

# FOCUS

July 2011

Pastor Jonathan Schroeder 770-253-4007



## Soccer Camp – One of God’s Blessings at Faith!

We take a break from meeting new families at Faith to focus on an event that brought lots of new families to Faith this past month: Soccer Camp 2011.

### Soccer Camp – June 20-23, 2011

If you weren’t here during Soccer Camp, you might not have known that anything happened at all. But Soccer Camp week is one of the busiest weeks of the year at Faith. This year, more than 150 campers ages 4-11 turned out for Faith’s fourth annual Soccer Camp. Our camp has grown to be so popular that it was full three weeks before camp even started! Our grounds here at church were divided into 12 different soccer fields. Fields were watered, lines were painted, and goals were set up. Then for four days—Monday-Thursday from 9am-12pm—Faith was filled with the sound of running feet and shouting voices.



### Pro Day

One highlight of our week was our Pro Day on Tuesday. Two professional soccer players from the Atlanta Silverbacks—Josh Casarona and Moussa Toure—visited Faith’s Soccer Camp. Both spent time with every one of our teams, took pictures, and answered questions. Josh grew up in Georgia, but moved to Argentina to play soccer when he was just 15 years old. Now 19, he just signed with Atlanta’s professional team this past March. Moussa was born in West Africa and spent time in Minnesota and Vancouver before ending up in Atlanta. We’re glad both players took the time to come to our camp and meet all our players!

### Our Goal

Of course, there was more to Faith’s Soccer Camp than learning about soccer. Our goal was to reach as many kids as we could with the message of what God has done for them. The theme for this year’s camp was “More Than Conquerors”, and in their Bible lessons each day our campers learned how God made Gideon, Daniel, and Paul conquerors, even when they faced difficult situations. Then, on the last day of camp, our campers heard the greatest story in the Bible: How Jesus conquered sin and death for them when he died and rose again. As our theme Bible passage for the week says, “*In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us!*” (Romans 8:37).

### Our Volunteers

Faith’s Soccer Camp wouldn’t be possible without all of our dedicated volunteers. We had 60 members and friends of Faith serve God and others by being coaches, teachers, and helpers at our camp, including a group of high school students from Luther Preparatory School in Wisconsin. Faith’s Teen Group also played an important role, and everyone did a great job! Because of the willingness of our volunteers to serve, 152 children from our community got to spend four days in June learning about what Jesus has done for them. We hope the lessons they learned last beyond a lifetime. To God be the glory!



## Praying and Singing the Night Away

You just had the worst day ever—or at least it feels that way. You're not even sure how everything went downhill so quickly. It had started out like any other day. You met a girl on the street who needed help and you helped her. You shared with her the message of Jesus. And then it's hard to believe what happened next: You were arrested, stripped of your clothes, beaten with rods, fastened in stocks, and placed in the darkest cell of a dungeon.

That's what happened to Paul on what must have seemed like the worst day ever. In Jesus' name he drove an evil spirit out of a girl, and then before he knew it he sat bleeding in the darkness of a dungeon. What do you think was going through his mind? I would have been seething mad. How could they do this to me! Maybe you would have been scared stiff. What happens next? Or maybe you'd have just felt hopeless—like throwing in the towel, if only you had one.

Well here's what Paul did: *"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God."* Their backs hurt from the beating. Their legs were numb from the stocks. Their minds couldn't shake the humiliation of the day. Their eyes strained to see what lurked in the darkness of their cell. And yet there they were, praying and singing the night away.

We don't have the words of their prayer or their song, but I bet it wasn't a mad prayer, like the ones we tend to pray: "God, why are you doing this to me!" It wasn't a "you better do something now, God!" prayer. It wasn't a "this is all hopeless" song. On that worst day of their lives, surrounded by the horrors of a dungeon and that dreadful day, they calmly got down on their knees and prayed. Then they raised their voices in song, knowing that God had heard them.



It sounds too simple, doesn't it? In fact, prayer always sounds so simple. It's often just a whisper or a thought. Usually no one knows we're praying except us and God. But that's the kicker: God!

Prayer is powerful because it connects us to our powerful God, and that's exactly what we need. When we face the dark dungeons of our lives, what we need isn't a higher-paying job or a more considerate spouse or a little more time to relax. What we need is God, and prayer is how we talk to him. Paul and Silas didn't know the way out of that cell. They didn't know the answer to their problems. But God did, and that was good enough. They prayed and sang the night away.

But they didn't make it all night, because suddenly the earth shook. The walls crumbled. Their chains fell. But Paul and Silas weren't surprised. God answers prayer! So when the same jailor who had just beaten them like animals fell at their knees and begged: *"What must I do to be saved?"*, they pointed him to the Lord who'd saved them—from sin, from death, and now from that jail cell: *"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."*

After your worst day ever, or best day ever, or all the days in between, get in the habit of praying and singing the night away. You believe in the Lord Jesus—you are saved! So pour out your heart to your Savior. Sing your confidence in him. Then trust that he'll take care of you. Let him in his way at his time turn your worst days into your best ones.

