

## FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES





# The Ultimate Impact

grew up attending a small country church in South Carolina. In church at least three times a week, I learned a lot of the Bible, but unfortunately it was in my head and not my heart. When I was 17 years old, my Green Sea Floyds High School coach, Tim Renfrow, invited me to FCA Camp at Black Mountain, North Carolina. There, Philadelphia Eagles defensive end Reggie White gave a presentation about having a relationship with Christ, something I immediately

knew I didn't have. I accepted Christ that Wednesday night, and my life has never been the same. Now I start every day in the Bible, along with a cup of coffee. God's Word isn't just something I know about; it's transforming my heart and mind.

"Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God truly righteous and holy," (Ephesians 4:22-24).

Today, millions of coaches and athletes will step onto a track, mat, court, field or other sporting stage to compete. Some of them may be like I was—they grew up in church, but they don't yet have a personal relationship with God. Others may have never heard the name Jesus Christ. And some may have accepted Him, but they don't have anyone discipling them. This is why FCA exists. We have staff and volunteer leaders all over the world who are sharing the Gospel to make disciples who become disciple-makers.

Our 2021 theme is PURSUE, and together with you, we are in pursuit of seeing coaches and athletes transformed by Christ. How do we know if we're hitting the mark? In some ways, we look at the numbers. We keep careful records about things like how many Bibles are distributed; how many FCA Camps and Huddles are hosted; and how many faith decisions get made so we can steward our resources and gain insight into how God's moving us forward. But we know that numbers don't tell the whole story. It's the stories we hear every day, like those you'll read in this publication, that testify to God's movement throughout FCA.

Someone just like you gave a scholarship that sent me to FCA Camp in 1986 where I became a follower of Christ. I wouldn't be the father, husband, coach and leader I am today if not for that investment and this ministry. I pray every day that more coaches and athletes will come to know Christ, grow in Christ and help others do the same. Thank you for your prayers and investment. Together, we are bringing Jesus to the next generation.

Shane Williamson President/CEO



# VISION

To see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.

# **MISSION**

To lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.



# VALUES

Our relationships will demonstrate steadfast commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word through Integrity, Serving, Teamwork and Excellence.

## **INTEGRITY**

Proverbs 11:3

We will demonstrate Christ-like wholeness, privately and publicly.

# SERVING

John 13:1-17 We will model Jesus' example of serving.

# TEAMWORK

**Philippians 2:1-4** We will express our unity in Christ in all our relationships.

# EXCELLENCE

**Colossians 3:23-24** We will honor and glorify God in all we do.

# **STRATEGY TO AND THROUGH THE COACH**

We pursue our vision and mission through the strategy of ministering "To and Through the Coach." We seek ministry first to coaches' hearts, marriages and families. Then, when ready, we minister through coaches to their fellow coaches, teams and athlete leaders.

# **METHODS**

As FCA matures, we seek to make disciples through our methods of engaging, equipping and empowering coaches and athletes to know and grow in Christ, and lead others to do the same.





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See what FCA is all about! WATCH: links.fca.org/fcavid

## ENGAGE

### 1 Thessalonians 2:8

We engage relationally by connecting with individuals and through events in many different environments by building genuine trust, sharing our lives and sharing the Gospel. We strive to connect with coaches and athletes where they are on their spiritual journey.

# EQUIP

### **Ephesians 4:12**

After cultivating relationships and once coaches and athletes come to faith in Christ, we want to equip them with Christ-centered training, events, resources and ongoing support in what it means to be a follower of Christ, growing in God's Word and applying it to life.

## **EMPOWER** -

### 2 Timothy 2:2

Once equipped, we empower faithful leaders who desire to use their time, talents and treasures to help other coaches and athletes experience the Gospel, grow in their faith and share Christ with others. We desire to develop disciples who make disciples, assisting them so they can in turn engage, equip and empower others to know and grow in Christ, and lead others to do the same.

