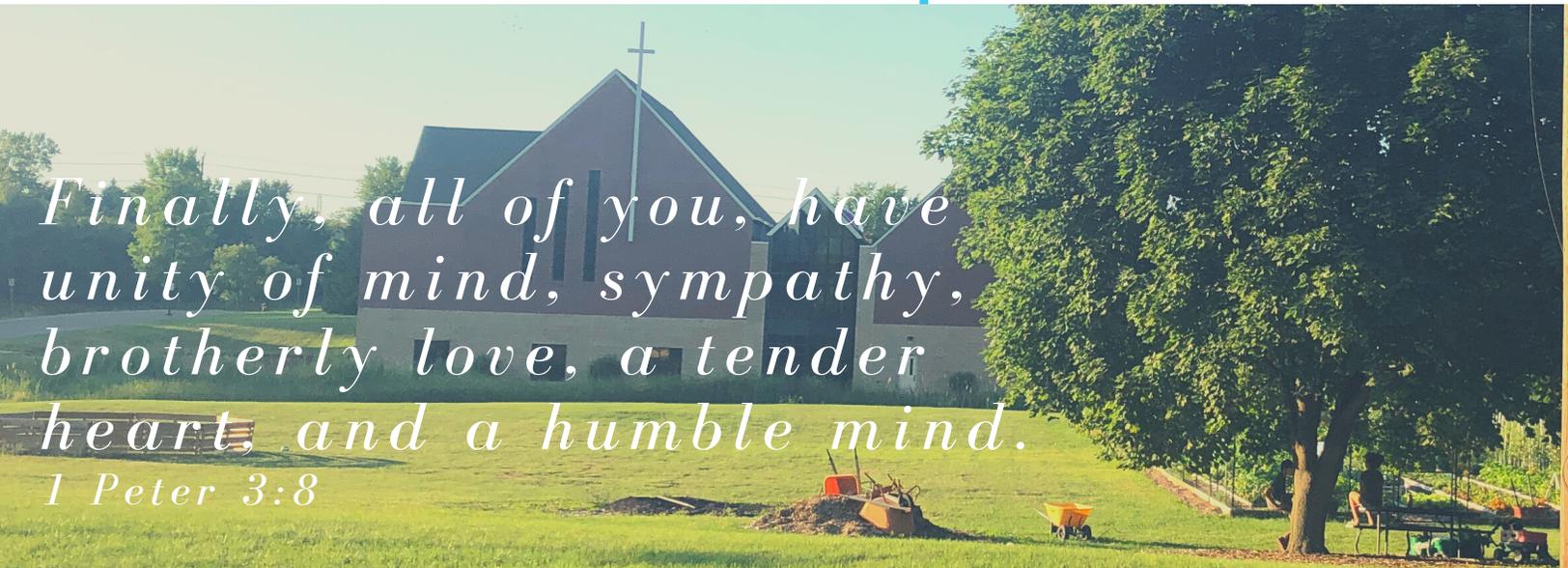


AROUND THE CHURCH

LOVE GROW **SHARE** PRAISE



*Finally, all of you, have
unity of mind, sympathy,
brotherly love, a tender
heart, and a humble mind.
1 Peter 3:8*

MOTIVATED TO SHARE

A Word From the Pastor

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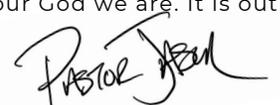
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There are two books I remember having read to me often as a child: *Mother, I Want Another*, and *Sharing Makes Me Happy*. *I Want Another* is embedded in my head for the whimsical play on words. As the mother mouse tucks her child into bed and kisses him goodnight, he asks for “another, mother.” His mother thought he was asking for a new mother when in actuality, he wanted another kiss. This was a fun story for me that taught me the importance of punctuation!

Sharing is a memorable book for me because my mom made it our family slogan. If my brother wanted to use my truck, I would often be reminded of how happy I am when I share! The problem was, I was never delighted watching my brother play with my toys. Unfortunately, that disposition has been a hard one for me to shake free of.

When we read in the book of Acts that the earliest believers lived in a type of euphoria, we see that it was marked by sharing. There is something about this that should attract a follower of Christ. The idea of sharing resources and not being in need demonstrates Christendom. However, there was something else they shared: the believers “were of one heart and soul.” (Acts 4:32) We often reflect on the “ways” the early church lived but lose sight of the “whys.” The motivation was supplied by their hearts being knitted together by the good news found in this newfound faith.