# July—August Volunteer Schedules

## Sunday

Sunday	Acolyte	Friendship Register		Nursery	Video Taping
3-Jul	Lauren Curtis	Sidney Bakken	Grant Bakken	Clow/D. Ford	Keith Schroeder
10-Jul	Justin Schroeder	Laura Kvidt	Emily Fiscus	Gibson	Katherine Curtis
17-Jul	Ashley Kangas	Elizabeth Bloy	Tyler Kangas	Madden	Joshua Buth observe Tyler Buth
24-Jul	Dalia Gibson	Daniel Buth	Daisy Collins	Hicks/Anderson	Anna Curtis
31-Jul	Katie Watkins	Ava Johnson	Maddie Bonnette	Pickett	Cole Johnson
7-Aug	Nathan Curtis	Elise Harris	Emily Schroeder	Joyner	Andrew Bjornas
14-Aug	Siara Ford	Jaynie Adams	Henry Adams	Weigel	Lauren Curtis
21-Aug	Jacob Fiscus	Garrett Madden	Grant Madden	Bloy	Caleb Christopher
28-Aug	Megan Buth	Clayton Gibson	Madison Countryman	Springstroh	Joshua Buth observe Tyler Buth

## During the Week

Week of	Lawn Mowing		Church Cleaning	
	Lawn A	Lawn B	Family 1	Family 2
4-Jul	Buth	Wulf	K Johnson	Harris
11-Jul	Robertson	Collins	Joyner	Lesage
18-Jul	Springstroh	Bonnette	Buth	Buckley
25-Jul	Lee Green	Buckley	Moro	Bonnette
1-Aug	Hoth	Deschamp	Lanier	M. Massmann
8-Aug	Hughes	Heinz	Pauli	J. Schroeder
15-Aug	Schwab	Christopher	Cirillo	J & B Ford
22-Aug	Robbie Morgan	Greg Morgan	Seitz	Smith
29-Aug	Everhart	Watkins	Pfliger	Watkins

## Ushering Teams

July			
<b>Travis</b>	<b>Heinz</b>	John	Kvidt
Dennis	Buckley	Ed	Lesage
Jimmy	Countryman	Mark	Massmann
Michael	Deschamps	Mark	McDevitt
Jeff	Foust	Miles	McDevitt
Cole	Johnson	Jim	Oberheman
Joel	Kassulke	Dennis	Walrath

August			
<b>Gary</b>	<b>Eckhardt</b>	Patrick	Green
Aaron	Bloy	Raymond	Johnston
Art	Crowe	Bill	Madden
Stuart	Duncan	Mike	Moro
Colin	Duncan	Michael	Pfliger
Matt	Duncan	Joseph	Soletto
Todd	Freeman	Wayne	Sporleder

## July Birthdays

Abigail Green	7/4	Tracy Gehl	7/12
Ian Gehl	7/5	David Johnson	7/12
Piper Lanier	7/5	Tom Seitz	7/15
Reed Anderson	7/6	Mary Sporleder	7/15
Lou Pfeifer	7/6	Kayla Nichols	7/17
Madison Countryman	7/7	Dalia Gibson	7/19
Miranda Countryman	7/7	Rocky Cirillo	7/22
Jason Everhart	7/7	James Koepke	7/23
Janiese Gibson	7/7	Jim Pickett	7/23
Julie Cirillo	7/8	Jaime Pickett	7/23
Jason Payne	7/8	Heidi Fiscus	7/24
Heather Shelley	7/9	Cindy Adams	7/25
Carolyn McDevitt	7/9	Caleb Christopher	7/26
Jimmy Countryman	7/10	Ryan Hughes	7/27
Terri Ricker	7/11		



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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 Preschool: Greg Morgan..... 770-253-0380  
 Outreach: Scott Buth ..... 770-683-3999  
 Prayer Chain: Dawn Hill ..... 678-977-2946  
 Connect Group: Judy Christopher.. 770-599-6055  
 Teen Group: Nathan Nass..... 770-253-4007  
 Youth Group: Gary & Dawn Hill ..... 678-817-6208  
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*If you have information for the newsletter,  
 please submit it to  
[sherry.kangas@chick-fil-a.com](mailto:sherry.kangas@chick-fil-a.com)  
 by the 25th of each month. Thank you.*

Soccer camp has come and gone and what a week it was. Thanks to everyone who helped make it successful! We had people donate snacks, donate their time teaching and coaching, bring food for the soccer BBQ, donate tents and many more things. **Thanks to all of you for helping us with this important ministry at Faith!**

## Faith Lutheran Preschool

A big thank you to the MMA guys and the Project Timothy kids – each day that they hung fliers with information about our church and preschool, I received a call with interest about our preschool. Thank you!!

If you happen to be checking out garage sales or cleaning out old toys, the preschool would love to utilize a few more riding toys for the playground. Thanks so much!

We still have a few more spaces in our three-year-old Tuesday/Thursday preschool class, and our four-year-old class. If you know of anyone looking for a preschool, we appreciate it any time you share our name.

The preschool will be hosting an infant and child CPR and basic first aid class for certification (or re-certification) on Monday, August 15 from 1-4 p.m. If you would like to register for this class, please e-mail me or leave me a message on the preschool voice mail at the church number 770-253-4007.

Hope you are enjoying a fun and safe summer,

Holly Buth, Director  
 Faith Lutheran Preschool



## Farewell for the Vicar & Emily Nass

It is almost time for Vicar, Emily, and Isaiah to return to Mequon, Wisconsin so Vicar can complete his last year of pastoral training at the Seminary. Their last Sunday at Faith will be August 7th.

**MOVING OUT: SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2011 — 9:00 A.M.** We need people to help move the Vicar's furniture out of his place.

**FAREWELL: SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2011 — 11:30 A.M.** We are having farewell reception for Vicar & Emily after church. We will have cake and punch and visit with them before they depart for Wisconsin.