A YEAR OF BURSUE

> "PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND A GODLY LIFE, ALONG WITH FAITH, LOVE, PERSEVERANCE AND GENTLENESS." 1 TIMOTHY 6:11

ach year, FCA executive leadership comes to the table to pray, share what coaches and athletes are experiencing, and offer ideas about the ministry's focus for the year ahead. This process often leads to FCA's next annual ministry theme—a word or phrase and key verse that Team FCA rallies around all year.

In 2019, our theme of "Let's Go!" encouraged coaches and athletes to fulfill the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20. In 2020, we focused on 100% and challenged one another to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30).

Throughout 2021, we have focused on the theme PURSUE, which comes from 1 Timothy 6:11 where Paul encourages Timothy: "Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance and gentleness."

Our prayer has been that coaches and athletes will move from uncertainty to confidence as they've pursued Jesus this past year. To narrow our pursuit, we've rallied around four key themes: Pursue Truth, Pursue Life, Pursue Team and Pursue Mission.

### **PURSUE TRUTH**

As we kicked off our year, we focused on encouraging coaches and athletes to pursue truth. We know truth tries to enter our lives using many forms, people and ideas, but we wanted to point coaches and athletes to the One who calls us by name and shows us how truth comes to life.



"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me," (John 14:6).

We challenged coaches and athletes to dig into God's Word by distributing Bibles, sharing verses on social media, resourcing Huddles with Bible study content and more. We also encouraged everyone to sign up for our Daily Impact Play—a morning devotional emailed seven days a week, which has seen a 31% growth in subscribers this past year.

#### **PURSUE LIFE**

Part of encouraging coaches and athletes to pursue life involved teaching them to open their hearts to God. We know competitors are wired for life on the field, but they also need an eternal focus. They need to be discipled in how to savor the rich and satisfying life Christ came to give, and how to face the enemy of our souls who wants to keep us from experiencing God's best for our lives.

"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life," (John 10:10).

We asked coaches and athletes to consider where their hearts were focused and if their lives were headed in the right direction. To help them walk with Jesus, we offered resources like The CORE, eight easy steps for strengthening faith; and we introduced a miniseries on YouTube called Sport Swap where FCA staff join athletes and coaches from their community for a funny competition outside of comfort zones.



### **PURSUE TEAM**

Camp season brought the opportunity to pursue team. The Christian life isn't meant to be lived alone: Iron sharpens iron, and we need each other. Not only do we need teammates who specialize in our individual

It takes us where we need to go.

sports, we need a spiritual team as well. Disciples making disciples is how we grow.

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near," (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Throughout camps and beyond, we asked coaches and athletes about the spiritual coaches in their lives and whom they need on their teams. We also challenged them to consider whom to raise up and mentor, and who can keep them accountable.

FCA's Huddles, 1-on-1s and Camps offer many avenues for coaches and athletes to build their teams, both spiritually and athletically. FCA staff have been called to serve inside of local communities and walk out spiritual journeys with coaches and athletes.



**fca\_nmtn** Lives are being radically changed at boys Captain's Camp! @brookstill brought a strong word and many young men came forward!

If you want to know why we do what we do...it's for the guys and girls this week that have made life changing decisions! To God be the glory!

#### #NMTNFCA #FCAPursue #TeamFCA #21CaptainsCamp





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thefcateam FCA Pursue Camps are in full swing.

You know what that means, 1000's of athletes and coaches are making decisions that will forever impact them and those around them for Christ.

### **PURSUE MISSION**

Now we are looking toward our final months of PURSUE, and we're focused on mission. We believe God has put a unique calling into each person's life. We're exploring how to trust, prepare for and commit to the mission.

"So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless," (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Pursuing mission isn't only for coaches and athletes, it's for everyone on Team FCA, which includes you—our supporters.

As a faithful financial partner, you have already helped coaches and athletes pursue truth, life and team this past year. Would you help us pursue mission and support coaches and athletes as they discover God's bigger purpose for their lives?

