

FAITH *In Focus*



Engaging the Word...Impacting the World

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WELCOME TO FAITH!

From Pastor Tom's Desk...

Last Sunday Jay Hager, our Elder chairman, shared a very important announcement. For those of you who were not able to attend, we are printing the text of that announcement. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any of the elders or pastors.

In early summer last year Pastor Tom let the elder board know of his intention to retire at the end of this year. Since then, as a board we have been in prayer seeking God's direction for the next senior pastor here at Faith Alliance. At the time Pastor Tom let us know of his intentions, we were in the middle of a search for a Worship Leader/Associate Pastor. We stopped the search and immediately reevaluated our approach. Did we need to hire a senior pastor first and then fill staff positions or fill staff positions and then hire a senior pastor? We scheduled a meeting in August to meet with the district superintendent to get his input and guidance.

In the meantime a young man appeared on the scene, a recent graduate of Asbury College with a Master of Divinity degree, asking if he could be mentored as a young pastor, serving as an unpaid intern. The board approved the intern position without a lot of discussion – it seemed straightforward – he wanted to work for free, who could argue with that?

It quickly became apparent that this intern was serious about ministry. Even though he was unpaid he kept regular office hours, quickly developed a ministry with the young adults, which is the area we asked him to focus on. He seriously pursued preaching opportunities since this was an area where he did not have much experience. The Elders quickly took notice. By the time we met with the District Superintendent we knew we had more than just an intern in our midst; we had someone whom God had given us – without us looking for him.

The question was, what did God want us to do next? In a long discussion with the superintendent it became clear that as a board we all saw the same thing – that Trent Fledderjohann had the potential to be an excellent senior pastor. Over the next months the board watched closely as Pastor Trent interacted with people of the church and community; as he preached and taught. His actions and the informal feedback we collected continued to build our excitement about Pastor Trent coming on staff. However it was our ability to see the Holy Spirit work through him that confirmed his great potential.

Since we know that God can do a mighty work with a willing heart, the elder board in consultation with the District

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From Pastor Tom's Desk...

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Superintendent have offered Pastor Trent the position of Senior Associate Pastor. The intention of this position is to have Pastor Trent work alongside Pastor Tom for the rest of this year until Pastor Tom's retirement Dec. 31, and then for Pastor Trent to assume the role of Senior Pastor on Jan. 1, 2017. Pastor Trent will start part time 50% until April. He will then progressively increase his hours and responsibilities as Pastor Tom begins to decrease his.

In the Christian and Missionary Alliance, the Elders and Governing Board are assigned the responsibilities of hiring pastoral staff, in consultation with the District Superintendent. We have arrived at this decision after much prayer and conversation. We believe that God has His hand upon Pastor Trent, so we are asking for your support and prayer as it relates to this decision. I could not be more excited about the future of this church as we begin this wonderful journey.

Before All Else Fails...

In *Too Busy Not to Pray* (InterVarsity Press), Bill Hybels cites reasons that prayers may seem to go unanswered (unconfessed sin, selfishness and so on). The most common cause, though is prayerlessness:

"People often tell me how they have attempted to address a pressing need," Hybels writes. "They have gone to counselors, read self-help books, claimed biblical promises, practiced self-discipline, confided in Christian friends, practiced assertiveness or submission or self-denial or positive thinking, even read books about prayer – and their need is still not met." But when asked if they've prayed "fervently and regularly" about the matter, the answer is usually no.

James 4:2 says, "You do not have because you do not ask God." So instead of thinking, "When all else fails, pray," try this: "Pray before all else fails."

Current Prayer Concerns...

- Dottie McKibans, recently moved to St. Marys Living Center
- Mitchell Nutt, upcoming back surgery January 29
- Joel and Toby Meyer, recovering from typhoid
- Jim Wessel, high blood pressure (Jim did not have a stroke, as we previously reported)
- John Costa, Julie Sabourin's brother-in-law, mass in his abdomen
- Ryan and Stephanie Kennedy, in the death of Ryan's father, Tim
- Ted Wagner, recovering from heart surgery
- Robin Holcomb, Lavonna Springer's mother, recovering from bypass surgery
- Riker McDonney, Wanda Miller's great-great grandson, newborn, seizures
- Mary Ann Herriott, recovering from accident
- Ben Boyle's sister, Angie, brain tumor
- Chris Bowers, undergoing chemotherapy
- Jay Berkey, undergoing chemotherapy
- Brent Paulus, on-going illness
- Kitty Stroede, friend of Pat Meyer, stage 4 bone cancer
- John Schulze's niece, Megan, auto accident
- Heidi Siebenaler's sister, Holly, back problems
- Kris Prenger and team, civil unrest in Bangladesh; Kris is now the Spiritual Development Coordinator for her team
- Family of Mike Riddering, missionary to Burkina Faso, killed in last week's terrorist attack

*Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.*

Romans 12:12, NIV

Care Fund Needs Your Support...



Our Care Fund, formerly called the Deacons' Fund, provides assistance to those who are financially distressed. The needs of the Christmas season, coupled with an urgent request that we received, have more than depleted our funds. In fact, we are currently nearly \$1,000 in arrears.

If you wish to contribute, please place your gift in the regular offering and mark it, "Care Fund." I am hopeful that we can build our fund beyond the current deficit, so we are in a position to help others when they call. I thank you in advance for considering a contribution to this project.

— Pastor Tom

Love and Hope Envelopes...

Located on the hall wall between the Fellowship Hall and Christian Education building are "Love and Hope" envelopes. You can share in sending our mission teams and help provide materials for the projects they will be working on during their trips by taking an envelope and filling it with the dollar amount listed on the front. Instructions are inside the envelopes. If every envelope is taken, we will raise \$20,000 for missions! Thank you for your support of our mission teams and projects.



"Paint and Praise" Fundraiser for Cierra Otting...

On Saturday, February 27, 2016, at Faith Alliance Church, Rhonda Hager will hold an art session and instruct painters how to create a Seascape painting. A continental breakfast will be available at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The art session will be held in Room 5 of the Education Unit at 10:30. Devotions will be led by Loresa Burden during the class. The cost is \$25 per person and space is limited to 25 painters. Proceeds will go to Cierra Otting's Mission Trip. You may register in the church lobby before and after services on January 31, February 7 or February 14.



Financial Report

Offering January 17, 2016

General Fund: \$7,106

Local Mission: \$219

Great Commission: \$590

Care Fund: \$135

Love & Hope Envelopes: \$677

Hope House: \$50; Tea House: \$35

E-4 Project: \$30

Agape Ministry: \$100

Trent Fledderjohann: \$275

Attendance

Week of January 17, 2016

9:00 Worship – 96

10:30 Worship – 153

Kids – 47 ; Adult Workers – 17

Total Worship – 313

International Class – 13

Wednesday Night Live!

JOURNEY—35

CONNECT—9

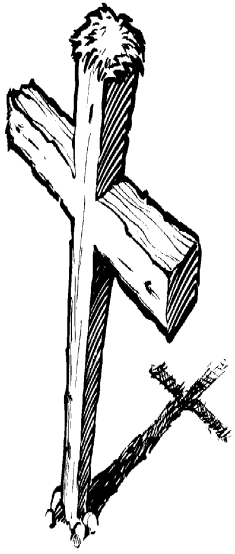
Kids—39; Adult workers—11

Youth Group – 42 students; 2 adults

*"Every word of God is flawless;
He is a shield to those who
take refuge in Him.*

Proverbs 30:5, NIV

RENEW



COMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Today

- 9:00... Early Service
- 9:00... Discipleship Class
- 10:30... Late Service
- 10:30... Kids Church
- 3:00... Mad River Mountain

- Jan. 27 ...Pizza Sale Orders Due
- Jan. 29 ...Overtime
- Feb. 6 ...Pizza Prep/Pick-Up Day
- Feb. 12 ...Last Overtime of the Year
- Feb. 19 ...Scene 75
- Feb. 26 ...Dodgeball Fundraiser

MINISTRIES



This Week

- Wednesday...Youth Group...6-8:30 pm
- Friday...Overtime...9:30 pm—12 am



Fundraiser for Cierra Otting's Gabon Africa Mission Trip

Artistic Impressions by Rhonda Hager
Painting Show & Sale

January 29, 2016
7—9 p.m.
@ The Cottage Café
Minster
100% of proceeds
for Cierra's
6 month Gabon
Africa Mission Trip