

FAITH FOCUS

WAITING on SPRING

From Amelia Rowland

It's been a long chilly winter! For our family it's been one filled with lots of snow days and virtual teaching for Emory. Just last week I was playing with Eliza in the living room, trying to get a bit of my own work done simultaneously while Emory was teaching through a poetry unit with his 8th graders in the other room. (I have so much more appreciation for those who juggled similar or even trickier scenarios during covid.) Hearing him teach through some different poetry caused me to take a little break and read some poems about Spring. One struck me with its beautiful imagery and struck a chord a little deeper as we await Spring.

Song of March- Patricia L. Cisco

With winter's footprints in the past,
and snows begin to melt at last.
With longer days and shorter nights,
the wayward winds of March take flight.
Four winds she holds within her grip,
then hurls them from her fingertip.
Her woolly, fleecy clouds of white,
she sets in skies of blue delight.
Her wild bouts of gusty breezes
roar through valleys, hills, and trees.
That high pitch whistling song she sings
awakens earth and flowering things.
She tears a hole in heaven's sky
so sun can shine, and rain can cry.
She gently calms as spring draws near,
as blooming daffodils appear.
She welcomes April showers in,
then gathers up her dwindling winds.
Now her long journey home begins,
knowing she'll be back this way,
upon a cold, late winter's day,
when nights grow short
and days grow long.
Listen for her whistling song!

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I've been thinking a lot about how quickly things change, how one season changes to another. Maybe it's being a new mom, experiencing a lot of change this year. Maybe it's growing older and wiser. Maybe it's the Lord's grace growing me into someone who treasures the gift of time more greatly. Maybe it's all of the above! As the poem describes longer days and shorter nights turn to nights growing short and days growing longer. Whether my patience is waning with a current season that continues to drag on, windy winter days, I'm looking at you, or I realize how short the years are as I nurture our little girl. Lord, teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. (Psalm 90: 12,14)



SPRING EDUCATION GROUPS 9AM FOR ALL AGES

BEGIN MARCH 16



Easter Gatherings at FCF

- Good Friday Gathering and Communion • 6pm on April 18
- Sunrise Gathering • 7am on April 20
- Easter Gathering • 10:15am on April 20
- Our 9am Education Groups will not meet on April 20



Fellowship, Prayer Time, and Bible Study for the 55+

How You Can Avoid the Trap of False Teaching

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.” - Matthew 7:15

Chuck Swindoll tells a story about how years ago a man went into a fried chicken place and bought a couple of chicken dinners for himself and his date. But instead of chicken, the young woman at the counter inadvertently gave him the proceeds from the day—a whole bag of money.

After driving to their picnic site, the two sat down to enjoy their meal. But they discovered a whole lot more than chicken—over \$800! So the man quickly put the money back in the bag, got in the car, and drove all the way back to the restaurant.

The manager was thrilled to death. He said, “Oh, great! I’m gonna have your picture put in the local newspaper. You’re the most honest man I’ve ever met!” But the man quickly responded, “Oh no, don’t do that!” Then he leaned closer and whispered, “You see, the woman I’m with is not my wife... she’s somebody else’s.”

Now I’ll bet that you absolutely loved this man up until the last sentence. And now you probably think he’s a sleazebag! Isn’t it amazing what can happen to our impressions of people once we know the full story?

In much the same way, many “spiritual leaders” today look good on the outside. But when you find out what they’re really teaching, you discover they may not be all they proclaim. So be careful what you allow yourself to be taught by “pop-spirituality” and cling to the truth of Scripture!

Prayer Challenge:

Pray and ask God to give you good discernment between what’s true, biblical teaching and what is false “pop-spirituality.”

The weather has really been causing some havoc with our Wednesdays! Between the snow, ice, really low temperatures, and wind, we have only been able to meet a few Wednesdays this year. We’ve missed gathering together to study God’s word and hope that March brings better weather so we can get back to our “normal” Wednesdays.

Thank you to all who brought a tasty dish to our February potluck. Our March potluck will be March 19.

We’re on the downslope of winter but don’t let your guard down! Some of our biggest snows have been in March. Keep your winter gear close, but keep an eye out for the return of the robins and other signs of spring!



