

Faith *focus*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

JULY 2022

The Context of the Story

From Tony Lehman

Bahhh ba, ba ba ba BAHHH BAHHH

With no context, you may be asking yourself, “Who wrote this? An unsettled sheep? A horn-happy driver? Some writer desperate for an opening newsletter line?” These are fair, accurate guesses, but those first seven syllables are actually my rendering of the musical theme from Star Wars, composed by the great John Williams.

If you are a fan of Star Wars, that melody probably brings up some vivid associations like the “Star Wars Crawl” that precedes the movie, or great quotes like, “Never tell me the odds,” or Chewbacca’s philosophical gem, “GWARRAGH.”

Those seven notes have the power to awaken a flood of memories and feelings. But there’s a catch. It only works if you know the story, and you can only know the story if you spend time watching it.

The same goes for following Jesus. Many people have some sense of who Jesus is. They’ve heard the melody. The idea that He is associated with love is clear enough, but without context of the greater story, it’s limited to nice sentiment, misplaced affection, or just plain irrelevance. It’s not until they “see the movie” that Jesus’ teaching comes alive.

So how do you “watch the movie” of Jesus? As with every movie, you should start with the book. Read the gospels and see how Jesus lived. What did He talk about? Who did He spend time with? What did He say that’s comforting? Or challenging? This is time well spent in understanding Jesus, but it probably won’t clear up everything about Him. You may come away with more questions than you started with. Now what?

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Let's go back to the movie analogy. Imagine watching Star Wars with a friend who has seen the movies, attended the conventions, scoured the internet, and is an expert on everything about that galaxy far far away. Your knowledgeable friend probably can't wait to bring you up to speed. They might tell you more than you ever bargained for. This is an excellent way to learn about Star Wars.

It's also an excellent way to learn about Jesus. Find a friend who has already walked this road. Ask them questions. Read Scripture together. Pray together for guidance from the Holy Spirit. Much like the Star Wars fan, they'll probably be as excited to share as you are to learn. You may even find that their excitement is contagious. Eventually you'll be the one who can't help talking about Jesus every time you recognize the melody of His love. Imagine that!

Happy 25th Anniversary FCF. Thank you to all who came to the 25th Anniversary Picnic. Here are some FCF memories through the years.





Thank you to all the investors who served at Monumental VBS, the children who attended, and everyone who brought their children, grandchildren, neighbors, friends etc. to VBS! It was a great week full of singing, making crafts, playing games, and most importantly, learning about God's greatness!

At publication of the newsletter, there were a few days left of VBS so we don't have the official offering total for the week. We'll include that in the August Faith News. The offering will support Isaac, the boy we have been sponsoring for several years in Rugandabara Orphanage in Uganda. Based on the anticipated offering, we began sponsoring another child, Olivia, from the orphanage. We are grateful for your support which allows them to go to school and be cared for at the orphanage.



Olivia

The children sponsored through the VBS offering.

FAITH KIDS

JULY 31 is Family Sunday

9:15- No Faith Kids- Summer Schedule
10:45- Nursery-Preschool open

Elementary aged students are invited to attend the worship gathering with their families.

FCF SUMMER EDUCATION SCHEDULE

NO 9:15 CLASSES FOR FAITH KIDS, SWITCHBACK & ADULTS MAY 29-SEPTEMBER 11TH

2022 Switchback Mission Trip to Kentucky





On Saturday, June 18, this great group of students and leaders loaded into two vans, one pulling a trailer, and set off for a week to serve others in Kentucky. The trailer was full of luggage, tools, fans, and whatever else the team thought they may be able to use for the week. (No students—or leaders—were packed in the trailer; although a couple of parents may have tried to stash some younger siblings in there before they group headed out!) After a 14 hour trip, the group arrived at their destination of Russellville, Kentucky. One thing they found out along the way was that 21 people can eat at a Sam’s Club Food Court for just a little over \$100!

During their week in Russellville, the team served in a Food Bank, organized bins of donations, removed large pieces of sheet metal and long metal pipe and poles that were displaced during the tornado, built a handicap ramp, and much more.

The team left Kentucky on Thursday and made a stop in Fayette County, WV for a mini-retreat through Saturday when they packed up again to finish the last leg of their trip. They returned tired but very blessed by the experiences they had during the week.

A big thank you to all who gave to the 100 Envelope Campaign. Your donations helped make this trip possible by deferring part of the cost for the students and allowing them to purchase supplies for projects.

Please continue to lift this group up in prayer as they process the week and continue with their summer “vacation.” Many from the group continued to serve by being an Investor at Monumental VBS the Monday—Friday after they returned.



BAPTISM

JULY 10
AT 10:20 AM
BETWEEN SERVICES

We will be having a BAPTISM SERVICE on JULY 10 between the 9:15 and 10:45am services. We invite you to join us at about 10:20am as these believers follow Christ's example of baptism!

If you come to the 9:15am service, please stay if you can: if you usually come to the 10:45am service, please consider coming early to celebrate this exciting step in their Christian walk with Christ.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

&

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

JULY 30  8:30AM

DADS, BE SURE TO BRING YOUR SONS FOR BREAKFAST AND CROQUET TOURNAMENT

OPEN FOR ALL BOYS AND MEN FROM KINDERGARTEN UP

PLEASE REGISTER BY JULY 24

Register through the FCF App, explorefcf.com or in the foyer at FCF.