We in leadership often pray that four traits will mark the people who call Faith Church home: love, grow, share, and praise. However, our desire for these markings is not so that people will see how good we are, but rather that they will see how satisfied in our God we are. It is out of that delight that we will see how happy sharing can make us!



ABSORB GOD'S WORD

Dwell App Update

If you were to journey through this year's sermon series, I would hope you would find one common thread: motivation. We have looked at why God established the church, why Christ went to the cross, and why people like Paul have pushed through persecution. All of those endeavors had a supreme motivation for the actions. Hopefully, through these teachings, you have found yourself asking: what motivates me?

When we profess to be a "Bible- proclaiming" church, we are saying that we strive to make the Bible the motivation for all we say and do. Take Joshua 1:9 as an example, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." How does he command us? How does he calm us? How does he show us himself? Through his Word!

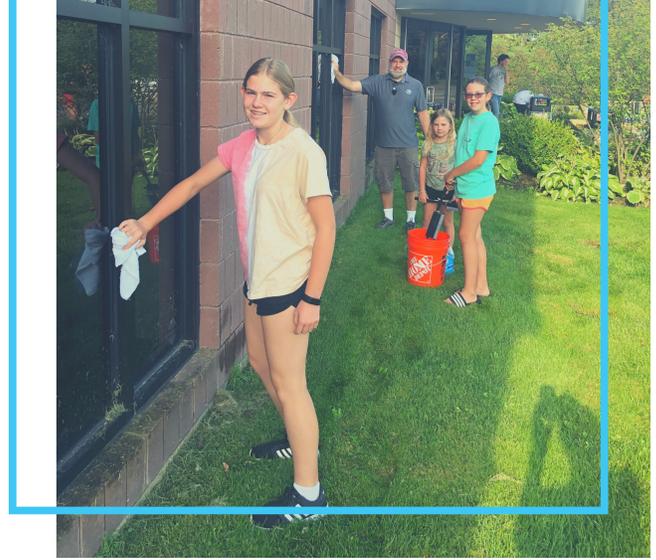
As your pastor, I encourage you to be in the Word daily. As a church, we have offered the Dwell app (free to you) for this reason. Join us this summer as we walk through "The New Covenant." Listening to God's word for a period each day will truly motivate you! To receive a free subscription to the Dwell App, please email Julie at julie@faithchurchrochesterhills.org.

