



# FAMILY GATHERING

July 16 @ 6 pm



Celebrating what God has done in 2022/2023 and vision casting for 2023/2024. It is going to be a great year!



# BAPTISM

## JULY 30

For more information, contact Pastor Steve: [sabond256@gmail.com](mailto:sabond256@gmail.com)



### WORSHIP ARTS CAMP

For kids entering 2nd - 8th grade

August 6-11 | 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Cost: \$40 | Discounts for families with multiple children

Visit: [www.faithcommunity.net](http://www.faithcommunity.net) to register or use the QR code below



## Giving Information



Financial Update Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30) YTD as of July 9, 2023		
Giving	Budget	Surplus/ Deficit
\$26,880	\$37,630	\$(10,750)

Thank you for your faithful giving. Ministry needs continue and have increased in some areas. There are several options for giving.

- MAIL your check to the church office.
- BILL PAY SERVICES via your bank.
- \* TEXT GIVING: Just text FAITHCC to 1-888- 364-GIVE (4483)
- By dropping your tithe into the offering boxes by the doors as you exit the Worship Center.
- \* OR on our webpage: [www.faithcommunity.net](http://www.faithcommunity.net)

Faith Community Church  
 1306 Riedel Road | Gambrills, MD 21054  
 410.451.1220 | [faithcommunity.net](http://faithcommunity.net)  
 Sunday Services at 9 am & 10:30 am

**Executive Pastor:** Steve Bond  
**Worship Pastor:** Dr. Cameron Dahl  
**Student Ministry Coordinator** Matt Hemphill  
**Children's Ministry Coordinator:** Amy McDougall  
**Church Secretary** Kris Floyd

# Tell Me a Story

## The Parables of Jesus

### Evaluating the Soil: Parable of the Sower



Elder Brian Jenkins      Luke 8:4-15      July 16, 2023

#### Welcome to Faith Community Church!

We are a family of followers of Jesus Christ who desire to honor God by applying His sufficient Word to all areas of life. We seek to grow in our love for Jesus and in our love for the people around us. Whether you're uncertain about faith or already a follower of Jesus, we invite you to become part of our family. Use the QR code to fill out a Connection Card so we can get to know you better!



Our pastors, elders, and deacons are available to meet with you. Make an appointment by calling the church office at 410-451-1220. After hours your call will be forwarded to one of our leaders who is on call for the week. This is for emergencies only. Our leader on call this week is Steve Bond. Regular office hours are Monday-Thursday 9 am - 3 pm and Friday 9 am-NOON.

Would you like to listen to the music we are using each week at home? Go to our Spotify playlist at: <https://spoti.fi/3o2jnty> or use the Spotify Code with your app.



# This Week at FCC



## Sunday (7/16)

**Adult Bible Study - A Better Country - 9 am - Act #1**  
**HS & MS - The Gospel of John - 9 am - Rm #9**  
**Adult Bible Study - Jeremiah and Lamentations - 10:30 am**  
**Act #1**  
**Family Gathering - 6 pm**

## Tuesday (7/18)

**Young Adult Small Group - 6:30 pm**  
**Contact Matt Hemphill** marchgutsandglory@gmail.com

## Wednesday (7/19)

**Men's Online Bible Study - 9 am**  
**David Cole:** davidcole3@verizon.net  
**Ladies' Bible Study - 10 am**  
**Contact Veronica Platt:** FCCwomensmin@gmail.com  
**HS Youth Group (No MS Youth Group) - 7 pm**  
**Contact Matt Hemphill:** marchgutsandglory@gmail.com  
**Ladies' Bible Study - 7 pm**  
**Contact Veronica Platt:** FCCWomensmin@gmail.com

## Thursday (7/20)

**Young at Heart & Renewed - 11 am**  
**Contact Brian Showler:** Showlerbrian@gmail.com

## Friday (7/21)

**Jazz Cafe' - 6:30 pm**

## Saturday (7/22)

**Youth Mission Trip**  
**Men's Prayer Time and Study of God's Word - 7:30 am**  
**Bob Crane:** ettbilkaknm@icloud.com

**\*FOLLOW Christ in FAITH \* SHARE the gospel of HOPE**  
**\*UNITE in LOVE for God and one another**  
**WORSHIP | WALK | WORK | WITNESS | WELCOME**

# Adult Bible Studies



**A Better Country: Preparing for Heaven is a four-week study which began July 9th @ 10:30 am.** Most of us have heard that heaven is a wonderful place and everyone wants to go there but ideas about what heaven will be like are all over the map. In this study, we will discover that world we've longed for; that life we were meant to live; that goal we were meant to pursue—in a word, heaven.

