

Falls Fellowship



Getting Back On Track

Someone wrote to me today asking how they could get back on track in a class. They said some things had happened at the beginning of the semester which got them off track, but they were committed to doing whatever it takes to get back on track. Looking at their grades, it didn't appear to me they had ever really been on track. They had missed half the assignments and failed the ones they had turned in. Unfortunately, I had to tell this person it didn't look like they would be able to get back on track for this semester. I hate having to tell people this type of thing, but at least they will be able to come back next semester for a fresh start.

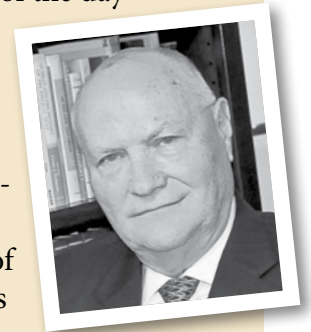
Jesus gives us the same opportunity. There's no way to physically erase the sins we have committed in the past, but through forgiveness and repentance, we have the opportunity for a fresh start.

Forgiveness means 'to let go' of something, in this case, our sins. It doesn't mean they never happened, but when Jesus forgives us, He has let go of the sins we have committed. This also means we can let go of them.

See Track on page 3

A Few Rambling Thoughts

Hot dogs, homemade ice cream, fellowship around tables where conversations ranged from topics of the day to remembrances of the past, prayers, a game of trivia — these were some of the elements of our July



4th celebration held on July 3. Sara and her committee made it all come together. Thank you for the food prepared by multiple people, the July 4 themed decorations, the trivia game led by Alan, and the many expressions of joy shared among the family that is Falls Baptist Church.

You've heard me use the words "family" or "spiritual family" to define our church. We are related to each other: all of us through Christ as members of His Body, and some of us to each other through the miracle of genet-

See Thoughts on page 4

Event Calendar

- July 3 — Independence Day Celebration 6 PM
- July 8 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM
- July 13 — Community Yard Sale in our parking lot. 8 AM – 12 PM.
- July 14 — Quarterly Business Meeting 12 PM
- July 27 — Christmas in July Ladies Gathering 9 AM Fellowship Hall
- August 5 — Deacons Meeting 7 PM

Treasurer's Report

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

Tithes and Memorials - \$11,792.00

Budgeted/expected tithes - \$12,175.06

Other income:

Parsonage Rental - \$750.00

Actual expenditures - \$10,049.76

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*

ful noise. We're gaining new members — come be part of it! New voices are always welcome!

Don't use 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!

Falls Baptist Church On Mission

THANK YOU Fall Baptist Church Members! You showed up and shared for the RBA Dry Pantry Needs last month!

Missions are an ongoing need. With that in mind please see below.

Summer Mission Opportunity DUE BY END of JULY

Backpacks and School Supplies for Children in Need:

The Raleigh Baptist Association is collecting the following items to be distributed to children in need.

Backpacks (sturdy, high-quality bags to ensure extended use)

Elementary Students:

- #2 Pencil Pack
- Pencil Pouch (no boxes)
- Glue Sticks
- Crayons/Colored Pencils
- Pencil Sharpener
- Pocket Folders

July Birthdays

- 6 Johnny Ray
- 12 David Young
- 21 Alan Watkins



Composition Notebooks
Highlighters
Loose-Leaf Paper (wide-rule)
Binders (older elementary grades)
Spiral Notebook

Middle/High School Students:

Pen Pack
Pencils
Pencil Sharpener
Highlighters
Loose-Leaf Paper (college rule)
Spiral Notebook – Multi-Subject
Post It Notes
3-Ring Binder
Composition Notebook

— Sandra Leonard

Christmas in July

Christmas in July Ladies Gathering July 27th 9:00 AM to share Food and Fellowship as we make Chrismons for our Tree! Bring a dish to share if you so desire.!

— 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.

Continued from page 1

“Track” continued ...

Once your sins have been forgiven, there is no need to dwell on them any further.

Repentance is the ‘turning away from’ something or ‘a change of mind-set’. I remember telling Trisha one time I was sorry for something, and she said, “If you were really sorry, then you’d stop doing it!” I forget what the incident was, probably bringing some dirt in with me after cutting grass, but she wanted me to stop apologizing for it and to stop doing it. That’s repentance. Sure, you can keep asking for forgiveness for the same sin, but what Jesus wants us to do after being forgiven for a sin is to turn away from it by changing your mind-set so you don’t do it anymore.

So, while it’s too late for the student I was talking about earlier to get back on track for this semester, it’s never too late for us to get back on track with Jesus. Make sure you regularly ask Him for the forgiveness of your sins and the willpower to repent of them as well.

Dear Lord, thank you for the forgiveness of my sins. Please help me to turn away from these sins and the acts which lead me to commit them. Help me to live in accordance with your will, not mine. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.

— Alan Watkins



Part of the enormous spread at Dr. Jenkins’ Birthday Celebration!

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

Thoughts cont' ...

ics. Even after several years of serving as your pastor I am occasionally surprised to learn of a family relationship I did not know about. The first church Cheryl and I served was a rural church where most of the people were Johnsons or Canadys. The Johnsons and the Canadys married each other and that made it even more difficult for a new pastor to keep track of the proper name to use when addressing a church member. I remember calling someone a Johnson and receiving the reply, "I am not one, but I married one." When church business devolved into disagreement it was often the Johnsons disagreeing with the Canadys. I remember a business meeting where there was disagreement and one of the deacons spoke up and said, "I am neither a Johnson nor a Canady, but I think the solution is..." He saw himself as an outsider and perhaps a good choice to moderate the discussion.

One of the issues churches face where one or two families constitute the bulk of the membership is making the non-family member feel welcomed when he joins the church. Falls has dealt with that, and we realize we thrive only when we invite the new person into our fellowship and vest him with the rights of full membership. I have met with the Nominating Com-



The dessert table at Dr. Jenkins' Birthday Celebration!

mittee and observed they are finding ways for newcomers to serve in our church.

The Building and Grounds Committee secured a contractor to build new cement steps descending to the lower parking lot. The old ones had become dangerous to use. Other projects which involve taking care of our property and making upgrades are being planned.

Sunday we will nominate candidates to serve as deacons. The office of deacon is a biblical position and nominating someone deserves deep consideration and prayer. Ask for the direction of the Holy Spirit as you nominate candidates.

— Tom Jenkins



9700 Fonville Road
Wake Forest, NC 27587
www.fallsbaptistchurch.org

Dr. Tom Jenkins, Pastor
(919) 812-6675



www.facebook.com/fallsbaptistchurch