

# Family Life

Volume 49, Number 49

December 21, 2014



## Tune's Notes

Correct beliefs are critical to correct behavior, but unless they impact our behavior, tenets of faith are of no value. As I bring this series of essays to an end, the final few become the most important.

We believe that being a Christian is the highest privilege, a special and unique relationship with God. We constitute God's family and are, in His words, the salt of the earth, the light of the world, the pillar and ground of truth. There is no higher calling or status. We are God's "priests."

We didn't attain this status on our own. We were given it when we placed our faith in Christ and aligned our lives with His in His death.

The Old Testament priesthood is our exemplar. The standard for their behavior was higher than that of the rest of Israel; the priesthood set the bar. They were to teach this behavior to others, modeling it in their lives and nothing on earth was to come between them and their devotion to the Lord. Jesus said the same thing of us: "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

We believe this response of life to God should proceed from our hearts, for if it does not, it will not be genuine, nor will it last.

It is a life totally dependent on God, and that brings me to the final point for today: The Christian life is a faithful one. It is full of faith, trust that God will keep His promises and transform us – if we will desire it and allow Him. Faithful also means "trustworthy." God is trustworthy. That's why we believe in Him. As his children, we must be trustworthy too. The world must be able to trust that we will not lead it astray, that it can count on us to be its example and live lives worthy of the great people we've been called to be.

To be a Christian is just . . . awesome.

It's Christmas week. I hope all of you have a wonderful Christmas day.

Love you all

Mike



## Beginning, Come and Go

Mark 1.1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah.

John 1.1 In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God

Everything in this World\* has a beginning.

Our World is one of beginnings and endings. In fact the World began in an act of creation and it will end one day too in an act of renewal.

That act or renewal began with the birth of the LORD Jesus Christ. His entry into this world as a helpless baby marked the beginning of the end. During His time on Earth He began to teach us how we are to live as one of His people. As His people we are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. As citizens of this Kingdom we live differently than those around us.

The early disciples were to go out into the nations and make more disciples. They did this by living out what they learn from the LORD Jesus Christ. They incorporated into their lives the changes we must make to live as citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. We help make this world a better place by being the LORD's people in this world.

As we live out our lives we also are waiting for the final end. The ultimate renewal of this World has not yet come. We are waiting for it. We desire it. We know that there will be a New Heaven and a New Earth. We know that the power of sin and death will be broken. The end of this World is coming.

This truth changes everything in our lives and how we live!

\*By World I am not referring to the planet Earth alone but also to the entire created universe around us.

GRACE + PEACE  
J. H. B. J.

## 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**.



### HOLIDAY CANCELLATIONS OR CHANGES:

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

*Directory Updates*

## Lads to Leaders Convention Registration Deadline Nears; Contact L to L Leaders by Dec. 28

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 preconvention events such as the Bible Bowl (see details below) and Centurion of Scripture (memorizing 100 Bible verses).

*Melissa & Brian Collins and Ken & Yesya Yeatman, who direct the Falls Church participants, invite all youth to participate in this program.*

*Please consider joining the group doing preconvention events like the Bible Bowl test and Centurion of Scripture, or perhaps you might join the group traveling to Nashville.*

*But talk to them by December 28, please!*

The year-round group has worked 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 coming up in February.

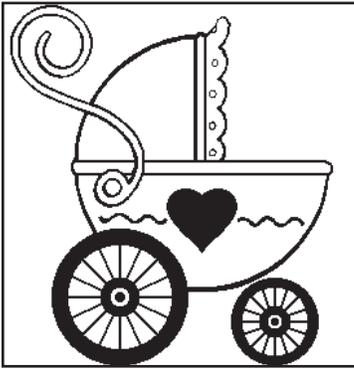
The 2015 Bible Bowl individual test features Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, which the youth have been studying in their Bible classes Sunday and Wednesday nights. Study & test questions and final round questions will be worded from the New Kings James Version ONLY.

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.

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.

The Falls Church bulletin is sent to all members by email on Friday afternoon. If you are not receiving the bulletin electronically, please inform the church office so your name can be added to the list.

It won't do to miss your bulletin!