- Pick up an envelope from the box
- Place the \$ amount stated on the outside of the envelope in the envelope
- Put the envelope in the designated box by March 9
- Pray! We not only appreciate your financial support, but your prayers as well!

For the summer of 2025 Switchback Student Ministries will be serving in Damascus, VA! They will be teaming up with Praying Pelicans Missions. Damascus was hit by hurricane Helene in September of 2024. This beautiful town tucked deep in the Appalachian mountains suffered great flooding and destruction to the homes, businesses, and families of Damascus. Although they do not know the scope of their work for this trip, they are excited to see how the Lord will prepare and use them throughout this trip!

If you see a number you don't recognize come up on your caller id on March 8th between 6 and 8pm, we encourage you to answer it. Likely it will be one of our Switchback Students calling to remind you that March 9th will be the last day to grab an envelope AND to set your clocks one hour ahead!

Please be in prayer for FCF as we continue to seek the Lord's wisdom and guidance for who He has for us as our next Lead Pastor. We are grateful for the preaching team that is sharing each Sunday during the interim.

When the time comes that the FCF Elders have a candidate to present to the congregation, there will be an opportunity to hear him preach, and a congregational meeting will be called to vote on the candidate. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting; however, only official members 18 and older may vote.

If you are interested in becoming a member of FCF, contact the FCF Office for more information.

Membership and Baptism March 30

If you are interested in becoming a member of FCF or would like to be baptized, contact the FCF Office by March 20



FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and fellowship for parents, woohoo!


March 8, 2025
Faith Christian Fellowship
9-11 AM

Bring toys to play with friends, and we'll have fun things planned here at the building too!




FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY

Faith Kids is closed on fifth Sundays to enjoy worship as a family. If you and your child need a quiet place to go, the classrooms are open but not staffed.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY MARCH 22 8:30AM
RSVP on the FCF APP or in the Foyer

Men—join us for a morning of fellowship and, of course, great food! Invite a friend! Dads, bring your sons! RSVP in the foyer at FCF or on the FCF App.

March has 5 Sundays so March 30 is Family Sunday. Faith Kids will be closed and all children (nursery – 5th Grade) will worship together with their family.



MARCH 12
APRIL 9
MAY 14






FCF WORK DAY

April 12
8am-1pm

There's something for everyone!
All ages are welcome!

2025 GLOBAL IMPACT TRIPS

Location	Dates	Total Cost	1st Deposit Due	2nd Deposit Due	Trip Balance Due
Costa Rica	July 3—10	\$1500	\$500 due April 3	\$500 due May 3	\$500 due June 3
Nicaragua	Aug 14-21	\$1500	\$500 due May 14	\$500 due June 14	\$500 July 14
India	Oct 2-11	\$3200	\$1000 due July 2	\$1500 due Aug 2	\$700 due Sept 2
Ecuador	Oct 23-30	\$1500	\$500 due July 23	\$500 due Aug 23	\$500 Sept 23
Nicaragua	Nov 14-20	\$1500	\$500 due Aug 14	\$500 due Sept 14	\$500 Oct 14



COSTA RICA July 3rd - 10th VBS & Children's Ministry and Construction

Trip Costs and Deadlines

\$1,500.00, plus out-of-pocket expenses such as airport meals on travel days, souvenirs, passport and immunizations. The amount of \$1,500 includes round trip airfare, seven nights' accommodation, transportation while in-country, and meals.

2025 Impact Team Ministry Plans

- VBS with Church *Leadership of Jadder and Jenifer and family*
- Light Construction Continued work on Pastor Guillermo's house



Deposits should be given directly to Pastor Dave Glaze. Please note your name, trip, and the date on the envelope with your payment. To assure that you are getting credit for your deposit, do not put it in with the regular tithes and offerings. If you plan to make a payment online, through Bill Pay directly to FCF, please let Pastor Dave know so he can alert the Administrator to look for the payment. If someone would like to give towards your trip, please ask them to include your name and trip destination with their monetary gift. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

Pastor Dave's Contact Information:
 Email: missions@explorefcf.com
 Phone: 301-223-4803—FCF Main Line
 301-331-1974—Cell

We are Called to Serve

In 1 Peter 4:10, Peter challenges us to serve others—*“that as each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”*

Serving God can come in many forms. It can be within the walls of FCF as a Faith Kids Investor, on the Cleaning Team, AV Team, Switchback, Education Group Facilitator, to name just a few.

