

Family Life

Volume 50, Number 46

November 22, 2015

25th Annual Harvest Festival Is Set for Today During the Evening Assembly

The Falls Church congregation has conducted the **Annual Harvest Festival for 25 years**. Many of the members here have grown up with this annual festival. See how many people you can identify from these scenes from previous years - see below.

This is a "living" display of love and generosity - a special occasion when we work together to accomplish a particular goal and to serve the Lord with gladness and thanksgiving and joy!

We restock the food pantry so that members of our CARE Committee may continue the longstanding ministry of providing food to people in our community. But in the process, we demonstrate to our young people that Christianity isn't a spectator activity.

You will find a list of needed supplies on a yellow-colored page in the lobby. Please take that page with you as you shop.

Bring your bags to the fellowship hall **BEFORE** the evening assembly on Nov. 22, and our younger children will have the chance to unpack those bags.

Everyone will form two lines from the fellowship hall to R. 121 where the food pantry is located. There, the pantry workers will take the items, sort them and store them for the needs of our community.

If you can't be here, bring in your bags anytime until Nov. 22 and leave them in the hallway leading into the fellowship hall.



Make a Commitment - Sign Up TODAY for Dinner on Wednesday!

TODAY is the deadline to sign up for dinner next Wednesday, Nov. 25, the day before Thanksgiving.

Hal & Lisa Swetnam are the organizers/chefs/servers for this event. It's the same price as before - \$4 adults/\$2 kids under 10/no more than \$20 per family. Dinner will be a breakfast - pancakes, bacon, eggs plus dessert.

The service for that evening will be a Thanksgiving devotional

Don't miss out!!!

By the way - volunteer help is humbly accepted!



Baby Shower

November 22, 2015 – Pray that as we plan for the coming year we will do so with the confidence that God will supply all of the resources necessary to accomplish His will for this congregation in 2016.

Today Is Deadline for Donations for Habtu Zemech's Next Ethiopian Trip Nov. 27-Dec. 14

Clothes for infants and toddlers plus school supplies of pens, pencils, erasers, markers, crayons & rulers - but NOT paper or notebooks - are the items that **Habtu Zemech** is collecting for his next trip to Ethiopia beginning Nov. 27.

Please bring in your supplies and articles of clothing by next Sunday, Nov. 22, and leave them in the corner of the lobby.

He also accepts donations to his program entitled "My Neighbors," a 501 (c) (3) organization established to help fund a wide variety of needs and projects all over the country.

The network includes orphanages, a school for deaf students, a school for preaching students, and help for children and older people. You may contribute by writing a



Habtu

check to "My Neighbors" and giving it to Habtu by Nov. 22

One major component of "My Neighbors" is providing the \$895 necessary for the one-year support for children with club foot to undergo corrective surgery. About half of the 69 registered children have received the operation, and no more will be registered until all of the children on the current list have received the life-changing surgery.

Habtu points out that, in addition to the difference the surgery makes in the lives of the children, the program also has become an evangelistic tool. He notes, "This effort also is becoming a way of attracting people to the gospel and many are joining the church. In places where there is no church, people are willing to give land to build a church building."

Annual Orphan Sunday Collection Continues

It is not too late to contribute to the Churches of Christ Orphan's Lifeline International in order to help support thousands of children residing in multiple orphanages in eight countries.

Make out your check to "**Orphan's Lifeline of Hope**," and give it to any of the Elders. The checks will be collected and transmitted to the organization which will then send you a letter for your tax deductible donation.

Orphan's Lifeline International is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit. For each dollar donated, the organization sends \$.89

to the orphanages. That money is used for housing, clothes, beds, health care, food, education and Christian teaching. What expresses the Christian message more clearly than to support orphans?

In addition, Lifeline helps the millions of children who "age out" of homes and programs, and enter the world without family, skills or the means to care for themselves. They receive support, guidance and training BEFORE they drift into lives of crime, become the victims of human trafficking or die young from disease and malnutrition.



Misunderstood

One of the least read, most abused and misunderstood books of the New Testament and possibly the entire Bible is the Book of Revelation.

Revelation is full of bizarre and violent imagery that doesn't seem to fit into the rest of what we find in the New Testament.

This is why the Youth Ministry's Sunday morning Bible class will be spending the winter reading and exploring Revelation. It is important that our teens and students have an understanding of this book for a number of reasons.

One is so they are not led astray by bad pop-theology relating. There is a lot of misinformation floating around in our culture about this letter. We are going to focus on the text and what it actually says. Two, is that they are encouraged in their faith. This letter was written to 7 churches whose members were in danger of giving up their faith due to hard times. This letter gives us a big picture perspective of what is going on that encourages us to be strong. Three is that our culture in many ways parallels the culture of the 7 churches in Asia. We live in a post-modern, post-Christian world where many rely on myth, feelings and logic for answers and many are ignorant of the message of Jesus. The first hearers lived in a pre-modern and pre-Christian world, where people relied on the gods to explain the world and the message of Jesus was just arriving in the world.

Finally I want our teens and students to receive the blessing promised at the beginning of this letter: Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near. -Revelation 1:3 (NIV)

Pray that we will have the wisdom needed to understand this book as we study it.

