (1,885)	
Benevolence Fund					
	11.5		\$ 1,961		
	11.12		\$ 3,550		
	11.19		\$ 2,089		
	11.26		\$ 2,035		
Total			\$ 9,635		
Year-to-Date			\$ 128,962		
Kingdom Vision Fund					
	11.5		\$ 17,831		
	11.12		\$ 24,065		
	11.19		\$ 25,938		
	11.26		\$ 19,050		
Total			\$ 86,884		
Year-to-Date			\$ 1,075,621		
	DATE	ADULTS	WORKERS	CHILDREN	TOTAL
	11.5	1747	63	326	2136
	11.12	1598	77	293	1968
	11.19	1677	133	273	2083
	11.26	1762	66	224	2052

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.

Adults

50+
Ed Brokhoff
609-200-2019
edantbro@gmail.com

Alpha

Explore the meaning of life
Dave and Judi Shoemaker
609-504-2745

After Alpha

Joe Jalkiewicz
jfkalkiewicz@gmail.com
609-760-3001

Marriage Matters

Steve and Julie Durdin, x315
marriagematters@myfac.org

Marriage Coaches

Steve and Julie Durdin, x315
marriagematters@myfac.org

miniChurches & Small Groups

Pastor Dave Krilov, x105
davek@myfac.org

Sage Builders

Pastor Glenn Kantner, x106
glenn@myfac.org

Young Adults

Venture

Bryan & Lisa Russell
venture1823@myfac.org

Women

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carol@myfac.org

Ministry Assistant

Debbie Schneck, x125
debbie@myfac.org

aWAKEN

Monika Tockstein
609-268-1238
mtockstein@gmail.com

Connecting

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609-321-0708
suejane@aol.com

Deepening Groups

Jennifer Green
856-985-5524
jenniferg15@verizon.net

Fresh Hope, x125

Debbie Schneck
debbie@myfac.org

#Momlife

Michele Fleckenstein
609-654-2796
mffleckenstein@outlook.com

Walking in Grace

Jill Borsky
609-760-5354
jillborsky@gmail.com

Men

Pastor Erik Rebstock, x116
erikr@myfac.org

Band of Brothers Breakfasts

Michael More'
bandofbrothers@myfac.org.

Catalyst 33

Pastor Erik Rebstock, x 116
erikr@myfac.org

facWILD

Tim Stine
timstine2133@icloud.com

Golf League

George Bradley
george.bradley@yahoo.com

Men of Iron

Bill Cariss
bcariss@holmanauto.com

Timothy Project

Rodney Sager
rsagerjr@comcast.net
856-924-4631

Velocity Men's Groups

Pastor Erik Rebstock, x116
erikr@myfac.org

Children

Justin Wright, x141
justinw@myfac.org

Kid BLAST Preschool (Birth-Kindergarten)

- Kristi Peterson, x117
kristip@myfac.org
- Meghan Preim, x101
megp@myfac.org

Kid BLAST Elementary (Grades 1-4)

Justin Wright, x141
justinw@myfac.org

Youth

Pastor Erik Jarvis, x118
erikj@myfac.org

Ministry Assistant

Pat Vickery, x132
pat@myfac.org

Level 5 (Grade 5)

Pastor Russ Batten, x134
russ@myfac.org

Planet 678 (Grades 6-8)

Pastor Eddie Jurimas, x104
eddie@myfac.org
Trip hotline, x678

Impact (Grades 9-12)

Pastor Erik Jarvis, x118
erikj@myfac.org
Trip hotline, x410

Special Needs

Justin Wright, x141
justinw@myfac.org

Friendship Bible Class

Melissa King
snow@myfac.org

SNOW Kids

Justin Wright, x141
snow@myfac.org

SNOW Den

Leah Bronczyk, x304
SNOWDen.fac@gmail.com

Other Ministries

Camp FAC

609-714-4035
info@campfac.org

Guest Services

Pastor Doug Bazigian, x128
doug@myfac.org

Hospitality

Ed & Deb Jurimas, x127; x119
edj@myfac.org; debj@myfac.org

Prayer Line

Mike Koehl, x308
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Ushers & Greeters

Pastor Doug Bazigian, x128
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Worship

Pastor Doug Ingram, x137
doughi@myfac.org

Production

Pastor Nick Simpson, x110
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Music

Rob Preim
rob@myfac.org

Care Ministries

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Care Center

Anne Simms
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PRACTICAL HELP

Crew 318

Anne Simms
crew318@myfac.org

FAC Wheels

Jim Hogan, x306
facwheels@myfac.org

Food Pantry

Darlene Taylor
foodpantry@myfac.org

Faith and Finances

Chuck Riley
faithandfinances@myfac.org

Hope Garden

Frank Mandy
frankrmandy@gmail.com

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Pastoral Care

Pastor Brent Brendle, x129
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*A complete list of support groups
can be found on page 27.*

Missions & Outreach

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Angel Tree

Dave and Judi Shoemaker
609-504-2745

Partnership Coordinators

- Family Trip to WV
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- FASA (South Africa)
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- Ukraine
Andy Hall
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- Christine Petersen, x138
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- Ed Brokhoff
- Rob Eiler
- Ron Jacobs
- Ryan O'Rourke
- Chris Rymarz
- Ed Walls

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Maintenance and IT Supervisor
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Weddings

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weddings@myfac.org

**For more information
about FAC ministries, go
to www.myfac.org.**



Senior Pastor
Marty Berglund

Executive Pastor
Brian Snyder
brian@myfac.org

Executive Pastor of
Ministries
Don Hay
don@myfac.org

199 Church Road
Medford, NJ 08055
Tel: 609-953-7333

Worship Services
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours
Mon.-Thurs., 8:00 to 5:00
Website: www.myfac.org
E-mail: info@myfac.org

Elders: Pastor Marty Berglund,
Juan Cerdan-Diaz, Matt Miller,
Phil Morgan, Bryan Russell

Camp FAC
110 Sycamore Avenue
Marlton, NJ 08053

The Connection

Designer: Tess Jurimas
Editor: Lynn Guise
God@Work Writers:
Laurie Berglund,
Sherri Bolognone, Nancy Ellis,
Courtney Gager, Grace Goettsling,
Joe Jalkiewicz

Please submit family announcements
to lynn@myfac.org by the 5th of the
month prior to publication.

Our Foundation: Salvation

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 contains 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. Salvation 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.