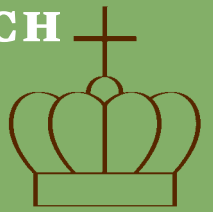




THE FALLS CHURCH *Current*



Making Christ King in Our Lives and in the Lives of Others

November/December 2011

Photo by Carol Bowman



Message from The Rector

St. Paul is a model for us in the way he responded to the unjust treatment he received at the hands of those who opposed him. Read sometime the last chapters of Acts, and Romans 12 and 13, and notice that:

- He valued his citizenship (as a Roman) and the rights it guaranteed him of a fair trial.
- He never tried to take the law into his own hands.
- He refused to seek revenge or treat his oppressors badly in any way.
- He sought to live peaceably with all those who opposed and sought to destroy him.
- He willingly submitted to the legal process of the government and accepted the unreasonably long delays with faith and patience.
- He believed that the governing authorities were in power only by the hand of God.

Even when the Emperor was Nero, who soon showed signs of instability and proved to be a great enemy of the early church, Paul still trusted that his trial would come about however God willed, and he could trust God with the outcome.

Paul believed that rulers and those in authority should cause us no fear – the judge was “the servant of God.” From

continued on page 2

Blest To Be A Blessing

by Janean Johnson

Just looking at the most recent picture of our volunteers on the Pastoral Care Team (PCT), one can discern that this is a lovely group of capable, wise women. Can you guess which four are nurses, or which two (or three, if Ellie is in the picture) are trained as counselors? Who is the ordained minister, or educator, or lawyer among the group? All of our volunteers have loving, caring hearts and wisdom based not only on their experience, but especially on the Word of God. As you can see, all come from various backgrounds, with diverse gifts. But the best blessing each of these women brings to The Falls Church is her eagerness to share her gifts and experience with others in our parish.

One example of how these women’s past lives and knowledge can be a gift to others can be seen in the work of a

subcommittee of PCT volunteers. This group (three nurses and a homemaker) visits retirement homes, hospices, Alzheimer units, and independent caregiver organizations. In these visits, they gather information in order to review and evaluate the various facilities—the level of care, cost, and quality of services provided. This is an ongoing process and will continue for some time. Eventually, the evaluation scale and list of the assorted healthcare providers will be an extremely valuable resource for our older members who want to avail themselves of such services. Younger members may also find this resource helpful as they assist their parents in making these important decisions based on facts and not just

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Photo by Carol Bowman

Volunteers gather to start a new year in service with the Pastoral Care Team.

SERVING AT THE FALLS CHURCH

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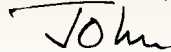
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all we can tell, Paul went to his own execution believing this, even though the ruler who was responsible was evil, a mad man.

From whom did Paul learn these things? Who but Christ Jesus Himself, who showed Paul the way by His own example. How could we then have any fear of the outcome of our trial? We will take advantage of our legal right to fair trial, and pursue our own advantageous outcome within the law. But in the end we will trust that God is working his will through whatever legal decisions are reached. We will praise God however our trial is finally settled.

In the family,



The Rev. Dr. John Yates II

Blest To Be A Blessing continued from cover

perception and appearance. These women are drawing on their medical backgrounds and training to do their research, which they will make available through the PCT to be a blessing to many at The Falls Church.

Sometimes, all you need is a commitment to share your time and open heart to serve others in what may appear to be very mundane ways. One of our beloved members of TFC, Jack Robertson, who has passed on to be with the Lord, blessed others by giving mentally challenged adults rides to church over a period of 22 years. Jack explained that he considered each of these special people his friend and they truly blessed him! The Pastoral Care Team is now continuing his ministry and has found it takes an entire team of drivers to replace Jack's loving service to "the least of these." This driving team has already given feedback as to how they have been touched and blessed by these special individuals. One of the couples who volunteered to help drive is shown here with our Friends having coffee after the 11 am Worship Service.

Can you picture yourself being a blessing to others? Each of you has been given gifts by the Lord, which you can share with your fellow members as a blessing to them. Your gift doesn't have to be a talent like being an electrician,



The late Jack Robertson's special friends.

carpenter, lawyer, or accountant, although we certainly do welcome your sharing those skills with others! Sharing simple gifts such as your time and expertise to prepare a Manna Meal or offering the extra space in your car to take someone to a Worship Service are equally valued and important to the recipient.

The Storehouse of Service forms were handed out to the congregation during worship October 23 and 30. We pray that you will give careful thought and consideration to the numerous categories listed in order to find a way you could be a blessing to others by sharing your unique gifts. If you haven't already experienced this, you will see how you also will be blessed by this sharing! It really is true that it is "more blessed to give than to receive." †



The Gospel of Justice

by **The Rev. Bill Haley**

Corhaven is a Spiritual Retreat Center established by the Haleys. 'From Corhaven' is a regular column by TFC Associate Rector Haley in each issue of *The Current*.

Where I grew up was for decades a certain sort of bellwether and standard-bearer for American evangelicalism—Wheaton, Illinois, home of Wheaton College, the Billy Graham Center, and hundreds of headquarters for evangelical missions and ministries. And even when I lived there through the 80s, still in the air was a deep suspicion of things that smacked of so-called “social justice”. If you talked too much about the poor, or racism, or environmental concerns, or injustice, you were viewed as suspect, at best, and, at worst, liberal.

How things have changed, and how fast! In the last 25 years, a remarkable sea change has happened in evangelical circles, where now, if a church doesn't have some sort of real commitment and real ministry to alleviating poverty, pursuing justice, and reflecting the racial diversity of God's people, *that* church seen as suspect, or out of touch. We have the long labor of many people to thank for that—Ray Bakke, John Perkins, Jim Wallis, John Stott, and Ron Sider, to name just a few. Then in the late 90s came Gary Haugen standing on their shoulders, and with him is a new breed of young, articulate leaders who have a deep commitment to Christ and the Scripture, and precisely because of *that* have a deep commitment to justice and compassion for the poor.

Even *USA Today* recognized this development when one of their writers said:

Not that the evangelical old guard hasn't cared, or hasn't served others, but we are seeing a seismic shift in emphasis...you can expect to find, on a scale not seen for decades, more and more Bible-believing Christians on the front lines of compassion campaigns for the poor, abused women, modern-day slaves, children (born as well as unborn), minorities of every sort, and anyone else being exploited and mistreated.

What's happened? Very simply, the evangelical movement is maturing, and realizing that the Gospel is not limited to the forgiveness of sins, and that bearing witness and doing justice are neither exclusive nor competitive, but rather two wings of the same bird of God's love for people, after death and during life.

This maturation of a movement is seen in a lot of ways, but notably in the evangelical “old guard” now being the vanguard for God's love for the poor, His love for justice, the Christian imperative to love them too, and work for them. There are four noteworthy mentions, and three books worth reading.

Rick Warren: His now-famous commitment to alleviate suffering and poverty around the world did not first come from Scripture, but from his wife, Kay, who compelled him to go

to Africa. This sparked a reexamination of his own Christianity in 2003. He said, “I found those 2,000 verses on the poor. How did I miss that? I went to Bible college, two seminaries, and I got a doctorate. How did I miss God's compassion for the poor? I was not seeing all the purposes of God.” Now, with a very broad hearing, he's a consistent voice for social action from a Biblical foundation.

Tim Keller: In a *Christianity Today* interview on his most recent book, *Generous Justice*, he writes, “According to the Bible, if you really have been changed by the grace of God, it will move you toward the poor.”

Rich Stearns: The current president of World Vision wrote *A Hole in Our Gospel* to call Christians to a more complete and Biblical gospel, and the better part of the first third of it is his own tale of how he finally, in middle age, understood that working sacrificially for the suffering is not optional for the follower of Jesus, but imperative.

Max Lucado: Yes, Max Lucado. He describes his own writing as “nightstand reading,” marked by the message, “Get on your knees.” His most recent book, *Outlive Your Life*, however, he says is more “Roll up your sleeves.” It's the fruit of his own journey beginning in 2005, of which he says he feels the Holy Spirit has compelled him back to social concern that he had in his 20s and then lost. What started the journey was that “a guy asked me what my great-grandchildren would think about my response to the one billion hungry people on the planet. I had neglected this area in my life and in my teaching.”

All these men reflect a maturation in their own spiritual formation manifesting itself in greater concern for the poor and commitment to act on their behalf, for the love of God as the hands of God. And thank God, that can be true of a movement as well.

If there's a caution and encouragement in their stories, it's *don't wait until middle age to mature in this area*. Spiritual formation, if Christ-born and Spirit-led, starts inward but inexorably moves outward. One of the ways we know it is happening is that we find ourselves moved more and more to love “the least of these,” for Jesus' sake and by any means necessary, and that can happen at any age.

[In January, TFC will take up this theme of “The Gospel of Justice” through *A Week for the World* and other offerings.] †



Persecution Today

by Alana Johnson

The Falls Church family is part of the worldwide body of Jesus Christ. Parts of that body are enduring unimaginable suffering. The Word of God teaches “. . . so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it . . .” (1 Cor. 12: 25, 26). An estimated 100 million Christians worldwide suffer interrogation, arrest, and even death for their faith in Christ, with millions more facing discrimination and alienation.

Let’s consider the meaning of persecution. The verb form literally means “to pursue.” As soon as one aligns himself with Christ, he becomes the object of a pursuit. Persecution is the consequence of the world’s hatred toward Christ. The “world” stands for everyone who chooses to live without Christ and resents anyone who tries to live with Christ. This is the wellspring of all persecution. (From *Faith That Endures*, by Ronald Boyd-MacMillan.) President Carl Moeller of Open Doors USA describes persecution as “the struggle for the people of God to stand for Him in the midst of spiritual opposition.” He adds, “Wherever light pierces the darkness, the darkness kicks back.” We know that Jesus is the Light of the world, so Satan will be kicking back, sometimes in the most evil of ways.

Pastor Cheng in China explains, “You cannot understand the full story of the persecuted Church if all you write about and listen to are the stories of a few individuals who were martyred or miraculously delivered. We praise God for them, but for every story of deliverance, there are a thousand stories of endurance. That’s the real story. Miss that, and you miss the bigger picture of how God brings us through. Too many Westerners just want a diet of deliverance when they really need to hear about endurance.”