GRACE + PEACE
AHL

The Holiday Season is Approaching: Here are Events to Include in Your Plans

- **December 5 - Breakfast with Santa from 9 am to noon, in Fellowship Hall.**

Santa will be the special guest and will be available for photo ops with the children. There will be a craft for the children and a chance to "mail" their letters to the *Big Red One*.



Breakfast will include eggs, bacon/ sausage, fruit & drinks, and everyone is invited, so feel free to invite your friends and neighbors. There is no charge this year - since this is NOT a fund-raiser - but **you must sign up so the chef knows how much food to prepare.**

Go to the sign-up sheet on the board in the lobby or call the church office at 703-830-1346 OR email the church office at office@fallschurchcoc.org

Kelly Shumate and **Heather Roelke** are the organizers this year. They are looking for some helpers at the craft table and in the kitchen.

- **December 5 - "Merry Sports-Mas" - the Youth Ministry Family Christmas Party from 5:30 to 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

The Youth Ministry includes youth between grades 3 and 12 and their families. You will get to play various Christmas-themed sports, and dress in the jersey/colors of your favorite sports team. **RSVP to Josh Byrd ASAP.**



- **December 12 - Breakfast for the Ladies from the Shelter, 9 to 11 am, Fellowship Hall - Erica Walker-Chenevert & Lynda Eubank are collecting for this.**

Jonah Shumate and Company will prepare the breakfast for this event in honor of the ladies at the Bailey's Crossroads Shelter. Collected funds will provide a Christmas gift for each lady, with **Lynn Barham** and **Joyce Grigsby** doing the shopping. In addition, **Santa Claus** will make a special guest appearance.



Donations are requested NO LATER THAN Dec. 5 so there is enough time to purchase and wrap them. Donations qualify for tax-exemption, and you will receive a letter.

- **November 29 - December 13 - Rainbow Christian Christmas Card; Collectors are Martha Ashley & Melissa Collins; card will be published in *Family Life* of Dec. 20.**

- **Nov. 29 through Dec. 19 - Collection for families here at Falls Church - Collectors are Sandra Espinoza & Lynda Eubank.**

Last year we collected funds for Falls Church families who were experiencing difficult financial situations, and helped make the holidays a better time for 14 families. This year we plan to repeat that outreach which included both gifts and food cards. Sandra & Lynda did the shopping. Again, such donations are tax-deductible and you will receive written confirmation.



- **December 12 - annual Christmas Open House at home of Ann Ford, 5:30-8:30 pm**

This well-loved annual event is open to all members and all ages, and baby sitting will be provided by some of the teenagers. If you would like to be another hostess or host for this annual gala, please contact Ann Ford.



- **December 15 - Ladies Bible Class to hold a potluck luncheon following the class. After this class, they will adjourn for the holidays, to resume in January.**

- **December 19 - Ladies Holiday Brunch, 9 to 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall**

This is an annual fellowship brunch - a time to slow down for a few minutes and savor the sweetness of friendship. Further details will be provided soon.



- **Gift Wrap to Benefit "My Neighbors," the fund administered by Habtu Zemech to benefit people in his home country of Ethiopia, December 13, 3 to 5:30 pm AND ALSO December 19 & 20, 3 to 5:30 pm, R. 121**

Bring your Christmas presents to the church building on the dates/times above and have them wrapped for you. Then contribute to "My Neighbors," a ministry that supports homes for orphans, a school for the hearing impaired, a school for preachers, the installation of wells, and the care and expense for children recovering from club foot surgery.



Special Note: Gifts for Falls Church family will be wrapped at these times.

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

November 22, 2015

Morning	Evening	November 29, 2015 Morning	Evening
Melissa Collins	Janice McDaniel	Tek Lim Chea	Janice McDaniel
Abby & Marshall Collins		Lisa Swetnam	

Children's Worship

This is now a combined class for all children between 2 and pre-k, and it meets in R. 220. Nov. 22 teachers are Jessi Arevalo, Carolina Alvarez & Anna Souza.

Worship Today, November 22, 2015

Hymn #193	<i>Crown Him with Many Crowns</i>
Hymn #767	<i>In the Hour of Trial</i>
Prayer	Kelvin Hatcher
Hymn #350	<i>When My Love to Christ Grows Weak</i>
Communion/Collection	Peter Franco
Hymn #715	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>
<i>(Children ages 2 through Pre-K dismissed to Children's Worship)</i>	
Bible Reading (<i>Hebrews 10:1-14</i>)	Kirk Crews
Bible Lesson	Mike Tune
Hymn #314	<i>Beneath the Cross of Jesus</i>
Announcements	Joseph Tucker
Introduction of Visitors/Closing Prayer	John Hilboldt
Song Leader	Bill Kincaid
Ushers	Daniel Williams, Ken Yeatman



Our Harvest Festival will take place during the evening assembly; Wayne Doran & Barry Smith will lead the prayers.

Nov. 22 Servers: Jose Arevalo, Oliver Arevalo,
Ben Bohannon, Jonathan Bohannon,
Ken Yeatman, Connor Yeatman

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	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
Don & Esther Roarabaugh, Lewistown, PA
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*
Kelly Shumate, *Secretary*

Statistics

Sunday, November 15, 2015

Bible Study	207
Morning Assembly	314
Evening Assembly	114
Contribution	\$10,296
YTD Average	\$12,145
Budget Goal	\$12,725

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Classes & Online No Count

Wednesday, November 25

Thanksgiving
Devotional