

Falls Fellowship

Healthy Congregations



Healthy Congregations Part 2

Some people use numbers to measure a church's health. They are interested in money given and people attending—nickels and noses, as someone once said. You must have people attending and you must have money in the offering plate but are they the best way to measure a church's health? The numbers can be good and the church can still be floundering in not achieving its pur-

pose; that is, not achieving the mission that God has for it. And that's the big test of a church's health: is it achieving the mission given by God?

The starting place for the conversation about the health of Falls BC is to look at our mission and ask the question, "Are we living up to this?" So, what is our mission? Seven statements are printed on page one of our bulletin every Sunday. The first Sunday I was here I read the statements carefully and

Continued on page 3

Missions Corner

Help us spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through supporting the missions outreach at FBC! Giving to the cause of the Gospel is a way to store treasures in heaven which will never fade or fail (Matthew 6:20). Whether your passion lies with helping fund

international missionaries to spread the Gospel in foreign lands, giving to those less fortunate in the local community or volunteering your time at a service project, the FBC missions committee has put togeth-

Continued on page 2

Looking at Faces — Thinking About the Future



The other night I was reviewing my photos of Vacation Bible School at Falls this year. Bright, happy, smiling, eager faces filled the frames. The faces were of children marching into the sanctuary for the opening exercise each night, engaged in Bible study, intently listening to their teachers, "horsing" around on the playground, eating cookies and ice cream and joyfully singing. I had a good feeling reviewing the photographs; they represent life and hope and vision for Falls. They are the faces of our future. We can't plan a future for Falls without children.

Let me expand on that last statement. Let's reach more children. They are out there. I see them when I ride around the neighborhood. I know they are in those houses in new developments around the church. I see

See Faces on page 3

Missions continued ...

er several opportunities for you to consider supporting during the holiday season.

Important Dates to Remember:

Sunday, November 5 – December 3: Raleigh Rescue Mission Giving Tree (local missions)

Sunday, December 3 – Sunday December 10: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (international missions)

Wednesday, December 6: Christmas Caroling at Hillside Nursing Home

Wednesday, December 13: Service Project Volunteering – Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC

November and December Projects:

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the US. In many cases, this special shoebox of gifts is the only gift a child in these areas will ever receive in their lifetime.



See the OCC display in the vestibule for more detailed information and to pick up a shoebox or two! Deadline to turn in your shoebox donations is Wednesday November 8th. For more information on OCC visit: www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box

Raleigh Rescue Mission

Christmas Blessings Gift Program, providing Christmas gifts for local needy families. Beginning on Sunday November 5th, chose a tag (gifts will be for either a child or adult) from the "Giving Tree" in the vestibule and purchase the gift listed (prices range from \$10 - \$35) put the gift in a holiday gift bag under the tree no later than Sunday December 3rd. www.raleighrescue.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/2017ChristmasBlessingsGiftProgram_WEB.pdf

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Starting in 1888, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was established to empower the international missions efforts for Southern Baptists. After more than a century, the annual offering continues its steady growth. The National Goal this year is \$160 Million. Your giving enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God. ALL of the LMCO goes directly to the international field. This funding is used by missionaries ministering in foreign countries and many of them, minister in lands that are not friendly to the Gospel. Please use the special envelopes in the pews on Sunday December 3 or Sunday December 10th to help further international missions work. www.imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering

Event Calendar

November 5 — Deadline for Operation Christmas Child boxes

November 11 — Veterans Day Breakfast – 8 AM

November 13 — Deacons' Meeting 7 PM

November 16 — Senior Trip to Fruitcake Factory

November 23 — Thanksgiving Day

November 29 — Hanging of the Greens

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 1

Healthy Congregations continued ...

puzzled over whether they represent the church's mission. There are some good thoughts there: family in Christ, celebrating God, reaching, teaching, sharing. (If you can't remember the statements then come Sunday and look at the bulletin). I affirm the statements. I think, however, that we need to "puzzle" over what God wants us to do as his church in this community and sharply focus it and act it out in everything we do as a church. What can we do that will be unique to us and not an idea that we borrowed from another church's web site?

I may have opened the proverbial can of worms here for some of you may think the issue of Falls' mission was settled a long time ago. Remember, I'm the new kid on the block so I am still learning. If you know the church's mission then tell me so we can get on with measuring the church's health for that's the ba-



rometer we must use. If we have a mission then everybody should own it, live by it and measure the church's health by it.

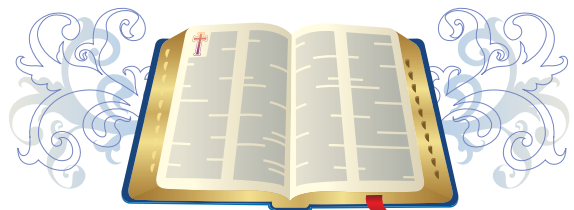
— Tom Jenkins, Interim Pastor

Faces continued ...

some of the girls here for scouts. I know the children are out there. Our task is to find a way to reach them for the one who said, "Let the little children come to me." That was Jesus. If we can get the children to Jesus he will take care of the rest for he will love them and help us to know how to teach them and nurture them.

Look around you. There are children out there who need to know about Jesus. We may be the best and perhaps the last hope for some of them to know about Jesus.

— Tom Jenkins, Interim Pastor



Be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead!
— 1 Peter 1:6

Deacons

Linwood Barham, Chairman	919-418-1162
Frank Powell, Vice Chairman	919-604-1285
Julie Allen, Secretary	919-274-7160
Tommy Brown	843-446-6540
Alan Watkins	919-793-5548
Brandon Long	252-903-4662

November Birthdays

- 1 Gary Watkins
- 3 Wayne Blackmon
- 8 Jason Stewart
- 10 Tyler Allen
- 11 Amy Barham
- 11 Tamara Merritt
- 15 Faye Van Putte
- 18 Wanda Looper
- 20 Tammy Medlin
- 23 Marie Bowden
- 23 Payton Harney
- 27 Lee Canipe





Missions continued from page 2 ...

Hillside Nursing Home

Join the FBC Choir and Girl Scout Troop as we spread Christmas cheer to the elderly! Our annual Christmas caroling event at the nursing home will be on Wednesday December 6th from 7-8 pm. Join us for fellowship and a home-cooked dinner at FBC at 5:45 pm. At 6:45 pm, we will depart for Hillside located at 968 Wait Avenue Wake Forest, NC 27587 and carol from 7-8 pm. All ages welcome! <http://hillside-nursing-center.com/>

Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina

Join your church member friends in volunteering your time to help the needy this holiday season! For our holiday service project, we will be packing food for needy families from 6-8 pm on Wednesday December 13th at the Raleigh location: 1924 Capital Blvd. Raleigh, NC 27604. Please use the sign-up sheet in the vestibule. This event is for adults and children ages 10+. www.foodbankcenc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=FBCENHome

Help Wanted — 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.*

Falls Baptist Church Choir needs you to help us make that joyful noise. We're gaining new members — come be part of it! Preparations for Christmas music are starting soon, 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 Wednesdays at 7:15 PM. We have a lot of fun and the fellowship is hard to beat. Join us!

Newsletter articles needed

Our goal is to have a monthly newsletter for the rest of the year and then look at our needs and decide what we will do in 2018.

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.

Communication is very important, so send your news and articles to Frank at fbpowell@mac.com

Thanks!



9700 Fonville Road
Wake Forest, NC 27587
www.fallsbaptist.com

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



www.facebook.com/fallsbaptistchurch