

# FCC NEWSLETTER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of Faith Community Church – New Richmond



## DEEPER

### Summer Study for Youth

This summer, we invite youth going into 6th grade through high school to join us as we dive deeper into God's Word and learn how to apply it to our lives... and have a little fun! This weekly class will kick off on Sunday, May 19th from 6-7:30pm and will be taught here at FCC by Pastor Patrick. Sign up online to register your child and receive updates throughout the summer. We look forward to growing deeper in our faith alongside your youth! [LINK TO REGISTER](#)

### WHAT'S IN OUR LATEST ISSUE:

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## DEAR CHURCH FAMILY

We recently had our quarterly Covenant Member meeting. We got to hear so much encouraging news! God has been incredibly gracious to FCC. I would like to share some of the highlights for those who were unable to join us.

First, we brought twenty-one new people into membership this Sunday during worship. We should not measure success in numbers, but in faithfulness to Christ. Membership in the local church is a mark of faithfulness where the individual Christian chooses to stand up and identify him or herself with the people of God. He or she is saying they want to be part of the larger ministry of the church and wish to be held accountable to their profession of faith; and twenty-one people took that step. Praise God He is growing our membership!

Second, the Lord has provided us with a new Youth Pastor. Michael Hedges, who recently came to us from our sister church, The Bridge in Somerset, has felt the calling of the Lord to serve our youth at FCC. This is a significant answer to the prayer request I shared at the last covenant member meeting. I have gotten to know Michael, love his heart for our students, and am excited to work alongside him and support him in this new role.

Third, the Lord has raised up Jim Ruhl to serve as our new Deacon of Men's Ministry. Jim's desire is to build up the men of FCC to maturity in Christ. I was particularly heartened by his vision of ministering to the young men in the church, even young boys who do not have a father in the home. Jim has a pastoral heart and I look forward to seeing how God will use him in the future of our church.

Fourth, when I first arrived at FCC in October of last year, we only had two Elders: Steve Langer and Randy Kostroski. They were soon joined by Bryan Stangl. Those men have labored week after week to care for the membership here. I am so thankful for them. The Lord has recently raised up two more men who aspire to the position of Elders of FCC: Paul Olsen and Zac Evans. This is an incredible blessing. If the Lord wills, we could have as many as six Elders by the end of the year!

Fifth, at the last Covenant Member Meeting, Steve Langer informed the church that Sonshine Learning Center, which rents the South wing of the building, had decided to construct their own building. They will be moving out on July 27, 2024 into their own space to further their business. If the Lord wills, our plan is to love Sonshine well as they leave and assist them in their move. More on that to come. Next, our desire is to renovate the South wing of the church over the course of the month of August in order to allow us to provide Sunday school classes for adults and students of all ages in the Fall. Our goal in this is to evangelize our kids and grow deeper in Christ as a congregation. While this means some changes for us all, the FCC Staff, Elders and Ministry Team firmly believe the Lord is leading us in this direction and we are so excited to have this opportunity to offer new ways for us to grow as a church.

These are some pretty exciting updates! I am not writing this to brag, but to celebrate what God is doing in and for us here at FCC. Would you help me in giving thanks to Him for all that He has done for us? Next, would you continue to keep FCC in your prayers? We need God's strength and wisdom to continue to be faithful.

Moreover, this renovation and overhaul of our ministries will require a tremendous amount of commitment from the whole church. Would you please pray and consider how the Lord is calling you to contribute your time, talent and treasure for His glory? Stay tuned for specific ways you can serve this Summer.

Finally, whenever the Lord is at work, evil is never very far behind seeking to destroy it. In love and humility, would you join us in pursuing the unity of the church? Most importantly would you pray as we press into Christ? Jesus said, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing"* (John 15:5).

In Christ,  
Pastor Patrick



# children's ministry

## CHANGES AHEAD

### Introducing the "E Wing"

There are many changes coming in KidZone this fall. Sonshine will be moving into their brand new facility this summer and our south wing will become a space for our growing church family! With these changes, we'll get a new name for that area of the building, the "E" Wing. "E" for education, "E" for evangelism. No matter what you call it, we'll be working on making disciples who plant the church; and that is exciting! Keep an eye out in the coming weeks for ways to get involved in the preparation of this space! We will need loads of hands and feet!

The biggest change to Sunday mornings will be a change to our Sunday school routine. We are really excited to be able to combine our Sunday school classes and meet between services instead of during them! This will not only allow our Faith kids to gather with their entire class, but will enable upper elementary students to attend services with their parents, as active members of our congregation. This is an important part of family discipleship and setting right expectations for corporate worship as they grow up! Don't worry, nursery will continue to be offered both during and between services. We also know that a full service can be a challenge for some of our lower elementary kids. For our 4K-1st grade students we will be offering "Children's Church" during services. Both Sunday School and Children's Church will include new curriculum by the Gospel Project. We can't wait to see how God is going to move in our closest mission field...the kids in our community.

**Part of the Assembly**

Ephesians 6:1 & Colossians 3:20  
Assume that children are in the gathering and address them directly.

