



1937

Heritage & Vision

2012



FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

Celebrating the Past

Three quarters of a century ago a small group of believers formed Faith Bible Church. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was President. Our nation was struggling through the Great Depression and unbeknownst to them only a few years away from World War II. It was not a perfect time with almost eight years of widespread poverty and unemployment; in many ways 1937 was difficult. There was still much racial injustice and gender inequality. This is also before so much of what we take for granted: air travel, TV, the disposable diaper, the microwave, computers, the Internet, cell phones! Though our daily lives are different than our church founders, the spiritual similarities we share bind us across the historical differences. That is because they, as we do now, believe in the Bible, God's Word, as our guidebook for life. Then, as now, we are committed to gathering regularly together with like-minded Christian believers. Then, as now, we strive to live holy and upright lives, reaching out into the same community with love, grace and compassion to bring others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.



God's Word, who had a desire to be a light for Christ in our community-- if they hadn't been, then surely Faith Bible Church would not be all it is today. Though that small group that gathered together 75 years ago had no pastor, no building, no deacon board, no ministries, no choir, they did have a desire to be under the teaching of God's Word, to gather together in prayer, and to spread the gospel. Many followed after them, some laboring for years, others for a short time. The church grew in numbers and in maturity. We have a rich heritage to celebrate.

The second section "Capturing the Present" reflects on the vibrant church Faith Bible has become. It is impossible to fully encapsulate all that our church is and does, but this section is a snapshot of the pastors, ministries, and missionaries. These last few years have also been pivotal for the church, primarily with the opening of our Family Life Center and its potential to be used for community outreach. God's provision for us in opening this new building must be one of the stories we delight in sharing; may we continue to sing His praises. "I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Psalm 104:33 NIV

Finally, may we never forget what unifies us: Our first love. "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8 NIV Pastor Paul provides us with a "Challenge for the Future" in the third section of this newsletter as he looks ahead to the next 25 years of Faith Bible Church.

Hope you enjoy the stroll down memory lane and the photos. May you be encouraged as we look to the future, trusting Him who began a good work in us.



Indeed, this church anniversary is a big one and it is appropriate to take time for reflections. In this newsletter, our first section is to honor those who have gone before us with "Celebrating the Past." We are truly grateful for them and their efforts. I like reading about the early church in Acts, how they were faithful in proclaiming the Word-- if they hadn't been, would we know the truth about Christ? Like-

wise, we should reflect on our church ancestors, who were faithful in establishing a firm foundation on



Celebrating the Past (cont.)

The Faith Bible Church
Doctrinal Statement
December 8, 1937

To proclaim the Word of God by means of preaching and teaching, thereby to reach the unsaved and to win them to the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ; to bring all believers into a fuller knowledge of the Word and a closer relationship with God; and to increase the zeal in proclaiming the Gospel to all the world by challenging every believer for definite Christian Service at home or abroad."

The Early Years

Herb Perkins was twelve years old when a group of eleven families started meeting in homes. Most of them had been members of the Covenant Presbyterian Church, but determined to break away because of doctrinal differences. The Covenant Presbyterian Church did not believe in a millennial kingdom (a doctrine called amillennialism), but the families breaking away believed the Bible indicated a pre-millennial doctrine. "There

were ten Perkins-- my parents and my uncle, Donald Perkins," Herb explained. "I wasn't saved at the time." Herb and his sister, Nancy Perkins Reese, are the two remaining from the original founding families.