Your giving helps position FCA to start 2022 with resources to strengthen our ministry. To submit a year-end gift online to support your local FCA or learn about non-cash ways of giving, visit my.fca.org.

Thank you for helping us support coaches and athletes as they pursue God's purpose in their lives.

# IMPACT THROUGH COACHING



**KE'SHA BLANTON** BASKETBALL · ROCHESTER HILLS, MICH.

Prayer has power. Through prayer, we change the world. Creating an open place for prayer with my team has led to profound impact. A praying coach is just as powerful as a praying mother. I pray for my players and hope to develop their minds and spirits in addition to their bodies.



### **DRAKE D. WOODARD** HS FOOTBALL · STERLING, VA.

The greatest football coaches empower young men to become great fathers, brothers, husbands, sons and citizens within their communities. My student-athletes learn compassion through community service, gratification for what being a Titan stands for and self-assurance in their capabilities.

## WE ASKED COACHES,

# "HOW DO YOU LEAD YOUR TEAM TO HAVE THE BIGGEST IMPACT?"



#### **ANNA BRAUN** VOLLEYBALL · ATLANTA

Galatians 2:20—It is a joy to share the good news and disciple through athletics. I hope my team feels the fruit of the Holy Spirit each day they're in the gym. I pray these young women have the drive to be their best, the confidence to share their faith and the discipline to nurture a personal relationship with the Lord.



## SIMÓN BARINAS

SOCCER · MADISON, MISS.

I lead my players by example, making sure they understand the value of hard work and how to overcome challenges. I want them to know our perfect Father will never forsake us. Even when the world doesn't seem fair, there is always a lesson to learn and an opportunity to glorify Him.



### **JOSH WOZNICKI** HS GOLF · PHOENIX

I first realize my daily need for Jesus to lead me. I seek His Kingdom and humbly ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit. I spend time in God's Word and pray for my team. Through God's Spirit and by His grace, I believe good fruit and tremendous impact will come.

# IMPACT THROUGH PLAYING



# JEREMY JITENDRAN

BASKETBALL · BURBANK, CALIF.

I lead by example. I am respectful of my coach, and I know my team's plays since I am a returning sophomore on my freshman/sophomore team. I help my coach push the freshmen to be the best players and people they can be.



## JORDYN BAHL

SOFTBALL · PAPILLION, NEB.

I show gratitude to everyone who has helped me pursue my goals and set a high bar. I give back to my community by helping younger softball players through lessons, camps and 1-on-1s. I want them to see that success takes a village, and their purpose goes far beyond the game.



WE ASKED ATHLETES,

# RIANE COMAN

"HOW DO YOU LEAD YOUR TEAMMATES

TO HAVE THE GREATEST IMPACT?"

I must come to a place of full surrender to the Lord before I lead others. Only then am I truly sensitive to the Spirit and able to lead by example into all that God has for me and my team.

### **DAN FRY** SWIMMING · NASSAU COUNTY, N.Y.

I hold myself to a high standard. As a Christian, I am called to spread the Word of God and help lead others to find their faith in Jesus. If my teammates see my life as an example of what a life with God can look like, they may pursue having a great impact on others.





### HANNAH FORDE TRACK AND FIELD · FRISCO, TEXAS

I work hard, whether it's on the track or in the weight room. I push myself through every rep and keep a Christ-like mindset. Above all, I keep God in everything I do because He helps me succeed. - ATHLETE VOICES

# **IMPACT THROUGH GIVING**

# WE ASKED DONORS, "HOW DO YOU HELP FCA PURSUE IMPACT?"

### **MARLISE FLANAGAN**

BOARD MEMBER & FORMER SALT COACH · WOODLAND, WASH.

FCA provides an incredible vehicle to fulfill the Great Commission—we go to schools, sports fields, gyms, classrooms, stadiums, lunchrooms and more. Coaches and athletes have a natural platform to influence others. I pray for the Holy Spirit to help us reach every coach and athlete in our areas of influence.



