

# DEAF FELLOWSHIP



Lloyd Lindley and Dale Withrow of the Deaf Fellowship Men's Bible Study Group

## HOW WE ARE SUPPORTING THE VISION AND MISSION OF FCOB

The Deaf Fellowship at FCOB is a congregation of Deaf people and their families seeking to reach the Mid-Maryland Deaf community with the good news of Jesus Christ. It is our aim to see unbelieving Deaf people become committed followers of Jesus Christ by: Connecting (with God through His Word and prayer); Growing (to maturity as a com-

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### Men's Bible Study

On Sunday nights, from 6pm to 8pm, while the youth ministry is in full swing downstairs, you will also find a group of men gathering to do a Bible study - in American Sign Language (ASL). For many years, it was difficult to set up and maintain a Deaf men's Bible study due to many factors: family obligations, children's sporting events, and long hours on the job (many of the men in Deaf Fellowship work in D.C. or Virginia). In 2015, after much discussion, it was given another try: Having a Deaf Men's Bible Study on SUNDAY nights - a day of the week where sporting events and job obligations were not an issue. Several men signed up and two years later, the Deaf Fellowship Men's Bible study is still going strong! For most of the men, the draw to study God's Word together on Sunday nights was because they would be with other Deaf men who desired to grow in their walks with Christ, and because with ASL, they could really dig in and understand what Scriptures were trying to teach. "I enjoy being sharpened by other men with God's Word, and to see each of us grow deeper in our thinking," said Dale Withrow, one of the Bible study

members. "Every day, there are always questions for God and every day, we find that we may not get all the answers we want. That's okay. We have learned that we are not alone and that we truly find that we can trust in God," stated Daryl Frelich, another member. When asked how the Bible study group has helped them grow in Christ, as well as in their lives, Tim Vogeler replied, "It amazes me how sometimes the Bible verses are seen by each member of the class. Every week, I leave the class with a different insight on what we learned." And when asked what they liked about the Sunday Nights Deaf Men's Bible study, Lloyd Lindley responded, "I'm always looking forward to going. You just never know what's going to happen!" Daryl added, "And it's funny, how we continue to sit in the same chairs each week for the last two years. Peter, Tim, Dale, myself, and Lloyd. And how we watch each other, anticipating every move we make. It's a whole lotta fun."

- 7 Deaf Community DIY workshops hosted with over 60 participants
- New Tuesday mornings devotion group for Maryland School for the Deaf teachers
- 2 Adult Deaf Bible Sunday School classes on Sunday mornings
- Nearly \$1,200 raised at the Deaf Fellowship Global Missions Car Wash

- 2 Deaf ABRO children hosted
- Improvements to the overflow room to accommodate families during worship
- Kick-off of *DeafLight*, a video ministry
- 767 plays in 23 different countries of online ministry *Word Without Walls*, where Deaf Fellowship sermons can be viewed via Vimeo