"Approximately 1938-39 Harold Perkins, Donald Perkins, Miss Martin, Miss Emma Crammer and Anna and Wallace Snell gathered together to form Faith Bible," writes Albert Snell. "They met at Veteran's Hall on Plum Street. Before they could have services, they had to clean up the building and throw away the beer cans. Jack Murray was a student at a Bible college...and was studying for the ministry. He was recommended as a pastor for the church. But he had no transportation to get there so Albert Snell



Faith Bible Church Choir - 1970

took Harold Perkins' pick-up and went over to the ferry in Penns Grove and picked him up for church that morning. After church, he took him back till the next Sunday. The next minister I remember was William Neff. He married Jean Moore and Albert Snell. They were the first married from that church, but in her mother's yard. That was August 11, 1940." Herb Perkins reflects on some of those years: "It was in 1942 after they bombed Pearl Harbor and there was a Bible Conference at Harvey Cedars. My uncle sent my registration into the conference. I was hollering at him because I didn't want to go. Donald said, 'What have you got to lose? Go!' So I went and I got saved there. My dad called the pastor and told him something had happened to me." It sure did. By the grace of God, Herb was a changed man and has spent the rest of his life serving in the church.

Buildings

From 1937 until 1946 the church rented the Veterans Hall for services. In November 1945, they purchased land at 75 Columbia Avenue in Vineland. They held the first service in the church basement on May 5, 1946. Additional properties were purchased on Columbia Avenue (71 and 73 Columbia Avenue) and on adjoining Louisa Lane. The church continued to grow.

Herb Perkins reflects on those early years on Columbia Avenue: "My father was a carpenter and did most of the work on the Columbia Avenue building. When I got out of the service, it was just a block building on Columbia Avenue with no roof on it. It was hard to get materials after the war. My dad had to go hunting for windows. We had to use cinder block. I helped my father with the building of that parsonage. I hung every door in that building on Columbia Avenue. I did most of the trim in the building."



Faith Bible Church Timeline

November 21, 1937 - Faith Bible Church formed

1937-1939 Pastor Jack Murray.

February 5, 1938 - FBC Members voted to rent the Veterans Hall for service.

1939-1944 Pastor William Neff.

November 1939 - Members wanted to look for place of their own because there was evidence of liquor being used in the Veterans Hall.

August 11, 1940 - First baptism of 19 people held at the home of Rev Charles Avenue in Laurel Lake. Also the first wedding; Albert and Jean Snell.

1940 - Church paid an additional \$2.50 per month so that Veterans Hall would not rent the building to anyone serving liquor.

1944-1945 Pastor Hays Minick

1945-1949 Pastor Joseph Hutton

November 28, 1945 - Columbia Avenue property was purchased.

December 7, 1945 - Groundbreaking service.

May 5, 1946 First service held at Columbia Avenue location.

June 17, 1946 Adjoining property on Columbia Avenue purchased for parsonage.

May 1948 John Moore and Helen Cook were married in the church basement at 75 Columbia Avenue, the first wedding on church property.

June 1948 Parsonage first occupied by the Hutton family.

1949-1955 Pastor John Groves.

November 29, 1953 Dedication service of Columbia Avenue sanctuary.

February 21, 1954 Kemp Cook and Rita Castellini married, first wedding in the new sanctuary.

1955-1964 Pastor H. Dalton Myers.

1961 Additional adjoining property on Columbia Avenue purchased, became new parsonage; old parsonage became Sunday School annex.



Season's Greetings
The Apple Family

1965-1969 Pastor Marvin Apple.

1969-1970 Pastor Don Tice.

1971-1972 Pastor David Morris.

1973-1981 Pastor Dick Clark.

1981 - 1993 Doctor Charles Scheide, pastor

1982 Additional property purchased to rear of church on Columbia Avenue, used for staff housing.

1984 purchased 9 1/2 acres of land on Chestnut Avenue.

April 28, 1985 Dedication service held at Chestnut Avenue location.

1986 purchased 2 1/2 additional acres of land at Chestnut Avenue location.

June 1986 Addition started to add Sunday School rooms, office and Prophet's Chamber.

Oct 24 - Nov 1, 1987 50th Anniversary Celebration and Missions conference.

