

NEXT STEPS



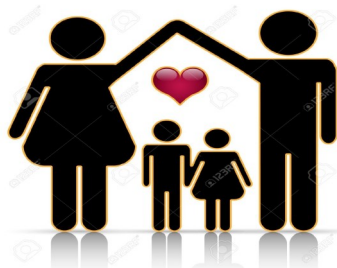
Begin Your Journey with Faith Arlington



First Things First

Our Mission:

The mission of Faith Arlington Church is to love God and glorify Him through the teaching of His Word, intentional disciple making, effective evangelism, and authentic worship. We are committed followers of Jesus Christ who worship together, build relationships, and serve our community.



Leadership:

Faith Arlington is an autonomous church working alongside other like-minded churches operating under the lordship of Jesus Christ. We voluntarily cooperate with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Staff:

The staff is comprised of a Lead Teaching Pastor, a Connection Pastor, a Student Minister, a Children's Director, and an Mother's Day Out Director. The staff prays and works together to discover God's leading for future ministry opportunities of the church. We are pastor led, deacon served, and congregationally approved.

Our church bylaws are found online on our website fbachurch.org under the "About Us" tab. They are available to all. The bylaws are not Scripture but work to explain the structure in place to assist the Pastor as he leads.

Teams:

The role of the teams (Finance, Personnel, Bylaws, Building & Grounds, and Nominating) is to assist, encourage, and implement the vision as given by our lead pastor. All teams are still Pastor led.

Deacons:

Faith Arlington has active servant leaders known as deacons. Deacons faithfully serve the church in fulfilling its calling and assist the staff to implement God's vision for the church.

Trustees:

The Trustees assist the lead Pastor in guiding the church in areas of purchases, i.e. land, buildings, moves, etc.

Accomplishing everything God wants to do through Faith Arlington requires the servant leadership of a strong, committed group of **ministry partners**. We are thankful for those already serving here, and we are thankful that you would consider joining the ministry here at Faith Arlington.

Core Beliefs:

The LIFE purpose of the church is to lead people to:

1. Love God through Worship.
2. Invest in relationships through small groups.
3. Focus on others through serving in ministry
4. Engage our culture by being on mission with GOD.

The foundation of these purposes and the Christian faith are what we call Core Beliefs. They are as follows:

God:

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; 3:22; Psalms 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2;
2 Corinthians 13:14

Man:

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates man from God.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2

Eternal Security:

Because God gives man eternal life through Jesus Christ, the believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives this security.

John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25, 10:10-14; 1 Peter 1:3-5

The Holy Spirit:

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under His control daily.

2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13 & 14:16-17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12 & 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:18

The Ordinances:

We believe Christ instituted the ordinances of the church, which are immersion water baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Baptism:

We believe that water baptism does not merit salvation. Individuals should be baptized, by immersion, after they have trusted Christ, as an outward symbol of their identification with Christ and His Body, the Church.

Matthew 28:16-20; Romans 6:3-7

The Lord's Supper:

We believe the Lord's Supper is a commemoration of Jesus' death until He comes again; the elements being used as emblems of His Body and Blood. The Lord's Supper is open to all self-examined believers regardless of church affiliation.

1 Corinthians 11:23-34

The Bible:

The Bible is God's Word to all men. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because the Bible is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error.

2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalms 119:105,160 & 12:6; Proverbs 30:5

The Church:

We believe the church is the body and bride of Christ. It is the spiritual organism and Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church. The universal Church consists of all who have put their faith in Jesus Christ from the day of Pentecost until the present. We further believe the local church is an assembly of professed believers in Jesus Christ who are voluntarily joined together in one locality for the purposes of worship, study and practice of the Word of God, observance of the ordinances, Christian fellowship, and equipping believers for Christian service, especially to carry our Christ's Great Commission.

