

# Family Life

Bulletin of the Church of Christ in Falls Church, Virginia

Volume 47, Number 50

December 9, 2012



## Tune's Notes

I did some preaching in college, guest speaking at a number of congregations in western Kentucky. On one of those occasions, a group of fellow students from our Christian Student Center accompanied me.

During the hymn before I was to speak, one of the girls passed me a note. I looked at her. She smiled at me. I opened the note. It said simply "KISS." I looked back at her. She smiled at me.

It was probably the best sermon I had ever preached. Motivation helps.

Later, I walked up to her, took her hand and said: "Hey, thanks for the note."

She took her hand back and said: "You know it means "Keep It Simple Stupid," right?"

I had made the note much more complicated than it was.

Sometimes we do that with *Church*. We make it entirely too complicated.

Beginning January 6, there will be three adult Sunday morning classes: The Fellowship Hall class will study the Gospel of John. Kathy Koczanski will teach a Ladies' Class on the "Sermon on the Mount." I will lead a Men's Class entitled "Simple Church." Our discussion in this latter class will focus on readings from the book *Simple Church* by Thom Ranier and Eric Geiger. If you want to attend this class, you should do two things: (1) Sign up for the class either by sending me an email ([MikeTune@MikeTune.com](mailto:MikeTune@MikeTune.com)) or use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer. (2) Buy the book.

On January 30 I will send all the enrollees the first class handout based on chapter one of the reading. Prepare to discuss the subject matter by preparing your answers to the questions.

We begin in earnest January 6.

Whether it is this class or one of the others, I hope you will resolve to be a part of our Bible class program in 2013.

Love you all.

Mike



## Take Some Time to Reflect on Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,

a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

- Ecclesiastes 3:1-14 (NIV)

### Questions to Reflect On:

What are some of the seasons or times in our lives? How much control do we have over the seasons of our lives?

Why do you think the seasons of our lives change so often?

Where is God in the changing of our seasons?

How can we grow closer or farther away from God during the different seasons of our lives?

GRACE + PEACE  
*John B. L.*

# Christmas Events Coming Up

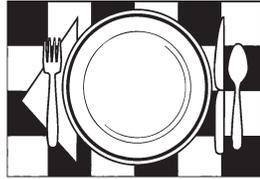
## To the Ladies of Falls Church:

You and your guests are invited to attend a **Ladies Christmas Brunch** at the church on Saturday, December 15. All you need to bring is your appetite.

Brunch will be served from 10 am to 12:30 pm in the fellowship hall. The food is being prepared by this year's hostesses, **Rachel Bowles, Melissa Collins, Leah Durant, Dorothy Eckert, Nikii Frank and Vickie Witt.**

Recipe booklets will be provided for all attendees. If you are unable to attend but would like a copy of the recipes, please contact **Rachel Bowles**, the coordinator for this event, and she will send you the recipes.

We look forward to seeing you there.



## BRUNCH

## Youth Ministry Family Pirate Christmas Party Set for Dec. 15

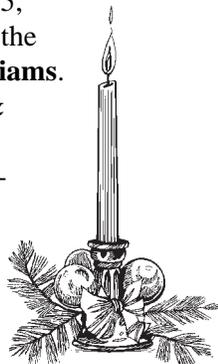
The Youth Ministry (grades 3-12) Family Pirate Christmas Party is coming up next Saturday, December 15, 6 to 8 pm. The families of the Kids for Christ and the Upper Room Teen Ministry are invited to gather at the building for a fun evening. There will be some pirate games, a treasure hunt and pirate/Christmas themed skits in a bag.



## Agape Group 2 To Have Christmas Party December 15

Agape Group 2 (Potomac Heights) will have its Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm at the home of the group leaders, **Jerry & Peggy Williams.** The group coordinators are **Mark & Staci Shannon.**

The "menu du jour" will be sandwiches, appetizers, fruit or veggie trays, chips & dips, and desserts. RSVP to **Peggy Williams.**



The **Ladies Bible Class** will have coffee & cookies instead of their usual potluck luncheon on Tuesday, December 11. It will take place after the class which meets at 10:15 am.

Following the coffee/cookie party, the LBC will dismiss for the year, to resume in January.



