

FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

FAITH

JUNE 2025

focus

Looking Forward

By Erin Croteau

Spring has sprung; the rainy spring season is on its way out. Soon, the blazing hot sun will shine to where we cannot even imagine that we've ever been cold in our lives! These are the days I wait for! I enjoy all seasons to a degree, but spring seems to bring renewed hope of life. I love the sunshine, taking walks in my neighborhood, sitting on my back porch drinking coffee, and playing outside with my kids. I love the blooming flowers and watching petals from trees floating through the air as a soft breeze rustles the branches. I love watching bunnies hop around my yard, and a cool summer rain after a sweltering day.

I know I have shared my favorite snippet of Scripture in the newsletter before, but I would like to take a moment to do it again. To me, Isaiah 43:18-19 depicts an eternal spring bursting with the potential for new life. It says, "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."

Much of Jewish religious culture hinges on remembering what God has done, but here it says, "forget the former things; do not dwell on the past." God had done remarkable things for Israel, but he did not want them to conclude that this was the only way he would save them. God tells them he is doing a new thing; it would spring up (think a sprout from barren soil). God was going to make a path for them in the desert and waterways in a dry land. God was going to provide for his people—something they would not be able to deny was the work of his hand.

Is God not the same? Just like the hope of new life coming in spring after a long, frigid winter; we have steadfast hope that God is still doing great things. Remember the great things he has done for his people, and for you, and look forward to the things he will do! We can trust that God is our Provider, and he will be with us as we walk with him.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

June 1
following the 10:15am Service
(approximately 11:45am)

*All are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting.
Only formal FCF Members may cast a vote.*

A **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** to vote on whether to officially offer the Lead Pastor position to Pastor Andy will be held on June 1 following the 10:15am Service. All are welcome and encouraged to attend; however, only formal members of FCF may vote.

There will be a brief break between the service and meeting to allow the auditorium to clear. If you have children in Faith Kids, please use this time to pick them up. There is no childcare during the meeting.

Some have asked about Absentee Ballots. The FCF Bylaws state, "The Pastor shall be called by a three-fourth (3/4) majority of the members present and voting at a congregational meeting of the church, such meeting being announced at church services for two Sundays." Based on these bylaws, we are not able to offer the option of voting by absentee ballot.

The results of the vote will be shared at the meeting once the ballots have been counted. An email will be sent out following the meeting to announce the results of the vote to those who were not able to attend.



The annual FCF Picnic is Sunday, June 1 at 4pm. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish to share. RSVP on the FCF App or in the foyer at FCF by May 27.

*We will be setting up the auditorium for the picnic following the Congregational Meeting. If you are able to help move chairs and set up tables, we'd love to have the help!



Join us for three days
of fun!
July 1, 2, 3

Ages 3-5th grade,
9am-12pm

Snacks provided!

Intentional discipleship
worship!

Relationship Building,
and Tons More Fun

RSVP on the FCF App



Congratulations Graduates!



Adrianna



Meredith



Nathaniel



Jenna



Daniel

Congrats to the 2025 Graduates!

Daniel Cartwright—Broadfording GVCS

Adrianna Hykes—Spring Mills

Nathaniel Ingram—Boonsboro HS & HCC

Meredith Jones—Barbara Ingram

Jenna Smith—Purdue Global University

God
has a
great plan for
You!
Jeremiah 29:11

Ice Cream Sundays



At Byron Park
June 29 & August 10
@ 6pm



Education Hour
SUMMER BREAK



May 25-August 31



Summer Breakfasts
July 6-August 31

An Amazing Story of God's Protection

From Funmi Oyeibanji



Funmi in Nicaragua on a Medical Mission Trip

Funmi Oyeibanji has attended FCF for several years and went on some of the medical missions trips to Nicaragua. She was recently on a trip to Nigeria to visit her parents, and when she returned shared this amazing story of God's protection.

Her story in her words:

"Giving glory to the Almighty God who has preserved my life and of my children including my grandchildren from kidnapping and accident during our visitation to my parents in Nigeria. On our way from where I stayed going to another state for my parent's birthday with all I have left on earth. Came set of kidnapping men at the checking point. Before we got there I told my driver to be smart at the checking point because we're not sure if they are truly policemen.

Yours truly beloved, they were kidnappers, they stopped some cars and let them go, getting to our car, they asked us for money and my little grandson with me said we have Bible at the same time. They looked at my eyes inside the back seat. One of them said to the other guy to let us go, if they don't want the fire of God to disturb their target today. The driver zooms out of their place when a truck faces us and we're all shouting Jesus Christ, driver trying to bypass the truck on the other lane suddenly ran into a pothole and stalled in, the oncoming truck saw that running when he hit another car in front of him. Everyone inside ran out crying while the driver and three others ran away. The passenger told us that they were kidnapped, that when they saw our car coming and ran on the other lane, one of them said this car would call for attention and they might be caught, deliberating on what to do when they ran on the oncoming truck.. Those people that were kidnapped came to help our truck out of the pothole. I called all the emergency numbers, they came to search for the kidnappers. When I got home, I started having a headache and since then till I got back to the US I was very strong. that i was home for two weeks. I thank God that my Bible, His word preserved my household. "

Upcoming Global Impact Mission Trips



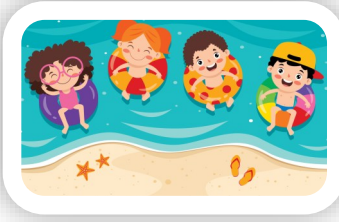
Nicaragua—Aug 14-21—Total cost is \$1500; **first deposit of \$500 is due June 14**

India—Oct 2-11—Total cost is \$3200; first deposit of \$1000 is due July 2.

