

Family Life

Volume 50, Number 48

December 6, 2015

Baby Showers

The total amount collected during November for the Orphan's Lifeline of Hope was **\$10,141.00**, announced Bill Kincaid, one of our Elders. You - the members of the Falls Church congregation - are to be commended for your generosity toward some of the neediest children around the world.

Thank You Notes

To the Family at Falls Church,

It's hard to find words to express my gratitude for all your generous donations and words of encouragement in support of "Team Jesse" during the 5K race last Sunday to benefit the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

Thanks to you, we raised \$1,370, 144% of our goal of \$950. These funds will go toward development of new cancer treatments against this cancer which is currently incurable. My brother Jesse was just 32 years old when he passed away earlier this year.

In deepest appreciation,
Anna Souza

The Book of Revelation



The book of Revelation is full of bizarre and interesting stories. One such story is just perfect for this time of the year.

Our culture is focused on Christmas - a time for family and gift giving inspired by the birth of Jesus. In most traditional Nativity scenes you find Mary, Joseph, shepherds and wisemen all gathered in a barn to witness the birth of Jesus. We also find sheep, goats and donkeys. The weirdest thing to show up are the angels. This is NOT your typical Biblical story.

If you flip to the end of the New Testament, you find another telling of the birth of Jesus.

Instead of cute farm animals, we read about a dragon in Revelation 12! This is not just any dragon but Satan himself. The vision begins with a woman in the sky, a woman who is clothed in the sun and is giving birth. Then the dragon appears ready to eat the baby as he is born. God rescues the child and protects the woman in the wilderness.

Now you may be scratching your head as to how this vision fits into the story of Jesus' birth that you remember. One of the things Revelation does is to pull back the curtain and show us symbolically what is going on behind the scenes.

In Matthew 2 we read about the magi looking for the new king to worship. In the process they meet Herod in Jerusalem. Herod also wants to find this king but unlike the magi, he wants to kill him! When the magi find the new king - Jesus - they are warned not to go back to Herod. In spite of this Herod still tries to kill Jesus by murdering all the children about his age in Bethlehem. Before this takes place Jesus' family is warned in a dream and flee.

From this different view we see that our enemy is not Herod or people like him. Instead our enemy is the Dragon working thru evil and corrupted people.

GRACE + PEACE
A. B. J.

Holiday Events to Include in Your Plans

- **Through December 13 - Rainbow Christian Services Christmas Card; Collectors are Martha Ashley & Melissa Collins; card will be published in *Family Life* of Dec. 20. Contributions are tax-deductible.**

Rainbow Christian Services is a non-profit organization providing assistance to children and their families in the greater metropolitan Washington area. It was begun in the early 1960s by the elders at the Arlington Church of Christ. A residential Children's Home opened in 1964, and in 1983, the name, Rainbow Christian Services, was adopted to reflect multiple facets of care. Although the residential program closed in spring 2004, RCS has reorganized to focus entirely on counseling. **Lynda Eubank**, Falls Church member, longtime RCS board member & retired social worker with Arlington County Child and Family Services, volunteers as the Executive Director. The office is located in the Falls Church building, although RCS is not under Falls Church supervision. She works with two other volunteers who are trained social workers, **Doug Smart** whom she knew through Arlington, and **Cathy Cooper** who is a member of the Arlington Church of Christ and currently employed with the Fairfax County Family Services.

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

Last year funds were collected for Falls Church families who were experiencing difficult financial situations, and that collection 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. Again, such donations are tax-deductible and you will receive written confirmation.



- **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. 6** so there is enough time to purchase and wrap them. Donations qualify for tax-exemption, and you will receive a letter.

- **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. The hosts/hostesses this year are **Martha Ashley, Sally & Steve Dasher, Genia & Dick Deibler, Jeff Ford, Nikii Frank, Dana & Kelvin Hatcher; John Hilboldt, Mary Ann & Bill Kincaid, Linda & John Reagan, Ashley Shelton, Kelly & Jonah Shumate, Candy Thie, Calanthia & Joseph Tucker, Monica & Mike Tune, and Peggy & Jerry Williams.**



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

Bring your Christmas presents to the church building on the dates/times above and have them wrapped for you. Then you may contribute as you wish 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 families will be wrapped at these times.



- **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, 10 am to 12 pm in the Fellowship Hall [NOTE: This is a new time.]**

This is an annual fellowship brunch - a time to slow down for a few minutes and savor the sweetness of friendship. There is no charge, and this is a "drop in" event which does not require advance notice or an RSVP.

Hostesses are **Billie Bohannon, Lynda Eubank, Sharon Gunselman, Whitney O'Halek, Kelly Shumate & Erica Walker-Chenevert.**



A Look Back at the 2015 Harvest Festival of November 22

This year, Falls Church celebrated its 25th Annual Harvest Festival, with a bounty of food (at right) which was unpacked by a small squadron of hard workers (below right).



(at left & below) the line forms in the fellowship hall and winds down the hallway to the pantry where workers sort and store the food for distribution to needy people during the year.



Many thanks to Marshall Collins for photographing this event.



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 6, 2015

Morning

Jackie Arevalo
John Arevalo

Evening

Janice McDaniel

December 13, 2015

Morning

Amy Saxton
Erica Walker-Chenevert

Evening

Janice McDaniel

Children's Worship

This is a combined class for children between ages 2 and pre-k, and it meets in R. 220. Teachers today are Amanda Venkatesan, Keisha Citizen & Abby Smith.

Worship Today, December 6, 2015

Hymn #622

Ring Out the Message

Hymn #18

Faithful Love

Hymn #96

I Stand in Awe

Prayer

Jeff Malcolm

Hymn #155

Highest Place

Hymn #269

Thomas' Song

Communion/Collection

Jim Lane

Hymn #1001

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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

Bible Reading (1 Timothy 1:12-16)

Josh Byrd

Bible Lesson

Mike Tune

Hymn #290

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Announcements

Steve Dasher

Introduction of Visitors/Closing Prayer

Kelvin Hatcher

Song Leader

Clark Richardson

Ushers

John Reagan, Grant Smith



Joseph Tucker will lead singing this evening;

Barry Smith & Jose Arevalo will lead the prayers.

December 6 Servers: Bill Furr, Caleb Mayfield, Hal Swetnam, Kevin Thie, Beni Venkatesan & 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 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 29, 2015

Bible Study 175
Morning Assembly 292
Evening Assembly No Count
Contribution \$ 7,690
YTD Average \$11,982
Budget Goal \$12,725

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

Classes & Online 72

Wednesday, December 9

Prayer - Jonah Shumate

Song Leader - Connor Yeatman