

INTRODUCTION

There's treasure waiting to be discovered! And the really great news is that this treasure isn't hidden. It is the good news of Jesus Christ found in the Bible. In your hand is a treasure map to help you discover all the "gold" in God's Word. It is yours to keep, compliments of Faith Baptist Fellowship.

The Faith elders and staff have invested hundreds of hours preparing an exciting journey of faith for you. It begins with our new **Faith Steps** class for those who need to know more about us and how this journey begins. It continues with **Faith Groups**, for the advance and joy of your faith as you walk with Jesus.

Here you will be loved, cared for and respected wherever you find yourself on the journey. Then it continues with **Faith University**, a goldmine of opportunity to dig a shaft into the treasure and grow stronger in your faith. And it culminates with you running, not just walking, to serve the King of kings.



God bless you in the journey. We are so excited for you. Really, I am bursting with excitement. It will be sheer joy to watch you run!

For the joy of your faith as you discover the treasure,
Pastor Dana

CORE COMMITMENTS at Faith Baptist Fellowship

Five Loves:

- Love God
- Love God's Word and Prayer
- Love One Another
- Love Our Neighbors
- Love the Gospel

Five Commitments:

- Gathered Worship
- Personal Worship (Devotions)
- Join a Faith Group
- Serve and Give
- Share the Gospel

Five Phases of the Disciple's Journey:

Gestation - The time in a person's life before they are a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Birth - When a person trusts in Jesus Christ alone for forgiveness and salvation, the new birth of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

First Steps - The initial steps of growth and understanding for a new disciple of Jesus Christ.

Walking - The essential growth of a disciple through the Bible, prayer, and fellowship with other disciples.

Running - The exciting step of faith when disciples begin to share the gospel and use their spiritual gifts for God's glory.

Starting your journey of faith and growth

Certainly, you have questions! We'll do our very best to answer. Where? In the **Faith Steps** class.

Faith Steps answers questions such as:

- What makes this church tick?
- Will anyone make a connection with me?
- How can I learn more about the Bible and its essential teachings?
- Why should I follow Jesus Christ as his disciple?

Plus, we'll address other subjects you might be curious about:

- Baptism
- The Lord's Supper (Communion)
- Leadership of the Church
- Opportunities to use your abilities and gifts

The **Faith Steps** class is eight weeks in length. A team of Faith folks will host the class and care for you. Yes, they will smile and say "Hello!" and help to make you feel welcome. We'd love to get to know you better.

Questions? Contact the church office: (605) 331-3800.

Don't walk your journey of faith alone!

The **Walking Ministry Group** is organized to provide opportunities to interact with others in order to grow stronger in God's Word and deepen your walk with Him.

Faith Groups are your opportunity to make new friends and join with them in loving accountability for a season of growth in Christ. In your Faith Group, you will be asked to:

- care about others in your group through prayer and practical kindness
- read (at home, on your own time) a brief Bible passage six days a week
- reflect on what you've read in the Bible and talk about it with others in your group in a non-threatening, helpful way
- learn how to strengthen your prayer life using the Bible truths you've read and shared about in the group
- serve together in kingdom opportunities and share your faith.

If that sounds difficult to you, please understand Faith Groups are designed for everyone on the journey, and no one will be embarrassed or put on the spot. All of us start somewhere, and we remember what it was like at the beginning of our journey. You'll find people who care and opportunities to serve with them in helping others.



Faith Groups are the essential building blocks of the discipleship journey at Faith Baptist Fellowship. Join us on the journey! Sign up online at www.faithbaptistfellowship.com

If you have questions, contact: **Pastor Dave Vilhauer**, Leader of the Walking Ministry Group: (605) 331-3800, or Elder Chairman Mark Hecht.

Faith U. is for you!

We want everyone at Faith Baptist to grow stronger in God's word and deepen their walk with Him. That's why we've created **Faith University**, the training arm of our walking ministry group. All classes are designed to help disciples grow. Further, each and every class has a strong connection to our Five Loves and Five Commitments. Classes are designed to fit you, where you are on your journey:

- **Level One** classes are for those new to the journey or those asking basic questions.
- **Level Two** classes are for growing believers who want to know the Bible better and gain new insight into Christian living.
- **Level Three** classes are training opportunities for those who are or aspire to be leaders in the church.

