

From the Elders



As we enter a new year, we praise God for each and every member and friend of Faith Bible Fellowship Church. We truly see His love, grace, and mercy at work in our midst. It is our desire never to rest in our efforts to see our church grow... not just in numbers, but in godliness, in love, and in commitment. As we grow, there are growing pains. One area of concern is our children's ministry. The number of children we are responsible for has grown exponentially this year. We are stretched for space and, more importantly, we are stretched for teachers and helpers. Our philosophy is that, because our children's ministry primarily takes place during the morning worship hour, we want to spread that work out, involving enough teachers and helpers so that no one's spiritual needs are neglected. Therefore, we are committed to recruiting and training for this important ministry.

We are also discipling several men to be Elders in the church. A church our size needs more than three elders to adequately care for and minister to our people so that no one is neglected. Pray for us, support us, encourage us, and ask God what role He wants you to play in our growing church.

-Ken Good

January Events



- 4- Prayer, 11 AM
- 6- Youth Group, 7-9 PM
- 8- Membership Class, 12 PM
- 10- Ladies' Group, 10 AM
- 10- Women's Bible Study, 6 PM
- 14- Ladies' Group, 9:30 AM
- 15- Membership Class, 12:00 PM
- 16- Youth Small Group, 6:30-8 PM
- 18- Prayer, 11 AM
- 20- Youth Group, 7-9 PM
- 22- Fellowship Meal, 12 PM
- 24- Ladies' Group, 10 AM
- 24- Women's Bible Study, 6 PM
- 25- Prayer, 11 AM
- 27- Sno-Glo
- 28- Sno-Glo
- 29- Sno-Glo

Life Group News



Our life groups will be taking a break from study during the month of January. This may mean a more flexible schedule this month, so please check with your leader to find out what your group has planned. Also, if you have not yet joined a life group, this would be a good opportunity to check them out. Here is a listing of our current life groups.

TIME	PLACE	LEADER
Sunday nights	Church	Ken Good
Monday nights	Parsonage	Wes Bunting
Tuesday nights	Church	Ricardo Vargas
Friday nights	Church	Alex Kocman

Announcements



- ◆ **Business Listings**– Check out the new small business section on the bulletin board across from the restrooms! Several of our members have valuable services they would like to offer. Contact Jerica Mercado if you would like to post information about your small business.
- ◆ **Congregational Meeting**– Members, please mark your calendars for Sunday, February 5. Immediately after the service, the elders will hold our annual congregational meeting. About two weeks before the meeting, you will receive a complete information package with details. Please be on the lookout for your package and be in prayer for the meeting.
- ◆ **Sno-Glo**– The youth are excitedly looking forward to their annual retreat on January 27–29! They will travel to the Pinebrook Bible Conference Center in East Stroudsburg for a time of Bible teaching and fellowship with about 400 other youth from BFC churches. Please pray for safety and for lasting fruit from their time away. (REMINDER: If you will be attending Sno-Glo and are scheduled to serve in a ministry on January 29, please make sure your responsibilities are covered.)

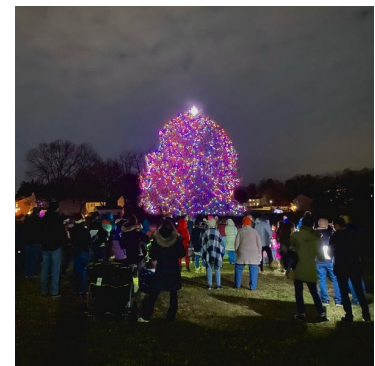
Tree Lighting 2022



Immediately after Thanksgiving, Helen Gemmill headed up a team to decorate the huge pine tree across the field in front of the church building. When the work was finished, the tree was decorated with a new topper and hundreds of colorful lights.

On the evening of Friday, December 2, we opened the church to our friends, family, and community to join us in lighting the tree. After a devotional by Pastor Wes, everyone trooped across the field to sing a few Christmas songs, led by Alex Kocman. Then the big moment arrived— a dramatic countdown, followed by the flipping of the switch. Everyone oohed and ahed over the beautiful tree before heading back to the building.

As everyone enjoyed hot dogs, homemade soups, hot chocolate, and desserts, either indoors or around the firepits outside, we had a chance to meet some new friends. About a third the people in attendance were visitors, including some families who had brought children to our VBS last summer. Not only was a good time had by all, but we had a chance to extend hospitality to those outside our church and hopefully lay a foundation for further sharing of the gospel.



