




BAPTISM

JULY 30

For more information, contact Pastor Steve: sabond256@gmail.com

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!



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 to register or use the QR code below




Financial Update Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30) YTD as of June 25, 2023		
Giving	Budget	Surplus
\$880,208	\$844,000	\$36,208

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


Faith Community Church
1306 Riedel Road | Gambrills, MD 21054
410.451.1220 | 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

Parables: Secrets of the Kingdom



Elder David Hansen Matthew 13 July 9, 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 Matt Zimmerman. 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 (7/9)

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 Small Group Pot Luck - 6 pm

Monday (7/10)

Kidz Kamp - 5:30 pm
 Contact Amy McDougall amy@faithcommunity.net

Tuesday (7/11)

Kidz Kamp - 5:30 pm
 Contact Amy McDougall amy@faithcommunity.net
 Young Adult Small Group - 6:30 pm
 Contact Matt Hemphill marchgutsandglory@gmail.com

Wednesday (7/12)

Men's Online Bible Study - 9 am
 David Cole: davidcole3@verizon.net
 Kidz Kamp - 5:30 pm
 Contact Amy McDougall amy@faithcommunity.net

Thursday (7/13)

Kidz Kamp - 5:30 pm
 Contact Amy McDougall amy@faithcommunity.net
 Global Partner Prayer Meeting
 Contact Jon Luman jonathan.r.luman@gmail.com

Friday (7/14)

Prayer for our Global Partners - 9:30 am
 Contact Nancy Cole for Location supernan11@verizon.net
 Kidz Kamp Closing Program- 5:30 pm
 Contact Amy McDougall amy@faithcommunity.net

Saturday (7/15)

Men's Prayer Time and Study of God's Word - 7:30 am
 Bob Crane: ettambilaknm@icloud.com

New Adult Bible Studies



A Better Country: Preparing for Heaven A four-week study beginning **today, July 9 @ 10:30.** A Better Country: Preparing for Heaven a four-week study beginning **July 9th @ 10:30 am.**

What picture comes to mind when you think about heaven? Most of us have heard that heaven is a wonderful place and everyone wants to go there; yet there is a universal "longing for a better country, a heavenly one" (Hebrews 11:16).

In this study, we will discover that thing we've always wanted; that world we've longed for; that life we were meant to live; that goal we were meant to pursue—in a word, heaven.

Beginning today, July 9, at 9 am

we will study the books of **Jeremiah and Lamentations**, learning about the prophet Jeremiah's call to ministry and his message of God's impending judgment against the people of Judah. Although Jeremiah's message 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.**



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.** Join us in a night of stress-releasing fun and fellowship. Cost will be \$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



DYLAN & MILLY BATEMAN, COLOMBIA: For security reasons we cannot give out the specific location, but the Batemans have just completed their

training in Peru. They will be moving soon to a location where they can share the good news of the Gospel with a tribal people group. Their goal is to plant a church with tribal people in the Amazon basin between Colombia and Peru.

How can you help the Batemans? You can help by donating to the **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.

A Note of Thanks



We want to publicly express gratitude for the sacrifice and service that **Ron and Esther Dawson** gave to the Lord as they supplied housing for Stan and Lynda Smith during Stan's Interim Pastorate here at FCC. The Smith's absolutely loved the warm welcome they received from the Dawson's each week (for 18 months) and a deep friendship was established. **May God richly bless your service to the Smith's, to FCC, and most**

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

Parables: Secrets of the Kingdom
Matthew 13
July 9, 2023
Elder David Hansen

Parables: Secrets of the Kingdom
Questions for further reflection

A parable is an story with meaning.

1. What is the story?

2. What is the meaning?

*See if **Jesus** explains it

*Check the **context** for clues

*Usually, one **central** truth

Matthew 13:

34-35: Jesus' teachings to His disciples

10-17: Jesus' teachings from those who have closed their eyes

44-46: Jesus' teachings lead to

47-50: Jesus' teachings are a matter of

51-52: Jesus' teachings are meant

Our response:

Have you previously seen God open your eyes to His truth?

Which of Jesus' teachings might God want you to hear today?

What steps can you take to train for Christ's kingdom work?

Have you come to **know** Jesus? If so, is the **story** of how you came to grasp the value of God's kingdom more like Matthew 13:44, or more like Matthew 13:45-46?

What would it look like to live a life that reflects a **value** for God's kingdom **above all else**?

What is a **proper response** to Jesus' parable of the net? (Matthew 13:47-50)

Reflect on Jesus' disciple **Peter's sermon** in Acts 2, especially verses 22-36.

* How did Peter practically live out Jesus' parable of the **master of a house**? (Matthew 13:52)

* **What steps** can we likewise take to be trained as "scribes of the kingdom of heaven"? (consider Acts 4:13)

What is Jesus' **intended meaning** behind these other parables from Matthew 13?

*The parable of the **weeds** (verses 24-30, 36-43)

* The parable of the **mustard seed** (verses 31-32)

* The parable of the **leaven** (verse 33)

Note: Next week's sermon topic is the parable of the sower, also found in Luke 8:4-15.