1990 Doctor Michael Keeton begins ministry

1994- 2000 Doctor Terry Puett

2002 Pastor Paul Barreca called as Senior Pastor

2004 Pastor Jason Parmer begins ministry

2010 Pastor Frank Marchianno begins ministry

October 3, 2010 Groundbreaking for Family Life Center

September 24, 2011 Dedication of Family Life Center

2011 Establishment of Bible Life Groups

October 12-14, 2012 75th Anniversary Celebration



Dr. Charles F. Scheide,
Pastor



Dr. Terry Puett
Pastor

Capturing the Present



Family Life Center Dedication, October 3, 2010

By Stephanie Ferrell

How can Faith Bible Church be described at age 75? A vibrant and growing church, where the Word of God is faithfully preached, members are discipled and involved in many ministries whose purposes are primarily evangelism and discipleship.

Our biggest recent event was the dedication of our **Family Life Center** in September 2011. Max Hunt, Chairman of the Deacon Board, and his wife, Carol, have been members for over 30 years. "We have spent at least 20 years-- since the late '80s thinking about it as a church family, talking about how we could use this."

The Hunts are one of a number of families who have multiple generations worshipping at Faith Bible Church. "We were baptized together as a family," said Max. One of his fondest memories is "over time to see our children be involved and impacted by the ministry of this church, for them to both meet someone going to the same church to get married in the church, and now to see our grandchildren in some of the same ministries. The whole of the experience is awesome. It is a lifetime of seeing a church minister."



Carol added, "It is seeing God at work in the life of the church. To have our children and grandchildren here serving and ministering is such an encouragement and give us such joy. It is by God's grace. We don't take any credit."

Bob and Enedia Thibault, who serve with the teens, were both saved on Sept 29, 1998. Their path to salvation is like many who now minister in the church--they had a visit from Pastor Lou Hollo-

man, who served as a great evangelist and pastor. "Pastor Lou came over to my house. He said my lifestyle was not showing fruit. He had the nerve to confront me about salvation," said Bob, who had grown up in a Christian

home. For Enedia, who grew up in foster care, it was all new. Some of their fondest memories are serving with the teens on mission trips, especially to Brazil and for the Katrina relief effort. "Being involved in their lives-- you

are not always going to see the fruit, you spend many hours and at times we get discouraged, but we keep at it," said Bob. Because of Enedia's childhood, she has a heart for struggling teens. "We can connect with the ones who are maybe not from church families, who might not have support in the homes," she said.



Student Ministries

The beautiful facility has a gym, kitchen, office space, and classrooms. God made it all possible. We had about half of the \$2 million in savings, another \$500,000 in three year pledges when as a congregation we voted to move forward. Just a few months after the dedication ceremony in January 2012 an anonymous donor gave \$500,000 to the building fund. When widower Otto Zauner passed away this year, we learned that the gift was from this quiet and unassuming man. His wife, Laurajean, who loved to serve in quiet ways (weeding or making coffee), had been well-loved.

Capturing the Present

Pastors of Faith Bible Church



Paul Barreca is the senior pastor of Faith Bible Church serving in this position since 2002. Pastor and his wife Kim have three children and four grandchildren. Pastor Paul sensed God's leading into the pastoral ministry while he was a teen. He began his first full time position at the age of 21 and has been serving as a pastor ever since that time. His passion is to preach the Scriptures and build up the body of Christ.

Dr. Michael R. Keeton has been serving at Faith Bible Church since January 1, 1990. He entered full time ministry in 1976 as a member of the Word of Life quartet. He and his wife Cheri were missionaries in Bogota, Colombia with Word of Life until a medical situation brought them back to the United States. Since 1990 he has served in many areas of the church including music, teens and young couples. He and his wife Cheri have three children, two grandchildren and three more grandchildren on the way; including twins.!



Jason Parmer joined the pastoral staff in August of 2004 where he serves as the Pastor of Worship Development and Student Ministries. Jason and his wife Judy have five children, Maeghan, Mytchell, Morgan, Mason and Moriah.

