

# Falls Fellowship



## *Here it is!! Called Out by an Atheist*

**P**enn Jillette of the magic duo Penn & Teller is an atheist. In a video, he asks, “How much do you have to hate someone not to proselytize?” In other words, if you believe beyond the shadow of a doubt there is a Heaven and a Hell, how can you not tell people about it? He compares it to seeing someone standing in front of an oncoming truck. Wouldn’t you call out to them? Wouldn’t you eventually run headlong and tackle them to get them out of the way of that truck? Then how can you stand by and let someone end up in Hell?

I thought about that a lot. There are a couple of differences with the truck analogy and Heaven and Hell. Normally, we perceive we have a lot more time to tell people about such things. In other words, that truck is a long way off. We may be at the point where we are just trying to let people know there’s a truck headed down the highway, and it would be better to get out of the road now rather than later.

The other is that you can see the truck — Heaven and Hell have to be accepted on faith. It’s a little easier to point out a truck headed someone’s way since you can physically show it to them.

*See Called Out on page 2*

## **A Gift which is Free**

**I** was in Jerusalem on a study leave with five other members of the clergy.

One of the things on my

“to see” list

was the Via

Dolorosa,

the Way

of Suffer-

ing. Tradi-

tion says

that craggy

walk is the

route Jesus took to the cross.

Since it is in the old part of

the city, it has narrow pas-

sageways, a hard rock surface

and twists and turns. Over

the years fourteen stations

of the cross have been estab-

lished along the route. Every

Friday a large group is led

by Franciscan friars along

the Via Dolorosa and the

group stops at each of the

fourteen stations of the cross.

The stations move from the

condemnation by Pilate to

the tomb, only one of several

sites where Jesus’ body is

said to have been enshrined.

Some people are so caught up

in the experience that they



*See Gift on page 4*

## Event Calendar

- April 1 — Passover
- April 3 — Good Friday Service 7 PM
- April 5 — Easter Sunrise Service 7 AM  
Falls Community Cemetery
- April 5 — Easter Breakfast 8 AM
- April 5 — Easter
- April 6 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM
- April 7 — Ladies Bible Study 7 PM
- April 14 — Ladies Bible Study 7 PM
- April 19 — Quarterly Business Meeting 12 PM
- April 21 — Ladies Bible Study 7 PM
- April 28 — Ladies Bible Study 7 PM

## Donations Needed for Baptist Children’s Home

On Sunday, April 12, please bring gift cards for the Baptist Children’s Home. Below is the message from Children’s Home.

*We are only collecting gift cards this year. Baptist Children’s Homes closed Oak Ranch and Cameron Boy’s Camp on December 31, 2025. We delivered our food to these locations because they are the closest BCH campuses to the Triangle area. Going forward, we will collect gift cards and send them to the Mills Homes Campus in Thomasville and the Kennedy Home Campus in Kinston.*

Cards needed are from WalMart, Sam’s Club, Food Lion, Lowes Foods, Piggly Wiggly and Ingles. Our collection plates will be on the communion table up front for you to place your cards.

We are still collecting food for Tri-Area Ministry if you wish to contribute. Please see their article in the next column on this page.

— Falls Mission Team

## Treasurer’s Report

March 1 – March 31, 2026

Tithes, Offerings and Memorials - \$19,736.00  
Budgeted/expected tithes - \$13,592.43

Actual expenditures - \$8,915.21  
Budgeted expenditures - \$13,609.94

— Craig P. Jackson, Treasurer

## Food Donations

We continue to collect food for Tri-Area Ministry each month. Our participation makes an important difference to helping families in need in our area.

Some items needed:

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Meat (tuna, chicken), Chef Boyardee, Cereal, Grits, Rice, Dried Beans, Oatmeal, Mac ‘n Cheese, Pasta / Noodles, Crackers, Canned Soup.



TRI-AREA MINISTRY  
FOOD PANTRY

Continued from page 1

## Called Out ... continued

Neither of these should stop us from sharing our knowledge about Heaven and Hell, Jesus, and the gospel. It may be good that the ‘truck’ is a long way off, because it gives us time and several opportunities to let people know what’s coming. The same way you

## April Birthdays

- 1 Ken Barham
- 8 Carl Scott
- 8 Ruth Ann Long
- 26 Brandon Long



wouldn't stop telling someone to get out of the way of an oncoming truck, you shouldn't stop telling them about your faith. Ultimately, it's up to them to heed your warning or not. All you can do is tell them the Truth. As Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ..." (John 14:6 NIV)

— Alan Watkins

## Ladies Bible Study

**T**he *Land Between* by Jeff Manion. Join us each Tuesday evening beginning April 7 through May 5 from 7 PM – 8:30 PM. A sign-up sheet will be available in the vestibule.