Ecuador—Oct23-30—Total cost is \$2500; first deposit of \$500 is due July 23

Nicaragua—Nov14-20—Total cost is \$1500; first deposit of \$500 is due Aug 14

If you are interested in going on any of these trips, contact Pastor David Glaze, missionsions@explorefcf.com. There is a booklet on the left slat wall (by the FCF Office) with more information about the trips.



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

The danger of misplacing your priorities

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." - Matthew 6:33

Dr. George Sweeting recounted a time when he and his family took a trip to Niagara Falls. It was spring, and huge blocks of ice were rushing down the river, making their way to the falls. Frozen inside the blocks were carcasses of dead fish.

Swarms of gulls were riding down the river on the blocks feeding on the dead fish. As they came to the brink of the falls, their wings would go out and they would fly away, narrowly escaping an imminent death.

Dr. Sweeting then observed,

"I watched one gull which seemed to delay and wondered when it would leave. It was engrossed in the carcass of a fish, and when it finally came to the brink of the falls, out went its powerful wings. The bird flapped and flapped and even lifted the ice out of the water, and I thought it would escape. But it had delayed too long so that its claws had frozen into the ice. The weight of the ice was too great, and the gull plunged into the abyss."

The most appealing things in the world turn deadly when we become too attached to them. That's because when we hold onto something so tightly that we refuse to let it go, that thing becomes our idol and surpasses God in our hearts.

Don't let the things you love destroy you. Release what needs to be released for the sake of your relationship with God. Enjoy the good things in life, but always remember to keep your priorities in line!

Prayer Challenge

Ask God to show you where you've compromised your priorities and pray He'd help you keep them in line.

Questions for Thought

Why do you think the things of the world often seem more appealing than the things of God?

What are some things in your life today that perhaps you need to let go of?

We had a wonderful potluck in May. Thank you to Carol who invited Matt from Red Canyon PT to come and share some exercises to help with stability and balance! And many thanks to all who stayed after to clean up. We missed Nancy and realized how much work she does cleaning up, especially on potluck days! Our June potluck will be June 18. If you have a dish your father taught you to make, feel free to bring that dish!

July 16 - we will be going to Sight & Sound to see Noah - if you have any questions or would like to reserve your spot, please contact John Gaynor.



JUNE

4th - No Switchback

11th - Summer Kickoff

18th - Mini Golf

25th - Blair's Valley

JULY

2nd - Disc Golf

9th - No Switchback

16th - Flying Boxcars Game

23rd - Back Yard Extravaganza

30th - Slip 'N' Slide Palooza

AUGUST

6th - Axe Throwing & Archery

13th - Night at the Pool

20th - Night at the Park

27th - No Switchback

SEPTEMBER

3rd - No Switchback

10th - Fall Kickoff

Let Summer Begin!

We are extremely excited about another season together with our students!

Below are a few details to keep you informed over the summer:

Are Rides Provided?

Throughout the years, we have provided transportation to nearly every summer event. This year we have revised this and decided to offer rides for some, but not all events. Some events are relatively close to the church and meeting on location makes a difference in what we can do on a given evening. *Please read event descriptions carefully to know when rides are, or not available.*

6th Graders are Moving up Early!

In the past, incoming 6th graders have moved up at the end of the year at our Slip 'n' Slide Palooza. This year, we are hosting this event in the middle of summer and don't want our new 6th graders to miss out, so they get to join in ALL SUMMER! Our Summer Kickoff, June 11– 6th Graders are invited and encouraged to attend!

RSVP!

RSVP'ing allows us to make sure we have transportation, food, tickets, or whatever is needed for the evening. The sooner you sign up for an event the easier it is for us to get prepared for it.



**STAY
CONNECTED**
DOWNLOAD THE
FCF CHURCH
CENTER APP



Or Scan the
QR Code



June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15am– Pastor Andy preaching 11:45am— Congregational Meeting & Vote 4pm FCF Picnic	2 6am Men's Prayer and Bible Study 6:30pm Ladies Book Club	3 7pm Prayer Gathering 7pm Meal & Service at the Mission	4 10am Young at Heart No Switchback	5	6	7
8 Communion 10:15am Worship Service	9 6am Men's Prayer and Bible Study 6:30pm Ladies Book Club	10 7pm Prayer Gathering	11 10am Young at Heart 6pm SB Summer Kick-Off	12	13	14
15 10:15am Worship Service	16 6am Men's Prayer and Bible Study 6:30pm Ladies Book Club	17 7pm Prayer Gathering	18 10am Young at Heart /Potluck 6pm SB Minigolf	19	20	21
22 10:15am Worship Service	23 6am Men's Prayer and Bible Study 6:30pm Ladies Book Club	24 7pm Prayer Gathering	25 10am Young at Heart SB Blair's Valley	26	27	28
29 10:15am Worship Service 6pm Ice Cream Sunday at Byron Park	30 6am Men's Prayer and Bible Study	<div>  <p> SUMMER BREAKFASTS Sundays at 9am 🥞 July 6-August 31 </p> </div>				