SAVE THE DATES

YOUTH SUNDAY 6/6

40 DAYS OF PRAYER AND FASTING 7/6

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND CELEBRATION 8/15



GROWING TOGETHER

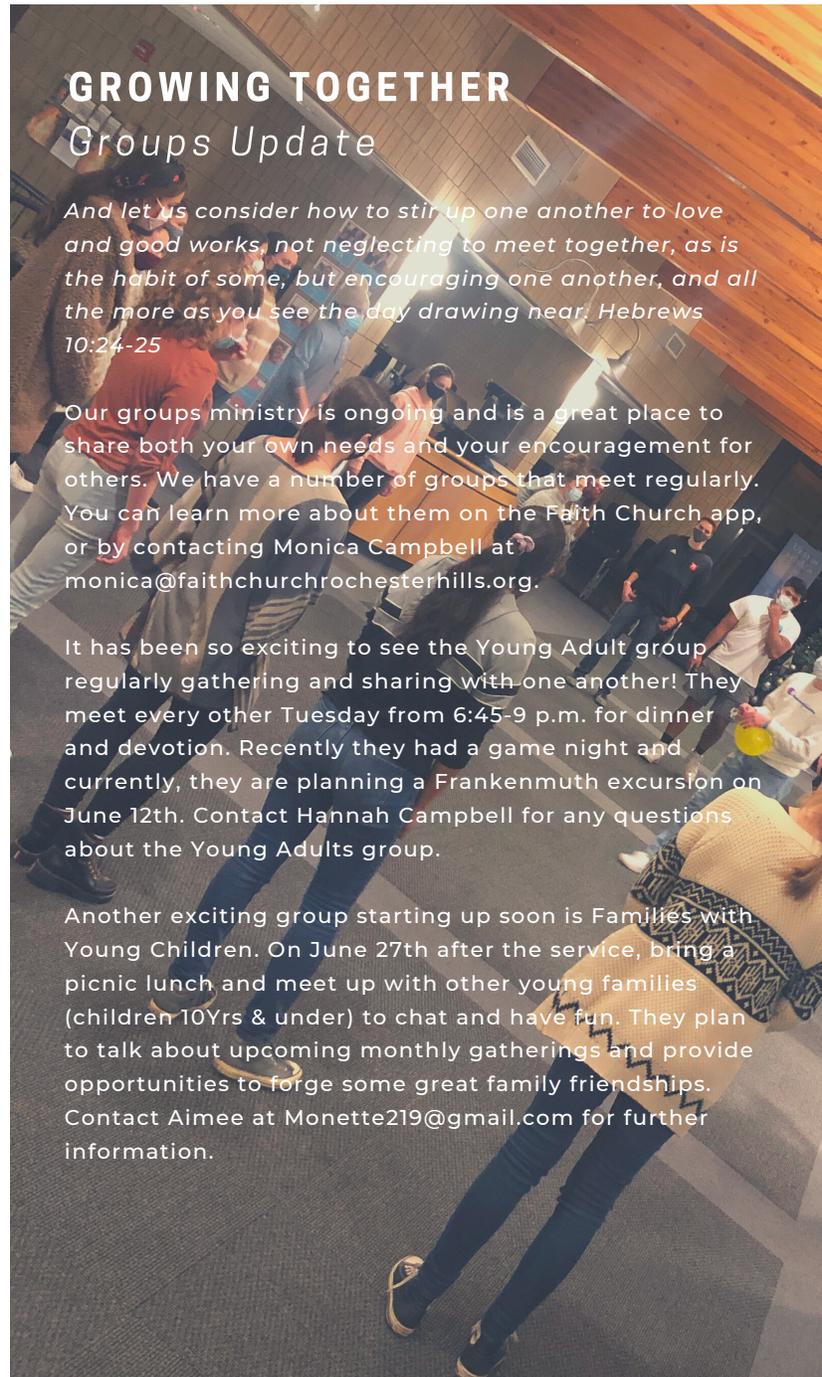
Groups Update

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25

Our groups ministry is ongoing and is a great place to share both your own needs and your encouragement for others. We have a number of groups that meet regularly. You can learn more about them on the Faith Church app, or by contacting Monica Campbell at monica@faithchurchrochesterhills.org.

It has been so exciting to see the Young Adult group regularly gathering and sharing with one another! They meet every other Tuesday from 6:45-9 p.m. for dinner and devotion. Recently they had a game night and currently, they are planning a Frankenmuth excursion on June 12th. Contact Hannah Campbell for any questions about the Young Adults group.

Another exciting group starting up soon is Families with Young Children. On June 27th after the service, bring a picnic lunch and meet up with other young families (children 10Yrs & under) to chat and have fun. They plan to talk about upcoming monthly gatherings and provide opportunities to forge some great family friendships. Contact Aimee at Monette219@gmail.com for further information.



SHARING THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP

When it comes to sharing the Gospel or sharing your resources, do you have good intentions but some difficulty following through with actions? Sometimes a little real-life inspiration may be helpful! Let's get to know one of our current elders, Daniel Carballo, who has a lot of experience in this.

Daniel came to know Christ at the age of 19 after his girlfriend (now his wife) gave him a Bible as a birthday gift. He began to read and study the Scriptures, and this led to an awareness of his sin and need for a Savior. Since then, he has been continuing to know Jesus better and seeking to follow him every day. Regarding his spiritual journey, Daniel states "My spiritual journey could be summarized as a continuous demonstration of grace from God to my life and the lives of those around me. Finding myself full of errors and limitations as a child of God only makes clearer His love and patience that is beyond what I could ever imagine."

In December 2015, Daniel and his family moved from Mexico to the United States and they joined Faith Church in the spring of 2016. At that time, Daniel and his wife Miriam started a Bible study focused on reaching out to others from the Mexican community. Miriam also leads an ESL class for women wanting to improve their command of the English language. Both of these ministries have resulted in salvations and spiritual growth for all involved. In addition, Daniel has a discipleship ministry with the men in their Bible study group, equipping them to lead studies of their own and continue building disciples.

Daniel has a strong sense of urgency and purpose in his Christian life: to make disciples. (Matthew 28:19-20) He states "The main reason Christians don't go to heaven immediately after believing in Jesus is because we have the calling to make disciples.