See Elizabeth Colcord or Stacie Creech if you have questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

## After-Easter Days

**E**aster morning is the beginning of a unique and most tenderly interesting portion of our blessed Saviour's life. It is the transition period between His earthly ministry and His heavenly exaltation. Like the Indian summer of the year, there is a tender veil of loveliness and mystery about it which links it with both worlds, and makes it a peculiarly appropriate pattern of a life hid with Christ in God, in which we may walk with Him all our days with our heads in heaven while our feet still tread the earth below. May the Holy Spirit vividly reveal to us such glimpses of this blessed life as will enable us to reproduce it in our own experience and to walk with Him with a new sense of His abiding presence and glorious reality!

### A Living Christ

This glad resurrection morning dispels from the religion of Jesus all the shadows of the sepulchre and all the morbid atmosphere of sorrow, depression and death. The Christ of true Christianity is not a bleeding, thorn-crowned Ecce Homo, but a glad and radiant face, bright as the springtide morning and radiant with immortal life. "I am he that liveth, and was dead," is His message, and "Behold! I am alive for evermore."

Oh, may this day impress upon our hearts the reality of a Risen and Living Christ, until He shall be more actual to us than any other personality and we shall know what it means to be not only "reconciled to God by the death of His Son" but "much more we shall be saved by his life!"

### A Victorious Christ

What a picture of easy and uttermost triumph is that resurrection scene! Satan had done his utmost; men had done their best to hold the Captive of the tomb. But without an effort the Mighty Sleeper calmly rose before the Easter dawn, deliberately laying off the grave clothes and wrapping up the napkin and putting all in place as naturally as any of us this morning arranged our toilet; and then through that colossal stone that closed His tomb, He passed without even rolling it aside or breaking the seal, and before the guards could know He was risen, He was standing calmly in the garden, talking with Mary as though nothing had happened. The infinite facility with which He put His feet on every foe and rose above every obstacle is, perhaps, the most overwhelming impression we have received from all the incidents of His resurrection.

So, too, we see the same victorious power expressed in the attitude of the angel who followed Him, and with a single touch rolled away the stone from the sepulchre and coolly sat down upon it, and then looked in the faces of the keepers till they grew pale with terror and flew in horror and dismay without a struggle.

Easter morning, like the Indian summer of the year, has a tender veil of loveliness and mystery about it which links it with both worlds, and makes it a peculiarly appropriate pattern of a life hid with Christ in God. *A classic sermon by A. B. Simpson.*

— sermoncentral.com

## Deacons

Frank Powell, Chairman	919-604-1285
Johnny Ray, Vice Chairman	919-740-7099
Alan Watkins, Secretary	919-793-5548
Craig Jackson	919-306-5783
Danny Brafford	919-369-4490

## *Gift ... cont'*

crawl on their knees ending the journey with bloody knees.

Some people make the journey as an act of atonement and to suffer along the way may, for them, heighten their sense of confession. I don't belong to that group. The work of salvation was completed through what Christ did. We celebrated what He did for us over Holy Week. He died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead to validate his gift of salvation and eternal life to those who repent of their sins and accept him as Lord and Savior. One may want to bruise his knees on the Via Dolorosa as a sign of contrition, but I prefer the quiet, solemn ceremony of coming to Jesus in prayer, repenting of my sins, asking for forgiveness and then turning to the task of living a life honoring him. This last part, living a life that honors him, is, I believe, more difficult than crawling over the stones on the Via Dolorosa.

Honoring Christ with our lives starts with mental activity; it is the result of a decision we made; we decided to follow Jesus and live a life that honors him. No amount of crawling across stone walkways can replace honoring Christ with our lives. Now don't get me wrong; this is not easy. I can testify to that. I am an old man now and following Jesus is often as hard as it was when, at eleven years of age, I accepted him and invited him to take control of my life. I fight battles with temptation daily and sometimes temptation wins. But the glorious thing is that Jesus still forgives me.

You have your own battles. In our culture searching for peace at the bottom of a liquor bottle or ingesting illegal drugs is a delusional way to seek peace. Some people think wealth will bring peace and so they may break the rules to acquire wealth and then come to the end of life realizing Satan lied to them, as he always does. Jesus said he is a liar.

Easter is the good news. It speaks of the one way to find forgiveness, peace and the capacity to live as a child of God, forgiven of sin, given a new life that has no end to it. Christ took our sins to the cross and died for us. He arose from the grave to assure us he was the victor over sin, and his promises of life everlasting are not poetic sayings but grounded in the historical reality that he conquered sin and death: "Up from the grave He arose" is not just the words found in the Baptist hymnal. They speak to the ultimate truth: Christ conquered sin and death; he paid the price for our salvation.

It is the conquering of sin and death by Jesus Christ that James Weldon Johnson wrote about in his immortal poem, *Go Down Death*, words conceived after the death of Sister Caroline in Savannah, Georgia.

Weep not, weep not,  
She is not dead;  
She's resting in the bosom of Jesus.  
Heart-broken husband— weep no more;  
Grief-stricken son — weep no more;  
Left-lonesome daughter — weep no more;  
She's only just gone home.

— Tom Jenkins



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