Meet the Armstrongs



We are Mark and Karla Armstrong, and we have been attending Faith for several months. We have two married sons, Aaron (age 33, pastoring in Limerick, PA) and Ben (age 27, a project manager at Rooted Software, working remotely from home in Virginia Beach, VA). We hit the jackpot with wonderful daughters-in-law, Amber and Leah. No grandchildren as of now.

Mark is retired from federal service and currently works part time at the Information Services help desk at Cross Keys Village. He enjoys trains, real and model, as well as photography and computers. Karla is a former linguist who homeschooled our sons for 18 years. She currently sings and plays twice a week in the dementia unit where Mark works. She enjoys knitting, crocheting, and rug weaving.

Small Business Spotlight



Hi! I'm Brittney Vann, owner of Garden Light Candles. I love and live for Jesus. I'm a wife and mama who tries to provide a life free of chemicals and toxins for my family. I do this through using pure and organic ingredients and products in our home and through making a lot of items homemade. Several years ago, I began making candles for my family and friends using local beeswax, grass-fed tallow, and organic fragrances. (My scents are a base of coconut or sunflower oil, infused with organic ingredients.) I came to really enjoy this hobby, so I decided to share the joys of living

a natural lifestyle with others and begin selling my candles. Ten percent of each candle sale will always go towards a Christ-centered ministry. I hope you enjoy Garden Light Candles!

Ministry Highlights



Winter is the perfect time to curl up with a good book and hot beverage of choice. If you need something good to read, our church library is the perfect place to find it! There are books and videos for all ages, with special sections for preschool and teens. Some of the topics for adults include Christian Living, Marriage, Missionaries, Men's Interest, Women's Interest, and Commentaries.

You can visit the church library before or after the service on Sundays. Once you have made your selection, just fill out the card and place it in the basket on the desk. While you are there, feel free to help yourself to a bookmark. If you have any questions about the library or would like to donate books, contact our librarian, Kathy Miller.

"We are quite persuaded that the very best way for you to be spending your leisure time, is to be either reading or praying. You may get much instruction from books which afterwards you may use as a true weapon in your Lord and Master's service. Paul cries, 'Bring the books' — join in the cry."

— Charles Haddon Spurgeon

From Church Extension Ministries



As you may recall, CEM recently held its Christmas Gift Month fundraiser. The plan is to use the money first to catch up the \$25,000 budget deficit and then to make sure BFC church planters that have deficits in their support are fully paid for the year (currently \$70,000.) The remaining funds will be used to open the New Year with a needed cash flow to pay the planters and work with the needs of the plants. This year's goal was \$200,000, and, as of Christmas Eve, CEM had raised \$154,174! Please pray that God will continue to provide for our church planters and that we will have good news when we report the final total.

Missionaries of the Month



Last summer, we were privileged to have a visit from the Chmil family while they are on furlough. This article contains highlights that they shared while they were here with us.

Like some of you, Steve and Bethany Chmil were saved at a young age. What may be different, though, is that God told each of them exactly what He wanted them to do with their lives when they were only in high school. Independently, God called both of them to be medical missionaries, so they planned their post secondary studies to prepare them for this task— Steve as a general surgeon and Bethany as a nurse. (In Steve's case, this meant college, medical school, surgical residency, and seminary— about 20 years of schooling!) After school, marriage, and the arrival of several children came months of raising support, followed by language school in France. Finally, in March of 2020, the Chmils were ready for deployment to the Hospital of Hope in Togo, Africa.

Needless to say, there were many adjustments. The Chmils quickly found out that African French is different from European French, and most of the patients only speak their tribal languages. Steve put in many long hours, needing to learn new skills quickly and adapt to having fewer resources. Bethany had to learn to keep house without American conveniences while taking care of their youngest child. The older children began attending the missionary school (a true one-room schoolhouse). In addition, gospel fruit generally grows more slowly in Muslim cultures. In spite of everything, the Chmils praise God for His leading and provision and trust Him for what He will do in and through them in Togo.

This year the Chmils are in the United States on furlough. While taking some much-needed rest and the opportunity to visit with their families, they are also visiting the churches who are supporting them to give updates on the ministry. The constant travel means that Bethany is homeschooling all five of their children this year. Steve is also in contact with the team in Togo, praying about his role upon his return and hoping to find more opportunities to share the gospel in addition to his mercy ministry.

Please pray for the Chmils as they finish their year of furlough and look forward to their return to Togo. If you would like to learn more about their ministry, use your favorite app to access the [Missions Podcast](#) video from August 14, 2022, or access their blog at medicalevangelist.org.