Meet some who endured:

- **Senait Habta**, aged 28, died on April 23 last year at Sawa Military Training Center in Eritrea, where she had been imprisoned for around two years. She and 15 other university students had been detained for attending a Bible study group. They were held in metal shipping containers

“You cannot understand the full story of the persecuted Church if all you write about and listen to are the stories of a few individuals...for every story of deliverance, there are a thousand stories of endurance. That’s the real story.”

which became sweltering hot during the day and bitterly cold at night. Senait became seriously ill and reportedly was offered medical care and freedom if she would deny Christ. She refused and eventually died.

- This past May, after being attacked by a mob in Nigeria, **Pastor James Musa Rike** comforted his dying wife by saying, “Hold on to your faith in Jesus, and we shall meet and never part again.” He then went to his dying 13-year-old daughter, Sum James Rike. She told her Dad how the men had said to her that they were going to kill her and “see how your Jesus will save you.” Sum told them that Jesus had already saved her, and that by killing her they would only be making it possible for her to be with Him.
- Just this past September, we learned about **Mehdi Forootan**. On December 26, 2010, authorities had arrested Forootan in a wave of persecution against Iran’s underground church; more than three months later, he was one of a few who had not been released. During one interrogation, an officer turned on a camcorder and pointed it toward him, demanding that Forootan tell him about his “crime.” Forootan began to tell him how he had struggled with substance abuse as a teenager, “and how when I was in university I found Jesus and He saved me, and I have been free ever since. But he became angry and turned off the camera. He said: ‘I asked you to tell about your crime, not evangelize us.’” After months of trying to get him to write statements confessing a crime, authorities inexplicably released him.

So what can we here at The Falls Church do? Join me on the second Tuesday of every month, at 7 pm in the Boardroom. I’ll share with you recent accounts of heart-breaking persecution and endurance, and we can truly share in the suffering of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We can join our hearts and minds together as we intercede in prayer for these precious people. We can partner with our Mighty Lord in waging war against the enemy, by using the spiritual weapons given us. We can, in prayer, work with Jesus to turn the stone hearts of the persecutors and stop their plans that are intended for harm, asking God to bring them to repentance and a saving knowledge of Him.

Our Savior Jesus is on the move and doing mighty things in the world at this time, and He invites us to be a part of it. Persecution is integral to the spread of the Gospel, to fulfilling the Great Commission. People of all cultures and religions are coming out of their darkness into the glorious light of His love and forgiveness! Come, learn, and pray for the persecuted Church, for the Salvation of individuals, and for the healing of the Nations! †

Sources: *Compass Direct News; Open Doors USA; Barnabas Aid; International Christian Concern*

SERVING IN THE COMMUNITY

Seeking God's Heart for the Homeless This Holiday Season

by Michelle Noyes

One day last December, I took a walk down Main Street, hoping the cold would clear my head. I prayed for God to give me his love for this community. I prayed for his joy to lead my service in Local Outreach at The Falls Church. As my fingers grew stiff from the 20-degree weather, I wondered what it would be like to have nowhere to sleep inside that night. Ducking into the main office at TFC for a moment to warm up, I noticed bagels and cream cheese sitting out for the staff. As I helped myself to half a bagel, I wondered what it would be like to be truly hungry and have nowhere to go for dinner that evening.

After saying hello, I asked the receptionist about the man who had walked out as I walked in. "He is one of our occasional homeless walk-ins looking for bus tokens and any other help he can get," she answered. "He just got out of the hospital. He is off to the winter shelter now for the night; hopefully they will have space for him." Shivering, I thought to myself, so that is where I'd go if I was on the street tonight. "Hypothermia season started today," the receptionist added; "I'm sure they'll find a way to fit him in." I sure hope so, I thought, glancing at the setting sun.

Walking back across the street to my office, I braced myself against the biting wind of cars rushing past. I walked by people standing on the roadside, their expressions fixed, lost in thought. I wondered if they were thinking of warm homes, or of work worries, or of how to find a warmer coat for the coming weeks on the streets. Looking into these faces, wondering if any of them would be sleeping in the cold tonight, I considered the help available through TFC Local Outreach.

To those bold enough to come inside and ask for help, The Falls Church will give some canned food, a prayer, and directions to a shelter. If we have it available, we will also give out a coat or a blanket, socks, and gloves. But what about those who do not come inside and ask? What about those who fear rejection or who have lost hope in Christian charity? What about those we walk past on the streets?

If you feel God's compassion tugging at your heart when you pass the homeless in the street, here are some practical ways you can help those who are homeless this winter:

- Keep on hand copies of the sheet of human resources in Falls Church, which lists nearby shelters, food ministries,



and clothing closets. This information sheet can be handed to someone who doesn't know where to go for aid. Find this resource on the Outreach wall in the Lower Narthex.

- Keep canned food or an extra pair of gloves in the trunk of your car. The next time you see someone sitting in the cold watching the traffic or feel a tug on your sleeve, you will have a gift you can put in their hands.
- Donate warm clothes, blankets, sleeping bags, and food to The Falls Church Loving Our Neighbor drive. Drop off donations at the labeled Loving Our Neighbor bins in the Upper and Lower Narthex of The Falls Church.
- Volunteer your time at ministries that serve the homeless, such as The Lamb Center, Safe Haven, and the Falls Church Winter Shelter. For more information about these ministries, contact mnoyes@thefallschurch.org.
- Starting December 1, direct those without a place to stay to Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter at 3525 Moncure Avenue, Falls Church. This shelter has a "no turn-away" policy during the coldest months of the year.

We can show the love of Christ to those on the street who might never come inside to find Him. We can give hope in the name of Jesus to those who suffer cold, hunger, and hopelessness this holiday season. †

Family Christmas Eve Service



4th & 5th Graders

Want to participate
in telling the story
of the Nativity
on December 24?

Contact Children's Ministry
Office soon. Look for
audition date in the
bulletin.

Children and Parents

Invite family and friends who do not know Jesus. Giving a person and opportunity to know Jesus is the best give you will ever give!

LOVING THE WORLD HERE AT HOME

ESOL Launches a New Year of Service

by Christine Jones

The ESOL ministry is off to a great start, offering classes to local internationals and immigrants three times a week. As always, it is impossible to describe our student population without using a map of the world. Not all Hispanics, our students come from more than two dozen different countries! And more are constantly joining our classes, thanks to word of mouth and the signs on the street.

But the students are more to us than a place on a map. Our program is small enough to allow our volunteer teachers to really get to know our students. A Japanese student tells us personal stories about the impact of the tsunami on her pregnant sister. We have mixed



Photo by Christine Jones

ESOL students visiting the National Christmas Tree in Washington, DC.



Photo by Christine Jones

ESOL students at the Thanksgiving celebration.

emotions when a family moves out of the area because they have purchased their first home! Because they see we care about more than their English, students come back week after week. We love when we can connect them with other parts of our church, such as Worship Services, other ministries, and

other parishioners!

One of our favorite events is our annual Christmas carol sing. Once again, Michelle McCarten, Children's Choir Director, will come teach a Christmas carol to all of our ESOL students. Then on December 9 at the ESOL Christmas party, the Children's Choirs, the ESOL students, and the ESOL volunteers all share Christmas together through the gift of music. Everyone in the parish is welcome, both at this December event and also, earlier, at our ESOL Thanksgiving party on Saturday November 19. †

If you would like more information about the ESOL ministry and how you can get involved, please contact Christine Jones, ESOL Coordinator, (703) 574-4379 or cjones@thefallschurch.org. Be sure to also visit the TFC website for current student and volunteer testimonies.

PRAYING AND REMEMBERING

Pray for Those Who Serve Our Nation: TFC Offers Intercessory Prayer for Military and Civilians Serving Abroad Join the Veterans Day Service at The Falls Church

by Garry Sauner

The Falls Church holds its second annual Veterans Day Service this year, at 7 pm in the Historic Church on November 11, Veterans Day. All parishioners and the public are invited. If you have loved ones serving overseas, this Worship Service will be an opportunity to offer prayer and thanksgiving for them. TFC also has an established military intercessory prayer ministry available.

The Falls Church currently has 10 devoted individuals (five teams) who pray daily for military, civilians, and contractors serving in harm's way and their families left at home. Many of the prayers offered ask God for His protection, a renewed faith in Christ, or physical and emotional resiliency so no matter what these individuals face, they will be able to function effectively and carry out their responsibilities. Equally important are the prayers for loved ones (wives or husbands, children, and parents) who remain behind in the United States. Prayers are offered against fear, loneliness, despair, and depression. Other prayers are to strengthen marriages during the time apart; support for friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors to rise up and extend assistance and encouragement; wisdom and discernment in parenting; or prayers to enable children to learn how to cope with the extended separation (fears, anxieties, and sadness) and learn how to express themselves in productive ways. TFC military prayer teams pray a minimum of two weeks for each request received, but if the person being prayed for is stationed overseas, the team will continue to pray for that person until he or she returns and is re-integrated with family. Since August 2010 more than 50 prayer requests have been submitted to TFC.

As part of this ministry, **there is a 24/7 private, confidential, intercessory prayer line for those in the military or civilians serving abroad and their families. For prayer, simply dial (703) 532-3324 and be sure to select voice mail box 2. Your prayer request will be promptly assigned to a team.** The ministry appreciates periodic calls to let the prayer ministers know how a loved one is doing and how best to refocus their prayer efforts.



Photo by Ed Glancy

The Rev. Mark Nordstrom leads prayers at the first Veterans' Day Service in November, 2010.

As a way to honor those who serve our nation, plan to attend the Veterans Day Service at 7 pm in the Historic Church Friday, November 11, 2011. This Worship Service will provide TFC members and the public an opportunity to pray for family and friends serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere around the world. After the Service, those who wish to receive additional prayer are welcome to come to the Communion rail for individual, confidential prayer and a blessing.