**Jeremiah and Lamentations, ABS Study at 9AM** - Although Jeremiah's message to his country was bleak, it was far from being hopeless. Even in our darkest moments, God's plan is always for His glory, our redemption, and our future life with Him.



## Pastor Candidate Visit



**PASTOR CANDIDATE VISIT:** Faith Community Church will host a candidate and his wife for the position of Pastor/Elder during the weekend of July 30th. There will be opportunities for you to interact with and hear the candidate on Saturday night, Sunday morning and evening, and Monday night. Church members will be mailed an affirmation card prior to his visit and cards will need to be returned by the following weekend. You play an important role in our discernment of God's leading. There will be additional information shared at our Family Gathering tonight beginning at 6 p.m. Please continue to be in prayer as we seek God's will and direction.

## Women's Ministry



**Ladies!** Want to try your hand at axe throwing? **Come "Chill Axe" with us THURSDAY, JULY 20th, 6:45-8:45 pm.** \$35 per thrower. We need a count to reserve enough lanes, so please sign up at our table in the foyer or contact Veronica via phone/text at 443-306-8963.

# This Week's Global Partner



**The Student Missions Team is partnering with Praying Pelican Missions on location in Mount Hope, WV.** The team will work on projects for local ministries including Royal Ministries, an extreme sports camp ministry and Honeysuckle, a community biblical garden. **Our team will depart July 22nd and return July 28th.**

Drew Martin	Tessa Hansen
Cordelia Liang	Violet Hansen
Lauren Crane	Ken & Robin Crane
Rylee Case	Matthew Hemphill

## Worship Arts Camp (WAC)



**SO WHAT IS A WORSHIP ARTS CAMP (WAC) ANYWAY?** Worship Arts Camp is energy, singing, energy, dance, energy, Boomwhackers (you will see), energy, drama, energy, set design, and energy. Mix-in a bunch of children, quadruple the energy! We will be learning a musical in one week! Every child will participate in the choir and in one breakout class: dance, boomwhackers, drama, or set design/art. By Friday night we will put it all together for a grand performance of Parablelooza! for our parents, congregation and guests. If you have a child who is entering into 2nd – 8th grade, Worship Arts Camp is for you. Register by scanning the QR code on the next page. Hope to see you there!

## Bateman Fundraiser



**Bateman Fundraiser.** Dylan and Millie Bateman have finished their training with Ethnos 360 and will be in Maryland for the next 6 weeks as they seek to update their supporters, raise some additional support, and prepare to go back to start their work in the jungles of Peru. **When they return to Peru, they will fix up a house to live in and need a car.** Please consider giving to the Bateman fund on our giving page or by filling out the Special Offering envelope over the offering boxes as you exit.

**Tell Me a Story: The Parables of Jesus**  
**Luke 8 (pg 1027)**  
**Evaluating the Soil: Parable of the Sower**  
**July 16, 2023, Elder Brian Jenkins**

**Key idea:** What happens after a \_\_\_\_\_ is planted always depends on the nature of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Parable: An earthly story with heavenly meaning**

**Questions to ask:**

What is the story?

What is the meaning?

Does Jesus explain it?

Consider the context.

Focus on the key point!

Context in **Matt 13, Mark 4, Luke 8**: opposition, disbelief, hardness of heart

**The story: Luke 8:4-8**

Types of soil: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, good soil

An important clue ... "he who has \_\_\_\_\_, let him hear" (**vs 8**)

Purpose of parables: **Luke 8:9-10** ... to reveal and to conceal

The meaning: Luke 8:11-15 (Jesus tells us)

Sowing the seed = \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ (**Rom 10:17**)

**When heard, the Word exposes hearts that are ...**

hard,

shallow,

strangled,

or prepared ... to patiently bear fruit (**John 15**)

Key idea: The \_\_\_\_\_ evaluates the \_\_\_\_\_, not the other way around!

**Questions for reflection:**

Evaluate and prepare the soil: What is your attitude toward the Word?

Are you open to it, honestly seeking to understand it? If you challenge it in unbelief, what are some reasons you are skeptical?

Do doubts prevent spiritual growth? Can you recall trials that have tested and strengthened your faith in the past?

What cares and concerns distract you and prevent you from bearing fruit?

How do you tend "the soil"? What spiritual disciplines do you (can you) practice that might strengthen you to face future trials?

Is there spiritual fruit evident recently?