When all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Assemble the people, men, women, **and little ones** ... that they may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, and be careful to do all the words of this law, and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as you live in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.  
(Deuteronomy 31:11-13)

## FALL KIDZONE

### Exciting Changes Ahead

At our latest Covenant Member meeting, Bobbi shared exciting changes to come in KidZone in more detail!

KidZone in the fall will include:

- Sunday School Between Services Ages 0-5th Grade
  - Gospel Project For Kids Curriculum 4K-3rd Grade
  - Gospel Project "Forged" for 4th & 5th Grade



- Children's Church During Services Ages 4K-1st Grade
  - Kids Worship (Seeds Kids Worship)
  - Bible Literacy
  - Verse Memorization
  - Craft Corresponding to Sunday School Lesson
- Nursery Ages 0-3
  - Available During Both Services and During Sunday School

Advantages (To help make [little] disciples that plant the church):

- Childcare For Parents Attending Adult Sunday School classes
- Children Participate as Active Members of The Congregation
- Children Learn Right Expectations For Adult Worship
- Families Can Discuss Sermon Together at Home
- Children still have age appropriate teaching & fellowship with peers

### How it will help make (little) disciples who plant the church...

- ▶ Assist parents in discipleship at home.
  - Discuss sermon throughout week
  - Allow for childcare for adult classes
    - Equip Parents
- ▶ Give children appropriate expectations for adulthood.
- ▶ Reinforce that they are a part of the body of the church.



# children's ministry

## WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

**We help make (little) disciples who plant the church.**

"...Morals are set by age 9; most salvation experiences happen by age 13; most worldviews are established by age 13."  
- *Mama Bear Apologetics*, Hillary Morgan Ferrer



"We've always been trying to prepare our kids [to defend their faith] for college (and I think that's a critical thing to do, of course), but it turns out that only 11% of those who have left the Church did so during the college years. Almost 90% of them are now lost in middle school and high school. By the time they got to college they were already gone! About 40% are leaving the Church during elementary and middle school years!"  
- The American Research Group

"If America continues on its current trend, the number of 18-29-year-old Americans who state, 'My religious preference is none or a non-Christian religion' will grow to over 50% of the population by the year 2030." This will make Gen Z (the largest current generation), **the first truly post-Christian generation.**  
- *Cultural Captives*, Steve Cable

**The Mission Field is HERE!**



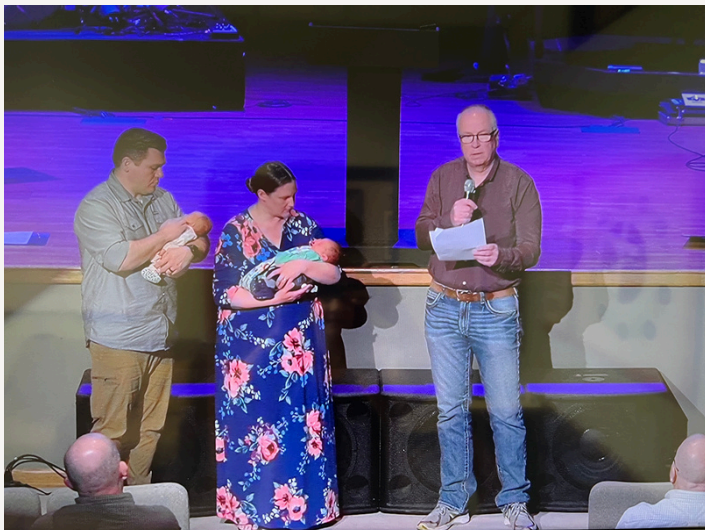
**90+ Kids Up To 5th Grade**



**30+ Families Just For Those Kids**

## DEDICATIONS

We had the privilege of dedicating our new Gisi twins, McKenzie and Benjamin as well as Anya VanderWaal in April! Nicholas, Ashley, Micah, Joseph, Benjamin & McKenzie (left) & Sean, Deanna & Anya Vanderwaal (right).





# CHAOS UPDATE

## Wrapping up the year

It is hard to believe that the Chaos year has come to an end! We concluded our year by examining the first few chapters in the book of Acts. Through the Gospel Project, we were lead from Jesus' interaction with his Disciples after his resurrection, through the Holy Spirit's work in launching the early church. We concluded our year in Acts chapter 4 with the challenge for our students to live a life of faith. Peter and John model a life of bold faith in these early chapters of Acts. Empowered by the Spirit of God, they take the message of the resurrected Christ to all who will listen!

Thank you for allowing me to teach your students this year. My prayer was that we were always faithful to the Scriptures and continuously pointing to Christ the Author and Perfector of our faith.

**Matt Tuinstra**



A few pictures from our Year End CHAOS Party!

# INTRODUCING MICHAEL HEDGES

## Our New Youth Pastor

Hey, I'm Michael, and I am the new youth pastor at FCC. My wife, kids and I have been coming to FCC for about 8 months. Before that we were a part of the Bridge Bible Church in Somerset. I am an ordained minister with Converge, have a masters of divinity from Sioux Falls Seminary, and I am a full-time hospice chaplain.

Taking on this new role isn't just about me leading a group of kids, it is about changing the culture of the church to be invested in the youth. We live in a world with an identity crisis, even as adults. For Christians, our identity is in Christ and our value is in the love that God has for us when he sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. But, the truth is, kids are looking for validation, and if they don't get it from the Word, they'll look for it somewhere else - and we won't like where they find it.

