## Sept. 1, 2025 Faith Builders Issue #32

# A Faith Chapel Newsletter Faith Chapel Mission – "Culture Like Christ" + Vision – "Jesus."

### Scripture of the Month

"The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7

#### **This Month**

Sept. 1 – Labor Day

Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24 – Midweek Encounter

Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28 - Sunday Service

Sept. 7 - Prayer Night – 6:00pm in Activity Center

Sept. 8, 15 – Food Distribution & Meet the Need

Sept. 12 - Legacy Builders "Meet to Swap" Potluck Road

Sept. 13 – Women's Ministry Creative Night

Sept. 19 – FC Kidcon – Glow On Night 6:30pm

Sept. 21 – Baptisms & Communion

Sept. 22 – Africa Missions Trip

Sept. 26 – Men of God Movement

Sept. 28 – Heart for the House – Meet Pastor Elias

Sept. 28 – First service held at the 9400 Campo

Location in 1986

### **Pastor's Perspective**

#### Dear Faith Chapel Family,

What a season we are in! Week after week, the presence of the Lord has been meeting us in undeniable ways. His closeness is tangible. His Spirit is transforming lives like many we've come to know as part of this family. You hear their stories, see their faces and shake their hands. What's happening is REAL. This house has truly become a place where heaven touches earth, and I believe we're only scratching the surface of what He has in store. At the same time, we're stepping boldly into new endeavors that are going to impact generations. Like the launch of Faith Academy High School. This is more than just an educational institution; it's a Kingdom assignment. We are raising up young men and women who will not only excel in academics but will also be anchored in the word of God, equipped in the Spirit, and sent into the world as carriers of light and truth. What a privilege to be part of this work and what a team God has provided for us. Now is not the time to let your foot off the gas. When God is moving this powerfully, the temptation is to enjoy the fruit without staying locked into the fight. But this is precisely the moment to stay passionate, prayerful, and committed to the cause of Christ. Paul wrote in Galatians 6:9, "So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up." The harvest we're seeing is manifesting in salvations, baptisms, miracles, and authentic life transformations. This isn't just happening for no reason. It's happening because of persistence, prayer, and people within this family are unwilling to settle. And if we keep our hands to the plow, there's so much more to come. This is how we continue to fulfill our mission to "Culture Like Christ." We don't just say we love Jesus; we live it. We shape our lives, our families, our ministries, and our city around His presence. We create an atmosphere where His Spirit dominates, where the lost are found, the broken are restored, and the next generation is trained to walk in truth. So, let's stay locked in. Let's worship with passion,

pray with fire, give with generosity, and serve with joy. Let's remain unwaveringly committed to His cause, knowing that the vision has never changed. It's still Jesus. Always Him. Only Him. The best days for Faith Chapel are not behind us, they're ahead of us. And as we step into this next season together, I believe the ripple effect of what God is doing here will continue to spread far beyond these walls. Stay hungry. Stay faithful. Stay in His presence.

Dispensing zeal for the Lord, Lead Pastor Josiah Elias

#### **<u>August Paramount Points</u>**

A reminder of the important takeaways from Pastor's Messages.

- August 3 "God is my pinnacle priority! Anything above him is an idol."
- August 10 "We are plugged into the same power Jesus was- the Holy Spirit. To overcome darkness, light up the world, and powerfully display the father's love to E-V-E-R-Y-B-O-D-Y!"
- August 17 "The shepherd willing to lay down his life for the sheep, is the model Jesus left for us."
- August 24 "Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."

#### **Prayer Night**

Throughout the Bible, we see the power of God move when His people come together in prayer. In Acts 2:42, the early church devoted themselves to prayer, and in Acts 4:31, when believers prayed together, "The place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly." There is something powerful and transformative that happens when we unite in prayer, chains break, hearts are refreshed, and God moves in ways we cannot imagine. **Sunday, Sept. 7th at 6pm,** in the Activity Center we gather as a church body to seek God's face, intercede, and align our hearts with His will. Come expectant. Come hungry for His presence. Let's lift our voices together and believe in breakthroughs! Let's fill the church together! We'll see you there!

## Words to Live By, Consider and Ponder - From the Writings of Matthew

In Matthew, Jesus teaches about judging others, about the way to heaven, about fruit in people's lives, and about building on a solid foundation.

- Do not judge others. As you judge so shall you be judged. Trust God to be the final judge.
- Be discerning rather than negative.
- Be wise and discerning in what you teach to whom, so you don't waste time.
- Persist in pursuing God.
- Knowing God takes faith, focus and follow-through.
- Continue to ask him for more knowledge, patience, wisdom, love and understanding. He will give
  them to you.
- Ask for what is good.
- Believing in Jesus is the only way to heaven because he alone died for our sins. He made us right before God living his way may not be popular, but it is true and right and thank God there is one way.
- What you do cannot be separated from what you believe.
- Practice obedience.
- To what degree does your life reflect the directions of Jesus?

