

Faith Report

Renewing: Children's Ministry by Joan Nelson

*Where there is no revelation
the people cast off restraint,
but blessed is he who keeps the law.*
Proverbs 29:18

Our membership manual states, *Spiritual growth and transformation can only be achieved as believers devote themselves to understanding and applying God's Word to all of life and culture. This is biblical thinking. It is therefore the duty of every believer to hear, read, search, meditate, study, and grow in the knowledge of and obedience to God's Word. As we give ourselves daily to this sacred discipline we must never forget that we are dependent upon the Holy Spirit to help us understand and apply the Bible to life. Therefore biblical thinking only happens in relationship with God.*

Yet biblical thinking also happens in community with God's people. Through preaching, teaching, corporate study, and sharing of God's Word, He teaches us and applies His truth to our lives. Therefore, we are exhorted not to neglect these times of grace and spiritual strength.

Parents are primarily responsible to instruct and model before their children the teachings of the Bible. The Church is a fellowship designed to equip and support parents in this holy calling.

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In 2009, the Children's Ministry Search Committee decided to look for two co-directors of Children's Ministry. I was hired to fill the Administration and Curriculum Co-Director position. The other position, for Teacher and Parent Support, has not yet been filled. The Search Committee and Children's Council recently met for a prayer and brainstorming session which resulted in a revised job description which we trust will attract new interest and applicants.

Thanks to the recruitment efforts of Martha MacIver, children's Bible studies (Sunday school) started in September with a full staff of adults who are committed to instruct and model the Bible's teachings to the children.



If you peek into the classrooms you may find the children memorizing the Ten Commandments, singing, reciting their memory verses, sharing events of the past week or showing their art skills on the chalk board while waiting for their classmates to arrive! Children receive take-home pages to review Bible verses and principles they learn during their lessons.

We would like to post pictures and stories about Bible studies as well as Friends of Jesus and Worship Nursery on the church website. If you have stories or comments that you would like to share, please e-mail them to the church office and we will post them on the Children's Ministry page. Please contact Pastor Stan or myself if you would like more information about children's ministry.

Most importantly, please pray that the teachers who have committed to invest in our children would carry out this work faithfully and joyfully, and that our children would participate fully in their classes and grow spiritually through this ministry. We are grateful for Erin Hansen's leadership as the Nursery Ministry Coordinator over the last couple of years. Erin will be stepping down at the end of December. Please pray for God's provision of a Children's Ministry Co-Director, a Nursery Ministry Coordinator and workers, and for all those who invest in our four to six year olds' Friends of Jesus ministry. We are grateful for your prayers and support as we work together to help FCF parents raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. ♦

Joan Nelson is Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Administration and Curriculum). She is also the Lead Office Administrator.



**FAITH
CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP**

505 E. 42nd Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Phone: 410.323.0202
Fax: 410.435.5075
E-mail: fcf.church@verizon.net
www.fcfchurch.org

*United that the
world would
know*

*²Do not conform
any longer to the
pattern of this
world, but be trans-
formed by the re-
newing of your
mind. Then you will
be able to test and
approve what God's
will is—his good,
pleasing and perfect
will.
Romans 12:2*

Introducing Becky McMillen



We welcome Rebecca McMillen as the Baltimore Christian School Development Associate. Becky will work with Kate McGrath in the BCS Development Office.

Becky is the middle child of five and grew up in a Christian home, just outside Allentown, Pennsylvania. She attended Temple University in Philadelphia where she graduated in Public Relations with a minor in Philosophy. Becky got to know her husband, Mark, at Temple while on a mission trip to inner city Philadelphia at the end of her freshman year. The trip presented many challenges but she felt renewed energy and excitement in her faith as the program took off and the kids started flocking in. Becky and Mark were married in June 2009, then the couple moved to Baltimore for Mark's job.

Becky scoured the internet for PR jobs before taking a position as shift manager at a coffee shop for six months. She then decided to branch out and volunteer in a number of positions in an effort to maximize her outlets and contacts in Baltimore. She worked at Artscape, WTMD radio, and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra where she did an internship in the development office. Becky says that she was praying for a certain kind of permanent job but was convicted to change her prayer to pray for what God wanted for her. It was very soon after that that she heard about the BCS Development Associate position!

In her spare time, Becky enjoys music; she sings and plays guitar, and enjoys researching and discovering new bands. She also enjoys riding her motor scooter.

Becky and Mark have been attending FCF for about a year and are in the process of joining the church. **Welcome to Faith, Becky and Mark!** ♦

Faith Advance Prayer and Fasting Week, November 8-12

The annual Faith Advance Prayer and Fasting Week is here! The purpose of this week is to encourage us to grow individually and corporately in this vital means of grace and enjoy participating with the Holy Spirit and watching God advance His Kingdom through our prayers.

The prayer focus for each day is as follows:

- Nov. 8 Church health
- Nov. 9 Baltimore Christian School
- Nov. 10 Reaching
- Nov. 11 Pen Lucy Action Network
- Nov. 12 Reproducing leaders and making grace- filled disciples

The Prayer Focus booklet lists specific prayer needs and answers to prayer in 2010, and also contains information about prayer and guidelines for fasting. Copies of the booklet are available in the lobby or on the website at www.fcfchurch.org ♦

Bits and Pieces

Congratulations to

- Marcus Dagold and Betsy Nettelbeck on their marriage on October 16.

CALENDAR

- Nov 5 Concert of Prayer**
- Nov 8-12 Faith Advance Prayer and Fasting Focus Week**
- Nov 10 Faith Leadership Night**
- Nov 14 Discovery Welcome Luncheon**
- Nov 19 BCS Benefit Concert at Central Pres. Church p.m.**
- Nov 20 Buck-A-Bag Health Fair**
- Nov. 20 PLYP sports celebration**