

Falls Fellowship



Frog Gigging for God

When I was little, my dad would take me frog gigging. I loved it. We'd bring the frogs home, skin them and put the legs in salt water. For those of you who have never done this, the muscles in the frogs' legs twitch in the salt water, and that's kind of interesting no matter what your age! The next morning, my mom would fry them up like chicken legs and we would have a fine meal!

Frog gigging done right takes two people — one to hold the light and one to gig the frog. So, when my son, Ryan, was about 8, I decided we would go down to the pond behind our house one night and gig a frog. Ryan held the light, and I wielded the gig. It didn't take long ... we found a nice sized bull frog, giggered it and headed back to the house. I busted through the door with the gig in tow, frog on the end, yelling about how Ryan and I had hunted the beast and brought meat home to the family! My wife, Trisha, ran out the back door and wouldn't come back in until I had skinned it and put the legs in the salt water.

So, when she came back in, I was still talking about our conquest, maybe hyping it up a little more than it was, and told her how Ryan had done a great job. That's when Ryan made the comment that is the topic of

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Words From a Grateful Heart

Thank you for your words of appreciation, cards, covered dish lunch and generous monetary gift for Cheryl and me on Pastor Appreciation Day. Cheryl and I are truly blessed to be walking among you as pastor and wife. I was a pastor when Cheryl and I married, thus, we have been serving churches all our married life — from Georgia to Kentucky to North Carolina. Each church has been unique and holds its own place among our memories. I remember small rural churches I served as a youth and a challenging church in a college town and then there was the church in the foothills that saw both our son and daughter graduate high school and start their journey in college. Falls has its own place in that gallery of churches. You are kind



See Grateful on page 4



Worship Precautions During November

The church is taking several precautions to make attendance as safe as possible during this Covid-19 pandemic. Even though a few in our congregation have or have had the virus, we are aware you could have the virus and be without symptoms. Therefore, we are requesting that all follow these guidelines:

1. If you are ill, please do not attend until all your symptoms have disappeared.
2. Maintain six-foot social distance except for family members living in the same household.
3. Order of service and hymns will appear in your individual program bulletin.
4. Boxes to receive tithes and offerings are placed at

November Birthdays

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 1 | Gary Watkins |
| 3 | Wayne Blackmon |
| 8 | Jason Stewart |
| 10 | Tyler Allen |
| 10 | Raymond Foster |
| 11 | Amy Barham |
| 15 | Faye Van Putte |
| 18 | Wanda Looper |
| 23 | Payton Harney |
| 27 | Lee Canipe |



the doors so we do not have to handle offering plates.

Some members fall into the category of having underlying conditions which make them uncomfortable to be in groups. We understand they may not be willing to attend now. Hopefully, this pandemic will soon pass and we can truly get back to normal worship services. During the month of November, Wednesday Bible study will be in the Fellowship Hall at 6 PM for supper and continue on Zoom at 7 PM for those who can not attend in person. If you plan on attending for supper please sign the sheet each week in the vestibule.

Veterans' Appreciation Dinner

Falls Baptist Church will honor our Veterans on Sunday, November 13, 2022, with a catered luncheon immediately following Worship service. Please join us as we honor those who have served in the military for our country!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY at Christmas

A wonderful tradition at Falls Baptist Church is the sponsorship of a family in need during Christmas. This year, we have reached out to the Raleigh Baptist Association (RBA), and they have connected us with one of their many families involved in the RBA's "Caring Connections," ministry.

This RBA program focuses on helping women and their families work towards self-sufficiency after challenges such as substance abuse, domestic abuse, or incarceration.

This year, Falls Baptist will be sponsoring a young mother and her 4-year-old daughter and 2-year-old son.

We put up the Christmas tree in the Church lobby on Sunday, November 6th. The gift requests will be hanging as ornaments on the tree. We will have a sign-up list with the tree so we can keep track of who has taken which gift request. The RBA is asking that the gifts be wrapped.



Just a few of our members at Southern Supreme Fruitcake Company on November 3rd.

In addition to items of clothing and toys for her children, the mother has made a few modest requests for her home. The RBA has also asked that we provide a devotional book for the family and this request will be on the tree as well.

The deadline for having gifts back at church will be Sunday, December 11, 2022.

Cynthia Thelen, the director of Caring Connections, is very pleased our church continues to reach out in love to those in need. She has also asked that we remember this young family in prayer during the days ahead and ask for God's love and care for them.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Naomi Tsujimura
919-696-3393

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Frog Gigging continued ...

this story.

He said, "All I did was hold the light." I told him without that light, there's no way I could have gigged the frog — in fact, I'd have never even seen it. He didn't realize how important his job was.

I think, as adults, we can run into this mindset at church as well. It's not always easy to see the importance of a task, whether it's cleaning a table, greeting someone as they come in the front door, or just giving a kind word to someone who looks like they need it. All these things are important, and necessary, to advance God's great plan. So, work diligently at whatever task you're doing for God — you just might be shining light on a soul that God is looking to gig!

— Alan Watkins

Event Calendar

- November 7 — Deacons Meeting 6 PM
- November 13 — Veterans' Appreciation Catered Dinner 12 PM
- November 13 — Choir Practice 1 PM
- November 24 — Thanksgiving Day
- November 27 — First Sunday in Advent

Deacons

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Frank Powell, Chairman | 919-604-1285 |
| Victoria Neal, Vice Chairman | 919-880-1888 |
| Mike Harris | 919-746-5697 |
| Bill Upton | 910-358-7303 |
| Tommy Brown | 843-446-6540 |
| Johnny Ray | 919-740-7099 |

Grateful cont' ...

and loving to Cheryl and me and among the memories we will have of Falls will be the joy we felt last Sunday. Thank you.

While I am offering thanksgiving, let me thank you for your financial support of missions through our church. Each year we file with the Raleigh Baptist Association and the Baptist State Convention of NC a document called "The Annual Church Profile." It is a snapshot of the church for the previous reporting year. In the last reporting year, the treasurer reported we gave \$15,071.00 to missions. The list of supported missions includes the Cooperative Program, NC Baptists Missions, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, the Baptist Children's Home of NC, and Baptists on Mission. In addition, we faithfully supported the food ministry of the Tri-Area Ministries, missions work at the NC State Fair, and the annual food drive for the Children's Home. The church clerk reported 94 resident members with an average in person attendance of 42; that does not include the number of people who joined us online. Many churches that closed for the pandemic have not re-opened. Let us be thankful God enabled us to keep our doors opened.

Let me also offer thanksgiving for programs and ministries of our church. Each November we emphasize the work of the Baptist Children's Home of NC.

Jim Dyer will be with us on November 13 to speak on behalf of the Children's Home and we will also honor our veterans on that day. Lunch will be served after church to honor our veterans, and get this, the lunch will be catered — no need to bring a "covered dish."

November is the month of "Thanksgiving." Let's make it the month of "gratitude"; that is, let's search for opportunities to offer gratitude for the immeasurable gifts of God. Let us offer gratitude to people around us, even those who are cantankerous; offer gratitude for sunsets, sunrises, birds singing and little children laughing. Gratitude will push out negative feelings; you cannot be depressed if you are grateful and find multiple ways to express it. I am grateful for you.

— Tom Jenkins

Treasurer's Report

Our financials for the month of September 1, 2022 — September 30, 2022.

Tithes - \$12,046

Budgeted/expected tithes - \$11,583

Actual expenditures - \$8,074.13

Budgeted expenditures - \$11,524

NC Missions offering thru 9-30-22 - \$720

Other offerings gifts (Sept. 2022) - \$250



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