Colossians 1:18, 28-29; Ephesians 3:8-10, 4:4-16; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2, 12:13; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Matthew 5:13-16, 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Acts 1:8, 2:42-47;
1 Thessalonians 2:8-9

HOW DOES ONE CONNECT AT FAITH ARLINGTON?

Faith Arlington has designed its ministries to fulfill the biblical calling to move people from Believer to Disciples to Disciple makers, (Matthew 28:18-20) and to take the gospel across the street and around the world. With this purpose in mind, we have established LIFE steps so everyone will know the core structure of the church, which will be a benefit to the individual and the church as a whole. When you have a clear direction and focus, you have the opportunity to prioritize your life to accomplish those priorities. LIFE steps are comprised of four elements designed to connect each member to grow in their relationship with God and others, as well as providing opportunities to use our God given gifts, passion, experiences, and calling to serve others within and outside the church.

Step 1: Loving God through Worship

The initial step begins with our individual relationship with God and asks us to prioritize our time to attend a worship service each week. Loving God through worship is not only a benefit to each individual, but it is also a public message that God is worthy of our praise and we love to make Him known. We encourage you to commit to faithfully attend our worship services and see how God speaks to you each week through the service.

Step 2: Investing in Relationships through Home Groups:

While worship is important, the second step is extremely important as well, because our relationship with others is vitally important to live a healthy life together. Home groups provide the opportunity to develop relationships that will last a life-time and allow us to minister to others in difficult times, as well as be ministered to in our time of need (Acts 2:46-47). Home groups not only develop relationship with people, but also invest in our relationship with God as we discuss the scripture and sermon preached by our Pastor. Practical applications and knowing the vision of Faith Arlington is essential to the foundation of all we do.

Step: 3: Focusing on Others through Service:

The third step is designed to utilize your gifting, experiences, and talents to "focus on others" through service. It is a biblical principle that God has designed and gifted us to show and share the love of Christ by serving others. If God created us to serve others, we will not be fulfilled in life until we are doing what we were created to do, and that is glorify God through serving others.

Step 4: Equipping to Lead:

The fourth step involves equipping ourselves with the tools we need to engage our culture with things like fivevoices.com, Faith walk., natural church developments, spiritual gifts, personal style, Ministry Assessment.

There are four core classes that we ask all ministry partners to complete:

BELIEVE * PRACTICE * LIVE * LEAD

These core skills prepare each ministry to partner to go into the world equipped with knowledge and skills that enable him or her to witness for Christ and accurately represent Jesus no matter the location or situation.

Please answer the following questions and give to a staff member or deacon:

FOCUS on serving other through the following:

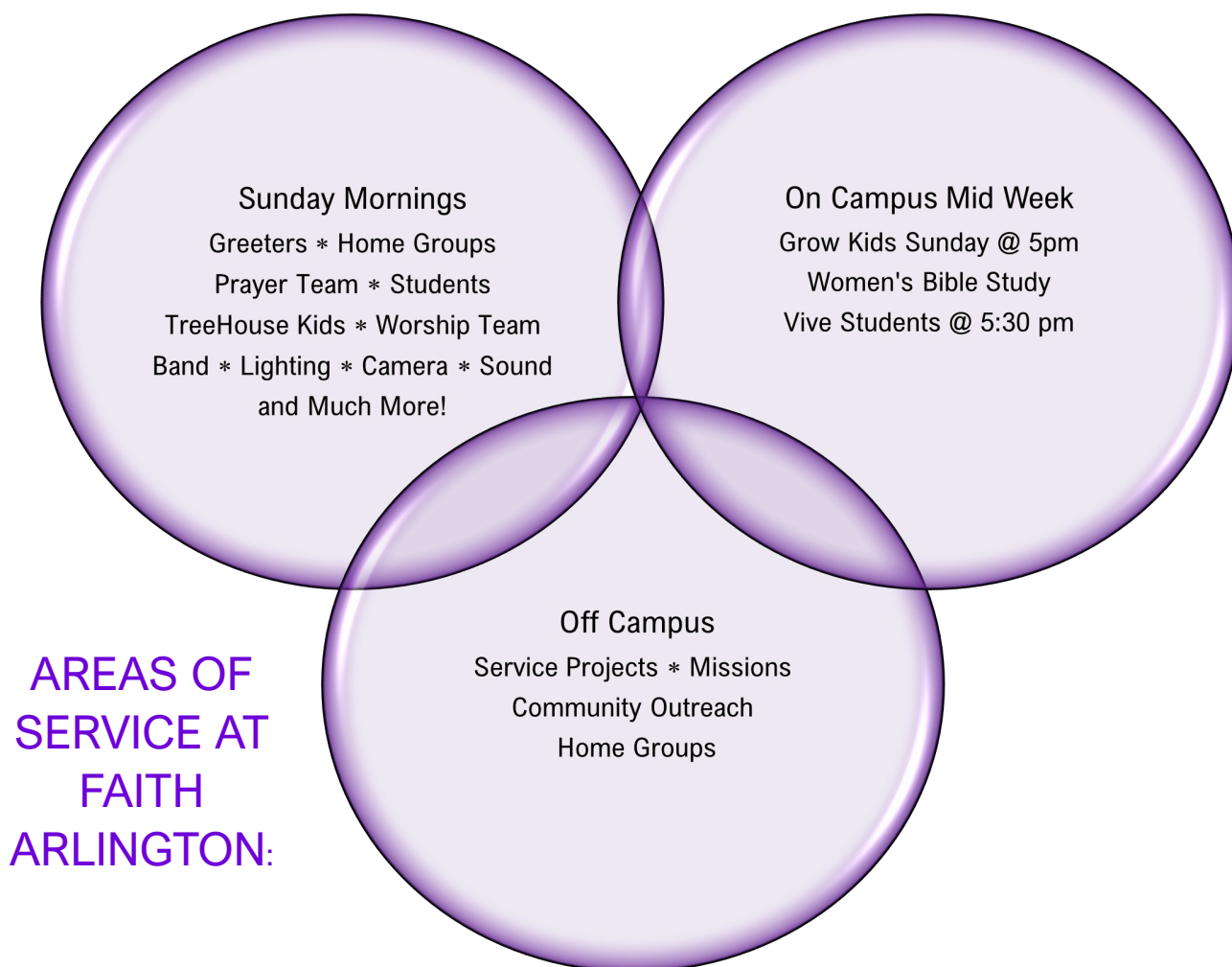
- * What have you done in your past ministries in which you have served?

- * What would you like to do?

- * How are you gifted?

- * What needs do you see around you?

- * What do you love to do?



BECOMING A MINISTRY PARTNER:

There's nothing magical about becoming a ministry partner at Faith Arlington but it is important to understand what that really means. Your church staff wants to get to know you. Ministry partner cards are available on top of the offering boxes in the worship center. Just fill one out and drop in the box or give to a staff member or Deacon.

Faith Arlington believes that membership is a two-way street, a partnership. Certain things are expected of its ministry partners, and they should count on certain things from Faith Arlington in return.

We need committed Ministry Partners to serve in cooperation with other believers in order to accomplish the purposes of Faith Arlington.

Ministry Partners should expect the following from Faith Arlington:

1. Spirit-filled worship services, encountering God through music and His Word
2. Experience community through Home Groups
3. To be equipped to serve through Biblical, sermon based Home Groups.
4. Opportunities to multiply one's ministry by using unique gifts and passions to impact others.
5. Examples, experiences, environments, encouragement and equipping that lead to our becoming more like Christ.

