

Family Life

Volume 49, Number 1

January 5, 2014

Tune's Notes



One week from today.
Potluck Sunday!
Bring a friend and plan on being here for our first all congregational meal of 2014 just after morning worship. If you are visiting, come back and join us. You get to go to the head of the line. We have a great time

together.

How are your daily Bible readings going? Today's reading cover Genesis 14-17 and that includes Sarah's desperate plan to have a child through her servant girl. Though the notion of a "surrogate" mother and the practice of polygamy in the ancient world was not unknown, the Israel of the Exodus, reading this story for the first time, had to be more than a little chagrined at Sara's plan to force God's promise to fruition.

But it is not the only embarrassing moment of the story.

Like Adam before him, Abraham is silently complicit in Sara's plan. Hagar, blessed to be in the company of a God blessed family, turns on the very person who has chosen her, acts disgracefully, and ends up, as Israel has, in the "desert." Sara, now jealous and regretting her actions mistreats the helpless girl she has oppressed (much as Egypt oppressed Israel). Then, she blames her husband for the result and harangues him into also mistreating Hagar and their child. Some folks simply find it impossible to accept responsibility for their own sins.

Hagar runs away, but God follows. He knows the inequities. Though God promises Hagar (as he did Abraham) that her descendants will be too numerous to count, he commands her to go back to the house of her oppression. Blessing, it would seem, is tied inseparably to the people of God.

Life is messy. It can be so simple when people simply trust God and follow His way. But it gets complicated quickly when people attempt to play God. Sometimes, Christians, weary of the hijinks of the Church, seek to find blessing in separation and on their own. The result is always a desert. You have to go back, live as you should, and trust God to make everything as He intends it to be. That's when promises come true and blessings flow.

Love you all
Mike



Resolution Runner

Running is not something I am very good at. I have never been very fast nor have I ever been good at running far. This is one reason I enjoyed playing baseball when I was a kid. You only had to run for a short time and only short distances.

I can hike a long way. I can also ride a bike a long distance. It is running that has not been a strength of mine.

Running or jogging more is a common New Year's resolution. People set a goal to run so far and lose so much weight and they go for it!

Our new Sunday night series "Resolution Runner" is going to deal with running in a spiritual sense. Tonight we are going to start in John 20.1-8 and discuss running to know God for ourselves. So many people claim to believe in God simply because people around them do. While that is a good start we all need to run closer to the LORD and own our faith.

The next Sunday evening we look at Genesis 39 to see a young man named Joseph run from sin. We cannot be comfortable with sin as a neighbor, but we need to move away from sin.

Finally we will run to share the good news we have. Phillip in Acts 8 runs up to an important person to share with him the good news and we are to follow his example.

Running is a good sport and great exercise. Running to God - running from sin - running to share - ALL are even better for us.

One final note: Beginning on Wednesday January 7th the 7th - 12th grade class will be reading and studying the New Testament Letter of James.

GRACE + PEACE
John Bell

2nd Sunday Potluck Fellowship Set for Next Sunday, January 12

The first fellowship dinner of 2014 will take place next Sunday, January 12, after the morning assembly.

This will be a potluck dinner, and as is our custom, **we will not have a worship service that evening.**

Each family is requested to bring the following:

◆ A main dish to feed your own family and a few other people

PLUS two of the following three items:

◆ a side dish (potatoes, green beans, etc.)

◆ a salad (leafy green, gelatin, macaroni, etc.)

OR

◆ a dessert (not limited to bite-size)

Please note that the Agape Groups are no longer “on duty,” but are being replaced by a group of volunteers.

If you would like to join this group, just add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board or contact John Reagan.



Talent Show PLUS Soup & Chili Night Set for February 1

Mark your calendar now and start planning your talent presentation.

The Annual Talent Show
PLUS

Soup & Chili Night
is coming up February 1.
Further details will be forthcoming.



The Young Professionals Group is planning a ski trip on January 24-25. Those who wish to join should contact **Daniel Williams.**



Congregational Prayer Request for the week of January 5:

A prayer of thanksgiving for the past year and for His blessings upon us to see another year.

The **Women's Bible Class** due to start this morning, January 5, is postponed until next Sunday. The teacher is attending a funeral.

The **Ladies Bible Class** which meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 am will resume on January 7.

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.

