

Falls Fellowship

Christmas Is Coming



I have been working on sermons for the Christmas season. I know what you're thinking: let's get past Halloween and Thanksgiving before thinking about Christmas. But it's not too early to start thinking about the meaning of Christmas. It's all about love and the way God revealed his love to us by sending his Son, Jesus Christ, born as

a little baby and wrapped in swaddling cloths and placed by Mary, his mother, in a feeding trough in a cave turned into a nursery in Bethlehem. If you wait to the last minute to prepare for Christmas, you will miss a lot of the excitement that comes with the preparation.

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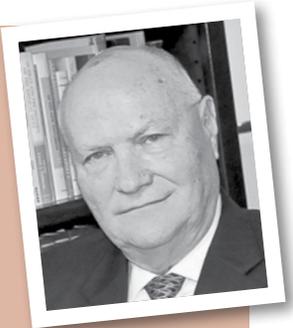
Missions Corner

During the month of October, we will be taking up the ANNUAL OFFERING for the Baptist Children's Home (BCH). Without you, and North Carolina Baptists throughout the state, it would be impossible for Baptist Children's Homes to offer compassionate homes and ministries where children

can come and find a place of hope and peace. BCH's caring cottage parents and caregivers introduce boys and girls to Jesus who says to them, "Come to me ... I will give you rest." Please pray for all North Carolina children and families. Here are some

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Fall at Falls



It's my favorite time of the year, Fall. The leaves are beginning to turn in color and turn loose from the trees. We move quickly from cutting grass to raking leaves. Fall annuals are to be planted and maybe a trip to the mountains to see God's fall canvas will be planned. Cheryl and I are talking about traveling up to Pennsylvania for a leaf viewing trip and a feast set at the tables of Amish country.

Fall also reminds me of changes at Falls Baptist Church. First, we are receiving a special offering for Baptist Men for the work of disaster relief. Teams are working in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. They are feeding thousands of people at multiple feeding stations every day and their teams are poised to begin mud-outs, sheet rock and floor covering removal. They will be work-

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Missions Corner continued ...

prayer prompts for the month of October:

MONDAY – Pray for the thousands of lives BCH serves each year through its 21 NC locations.

TUESDAY – Pray for the cottage parents, care givers, chiefs, case managers and staff who give of themselves around the clock to care for boys and girls.

WEDNESDAY – Pray for the boys and girls at Good Shepherd Children’s Home, BCH’s orphanage in Xela, Guatemala.

THURSDAY – Pray for those who live at BCH’s nine statewide homes for developmentally disabled adults.

FRIDAY – Pray for children and families in your community.

SATURDAY – Pray for BCH president/CEO Michael C. Blackwell as he leads the ministry.

SUNDAY – Pray that the children and families BCH ministers to will come to know Jesus as their Savior.



— *Mindy Barham*

Baptist Children’s Home – Hurricane Florence Update

Children and Caregivers Are Home.

We are excited to announce the boys, girls and caregivers who were evacuated to our Mills Home campus in Thomasville have all returned to their original BCH locations. The children and staff from Odum Home in Pembroke, Cameron Boys Camp in Moore County, Camp Duncan in Aberdeen and Kennedy Home in Kinston are all safely home. While there are recovery projects underway at BCH’s locations impacted by the

Event Calendar

- October 7 — Deacon’s Meeting 4 PM
- October 11 — Church Fellowship Outing 7 PM
- October 13 — Men’s Breakfast 8 AM
- October 21 — Regular Church Conference 12 PM



storm, it has been determined that conditions are safe. They are happy to be home.

Damage Updates

- **Kennedy Home:** BCH’s Kinston campus was the hardest hit of all locations. Power was restored Wednesday evening. Crews have been on campus cleaning and assessing losses which are substantial. There are many repairs that will need to be made at the various buildings and the perishable food, all lost during the power outage, needs replenishing.
- **McNeill Home:** An initial assessment of McNeill Home, BCH’s cottage at Indian Beach, shows some damage within the cottage as well as the dock.
- **Mills Home:** BCH’s Thomasville campus is continuing to recover from the trees that fell hitting two of the buildings. Other trees in danger of falling are having to be taken down as well. Professional and volunteer crews have been on the campus assisting with the clean up of limbs and debris scattered throughout the grounds.
- **Other Eastern Locations:** We are thankful to report there is minimal damage at Odum Home, Cameron Boys Camp and Camp Duncan.

October Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 1 | Lola Kelley |
| 3 | Vivian Sherrell |
| 4 | Dewey Stewart |
| 8 | Naomi Tsujimura |
| 14 | Allison Watkins |
| 18 | Tracie Odham |
| 17 | Melanie Barham |
| 17 | Stacie Creech |
| 18 | Pat Jenks |
| 25 | Bill Allen |
| 25 | R. L. Harris |
| 30 | Hubert Jenks |



Three Ways You Can Help

1) PRAY: We need prayer warriors lifting up our children, families and caregivers. Pray for the crews helping with recovery at our locations. And continue to pray for disaster recovery teams across the Carolinas and victims of this horrific storm.

2) VOLUNTEER: We need skilled volunteers (tree removal, electrical, plumbing, etc.) ages 18 and older to help with projects. If you can help, contact Sam Barefoot at 336-474-1224 or svbarefoot@bchfamily.org

3) DONATE: If you would like to help, please donate – please note “Hurricane Relief” on/with your payment. Thank you for your support and for being faithful friends of Baptist Children’s Homes!

tion (ntsujimura726@gmail.com; 919-696-3393) and if you need assistance with transportation to the event. Thank you!

— Naomi Tsujimura

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Christmas continued ...