Let me give you an example: A couple months ago Pastor Peter was teaching a class about the minor prophets. I started going with my son and at first, he didn't like going. It wasn't because of Peter's teaching; the class was just not something he naturally wanted to do on a Tuesday night. I didn't really blame him since he was the youngest one in the class, but he still followed along, paid attention and gained knowledge about the minor prophets. This was in large part because of the other adult members of the class and how they invested in his life.

Some of the other attendees would bring cookies or snacks, and at the end of class they would tell my son that he could take the leftovers home. What teenager doesn't want free food?? Not only that, but on Sunday mornings these same people would come up and ask him, "How's it going?", "Are you keeping your dad on track?", "What did you learn this week in class?" These people would check in with my son and ask how he was doing and I could see how that changed him. It helped him to believe that he is valued, and helped him know that he wasn't just part of the class, he was part of the church as a whole.

Our youth are not just a group of kids who attend youth group on Wednesday nights, they are people that we get to love on like Christ, teach them about God, and show them what a church family looks like. We need to learn their names. We need to remember that they had a math test coming up and ask them how they did when we see them the following Sunday. We get to pursue them and ask how they're doing, so that they believe that they have value and are loved in a place that seeks truth in God's word.

# elders & men's ministry

## WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO

### From the Elders

As the elders of Faith Community Church, we have been entrusted with the "noble task" (1 Timothy 3:1) of caring for the church of God (Acts 20:28-31). To fulfill this responsibility, we pray daily through a portion of the membership list. During our weekly elder meetings, we focus on a specific section to ensure the well-being of each member and their family. We also assign an elder to personally reach out to members, to know how we can specifically pray for them, and to reach out to any members who may be drifting away.

At our weekly elder meetings, we've been quite occupied conducting membership interviews. When someone shows interest in becoming a member, they attend a membership class and then receive an interview by the elder council. Our goal is to ensure that new members of Faith Community Church have a clear understanding of the Gospel of Jesus and are devoted to actively and consistently participating in the daily life of a Christ follower. We also enjoy the chance to get to know them.

We have also had the opportunity to interview individuals who have shown interest in getting baptized. Once they express their interest and attend a brief class, we invite them to an elder meeting where we ask a series of questions to ensure they fully understand the significance and purpose of baptism, and celebrate these next steps.

These are examples of some of the ways that the elders are working to shepherd, teach, and protect the flock that has been entrusted to us here at Faith Community Church.

We currently have two men, Zac Evans and Paul Olsen, who are exploring the possibility of serving as elders at FCC. They are actively participating in meetings, praying, caring for members, and evaluating whether they are being called by God to serve in this role. Please keep them in your prayers as they go through this process.

**Steve Langer**  
Elder Chairman

## MEN'S MINISTRY

### Looking Forward

Hello Men of Faith/Men at Faith

I took the month of April to ask men to fill out a survey to gain feedback on what a men's ministry might look like, and gather info about their past experiences. This was not a test, and no grade will be given. If you did not get to fill one out, come and see me or ask for one at the Connection Point.

In the month of May, my plan is to take some time to review these surveys, and also seek out 2 or 3 men to join the team for oversight and direction. If you have any interest in this, please contact me.

If you need another man to talk to, to study with, or to pray with, please fill out that connection card and we can figure it out. Even men are not an island unto themselves. Just reach out.

To all the younger men who are finishing High School and preparing for the next phase of life, finish strong as unto the Lord.

God bless,  
Jim Ruhl  
Deacon of Men's Ministry

**Men's ministry will be adding some Men's Breakfasts to the calendar soon! Be on the lookout for more information about our first breakfast on Saturday, June 15th!**

We still have a diligent group of men who gather on Wednesday mornings at 5am, or Saturdays at 7am here at FCC to dive into scripture together. If you are interested in joining them, please let us know! Email [HERE!](#)

## TRAILER EVENT

Thank you to those who braved the cold and helped with our Trailer Light Event here at FCC! We had some VERY grateful customers!



