

Faithfocus

Monthly Newsletter of
Faith Christian Fellowship

September
2022



FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Faith Christian Fellowship
16726 Lappans Road
Williamsport, MD 21722

Front Office Hours
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9am-3pm

301-223-4803
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LESSONS FROM THE GARDEN

By Amelia Rowland

We settled into our new home in springtime, with urgency and excitement to plant. My dear husband would revise his planting plan almost daily. "Picture three Green Giant Arborvitaes, and the rose bushes along the side and we'll extend the front flower bed and move the Hostas and..." Every dinner conversation brought new ideas and after awhile my eagerness and joy waned. "I just want one raised bed with a few vegetables and my herbs so we can cook and eat with them" I began to rehearse as a grumpy response to Emory's landscaping dreams. Along the way I had lost the vision of the garden, the hope for something beautiful. Instead my eyes were fixed on a pinhole sized view of what would benefit me directly. I wanted those garden vegetables and I wanted them fast. I didn't want to wait to plan out just where shrubs and flowers should go. I didn't want to do the hard work of planting and maintaining more.

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Thank goodness the Gardener doesn't share this same grumpy approach to the garden. When I think about God in the garden of Eden, I imagine His delight at His perfect plan coming to fruition and His joy in the process of creating. His Garden was meant to bring Him glory! Though sin entered the world, God's plan for the Garden was not thwarted. The serpent would not rule. Those who put their trust in Jesus live by faith, abiding and walking in obedience, finding, growing and multiplying, making disciples and honoring Him with their lives. In a sense, we came from a garden, we're headed for a garden (paradise, in heaven) and we tend a garden even now.

If we think for a moment of our lives tending the garden, how often do we keep our gaze low, our view, clouded only by want or need, forgetting the garden we're headed for, losing hope in God the Gardener's promises? Do we fail to cling to the vision He's given in His word and the tasks set before us to grow the Kingdom that many sons and daughters would come to abide in Him too? Planting seeds can be difficult. Discipleship (watering) can be strained and challenging at times, because life on life is messy. But there is joy in the garden, in God's perfect plan, joy in the hope that fruition will come, joy that the Gardener has always been present working and keeping what He loves.

MINISTRY FAIR FOLLOW-UP

August 28 was our annual FCF Ministry Fair in the foyer. Thank you to all who joined us for this meet and greet and time to sign up or get involved in various ministries. If you would like more information about any of the ministries represented, we encourage you to contact the ministry leaders or the FCF Office for more information.

AV Team—Contact: Tony Lehman
Building Service—Contact: David Glaze
Education Groups—Contact: FCF Office
Faith Café—Contact: Christy Hixon
Faith Kids—Contact: Amelia Rowland
Fathers in the Field—Contact Matt Wilson or Jeff Rowland
Global Missions—Contact: David Glaze
GriefShare—Contact Bobbi Morrow
Ladies Connection—Contact: Erin Croteau
Meals Ministry—Contact: Jessica Hykes
Men—Contact: FCF Office
Sports Ministry—Contact: Dave Schofield
Switchback—Contact: Lewis Rudy
Welcome—Contact: Contact: FCF Office
Young at Heart—Contact: Ron Clipp

If you need contact info for any of these leaders, please feel free to contact the FCF Office. We'd be happy to point you in the right direction.



Fall Sermon Series 2022 REVELATION

Join us for a journey through Witness, Kingdom, Judgement and Victory!
Take your study a step further by joining us in a Reading Plan of the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament and/or further discussion in one of the 9:15am Education Classes. See below and the next page for more information.

FALL 9:15am ADULT EDUCATION CLASS OPTIONS

9:15am Adult Education Class

Minor Prophets of the Old Testament

Discussion Facilitator: Pastor David Glaze

A deeper understanding of Revelation is helped by a broader awareness of the message of the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament. Join us at 9:15 to hear a brief overview of each of the 12 minor prophets and discuss key parts of the message and their connection to the book of Revelation.

Discussion Facilitator: Pastor David Glaze (Meet in Room 7L)

The church relies on the strength of her members (“one body”). Married members aren’t more important, but their marriages become critical to the health of the church. Therefore, they need to be shepherded uniquely. Join us at 9:15 for a class that will examine the important issues every marriage faces. Even those marriages founded on Christ need help along the way.