Also, if Jesus took no more than three years to disciple 12 men, we should make the effort to imitate that model."

Clearly, Daniel is making an impact for Christ among many in his sphere of influence, by consistently and faithfully sharing both the Gospel and his resources. In return, he is blessed with the joy of seeing his work bear fruit, which in turn motivates him to keep sharing. "I have been trying to do this discipleship effort as a young Christian and then as an adult, in Mexico and here in the USA. I have tried to live, preach, and teach the Gospel and I have failed many times; but the purpose is clear, and time is short. As I try to share the Gospel, I am challenged to imitate Jesus, making me grow spiritually and always desiring to keep moving forward. The clock doesn't stop."

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28: 19-20



FAMILY MINISTRY

Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort. 2 Cor 1:7

God has shown us what his people are to look like, and one of those things is a real bond of interconnectedness. We are to bear one another's burdens, confess to each other, take care of those in need, mourn with those who are mourning, and rejoice with those who are rejoicing. This can be summed up in the theme word for this quarter: Share. We are called to share life, both the highs and the lows. Additionally, this word should cover our approach to evangelism. The Christian should simultaneously focus inward on sharing life with Christian community and focus outward on sharing the Gospel with the world. The Christian life is not to be lived in isolation.

The Student Ministry and the Children's Ministry are committed to this goal. We want the girls and boys, the young men and women who pass through these programs to develop lives that are marked by love-- constantly growing in God's grace, sharing their blessings with others, and praising God continuously. All of our events, curriculum, and interactions are centered around this overarching goal in one way or another.



Student Ministry

Welcome to the summer, students and parents! By now you should have received the Student Ministry summer calendar. This calendar has been intentionally designed to build vitality and vibrancy into the ministry and your student's life by providing many opportunities for them to build relationships in the youth group. We hope that each individual will feel a sense of belonging, in order that the youth group will be a stable part of his or her life. In my experience, the greatest bonding occurs on youth trips, so there are a number of opportunities for the students in your life to travel with their peers and develop deep Christian friendships. Additionally, there will be weekly opportunities for those relationships to be developed with regular meeting times and activities together. Please join me in praying for our Student Ministry; pray that God would rejuvenate the students with a passion for Christ and Christian community and give the leaders the wisdom and love necessary to support the students.

Children's Ministry

In the last few months, the Children's Ministry has begun to boom significantly. We are consistently blessed with kids on Sunday mornings and see a good turnout at our extra events. Kids are inviting their friends, and many have been coming back for more after their first experience. God has been working and I am grateful for all he has done. I am additionally grateful for the addition of Noah Nuss to the team and for all the energy, love, and care he brings to this ministry. In looking forward to the summer, the Children's Ministry has three large events on the horizon. We are having a summer kickoff on June 19th, to set the tone for the summer and begin to develop Christian community at an early age. After that, we have two camps: VBS and Creative Arts Camp. Each plays a very different and important role. The primary goal of VBS will be to share the Gospel. The entire structure of the week will be geared to demonstrate to the children the wonder of unmerited grace and the need for accepting what Christ has done. On the other hand, Creative Arts Camp is an outreach event designed to bring families into the Faith Church circle. Typically it is well attended by families from outside the church, so we will gear this event towards maximizing our impact on the community. Please join me in praying for the effectiveness of these programs and in thanking God for his continual blessings.



40 DAYS OF PRAYER AND FASTING BEGINS JULY 6

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." - Matthew 22:37

July 6 begins our annual 40 days of prayer and fasting. This will be our fourth year practicing this spiritual discipline together. We fast together to recognize our complete physical and spiritual dependence on God alone to sustain and provide. This year, we have a resource to aid you as you pray. We have created five downloadable prayer cards. One has our focus verse for the year, Matthew 22:37. The remaining four have one of our vision words - LOVE, GROW, PRAISE, SHARE, and verses related to that word. Please download them today and prepare to join us as we fast.



STAYING CONNECTED

Miss an email? Didn't hear the verbal announcements? No problem! The Faith Church app has you covered. Open it up, click on the calendar tab at the bottom, and click on the calendar you are interested in to find the information you need. Each calendar entry has the time, date, location, contact information, and link to sign up for the event, if necessary. You can also click on + under the image to add the event with all the details directory to your electronic calendar. If you need help with the calendar, please contact Julie and she can help you download or use the app.

NEVER MISS A MOMENT



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