Croquet (French: *croquet*; /'kroukeɪ/ (UK) or /krou'keɪ/ (US)) is a sport that involves hitting wooden or plastic balls with a mallet through hoops (often called "wickets" in the United States) embedded in a grass playing court. At FCF, it's a great time for the guys to get together to enjoy food, fun, and fellowship.



BIBLE STUDY—10AM ON WEDNESDAYS

POTLUCK—JULY 20

How to Get past the Pain of the Past

*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you. - Ephesians 4:32*

The American Civil War was the bloodiest conflict ever fought on American soil, leaving close to 750,000 people dead from the North and the South. Two men on opposing sides, Confederacy President Jefferson Davis and Union General Ulysses S. Grant, had a sharp disdain for one another.

After both of their deaths, their widows, Varina Davis and Julia Grant, settled near each other. Despite the bad blood that existed for years between their husbands, the two became very close friends for the remainder of their lives.

When it comes to reconciliation, perspective is everything. Had the two widows met during the Civil War, they likely never would have become friends. But when the conflict was over, they were able to put aside their differences and have a relationship.

Reconciliation is difficult – but it's a biblical command. In the Christian life, forgiveness isn't optional. Even with your most bitter enemies, the call on the life of a believer is to forgive and move toward reconciliation with all people.

That's hard for many to hear, especially those who have felt utterly betrayed and abandoned for years. But seek forgiveness and reconciliation. Move past the pain of the past and let God heal your broken relationships!

Prayer Challenge

Pray and ask God to give you an attitude of forgiveness toward others who've wronged you in the past.

Questions for Thought

Why do you think letting go of past pain and moving toward reconciliation is so difficult for many?

Who is someone with whom you can clear the air and begin moving toward reconciliation today?

We had a great time on our Sight and Sound trip! Thank you to the Gaynors for all the work they put into everything to make it a success!

Our monthly Q & A July potluck will be July 20. Please bring a tasty dish to share.

Remember to drink plenty of water and stay out of the sun on these hot summer days! Take a few minutes each week to check on each other! And enjoy your summer!

FCF MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Jadder/Nicaragua Feeding Center

Nicaragua was the first place FCF took a team on a Global Impact Trip. Since 2003, we have been sending teams that have ministered in various capacities, including construction of churches, working in orphanages and Christian schools, serving at the feeding center, having VBS, and teaching at ACIBEN, the Bible Institute in Sebaco, north of Managua.

On one of these trips, Pastor Dave met and began forming a relationship with Jadder, a young man who had been in a gang and the scars to prove it. Jadder had changed his way of life and was living for Christ! Jadder and his wife, Jennifer have 2 children, Naryeli and Jadder, Jr. Naryeli is now married. Some were able to meet and get to know her when she lived with the Glazes and attended Grace Academy in 2018.

Jadder and his family feed underprivileged children on a daily basis at the Managua Feeding Center. The Feeding Center is located in the center of Nicaragua near historical sights and the Oriental Market. Each of our teams have had the opportunity to serve alongside him as he feeds the body and souls of the children who come each day.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Peaceful and safe living environment in a government hostile to Christianity
- Ministry of children in parts of the country including mountain regions
- Safety in their travels as the minister to different regions of Nicaragua.



July 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

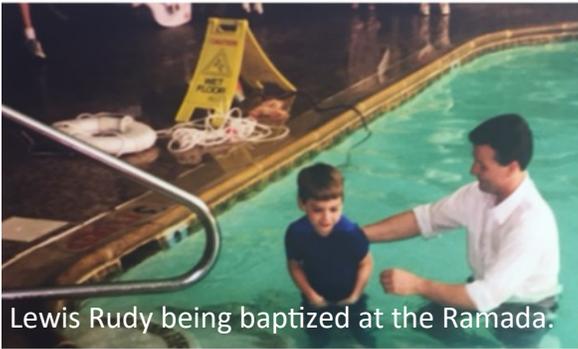
Fri

Sat

					1 6:30pm VBS Closing	2
3	4	5 6:30 Grief-Share 7pm Meal & Service at the Mission 7pm Prayer	6 10am Young at Heart	7	8	9
10 Baptism Between Services Communion	11	12 6:30 Grief-Share 7pm Prayer	13 10am Young at Heart	14	15	16
17	18	19 6:30 Grief-Share 7pm Prayer	20 10am Young at Heart/Potluck	21	22	23
24	25	26 6:30 Grief-Share 7pm Prayer	27 10am Young at Heart	28	29	30 8:30am FCF Men's Breakfast and Croquet Tournament
31 Family Sunday						

← Costa Rica Global Impact Trip

Costa Rica Global Impact Trip →



Lewis Rudy being baptized at the Ramada.

The church before the porch was enclosed.



The little white church on Artizan Street



Former nursery, now FCF Offices.

The original foyer design.



Before the walls were taken down in the auditorium



Now the current kitchen.



Pastor John and Melissa Miller



Pastor Dave & Allyson Vance



The McDaniel Family