Discussion Facilitators: Jeff (FCF Elder) and Karen Rowland (Meet in the Gathering Room)

9:15AM ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

The Christian Marriage

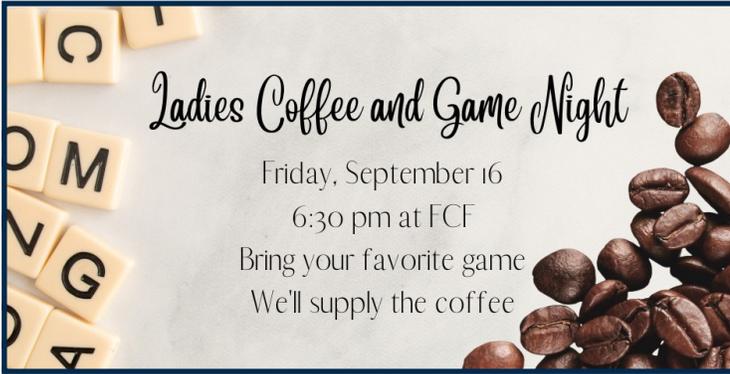
DISCUSSION FACILITATORS: JEFF AND KAREN ROWLAND

Marriages

READING THROUGH THE MINOR PROPHETS

As a supplement to the Revelation sermon series, there is a reading plan through the minor prophets. This can be utilized on its own, or in conjunction with our 9:15 class facilitated by Pastor David. (*Sunday Education class discussions are coded in blue and white.*)

READING THROUGH THE MINOR PROPHETS							
Sept 12	Hosea 1-2		Oct 10	Micah 1-2		Oct 31	Zechariah 1-2
Sept 13	Hosea 3-4		Oct 11	Micah 3-4		Nov 1	Zechariah 3-4
Sept 14	Hosea 5-6		Oct 12	Micah 5		Nov 2	Zechariah 5
Sept 15	Hosea 7-8		Oct 13	Micah 6		Nov 3	Zechariah 6
Sept 16	Hosea 9-10		Oct 14	Micah 7		Nov 4	Zechariah 7
Sept 18	Hosea		Oct 16	Micah		Nov 6	Zechariah, session #1
Sept 19	Hosea 11-12		Oct 17	Nahum 1-2		Nov 7	Zechariah 8-9
Sept 20	Hosea 13-14		Oct 18	Nahum 3		Nov 8	Zechariah 10-11
Sept 21	Joel 1		Oct 19	Habakkuk 1		Nov 9	Zechariah 12
Sept 22	Joel 2		Oct 20	Habakkuk 2		Nov 10	Zechariah 13
Sept 23	Joel 3		Oct 21	Habakkuk 3		Nov 11	Zechariah 14
Sept 25	Hosea/Joel		Oct 23	Nahum/Habakkuk		Nov 13	Zechariah, session #2
Sept 26	Amos 1-2		Oct 24	Zephaniah 1		Nov 14	Malachi 1
Sept 27	Amos 3-4		Oct 25	Zephaniah 2		Nov 15	Malachi 2
Sept 28	Amos 5-6		Oct 26	Zephaniah 3		Nov 16	Malachi 3
Sept 29	Amos 7-8		Oct 27	Haggai 1		Nov 17	Malachi 4
Sept 30	Amos 9		Oct 28	Haggai 2		Nov 18	
Oct 2	Amos		Oct 30	Zephaniah/Haggai		Nov 20	Malachi
Oct 3	Obadiah 1						
Oct 4	Jonah 1						
Oct 5	Jonah 2						
Oct 6	Jonah 3						
Oct 7	Jonah 4						
Oct 9	Obadiah/Jonah						



Ladies Coffee and Game Night

Friday, September 16

6:30 pm at FCF

Bring your favorite game

We'll supply the coffee

RSVP on the FCF App,
explorefcf.com, or in the
foyer at FCF.

Join us on October 2 at 6pm as we welcome back Rabbi Ted Simon. He will be sharing with us information about the Feast of Trumpets and what it means to us as Christians.

Rabbi Ted Simon is a Messianic Jew and is a Global Ministry partner that FCF supports.

Please watch the bulletin for more information and to know when the registration form is open.