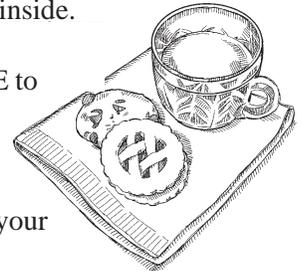
Women's Bible Study

## Prayer Sister Reveal Tea Set for December 16

All **Prayer Sisters** are invited to a **Cookie and Reveal Tea** on Sunday December 16, 4 to 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Please bring a small Christmas gift (not over \$5 value; may be homemade) for your Prayer Sister. Clearly put your Prayer Sister's name on the outside of the gift, and your name on the inside.

Cookies and drinks will be provided (but if you just LOVE to bake you may bring your own cookies to share). Enjoy face-to-face conversation and encouragement as you reveal your identity!



## Christmas Caroling to Shut-Ins Set for December 23

The Annual **Christmas Caroling** to Shut-Ins will be held Sunday December 23, from 2 to 4 pm. The more singers we get, the more people whom we can visit.

See **Bill or Mary Ann Kincaid** for further details. Music will be provided.



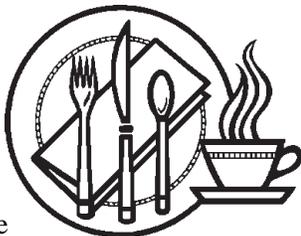
**Two of our Elders are available after the morning assembly, in room 221 on the main level, to meet with anyone who would like prayer for special concerns.**

## 2nd Sunday Fellowship Scheduled After This Evening's Service; Agape Groups 3 & 6 Are On Duty

The **2nd Sunday Fellowship** for this month is scheduled for this evening, Dec. 9. This will be a **Finger Food** event, with a Christmas theme.

Each family is asked to bring a tray of sandwiches and one of the following:

- ◆ a plate of veggies or fruit, with or without dip
- ◆ a tray of *hors d'oeuvres*
- ◆ a dessert, cut into bite-size pieces



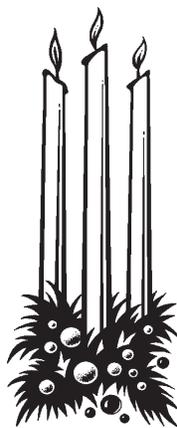
Agape Groups 3 and 6 are the "duty groups" for this event. **Group 3** is **Westfield Woods** under **Richard & Rachel Bowles**, with coordinators **Ann Ford** and **Amanda & Beni Venkatesan**. **Group 6** is **Potomac Acres** under **Vickie Witt**, with coordinators **Jackie & Jose Arevalo**. If you don't remember your Agape Group, see the list on the member board in the lobby.



The **Missions Committee** will meet after the fellowship dinner.

## Annual Rainbow "Christmas Card" Collection Continues to Dec. 16

The collection for the annual Falls Church/Rainbow Christian Services Greeting Card continues today and through next Sunday, Dec. 16.



The "Card" will be published in the December 23 issue of *Family Life*. Collectors are **Sally Dasher** and **Lynda Eubank**. Cash is acceptable, while checks should be made out to Rainbow Christian Services.

Greeting cards have become an integral part of holiday celebrations, as we let our friends, old and new, know we're thinking of them. Here at Falls Church, we send those greetings, while also directing those funds to a worthy cause. **Rainbow Christian Services** is a Church of Christ organization which provides counseling to families in distress.

## Special Collection for Hurricane Sandy Victim Relief Today

A special collection will be taken today for victims of Hurricane Sandy, according to **Steve Dasher**, Elder. "While we recognize that this is a season of unusual expenses, we also believe that this is a season of giving," Steve said. He added, "This congregation has a long history of bountiful giving to the Lord and for others in need. This is one more opportunity to demonstrate our generosity."



Falls Church minister

**Mike Tune** highlighted disaster relief services in his *Family Life* column last week. Noting that there are several relief organizations, Steve observed that "Recovery from this storm will take many months and there is a great need to assist those victims who need shelter, food, clothing, and replacement of other lost or damaged items.

The special collection will be taken immediately after the regular collection. Cash and checks are welcome. Please make out your check to this congregation, but write "For Disaster Relief" on the memo line.

As in previous instances, the elders are carefully reviewing the various Christian organizations involved in Hurricane Sandy relief efforts, in order to determine how best to use this collection for its intended purpose.

