

Falls Fellowship



Is *Die Hard* a Christmas Movie?

If you're looking for a definitive answer to that question, you've come to the wrong place. There doesn't appear to be a definitive answer anyway. I am personally on the 'no' side, but I've heard lots of arguments on both sides. Let's take a look at some of those arguments I found on the Internet: "Yes" arguments: the story starts on Christmas Eve; the main character's wife's name is Holly; there is a lot of Christmas music in the film.

"No" arguments: it's brutal, which is not what Christmas is about; the fact it takes place at Christmas doesn't have any impact on the story; it had a July premiere date in theaters.

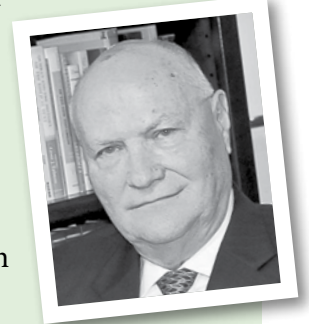
How do these arguments have anything to do with our journey as Christians? Well, there are a lot of similarities. The story starts on Christmas Eve when the main character's mom, Mary, is about to give birth to Jesus. There was music, and since then humans have created lots more about this event. The story of Jesus is brutal, especially the part where He

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Come Back to Falls for Christmas

Christmas was marked by symbols, traditions and predict-

able routines when I was a child. Each had its place in the celebration of the season for our family and today each one evokes pleasant and vivid memories.



Holly was wrapped around the entrance from the living room to the dining room. It was fresh and, therefore, had to be replenished several times during the season. A large bough was suspended from the chandelier above the dining room table. The Christmas tree, brought fresh from the woods by my father and me, stood before the double windows in the living room dressed in ornaments and lights which were so old they had to be gently placed on the tree. Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, shepherds

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Event Calendar

- December 7 — Christmas Dinner 6 PM
- December 24 — Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service 5 PM
- December 25 — Merry Christmas!
- January 1 — New Year Day Covered Dish Luncheon Noon
- January 6 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM
- January 19 — Quarterly Church Conference Noon

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service December 24 at 5 PM

The Meaning of the Advent Wreath

The wreath, as a circle, expresses God's eternity. The evergreen symbolizes God's unchangeableness. The lights remind us we are to be the light of the world, just as Jesus was the light. The Purple candles symbolizes the royalty of Jesus Christ who is the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Special Offering

In December we will be collecting money for the Lot-tie Moon Christmas Offering. All of your contributions go to the International Missions Board.

Stay tuned for more ways you can help our mis-sions team.

Treasurer's Report

Our financial statement for the month of October 1, 2024 — October 31, 2024.

Tithes and Memorials - \$10,290
 Budgeted/expected tithes - \$12,175.06
 Other income: NC Mission/Baptist Men - \$1,625.00
 Parsonage Rental - \$750.00

Actual expenditures - \$9,548.44
 Budgeted expenditures - \$12,175.09

— Craig P. Jackson, Treasurer

Food Donations

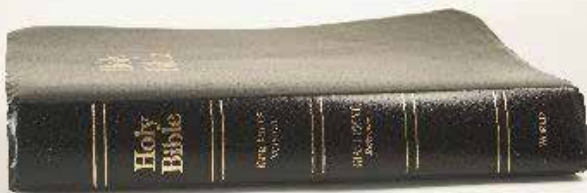
We continue to collect food for Tri-Area Ministry each month. Our participation makes an im-portant difference to helping families in need in our area.

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



December Birthdays

- 4 Cheryl Jenkins
- 7 Derick Foster, IV
- 9 Parker Jenks
- 15 Mark Young
- 15 Taylar Bub
- 20 Phil Jackson
- 21 Rebecca Davenport
- 24 Sarah Tart
- 28 Nikki Creech





Annual Veterans Breakfast

Our annual Veterans Day Breakfast was Saturday, November 9, from 8 – 10 AM. Each year, on the Saturday closest to Veterans Day,



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Die Hard continued ...

gives his life on a cross to save us from our sins. And while we celebrate this in December, there's plenty of debate about what time of year Jesus was actually born. Christmas is as good a time as any to accept Jesus as your savior but accepting Him in July is perfectly fine as well! So, as you celebrate the birth of Jesus this year, think back to when you first accepted Him. It might have been a process which took from December to July, and maybe you can lay the seeds of salvation for someone this Christmas for their future acceptance of our Savior as their own.

And if you were looking for a Christmas movie recommendation, maybe check out *Santa Jaws* if you like shark movies. Or, if you want something a little more traditional, *It's a Wonderful Life* or *A Christmas Story* are always favorites. All three of these are definitely Christmas movies and are rated PG!

— Alan Watkins

we host an all-you-can-eat Veterans' Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall.

This breakfast is FREE for all veterans.

The general public, and especially ALL veterans, were invited.

The menu included SOS, sausage, bacon, two casseroles, eggs, juice and coffee.

A good time was had by all.

Deacons

Frank Powell, Chairman 919-604-1285

Victoria Neal, Vice Chairman 919-880-1888

Alan Watkins, Secretary 919-793-5548

Bill Upton 910-358-7303

Johnny Ray 919-740-7099

Come Back cont' ...

and various farm animals formed a manger scene on the coffee table in front of the sofa. Nearby was a Bible opened to the Christmas story found in Luke's Gospel.

The house was filled with the sounds and aromas of Christmas. Mother baked special treats. If I close my eyes and think about them, I can smell her chocolate chip cookies even today. The record player (this was before the revolution of the digital age) sent Christmas music throughout the house.

The memories of Christmas for many people are closely tied to memories of home. Those memories are so powerful millions of people will go home for Christmas to reunite with family and attempt to reclaim both the memories and innocence of childhood.

The glad news about Christmas is that in a way we can return home. Perhaps not to the house where we grew up or to the biological family which nurtured us, but we can return to the place which is a symbol of our eternal home, the place where we worship, our church. There we can sing the joyful songs of Jesus' birth with the members of our church family. There we can listen again to the old, old story of God's loving us and sending a little baby more than 2,000 years ago to save us from the death of sin and birth us into life everlasting.

ing. Perhaps it's been a while since you joined your family at Falls Baptist Church. It has been quite some time since we saw some of you at Falls. Life's choices have taken you to other places; unavoidable circumstances have encumbered your attendance. It's time to return: "Come Back to Falls for Christmas." Join us on Sundays as we light the candles of the Advent wreath; come to the Christmas banquet on Saturday. Join us for the Christmas Eve service. You will find us a little bit older but basically just like we were the last time you joined us for worship.

— Tom Jenkins

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.*

Don't use the excuse you can't sing — most of us can't sing, but that doesn't stop us from making a 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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