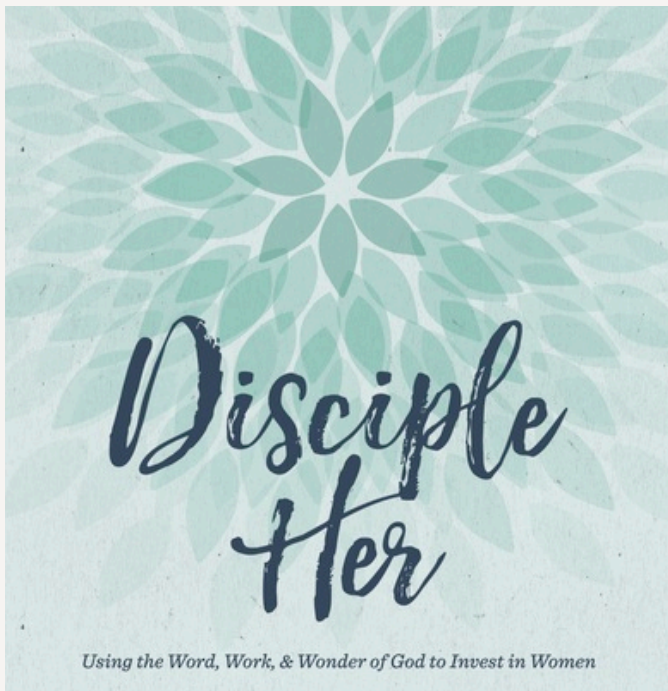


# women's ministry

## DISCIPLE HER

### 10 week study

Starting June 4th, we'll be offering a 10-week study for women interested in learning about being a disciple, making disciples, and living as a life-giver. The study will take us through "Transformed" by Karen Hodge & Susan Hunt. It's a Gospel-centered study of Eve, Sara, and Mary. We'll also provide information on how to form Disciple Her Groups at FCC. The study will be held on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:30pm at FCC. Sign-up at the Connection Point or on the [Events Page](#).



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

**The FCC Women's Ministry exists to equip women to be disciples who plant the church.**

Visit our website here:

<https://www.fccnr.org/womensministry>

Email Stephanie Langer here:

[stephanie.langer@homeforever.org](mailto:stephanie.langer@homeforever.org)

Check out and subscribe to our blog here:

<http://fccnr.org/womens-ministry-blog>

Follow us on Facebook here:

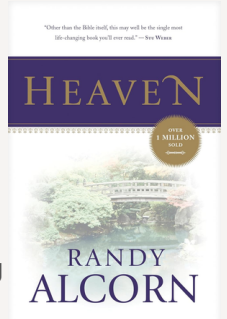
<https://www.facebook.com/FCCWMnr>



## MOMENTS THAT MATTER

### Monthly Book Club:

Join us for our Women's Monthly Book Club! We meet on the third Saturday of every month, from 10am to noon. Our next book is "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn. Copies are available now in the church bookstore for \$15 each. Join us on May 18th. If you're able, please bring a snack to share. You can [sign up online](#) or at the Connection Point. If you have any questions, please call or text Connie at 720-220-4180.



## LADIES TIME OUT

### Third Wednesday of Every Month

Ladies, our last Ladies Time Out of the season is upon us before summer arrives, and we would love for you to join us on Wednesday, May 15th! This monthly gathering brings ladies of any age and stage together to socialize, support one another, and just have fun. We meet every third Wednesday of the month from 9-11am in the cafe here at FCC. Coffee and childcare are provided! Bring a little breakfast item to share if you're able. If you want to know more, feel free to reach out to Christa Poole at [christa.poole@homeforever.org](mailto:christa.poole@homeforever.org). We hope to see you there!

Our group is growing! This last month we got to pass some new littles around the table! What a sweet gift it is to share these Christian friendships and do life together.



# prayer team & secret sister

## PRAYER TEAM

### Peter Bergeson

Need Prayer?

Members of our Prayer Team are available to pray with and for you.

- At the conclusion of each worship service, individuals are stationed at the front corners of the auditorium, waiting to listen carefully, then pray for whatever is on your heart.
- In each week's bulletin, there is a Connection Card. The back has a space for you to write your prayer requests. These will be shared with the Pastors & Elders or the entire Prayer Team, as you designate.
- On the FCC website, find the Prayer button to send your request on to the Pastors/Elders or Prayer Team.

## SECRET SISTER

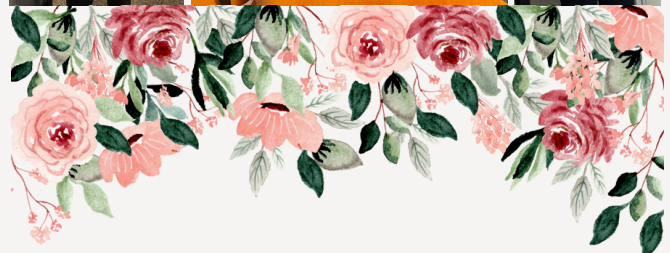
### Reveal Brunch

The Secret Sister Ministry wrapped up its 2024 season. It was a special time for the women of our church to be "gifted" with one special "sister" whom she may or may not have known. The ministry lasted for just 3 short months, from January to April. During this time, each woman was requested to pray for and encourage her sister through notes, cards, and/or small gifts. It ended with a Revelation Brunch where each lady met the one who had been blessing her for the past 3 months.

Our brunch on April 6th was a wonderful time of fellowship and sharing what their secret sister meant to them. We saw the Fruit of the Spirit displayed in the stories told. A favorite story was when someone was having an especially bad day and a card arrived in the mail that very day to cheer and encourage and turn that day around.

We hope you will consider joining us in January of next year when we will do this all again!

