

Sept. 1, 2023 **Faith Builders** Issue #9
A Faith Chapel Newsletter

Sunday Mornings at Faith Chapel
Connect Classes 8:30am **Service 10:00am**

Scripture of the Month

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”
Romans 15:13

This Month

September 1st – Glow Wild Night
September 4th – Labor Day – Offices Closed
September 10th – Volunteer Appreciation Night
September 22nd – Legacy Builders Potluck
September 29th – Men’s Core Gathering

New Lead Pastor

On August 13th, the voting membership of Faith Chapel elected Pastor Josiah Elias the new Lead Pastor. His election was received with overwhelming applause and a standing ovation. Pastor Josiah has been a part of Faith Chapel since 2013 when he was hired as the young adult’s pastor, served as Associate Pastor, and has served in numerous other capacities.

Pastor Josiah, Ashley, Emma & Juda
Pastor’s Perspective

Something new has arrived as part of the Faith Builders each month. Pastor Josiah will share his thoughts and perspective regarding a variety of topics as he leads the church. Below is his first “Pastor’s Perspective.”

I’m honored and privileged to be in the role I find myself in today. My wife Ashley and I have spent much of this last year in seasons of fasting and prayer to hear what the Lord was saying to us so that we can obey what we hear Him saying. This is how we live our life — hearing and obeying. Sometimes,

what we're hearing makes sense and requires little faith to be obedient. Other times what we're hearing doesn't make a whole lot of sense at all and takes bold faith to walk in obedience. Regardless, I don't get the luxury of choosing the path with the least number of hazards or challenges. My duty is obedience.

It takes faith to be obedient. It takes faith to trust that what we're hearing from the Lord is indeed the Lord. This comes from relationship building with the Lord over time. He promises us in **John.10:27** – **“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.”** The more we hear, the more familiar we become with His voice. The more familiar we become with His voice, the easier it is to obey. The more we obey, the more we see that we heard correctly, and our faith increases even more. This is relationship! This is sons and daughters learning to hear the voice of the One they're passionately in love with. It's sheep learning to trust the Shepherd because we know that He is good and has only our best interest in mind.

We are on quite a journey. We're confident that we are where God wants us to be, and that he wants us as Lead Pastors of Faith Chapel. Where are you? What are you currently praying for or about? Do you believe that He'll speak to you when you ask Him something or spend time in prayer believing in His direction? As stated in our "Dream with Me" series, and the "Beloved" series, "You won't ever obey if you're not hearing. You won't ever hear if you have no intention of obeying. They dance together." Is your heart ready to obey whatever you hear from Him? Is your faith ready to step into this new adventure with the Lord as He ultimately guides you? If it's not, pray a simple prayer of invitation to the Holy Spirit to direct you in new ways. Make it clear, you're targeting faith into hearing and obeying whatever He calls you to do. Then, get ready...you'll embark on a wild journey that He'll be leading you into and who knows what blessings await you! Here we go.

Lead Pastor Assistant

Jennifer Segura has been hired to the position of Lead Pastor's Assistant. Jenny has been with FC for 10 years and has worked in the capacity of receptionist, administrator, and works as FC's event coordinator. Congratulations Jenny!

Jenny Segura

Invitation to Prayer Night

September's prayer night will be held on Sunday the 3rd. At 5:30pm we will continue to watch the Jim Cymbala video regarding prayer followed by prayer time at 6:00pm. Group prayer among Christians is important and rewarding. Group prayer was important in the early church as something that bound them together as they carried out the Great Commission. In Acts 4:31, group prayer is noted, "And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak the word of God with boldness." God gave boldness to the whole group in their witness, in response to their prayer. Group prayer knits believers together and encourages the burdened. When a group of believers pray together, the result is unity, humility, thanksgiving, confession of sin, intercession, and discovery of God's will. In the book, *Restored Power: Becoming a Praying Church One Tweak at a Time*, by Jonathan Graf, *he presents 3 benefits of a praying church. 1. Praying together invites the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.* There is a different atmosphere in

churches where people pray together and who have praying people. Worship seems more powerful. There is a sense of connection with God that is not there in non-praying churches. When the Spirit of God is manifestly present, things happen. As you pray together as a congregation, God will begin to “show up” more and more.

2. *Praying together increases the faith of a congregation to believe God for the miraculous.* There is a clear connection between prayer and faith (beyond the fact that we are supposed to pray in faith). Churches that pray together begin to see the miraculous power of God at work in their midst. It goes beyond what they can and should do into what God wants to do through them. If we increase the level of praying together among our congregation, we will see more miracles happen as our faith rises.