There are also many ways to serve outside of the walls of FCF in your community. It could be in your neighborhood, schools, local ministries including the ones listed below that FCF supports financially.

We encourage you to find a place where YOU can use your gifts and talents to serve others.

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP (CEH) - CEF of Maryland’s vision is to reach every child in every community, every day. Their strategy is to establish a movement across Maryland known as Mission 4/14 to reach all the children between the ages of four and fourteen with the Gospel. They offer Good News Club, 5 Day Club, and Christian Youth in Action. FCF Sponsors the Williamsport Good News Club. Visit their website, cefmaryland.org for more information. Contact the FCF Office to get more information about serving with the Williamsport Good News Club.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES (FCA) - Their mission is to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. They offer a variety of opportunities to serve including serving at their camps, FCA in the schools and more. Visit their website, wacofca.com for more information.

FARMERS & HUNTERS FEEDING THE HUNGRY (FHFH) Their mission is to transform a God-given resource of deer and livestock into food for those in need! Opportunities to serve include donating their harvested deer and paying for the processing as well as volunteering within a local chapter. Visit feedingthehungry.org for more information.

FATHERS IN THE FIELD mission is to rekindle and establish the spirit of boys who do not have their fathers; mentoring them one-on-one in life skills through outdoor activities, and by sharing a Christian understanding of our Heavenly Father’s love and sacrifice for His children. FCF has a local Fathers in the Field partnership that offers different ways to serve in this ministry including prayer warriors, mentors, and more. The group meets monthly to pray for the fatherless boys in our area, support the mentors who are working with a buddy, and discuss ways they can reach more fatherless boys in the area. For more information about the ministry, contact the FCF Office.

JOY EL MINISTRIES seeks to provide opportunities for people to experience life-change through personal encounters with God. They offer summer camp, retreats, and The Bible Adventure Program, which ministers to public school students, offering biblical instruction for one hour a week during the school day. Dianne Glaze serves as a Bible Adventure/CIA Equipping Coordinator. For more information about the ministry, contact the FCF Office or you can speak with Dianne.

THE HOPE CENTER serve the Hagerstown, Maryland community by offering food assistance, men's emergency shelter, men's life recovery program, youth and children's programs, and more. The ministry is 100% funded by the community. FCF provides and serves the meal the first Tuesday of each month. There are many ways to serve at the Hope Center. To find out more, visit their website, hopecenterhagerstown.org/volunteer.

HAGERSTOWN AREA PREGNANCY CLINIC (HAPC) serves women and girls by providing no-cost pregnancy tests, limited ultrasounds and counseling so they can make an informed decision and feel empowered to choose life! For more information, email info@hapconline.com and ask for ways you can you can serve with them.

HEARTS ACROSS BORDERS is a child sponsorship through FCF. We have a heart for children and providing for children and families in need. Hearts Across Borders, is the Child Sponsorship Ministry of FCF’s Global Ministry. Together with our Nicaraguan ministry partners, we work with and minister to families in Nicaragua. For more information about this ministry, pick up a brochure in the foyer at FCF or contact our Missions Pastor, David Glave.

MARCH 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



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2 Communion 100 Envelope Fundraiser 9am Education Groups 10:15am Worship Gathering	3	4 7pm Meal and Service at the Misson 7pm Prayer Gathering	5 10am Young at Heart 6pm Switchback	6	7	8 9am Faith Kids Family Fellowship 100 Envelope Fundraiser Calls to FCF
9 100 Envelope Fundraiser Ends 9am Education Groups 10:15am Worship Gathering	10	11 7pm Prayer Gathering	12 10am Young at Heart 6pm Switchback 6:30pm Faith Kids Mid Week	13	14	15
16 9am Spring Education Groups Begin 10:15am Worship Gathering	17	18 7pm Prayer Gathering	19 10am Young at Heart/Potluck 6pm Switchback	20	21	22 8:30am Men's Breakfast
23 9am Education Groups 10:15am Worship Gathering	24	25 7pm Prayer Gathering	26 10am Young at Heart 6pm Switchback	27	28	29
30 9am Education Groups 10:15am Worship Gathering Family Sunday Membership/Baptism	31					