Whether you submit a request to the 24/7 prayer line, decide to join the TFC military intercessory prayer ministry, or attend the second annual Veterans Day Service, please remember to keep praying for others! Earnest intercessory prayer will make a positive difference in their lives, as it will in yours.

Father, we could never thank our past and present military men and women and civilians serving abroad enough for their courageous service and sacrifice to our country and its people. Yet we lift them up in gratefulness. Show us ways in our church, our communities, and our families to thank and love them better. Keep and protect these heroes and their families, in the powerful name of Jesus Christ. †

SOJOURNING AT THE FALLS CHURCH

Thanking The Falls Church as We Head Home

by Maja Shaw

By the time you read this we will have been back in our home in Richland, Washington, for several weeks, having completed a year living in Arlington. My husband, Will, was on a special assignment from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to the Department of Energy which necessitated a temporary move to the DC area. During our year we attended The Falls Church and this is a thank you to all of you who made our time so enjoyable.

As we began making plans for our temporary move to the Washington DC area, one of our primary questions was, “How do we find a church home for a year?” Coming from a Presbyterian church we knew that East Coast Presbyterians tended to be less evangelical and more theologically liberal than our experience. We weren’t sure where to start looking. As it so happened, the wife of our new youth pastor at home had lived in the DC area and told us about The Falls Church. After checking out TFC’s website, we decided to give it a try.

Our first experience was the 11 am Service in the Historic Church. Although we were not familiar with Anglican liturgy (including kneeling), we enjoyed the Service. The next Sunday we went to the 9 am Main Sanctuary Service to see what a larger Service would be like. We were greeted very warmly at the Welcome Center afterward and received information about the church and activities.

We know that in a large church it can be hard to get acquainted just by going to Worship Services. Since we have always been actively involved in adult education, we decided to try one of the classes for both educational and fellowship opportunities. Our first Sunday attending “In The Word” we knew we had found a home. The Falls Church is blessed to have such gifted teachers. (Thank you Vern, Rick, and Rich.) We were welcomed so warmly and felt comfortable immediately.

Since I did not have a job to go to every day like Will, I especially appreciated Madelin Barratt’s invitation to the Thursday morning women’s Bible study. What a blessing that group was to me. Our study in Isaiah was wonderful, and how could it help but be fun as well as insightful with Virginia Watson in the group. Dean Miller’s study of Ruth during Lent was a highlight of the year.

We have been blessed by so many people. Besides the inspiring, challenging, and insightful sermons we will miss the spontaneous lunches after church, the conversations before and after class, the invitations to dinner—most of all the love we have felt in this part of the Body of Christ.

Thank you TFC for all that we have learned and experienced this year; you will always have a special place in our hearts.



Photo by Susan Fertig-Dykes

Maja and Will Shaw on one of their last Sundays at The Falls Church.

Special things we appreciate about TFC (in no particular order):

- **The culture of friendliness.** Whenever we were in a group with people we had not met, someone would introduce themselves and ask our names.
- **The practice of prayer.** Prayer is not just talked about, but is an integral part of ministry.
- **The depth of preaching.** We had attended TFC for 5 weeks before we heard John Yates preach, and thought “we hope he is as good as all the others we have heard so far.” (He is.)
- **The integration of mission in the church life.** We love being able to support mission efforts and self-sufficiency of fellow Christians in other places. The Rwandan baskets and Kenyan jewelry are reminders of how the gospel is at work.
- **The well thought-out work of church planting.** What a great foundation for new churches. (Can you send one of the wonderful Timothy ministers to us in Washington?)
- **The thoughtful Worship Services.** We have come to really like the liturgical style. Even though we tend to prefer traditional music, we appreciate the whole worship team’s efforts in appropriately using different kinds of music, instruments, and singers.
- **The practice of seeking God’s guidance.** Especially in light of the pending lawsuit, it is a powerful witness to see TFC modeling grace and seeking God’s glory in all circumstances.

Like the list of spiritual gifts or fruits of the spirit, this list is not exhaustive, but representative of our experience at The Falls Church, and we pray it will continue to be so for many others as well. †

ENGAGING IN SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Adventuring into Growth with Jesus

by Dean Miller, Director of Spiritual Formation & Discipleship

What does a God-ignited growth adventure look like? What does it mean to grow as a Christian, to be transformed into

the image of Jesus?

In the previous issue of *The Current* I described one of the two filters we have embraced to understand how God works: the Stages of Faith. We grow spiritually, as we do physically, by growing through a process. I've described our stages as Child, Youth, Adult, and Elder.

This month I want to describe the other filter, which comes in response to the question "What does it look like to be healthy in each of the stages of faith?"

I'd encourage you to ask this question to a group of friends and note the responses you get. When we did that as a staff team, we saw how vast God's reach was. We had been grown by a range of churches, denominations, parachurch ministries, authors, conferences, experiences, and practices.

Often to answer that question we focus on a few key areas of our own journey with God, particularly those aspects that mean the most to us. Maybe we are blessed significantly by reading our Bible, or meeting with another Christian, or by discipling others, or through prayer. As we mature, those aspects continue to have value for us, but we face new opportunities, difficulties, and pruning. The closer we grow to God, the more we are confronted by new brokenness or need for healing. As we grow, we need new ways to know God.

At TFC we want to cast a vision for a holistic, life-long adventure of intimacy with God, one that takes into account the reality that God is already at work, that acknowledges we have good and hard times, that identifies our need to develop new habits, and that honors the seasons for deeper healing and renewal, for example.

What we want in any stage of our life with Jesus is to be healthy men and women of God. Physically we need to develop certain habits to grow as healthy human beings; we need to learn how to eat, exercise, love, rest, and breathe. As we develop these habits into our physical lives we grow strong and healthy. We think those areas also give a helpful understanding for our spiritual development.

The following five categories contribute to our spiritual growth. Our offerings in Spiritual Formation and Discipleship are organized around helping people grow in these areas.

Eating means to spend time with God reading and praying. We learn how to study, meditate on, and apply the Bible. We also read other books that grow us: novels, church history, systematic theology, practical theology books. What we read matters, but the way we read matters as well. We dialogue



with God as we read, deepening our intimacy with Him. Eating with God is the most important habit for health that we can have in any stage of our life with Jesus.

To help you learn how to meet with God, or to learn new ways to do so, you can join me at 9 am on the four Sundays of November (6, 13, 20, 27) in room 104 of the Southgate building. Register online at www.thefallschurch.org.

Exercising means to practice spiritual disciplines and learn to apply our life in Jesus in our vocations. Spiritual disciplines are like physical exercise; they involve and benefit our bodies, minds, hearts—our whole selves. There are inner disciplines like meditation and fasting, outer disciplines like solitude and service, as well as corporate disciplines like confession and worship. As we practice these they all work together to keep us healthy. As we grow and age in Jesus we find that we need to try new disciplines to keep sharp. We even find that we need to develop unique personal disciplines for our unique relationship with God, over time adding ones especially significant for us or removing ones that are not helpful.

We also exercise through learning how to live our vocations unto Him. We believe that God is at work through us in the whole world all week long, not just when the church gathers together on Sunday morning. We are committed to helping the men and women of our parish know that what they do away from a church building matters and represents God. We represent God as engineers, lawyers, parents, nurses, teachers, painters, students, IT professionals, a whole range of jobs and careers. And learning how to do that well is healthy living.

To learn and practice some spiritual disciplines you can join Bill Haley and others each Sunday in November (6, 13, 20, and 27) at 9 am in room 106 of the Southgate building. Register at www.thefallschurch.org.

Loving means being in relationship with those we love and God loves. God loves the whole world: boys and girls, men and

continued on page 15

THE FALLS CHURCH
HEALING MINISTRY

presents



The Rev. Mike Evans is director of *Wholeness Ministries*, which he founded in 1989 for training and equipping believers to minister to those in need of physical, spiritual, or emotional healing.



Fall Healing Conference

The Reverend Mike Evans

“DOING WHAT JESUS DID”

December 2-4, 2011

Friday evening presentation

Saturday morning program and afternoon practicum

Evening of testimonies

Sunday 3 pm Healing Service is open to everyone

Pre-registration

www.thefallschurch.org/healing

or by mail:

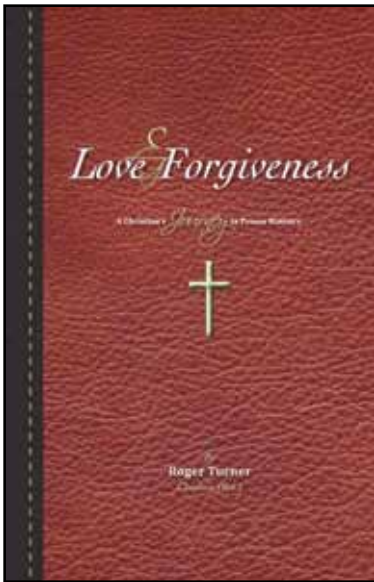
Cathy Kerby, 13163 Morning Spring Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033-3709, (703)786-1897

Conference Fee

Early-Bird Registration: \$40.00. Deadline: Friday, November 11, 2011

Pre-registration and Walk-in Registration: \$50.00

For more information or to Pre-register go to: www.thefallschurch.org/healing



God's Hand Is Not So Short That It Cannot Save

by Roger Turner

Editor's note: The following story is from the author's experience working in prison ministry and is an excerpt from his book **LOVE & FORGIVENESS**, *A Christian's Journey In Prison Ministry*, now available in The Falls Church Bookstore. A second excerpt and the epilogue will be included in the next issue of *The Current* to be released January 1, 2012.

“Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.” (Isaiah 45:22)

speaking on your behalf.”

Once Jim was returned to his cell, however, he realized their identity. He said to me: *“It suddenly dawned on me that they were the same two Marines who had died in a helicopter crash with me during the war. I had been the third member of the crew and the sole survivor of the crash.”* Whether or not Jim had failed to consider that the two visitors might possibly have been angels sent to free him (Acts 12:1-17) really made no difference. The two had accomplished their mission, and Jim was given an early release date.

