



Faith Matters

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2014 Narrative Budget

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Each committee and ministry at Faith seeks to fulfill this mission in unique ways. It is amazing how many different and varying programs and activities happen at Faith at any given time. From our infant nursery all the way through senior adults, there really is something for everyone at Faith.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 says, *“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.”*

It is our hope that the stories on the following pages will provide a glimpse of this diverse group of people with diverse gifts and talents, all working for the same God, doing their best to Follow the Path of Christ together. Faith matters!

-- Tom Borland, Pastor

A Word from the Pastor

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Last fall, the Adults & Families Committee sponsored Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU) on Wednesday nights. Our class had a dozen members, evenly split between Faith members and non-members. Some of our members were approaching retirement age, and a few were just starting their adult lives -- one couple got married during the course of the class, and another couple got engaged shortly after the class ended. It was gratifying to see the positive impact of this course on a diverse mix of people at all life stages. The committee plans to offer FPU again in the Fall of 2014.

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Adults & Families

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The Buildings & Grounds Committee replaced the ceilings in the nursery rooms in June of this year at a cost of approximately \$5,000. The cost included upgrading

the lighting. The ceilings in those rooms were more than 50 years old and were beginning to crumble. The committee felt that this was an urgent situation impacting the safety of the children. In order to reduce the cost of the replacement, committee members did the demolition work necessary to remove and dispose of the old ceiling.



In addition to the ceiling replacement in the nursery, the committee is planning to repair the ceiling in the sanctuary where some plaster has fallen over the organ pipes. This will be done at a cost of almost \$35,000 and is felt to be necessary to preserve our organ, which would cost close to a million dollars to replace.



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Ross Andre is a normal 2-year-old, but when he walks into the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday nights, you might confuse him for a rock star! Older children like Paul Beckham and Aiden Van Iddekinge love to play with Ross and treat him like a little brother they adore. Much of this bond formed because these children are part of the 20 families that participate in the annual Faith Family Retreat that occurs in January. Through the fellowship and formation activities during the weekend trip to Dogwood Acres, the older children have gotten to know younger children like Ross and are realizing that they can befriend and help care for these younger ones. Ross' mom, Lee, shared,

"I'm so impressed with the way these boys give him attention. I look at them and see the future of our church."

This bond is a beautiful reminder of the commitment children make during baptisms to be a friend to the child. Activities funded by the Children & Families budget make Faith a place where children are loved, belong, and are welcomed by their church family.



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Shelter Meal volunteer Skip Cook, a Faith deacon, recounts his personal experience:

"He talks . . . but I don't always hear.

The third Friday of every month a small group gathers at the church to cook, deliver, and serve the luncheon meal for the folks at The Shelter. It was one of those bitterly cold winter days and I was serving the meal to homeless people seated at a dining table. In handing the plate to one man, my hand touched his, and it was like ice. I remarked, 'Friend, your hand is like ice!' He replied, 'Mister, it's cold out there today, but this hot meal is going to help me a lot.' Had I been listening to the Lord that day, I would have realized that there was an opportunity to get that man a pair of warm gloves from the store next door, but because I wasn't listening well, I missed the opportunity. Because of that experience with the homeless gentleman at The Shelter, the phrase, 'Let us be ever mindful of the needs of others' has been in my mind since that day. That single incident has made Jesus' words from the scriptures real to me: 'As you do for the least of these, you do for me.'"



Dream Goal: The deacons would like to expand and improve the Fellowship Hall kitchen to better serve Faith members and the community.

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Deacons

The Deacons have responsibility for many outreach ministries, including Angel Tree, Blood Drive, Crop Walk, Habitat for Humanity, Jubilee, Meals on Wheels, Service of Remembrance, Fellowship Luncheons, Hospital Visitation, Manna on Meridian, Martha Ministry, and numerous other community ministry liaison roles.

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The Evangelism Committee strives to use the Faith mission statement of *Follow the Path of Christ* to make others aware of worship and the various activities in the life of the church and to promote and encourage growth through new membership and participation in the life of the church by all existing members.

Church members Madeline and Danny Hollon sum up the purpose of the Evangelism Committee nicely with the following testimony:

"We are relatively new members at Faith. We have found that by participating in some of the many varied activities offered, we have grown in faith and made many friends. The staff and volunteers are dedicated and enthusiastic in their service. Faith embraces a diverse membership and offers so many meaningful opportunities to engage with each other as

well as with the community at large. We love being part of a church body whose mission is to 'Follow the Path of Christ' through personal growth and serving others."