## **The Twelve Disciples**

Each month we will investigate the life of one of the disciples. Information about their names, occupation, outstanding characteristics, major events in their life, what Jesus said about them, and a key lesson from their life is presented.

#### <u>James</u>

James (the son of Zebedee) was a fisherman. James was ambitious, short tempered, judgmental, and deeply committed to Christ. He and his brother, John, asked Jesus for places of honor in his Kingdom; wanted to call down fire to destroy a Samaritan village; and James was the first disciple to be martyred. Jesus called James and John the sons of Thunder, said James would fish for people and would drink the cup Jesus drank. He was part of Jesus' inner circle and witnessed significant events during Jesus' ministry, including the Transfiguration and the raising of Jairus' daughter. After Jesus' resurrection, James became a prominent leader in the early Christian church and was known for his bold proclamation of the gospel. A key lesson from James' life is that he said Christians must be willing to die for Jesus. Also known as James the Greater, he was executed by beheading around 44 A.D. under the orders of King Herod Agrippa.

#### **Church Membership**

"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Romans 12: 4-5

Membership in the church is a very important part of belonging to Faith Chapel. Church membership is a way of identifying oneself with a local body of believers. Church membership is a statement of solidarity and like mindedness. If you would like to become a member, please fill out the membership form on the FC APP.

#### Faith Chapel's Newest Members

Peter & Danna Calderon, Lee & Glenda Quillar, Cheryl Norcross and Taylor Nelson

#### **Small Groups Bible Study**

Bible study groups are not merely an intellectual exercise. They are a profound enterprise in building the community of our church.

Judy Lorenz Women's Bible Study "One Holy Passion" (Catherine Martin)

Women's Bible Study Studying the Book of Numbers Tuesday's at 9:30am in the Ruby Room

Rose Necoechea Studying 1 & 2 Corinthians Sundays 8:30 in the Hospitality Suite

Jason Baltzey – Core Men Studying "Unshakable Hope" by Max Lucado Tuesday nights at 7:00pm on Zoom

Jon Cohen Taking a Break Will resume on Sept. 10th Foundations
Establishing Kingdom Truths
Sundays at 8:30am in room C-214

Walt Harrison – Legacy Builders Sermon Based Discussion Tuesdays at 10:00am in the Choir Suite

Marsha Strieker Studying the Book of Acts Sunday at 12:15pm in the Ruby Room

Bobby Delozier in Home Studying the "I Am" Statements of Jesus Thursdays 6:30-8:00pm

George Elias in Home Studying Spirit-led topics. Thursdays at 7:00pm Bill Lorenz Ephesians Room C211 Wednesdays 6:00pm Linda Wise – Women's Bible Study Studying the book of Numbers Tuesdays at 9:30am in the Ruby Room

#### Salt & Light Council

#### Salt and light Council 3rd Sunday of each month 8:30-9:30 room C-209

MISSION - To see America's biblical and moral foundations restored by training and equipping churches to establish Salt & Light Biblical Citizenship Ministries that will defend and promote life, natural marriage, our constitutional and religious liberties. Salt & Light is a non-political, non-partisan 501c3, dedicated to promoting biblical moral values in the public sector. Further, we are a coalition of cross-denominational churches with active Salt & Light Biblical Citizenship Ministries working to rebuild our Judeo-Christian heritage in America. We mobilize Christians at the grassroots level, helping them to live out their responsibility to influence government and civic affairs for good. History has clearly shown that without a strong, godly influence to overcome the natural tendency toward evil, governmental authority will destroy God-given rights, including the right to hear and speak His truth. We seek to love and care for all of God's people, transforming hearts and minds through prayer, education and action.

### Jesus Calling

Devotion from the book Jesus calling, enjoying peace in his presence by Sarah Young. This devotion is meant to be read slowly, preferably in a quiet place with your Bible open. Remember that Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. Enjoy his presence and his peace in every increasing measure, as you read this as if he was speaking directly to you.

"Seek me with your whole being. I desire to be found by you, and I orchestrate the events of your life with that purpose in mind. When things go well and you are blessed, you can feel me smiling on you. When you encounter rough patches along your life journey, trust that my light is still shining upon you. My reasons for allowing these adversities may be shrouded in mystery, but my continual presence with you is an absolute promise. Seek me in good times; Seek me in hard times. You will find me watching over you all the time.