The similarities between Jim's circumstances and those of St. Peter in prison were certainly compelling. Scripture notes that after Peter had been jailed by Herod's soldiers, the early Christians in Jerusalem prayed fervently for him. Shortly thereafter, an angel suddenly appeared before Peter, who was bound with chains and sleeping between two guards, and freed him. At first, Peter thought he was having a vision, but then he began to realize that an angel of God had been sent to free him. (Acts 12:1-11)

There is a brief addendum to Jim's story that occurred after his release. He wrote to the inmates who had prayed for his release, not only to thank them, but also to indicate how he knew that the Lord's hand was still on him. He explained this in an anecdote in his letter, which an inmate read to me. Jim had described a temptation he faced on his bus trip en route home. As Jim exited the bus during one rest stop, he was approached by a well-dressed woman who offered him both a drink and companionship, things that in the past he would have been unable to resist. On this occasion Jim refused her offer and got back on the bus for the final trip home, where his family awaited him.

In his letter, Jim made reference to Jesus' temptation as having given him the strength to resist the woman's offer. Jim remembered that Jesus had told Satan to depart from him. *“Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’” (Matthew 4:1-10) †*

Jim, a former Marine and Viet Nam veteran, was in Fairfax County Jail for consistent drug and alcohol abuse. There he was housed with a group of inmates in a special cell block where they studied Scripture daily. Jim was an affable fellow whose experiences in life had taken their toll on him both physically and emotionally. I encouraged him to turn his life over to Christ, so that he could change his way of thinking and no longer give into the temptation of sin. Not long thereafter, he seemed to be making great strides in this direction, and consequently requested an early release. Jim explained that he owed it to himself and to his family to prove that he could finally lead a sober, responsible life in the outside world.

A day prior to Jim's appearance before a judge to request early release, he and his fellow cellmates had again prayed together for him and his early release. The likelihood of success was certainly questionable, as Jim had a record of getting into trouble after previous terms in jail. All of them soon realized, however, that: *“With God all things are possible.” (Matthew 19:26)* He would soon answer their prayers in an astonishing manner. Jim remarked to me afterward, *“God's hand was certainly on me that day in court.”*

Jim then explained how he had gone to court with only an attorney to speak for him. Much to his surprise two Marines, in their full dress uniforms, suddenly appeared to speak on his behalf. Neither he nor his attorney knew beforehand they were coming. Later, Jim asked his attorney who they were and whether she had invited them to come. She replied: *“Jim, I don't know. I was actually writing something at the time and only vaguely remember some people*

Jim was an affable fellow whose experiences in life had taken their toll on him both physically and emotionally. I encouraged him to turn his life over to Christ, so that he could change his way of thinking and no longer give into the temptation of sin

PARISHIONERS SERVING

Sharing in Hope and Inspiration

by Charlie Cossairt

At the age of seventeen, Joni Eareckson Tada dove into the Chesapeake Bay and broke her neck, becoming a quadriplegic. Joni has written many books, appeared on radio and TV, and starred in a movie about her life titled simply *Joni*. She is also an artist—she uses pencils and paints held in her teeth.

Every summer for the past 12 years I have been a volunteer at a JAF camp for families with disabilities. JAF stands for Joni and Friends. She is the founder of “Wheels for the World” which takes donated wheelchairs, refurbishes them and with volunteers delivers them to countries where wheelchairs are not easily available. Years ago she established many camps across the United States for families with disabilities. The one where I volunteer is in Flat Rock, North Carolina.

When she was seven years old, I brought my granddaughter, Kelsey to volunteer with me. She is now almost 16, and we have never missed a camp. We are called STMs which stands for Short Term Missionaries.

The first few years I went by car, but then we began flying. Someone always picks us up at the Asheville Airport. We travel with carry-on suitcases and backpacks. In my backpack I always have my camera, because I like to send the pictures I take to the families and friends I’ve photographed. I also have my cell phone and charger. This year I realized Kelsey also had her cell phone, so mine wasn’t really necessary. But I’d packed it anyway.

The first day the doctor on duty complained that his cell phone wasn’t picking up signals. Since that is how anyone with a medical problem would contact him, this could be very serious. My phone was from a different company, so I told him he was welcome to use it. He tested it by driving around the campground in a golf cart. It worked every time. Then I knew why I had packed my cell phone. †

If you would like to be involved in this ministry there are several things you might do. First you could volunteer to be an STM. If that is not possible you might offer to support financially another STM or a family with disability who cannot afford to go. If you would like to learn more, please feel free to contact me at (703) 591-6577.



Photo by Charlie Cossairt

Our first retreat with Joni; Kelsey was 7.



Photo by Charlie Cossairt

This year’s retreat: Kelsey is almost 16.



SEEKING HEALING

A Healing Reflection

August 14, 2011

Reflecting on the changes I've experienced since I started preparing more than a year ago for the Healing Class in Fall, 2010, I can say that by God's Grace, I have come a measurable distance. Having been so blessed, this leper must return and say, "Thank you."

My interest in the class was catalyzed into action after I attended the Judith MacNutt conference in May 2010. Very concerned about the woundedness in my family, I felt led in prayer to apply for admission to the class. I was not at all sure I would qualify. I figured some degree of true holiness was probably a good qualification for someone who would go mucking about other people's souls, and I could certainly not be accused of advanced holiness. To my great relief, I was accepted and began to anticipate what God was going to do.

I began reading from the recommended reading list before the class started, so that I would have a place for the class material to "land" in my heart. Then the class started, and the first night I almost quit. The news was far worse than I had thought. There on video was Judith MacNutt talking about what it takes to be a prayer minister, or a more effective pray-er. She was not talking about technique, or program. No, she was talking about becoming the *kind* of person who can better hear the Holy Spirit, because He is the one who is doing the ministering; the prayer minister waits on Him to speak or does as He directs. She was talking about addressing sin, unforgiveness, things avoided, obedience not taken. . . going before the One from Whom nothing is hidden. I knew the gulf was wide. Maybe I needed to just spend a year preparing for the class before actually taking it.

But I came back the next week because I just had to see what was next. I was praying more, and the Word was opening up in fresh ways.

Soon I began to see that I had more forgiving to do than I had ever imagined, and bitter root judgments to confess and ask forgiveness for. The attic of my life needed to be cleaned. The precious Holy Spirit would ever so kindly shine His light into (yet) another corner and say, with a twinkle in His eye, "Well, my, my - what's this?" More debris, more accumulated sludge. And a lot of pain—held up to the cross and awaiting healing.



*Does this mean all
my problems over, or
that my life now looks
like a Hallmark card?*

Decidedly not.

*But I have a different
point of view, seeing
through different lenses.*

*My heart's kaleidoscope
is cleaner, has more
light.*

I received a major healing about a family member, transforming my response to that person. I embarked on a major campaign of forgiveness, touring through vast episodes of my history as the faithful Hound of Heaven would suddenly stop and point. By this time, I was completely sold. No holdbacks. Whatever had been done to me, it did not matter, I wanted to forgive them, and get more of that grime out of my soul. God was truly faithful to continue to point me to yet another period in my life where I had debts unpaid, not yet covered by the blood of Jesus in my experience, and stinking to Heaven. It began to seem that my sin in unforgiveness and bitter root judgments might be of equal weight to that of the hurt received, and that I only needed to look at the hurt long enough to see my sin in it. What was done to me seemed not to be as important as it might have earlier. Being obedient seemed like the most important thing, and I felt compelled to follow that leading.

At the Nigel Mumford conference in December 2010, I received healing for something that had been part of my life for so long, I didn't even know it was there. Like wallpaper, it was just always there in the background. Two beautiful, seasoned prayer warriors knew just how to pray, and as they intervened for me powerfully, I was freed up in a significant area. I marveled at God's efficiency!

One of our classmates had related her experience making a Life Confession. By the adrenaline-pumping response of my heart as I listened, I could tell that my Father was putting His finger on that page, and looking at me. I'd never even heard of it until that evening, and didn't know anything about it, so I asked a few questions and then started praying about it. I just knew that God had his hand on it, so He'd better be prepared to take responsibility for whatever ensued. It must have been one of the hardest things this small Baptist soul has ever had to do, but it was followed by such a sense of peace that I thought the Baptists should certainly add this to their repertoire. Over time, I felt clean, and no longer taunted by those deeds. The accuser had lost his clammy grip over that part of my soul I had anguished over for years.

SEEKING HEALING

Adventuring into Growth continued from page 10

Borrowing the video tapes after classes, I began listening to them in my car, or watching them at home. Repetition helped the teaching to soak in, and I was so grateful for the opportunity. I started going to the monthly Generational Healing Service. There was more to confess. Since my family had hardly known how to pronounce the word, “forgiveness,” much less do it, there was lots of material with which to practice. As I allowed the Holy Spirit to lead me into the places He wanted to, there were many wakeful nights. As I prayed for family members, I was so accompanied by His Presence, it was a blessing. I know He is in love with them, and will draw them closer to Himself.

I was also advised to seek Individual Prayer Ministry, which I did not want to do, as I’d received plenty of counseling, and thought I should be learning how to pray for the others in my life. Yet I did so. God was gracious, in spite of my fears, and it was a great relief to find more ghastly wallpaper coming off my heart’s walls. I started going as often as I could slip out of the office to the Wednesday mid-day Healing Eucharist. God has faithfully shown up each time, to use something that is said to continue to convict, cleanse, and convert my unsavory soul into one that is more peaceful, more clear, less turbulent, and far less fearful. There is much more He has been busy doing, and I am so grateful. I can only go forward with Him, and find out what He now has in mind!

There have been other blessings. Before starting the class, I had been feeling very frustrated in worship, as if I were engulfed in a dense surrounding of bubble wrap, worshipping from a distance, taking a shower in a raincoat. I thought of it as my flesh, and kept praying for God to help me somehow to push through it, deliver me from the dull remove of my own opaqueness. I felt Him out there at a distance, not personally close. I longed to be closer to Him, knowing that would help me to become more like Him and less like my drab, worn little self. Now, I’ve begun to realize that worship, whether at my own piano, driving down the road, or on Sunday morning, is more like reaching out and touching *Him*. I’m not exactly there yet, but closer—not so many layers of bubble wrap. I can’t adequately describe it, but it is much more peaceful, less desperate and yearning, more right *here*.

