

What Is Faith Encouragement Ministries?

Faith Encouragement Ministries programs are renewal programs for a church. The Renewal Weekend is typically held at a church with programs for everyone – adults, teens, and children – to encourage God’s people in their faith journey as they reflect on their own relationship with God. There are two major programs under the Faith Encouragement Ministries: *Faith Alive* and *Faith Journey*.

Faith Encouragement Ministries is kept alive by the donations from churches and supporters whose lives have been impacted by a previous program. It is through those faithful churches, foundations, individuals, and families that we are able to provide the renewal programs for other churches.

Faith Alive

The Faith Alive program is the classic, standard program that has been delivered successfully for over 40 years. The following is a quick visual reference to the typical events of a Faith Alive weekend.

Day <i>Time of Day</i>			
Thursday	Thursday Event		
<i>Night</i>	24-hour Prayer Vigil begins		
Friday	Friday Events		
<i>Evening</i>	Church-wide Meal		
<i>Night</i>	Adult Program	Teen Program	Children’s Program
Saturday	Saturday Events		
<i>Morning</i>	Neighborhood Groups	Teen Program	Children’s Program
<i>Noon</i>	Women Lunch and Program	Teen Lunch and Program	Children Lunch and Program
	Men Lunch and Program		
<i>Afternoon</i>	Visitation (optional)	Teen Activity	
<i>Evening</i>	Church-wide Meal		
<i>Night</i>	Adult Program	Teen Program	Children’s Program
Sunday	Sunday Events		
<i>Morning</i>	Church services		
<i>Lunchtime</i>	Church Feedback and Evaluation		

CONTACT US!

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MORE INFORMATION ON THE WEB:

faithencourage.org

Overview

Faith Alive is a weekend retreat held at the church. There are programs for adults, teens, and children. All of God's people gather to sing, pray, worship, and share in God's love. While the overall schedules for weekends are similar, the specific schedule times are adjusted as needed for the church.

The preparations, prayer, and planning begins six to nine months before the actual weekend itself. The church's General Chairperson and the Faith Alive Weekend Coordinator work closely with all the church committees to prepare for the weekend.

The Faith Alive Weekend Coordinator identifies the visiting team members who are hosted in church members' homes. These volunteers from other churches throughout the US travel at their own expense. Specially trained coordinators lead the Children's and Teens' Programs. Donations help pay their travel expenses.

The following gives you a general idea of what you might expect at a Faith Alive weekend.

Thursday

The weekend begins with a 24-hour prayer vigil at the church Thursday evening.

Friday

Friday night kicks off with a church-wide dinner, and then the children and teens leave for their programs. The adults sing, pray, hear stories of faith from the visiting team, and break into small groups.

Saturday

Saturday begins with the adults meeting in neighborhood groups in church members' homes. The groups, led by visiting team members, reflect on what God has done and is doing in their lives. Afterwards, the adults gather for the men's and women's lunches and programs. The late afternoon provides time for visiting a local facility where the church has an established relationship.

The children and teens each have their own programs on Saturday morning and afternoon where they participate in songs, fun, crafts, and prayer. They, too, enjoy a provided lunch. The teens usually have an activity in the late afternoon.

Saturday evening has another church-wide dinner. The program may begin with the children presenting a skit or song followed by a skit or song by the teens. The children leave, and the teen witness speaks. After the teens leave for their program, the adults continue with prayer, singing, witnessing by the visiting team, and small groups to reflect on our spiritual journey.

Sunday

The Sunday church service brings the whole weekend together so that even those who may not have participated in any of the events are included. The visiting team leaves at the end of the service, and the church members gather to reflect on what the weekend meant for them and what they would like to see as next steps.