Deuteronomy 4:29 Hebrews 10:23 Psalm 145:20 Psalm 1:21 7-8

#### FC Kids Ministry - News

With all the kids going back to school, our brand-new series, "Be Different" will teach the kids how not to live like the world, but to live according to the way God wants us to live. God's way of life is so different than what the world teaches us. We are extremely excited for our next event, "The Glow Party" on September 19<sup>th</sup> in the Activity Center at 6:30pm. Kids from other AG churches will join FC attendees and enjoy a variety of games, worship and hear a powerful message. It's a night where we light up the gym with UV lights that will make everything glow. God's Blessings, Pastor Michel Espinosa

## FC Youth Ministry - News

"Not Lost but Found: How God Is Moving in Our Youth"

For many, the loudest narrative today is that this generation is lost, hopeless, and too far gone. But truthfully, we were too once. We were lost in our sins, without hope, destined for hell. Then, by the light of the cross, we saw His grace, acknowledged the precious blood of Jesus, and chose to follow Him. That same story is happening in

real time with our students today. I'm excited to witness a generation learning and growing in Scripture, getting closer to Jesus, and boldly declaring through their lives: it doesn't matter what the devil tries, Jesus has already won.

Highlights of What God Is Doing

- Meeting new students every week and exposing them to the gospel.
- Watching students begin serving faithfully in ministry.
- Taking 54 leaders and students to camp this year!
- Teaching students how to share their faith and testimony with confidence.
- Seeing excitement as students invite friends to church.
- Celebrating students who are overcoming struggles to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

Every one of these moments sends a message to the kingdom of darkness: the light of Christ is shining brighter than ever in this generation.

Thank You for Standing with Us

This would not have been possible without Jesus, the One who changes hearts. But we also could not do it without our faithful team of leaders and volunteers. Thank you for answering the call of God to invest in students. To our parents and prayer warriors: Thank you for your support and your faith. Please know that your prayers are moving mountains. God is using you more than you know.

Prayer Request

We believe the next step is to take the light into our local schools. Pray with us that God would raise up leaders and student missionaries who will boldly impact their campuses and this region with the gospel.

Till next time! Remember, we love you, and we're grateful to be on mission together.

Blessings, Pastor Franklin Ayets

#### FC Young Adults Ministry - News

Hey Faith Chapel family, August has been such a powerful month for young adults! We just wrapped up a seven-week series on living without offense, where we challenged our group to lay down offences, walk in forgiveness, and let Christ bring freedom into places of hurt. What we witnessed was amazing-so many young adults found deliverance, dealt with past issues, and shared more questions and feedback than we've ever had from a series before. God is clearly moving in this generation! We've also seen steady growth with our weekly attendance consistently crossing the 80 mark-a first for our ministry! On top of that, we recently welcomed some of our graduating youth into young adults, and it's been awesome to see them already get plugged in. Several new volunteers have also stepped up to serve, learning and growing as they help us build God's Kingdom together. To God be the glory for everything he's doing. Please keep praying for us as we continue to reach and disciple young adults in our community. With gratitude, Tim and Maria Maxwell

## FC Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry Creative Night September 13th at 6:30 PM in the Activity Center

#### Come as you are Worship as you are.

Join us for the creative night, a sacred, spirit LED space for women to connect with God through personal and expressive worship. Whether it's painting journaling dancing flake flagging writing singing or simply resting in his presence the night this night is all about freedom creativity and encounter all women welcome. What to bring we

encourage you to bring your own materials, whether that's a journal, Bible, canvas, paint, flags, poetry, or anything else that helps you express your worship. We'll also have a few supplies available for those who need them, so don't worry if you come empty-ended. Just come expectant.

#### **Men of God Movement**

Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

"Men of God we're gathering again—and I want to personally invite every man to lean in. These aren't just events... they're encounters. A moment where we as men are called to tune out the noise of the world and refocus our hearts on Jesus for an evening gathering with food, fellowship, and the Word of God. Scripture says: "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." (Hebrews 12:2) This is a season where God is calling men back to the basics—His Word, His Spirit and His purpose. Every gathering is a chance to realign with the truth, get sharpened by brothers, and walk away renewed and refreshed. As Jesus said in John 15:4, "Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine." Men If you're feeling distracted, weary, or hungry for more—this night is for you to gather to focus on Jesus. We will gather in His word and journey to focus forward, because when men fix their eyes on Jesus, they become aligned, refreshed, equipped and empowered. I invite you to join us as we—go deeper, grow stronger and fuel fire—in the only One who never changes, Jesus." It's a privilege to lead the Men of God Movement here at Faith Chapel—because I believe with all my heart that when men grow in Christ, everything around them grows stronger: their families, their faith, their focus, and their future.

