



Faith *focus*

FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
SEPTEMBER 2021

OUR GOD REIGNS!

From Amelia Rowland

September, a natural time in our westernized rhythms of life for change to occur and new things to begin. This season often brings giddy excitement for a new school year, a fall sport or activity starting back up, making new friends, beginning new bible studies or small groups and shifting from the relaxed nature of summer to a more rhythmic schedule in the Fall. My dear husband (of one year as of August 29th!) has repeatedly commented on the feel of fall on the breeze these last few weeks. Even the weather is beginning to shift! Other exciting changes occur here on the FCF home front, like our first ever Move Up & Graduation Celebration event where we moved fifteen 6th graders up from Faith Kids to Switchback Student Ministries, praise the Lord!

The news headlines, however, are filled with change that makes our stomachs churn unnervingly, and we cover those heartbreaking situations with prayer knowing that God is over all, in all, and through all. I go for a jog by the river and dress and prepare for work each day, now with a pressing thought that so many women around the world do not have this privilege or security knowing they can do so safely. May we not look away at the persecution facing our brothers and sisters. Our friends in Haiti are suffering, while our sisters in Afghanistan cry out for mercy, while Nicaraguan brothers struggle under a corrupt government, and we continue to face disunity in our country every day. As I prayerfully ponder these changes, I continue to come back to this passage in Isaiah 40:

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.. 29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. 30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; 31 but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

We sing this with our Kidz Life friends and soar around the room with arms spread like eagles. The room is usually filled with giggles and energy, but do you know what else I see? I see young believers, hands outstretched and heads held high with confidence knowing their God reigns. OUR GOD REIGNS! Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is an everlasting God. So, as you step into September, with changes big and small around you, I challenge you with this: How have you known? How have you heard of our everlasting God?

SEPTEMBER MINISTRIES LAUNCH DATES

- Sept 5 - 9:15AM Switchback Class Resumes
(NO SB on 9/1 or 9/8)
- Sept 12 - Adult Education Classes Begin
- Sept 15 - 6pm Switchback Fall Kick-Off
- Sept 15 - 6:30pm Kidzlife
- Sept 20 - 9:30am MOPS

September has a lot going on for many of us! Labor Day weekend marks the end of summer and the unofficial beginning of fall. School busses return to the roads to take children to school, cheers go up for the fall sports teams, and the tank tops are replaced with flannel shirts.

September also brings the Fall Launch of several ministries within FCF. More information about each of the ministries mentioned above are in the pages to follow. We would like to encourage you to join us in any of these ministries that interest you.

For more information, feel free to contact the ministry leader that heads up the ministry you are interested in or contact the FCF Office at 301-223-4803 or admin@explorefcf.com



Special Offering for "For the Nations" to help Afghanistan Refugees

FCF will match funds
up to \$1000

Funds can be placed in a
designated envelope and put
in the basket or offering
through Sept 12.

Checks may be made out to FCF

Our board has approved a special giving to help Afghanistan Refugees. Pastor David is committing a matching gift from FCF's Global Ministry up to \$1000, making the target with you of \$2000. If your share exceeds \$1000, we will simply add it to the overall disbursement. **Remember, when we did this for the Nicaragua hurricane response, a matching gift of \$3000 was pledged from the FCF Global Ministry budget, making a total target with you all of \$6000. The result was over \$13,000 going to needs there! We are trusting God for whatever He wants to provide in this situation.*

There will be a box in the foyer at FCF with specific envelopes for you gift. It will be available through September 12. The organization receiving these gifts is **For The Nations**. Feel free to read about them further here. ([For the Nations: Refugee Outreach – Refugee care that changes lives. \(ftnro.org\)](http://For the Nations: Refugee Outreach – Refugee care that changes lives. (ftnro.org)))



In the Gap

PRACTICING INTERCESSION

EZEKIEL 22:30

Saturday October 2

9:30-3:30

Doors open at 9:00 for a light breakfast

Lunch provided

register at www.explorefcf.com

Ladies Retreat October 2

Registration begin September 5

Contact Erin at events@explorefcf.com for more information

SWITCHBACK

Important Dates!

September 5th
Switchback Education
Hour Resumes

We will not meet
Sept 1st or 8th

September 15th
Wednesday Evenings Return!
(6:00pm - 8:00pm)

Parents—If you have never provided the following information to Lewis, Switchback Student Ministry Leader, please email him the information to make sure you are receiving monthly SB newsletters and important information about what is happening in the Student Ministry. Email: youth@explorefcf.com



Student Contact Card

Name: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Social Media

Facebook Instagram Twitter

BEGINS

SEPTEMBER 15

Registration
is open!

kidzlife

SEPTEMBER-MAY

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6:30-7:45

MINISTRY FAIR FOLLOW-UP

On August 22, we had 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 missed the Ministry Fair but 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.