Welcome Reception for Yeatman Family Set for January 18

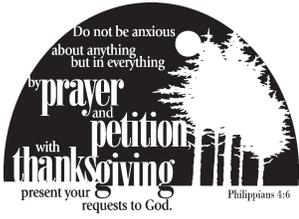
A “**Welcome Reception**” is planned for the Yeatman family on Saturday, January 18, at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity to welcome the newest family members and to “gift” them with some sorely needed items.

It's also a time of fellowship. Dinner will be served, although your name needs to be on the SIGN UP SHEET on the bulletin board. **If you would like to bring food or help with the setup/cleanup, please talk to the organizers.**

They also are the collectors for the gift fund, which they will use to purchase items from a special list provided by the Yeatmans. Due to the specific nature of that list, Falls Church members are asked to give money only, not other types of gifts.

This “welcome reception” is the way that the Falls Church family can welcome the new children and to demonstrate our love and support for the family's “expansion team.”





Continuing Concerns: (cont'd)

Continuing Concerns:

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, Children's Worship is conducted in rooms 223 & 221. Children are dismissed following communion.

Recordings:

Recordings of sermons at Falls Church are available for no charge on our website after about four days. Recordings also are available in CD format for \$5 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

January 5, 2014

Morning

Evening

Jackie [John] Arevalo Levenie Hughes

January 12, 2014

Morning

Evening

Ruth Amores NO EVENING

Children's Worship

January 5, 2014

2/3 Gayla Keller, Dana Hatcher
P-K Wendy Ward, Meaza Zemech

January 12, 2014

2/3 Allison McKay, Anna Souza
P-K Jessi Arevalo, Carol Alvarez

Worship Today, January 5, 2014

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Hymn #143 | <i>Come, Christians, Join to Sing</i> |
| Hymn #144 | <i>O Worship the King</i> |
| Hymn #155 | <i>Highest Place</i> |
| Prayer | Scott Mills |
| Hymn #548 | <i>The Lily of the Valley</i> |
| Hymn #187 | <i>Great Is the Lord</i> |
| Communion/Collection | Ben Bohannon |
| Hymn #622 | <i>Ring Out the Message</i> |
| <i>(Children ages 2 through Pre-K dismissed to Children's Worship)</i> | |
| Bible Reading (Ephesians 1:1-2) | Robert Spiess |
| Bible Lesson | Mike Tune |
| Hymn #712 | <i>Jesus Is Coming Soon</i> |
| Announcements | Oliver McDaniel |
| Introduction of Visitors | Jonah Shumate |
| Closing Prayer | Bobby Wilkinson |
| Song Leader | John Waterston |
| Ushers | Kevin Thie, Habtu Zemech |



Marty Sims will lead singing this evening.

Caleb Mayfield & Jonah Shumate will lead the prayers.

January servers are: Lee Cassetty, Brian Collins, Richard Gunselman, John Reagan, Hal Swetnam, Beni Venkatesan

Schedule of Services

Sunday

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

Tuesday

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Ladies Bible Class | 10:15 am |
| <i>(October through April)</i> | |

Wednesday

7:15 pm

Office Hours

9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Contact Information

6149 Leesburg Pike
P. O. Box 1036 (mailing)
Falls Church, VA 22041
Office phone: 703-820-1346
Fax: 703-820-1348
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 Bensusky | Ben Bohannon |
| Brian Collins | Brandon Durant |
| Ignacio Espinoza | Perry May |
| Joshua McKay | Scott Mills |
| John Reagan | Saul Reyes |
| Wilfredo Reyes | Hal Swetnam |
| Jonah Shumate | Kevin Thie |
| John Waterston | Ken Yeatman |
| Habtu Zemech | |

Missionaries

Kevin & Deanna Amores, Concepción, Chile
Gary & Sue Babcock, Kent County, RI
Pedro & Mireya Batres, Nicaragua
Henry & Rosa Gutierrez, Nicaragua
Gene & Janice Luna, WBI/Guatemala
Recardo & Monica Reyes, Cuemavaca, MX
Don & Esther Roarabaugh, Torrington, CT

Staff

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

Statistics

Sunday, December 29, 2013

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Bible Study | 190 |
| Morning Assembly | 326 |
| Evening Assembly | 101 |
| Contribution | \$16,020 |
| YTD Average | \$12,286 |
| Budget Goal | \$12,587 |

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Classes & Online 58

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Prayer - Jonah Shumate

Song Leader - Clark Richardson