Does this mean all my problems over, or that my life now looks like a Hallmark card? Decidedly not. My family still has plenty of issues, our business is very affected by the recession, my roses still have blackspot, and I’m another year older. But I have a different point of view, seeing through different lenses. My heart’s kaleidoscope is cleaner, has more light.

My heartfelt thanks to all who are involved in the Healing Prayer ministry.

Sincerely,

A member of last year’s Wednesday Healing Class †

women, even those who feel lost and forgotten. Giving our lives to Jesus adds to our family. We become brothers and sisters with all those in the world who call Him Savior. And because we are created in the image of a God who is fully relational as the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), we know that we are only fully healthy in relationship ourselves. We make commitments to love one another, even when it’s hard, and to be intentional in things like small groups or discipling groups. We also love those God loves: people who don’t know Him (who might even hate us), the poor, the forgotten, the widow and oppressed. We reach out to share the good news of His kingdom to the world.

You can love and be loved by being a part of small groups, men’s and women’s ministry, and a range of other ministries.

Resting means learning to give God our schedules and making time to be still. God has to be Lord of all our lives, and this includes our schedules. Without physical rest we begin to break down; without spiritual rest we begin to break down as well. Giving God our schedules is difficult in a world that demands of and promises to us all day long, but it is an absolute spiritual necessity. We belong to a God of Sabbath-rest, and need to live into that reality here on Earth.

Breathing is learning to pray and interact with God all day. Taking a breath is what gives us independent life at the moment of our physical birth. In the same way spiritual breathing, through prayer, is what gives us life with God throughout a day. Prayer is vital and interspersed throughout the other areas of healthy living. We pray as we read the Bible, as we fast, as we love people, as we consider our schedule—wherever we are, we are learning to hear and respond to God. This kind of prayer is what the church fathers and mothers sought, to be conversing with God all day long. As we grow with God we also begin to see different areas of our lives that might need deeper healing.

God’s Spirit works in His ways and His times to develop these habits and areas of our life. We don’t expect our parishioners to be working on each of them at all times; at certain times in your life specific components of Healthy Living will be more significant than others.

What we want for each parishioner is for them to be able to identify where they are on the Stages of Faith, and for them to choose an area of Healthy Living in which to learn to grow during the coming year. Feel free to schedule a time with one of our staff team to come in and discuss how you are doing and where God is at work in your life. †

A few resources:

- Richard Mulholland, Jr., *Invitation to a Journey*
- Dallas Willard, *The Spirit of the Disciplines*
- Richard Foster, *Celebration of Disciplines*
- Marva Dawn, *Keep the Sabbath Wholly*
- Ruth Haley Barton, *Invitation to Solitude and Silence*



LISTENING FOR THE LORD

The End Of The World As We Know It?

by The Rev. Kathleen Christopher

Summer vacation is a time when I'm able to slow down, enjoying the simple pleasures of life a bit more. Probably because of slowing down, I'm also able to listen a little more clearly to what the Lord is saying to me. This past August when I was away for several weeks, I kept sensing that the Lord was telling me to prepare for unforeseen events of a catastrophic nature—potential disasters, both of nature and man-made—and to urge others likewise to be prepared. I wondered if I was really sensing the Lord's heart, or maybe just been spending too much time watching the nightly news!

Then, less than 24 hours after I had returned home from my vacation, I heard an ominous rumble and felt my entire house swaying back and forth. Incredulously, I realized, "We're having an earthquake!" At the same time, my rational mind was arguing, "But we don't HAVE earthquakes!" As it turned out, virtually the entire Eastern seaboard was experiencing a 5.8 earthquake centered near Fredericksburg, Virginia. A few days later, I found myself preparing for what was described as the most extensive hurricane ever to impact the East Coast. Not long after THAT, when extensive rains from Tropical Storm Lee battered our area, the late hours of a Thursday night saw me sitting in my car parked in an empty parking lot,

unable to get home because extensive flooding that had led to the closure of the GW Parkway, Route 1, and all beltway exits to Alexandria. As I contemplated spending the night in my car, I thought, "OK, Lord, You have my attention!!!"

Fortunately, none of the three weather events that came in rapid succession in August and September seem to have caused many of the readers of this newsletter, including myself, significant damage (although some neighborhoods in Alexandria were completely flooded and had to be evacuated) and there was disruption to electricity in many areas. For myself, I almost feel as if the Lord was giving me a dry run, just to show me how unprepared I really am. What's more, those three events were all weather-related. I have felt the Lord's urging to prepare, and to tell others to prepare, not only for natural disasters, but for those that might be partially or completely man-made, such as nuclear meltdown or nuclear fallout, pandemics, famine, and economic, social, and political collapse. Almost sounds like a list of Biblical plagues, doesn't it? Or maybe the disasters from the Book of Revelation!

In fact, the increasing frequency of so-called "once in a century" natural disasters and the unprecedented potential for catastrophes and their effects to sweep quickly across the entire globe has many people asking, whether jokingly or seriously, "Are we facing 'The End of the World'?" As Christians, we believe the Bible when it says that this world was created for a purpose and has a specific time line, culminating with the Return of Christ and the creation of a New Heaven and New Earth. For many of us, it is hard to read Jesus's description of the signs of His coming in Matthew 24, of "wars and rumors of wars" of "nation [rising up] against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and . . . famines and earthquakes in various places" without wondering if that's what we are experiencing. Quite honestly, there is no way to know for sure. The folly of trying to predict the time of Jesus' Return has been demonstrated over and over again, and we are warned against even trying to do so by Jesus's statement that "concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only."



"Rock A My Soul" by Joyce McCarten
oil on canvas, 20"x48", 2011



"After the Garden" by Joyce McCarten
acrylic and charcoal, 47"x48", 2000

LISTENING FOR THE LORD



**"Kalahari Storm" by Joyce McCarten
oil, 36"x48", 2007**

Although it is foolish to try and set the exact date of Christ's return, we are wise to prepare for it. In the passage just referenced, Chapter 24 of Matthew's Gospel, it is clear that Jesus is saying to watch the signs, and to *be prepared!*

Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Tradition has it (as reported by the ancient historian Eusebius) that when the Romans conquered Jerusalem in 70 AD, slaughtering all in their path, many of the Christian believers had already fled to safety, recognizing many of the signs that Jesus had given. Scripture prophecy usually works on two levels of fulfillment, one more contemporary to the giving of the prophecy, and another later, ultimate fulfillment. While 70 AD was not the literal "end of the world" nor the time of Christ's Return, it **was** the end of the world as they knew it for the Jewish nation. The nation of Israel would cease to exist for almost 2000 years, until it's re-birth in 1948.

Perhaps the world as we know it will go on for many more centuries; perhaps it will end tomorrow; in which case, I note ironically, no one will ever read this article! I do know that the Lord wants His people to be prepared for whatever may come, materially and spiritually. Preparing materially, at this moment in time, means knowing what you would do if disaster struck, and having the means available to do it. As the entire DC Metro area prepared for Hurricane Irene, and flashlights and batteries disappeared from store shelves, I was amazed to hear people say that they did not have a single flashlight

in their house! I guess their power, unlike mine, doesn't go out every time we get a strong wind! Now is the time to think about what you would do in an emergency. Consider what you will need if there is no power—if it's summer; if it's winter; if all electronic communications were to fail; if there were mass damage and casualties from an earthquake, flood, or hurricane; if you had to leave your house in a rush and could not get back in for an extended time; if there were a pandemic and widespread quarantine; and even if there were nuclear fallout.

Neither time nor space allows for me to list here all the ways in which we need to be regularly prepared for emergencies, but I would like to mention a few key items and offer some resources for further information.

1. Keep these emergency preparedness items on hand:
 - Flashlights, batteries, and light sticks; portable battery and/or solar powered weather radio, blankets, instant/ready-to-eat food, a first-aid kit, cash (if power is out, ATMs won't work)
 - A "bug-out" bag at home for ready exits, and an emergency bag in your car
2. Know where these items are and have them ready to grab; have copies of information items in your bug-out bag:
 - Medications, glasses, keys, important documents, emergency phone lists and, for believers, a compact Bible.
3. Work out an evacuation plan with your family members. If there is one thing that our recent earthquake made evident, it's that we are no more—and possibly less—prepared for massive evacuations from the DC Metro area than we were on 9/11 in 2001. Think now: what would you do if you were at work and couldn't get to your kids' schools? If you and other members of your family were separated from each other in an evacuation and phone service (especially mobile) was down, how/where would you meet up with each other? One possibility is to designate a person/location outside of this immediate area as a contact person/rendezvous point.

The recommendations above barely scratch the surface; let me suggest just a few places you can go on-line for more information. If you do not use the internet, call the Red Cross, FEMA, or other emergency planning offices and ask them to send you materials. Some of these sites offer both information and products (they are provided here as examples and should not be considered an endorsement):

- www.Ready.gov (FEMA)
- www.redcross.org
- www.survivormall.com
- www.nukalert.com

Above all, as Christians, let us not be fearful, but be aware and prepared. After all, we know how the story ends—our Savior reigns, *Hallelujah!* and we will reside in His glorious Kingdom! †

YOUNG ADULTS CONNECTING SPIRITUALLY

Moving into the 2011-2012 Ministry Year

What's happening?

Sunday Morning Class: Our topic this year is identity. Our goal is to become more ourselves by becoming more like Christ. Our method? You'll have to come and find out! 9:30-10:30 am in the Historic Church. Donuts in the Lower Narthex from 9-9:30 am, and lunch after the 11 am Main Sanctuary Service!

Worship Nights: A Young Adults band leads us in singing. Next one: Friday, November 4, in Nicholson Hall at TFC. Come for a night of joy!

House parties, campfires, and other fellowship events: Informal and spontaneous—check Facebook for what we're up to next!



Photo by Caleb Krautter



Photo by Caleb Krautter



Photo by Caleb Krautter



Photo by Caleb Krautter



Photo by Caleb Krautter

Where can I find out more?