### Connie Schroeder





# verse of the month

May 2024

**All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

*May Memory Verse*

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

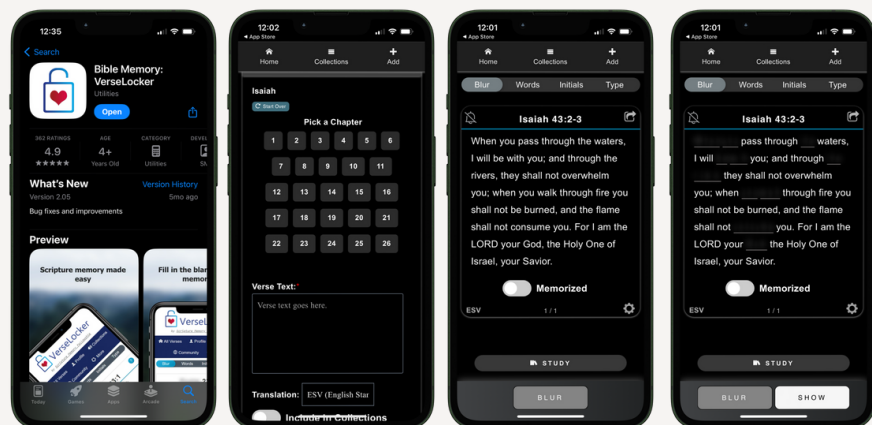
Faith Community Church | New Richmond

## MEMORY CARDS

Each month, we have memory cards available in the foyer for you to take home! They will be located on a table as you exit the church. Hang them on your mirrors, tuck it in your wallet or your phone case, put it by the door... keep it handy to look at and memorize whenever you can!

## VERSE LOCKER

Looking for a new and useful way to learn your memory verse each month? The Verse Locker App is a great option!



Download  
the App  
[LINK HERE](#)

Choose  
your verse and edit  
as needed.

Start to  
memorize

Blur out more and  
more words until you  
have it memorized!

## GLOBAL MISSIONS TEAM REPORT

**Jan Hoffman**

The Global Missions Team has been working behind the scenes for the past year to build a solid foundation for future missions at Faith Community Church. Here are some of the core values in missions we want to see come alive at Faith Community Church.

### **Missions that engage the church:**

Our desire is to find missions endeavors and activities that have the potential to engage our entire church body with their unique gifts and abilities through prayer, encouragement, projects, mentoring, and giving. The Bibles FCC purchased to give to people in Uganda, and the dedication cards our church body recently completed for the Pastors in Uganda, are great examples of this kind of involvement.

### **Missions that are gospel-focused and make disciples:**

We want to be sure that our missions endeavors line up with FCC's core value of "Making Disciples Who Plant The Church". We are looking for missions opportunities where the focus is sharing the gospel and making disciples, and the projects and activities of the mission should support this goal.

### **Missions that emphasize partnership:**

Faith Community will be partnering with a variety of missions endeavors with the priority being creating meaningful, long-term (multi-year) partnerships with a small number of missions endeavors and organizations. We would rather go "deep" than "wide" to facilitate deeper, more meaningful relationships with those we partner with. We want names to be recognized, places to be known, ministry efforts to be prayed for, needs to be understood, and a passion to grow for the people our missions partners are working with.

We have a great start as a church with the Bibles and dedication cards that were sent to the Pastors in Uganda. This was a great opportunity to bless these men and their efforts. We are also excited to announce that we have identified our first Partnership Mission with Vida Real Church in Guatemala, and Vida Real's pastor and church-planter, Pastor Antonio. Several years ago, Faith Community participated in numerous short-term trips to support this ministry. However, we will be moving toward a new, deeper, ongoing partnership with regular communication about ministry and prayer needs.

We hope to learn from each other as we work to advance the Gospel in Guatemala. Faith Community will also be financially supporting Vida Real ministry on a monthly basis.

Watch for more information and opportunities to get involved with the Vida Real ministry in Guatemala. We are excited about how God will use Faith Community in this and other mission endeavors in the future!



Men gathering in the refugee settlement to teach.



TLI - Cohort that began in May 2023



The Ofu Loso logo was created by Emie Evans, granddaughter of Pastor Mike Evans, who is going to Uganda to distribute the cards our church family wrote on (with the logo on the front).

## OGC WATCH PARTY

Faith Community was one of 500 nationwide locations for an Operation Christmas Child year-round volunteer area team watch party. The team heard amazing stories of God's provision and incredible future plans.

80% of all decisions for Christ happen before the age of 15 and 25% of the world's population (almost 2 billion people) are under the age of 15. Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are going into Ethiopia for the first time this year where there are 44 million children under 15 years old. Shoeboxes will once again go to Nigeria which has 80 million children 15 and under. The fields are ready for harvest!

The Greatest Journey 12-lesson discipleship program has been translated into Braille and a pilot program to begin in the Philippines and Togo this year; and new materials for deaf children have been developed.





## WE ARE ALL THE WELCOME TEAM

### Sue Kostroski

The Welcome and Hospitality Team is made up of about 50 people. We greet at the doors, inside and out, we answer questions at the Connection Point, and we make and clean up the coffee. We are a wonderful team of people who love to serve God and our faith family. It has been my privilege to work with them. But church, I want to say, we are all on the welcome team. We all have the job of making our church a welcoming place for every guest. Our God is a hospitable God. He generously welcomed us into his family. We want to reflect the hospitality of God as we welcome guests who visit our church. Can you remember a time when you started a new job, or moved to a new location, or started attending a new school or church? You might walk into that situation, and nothing is familiar, and you do not know anyone. You might feel self-conscious or a little uncomfortable or lonely, even though you are in a crowd. What can make you feel welcome and included? It is when someone approaches you with a smile and says something like, "Hi! I'm \_\_\_\_\_, what's your name?" A simple introduction and a few friendly questions can help you connect with a guest and help them feel welcome and cared for. A great way to help someone feel connected is to learn and remember their name. We had a team meeting last month and did a training on remembering names. I have included that information below. What makes a welcoming church? Not just those people who are standing at the doors or handing out bulletins, but everyone.