A/V Team—Contact: Tony Lehman

Faith Kids—Contact: Amelia Rowland

Switchback—Contact: Lewis Rudy

MOPS—Contact: Jessica Gower

Ladies Connection—Contact: Erin Croteau

Faith Café—Contact: Christy Hixon

Global Missions—Contact: David Glaze

Fathers in the Field— Contact Matt Wilson
or Jeff Rowland

Young at Heart—Contact: Ron Clilpp

Sports Ministry—Contact: Dave Schofield

Building Service—Contact: David Glaze

Education Groups—Contact: FCF Office

Welcome—Contact: Contact: FCF Office

Men—Contact: Contact: FCF Office

Meals Ministry— Contact: Jessica Hykes

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 Adult Education Classes

September 12 - November 14

9:15AM

- Men's Class: Growing in Christ Meeting in Room 7L
- Ladies Class: Living a Godly Life Meeting in the Gathering Room

10:45AM

- Adult Class: Ephesians Meeting in Room 7L



MOPS AT FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
1ST & 3RD MONDAYS
STARTING SEPTEMBER 20TH
9:30-11:30AM
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

16726 Lappans Rd
Williamsport, MD 21795

Contact events@explorefcf.com





BIBLE STUDY—10AM ON WEDNESDAYS POTLUCK—SEPTEMBER 15

How to Stand Firm in the Face of Pressure

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. - 1 Corinthians 15:58

Back in the early 1990s, it was no secret that President George H. W. Bush was not a fan of broccoli. In fact, his distaste for the vegetable was so strong that he actually banned it from Air Force One. This embroiled the entire nation in a “broccoli discussion,” prompting broccoli growers to dispatch 10 tons of the vegetable free to Washington D.C. Yet the President reiterated his distaste with gusto:

I do not like broccoli and I haven't liked it since I was a little kid and my mother made me eat it. And I'm President of the United States and I'm not going to eat any more broccoli. Now look, this is the last statement I'm going to have on broccoli. There are truckloads of broccoli at this very minute descending on Washington. My family is divided. For the broccoli vote out there: Barbara loves broccoli. She has tried to make me eat it. She eats it all the time herself. So she can go out and meet the caravan of broccoli that's coming in.

Talk about not bending under pressure! In the face of so much criticism and demand to change his ways, the President took a stand and told the world he was sticking to his guns!

If only more Christians today would stand firm like this in the face of the world's pressure to compromise and relent in their own enthusiasm for the Gospel. So when you're pressured to give in and water down your faith, remember that if one man can stand firm against a vegetable, you can stand firm for Jesus Christ!

Prayer Challenge

Ask God to help you stand firm for your faith when you feel pressured to back down.

Questions for Thought

Can you think of a time when you were pressured to compromise on what you knew was the right thing to do?

How can you be more intent on standing for your faith even when you might receive some criticism?

At our August potluck, we bid a fond farewell to our dear friends and retired leader, Dianne and John Birl, who are moving to Pennsylvania. There were a lot of tears, laughter, reminiscing, and kind words shared to let them know how much we appreciate them and will miss them!

There is a lot going on in September!! We hope to see you in an Education Group, helping in childcare with MOPS, Prayer Gathering, Kidzlife, and other ministry opportunities!! Christianity has no age limits! Get involved and share God's love with our future generations! Not sure where serve? Ask Ameila or Christy in the Front Office at FCF!

FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
**2021
GLOBAL
IMPACT**



September Global Impact Ministry Partner: Guillermo Bonilla/Costa Rica

- Our sister church in Ortega, Costa Rica was started by Pastor Guillermo Bonilla in 1998.
- FCF's first contact was in 2008 when Pastor Dave met Guillermo on a discovery trip.
- We began sending Global Impact Teams in July 2010, when we did our first VBS for the children in Ortega.
- In the past 11 years, we have helped with youth leadership training, provided clean drinking water, constructed a two-story addition with a community cooking center, and held various evangelistic events.
- In 2016, Switchback Student Ministries did a sports camp for the children. The plans for Switchback Students to return in 2020 were postponed due to COVID restrictions. They plan to reschedule the trip.
- In 2021, a team of 7 from FCF went to Costa Rica in June. The team shared Rocky Railway VBS with the children.



Guillermo Bonilla



September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>September brings our FALL MINSITRY LAUNCH!</p> <p>Education Groups! Kidzlife! Switchback! MOPS!</p>			<p>1</p> <p>10 am Young at Heart</p> <p>No Switchback</p>	2	3	4
<p>5</p> <p>Special Offering for Afghanistan Refugees</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7pm Meal & Service at the Mission</p> <p>7pm Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10 am Young at Heart</p> <p>No Switchback</p>	9	10	11
<p>12</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>Education Classes Begin</p> <p>Candy Collection for Light the Night Begins</p> <p>Special Offering for Afghanistan Refugees</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>7pm Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10 am Young at Heart/Potluck</p> <p>6pm SB Fall Kick Off</p> <p>6:30 Kidzlife</p>	16	17	18
<p>19</p> <p>Candy Collection for Light the Night</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30am MOPS</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7pm Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10 am Young at Heart</p> <p>6pm SB Fall Kick Off</p> <p>6:30 Kidzlife</p>	23	24	25
<p>26</p> <p>Candy Collection for Light the Night</p>	27	<p>28</p> <p>7pm Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10 am Young at Heart</p> <p>6pm SB Fall Kick Off</p> <p>6:30 Kidzlife</p>	30		