Facebook—Always updated with our events, and pictures from them! Stop by to say 'hi' on our wall or Like us! Facebook.com/TFCYoungAdults

Website—The nuts and bolts. Who we are, what we stand for, and where we fit in the larger TFC context. www.thefallschurch.org/YoungAdults

The Email—Goes out once a month with a run-down of everything coming up that you need to know about. Ask Jackie to get on the list! jwallenmeyer@thefallschurch.org

SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

The Blessing Of A Blessing

by Carolyn Wright



In a recent episode of the “Cul-de-Sac” comic strip, a preschooler’s mom enumerates her daughter’s bedtime routine with exasperation.

“Every night we go through this complicated rigamarole”, she complains, and then goes on to list at least eight separate steps, including the Hugaboo Dance, the Where’s Polyfill game, the

Underbed Peekaboo and finally the Hush-hush Sneakaway Lullaby. While these examples are comical extremes, many parents of young children will find at least a small kernel of the truth of their own life in them. Children’s bedtime stalling techniques are legendary.

One young couple at TFC, parents of a two-year-old and an infant, have deliberately added to their preschooler’s bedtime routine recently. And they have discovered that this addition may allow them to subtract many of the peripheral, non-essential and sometimes irritating aspects of bedtime.

What’s that extra step? After the story and the prayer, they have begun to bless their child. Each evening after praying beside their son’s bed, they lay their hands on his head and recite the familiar blessing from Numbers: *May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you, and give you peace, all the days of your life.* They testify that the impact of this small act is tremendous. They can almost see their son relax, both physically and mentally; he is at peace and secure. Gone are the pleas for “just one more” of something. He sleeps.

Their son has become so accustomed to this blessing that when his mom slipped up one evening and asked for the Lord to give him strength, he groggily corrected her, “no, Mommy, not strength, peace”.

This family began their blessing tradition after reading *God’s Grand Vision for the Home*, by Rob Reinow. Here is some of what he says about blessing our children:

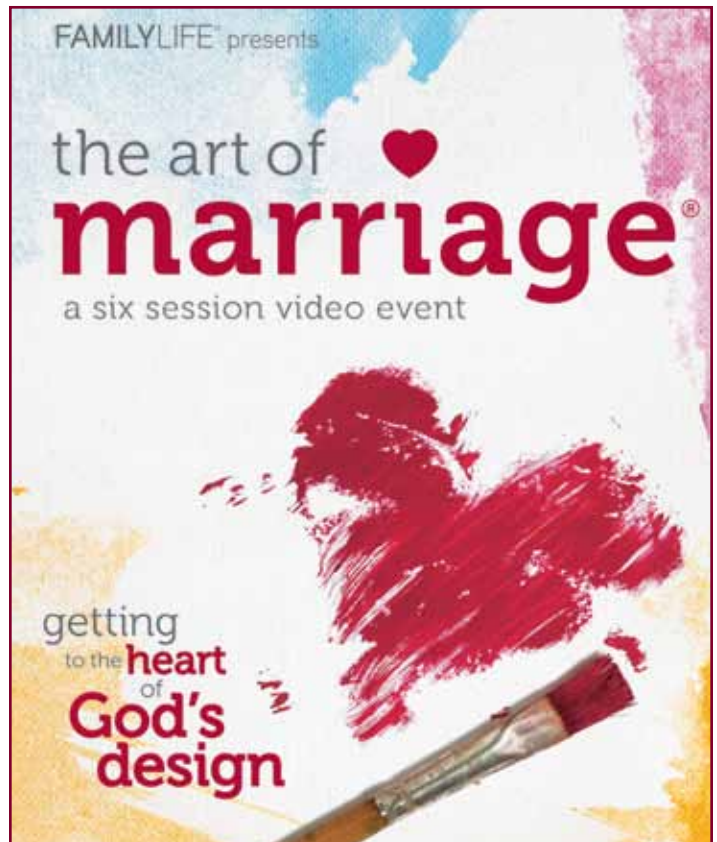
God has given the power of blessing to parents and grandparents. The Bible talks about these blessings as having real emotional and physical power. They are not a magical formula or incantation, but rather this practice of blessing is a powerful spiritual tool that God has created for parents to reach the hearts of their kids.

Other families who have made blessing their children a part of their lives have similar stories to tell. Why don’t you try it? It may feel a bit awkward at first, since this kind of language doesn’t always roll easily off of twenty-first century tongues. But persevering through that initial discomfort brings tremendous benefits. †



**John and Susan Yates
will teach a
PARENTING CLASS**

**Three Sunday afternoons
In the Historic Church
November 6, 13, 20**



**FEBRUARY 3-4, 2012
AT THE FALLS CHURCH**

Details and registration at:
www.thefallschurch/marriage

GROWING CHILDREN IN CHRIST AT THE DAY SCHOOL

God gave us

Leaves to joyfully crunch
And food to harvest and then to munch

He gave us

A friend as we learn to share
And teachers to guide and to care

He gave us

Downy chicks to gently touch
And Monet's lilies to paint in a bunch

He gave us

Families that daily teach and love
And He made me whom He protects
from above

God gave us

His only son,
A child himself, the precious one

Editor's note: This poem and the accompanying photos were provided by The Falls Church Day School, in gratitude to the Lord "for the joy of teaching and the gift of children."



SENIORS CONNECTING AT TFC

Me Play Bridge?

by Jenny Byrne

TFC has a bridge group which has met weekly for several years. When I first came on board as the Seniors' Coordinator, the group would ask weekly if I would like to play. Me play bridge? That's not in my repertoire, but I'm happy to set up the tables and make sure there are enough score sheets. Spring blossomed into summer and some of our regulars began taking vacation and leaving empty seats at the bridge tables. I was the one "available" to fill a table. How intimidating, as I truly don't play.

Some at the tables play very well; some haven't played for years and are relearning the game. We even have a master player. Everyone it seems, no matter what their skill level, likes to teach. Since I am new to the game, much teaching takes place.

Bridge is a challenging game. It has its own language, and as our master player is fond of saying, "Every rule has three exceptions." So what have I learned? I've learned bridge lingo, a few of the rules, and that I have enough luck to take some of the "tricks".

Most of what I've learned is about the character of the players. They are kind; they laugh Easily; they take pride when



Photo by Jenny Byrne

a "finessed" trick wins; and they keep score. What separates this group from the rest? In the end, the scores are never tallied. So who wins? We all do; each of us comes away from the table having sharpened our skills and cherishing a couple of hours of good fellowship with friends.

Some day I may grow to love the game of bridge, but right now it's a joy to love the players. Consider joining us—Tuesdays at 10 am in The Parlor. †



WOMEN'S MINISTRY CHRISTMAS DESSERT

**Thursday evening
December 1, 7:30 pm**
Keynote Speaker: Kelly Minter
Singer/songwriter and Bible
study author
from Nashville, Tennessee
***Discovering Christ in the
Christmas Season***

CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

High School Confirmation class begins on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at 9 am in Southgate, Room 106. The class consists of 10 Sunday morning classes. The Right Reverend John Guernsey, Bishop of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic (DOMA), will officiate at our Confirmation Service on March 4, 2012. Questions may be directed to the teacher, David Gustafson, gustafso@hotmail.com.



INTRODUCING NEW STAFF AT TFC

Photo by Susan Fertig-Dykes



Brian Klotz Administrative Assistant, Spiritual Formation & Discipleship

Brian serves part-time as the Administrative Assistant to the Spiritual Formation and Discipleship team. He and his wife Sarah began attending The Falls Church in 2007 upon moving to the Washington DC area, after they both spent time living and working overseas. Brian was born in Nigeria, spent his childhood in Africa, and graduated from the Rift Valley Academy in Kenya. After graduating from John Brown University in Siloam Springs, AR, Brian participated in a one year discipleship training program and also worked for a non-profit organization. During the last four years, he worked on Capitol Hill in communications. In addition to his work here at TFC, he is pursuing an MBA at George Mason University. Brian is a proud parent to his one-year old, Harrison who is very curious and constantly on the move. In his spare time, Brian enjoys drinking a good cup of coffee, reading, researching his ancestry and watching soccer.

Photo by Susan Fertig-Dykes



Lindi Jenkins Preschool Coordinator, Children's Ministry

Lindi Jenkins came on board to our Children's Ministry staff in July of this year. She is serving as our Preschool Coordinator for Children's Ministry. Lindi grew up

in Luray and recently moved back to Northern Virginia from South Carolina where she and her husband spent 3 years. In South Carolina she served as Music/Youth/Children's Director at Ebenezer Baptist Church. She holds her Bachelor's degree in Music from George Mason University and studied Music Therapy at Charleston Southern University.

Lindi was blessed to have been brought up in a Christian home and came to know Jesus as her Savior at 5 years of age. She has been serving in church ministry since she was 10 years old and ministry is something she holds dear. She loves Jesus and loves sharing His love with others.

Lindi grew up on a family farm in Luray. Aside from music, cattle and Christmas trees are what Lindi knows best (and chickens—she had 14 chickens in her backyard while living in SC). Lindi and her husband, Chris, met at their church in Luray, VA. They served on the church's Praise and Worship Team together in high school, became best of friends, and 4 years later were married.

Lindi and Chris welcomed the birth of their first baby, Nellie, last December. Nellie is a happy baby girl with a sweet smile who already has lots (and lots) of energy. Lindi enjoys spending time with her family, cooking, making



music, gardening, and being active outdoors. She's also a certified Spin instructor. Her husband, Chris, teaches music at St. Mark School in Vienna. He recently graduated from the University of South Carolina with his Master's in Classical Guitar Performance.

Lindi and Chris both are excited about being part of the TFC family, and serving Him however they can. †

Photo by Susan Fertig-Dykes



Rheta Mesias Administrative Assistant, Children's Ministry

I grew up in the Finger Lakes region of New York State on a dirt road with 100 acres of land.

Moving to Northern Virginia in 2008 required some adjustment (especially understanding why it takes more than an hour sometimes to drive only 7 miles). In that same year I graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science/International Relations via eCampus at Troy University. My previous employment was with a national nonprofit in Washington, DC where I worked as a Development Assistant.

I know that I am called to full-time ministry and was delighted to find a place at The Falls Church as Children's Ministry Administrative Assistant. I also serve at my own church, The Journey, as a Kindergarten teacher for Sunday Services.

