

# Family Life

Volume 49, Number 48

December 14, 2014



## Tune's Notes

The Greek New Testament uses the word "ekklesia" 110 times to refer to God's people. Our English Bibles translate that term "church." The word originally referred to the gathering of the free Greek citizens to vote on matters of importance in the community. To be a member of this

assembly was the highest status in a Greek community. The use of the term among Christians was to convey the exalted status given to them by God. They are, as the Church, the family of God, citizens of God's community, and the dwelling place of the Lord.

The Church is important because it is the Kingdom of God on the earth, that realm where God is seen to rule His people. It is also important because it is the body of Christ on the earth. Just as Jesus was God in the flesh when he was on the earth, so it is that we, the Church, are Christ upon the earth. The Bible speaks of Jesus as being the "fullness of God" (Colossians 1:19; 2:9), and speaks of the Church as being the fullness of Christ.

The Church is also important because, as the body of Christ, it is the place where adoption into God's family and redemption and forgiveness of sins are found. These blessings take place nowhere else, and so the Church, and only the Church, constitutes the community of the saved. It is important because it is the only thing Jesus ever promised to build, and important because it belongs to Him.

It is the work of the Church to exhibit the Christ-life on this earth, to call others to that Christ-life, and to encourage one another in living the Christ-like life until finally, God brings us home into His presence where we will dwell with Him.

Because Christ had only one body, there is only one Church, and only one way into that Church. It is God who adds us to that community when we, as a response of personal faith, are baptized. It is impossible to be a Christian without being a part of the Church, and impossible to be a functioning Christian as God intends without being an active part of a local church.

Love you all  
Mike



Then the disciples gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all

Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." - Acts 1.6 -11

Luke begins his second book written to Theophilus by describing the last moments the apostles physically spent with Jesus in this world.

It is very different from the times they spent with Him traveling around Galilee and Judea. The LORD Jesus Christ is leaving and has some important last minute information and commands. He wants them not to worry about when the LORD will restore the kingdom of Israel. This will happen on the LORD's time not ours. He does want them to know that they will receive power from the Holy Spirit. With that power they are to be witnesses of the LORD Jesus Christ to those who are near and those who are far off. As witnesses they will travel from familiar territory to unfamiliar lands.

After the LORD leaves angels appear and tell them to stop staring at the sky expecting Jesus to return but to get to work.

The LORD Jesus Christ will come. We are to live each and everyday expecting that coming. We don't do this by looking into the sky but by being witnesses of Jesus. We do this by being witnessed being Jesus.

**NOTE: The Youth Ministry and Family Christmas Party will be held next Saturday, Dec. 20, from 5:30 to 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. For details, see p. 3.**

# Holiday Events and Special Appeals From the CARE Committee

## Help Falls Church Families in Need

The CARE Committee is collecting funds to assist several members of this congregation who are experiencing financial difficulties.

The committee members plan to purchase boxes of food as well as gifts for the children.

Please give your donations to **Lynda Eubank**.



## You Still Have Time to Have Your Gifts Wrapped & Help "My Neighbors"

There is one more "Gift Wrapping Session" here at the building today - from 2 to 5:45 pm and still in R. 123.

So if you missed the gift wrap session yesterday - you were too busy for instance - you **STILL HAVE TIME** to get this done.

You can get your gifts wrapped AND contribute to "My Neighbors," the foundation begun by Habtu Zemech to help support various projects in his home country of Ethiopia.

One major aspect of the foundation is to help children with club foot. While there is no charge for the surgery, the attendant expenses amount to \$860 per child, including transportation, lodging and meals for the child and an adult who must travel to Addis Ababa for the procedure.

Where else do you handle a major league job like gift wrapping and **STILL** help a precious child?



## HOLIDAY CANCELLATIONS OR CHANGES:

**The 2nd Sunday Evening Fellowship of today Dec. 14 has been cancelled.**

**The class & devotional of Wednesday, December 24, has been cancelled.**

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.

## Falls Church Ladies Are Invited to a Brunch on Saturday, December 20, Between 10 am and 1 pm

All ladies from this congregation are cordially invited to a brunch here at the building. There is no charge for this event whose purpose is fellowship!

*All ladies are invited to drop by during that time, for coffee or cake or companionship!*

The holiday season is filled with many good things, but too often we fail to stop and unwind and just enjoy. This is the golden opportunity to do just that!

The Ladies Bible Class will hold a **Christmas Potluck** following their class on Tuesday, Dec. 16, after which they will be recessed until next year.

## Falls Church Family "Christmas Card" Collection Continues Through Dec. 17

For many years, it has been the custom here at Falls Church to send each other a very large "Group Christmas Card." But instead of spending a lot of money on cards and postage, we "greet" each other but put the money to a good use.

The "Christmas Card" will be published in the bulletin next Sunday, and will be signed by all the people who contributed to that card!

For most of the years we have done this, the designated recipient has been **Rainbow Christian Services**.

However, in recent years that designation has been expanded to include **Camp WaMaVa** - specifically to provide scholarships. Those scholarships will be given first to any Falls Church member, and second to those in the greater Metropolitan area.

To participate in this "Card," just give a donation to collectors **Martha Ashley and Sally Dasher**. The **deadline for donations is Wednesday, Dec. 17**.

