

# Faith Report

## Reaching: Faith Urban Works Annual Challenge

By Roger Taneus

The Faith Urban Works Annual Challenge is an intentional effort on behalf of our congregation to engage our community with acts of **love, justice, and mercy**. In support of this goal, we have brainstormed four strategic outreach events to reach our community. These events were designed as simple, effective and yet inexpensive ways to have an immediate impact of **love and compassion** on our Pen Lucy neighbors. Furthermore, the projects were designed to minister to both the needs of the Pen Lucy community **as well** as to provide our congregation with a means of **growing in their faith** by loving others. **It is our hope that through these opportunities we are able to match community needs with our congregation's natural gifts and passions.**

The way we did this was to leverage the natural skills, talents, and passions of our members (using data from our church membership database) to address critical needs within our community. The result was a proposal to host four short events which embrace the concepts of compassion, love and justice. The events are: **The Community Clean Up, The Buck a Bag Food Pantry and Health Fair, The FCF Car Wash and Service Shop, and The PLYP Fan Day.**

**The Community Clean Up on September 19** seeks to connect those of us at FCF who have a "green thumb" with small beautification projects in the Pen Lucy community. Two weeks prior to the event, a small canvassing team of FCF volunteers will identify neighbors and small businesses in our community that could use a hand with beautification of their areas. These projects may include such things as lawn mowing, trash hauling, gardening, etc. We hope that this will be a great way to reach out to single parents, the elderly, or those who simply can't afford or are too busy to keep up with area beautification. Lastly, during the Clean Up, there will be a group of FCF volunteers conducting a prayer walk throughout the neighborhood.

**The Buck a Bag Food Pantry and Health Fair on September 26** brings together our existing Food Pantry Ministry and the wealth of health professionals in our congregation in a joint ministry opportunity. Our plan is to convert the church Fellowship Hall into a small grocery store/health center with several health screening stations. Members of our community will have the opportunity to spend \$1 for a grocery bag full of donated food items, as well as receive free medical advice and health screenings from volunteer FCF health professionals.

**The Car Wash and Service**

**Shop on October 3** will offer our neighbors a free car wash, full service vacuuming, tire cleaning, and an opportunity to ask some of our congregation's "motor heads" some automotive questions. Meanwhile, volunteers from FCF who enjoy discipleship and evangelism will have the opportunity to mingle with those in the community and encourage them to participate in a voluntary Spiritual Questionnaire.

Finally, as our Pen Lucy Youth Partnership (PLYP) Sports Soccer Program kicks off, **The PLYP Fan Day on October 17** gives the people of FCF the opportunity to come out and support our community's little champions. The encouragement created by a united cheering force from our congregation will demonstrate to the youth from our community that we care about them and want to see them succeed.

Please think about how **you** can get involved in one of these events between **September 19 and October 17** as we intentionally demonstrate the love of Christ to our community.

We desperately need food pantry items. You may also sign up in the lobby on Sundays, or contact Karen Bullard or me for more information.

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*United that the  
world would  
know*

*<sup>30</sup> The fruit of the  
righteous is a tree  
of life,  
and he who  
wins souls is wise.*

*Prov. 11:30*

## FCF Launches New Web site!

[www.fcfchurch.org](http://www.fcfchurch.org)

We are delighted to announce that the newly revamped and updated website was launched on August 30, with lots of new information and photographs, just in time for the start of the new academic year.

The new website will not only be a major improvement in service to our FCF members and regular attendees who are looking for current information about the church and its activities, but we also hope that it will be a very positive first encounter with Faith Christian Fellowship for people looking for a church in Baltimore.

The website has lots of photographs, information about the mission, vision and values of the church, our beliefs, access to many links, employment opportunities, calendar, and more.

Several key people are being trained to maintain the website and make updates when necessary. Please note that the website is a work in progress and still needs some refining.

Meanwhile, we are deeply indebted to FCF attendee Joe Wilson and his very able team at Ignition 72 who designed our new website pro bono. Joe volunteered to take on our website challenge, saving FCF significant financial outlay. His thorough, committed professionalism, and his patient response to countless questions has gently walked us through the transition process. Thank you, Joe, for graciously using your time and talents to serve and bless us in this way. We appreciate you!

We also extend our thanks to our intern Roger Taneus, for his leadership, coordination and project management, and for perseverance and commitment to seeing this task completed. Great job! Please check us out at:

[www.fcfchurch.org](http://www.fcfchurch.org)



## PLYP Service Opportunities

Pen Lucy Youth Partnership (PLYP) is looking for volunteer tutors in reading or math to work with elementary or middle school youth. This is a two hour a week commitment on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evening from 6.30-8.30 p.m. for 12 weeks beginning on September 16. Training will take place Saturday morning, September 12 from 10:00-12:00. We also need substitutes to fill in when necessary if you can't commit for the entire semester.

We also need volunteers to serve in computer tech support on an on-call basis.

Please contact Stefanie Hopkins at [PLYPLearns@yahoo.com](mailto:PLYPLearns@yahoo.com) or at 410-323-5224 for more information.

### Fall Soul Food Program

By Ann Maouyo

Soul Food—Adult Christian Education classes—will resume on September 20 from 10:10 to 10:55 a.m. with our traditional gender-specific fall classes through the end of October. Series topics are:

Men's class: **"Conquering the Giants:**

**Overcoming Idols in Our Lives"**

Women's class: **"Prayer: It's Not Just**

**Talking!"**

The November-December series will be **This Is What We Believe—Past, Present, and Future**. These courses will **not** be gender-specific. Please join us!

Sep. 4 Concert of Prayer, 7 p.m.

Sep. 7 Office closed for Labor Day

Sep. 9 Leadership Night, 7 p.m.

Sep. 13 Ministry Fair

Sep. 19 Covenant Group leadership  
development training

" Community Clean up

Sep. 26 FUW Buck a Bag Food Pantry and  
Health Fair

Sep. 27 Discovery Welcome Lunch 12:30  
FCF Ministry Fair