**A BIG THANK**

**YOU** goes to all who contributed funds AND food to the annual Breakfast for Ladies at the Bailey's Shelter.

"Thanks to you," said **Lynda Eubank**, director of this program, "We had sufficient funds to cover all the gifts and plenty of food and fellowship for the breakfast."

**Big  
Thank  
You!**



## General Information

### For Children:

❖ An attended nursery and a nursing mother's room -- located adjacent to the Assembly Center -- are available during our assembly.

❖ For ages 2 through pre-kindergarten year, Children's Worship is conducted in rooms 223 and 221. Children are dismissed after communion.

**Recordings:** Recordings of sermons at Falls Church are available for no charge on our web site after about four days. Recordings also are available in CD format for \$5.00 and may be ordered by completing a CD order envelope located in the foyer.

### Assistive Listening System:

Personal sound receivers are available for hearing enhancement in our Assembly Center. Our ushers will be happy to supply one of these aids for your convenience upon request.

## Nursery Attendants

### December 9, 2012

#### Morning

Amy Saxton  
Lisa Swetnam

#### Evening

Levenie Hughes

### December 16, 2012

#### Morning

A. Venkatesan  
M. Zemech

#### Evening

Sylvia Sartori

## Children's Worship

### December 9, 2012

2/3 Heather Roelke, Abby Smith

P-K Jessi Arevalo, Mandy Scandlen

### December 16, 2012

2/3 C. Waterston, L. Atkinson

P-K Gayla Keller, K. T.

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

Bible Classes 9:30 am  
Morning Assembly 10:30 am  
Evening Assembly 6:00 pm

**Tuesday** - Ladies Bible Class 10:15 am  
(October through April)

**Wednesday** Bible Classes 7:15 pm

**Office Hours** 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

### Contact Information

6149 Leesburg Pike  
P. O. Box 1036  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
Office Phone: 703-820-1346  
Fax: 703-820-1348  
Email: administrator@fallschurchcoc.org  
Website: www.fallschurchcoc.org

### Elders

Steve Dasher Wayne Doran  
Bill Kincaid Jim Lane  
Oliver McDaniel Joseph Tucker

### Deacons

Roberto Alvarez Jose Arevalo  
Matt Benskys Ben Bohannon  
Ignacio Espinoza Perry May  
Joshua McKay Scott Mills  
Saul Reyes Kevin Thie  
John Waterston Ken Yeatman

Habtu Zemech

### Missionaries

Gary & Sue Babcock, Kent County, RI  
Pedro & Mireya Batres - Nicaragua  
Henry & Rosa Gutierrez - Nicaragua  
Gene & Janice Luna - WBI/Guatemala  
Deanna Meredith - Concepcion, Chile  
Omar & Tana Palafox - Leon, Mexico  
Recardo & Monica Reyes - Cuernavaca, Mex.  
Don & Esther Roarabaugh - Torrington, CT

### Staff

Mike Tune, *Pulpit Minister*  
Josh Byrd, *Youth Minister*  
Mary Ann Kincaid, *Secretary*

## Statistics

### Sunday, December 2, 2012

Bible Study 205  
Morning Assembly 343  
Evening Assembly No Count  
Contribution \$16,324  
YTD Average \$12,045  
Budget Goal \$11,764

### Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Classes & Online 89

## Worship Today, December 9, 2012

*Hymn #92 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

*Hymn #997 O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*Prayer Jeff Malcolm*

*Hymn #684 Nearer, My God, to Thee*

*Communion/Collection Dave Miller*

*Hymn #10 A Mighty Fortress*

*(Children ages 2 through Pre-K dismissed to Children's Worship)*

*Bible Reading (Galatians 5:5, 16-18) John Reagan*

*Bible Lesson Mike Tune*

*Hymn #479 Peace, Perfect Peace*

*Announcements Wayne Doran*

*Introduction of Visitors Jonah Shumate*

*Prayer Jonah Shumate*



*Song Leader Bill Kincaid*

*Ushers Joshua McKay, Habtu Zemech*

John Waterston will lead singing this evening.

Barry Smith & Grant Smith will lead prayers.

December servers: Matt Benskys, Brian Collins,  
Frank Estes, Richard Gunselman, Cornel Pendergrass  
& Ken Smith.

### Wednesday, December 12

**Prayer - John Reagan**

**Song Leading -**

**Clark Richardson**