*Baby Shower*

## *Baptism*

### **Congregational Prayer Request for the week of December 21:**

*Pray that the family of God will have a safe and joyful  
holiday season and not forget the needy ones.*

### **A New Sister in Christ Through the Work of Jay and Piera Young**

**James "Jay" and Piera Young** currently are on mission in Milan Italy, with the Milan Church of Christ, which is *Chiesa di Cristo* in Italian. Below is a letter from them regarding a recent baptism.

Dear Christian friends,

Greetings in the name of the Savior to you all from "Jay" and Piera in Milan (Milano), Italy. This is a special note to all of you to ask you to join us as we continue to rejoice that last Sunday morning [December 7, 2014], **Elisabetta Hernandez**, the house-cleaning lady with whom we have been studying - almost daily - for the past several weeks, was immersed into Jesus Christ, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Pray for her; her survival in life is very difficult, but now, as she said, "I am in Christ!"



(left) Elisabetta Herandez being immersed into Christ (right) now "Sister Elisabetta with Jay and Piera Young

We are teaching every day praying that many more of our students will accept Christ and, like Elisabetta, be "added to the Lord's Church" soon. Our departure from Milan for our journey back to the U.S. is scheduled for one week from today, December 16th. Please pray for our safety. God bless you all.

The Lord's and your servants,

*James "Jay" and Piera Young*

*Merry Christmas to the Fellow Members of the  
Church of Christ In Falls Church, VA*



*Gary and Mary Jo Allmond  
Jun and Ruth Amores  
Martha Ashley  
Donna and Lynn Barham  
Josh and Lisa Byrd  
Lee Cassetty  
Steve and Sally Dasher  
Richard and Genia Deibler  
Wayne and Jean Doran  
Dorothy Eckert  
Lynda Eubank  
Ann and Jefferson Ford  
Bill and Amy Furr  
Sonia Garnett  
Joyce Grigsby  
Jeff, Sarah and Fiona Grimm  
Richard and Sharon Gunselman  
Angela, Rebecca and Jeffery Hayes  
Renee Hoppis  
John Hilboldt  
Agnes Jones  
Mel and Rita Kibler*

*Bill and Mary Ann Kincaid  
Jim and Janet Lane  
Perry and Yvonne May  
Oliver and Janice McDaniel  
Marilyn McDermett  
Alma Milligan  
Dave, Leslie and Lauren Miller  
Bobbie Moffett  
Dennis and Fern Musteen  
Bob Pigg  
George and Heather Roelke  
Geosh and Amy Saxton  
Rick and Karen Schneider  
Jewell Smiley  
Mildred Smith  
Don and Ellie Thie  
Kevin, Janet and Candy Thie  
Joseph and Calanthia Tucker  
Charles and Edith Welch  
Gerald and Peggy Williams  
Randall and Patricia Woods*



## 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 21, 2014

### Morning

Agnes Jones  
Fern Musteen

### Evening

Janice McDaniel

December 28, 2014

### Morning

Billie Bohannon  
Angela E-Hayes

### Evening

NO NURSERY  
TONIGHT

## Children's Worship

December 21, 2014

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

December 28, 2014

2/3s A. McKay, A. Souza, G. McKay  
P/K Casey Waterston, Susan Wilson

## Worship Today, December 21, 2014

Hymn #1018

*Joy to the World*

Hymn #1012

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Prayer

Hal Swetnam

Hymn #615

*He Keeps Me Singing*

Hymn #359

*I Love the Lord*

Communion/Collection

Habtu Zemech

Hymn #624

*Seeking he Lost*

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

Bible Reading (*Matthew 1:18-25*)

*Dave Miller*

Bible Lesson

Mike Tune

Hymn #1009

*Battle Hymn of the Republic*

Announcements

Steve Dasher

Introduction of Visitors

Daniel Williams

Closing Prayer

Brian Collins

Song Leader

Joseph Tucker

Ushers

Grant Smith, Kevin Thie



John Waterston will lead singing this evening.

Mark Dawson & Jerry Williams will lead the prayers.

December 21 servers: Mark Dawson, Frank Estes,  
Richard Gunselman, Jonah Shumate,  
Robert Spiess & Mark Ward

## 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

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 14, 2014

Bible Study 220  
Morning Assembly 312  
Evening Assembly 102  
Contribution \$13,779  
YTD Average \$12,151  
Budget Goal \$12,709

### Wednesday, December 17, 2014

Classes & Online 81

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

**CHRISTMAS EVE -  
NO SERVICE**