

## **GOLDEN KIWANIS SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT - November 14, 2013**

Support to Fellowship of Christian Athletics (FCA) over the years . . . Thank You!

- FCA HISTORY**
- 1954 A coach at Oklahoma University began FCA.
- 1956 The first FCA camp was held at Estes Park, Colorado.
- 1960's FCA camps spread across the nation with FCA introduced in MN.
- 1964 FCA, an organization for high school boys, began in Alexandria by Coach John Gustafson, Jefferson High School (JHS) teacher.
- 1967 Ed Christopherson came to Alexandria as a teacher and joined FCA.
- 1970's Early in 1970's girls began involvement in FCA.
- 1971 -1999 Ed Christopherson took over the FCA leadership after John Gustafson left to pursue doctoral studies in 1971. Ed continued the weekly huddle meetings in homes or school sites and participation in summer FCA sport camps.
- 1996 -2003 – Ed Christopherson served on NW Minnesota FCA staff, and also continued with leadership in Alex FCA 1996-1999.
- 1999 -2013 Various individuals led Alex FCA: Deb Anderson, Lee Backhaus, Rick Lenarz, and Tim Urness. Current leaders are Deanne Novotny, Gerry Hoelscher, Jay Jenson, Mark Jenson and others. FCA has expanded into the junior high school and hockey areas.
- FCA HUDDLES**
- 1964 – 2013 Bible Studies for athletes and other students meet weekly in homes, or school sites with attendance from 10 – 80.
- FCA CAMPS**
- Sport camps (for almost every sport) for junior and senior Alex campers have been located at various sites within the US, including midwest campuses. Over the years it is estimated that 1500 or more Alex FCA campers have attended. The camps consist of specific athletic instruction and activity, daily chapel, and small group study and fellowship, called "huddles". Annually five to six students also attend leadership camp to develop local FCA leaders.
- FUND RAISING**
- Annual events with community involvement, such as the Jog-a-thon (now replaced with 5 K and Family Fun Run), a golf tournament, service club gifts, private gifts and church donations support a yearly budget of \$10-20,000.
- FCA BOARD**
- The FCA board meets at least monthly to plan and review FCA decisions.
- FCA EVENTS**
- FCA sponsors community holiday breakfasts or lunches with speakers and music at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter with 100 -300 students, parents and school staff attending. The total number exceeds 100 events in the last 35 years.
- UPCOMING EVENTS**
- THANKSGIVING NOON LUNCHEON**, November 27, at Broadway Ball Room  
Speaker: Brock Wood, Alexandria Student Athlete (Graduated). Free will offering.

**ALL INVITED!**