3. *Praying together moves people from seeking their own purposes to desiring God's purposes.* “What does God want to do here?” When people pray together. They start to let go of their desires to see their purposes fulfilled and start to open themselves up to what God wants. If people pray together, praying together opens them up to God's desire. Pray together and watch unity grow. Jeremiah 29:11-13 is a powerful promise written to a corporate body of people. “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.’” If we want to see God's blessing in our church, if we want to see Jesus' transforming power, the dynamic ministry of the Holy Spirit in our midst, then we need to pray together. ***Therefore, please accept this article as a personal invitation to attend Sunday night prayer and watch the Lord work in Faith Chapel.***

Jonathan Graf is the publisher of *Prayer Connect* magazine and the president of the Church Prayer Leaders Network. He has spent the past 20 plus years working with churches to help them develop a stronger level of prayer.

Glow Wild Night

Faith Chapel Glow Wild Night is our FC Kid's Ministry annual Glow Party, and it will be held Friday September 1st at 6:00pm. This year our Glow Wild Night Party is at the end of summer as one last big party before all the kids go back to school. The evening is going to be filled with games, prizes, and food. There is also going to be worship and the Gospel preached. This night is meant to be a safe and fun night for the kids while getting closer and growing in Jesus Christ.

Volunteer Recognition Night

Sunday September 10th at 6:00pm

Thank you so much to all our volunteers for all you do. You're the engine that really keeps things moving forward here at Faith Chapel. Super grateful for all our volunteers. We will have a volunteer appreciation on September 10th at 6:00 pm. It is a luau themed event so come hungry for some delicious food and a time of fellowship and honoring all our volunteers.

If you are not currently volunteering but want to volunteer, we will showcase the different areas of ministry available at Faith Chapel and we would love for you to be a part of our volunteer backbone. So, come and join us on September 10th at 6:00 pm in the Activity Center.

Emergency Drill

There will be an emergency drill during our Sunday service sometime soon. Knowing what to do, how to respond and follow the direction of the safety team during an emergency is an important part of preparing for the safety of our attendees.

New Employee

We are happy to introduce our newest employee to the Facilities Department. Jacob Gallegos comes to us from Ramona and has joined the FC family as a full-time custodian. You will see him on Sundays so please give him a big welcome to the FC team.

Jacob Gallegos

Student Binder Donation

Faith Chapel has partnered with the Spring Valley Academy in several different ways and for many years. The school is located directly East of the church and can be seen from the church property along Rogers Road. Several students at SVA needed binders to begin the school year. Through God's blessings we were able to bless the students with the binders they needed. The supply of the binders was gratefully received, and we look forward to a continued relationship with the school.

Backpack Giveaway

Faith Chapel has provided backpacks to those in need in the past. But this year it was accomplished in a different way. FC kids were asked to pray and think of a friend that they would like to see get a backpack. So, the kids prayed and wrote out a prayer and invitation on an invitation card. The cards were put inside the backpacks so when their friend received it, they were provided an added measure of love and were also invited to come to "Kids" ministry. Over 50 backpacks found their way into the hands of the friends of FC kids.

GenZ for Jesus

On September 9th over twenty adults and youth from Faith Chapel will head to Los Angeles for "GenZ for Jesus." This gathering is a multigenerational movement of worship, activation, consecration, and prayer to see young people saved, empowered, and sent. The movement of GenZ youth is fueled by praying mothers and fathers walking in the spirit of Elijah (Luke 1:17) and by a collaboration of national ministries (One Voice, Awaken the Dawn, Circuit Rider Youth, and more) banding together for a rescue mission to this generation. Through events, tours, and focused initiatives, everyone young and old alike has a role to play in empowering GenZ to take action! Pray for the group's travel, safety and spiritual benefit that is sure to fill the youth.

Flash Back

September 28, 1986
9400 Campo Rd. Spring Valley

“The thrill of worshiping in the new church is felt for the very first time by the people who worked so hard to make it possible. Yet the focus was not on people, but on giving gratitude to God for His guidance and strength.” (Captured from the FC 40th anniversary yearbook.) (Believe for it!)

The following article appeared in the May-June 1981 Faith Builder.

Grandma Say's
Are You on a Diet?... A Spiritual Diet!!