I have a 20 month-old daughter, Lydia, and am deeply grateful for the spiritual family that God has given me here in Virginia. I enjoy learning about history and reading when I have spare time. I also enjoy oil painting or doing other various arts and crafts.

INTRODUCING NEW STAFF AT TFC

Two New Staff and Two Fellows Join Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry is fully under way with lots of exciting things going on! House parties, Uproars, Bible breakfasts, and Sunday nights are just a few of the opportunities that our middle school and high school students have to gather together and to grow in their relationship with Christ. God has been using the leadership of Jim Byrne as well as the momentum of the summer mission trips to grow the students in Cornerstone and Crossroads. Mike Steenhoek and Laura Smethurst are heading up Cornerstone this year, and the office also welcomes two **new Fellows, Michelle Wolfe and Ryan Levis.**

The Youth Staff is excited to introduce to you our newest full-time staff members! Our Middle School Coordinators are Betsy Christian and Eric Garner. The Youth Staff is excited to welcome them and to be blessed by their unique gifts in ministry.



Photo by Susan Fertig-Dykes

Betsy Christian serves as the Crossroads Assistant Director. A Southern California native, Betsy left the warm sunshine and the cool ocean breeze to attend Grove City College in Pennsylvania where she initially majored in music education with a concentration in piano. During her sophomore year, she switched

majors to history education and discovered her interest in politics. Betsy graduated in May 2006, worked at Summer's Best Two Weeks (a Christian sports camp), and then returned to Grove City to student teach 8th and 10th grade United States history. In January 2007, she made her way to the nation's capital to intern at a think tank. She then worked for the House of Representatives for four and a half years, advising on foreign affairs, military, and energy issues. Betsy began attending The Falls Church in 2009, after the Lord put it on her heart to volunteer in the middle school ministry. Betsy is delighted to have made the transition from working on Capitol Hill to joining the youth staff, as she feels her passion to love and serve middle school students has grown deeper through her experience as a Crossroads volunteer. Having committed her life to Christ as a middle schooler, she is so excited to minister to the girls in Crossroads. Betsy, the proud daughter of a Marine colonel and his fantastic wife, enjoys traveling to Guam to see her older sister, brother-in-law (a Navy doctor), and her adorable one year nephew. In her free time, Betsy likes to hike in the sunshine, eat peanut butter chocolate ice cream, and watch the Green Bay Packers.

Eric Garner serves as the Crossroads Coordinator. Born and raised in Vienna, VA Eric spent his childhood at The Falls Church while his father, Steve Garner, taught an adult Sunday



Photo by Susan Fertig-Dykes

school class, and served on the vestry. After playing football, and baseball at Madison High School, Eric chose not to accept offers to play in college. Instead Eric flew out to Hollywood to study performing arts at, The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, the nation's oldest performing arts conservatory. While in Hollywood

Eric worked for producers as an assistant, and also served as the Jonas Brother's assistant for a short time. Two weeks ago Eric saw himself on HBO forgetting he was in a movie called Chasing 3000 shot in 2007.

It was in Hollywood where Eric began having a change of heart for pursuing his passion for film to a passion for reaching out to younger generations for Christ. Eric left Hollywood and returned home. While back in Vienna Eric returned to school; but without direction. A mentor encouraged him to study business. Now, Eric is studying Global Business Management for his undergraduate degree. That same mentor also encouraged Eric to get involved in the youth ministry at Vienna Presbyterian Church for he saw Eric's passion for teens discovery Christ. Eric served as an intern under Barry Hill, Director of student ministries at VPC, and soon became the interim director of high school ministries. As the position was eventually filled at VPC Eric returned as a volunteer; but had his heart set on working in youth ministry full-time. Returning to the corporate world as a project manager in the design/build industry for his fathers company Eric thought the door to vocational ministry had come to a close. Out of the blue Jim Byrne called Eric from a recommendation from Barry Hill at VPC, asking him to come and work at The Falls Church where, years ago as a newborn baby, he had experienced church for the first time in his parents' arms. †

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD—It's TIME!

**Drop-off filled boxes in the Lower Narthex
November 6-20**

**For information contact Shireen David,
sdavid@thefallschurch.org**

MILESTONES

BIRTHS/ADOPTIONS

- ✦ Ezekiel Asa Munson, son of Michael and Sariah Munson, grandson of Sue Munson (adopted Jun 15)
- ✦ Gabriel Liam Queipo, son of Mary and Angel Queipo (Jul 8)
- ✦ Paige Avery Wessel, daughter of Kristin and Andrew Wessel, grandson of Jim and Mary Henderson (Jul 13)
- ✦ Clara Blanchard, daughter of Jessica and Seth Blanchard (Jul 20)
- ✦ Michael Ambrose Bobb, son of Anna Vredevelde Bobb and David Bobb (Jul 25)
- ✦ David Yang Watkin, son of Phoebe and Robert Watkin (Aug 7)
- ✦ Filip Kendall Johnson, son of John and Demaris Johnson, grandson of Charity and John Johnson (Aug 21)
- ✦ Abigail Kate Mills, daughter of Matt and Emily Mills (Sep 8)

BAPTISMS

- ✦ Keil Arthur Adams
- ✦ Harrison Edward Klotz
- ✦ Christine Jin Park
- ✦ Emma Pate Perry
- ✦ James Joseph Printz

WEDDINGS

- ✦ Molly Ruth Battle to Kirk Calvert Benedict (Jul 30)
- ✦ Valery Iantchouk to Michael Mulligan (Jul 30)
- ✦ Julia Marcroft to Nick McCleary (Aug 6)
- ✦ Samantha Clark to David J. Sewell (Aug 13)
- ✦ Tonya Bryan to Alan Aldave-Mendiola (Aug 20)
- ✦ Kristin Neal to Matthew Warren (Aug 28)
- ✦ Page Sigman to Daniel Thies (Sep 17)

DEATHS

- ✦ Muriel Zielske, mother of Jane Webb (July 16)
- ✦ Eleanor Herman Artz, mother of Daryl Artz (Jul 24)
- ✦ Robert F. Lindholm, husband of Lois Lindholm, father of Robbie Lindholm, Leslie Dutcher, and JoAnne Lindholm (Jul 25)
- ✦ Thomas Joseph Fort, Jr., friend of the Hammersen family (Jul 25)
- ✦ William Watson, father of Aurora Watson (Jul 26)
- ✦ John W. Stott, friend of John Yates (Jul 27)
- ✦ Donald Gum, father of Erica Burson (Jul 30)
- ✦ Donald B. Alexander, father of Jim Alexander (Aug 1)
- ✦ Marty Rosenfeld, husband of Carolann Haley (Aug 2)
- ✦ Norman Fitzgerald, friend of Sandy Darne (Aug 3)
- ✦ Robert W. Moore, step-father of Meredith Heinemeier (Aug 11)
- ✦ Henry Paul Scholte, father of Suzanne Scholte (Aug 11)
- ✦ Mae Lawson, sister of Ruth Ellerman (Aug 14)
- ✦ Vera Bentson, grandmother of Becky Weber (Aug 15)
- ✦ John W. Hall, father of Amy Hartman (Aug 20)
- ✦ Carole Merrill, cousin of Diana Bork (Aug 22)
- ✦ Christon William Johnson, father of Travis Johnson (Aug 23)
- ✦ Thomas E. Mahnken II, father of Tom Mahnken (Aug 30)
- ✦ Fred Fay, cousin of Rick Wright (Sep 1)
- ✦ John Birciw, uncle of Colleen Wright (Sep 2)
- ✦ Doris N. Sullivan, mother of Amy Mannon (Sep 5)
- ✦ Dean R. Brooks, father of Michelle Brooks (Sep 10)

VESTRY

Term Expires January 2012

Vani Lancaster (Register)
Paul Fitzpatrick
Ginger Koloszyk
Dale Overmeyer
Brian Waidmann
Jim Wildman

Term Expires January 2013

Sam Thomsen (Sr. Warden)
Phil Brasher
Donna Forester
Daniel Harlan
Whit Jordan
Annalisa Parks

Term Expires January 2014

Carol Jackson (Jr. Warden)
Patrick Fleming
Bob Glass
Mona Lindeman
John Scott
George Ward

Hugo Blankingship (Chancellor) • George Connors (Treasurer)

THE FALLS CHURCH

As of August 31, 2011 (12th Month Fiscal 2011) 2011 Operating Revenue & Expenses

<i>Operating Ministries</i>	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2010	Incr/(Decr) (\$)	Incr/(Decr) (%)
Revenue	\$6,617,224	\$6,384,903	\$232,321	3.6%
Expenses	\$6,426,300	\$6,185,993	\$240,307	3.9%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$190,924	\$198,910		
<i>Operating Ministries</i>	August 2011	August 2010	Incr/(Decr) (\$)	Incr/(Decr) (%)
Revenue	\$376,026	\$490,795	(\$114,769)	(23.4%)
Expenses	\$546,277	\$541,699	\$4,578	(0.9%)

Notes from Stewardship and Finance Committees

Revenue for the Fiscal Year 2011 is \$6,617,224 which is an increase of \$232,321 or 3.6% over Fiscal 2010. Pledged Offerings are up 4.3% from last year, whereas Non-Pledged Offerings are the same. Loose Plate Offerings and Stock Donations are over last year by 7.4% and 31.5% respectively. Fiscal 2011 Expenditures are \$6,426,300 and over last year by \$240,307 or 3.9% due to increased Personnel expenses. Contributions grew at about the same rate as Expenditures. Total Revenue is over budget by 3.4%, while total Expenditures are over budget by 0.4%. Fiscal 2011 Surplus is \$190,924 compared to last year's Surplus of \$198,910.

August Revenue of \$376,026 is under last year August by (\$114,769) or (23.4%) and under budget by (\$23,974) or (6.0%) due to hurricane Irene cancelled Sunday services on the 28th. August Expenditures of \$546,277 are over August last year by (0.9%) and over Budget by (\$13,400) or (2.5%).

We are blessed as a congregation to be through the Fiscal Year 2011 with a surplus nearly matching last year.