Faith Arlington expects the following from our Ministry Partners:

1. Faithful attendance of our worship service
2. Investment in a Home Group community through active, engaged participation
3. Owning your own Spiritual growth by being intentional in your relationship with Christ
4. Taking primary responsibility of your children's spiritual growth- Our children's ministry will assist, equip and encourage but not be a substitute for Godly parents.
5. Usage of your Spiritual gifts and passions to actively serve within the body of the Faith Arlington and in the greater Memphis community
6. Investing generously through your finances, time, talents and prayers to further the vision of Faith Arlington
7. Preserving the unity of the Spirit by seeking others' interests above your own, resolving conflict Biblically as identified in Matthew 18:15-17.
8. Supporting the church's vision and submitting to the leadership of Faith Arlington.

NEXT STEPS:

If you would like to become a Ministry Partner of Faith Arlington, the next steps are as follows:

- * Complete and sign the Membership Statement and Decision Card.
- * Participate in a Next Step interview with a church leader, which will include topics such as...
 - Your story
 - Your beliefs
 - Your baptism story
 - Your agreement with church practices and authority
 - Your opportunity to ask questions

At the conclusion of *Next Steps*, you will be given the opportunity to take these steps or choose to postpone your decision until you have prayerfully examined this commitment. Please inform us of your decision by contacting the church office at 901-867-9111, or hahn@fbachurch.org.

ENTRY POINTS INTO FAITH ARLINGTON:

- The Worship Service
- *Next Steps* class
- Becoming a Christian
- A special event
- A Home Group



MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT:

Briefly explain when and how you became a Christian. Use the back if needed.

Have you made a public profession of faith through immersion baptism after salvation? If so, when and where?

Do you have any unresolved conflict in the church that you previously attended? If so, please explain.

I would like to explore the following ways to serve at Faith Arlington:

As a Ministry Partner at Faith Arlington, I commit to the following:

1. Faithful attendance of our worship service
2. Investment in a Home Group community
3. Owning my own Spiritual growth by being intentional in my relationship with Christ
4. Taking primary responsibility of my children's Spiritual growth
5. Using my Spiritual gifts and passions to actively serve within the body of Faith Arlington and in the greater Memphis community
6. Investing generously through my finances, time, talents, and prayers to further the vision of Faith Arlington
7. Preserving the unity of the Spirit by seeking others' interests above your own, resolving conflict Biblically as identified in Matthew 18:15-17, supporting the church's vision and submitting to the leadership of the Pastor and Staff.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Please return this sheet and your completed Decision Card to a staff member to request becoming a Ministry Partner of Faith Arlington. Welcome!

STAFF



Brian Carlisle

Lead Pastor | Carlisle@fbachurch.org

Brian provides leadership and oversees casting, vision, and direction. He gives leadership to all teams. We are Pastor led.

David Smith

Connection Pastor | Smith@fbachurch.org

David serves as associate Pastor and works with our adult home groups, business and facilities operations. He oversees the ministry efforts and teams.

Andrew Fortner

Student Pastor | Fortner@fbachurch.org

Andrew provides leadership to our middle and high school students (6th-12th grades) by coordinating volunteers, overseeing groups, and planning the mid-week student services.

Jeff and Hannah Gafford

Worship Leaders | Gafford@fbachurch.org

Jeff and Hannah direct the worship ministry of our church. They oversee the worship team and A/V teams who lead us in song each Sunday.

Jenny Creasy

Children's Director | Creasy@fbachurch.org

Jenny gives leadership to the children's ministry (birth-5th grade) by coordinating volunteers for all Sunday morning and GROW services, as well as all children's events & special family events.

Laura Horner

MDO Director | Horner@fbachurch.org

Laura gives leadership to our Mother's Day Out program by leading, planning and coordinating all teachers and curriculum used.

Janet Harvill

Financial Secretary | bookkeeper@fbachurch.org

Janet maintains the financial records and accounts for expenses and income.

Heather Hahn

Ministry Assistant | Hahn@fbachurch.org

Heather is our ministry assistant. She serves the pastors of the church. She also serves as the church receptionist.