

October, 2022

## From the Elders



Welcome to *Fellowship Connections*, York Faith Bible Fellowship Church's new newsletter. Seeing that our church is growing rapidly, the board of elders is seeking additional ways to foster, encourage, and develop fellowship. Fellowship begins with getting to know one another. In this edition and the ones that follow, we will provide opportunities to get to know one another and our church's mission and ministries better.

In addition to the types of articles included here, in the future we plan to have family interviews. It is not uncommon for us to hear people say, "I don't know half the people I see on a Sunday morning!" While we believe that the expository preaching of God's Word and the proclamation of the Gospel is of paramount importance, we do not want to be a church of people who attend, listen to sermons, and sing songs but don't know and care about one another. The model of the early church, filled with the Holy Spirit, is seen in Acts 2:42: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

– Ken Good, on behalf of the board of elders

## Coming Up



4– Life Group, 5 PM	19– Prayer, 11 AM
5– Prayer, 11 AM	21– Life Group, 6 PM
7– Life Group, 6 PM	Youth Group, 7–9 PM
Youth Group, 7–9 PM	22– Women's Group, 9:30–11:30 AM
9– Life Group, 6 PM	23– Fellowship Meal
10– Life Group, 5 PM	Life Group, 6 PM
Youth Small Group, 6–8 PM	24– Life Group, 5 PM
11– Women's Bible Study, 5 PM	Youth Small Group, 6–8 PM
12– Prayer, 11 AM	25– Men's Bible Study, 5 PM
18– Women's Group, 10 AM	26– Prayer, 11 AM
Life Group, 5 PM	28– Ice Cream Social & Game Night, 6–9 PM
	31– Life Group, 5 PM

## Announcements



- ◆ Calling all gamers! On **Friday, October 28**, we will have a social event for all ages! Bring your favorite board game and get ready to challenge church members. If gaming is not your thing, come out and enjoy our ice cream bar while watching our church families compete. Children may bring their favorite game and play as well. Please RSVP so we can plan an accurate count for ice cream. Also, please list what game you will be bringing to avoid duplicates. Game on!

- ◆ **Tuesday, November 8**, is election day. Once again, our church will be used as a polling place. If you would be interested in being on hand to represent the church and/or providing treats for our voting neighbors, please contact Ricardo Vargas.
- ◆ Our second Pilgrims' Progress event is scheduled for **Saturday, November 12**. Be on the lookout for more information in upcoming weeks.
- ◆ Interested in serving the church with your writing talents? We are recruiting journalists to help prepare articles for future issues of this newsletter. Contact Jean Soyke for more information.

## Missions Month Report



As I write, Christmas is just under 90 days away. Lots of things come to mind as you think about Christmas prep— but chances are that missions isn't one of them.

For the past several years, our church has organized a missions project each December focused on supporting one of our ministry partners. However, we

believe that in the life of the church, missions shouldn't be an afterthought or a side dish— it should be the main course.

This year, our elders set aside the month of September to conduct a giving drive for all our missions partners. We were overwhelmed by your generosity. In a season of economic tumult and record-setting inflation, **you sacrificed more than \$1,500 for missions.** What's more, two-thirds went toward vital, life-saving ministries focused on the unborn and their families in York City. That doesn't even include the gifts you gave directly to missionaries, which we aren't able to track. That's 20% more than the total raised for last year's Christmas giving project, added to the \$30,000 the church already budgeted for church extension and international missions in 2022.

This is all by God's grace. On behalf of the Faith BFC York missions team and all our ministry partners: **thank you.** We praise God for your faithful financial sacrifice and prayers.

Consider Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 9:10–15:

*For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!*

Thanks, indeed, be to God! We also extend a special thanks to Helen Gemmill, Kathy Miller, Ken and Lorna Good, and Jorge and Jerica Mercado for their service on the missions team.

Stay tuned in the months ahead for more ways to engage the Great Commission. For now, continue to pray for our global partners and ask God how he can use you on mission.

–Alex Kocman, for the missions committee

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## Missionaries of the Month



This past year, 38 people groups were given something they never had before: New Testaments in their own language. This is the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators. However, they can't do this important job on their own. In today's world, they need assistance with transportation, technology, and resource management, which is where JAARS comes in.

JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service) provides logistical support for organizations involved in Bible translation. Glenn and Leah Ruth Blausers help provide this support at JAARS' North Carolina facilities, where Glenn packs and ships materials Bible translators need but can't get overseas. This may not be what you think of when you think of missions, but, as Leah Ruth says, "Although most of the people at JAARS are doing behind-the-scenes jobs like Glenn does, they are part of the link between you and the front-line ministries... God uses all of us to accomplish His work." Please pray for the Blausers as they continue this unseen but vitally important work.