Frank Marchiano leads the evangelism and discipleship ministries at Faith Bible Church. He joined the pastoral staff in March 2010. Frank has also served in church leadership as deacon, but sensed a calling to full time Christian ministry. Frank was ordained by Faith Bible in October 2006 and has functioned in a lay capacity here in the outreach ministry until his appointment to full time service. He and his wife Susan have two children and one grandchild.



Ministries of Faith Bible Church

"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." (Galatians 5:13, ESV)

Faith Bible Church is blessed with a heritage of ministries that build up the members of the church and also reach out to our community. All of these ministries are led by our members and designed to help us fulfill the Great Commandment (Mt. 22:37 "love one another") and the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19 "make disciples"). Asterisks ("*") mark ministries started within the last five years.

- Advanced Biblical Studies*
- Atlantic City Rescue Mission
- Bible Life Groups *
- CD/Sermon audio Ministry
- Children's Church AM/PM
- Church Web Site
- Cookie Exchange
- Faith in Action
- Food Pantry *
- Gopher's (4 & 5 year olds)
- Greeter Ministry *
- Higher Praise (Children's Choir) *
- Honey Bees (2 & 3 year olds)
- Infant Nursery
- Ladies Bible Study
- Ladies Retreat
- Lawn Cutting Ministry
- Meals for New Mom's
- Men's Breakfast
- Men's Ministry
- Men's Retreat/wilderness
- Mother/Daughter Banquet
- Olympians (1st to 5th Grade)
- Senior Adult Ministry
- Singles
- SS teachers (Children to Teens)
- Middle/High school Sunday School
- Toddler Nursery
- Ushers
- Veteran's Home Ministry*
- Stewardship
- Visitation/Shut-ins and sick
- Worship/Music



Olympians 2011



Living Christmas Tree

Capturing the Present

Missionaries



Missions

Even early on, the church was focused on missions. According to FBC minutes, missionary support was set at 10% of the offering. "My cousin Donny went to be a missionary to Ethiopia. While he was home, my father talked him into helping with the addition too." Dorothy Bowser notes in "The History of Faith Bible Church" that our church has a number of homegrown missionaries. "Some of those members are: Miriam May McDonald, Donald & Florence Perkins, Alice Lowman, Jack and Eleanor Murray, Joseph Hutton, Paul & Liz Liebert, Clarence & Irene Kutz." Some of the more current missionaries from FBC: Jeanne King (nee Rose) is serving with her husband, Kevin, with World Team. Mark & Angie are serving in the Middle East and Tim and Jill (nee Losch) Reber are serving in Kenya.



Jonel & Eunice Arcedera	Philippines
Alex & Sherri Belmar	Argentina
Bill & Denise Braun	Russia
Dave & Mary Ann Cox	Brazil
Steve & Mirian Cox	Brazil
Jeff & Deanne Davoll	Ecuador
John & Dawn Fogle	Philippines
Paul & Sonya Gale	Brazil
Eric & Shirley Hossack	France
Yoshito Kato	Japan
Kazu & Amy Kato	Japan
Kevin & Jeanne King	USA
Dave & Sheryl Lundin	USA
Scott & Sharon MacLean	Italy
Jonas & Beth Menezes	Brazil
Tim & Jill Reber	Kenya
Harold & Debra Reimer	Brazil
Mark & Jennifer Rubin	Chile
Ron & Kim Smith	USA
John & Glenna Schegel	Spain
David & Ximena Vasconez	Ecuador
Peter & Bette Verkaik	Nigeria
Jon & Kristi	Limited Access
Mark & Angie	Limited Access

Challenge for the Future



It is an honor to be serving as your pastor as Faith Bible Church celebrates its 75th anniversary. Our celebration theme of "Heritage and Vision" encourages us because the struggles of the past were overcome through faith in God. There are troubling events taking place in our world, and we do not know how much longer it will be until Jesus returns. With saints of all generations, *"we eagerly await a Savior from (heaven), the Lord Jesus Christ"* (Philippians 2:13).

