

Family Life

Volume 51, Number 51

December 18, 2016

Today is the Deadline to Add Your Name to the Congregational Christmas Card

Today is your final opportunity to add your name to the **Falls Church Christmas Card** which will be printed in the bulletin on Sunday Dec. 25.

Give your donations to Lynda Eubank or Sandra Espinoza.

This is a tradition begun in 1968. We know everyone wants to send Christmas greetings to friends.

Yet there are many worthy causes at this time of year as well.

So, we started to collect the funds that ordinarily would have gone to purchase of cards and stamps and give those funds instead to one of those worthy causes.

Initially, the funds went to Rainbow Christian Services, a Christian counseling service, or to Camp WaMaVa, the only Church of Christ camp in the greater metropolitan area.

This year, however, we will use those funds to help families - those who are part of our congregation or are part of our ministry outreach area. They will receive food cards as well as gifts.

Your donation is tax-deductible.



This Is Your Chance to Help Our Young People Prepare for Lads to Leaders But Please Volunteer by January 1

“Teaching students to do Bible things in Bible Ways” has been the mission of a unique program called Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes since it’s beginning in 1968. From a group of eight boys that first year, it has grown to more than 20,000 today, and is the oldest leadership training program used by the churches of Christ.

It is a tool that congregations may use to teach youth participation year round and to instill the Word of God into young people so that they will stand firm in the faith.

To that end, Falls Church youth have been studying scripture all year in preparation for the 2017 **L2L** convention scheduled for April 14-16, 2017, at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN.

The theme this year is taken from Ruth 3:5, “All that you say to me, I will do.”

And there are opportunities and needs for Falls Church members to help our youth with a variety of activities. Ken & Lesya Yeatman and Ignacio and Sandra Espinoza direct the Falls Church program, so talk to them so that they can find you a slot to fill. Perhaps you might consider becoming “extra hands” at the convention.

But please, if you are interested in helping, let them know by January 1 - two Sundays from today. That’s because the deadlines for registration and pre-convention activities are approaching rapidly!

For instance, the Bible Bowl test and Centurion of Scripture (memorizing 100 Bible verses) events take place BEFORE the convention, so the students prep for the test on Sunday or Wednesday night. This year, the test will cover Ruth, Esther and Job, so this is a terrific opportunity for adults to review these wonderful books.

The convention events include oral Bible reading and song leading skills, along with preparation for puppet theater shows. These are precisely the skills that adults need either to participate in worship service or to teach Bible classes for youth. Therefore, these skills are essential to prepare and encourage young people for their current and future service to the Lord’s church.



Thank You Note

To my Falls Church Family,

Thank you for your encouragement and generous donations to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation in memory of my brother Jesse. With your support, we raised over \$2,100 for new cancer treatments. This is hundreds more than we raised last year and much more than our original goal. My Mom, who walked to 5K with me, also sends her thanks!

With deepest appreciation,
Anna Souza



Thank You!

It was a cold November weekend and the young man was fresh out of graduate school with a small family and looking for his first full time ministry position. He had just flown across the country the day before. He was now standing at the office wing door of a church he knew very little about.

He walked up to the door, pushed the intercom and the voice asked for the password. Not the usual greeting one receives when visiting a church for an interview, but none the less the young man answered "SHIBOLETH".

This is one of my earliest and fondest memories of my 20 years here at the Church of Christ in Falls Church. When we first arrived in Falls Church we did not imagine that we would raise our family and make our home here.

We want to thank our church family for all your love and support over the last 20 years. I want to thank Mike Tune for being a great mentor and example. I want to thank our Elders for their leadership and guidance. I want to thank our deacons for the hard work they are doing. I want to thank the parents over the years who have partnered with me. I want to thank you all for mentoring and teaching our children.

If you are new here, know that you are now part of a special community of believers, a place to make your home, and a place where you can contribute to the lives of others.

With much love,

Josh, Lisa, Ashley, Sarah, Austin and Tyler Byrd

GRACE + PEACE
JL

Two of our Elders are available in R. 221 on the main level after the morning assembly to meet with anyone who wishes prayer for special concerns.

Prayer requests also may be submitted to the Elders at:
prayerrequestfc@gmail.com

Adult Classes for Winter Quarter Begin January 1

The 4th Quarter Classes for adults are listed below, according to Mike Tune.

Class

Teacher

Room

Sunday Schedule - Classes Begin January 1

"God's Ministers in a Fallen World"

Eric Slecter & Jim Lane

FH

Suffering, unbelief, and false teachings affect God's people today, just as they did in the first century. Paul's second letter to the church at Corinth has much to tell us about how we can grow in faith and minister to others, especially our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

"Walking with God in the Desert"

John Waterston

121

Each week we will explore the wilderness of the holy lands with a short video by Ray Vander Laan followed by group discussion. We often take a modern view of Biblical scenes, but this series encourages us to see the Bible in its original context. Our journey through the holy lands will help us to grow faith in those times when we depend on God the most, our spiritual "deserts."

"10 Things I Wish Jesus Hadn't Said" – (Women's Class)

Kathy Koczanski

123

A discussion of 5 "hard sayings" of Jesus, the ones that call us to account and constantly challenge us to be better; and 5 "easy sayings" of Jesus, straightforward sayings that seem glib and even contradictory to other sayings.

Ladies Bible Class Resumes Tuesday, January 3

"Women of the Bible"

Different Teachers

123

This class meets on **Tuesday from 10:15 to 11 am**. **NOTE:** This class follows the Fairfax County Public Schools calendar, and will not meet when school is cancelled, delayed or dismissed early due to inclement weather, holidays, teacher workdays, etc.