In Faith,
Pastor Greg Hendricks
Faith Chapel – Men of God Movement

Beginning in the late 19th century, as the <u>trade union</u> and <u>labor movements</u> grew, trade unionists proposed that a day be set aside to celebrate labor. "Labor Day" was promoted by the <u>Central Labor Union</u> and the <u>Knights of Labor</u>, which organized the first parade in <u>New York City</u>. In 1887, <u>Oregon</u> was the first state of the United States to make it an official <u>public holiday</u>. By the time it became an official <u>federal holiday</u> in 1894, thirty <u>states in the U.S.</u> officially celebrated Labor Day. Labor Day picnics and other public gatherings frequently featured speeches by prominent labor leaders. In 1909, the American Federation of Labor convention designated the Sunday preceding Labor Day as "Labor Sunday", to be dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement. This secondary date failed to gain significant traction in popular culture, although some churches continue to acknowledge it. The popularity of the event spread across the country. By 1894, thirty <u>U.S. states</u> were already officially celebrating Labor Day. In that year, shortly after the <u>Pullman Strike</u>, the <u>Congress passed a bill recognizing the first Monday of September as Labor Day and making it an official federal holiday.</u> President <u>Grover Cleveland</u> signed the bill into law on June 28. The federal law, however, only made it a holiday for federal workers. As late as the 1930s, unions were encouraging workers to strike to make sure they got the day off. All U.S. states, the <u>District of Columbia</u>, and the <u>United States territories</u> have subsequently made Labor Day a statutory holiday.

#### **Faith Academy High School**

Equipping the Next Generation for Culture and Kingdom Impact

At faith Academy, we are committed to providing a rigorous and well-rounded education that equips students for both academic success and spiritual growth period each subject is taught through a biblical lens, encouraging students to think critically, lead with integrity, and steward their God-given gifts with purpose. Whether in the classroom or on the stage, every opportunity at Faith Academy is designed to help students grow intellectually, creatively, and spiritually- preparing them to make a Kingdom impact in every area of life.

## School starts on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more information and to apply for enrolment of your student, check out the FC APP or website.

## From Director Nicole Lawhorn

The month of August brought an end to Summer Camp here at Faith Chapel Learning Academy. We finished the final week with snow cones, water games, and a bubble foam party! As we reflect on the Summer, we can see how God's love worked in the hearts of the teachers and children as relationships strengthened, and His name was praised in all of the activities. The next exciting event that took place here at Faith Chapel Learning Academy was Back-to-School-Night! This was a wonderful time of fellowship and fun as families had the opportunity to see their child's new classrooms and meet all the teachers. During this event, we welcomed many new families and teachers! We are excited to add Ms. Silvia, Ms. Katalina, Ms. Megan, Ms. Viviana, Ms. Brianna, and Ms. Belen to the team! Faith Chapel Learning Academy is overjoyed to start this new school year as we embark on the journey of learning and welcome all the children and their parents to this wonderful school family!

#### **Legacy Builders Meet to Swap Potluck**

Legacy Builders will meet in the Activity Center on September 12 at 6:00pm for a "Meet to Swap event where you can bring the "good" things you no longer want or for which you have no use. Items selected by the group are "purchased" by a monetary contribution to support the FC youth. So, bring some, take some, and contribute.

#### Flash Back

#### **Faith Chapel Aids Local Assembly**

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity." Psalm 133:1. The Lake Murray Assembly of God at 5480 Lake Murray Blvd. and its pastor reverend John F Wallace Junior can testify to the joy of the brethren living in unity and love. Thanks to many sisters and brothers of Faith Chapel, they will soon be dedicating their new church building after three years of construction had a major obstacle to its completion. The conditional use permit issued for the construction by the city of La Mesa required 390 feet of storm drain. At that time the estimated cost of the storm drain was \$25,000. At that time reverend Wallace met with pastor Greg and told him about his building problem. Pastor Greg offered the help of Faith Chapel. Ont only one Sunday in the late summer of 1976 a special collection was received for this home missions project. A total of 15,000 was received. The district office of the Assembly of God contributed the balance of \$10,000. We look forward to the dedication of this church building and we see rejoice with our brothers and sisters.

By Jane Jaffee - March 1977 Faith Builder

#### Great Escapes in the Bible

In Genesis 31:1-55, Jacob fled from his father-in-law, Laban, after almost 20 years of service. This allowed Jacob to return home for Isaac's death and for reconciliation with Esau, his brother. **Application: A time away from home often puts the really important things into perspective.** 

#### Church Bulletin Bloopers

- Don't let worry kill you-let the church help.
- The sermon topic for tonight is "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to the choir warm up.
- Low self-esteem support group to meet Thursday at 7:00P.M. Please use the back door.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I Will Not Pass This Way Again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to conflict.

## **God's Creations**

#### **Faith Chapel**

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