We wait and pray for the Lord's return. At the same time we strive to contend together for the gospel (Philippians 1:27). Our goals for the future are to continue to build upon the foundation of the past. We want to be an evangelistic church, characterized by grace as we serve one another in love. The new challenges of our day will demand new attitudes and new ministries to meet those challenges. Should the Lord tarry, the next 25 years will include new members, new leaders and new pastors to shepherd God's flock. We can rejoice that the message remains the same—Jesus Christ, crucified, risen and coming again!

Future leaders of Faith Bible Church. Where will they be in 25 years?



What is your hope for the church as we look forward 25 years to the 100th Anniversary?

Herb Perkins: "I hope it will be going strong in the Lord."

Carmella Perkins: "I think the church is doing a wonderful job. I hope that many of our young people will grow up to be missionaries and to love the Lord."

Max Hunt: "I hope we have a gym full of kids and they're preaching the gospel-- that it is an outreach into the neighborhood. We've been blessed. This is a unique place; a good mix of people who want to serve God first."

Carol Hunt: "I hope to see the church continue to grow with maturing believers. This is a life ministry, through thick and thin, through trials and difficulties. Pastors come and go; people come and go. It has been great to see how God has been so faithful as His Word has been preached."

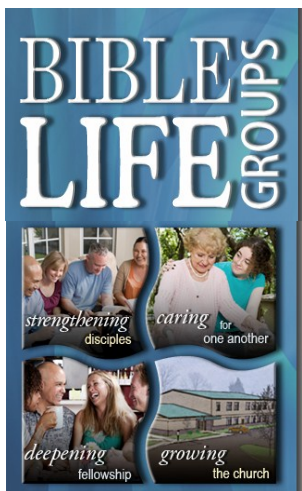
Bob Thibault: "With the influence of the world, it is difficult for kids to embrace doctrine. But I want kids to be consistent, generation after generation-- that our homegrown kids become the next generation of leaders in the church."

Enedia Thibault: "Yes, the passing of the torch-- for them to become champions for Christ."

Capturing the Present (continued from p. 4)

By Pastor Paul Barreca

The gospel of Jesus is the foundation of our ministry. This gospel has not changed! *"By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you."* (1 Cor. 15:2).



Our calling as a local church is to proclaim the timeless gospel to a changing culture. This is the challenge of our day!

Faith Bible Church is flourishing in God's Grace as we celebrate our 75th anniversary. We

sense God's blessings through lives that are changed, and opportunities to serve one another. In 2011, the Lord blessed us with the completion of the Family Life Center. Just one year after moving in, 85% of the project is paid.

While our new building was being built, our ministries were also being strengthened. Bible Life Groups were initiated for member care and a food pantry was started.



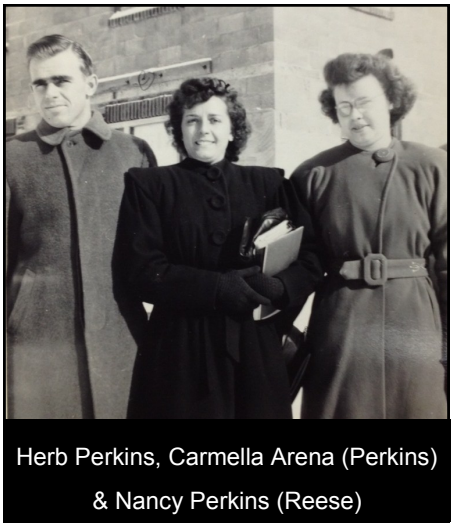
Special thanks to our "Heritage & Vision" committee: Dorothy Bowser, Louisa Carll, Stephanie Farrell, Durley & Freida Felder, Anthony & Cathy Giovinazzi and Donna Piatt.



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Many thanks to Herb and Carmella Perkins, Albert Snell, and Max and Carol Hunt for providing their memories. Special thanks also to Dorothy Bowser for collecting material from many others and whose research paper on the church, along with her late husband's George, was an invaluable resource.



Herb Perkins, Carmella Arena (Perkins) & Nancy Perkins (Reese)