Faith University classes are offered on Sunday mornings at the 9:30 hour. Faith U. also offers weekly studies, special seminars or training sessions, and one-day and weekend growth opportunities. We want to help you grow a stronger and more vibrant faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We want to help you learn to apply the gospel in every aspect of daily living.



Questions? Please direct them to the Faith University Team through **“Dean” Dennis Cromwell**. Dennis wants to know what suggestions you have and how we can better serve you. Direct your thoughts and questions for Dennis to Deb in the office: (605) 331-3800.

You won't just walk, you'll begin to run!

The **Running Ministry Group** is organized to give us great opportunities to share Christ, love people in need, help those who truly need it, and impact our entire world with the good news of Jesus Christ. You will hear about opportunities to serve others on a regular basis and we hope you will walk through those open doors.

The **Kingdom Opportunities Team** provides connections for serving our community and region:

- short-term teams to minister to others in places like Grand Island, Neb., Belize and South Dakota

local ministries which serve others such as the Union Gospel Mission, the Banquet, and Community Outreach

The **Evangelism Team** offers training in how to share Jesus Christ with others, as well as local opportunities to do so:

- LifeLight Festival
- Local Youth Outreaches which share the Lord with teenagers
- Faith's own outreach opportunities

The **SHARE Team** responds to requests for assistance which come into our office. The team is prepared to share the gospel and offer caring hope and practical assistance to those in need, both In our church family and community.

The **Missions Team** keeps in touch with our supported overseas workers, offering prayer, encouragement, and wise administration of our church's funds to keep Faith Baptist Fellowship on the front lines of kingdom impact around the world.

Don't just walk, run! Get involved. Use your gifts. Many Faith Baptist Fellowship ministries need your help and involvement. Singers, greeters, ushers, teachers, nursery workers, carpenters, painters, prayer team, marriage mentors -- you name it, there is a place for you to serve!

We encourage you to take a *bold step of faith, act on your faith, exercise your faith, and get involved!* Most of all, share the hope of the gospel with others. That's what **Faith** is all about. Our vision at Faith Baptist Fellowship is to be a vibrant,



healthy, family of Christ-like believers proclaiming a cross-centered gospel, living cross-centered lives.

God bless you on your journey.

Questions? Contact **David Moe**, Leader of the Running Ministry Group: (605) 331-3800.

Discipleship opportunities for children and youth

We know many of you have children and young people on the journey with you. We welcome them to their very own, very personal, journey with Jesus and God's Word. At Faith Baptist, you will find a full slate of discipleship opportunities for children and youth that will help them grow in the Five Loves and Five Commitments highlighted in the Introduction.

Children's Discipleship opportunities Include:

- Nursery
- Children's Story Time (during worship services)
- Sunday School
- Wednesday Night Pioneer Clubs
- Vacation Bible School

For more information about children's discipleship, contact the **Children's Discipleship Team** and team leader **Dana Wohlwend**.

Youth Discipleship opportunities Include:

- Sunday School
- Wednesday Nights
 - "Close Encounters" for Middle School
- Various activities throughout the year to grow in worship, personal devotions, prayer, fellowship, service and evangelism.

For more information about youth discipleship, contact the **Youth Discipleship Team** through our team leader (youth pastor) **David Moe**.

Pastor David Vilhauer, who heads up our Walking Ministry Group, can also answer questions in these areas. Please feel free to contact any of these leaders. We want to help you and your family, no matter where you find yourself on the journey!

God bless you.

First Steps Group Leader

Walking Group Leader

David Vilhauer

Running Group Leader

David Moe

Care Group Leader

Dale James

Operations Group Leader

Tom Gage

Ministry Assistant

Deb Bartels

Elder Chairman

Mark Hecht

Senior Pastor

Dana Olson



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DISCIPLE'S JOURNEY TO GROWTH
2011-2012

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