Sunday, October 7 I plan to preach a sermon on preparing for Christmas. I am delivering the sermon over two months before Christmas so you can start your preparations early enough this year to enjoy all the excitement of Christmas and have enough time to allow the story of Christmas to sink deeply into your souls. By the time Christmas finally comes, our hearts will be bursting with joy. We will have studied biblical passages which lead up to Christmas. We will have told stories about Christmas that will warm the heart. We will search for a new level of love for the Baby in the Manger that will make us more loving in how we respond to each other. “Glory to God in the Highest” will make us high with joy and make us love each other with a new depth of meaning. Christmas is coming; let’s be prepared.

— Tom Jenkins

One-day workshop for women available

The women of Falls Baptist Church bring a great variety of life and faith experience to our congregation. Like everyone in these busy times, women wear many hats and have a variety of roles: wife, mother, daughter, employee, employer, caregiver, volunteer, home manager, scheduling master, chauffeur, and the list goes on. But we all know, there is great truth to the statement, “Life is what happens when you are making other plans.”

On November 17, 2018, at C3 Church in Clayton, North Carolina, Chrystal Evans Hurst, co-author of the bestselling *Kingdom Women*, and Christian women’s speaker will be presenting a one day workshop entitled “She’s Still There: Rescuing the Girl in You.” The workshop is based on her the book of the same name. Along with Chrystal Evans Hurst, author Lisa Harper will be speaking to women from all over North Carolina to help us all figure out how we are still capable of being who God intended us to be and how we can get “back on track,” despite the interruptions and curve balls life has thrown our way. Meredith Andrews and Anthony Evans (From Season 2 of *The Voice*) will be providing worship music. It is a full day event from 8:30 AM-5:00 PM. There is a \$30 fee for the workshop. Lunch is provided. Here is a link for registration. <http://c3church.com/event/shes-still-there/>

Please contact Naomi Tsujimura for more informa-



Deacons

Linwood Barham, Chairman	919-418-1162
Hubert Jenks, Vice Chairman	919-270-8765
Alan Watkins, Secretary	919-793-5548
Tommy Brown	843-446-6540
Kevin Barham	919-618-4214
Brandon Long	252-903-4662

FBC sends crafts supplies to Kenya

Last year I was blessed to join Covenant Presbyterian of Charlotte in a yearly mission trip they make to visit a school they oversee outside Nairobi, Kenya. This year my dear friend Mary called to let me know she had been chosen as the mission trip leader. I immediately heard some trepidation in her voice, was it the concerns over safety with recent incursions from Somalia, the review they would conduct with the school with the weight of ensuring the school is making the right choices to get full accreditation this year. ... erm no, actually, it was the prospect of having to come up with crafts for the VBS like sessions they would hold while others held teacher training education. Thus she was calling me hoping me I might be able to give her some ideas. Thinking of the left over supplies from Easter and VBS we had, I offered that maybe I could do one better and actually provide the crafts for them to take with them. I promised to get back with her the following week.

On Wednesday nights, our mission study pre-teen/teen class is all about the great commission. Our goal is to not only study missionary's but also participate when and where we can, having worked on Operation Christmas Child boxes, state fair hygiene kits, backpack buddies etc. and we had actually done a lot of the prep for the Easter and VBS crafts this year. The following Wednesday, I proposed the kids choose a few of the crafts from the last couple of years and that we do the prep work to send to Africa and the kids readily



agreed. We decided which crafts we would choose and then set about doing the pre-work, which included A LOT of cutting and counting throughout the month of July. My friend was overjoyed to have this particular task handled.

In September the team made the trip to Kenya. My friend asked that I share their thanks with Falls and to let them know what a huge hit for the kids the crafts were. She said her team was so impressed with how much work had gone into the preparation and organization. Covenant is a multi thousand member mega church. It certainly shows that though we are small, we certainly can share in the work and make an impact. Exodus 18:22

— Stacie Creech





Missionary Family Update

Please pray for the Parker family as they have traveled to Mexico last week for immersive language training. As one of their church sponsors, we anticipate receiving a link to their blogsite soon and will have specific prayer requests to share with the FBC congregation.



Church Fellowship Outing

Church Fellowship Outing: David Jeremiah – The Overcomer Tour. Thursday October 11th at 7 PM at PNC Arena. Cost is free. Open to all FBC men and women, feel free to invite a friend!

See Naomi T., Mindy or Ruth Ann if you would like a ride to the event. Reserve your tickets today at www.overcomertour.com

Fall continued ...

ing in the hurricane ravaged area for months to come as they help to put broken lives back together. Now here's the thing: not many of us can go and participate in the work, but we all can make a contribution. You may want to use your state missions offering envelope and write on it "Baptist Men" and bring it with you next Sunday.

Second, we have begun a new church year. A new Sunday School class for adults met for the first time September 23. New excitement is in our children's work. Our deacons have begun a new year of serving the church. Committees are gearing up for new emphases among their areas of work. We have upgrades in the building. The ceiling in the sanctuary has a new "sheen" to it as, of necessity, some of the sheet rock was replaced. We have a new stove and a food warmer in the kitchen.

Third, the Pastor Search Committee presented us with the results of the congregational survey administered recently. Two foci emerge from the survey: one, the profile you as the congregation believes describes the church, and, two, the profile that helps define the characteristics you want in your next pastor. Now that the information has been presented to the congregation, you have the opportunity to engage the committee in a time of questions and answers on Wednesday night, October 3.



Watch for the changes the Fall Season will bring. Moreover, keep your eyes on Falls Baptist Church; change is in the wind there, too.

— Tom Jenkins

Have You Downloaded Our App?

Our new mobile app is ready and in use by 41 people at this writing. It is available for Apple and Android devices, so search for Falls Baptist in your App Store or you can use the link on our website at www.fallsbaptistchurch.org.



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