Celebrate with us!

Feast of Trumpets

Sunday, October 2

6:00 pm at FCF

Led by Rabbi Ted Simon

We are looking forward to our 9:15am Fall Launch on September 11. This will also be our Promotion Sunday for Faith Kids. Incoming kindergartners will join the K-2 class; new 3rd graders will join the 3-5th grade class, and 6th graders will head down to the Barn for Switchback.

Faith Kids, Switchback, & Adult EDUCATION CLASSES RESUME 9:15am on September 11



Join us for our weekly Prayer Gathering on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Gathering Room. Everyone is welcome!

If you have something you would like to be prayed over, you are welcome to fill out a Prayer Card located in the back of the auditorium and in the inner foyer and place it in the designated box.



FELLOWSHIP, PRAYER TIME, AND BIBLE STUDY FOR THE 55+

Why Is Spiritual Growth Important?

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:1-2

In the mid-1700s, a shiplot of migrants landed on the northwest coast of America. Their first year, they established a site on which they'd build their town. The second year, they elected a town government. The third year, the town government made the decision to build a road stretching five miles westward into the wilderness.

In the fourth year, the townspeople tried to overthrow their own government because they believed building a road five miles into the wilderness was a waste of money. The very same people who saw thousands of miles across an ocean and overcame hardships to get there couldn't see five miles down the road!

Many Christians are a lot like those townspeople. They reach a point in their walk with Christ and think they have no further to go. It's like they've become close enough with God to be comfortable, so they go into "maintenance mode" and stop moving forward.

Our comfort in Christ comes from the fact that through faith, we're firmly planted in Him. But as we grow and mature, we surrender daily as we are transformed more and more into His image. Don't be content in yesterday's spiritual growth. Move continually forward in your faith and surrender your life to Christ day by day!

Prayer Challenge

Ask God to show you how to surrender each day to Him so you'll continue growing in Christ.

Questions for Thought

Why do you think becoming spiritually comfortable is such a common tendency among believers?

What are some things you can do daily that will help you continually give your life over to Christ?

In August, we enjoyed a bounty of fresh sweet corn, fried chicken, and the amazing side dishes you provided. We are looking forward to our next potluck on September 21.

Please remember that school is back in session! Watch out for school busses. When you see one, say a prayer for the bus driver, students, teachers, and school staff. This is their first year back to almost "normal" since 2019! There have been a lot of changes and new challenges for everyone!

2022 SEPTEMBER FCF MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT Luc St Felix

- FCF has been a ministry partner with Luc St. Felix for over 22 years.
- Pastor Luc has a powerful testimony of how God saved him and his family from the practice of Voodoo.
- His son Micah is a medical doctor as well as a pastor.
- Our Global Impact Teams have traveled to Haiti for several years to perform medical clinics in the mountain villages in Haiti.
- Unfortunately, due to COVID19 and political unrest, we have not been able to take a trip to Haiti to do a full medical clinic for the past few years. (A small team was able to visit in 2021.)
- We are prayerfully planning a Global Impact Trip to Haiti in 2023. If you are interested in going with a team, please see Pastor Dave.
- FCF's monthly support helps Luc provide revivals, conferences, and summer camps for children in the mountain villages in Haiti.

• Please pray for:

- The ongoing political unrest
- Safety
- Stability
- Restoration from the 2021 Earthquake
- Cost of living to go down (everything is very expensive)



Pastor Dave Glaze and
Luc St. Felix



September 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
						Switchback Junior High Retreat ←
4	5	6 7pm Prayer Gathering 7pm Meal & Service at the Mission	7 10am Young at Heart	8	9	10
		Switchback Junior High Retreat →				
11 9:15am Fall Education Classes Begin Communion Move Up Sunday	12	13 7pm Prayer Gathering	14 10am Young at Heart 6pm Switchback 6:30 Kidzlife	15	16 6:30 Ladies Coffee & Game Night	17
18	19	20 7pm Prayer Gathering	21 10am Young at Heart/ Potluck 6pm Switchback 6:30 Kidzlife	22	23	24
25	26	27 7pm Prayer Gathering	28 10am Young at Heart 6pm Switchback 6:30 Kidzlife	29	30	Next Month, (October) is Pastor Appreciation Month.