Wednesday Evening Class Begins January 4

"Where it all Began"

Mike Tune

FH

Without Genesis, the rest of the Bible would not make much sense, which is why the book is foundational to the Christian faith. The class will look at the stories of Genesis, but also the enduring lessons that carry on throughout both testaments.

The Iglesia de Cristo here at Falls Church is hosting an Area-Wide Spanish Assembly from Dec. 15 to Dec. 18, concluding with a special fellowship dinner after the evening assembly on Sunday. The guest speaker is Diomedes Damian, the Spanish Minister for the Mountain Island Church of Christ in Charlotte, NC.

Pedro & Mireya Batres, Nicaragua

Pedro & Mireya Batres have served in the mission fields since 1969. He is a native of El Salvador and a graduate of the Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock, TX. His wife Mireya, a native of Nicaragua, holds a degree in social service. They worked in Nicaragua until moving to Guatemala in 1985, returning to Nicaragua in 2000. He is an evangelist in Managua, the capital city, and the surrounding areas, plus he is a popular guest speaker at special programs such as seminars, retreats and workshops. Mireya is a popular guest lecturer at women's events, especially pertaining to marriage and the family.



Dear Brethren & Sisters in Falls Church,

I am glad to write this newsletter as a report to the brotherhood in Falls Church Church of Christ. Greetings to all of you from Nicaragua in Central America.

The local church in "Nueva Libia" (Managua), is going ahead, as always. [See photo below.]



There is no change in our activities including evangelism, restoration of unfaithful brethren, our benevolence program, our different Bible classes for children, youth and adults, and our participation in the T. V. program.

We maintain our schedule, which includes:

- Three worship services each Sunday
- Our prayer/worship each Monday
- Bible studies Tuesday and Thursday
- The Christian women's class which meets once a month, on Saturday
- The Christian men's class, also once a month, on the third Saturday at 6 pm.

Our weekly meeting each Sunday averages an attendance of over the 300, including children. We have a good number of non-Christian visitors and we give them

personal attention. I am an inner servant in these activities.

In addition, on Oct. 1, I was with the Church of Christ in the city of Masaya and I taught them a class related to Christian leadership (elders, evangelist, deacons and teachers). On October 8, I was with the Church of Christ in Cofradía (about 20 Kms. from Managua) and I shared the Good News in a Gospel Meeting there. Unfortunately, there was a heavy winter storm so attendance was low, only about 30 people.

On October 14, I was in Momotombo, where is more than an hour from Managua. The area suffered several earthquakes in September and several families have many problems. I went there with three more brethren and we brought a special tent to protect those persons from the sun, the dust and the rain, at least for a short time.

We talked with the local preacher there, our brother Carlos Rugama and he explained to us about the hard situation that the people there are having now. That place has the same name as the volcano, Momotombo, which is an active volcano.

Dear brethren, please pray for the Nicaraguan Church of Christ and for the peace in this country.

Fraternally in Jesus,
Pedro Salvador Batres

Below is a communication dated Dec. 12.

Dear brethren in Falls Church,

It is a pleasure for me to report the baptism of **Dulleam Cristiana Menicucci López**. She is 13, and the daughter of Lilian López, a faith member of the Nueva Libia church in Managua. [See photo below of Pedro with Dulleam and her mother Lilian.]

On Dec. 16, I will be preaching in a Gospel Meeting in Barrio "La Fuente." The congregation there has about 80 members.

Dear brethren, thanks for your support in every sense in my ministry in Central America.

God bless you now and always.

Sincerely in Him,
Pedro Salvador Batres



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.

December 18, 2016

December 25, 2016

Nursery Attendants

Morning	Evening	Morning	Evening
Wendy Ward	Janice McDaniel	Billie Bohannon	NO SERVICE
Meaza Zemech		Erica W-Chenevert	

Children's Worship (Ages 2 through Pre-K, R. 222)

Lisa Byrd, Anna Souza

NO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ON DEC. 25

Worship Today, December 18, 2016

Hymn #997	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>
Hymn #470	<i>Victory in Jesus</i>
Prayer	Joseph Tucker
Hymn #490	<i>It Is Well with My Soul</i>
Hymn #382	<i>Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?</i>
Communion/Collection	Jerry Williams
Hymn #1001	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>
<i>(Children ages 2-Pre-K are dismissed to Children's Worship)</i>	
Scripture Reading (<i>Psalm 72</i>)	Chris McMillian
Bible Lesson	Mike Tune
Hymn #683	<i>I Am Mine No More</i>
Announcements	Wayne Doran
Introduction of Visitors/Closing Prayer	Rush Baker
Song Leader	Charles McMillian
Ushers for December	Grant Smith, Hal Swetnam



John Reagan will lead singing this evening.

Mark Dawson & Jose Arevalo will lead the prayers.

December 18 Servers: Brock Barker, Chantha Chea,

Brian Ellis, Bill Furr, Tangent Lin, Ken 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	Ignacio Espinoza
John Reagan	Saul Reyes
Wilfredo Reyes	Jonah Shumate
Hal Swetnam	Kevin Thie
John Waterston	Ken Yeatman
Habtu Zemech	

Missionaries

Gary & Sue Babcock, Kent County, RI
 Pedro & Mireya Batres, Nicaragua
 Henry & Rosa Gutierrez, Nicaragua
 Gene & Janice Luna, WBI/Guatemala
 Don & Esther Roarabaugh, Lewistown, PA
 Jesus & Abigail Sosa, Mexico City, MX
 Mike Tune, Amazing Grace International
 Deonté Watkins, Blacksburg, Va Tech
 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, December 11, 2016

Bible Study	176
Morning Assembly	276
Evening Assembly	106
Contribution	\$19,608
YTD Average	\$12,259
Budget Goal	\$12,710

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Classes & Online 60

Wednesday, December 21
Prayer - Wayne Doran
Song Leader - Joseph Tucker