

Falls Fellowship



The Infield Fly Rule

There is a rule in baseball called the infield fly rule. The purpose of the rule is to stop teams from getting an easy double play when someone hits a routine pop fly. The rule is very simple, but surprisingly, many people cannot seem to get it right. ... The requirements are:

- A batter hits a fair fly ball that can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort
- 1st base and 2nd base are occupied
- There are less than two outs
- The umpire declares it is an infield fly

When these four things happen, the batter is out, and the runners aren't forced to go to the next base. It seems easy enough, but I've heard people say they thought there had to be two outs for it to apply (which makes no sense at all) or that they thought the bases had to be loaded for it to come in effect.

"The salvation rule," as I like to call it, has a set of requirements, too,

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Stay Focused

You may be among the millions who are watching the Olympics unfold in Paris, France. While not following all the events, Cheryl and I have been interested in the women's gymnastics and particularly the stellar performance of Simone Biles. Biles already competed at two Olympics, the 2016 Rio games and the 2020 Tokyo games which were delayed by the pandemic. She did not complete the Olympics in Tokyo because of a case of the "twisties," which I didn't know until recently refers to the gymnast's loss of the ability to track where she is in the air. On Sunday she suffered a lower leg injury during her warmups, but she is still in the competition.



The Apostle Paul used the image of the athlete to inspire us to persevere in our Chris-

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Event Calendar

August 5 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM

August 23 — Trivia Contest 6 PM

August 25 — Called Business Meeting 12 PM

September 9 — Homecoming!

Treasurer's Report

Our financial statement for the month of June 1, 2024 — June 30, 2024.

Tithes and Memorials - \$15,975.00

Budgeted/expected tithes - \$12,175.06

Other income:

Misc. Income - \$400.00

Parsonage Rental - \$750.00

Actual expenditures - \$9,333.02

Budgeted expenditures - \$12,175.09

— Craig P. Jackson, Treasurer

Nominating Committee meeting

Our nominating committee is meeting and will be calling members to see if they are willing to serve on various committees during our upcoming 2024-2025 fiscal year.

When, not if, you are called, please give serious consideration to serving our church. We have ambitious plans to grow and spread God's word through our areas and we need everyone to help!

Let's Make A Joyful Noise!

Scripture tells us in Psalm 100 verses one and two: *Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.*

Worship is about giving thanks to God with all our

the excuse you can't sing — most of us can't sing, but that doesn't stop us from making that joyful noise to the Lord.

Choir practice is now once a month at 2:30 PM, day to be announced. We have a lot of fun and the fellowship is hard to beat. Join us!

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"Infield" continued ...

that people seem to get confused, but knowing what the steps are is simple:

- Admit you are a sinner
- Believe Jesus is the Son of God and he died on the cross for our sins
- Repent (turn away) from your sins
- Get baptized

Just like with the infield fly rule, you don't really get to pick and choose which ones apply. So, if someone says, "I'll admit that I am a sinner, but I'm not going to turn away from my sins," that's like a pop fly on the infield with one out — the rule just doesn't apply. No umpire would ever tell you they sometimes will call an infield fly with just one out; and God is not going to grant us salvation unless we follow all of His rules either. So, if someone asks you what an infield fly is, give them all the requirements. If someone asks you what they need to do for salvation, do the same!

— Alan Watkins

August Birthdays

- 2 Mary Young
- 7 Trey Davis
- 12 Sharon Young
- 13 Sunny Hammons
- 18 Sandra Leonard
- 26 Sandra Ray
- 29 Kaleigh Young





Christmas in July

Christmas in July Ladies Gathering was on July 27th at 9:00 AM. Food and Fellowship were shared as they made Chrismons for our Tree! Photos from the event are above and below!

— Sandra Leonard



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.

Deacons

Frank Powell, Chairman	919-604-1285
Victoria Neal, Vice Chairman	919-880-1888
Bill Upton	910-358-7303
Tommy Brown	843-446-6540
Johnny Ray	919-740-7099

Focused cont' ...

tian faith, rising to all competition and strengthening our spiritual self to withstand the assaults of the world and Satan. For example, he wrote to the Philippians and the Galatians to run the race (Phil. 2:16, Gal. 2:2). He also told the Galatians to run well (Gal. 5:7). He told Timothy to fight and finish the race (2 Tim. 4:7) and to play by the rules (2 Tim. 2:5). He wrote to the Philippians, “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14).

I’ve learned from the Apostle and from my life’s experiences that the Christian life is like a competition. We are competing against the powers of darkness to persevere in our faith. We cannot “run in place” as a Christian. We must be moving forward in our goal to become more like Christ, or we are receding. There’s no standing still. It is easy to become discouraged and to wonder if, after many years of church attendance, reading the Bible, giving of our material gifts to Christian causes, we are making progress to become more like Christ. Stay focused on the goal. The goal is fellowship with Christ through his Spirit in this life

and eternal life realized with Christ in a place we call heaven. We are on a journey, and it doesn’t end until we stand before the throne of God and hear the words our hearts yearn for, “Well done my good servant” (Luke 19:17). Stay focused on the goal. Don’t become distracted and travel down the side streets of life.

On another note, pray for the nominating committee as its members talk with people to fill positions in the ministries of our church. If approached, give consideration and prayer to the request. You may be inclined to say “No”, but your answer must be bathed in prayer. Who knows but what God has given you life and breath for such a time as this? Every member has a place of service in the church and that is particularly true in a small church like Falls. I met with the Church Council Sunday, and, among other topics, we talked about the future of Falls as we have witnessed a decline in attendance following the pandemic. I believe God is not finished with this church on this hill for many years. He still yearns to do ministry with us and through us. We still have a gospel to proclaim and a hope in Christ to share: stay focused.

— Tom Jenkins



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