NADIA CASTAING BOARD MEMBER · UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI FCA

By collaborating and partnering with local FCA leaders, we advocate for and support their vision. I believe availability is key. Giving our time, talents and treasure makes a real difference. If we approach every interaction and opportunity through the lens of service, generosity multiplies the potential for lasting impact.



### **RANDY MATTHEWS** DONOR · LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

We all like to invest in something that guarantees a positive return on investment. FCA is one of those investments. My investment is very small compared to the large results. FCA constantly pursues coaches and athletes to impact their lives for eternity. I donate to several organizations, but I am most pleased to support FCA.





### **NORMAN ISAAC** BOARD CHAIRMAN · HYDERABAD, INDIA

I count it a privilege to support FCA and its quest to see India transformed. Jesus is at work in a mighty way through this ministry. FCA continues to impact through camps, Huddles, coaches ministry and Fields of Faith. We are not only reaching coaches and athletes, but we are helping churches reach their local communities.



MIKE KRUEGER DONOR & LEADERSHIP BOARD CHAIRMAN · SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

I am excited to encourage fellow donors to pursue Christ through experiencing what the Holy Spirit does in coaches and athletes by attending a Huddle or Fields of Faith event, or even spending time at FCA Camp. Seeing FCA in action can motivate you to volunteer in addition to sending financial support.

# HIGHLIGHTS





Holding fast to the FCA Vision and Mission, the number of FCA staff, international leaders and Huddles grew this year. FCA now has 2,314 staff and 383 international leaders serving 18,106 Huddles globally. The ministry continues to serve **106 countries**.



As a faith-funded ministry, we give thanks to the Lord for His provision. FCA received \$164 million\* in contribution revenue, a 20% growth from last year and 16% ahead of budget.

- The Automatic Monthly Partner (AMP) program reached \$50 million\* in revenue, a 17% increase over the prior year, and it made up 38% of FCA's total donors.
  - Through a partnership with YouVersion, FCA has published over 150 plans in 10 different languages and currently has more than 1.9 million subscriptions and over 1.1 million completions of its reading plans. FCA's average plan approval rating is 4.7/5.

The CORE is a simple, relevant resource to confidently journey with a new believer through eight core essentials of the Christian faith. To date, The CORE has sold over 30,234 copies.

The FOUR is FCA's Gospel presentation that helps competitors understand the truth of God's Word in four simple steps. This past year, The FOUR's website garnered 18,756 visitors.

FCA's Daily Impact Play devotional email saw a 31% growth in subscriptions. In the past year, FCA sent 12.7 million emails that received over 3 million opens.



FCA distributed over 208,624 Bibles in several ministry environments.

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For the first time, FCA created Bible studies designed for coaches, athletes and younger athletes based on the ministry's annual theme, PURSUE.



30,677 calls this past fiscal year and 17,052 tickets with 99% positive feedback.

- FCA created its own Athlete's Bible for the Christian competitor that includes Athlete Studies, Training Time Devos, Ice Breakers, The FOUR, The CORE and the E3 Discipleship Method.
  - FCA moved all of its training for staff and volunteers into a new online environment called FCA University (FCAU). The platform offers cultural context and options for staff whose primary language is not English and for those not based in the U.S.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes has 14 consecutive 4-Star top ratings from Charity Navigator, America's largest organization rating the fiscal management of charities. This puts FCA in the top 1% of all charities rated.





**16,838** 18,106

**Total Faith Decisions** 

Total Certified Huddles 16,428 · U.S. 1,678 · International

697 Total Number of Camps 457 · U.S. 240 · International

**57,613** Total Camper Attendance 43,054 · U.S. 14,559 · International

43 11,213 208,624 2,314 383 \$50.9 \$164.0 \$175.0

**Total Number of Fields of Faith Events** 

**Total Reached at Fields of Faith Events** 

**Total Bibles Distributed** 

Total Number of Staff

**Total Number of International Leaders** 

Total AMP Giving (\$ Million)

**Total Contribution Revenue (\$ Million)** 

Total Revenue (\$ Million)