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Some specific duties of the Evangelism Committee include:

- ◆ monitoring and supplying the visitor table in the narthex as well as follow up with visitors
- ◆ providing transportation for our Westminster Oaks residents for worship on Sunday mornings
- ◆ helping with new member orientation and providing new member dinners
- ◆ ordering and distributing name tags and encouraging membership to purchase and wear name tags to all church functions
- ◆ establishing and maintaining an effective marketing and advertising program for Faith
- ◆ reevaluating the signage of our facilities to promote easy access to and understanding of church physical facilities



Dream Goal: Our dream goal for the coming year is to explore ways to increase membership at Faith; create a more inviting welcome area for visitors; improve signage to make our buildings more user-friendly; and to explore the best modes of communication to attract people of all ages to Faith. This would mean a budget increase of \$2,000.

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Evangelism



The Management Committee highlights transportation for this narrative budget. Faith is blessed to have received a member contribution three years ago to fund the purchase of our church bus, "Calvin." But Calvin does not drive or maintain itself! Bob Dunlop, in the photo, has been a steadfast vol-

unteer to help with maintenance and driver training. In the past year alone, Bob has made trips with Calvin to the body shop, paint shop, tire store, and service garage, some on multiple occasions. Like much of the other work of our committee, Bob's contributions are "under the radar," but absolutely necessary for transport to Dogwood Acres, Montreat, Westminster Oaks, school pickup on Wednesdays, and sundry other Faith trips. Bob says he decided to help with the church vehicles over 20 years ago, when he purchased a van himself for family trips.

"I thought I ought to do something for the church, if I was going to have such a vehicle for myself."

Calvin outgrows its warranty soon, and the committee needs to budget for additional vehicle maintenance and repair expenses starting this year.

Dream Goal: One of our dream goals is to be able to escrow enough money each year so that when Faith needs a second vehicle in the future, or when Calvin is retired, a new vehicle is paid for in advance!



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Management

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in have created some great memories while helping them grow up. What I most appreciate is the personal touch -- when you ask a question or have a problem with a program, it doesn't seem like you are taking Faith staff away from something more important or they are just too busy to help. They have been a real blessing to our family of five."

-- Chris Kinsley, Faith member & elder

Dream Goal: The Personnel Committee . . .

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Presbyterian Women (PW) are all-inclusive; all members of Faith who wish to participate are welcome and encouraged to be a part of Presbyterian Women. We have seven different Circles that meet the second week of each month from September through May. The Circles share in Bible study, prayer, service, and strengthening Christian friendships.

One of PW's main projects each year is Thanksgiving Baskets. All Circles participate in collecting food and monetary donations to help provide a wonderful Thanksgiving meal for families in need in our own community.

Suzanne Hopkins says, *"I have been very involved in the Thanksgiving Baskets mission for many years and it has become a Hopkins family tradition. Every year my husband and children have joined me in delivering baskets to these sweet families that are struggling in ways that my children have never had to experience. It is a blessing for the families receiving the gift, but the blessings that my family receive in seeing the generosity of this church, the gratitude of the recipients, and the recognition of our own good fortune is a beautiful thing as well."*

Presbyterian Women also volunteer our time to help with Vacation Bible School and the Pumpkin Patch. We adopt Angel Tree families, prepare Operation Christmas Child boxes, and donate to Manna on Meridian and The Shelter. We financially support local indigent and underprivileged children, Faith's missionary families, our own Faith seminary students, Thornwell Home for Children, Refuge House, Broken Hearts of Florida, Brehon and Faith's flower fund for the sanctuary.



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Children are surrounded by technology in their home, school and community. Most vehicles now offer DVD players, complete with games and hand controllers for young children to enjoy while being transported back and forth to school or elsewhere. At Faith Preschool, our young children use technology and computers to create art, music, math and problem solving, to express language through drama, art and literature, and to play educational games that connect them with off-screen learning and play. With careful planning and consistent budgeting for updated computer equipment and resources, the preschool curriculum can continue to offer new and rewarding technological experiences for the students.