### Tips for Remembering Names

Making the effort to remember someone's name is a simple, yet profound way, to show someone you care.

#### 1. Active Listening

When you are meeting someone for the first time, invest yourself in the introduction. Be present, aware, and give them your full attention, actively listening to the person in front of you.

#### 2. 3 Times Rule

Try to either repeat their name three times in the conversation, repeat the name to another person right after the introduction, or repeat the name three times to yourself.

"I don't think I've met you."

"Hi, I'm Sue"

"Hi Sue, it's nice to meet you. I'm \_\_\_\_\_"

"Have you been coming to Faith Community Church for long, Sue?"

"I'm visiting for the first time today"

"Before you leave today Sue, make sure you stop by the Connection Point to get more information about the church."

#### 4. Visual Connection

Look at the person you are meeting and take a mental photo of them. Is there a feature, hair color, resemblance, or rhyme that you can connect with the person's appearance and or name? The more outrageous the connection, the easier it will be to remember the name.

#### 5. How do you spell that?

If it is an unusual name, ask how it is spelled and repeat the spelling. This might also help you in making a visual connection.

#### 6. Write It

Write the name as soon as you part ways, and some notes about your visual connection.

#### 7. I Forgot!

If you do forget somebody's name, and sometimes we will, admit to them that you need a reminder the very next time you speak to the person. Nothing is worse than going weeks speaking with someone and not knowing their name because we are embarrassed to ask.



# book recommendation & faith training

## APPARENT PRIVILEGE

By: Steve Wright

Far too many of us Christian parents are unaware of the great responsibility and privilege God has placed squarely on our shoulders. He has given to us the main duty of spiritually discipling our own children, something that ought not to be left to the "professionals". God's design in parenting is all the more sobering in a world that no longer acknowledges absolute truth. Children are desperate for sound guidance from their parents.

"Apparent Privilege" by Steve Wright does a wonderful job explaining what can happen when parents don't take this command seriously, giving a biblical view of what nurturing and protecting your child looks like and offering practical ways to go about this task. Using stats, studies and lots of Scripture, this book is a short, to-the-point read.

I believe chapter 3, entitled "A Parent's Understanding: A Theology of Family" was worth reading the book alone. Wright says,

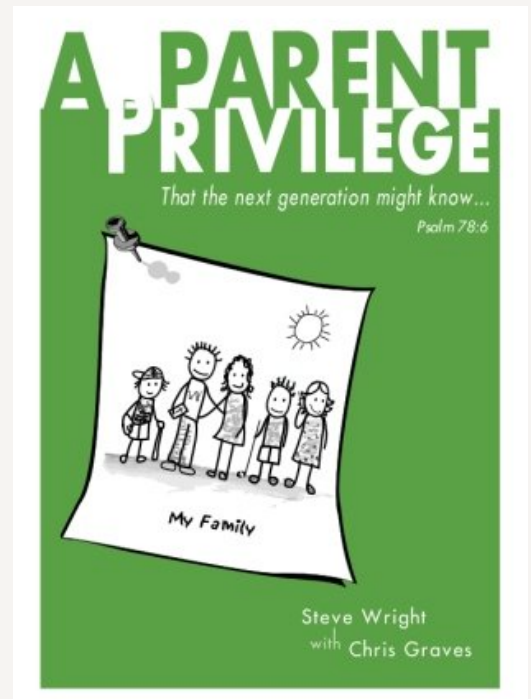
**"God does not change. His Word does not fluctuate with the times. His truths that guide our families are enduring, unshakable, and trustworthy. We need to think about family like God thinks about family."**

**”**

This chapter consists of 7 foundations of the family – "bedrock truths God gives us in His Word that will stand strong through all of life's storms".

There is also a valuable chapter on the local church's role as a partner in parenting and an encouraging chapter on the specific call of a father. Alongside other great parenting resources such as JC Ryle's "The Duties of Parents" – which Wright quotes from – this book will be a great benefit to parents and even youth leaders.

Melissa Evans



FCC has copies of "Apparent Privilege" in our bookstore, or you can order [online!](#)

## FAITH TRAINING

### Family Discipleship - Part 2

Faith Training is preparing for the fall move to Sunday morning Sunday School classes and are currently recruiting teachers and developing curriculum for this next season.

To wrap up the 2023-2024 year, Pastor Patrick will continue his Family Discipleship class with a Part 2. We heard the why, now we will be focusing on the how. [Sign up online](#) and join us on June 2nd from 12:30-2pm for lunch and learning!





# woodlake conference

## WOOD LAKE WEEKEND BLESSINGS

**May 3-5**

Thirty-six people arrived at the Wood Lake Retreat Center near Grantsburg on Friday evening, May 3rd. This included speaker Jonathan Drake, his wife, and 3 young daughters from Omaha, NE. All of our guests were welcomed, directed to their respective cabins (wonderful either new or recently refurbished facilities!), and then gathered for a pleasurable greeting and prayer from the camp staff. This was followed by a VERY generous and tasty meal that was made even better with the visiting and fellowship around the tables. Then, all were off to the chapel for several joyous hymns led by Zac Evans (which he did prior to all the subsequent sessions on Saturday as well).