“Man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. (John 4:4) God's word is nourishing and the life of the spirit within us is to be nurtured. The word of God goes deep... God's word is living and effective and sharper than any two-edged sword. It penetrates and divides soul and spirit, joints, and marrow; it judges the reflections and thoughts of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12) Are we still drinking milk and not eating solid food? (1Corinthians 3:2) If we partake only of milk, we are not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for we are a babe. (Hebrews 5:13) Solid food is for the mature. We are to feed our inner man. Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. *Feed on God's Word.* Inject it in your spirit. In Joshua 1:8 God tells us “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate it on it day and night.” That is not a spiritual diet... Jesus is the word. In John 6:33 and 4:8, Jesus reminds us, “I am the bread of life.” Can we feel as Job did and say, “I have treasured the words of his mouth MORE than my necessary food.” (Job 23:12) How important is it that we read the word of God? It is imperative if we are earnest about being disciples of Jesus Christ.

by Jean Schiavo

August 5th Work Party

August 5th marked the first quarterly “All Church Work Party” with over forty people working to present God’s house in the best way possible. Cleaning and painting put a fresh look on the front of the church buildings, and there was a great spirit of service and fellowship among the participants. As a result of this event and at the urging of several participants we will hold quarterly all church work parties in November, February, May, and August.

Car Show Recap

August 26th capped the 23rd Christian Rod and Custom Car Show at Faith Chapel. Over 3,000 attendees were welcomed as they viewed the 95 vehicles on display. The show opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, and a special prayer by Pastor Josiah Elias. Worship music, vendors and opportunity drawings were but a few of the activities available for those in attendance. Proceeds benefited Restoration Ranch, a private rehab facility for men located in Ramona. George Moreno’s 1956 Chevy Nomad received “Best of Show.” Thanks to all those who made this a great event, with

special thanks to Richard Dinnen for organizing the show.

(It's not the Chevy Nomad but still a nice car.)

Church Membership

Membership in the church is a very important part of belonging to Faith Chapel. Although there is no scriptural mandate for official church membership, there is certainly nothing to prohibit it. Church membership is a way of identifying oneself with a local body of believers and of making oneself accountable to proper spiritual leadership. Church membership is a statement of solidarity and like-mindedness (see Philippians 2:2). Church membership is also valuable for organizational purposes. It's a good way of determining who is allowed to vote on important church decisions and who is eligible for official church positions. Church membership is not required of Christians. It is simply a way of saying, "I am a Christian, and I believe this church is a good church." If you would like to become a member, please contact one of the church elders or inquire at the church administrative office.

Faith Chapel's Newest Members

Vicki Chasen, Steven Carter, Robin Warner, Juan Quirino, Karina Valdez, Ana Valdez, and Justin Scales

Connect Classes

The purpose of a connect class is to provide a variety of scripture-based lessons to enhance the spiritual journey of those who attend. Classes begin each Sunday at 8:30am and end at 9:30am. Before the service begins at 10:00am there will be time for fellowship, prayer and catching up with friends. Below are the scheduled classes currently meeting in 2023.

- "The Epistles of Peter, John and Jude" - Growing and maturing in Christ as a community of believers. Presented by Eric Madril in LL4.
- "Connect to Worship" - This is a time for everyone who loves worship to get together and grow in the gifts given to our church. Presented by LaMar and Yvette Key in the choir room.
- "The Book of Exodus." Presented by Rose Necochea in room C210.
- "The Book of Matthew" presented by Marsha Streiker each Sunday from 12:00pm to 1:30pm in room C214.

Small Groups

Small Groups are small gatherings of people who meet in different places around our community to hang out, eat, talk about life, and above all grow their relationships with God. Small groups are where we pray for each other and support each other. Generally, small groups differ from Sunday Connect Classes in that small groups meet during the week at various times and locations. Listed below are the small groups that are currently meeting.

Linda Wise – Women's Bible Study
Studying the Book of Hebrews
Tuesdays at 9:30am in the Ruby Room

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

Judy Lorenz – Women’s Book Study
Studying “The Magnificent Obsession”
Thursdays at 10:00am in the Ruby Room

George Elias – Bible Study
Studying Various Spirit-led Topics
Thursdays at 7:00pm Call 858-231-7706 for more information.

If you would like to join a small group, you can do so on the Faith Chapel AP.

A small group turns a crowd into a community.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to serve and use your Spiritual Gifts here at Faith Chapel. Sunday nursery and children’s ministry, ushering, greeting, worship, production and media, special projects and hospitality are some of the ways you can get plugged in and use your talents and gifts. to serve the body of Christ. If you would like to volunteer for any of these areas, contact the church office for more information.

Fun and Trivia

Charlton Heston was cast as Moses in the blockbuster movie *The Ten Commandments* partly because he resembled Michelangelo’s famous statue of Moses. Heston would later play Michelangelo in the film *The Agony and the Ecstasy* (1965).

The world’s largest Bible weighs 1,094 pounds. Built by Louis Waynai in 1930, the book is 43.5 inches tall and has a laid open width of 98 inches.

Faith Chapel

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