**PLEASE MAKE OUT YOUR CHECK TO EITHER RAINBOW CHRISTIAN SERVICES or CAMP WAMAVA.**

Both organizations are dedicated to the well being of children. Both are Church of Christ organizations that have withstood the test of time. Both are worthy causes.



The Youth Family Christmas Party is scheduled for next Saturday, December 20, in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 8 pm. RSVP to Josh Byrd.

This is for all youth - grades 3 through 12 - and their families. Each family should bring a dessert or a drink, but the event will be catered by Moe's.



**Congregational Prayer Request  
for the week of December 14:**

*May we show the true love of Christ to everyone  
during this season of the year.*

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**Lads to Leaders Convention  
Registration Deadline Nears**

Falls Church youth have been studying scripture and memorizing verses for the 2015 Lads to Leaders, whose theme this year is "ONE," taken from Ephesians 4:4-6. Lads to Leaders is organized to train young people - boys AND girls - in leadership skills.

The annual convention is slated for April 3-5, 2015 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN. Events are open for all ages, but registration is required. In addition, there are many pre-convention events such as the Bible Bowl (see details below) and Centurion of Scripture (memorizing 100 Bible verses).

Those who direct the Falls Church participants invite all youth to participate in this program. Please contact them for more information **by December 28.**

The year-round participants have been working on Centurion of Scripture, Bible reading, Good Samaritan (service projects), second language (memory work in second language), bulletin boards, and songleading, plus preparing for the Bible Bowl test to be given in February.

The 2015 Bible Bowl individual test features Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, which the youth have been studying in their Bible classes Sunday and Wednesday nights. Study & test questions and final round questions will be worded from the New Kings James Version ONLY.

At the convention, the youth will represent our congregation with artwork, participation in the oral Bible reading and songleading events, and using their dramatic skills in the puppet theater event.

Please consider joining the group doing pre-convention

## Scenes From the 2014 Harvest Festival

Below are photos from the Nov. 23 Harvest Festival, another successful effort by the CARE Committee. Many thanks to photographer *Dorothy Eckert*.



The bags of food start to pile up.



As the evening begins, the children jump into the task of unpacking all those bags.



The "conveyor belt" - as Mike Tune calls it - begins...



as the line snakes around the corner...



and here it's "coming down the homestretch."



Above is one of the tables "heavy laden" with supplies for the coming year.

## "Santa Claus" Came to Breakfast!



Many thanks to volunteers like Jonah Shumate helping to serve the breakfast to a hungry crowd!



Santa chats with one of the children at the event.

The annual breakfast is a benefit for Camp WaMaVa.

*Thanks to Abby Smith for these photos!*

## 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.

### 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 14, 2014

#### Morning

Joanne Carter  
Susan Wilson

#### Evening

Janice McDaniel

### December 21, 2014

#### Morning

Agnes Jones  
Fern Musteen

#### Evening

Janice McDaniel

## Children's Worship

### December 14, 2014

2/3 A. Smith, J. Madeley, H & K Alvarado  
P/K Jackie Arevalo Carolina Alvarez

### December 21, 2014

2/3 J. Estes, J. Hayes, S. Zemech  
P/K Wendy Ward, Levenie Hughes

## Worship Today, December 14, 2014

Hymn #143	<i>Come, Christians, Join to Sing</i>
Hymn #1002	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>
Prayer	Wayne Doran
Hymn #162	<i>All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name</i>
Hymn #979	<i>I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger</i>
Communion/Collection	Jeff Malcolm
Hymn #996	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>
<i>Children ages 2 through Pre-K dismissed to Children's Worship</i>	
Bible Reading (Matthew 1:1-6, 17)	Dave Wilson
Bible Lesson	Mike Tune
Hymn #590	<i>Jesus Is All the World to Me</i>
Announcements	Joseph Tucker
Introduction of Visitors	Brian Collins
Closing Prayer	Andrew McDaniel
Song Leader	John Waterston
Ushers	Grant Smith, Kevin Thie

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Joseph Tucker will lead singing this evening.

Caleb Mayfield and Jim Lane will lead the prayers.

December 14 servers: Mark Dawson, Frank Estes,  
Richard Gunselman, Joshua McKay, Geosh Saxton,  
Jonah Shumate

## 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
<i>(October through April)</i>	

### Wednesday

7:15 pm

### Office Hours

9:30 am - 4:30 pm

## Contact Information

P. O. Box 1036  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
Office phone: 703-820-1346  
Fax: 703-820-1348  
Sick/Shut in call in: 703-820-2064  
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
Ben Bohannon	Brian Collins
Ignacio Espinoza	Perry May
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, Cuernavaca, MX  
Don & Esther Roarabaugh, Torrington, CT  
Mike Tune, Amazing Grace International  
Jay & Piera Young, Italy & Ukraine  
Habtu Zemech, My Neighbors, Ethiopia

## Staff

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

## Statistics

### Sunday, December 7, 2014

Bible Study	208
Morning Assembly	313
Evening Assembly	No Count
Contribution	\$21,940
YTD Average	\$12,118
Budget Goal	\$12,709

### Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Classes & Online	76
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### Wednesday, December 17, 2014

Prayer - Oliver McDaniel  
Song Leader - Andrew McDaniel