Jonathan was a very thorough speaker as he covered the philosophical aspect of how to relate to people who question and/or reject the truth of Scripture, and that faith in Jesus is the only way to eternal salvation. He presented how to respond to those we come in contact with in a way to show that Christians really do have an intellect, how we can engage without judgmental rejection, and how we need to bring biblical worldview ultimately to override the darkened worldview that is so prevalent around us. That session we broke off into smaller groups, which was a great way to get acquainted with others, as well as encouraging each other.

Saturday was a full, but restful day. It started in the morning at 7am when we gathered for a time of prayer. We then had three more very sufficient meals; enjoyed some free time for visiting and some game time, for those who wanted that type of interaction; and were blessed with two more wonderful, in depth sessions with Jonathan.

It truly was a blessing for all the attendees, and many are looking forward to the possibility of returning next year, to get "the rest of the story" from Jonathan, since there wasn't enough time for him to complete it all this time.

Here are some photos of the facility, as well as our time together.

**Marilyn Perkins**





coming up

## RUBY'S PANTRY

May 16th | 5-7pm

Ruby's Pantry has been part of FCC now for 3.5 years! Our volunteers do an excellent job of serving the community and overflowing the love of Christ, but are always looking for more ways to share the gospel and remind our patrons of his never-ending love for us. Our Ruby's Pantry Lead Team met last month to discuss how we are doing, and how we can be improving that mission. We truly have some of the best volunteers who make Ruby's happen every month, and look forward to new ways we can share the gospel throughout New Richmond!

Ruby's Pantry is every third Thursday of the month! Distribution is from 5-7pm (or until we run out) at the Armory in New Richmond. This is a great opportunity to stretch your food budget AND serve if you are able. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to sign up to serve and be a light in our community.



Click [HERE](#) to see how we transform the Armory each and every month!



## GRIEF SHARE

Starting Monday, June 17th

GriefShare will start a new 13-week cycle on June 17th at 6:00 PM in room D3. This is support for those who have lost loved ones. Anyone with a loss is welcome to join. This the third cycle Faith Community Church has sponsored. Questions can be directed to Rita Baker at (801) 699-1709, or Cal Gale at (208) 860-4172. Registration and more information can be found on our [website](#).



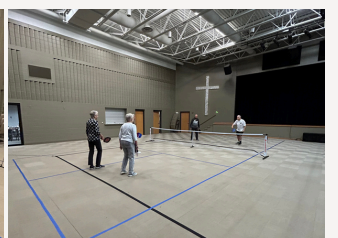
## SEASONED SAINTS

Monday, May 13th at FCC

Our Seasoned Saints gather every second Monday of the month to fellowship, eat together, and get to know the other seniors in our church! Please join us for our last gathering of the season on Monday, May 13th before we take a break for the summer! We will meet from 12-2pm for a potluck lunch, then stick around for a demonstration on planting flower pots. This will be a great time to meet new people and relax.

Want to help with hosting or sharing fun ideas for the luncheons held the 2nd Monday of each month? Please call or text Deb Jensen at 715-441-5004! More info can be found on our [events page](#)!

Due to bad weather last month, our saints transformed the sanctuary into pickleball courts for an indoor lesson and demonstration!



## next steps

### COVENANT MEMBERSHIP

#### Welcome New Members

We welcomed 21 new people into membership last weekend! Praise God! We had the privilege of introducing them to the congregation during both services, and then also again at our Covenant Member Meeting on Sunday evening. Please be sure to introduce yourself, get to know them, and open your homes up to them.



### UPCOMING CLASS

#### Thursday, June 13th

If Faith Community Church is your home, and you want to become a Covenant Member with us, please register for our upcoming orientation class on Thursday, June 13th from 5:30-8pm ([LINK](#)) and we will get you connected to the next steps of completing your journey.

### BAPTISMS

#### at Faith Community Church

We were honored to be able to witness MANY baptisms in April, and listen to their testimonies. It is such a joyous occasion to see them profess their faith, and speak about how God is working in their lives, transforming their hearts, and leading them to this step of obedience. Here are a few photos!



Baptism is a public testimony identifying a believer with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As you take this step of being baptized, you are making a public statement to our church family that you have been born to newness of life through Christ.

Interested in baptism or learning more about it? [Register here](#) so we can connect with you, or view our position on Baptisms [HERE!](#)



## GIVE

[fccnr.org/give](http://fccnr.org/give)

You can give once or set up recurring donations online, or place your tithes and offerings in the offering boxes just outside the sanctuary doors (in the wall). Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity!



**General Fund:** The general fund supports all the ministries and operations that take place at Faith Community Church, including support of our local and global partners. Thank you for financially supporting our mission of making disciples who plant the church!



**Faith Rebuild Fund:** The faith rebuild fund is for the renovation and refurbishing of the education wing and meeting rooms in the FCC building. Financial gifts and offerings to this fund are to be above and beyond normal tithes and offerings. Thank you for contributing to the rebuild!

