

# Falls Fellowship



## *Dropping Your Net*

Once upon a time, a man saw his neighbor's son coming down the path to his house. The neighbor lived about two miles away, so it wasn't a short walk, and the man knew something must be wrong. When the boy made it to the house, he informed the man his father's beloved horse had died and his father was hoping the neighbor would be able to come over the next day and help dig a grave to bury the animal. Now, the man had some things he needed to do the next day — he needed to go into town and get a new hammer and pick up some supplies from the general store. As he drew a breath to tell the boy all he had to do and that he would come to help afterwards, he noticed the concern in the young man's eyes. Instead of telling him all the things he needed to do, he instead said, "It would be my honor to help. Tell your father I'll be there first thing in the morning."

The story above is just one I made up, but the dilemma in the man's mind is, "what is more important, what I have to do, or my neighbor's needs?" What would you do in this situation? Taking this a step further, what if the boy walking down the path was Jesus?

*See Dropping on page 3*

## Christmas gives us hope

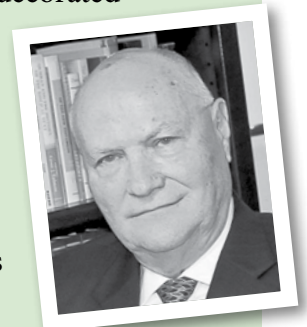
Saturday, November 28, Stacie Creech and Teresa Doman and their committee, decorated

the sanctuary for Advent. I watched as the men lifted the heavy pieces of the nativity scene into

their customary place in the baptistry and Stacie's nephews climbed the ladder to help decorate the Christmas tree. The Advent Wreath, with its candles, was placed on its pedestal. We looked at what had been done and had a prayer of thanksgiving. I paused and bowed my head and quietly thanked God for another season of Advent.

The following day, Sunday, Sara and Frank read the scripture for the first Sunday of advent and the first candle in the wreath, the candle of Hope, was lit. We will light another candle each Sunday and each one is a special symbol: Hope, Peace, Joy and

*See Hope on page 4*



## Event Calendar

- December 1 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM
- December 13 — Christmas Dinner 6 PM
- December 14 — Called Church Conference  
2026 Budget Presentation 12 PM
- December 24 — Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Communion Service 5 PM
- December 25 — Merry Christmas!
- January 1 — New Year's Covered Dish Luncheon  
12 PM
- January 5 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service December 24 at 5 PM

## Please pick up 2026 Offering Envelopes

Members should pick up their offering envelope boxes in the vestibule if you have not already done so. Please see Kevin Barham if you have any questions.

## 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

## Treasurer's Report

November 1/25 – November 30/25

Tithes and Memorials - \$7,130.00  
Budgeted/expected tithes - \$12,175.16

Other income:

Parsonage -\$0.00  
Misc Income- \$800.00  
NC Children's Home - \$175.00

Actual expenditures - \$8,943.05  
Budgeted expenditures - \$12,175.09

— Craig P. Jackson, Treasurer

## December Birthdays

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



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## There is always hope

There is always, always hope because my Creator is alive and well. He rules and reigns. While I may suffer for a season, his purposes will prevail.

There is always, always hope because Jesus died for my sins, offering me pardon for my crimes against my Creator and release from guilt and shame.

There is always, always hope because the Comforter, the Advocate, the Helper, the Holy Spirit, has come alongside me in my walk with God, and he never leaves.

There is always, always hope because the church advances forward, taking the gospel to new places and attacking global giants together.

There is always, always hope because Jesus is coming again. He will reign forever in peace. All of our tears will be wiped away.

God loves you. He never gives up on you. He sees the best of you that you often can't see for yourself. He knows what your future can be from his perspective. He paid for your freedom with the price of his own Son, Jesus. He knows you. He knows your pain and your problems and your potential.

Keep going. Keep loving. Keep reaching out. Keep hoping!

— *SermonCentral.com*

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*Continued from page 1*

## ***Drop continued ...***

A similar thing happened in Matthew 4:18-22 when Jesus saw Simon, Andrew, James and John. He asked them to come follow Him, and they dropped their nets "at once." Luke 9:61-62 shows a different response to Jesus' calling. The man in this passage says he has something he needs to do before following Jesus. If Jesus appeared now and said He needed you to do something, I'm sure you wouldn't hesitate. But what if your neighbor was in need of something immediately? Would you tell them about what you needed to do before you could help them, or would you 'drop your net' and help them?

— *Alan Watkins*

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## Newsletter articles needed

We have had a newsletter each month for the past eight years.

But, we need news and articles from all of our committees to let everyone know what you are doing and when you are doing it.

In addition, our mobile app is in use by more than 100 people in 10 countries at this writing — Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, China, Japan, Nigeria and Puerto Rico in addition to the United States! It is available for Apple and Android devices and was recently updated, so you need to update your phone to use it. Search for Falls Baptist in your App Store or you can use the link on our website.

Communication is very important, so send your news and articles to Frank at [fbpowell@mac.com](mailto:fbpowell@mac.com). Thanks!

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## Special Offering

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

Stay tuned for more ways you can help our missions team.

### 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

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## Hope cont' ...

Love. On Christmas Eve the large white candle, the Christ candle, will be lit and we will pause and reflect on the story behind the Advent Wreath: the gift from God long ago when he sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to a stable in Bethlehem. Angels sang and lit up the sky with their brilliance and shepherds left their sheep on the hillside and went to Bethlehem to see what the fuss was about. Without the scene in Bethlehem, when “God so loved the world that he sent His Son,” we would live in a dark world without Hope. The Advent Wreath symbolizes the self-giving act of God when he sent his Son into the world as Mary’s child.

As I write these words, I am grieving over the death of R. L. Harris, a staunch supporter of this church, and what it represents, for many years. Thursday we gathered in the sanctuary to honor his life and proceeded to the cemetery where his remains will be interred next to Pearl. We will miss R. L. even as we miss his beloved wife, Pearl, and the many others who have been claimed from our presence to be at home with the Lord.

Without the story behind Advent, “God so loved the world that he gave,” we would be bound to our grief without hope. We would place our beloved dead



in the cold ground and go our way trying to remember them but without the thought that we, too, will someday be gathered into the presence of our Lord where we will join all of his children around God’s throne and sing with the angels, “Glory to God in the highest.”

Christmas points us to hope. We are in this world for a brief time but, through Christ, we face eternity where we shall gather with the angels around the throne of God and in that crowd will be our Christian loved ones. There will be Cheryl’s mother and father, my mother and father and all “God’s children” where death will be defeated and the past will dissolve into the eternal day of God’s presence.

Merry Christmas.

— Tom Jenkins



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