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The preschool ministry fosters and encourages a love of learning through continuing education opportunities among the teachers and staff. The teacher enrichments and NAEYC accreditation conferences that are included in the budget offer experiences and teachable moments that the staff bring back to their classroom and students. The knowledge and hands on experiences gained through continuing education

inspires a passion for teaching and learning in partnership with our parents and children and helps to build a foundation of learning that lasts a lifetime.

Dream Goal: Updated technology = \$12,000 to \$20,000;
Continuing Education = \$6,500

Preschool

Faith Presbyterian Preschool and Kindergarten, accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, serves the community as an educational arm of the total mission of Faith Presbyterian Church to witness to the love of Christ.



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Dream Goal: To honor Faith's charter commitment to give 50% to missions.

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There are two Sacraments in the Presbyterian Church: Baptism and Holy Communion. Our church celebrates Holy Communion approximately 16 times a year, including the first Sunday of each month.



There are members of our congregation who are physically unable to come to church to receive Holy Communion. Often these congregants are elderly and have an increasingly limited and diminishing relationship with others and with their church. We want them to know of our continuing love and for them to share in the love of Christ. Thus, this year we started *The Furthest Pew*. This ministry is an extension of the Lord's Supper offered within the sanctuary on the first Sunday of each month. Pairs of elders and deacons follow the procession out of the sanctuary and go to those members who wish to receive Holy Communion in their home or the residence where they are staying. It is rewarding to those who give the Sacrament as well as those who receive it. So far, 15 people have received Holy Communion this way, served by 17 elders and deacons. The expression of gratitude for the remembrance, the friendship and the extension of Holy Communion from their church has met with universal and heartfelt appreciation.

Mary Jane Thurston, who is now at Westminster Oaks, said of this ministry, *"It gives me great pleasure to have someone come to me for something so important to me."*

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\$16,020

Worship & Music

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Worship & Music

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"Why do I chaperone youth mission trips? I believe Jesus instructs us to be servants. In particular, He instructs us to do so to the 'least of these.' Matthew 25:40. I chaperone to share that aspect of my faith with the youth because I believe you can't 'talk the talk' without 'walking the walk.'"

Jake Kile, a 10th grader, explains what it is about Faith that keeps him coming:

"I participate at Faith because it gives me direction. Whether volunteering or just having a simple discussion, I always feel that I come away bettering my life as well as the lives around me. Making a difference is important to me, and I thoroughly enjoy seeing the world become a better place through each act of God carried out through God's people. I volunteer because I want to be a part of the change."



Dream Goal: The Youth & Families Committee would like to 1) restore the youth budget to the 2005 amount of approximately \$18,000 (increase of \$7000); and 2) purchase a second bus to accommodate the large increase in youth attending trips (approximately \$60,000).

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Summary of Dream Goals

Adults & Families

The Adults & Families Committee dreams of improving the furniture and fixtures of our adult classrooms, particularly Room 210, in order to make these rooms more comfortable and functional. We believe that a more adult-oriented learning space will foster better discussion and more interaction than the current setup.

Buildings & Grounds

The Buildings & Grounds Committee would like to upgrade the security system at the church and make various repairs and improvements throughout the property.

Children & Families

Ministries like Vacation Bible School, the summer lunch and learn for parents, and more were greatly enhanced by the presence of a summer intern this year. Additionally, our congregation is helping train the next generation of Christian Educators through this program. Children & Families dreams of having a permanent Christian Education Summer Intern built into the budget in the coming year. This would mean a \$3,391 increase to the budget.

Deacons

The deacons would like to expand and improve the Fellowship Hall kitchen to better serve Faith members and the community.

Evangelism

Our dream goal for the coming year is to explore ways to increase membership at Faith; create a more inviting welcome area for visitors; improve signage to make our buildings more user-friendly; and to explore the best modes of communication to attract people of all ages to Faith. This would mean a budget increase of \$2,000.

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One of our dream goals is to be able to escrow enough money each year so that when Faith needs a second vehicle in the future, or when *Calvin* is retired, a new vehicle is paid for in advance!

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Personnel

The Personnel Committee

Presbyterian Women

We would love to have increased funds to be able to offer greater support for local and international missions and to offer a larger scholarship fund for our Faith seminary students.

Preschool

Updated technology = \$12,000 to \$20,000
Continuing Education = \$6,500

Witness

To honor Faith's charter commitment to give 50% to missions.

Worship & Music

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