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### Month of March

(000s)	Actual	Budgeted
Giving	66	64
Expenditures	53	59

*Because of your generosity and faithful giving, many of these classes, events, and opportunities are possible. Thank you!*

### The Treasure Principle

Mathew 6:19-21

*"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

## CONNECT

### We are the Church.

Join us every Sunday morning at 9:00am or 10:45am for in person services. Stay up to date with what's going on and follow us on Facebook, or catch up on services you have missed on our YouTube channel!



[@fccnewrichmond](https://www.facebook.com/fccnewrichmond)



[@faithecommunitynr](https://www.youtube.com/faithecommunitynr)



[fccnr.org](http://fccnr.org)

## TRAINING LEADERS INTERNATIONAL

### Prayers for Mike Evans

We were able to listen to Pastor Mike Evans speak on Sunday as he prepared for another trip overseas to Uganda as part of Training Leaders International where he will continue his work of training pastors how to study and communicate the Word of God. Please keep him, Stu Dix and Larry Szyman from FCC Hudson in your prayers as they make the 30+ hour trip and do this great work.

Mike said on Sunday morning,

"I just love the opportunity in our training when I see lights go on and guys begin to recognize that they can study the Word of God, and know what God says, and stand in front of their church family and not just talk about their best ideas, but communicate the Word of God and see that take shape in their people..."

"...We go in the strength that God provides, and to know that your church family is praying for us, and investing in us, and really going with us makes all the difference in what we get to do in the name of Jesus."

Our church family was able to pray for him at both services and send him off on this mission.





# board of trustees

## A NEW TEAM AT FCC

### The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a new branch of the church that is carving a huge path here at Faith Community Church.

We all have our sights set on many things such as:

- Building Maintenance
- Grounds Management
- Capital Investments.

God has called us all to steward His resources and we are taking that mission very seriously!

Our Board is made up of me, Aaron Livingston, Jake Rode, Jeremiah Wendt, Gary Bethke, Tawnya Unruh, and Tony Worrell. We have been tackling items on the list to get the building caught back up and running smoothly.

Our Board of Trustees will be meeting monthly to discuss the newest items that need to be addressed such as paint ting and repairing walls, damaged ceiling tiles, cleaning out lights, etc. Some of our longer-term goals are having a plan in place for when we need to replace the HVAC systems and working through a phase plan for the E-wing renovation.

We are also developing strategic teams to serve monthly on tasks that need to be done around the church. Please keep your ears and eyes open for when these team days will be, and how you can use your time and talents to help.

Faith Rebuild is going to be our big call for volunteers this summer! On July 26 & 27, we will be focusing on loving Sonshine Daycare by helping them move their current rooms and getting their new building set up. Then, the week of July 29 - August 2 we (FCC) will need help cleaning the rest of the E-wing rooms so we can start "rebuilding."

We have a deadline of Sept 1 to have Phase 1 ready and operational for our primary mission field "The Next Generation/Our Kids."

-Aaron Livingston  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



# upcoming events @ FCC

## MAY 2024

- 1st:** Men's Study 5-6am  
Elder Meeting 6:30-7:30pm
- 2nd:** Women's Bible Study 9-10:30am  
Women's Bible Study 6-7:30pm  
Worship Practice 7-9pm
- 3rd:** Wood Lake Conference  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHUCK
- 4th:** Men's Study 7-8am  
Wood Lake Conference
- 5th:** Worship 9 & 10:45am w/Communion  
& New Member Inductions  
Covenant Member Meeting 5-7pm
- 8th:** Men's Study 5-6am  
Elder Meeting 6:30-7:30pm
- 9th:** Women's Bible Study 9-10:30am  
Women's Bible Study 6-7:30pm  
Worship Practice 7-9pm
- 11th:** HAPPY BIRTHDAY RON!  
Men's Study 7-8am  
Ladies Tea Party 10am-noon
- 12th:** HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY  
Worship 9 & 10:45am w/Coffee Hour  
Between Services
- 13th:** Seasoned Saints 12-2pm
- 15th:** Men's Study 5-6am  
Ladies Time Out 9-11am  
Elder Meeting 6:30-7:30pm  
NRSD Baccalaureate 7pm (High School)
- 16th:** Women's Bible Study 9-10:30am  
Ruby's Pantry 4-7pm  
Worship Practice 7-9pm  
Women's Bible Study 6-7:30pm  
Board of Trustees Meeting 6-8pm
- 18th:** Men's Study 7-8am  
WM Book Club 10am-noon
- 19th:** Senior Sunday  
Worship 9 & 10:45am  
Deeper Youth Study 6-7:30pm
- 22nd:** Men's Study 5-6am  
Elder Meeting 6:30-7:30pm

## MAY CONTINUED...

- 23rd:** Women's Bible Study 9-10:30am  
Women's Bible Study 6-7:30pm  
Worship Practice 7-9pm
- 24th:** NRSD High School Graduation
- 25th:** Men's Study 7-8am
- 26th:** Worship 9 & 10:45am w/Communion
- 27th:** Memorial Day
- 29th:** Men's Study 5-6am  
Elder Meeting 6:30-7:30pm
- 30th:** Women's Bible Study 6-7:30pm  
Worship Practice 7-9pm  
Board of Trustees Meeting 6-8pm