*Gratefully,
Finance and Stewardship Committees*

THE FALLS CHURCH: VISION, MISSION, AND MINISTRIES

VISION: Making Christ King in our lives and in the lives of others.

FOUR-FOLD MISSION:

1. Bringing People to New Life in Christ

Spiritual Formation & Discipleship, Worship, Outreach, and Healing & Prayer Ministries

2. Building Christ Centered Family Life

Day School, Children's Ministries, Youth Ministries, College Ministry, Young Adults, Pastoral Care, Bookstore

3. Equipping Believers to Take Christ into the Marketplace

Washington Institute, Jobs! Ministry

4. Raising up Future Leaders for the Church

Timothy Program, The Fellows Program

STAFF AT THE FALLS CHURCH

CLERGY (& CLERICAL MINISTRY DIRECTORS)

Rector

Senior Associate Rector
 Director of Pastoral Care
 Assistant Rector for Pastoral Care
 Pastoral Associate
 Director of Outreach
 Director of Discipleship/Spiritual Formation
 Associate Rector
 Assistant Rectors (Timothy)

John W. Yates II

Rick Wright
 Bob Koth
 E. Kathleen Christopher
 Nicholas Lubelfeld
 Robert Watkin
 Dean Miller
 Bill Haley
 James Swynford
 Wright Wall
 Sam Ferguson
 Stephen Arpee
 Patti Brown
 Corky Eddins
 Bob Ragan
 Jim Byrne

Non-stipendiary Associates

Other (non-Anglican) Clergy

ADMINISTRATION

Parish Administrator
 Office Administrator
 Comptroller
 Information Technologies Manager
 Database Administrator
 Membership Records/Archivist
 Accounts Receivable
 Accounting Specialist
 Bookkeeper
 Facilities Manager
 Housekeeping

Bill Deiss
 Lois McDonald
 Karen Chretien
 Patricia Balzer
 Tim McGhee
 Becca Sheffler
 Carol Bowman
 Sandy Long
 Alice Groves
 Daron Keller
 Erlene Kirkland
 Sharon Kirkland
 Paul Thomas
 Derrick Spady

Sextons

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Director
 Assistant Director, Christian Education
 Assistant Director, Nursery
 Preschool Coordinator
 Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Greenleaf
 Jane Webb
 Carolyn Wright
 Lindi Jenkins
 Rheta Mesias

THE FALLS CHURCH BOOKSTORE

Manager
 Assistant

Becky Irvine
 Jerry McClinch

THE FALLS CHURCH DAY SCHOOL

Director
 Assistant Director
 Administrative Assistant
 Administrative Assistant
 Comptroller

Laura E. Alrutz
 Kathy Thomas
 Suzanne Blagg
 Christine Yates
 Ann Schneider

FELLOWS PROGRAM

Coordinator

Morna Comeau

OUTREACH

Director
 World Outreach Coordinator
 Local/Urban Outreach Coordinator
 ESOL Coordinator
 Administrative Assistant

Robert Watkin
 Shireen David
 Nar Taing
 Christine Jones
 Kathryn Parker

PASTORAL CARE

Director
 Administrative Assistant
 Healing & Prayer Ministries Director
 Pastoral Care Team Director
 Pastoral Care Team Manager
 Pastoral Care Team Admin. Assistant
 Receptionists

Bob Koth
 Donna Wills
 Kathleen Christopher
 Elizabeth Brunner
 Janean Johnston
 Glenis Pittman
 Kaje McClinch
 Betty Sue Hines
 Jenny Byrne

Seniors Ministry Coordinator

RECTOR'S OFFICE

Executive Assistant to the Rector
 Exec. Assistant to Sr. Associate Rector
 Communications Program Manager
 Study Assistant to the Rector

Nancy McAlpin
 Jill Casey
 Susan Fertig-Dykes
 Greg Menna

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP

Director
 Administrative Assistant
 Small Groups
 Men's Ministry
 Women's Ministry
 Connections & Community
 Young Adults
 Young Adults Administrative Assistant

Dean Miller
 Brian Klotz
 James Swynford
 Wright Wall
 Libby Cannizzaro
 Erin O'Keefe
 Sam Ferguson
 Jackie Wallenmeyer

WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRY

Director
 Associate Director
 Assistant Director
 Organist
 Audiovisual Engineering Specialist
 Handbell Choir Director
 Children's Choir Director

Simon Dixon
 Jamie Brown
 Anna Swynford
 Todd Fickley
 Andrew Schooley
 Carolann Haley
 Michelle McCarten

YOUTH MINISTRY

Director
 Assistant Director, Cornerstone (Boys)
 Assistant Director, Cornerstone (Girls)
 CrossRoads Coordinator (Boys)
 CrossRoads Coordinator (Girls)
 Administrative Assistant
 College Students

Jim Byrne
 Mike Steenhoek
 Laura Smethurst
 Eric Garner
 Betsy Christian
 Marti Alderfer
 Chad Barlow

The *Current* is published six times a year, in January, March, May, July, September, and December. The deadline for each subsequent issue is the 15th of the month in which an issue is published, i.e., the deadline for the January/February issue is November 15. To submit an article, send as an email attachment to sfertigdykes@thefallschurch.org. All submissions must be in MS Word, Times Roman 12 pt. font, single line-spaced. Susan Fertig-Dykes, Editor: (703) 574-4407.

The Falls Church – Established 1732 - Celebrating 279 years!
 115 E. Fairfax Street • Falls Church, Virginia 22046
 (703) 532-7600 • www.TheFallsChurch.org • info@thefallschurch.org

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Church Office Receptionist 703/532-7600 • Church Office FAX 703/532-3321
For other staff and ministry telephone numbers, go to www.TheFallsChurch.org/staff.

Position	Phone (703)	Position	Phone (703)	Position	Phone (703)
Accounts Receivable		Young Adults Admin Assistant		Pastoral Care Office	574-4401
Carol Bowman	574-4414	Jackie Wallenmeyer	574-4397	Pastoral Care Team Director	
Accounting Specialist		Cornerstone - Asst. Director (Boys)		Elizabeth Brunner	574-4402
Sandy Long	574-4406	Mike Steenhoek	574-4393	Pastoral Care Team Manager	
Audiovisual Engineering Specialist		Cornerstone - Asst. Director (Girls)		Janean Johnston	574-4434
Andrew Schooley	574-4375	Laura Smethurts	574-4394	Pastoral Care Team - Admin. Assistant	
Children's Ministry - Director		Crossroads - Boys' Coordinator		Glenis Pittman	574-4403
Jennifer Greenleaf	574-4384	Vacant	574-4396	Receptionists	
Children's Ministry - Assistant Director		Crossroads - Girls' Coordinator		Betty Sue Hines	574-4400
Jane Webb	574-4387	Vacant	574-4389	Kaje McClinch	574-4400
Children's Ministry - Nursery		Database Administrator		Seniors' Ministry	
Carolyn Wright	574-4388	Tim McGhee	574-4418	Jenny Byrne	574-4408
Children's Ministry - Preschool Coordinator		Day School - Director		Small Groups	
Lindi Jenkins	574-4386	Laura Alrutz	534-8687	James Swynford	889-8114
Children's Ministry - Admin. Assistant		Day School - Assistant Director		Spiritual Formation & Discipleship Director	
Rheta Mesias	574-4385	Kathy Thomas	534-8687	Dean Miller	889-8119
Church Office Administrator		Day School - Comptroller		Washington Institute	
Lois McDonald	574-4412	Ann Schneider	534-8687	Steve Garber	574-4370
Clergy - The Rector		Day School - Admin. Assistant		Women's Ministry	
John Yates	532-7600	Suzanne Blagg	574-4424	Libby Cannizzaro	889-8118
Clergy - Senior Associate Rector		Day School - Admin. Assistant		Worship/Music - Director	
Rick Wright	532-7600	Christine Yates	574-4426	Simon Dixon	574-4373
Clergy - Associate Rector		Executive Assistant to The Rector		Worship/Music - Assoc. Dir.	
Bill Haley	202-320-3206	Nancy McAlpin	574-4369	Jamie Brown	574-4374
Clergy - Outreach		Executive Assistant to Sr. Associate Rector		Worship/Music - Asst. Dir.	
Robert Watkin	574-4376	Jill Casey	574-4405	Anna Swynford	574-4371
Clergy - Pastoral Care Director		Facilities Manager		Worship Organist	
Bob Koth	532-7600	Daron Keller	574-4417	Todd Fickley	574-4398
Clergy - Pastoral Care		Information Technology Manager		Worship/Music - Children's Choir	
Kathleen Christopher	532-7600	Patricia Balzer	574-4416	Michelle McCarten	532-7600 x4435
Clergy - Pastoral Associate		Jobs! Ministry - Director		Young Adults	
Nicholas Lubelfeld	532-7600	Jack Dunlap	536-9068	Sam Ferguson	889-8113
Clergy - Spiritual Formation/Discipleship		Membership Records/Archivist		Admin Assistant	
Dean Miller	889-8819	Becca Sheffler	574-4409	Brian Klotz	574-4381
Clergy - Timothy - Small Groups		Men's Ministry		Youth Ministry	
James Swynford	889-8114	Wright Wall	237-5833	Jim Byrne	301/704-2732
Clergy - Timothy - Men's Ministry		Outreach - ESOL		Youth Admin. Assistant	
Wright Wall	237-5833	Christine Jones	574-4379	Marti Alderfer	574-4390
Clergy - Timothy		Outreach - International		Youth High School	
Sam Ferguson	889-8113	Shireen David	574-4378	Mike Steenhoek	574-4393
Communications Program Manager		Outreach - Urban		Laura Smethurst	574-4394
Susan Fertig-Dykes	574-4407	Nar Taing	889-8110	Youth Middle School	574-4390
Comptroller		Outreach - Administrative Assistant		Eric Garner	574-4396
Karen Chretien	574-4415	Kathryn Parker	574-4377	Betsy Christian	574-4389
Connections & Community Coordinator		Parish Administrator			
Erin O'Keefe	574-4420	Bill Deiss	574-4411		
College Students		Pastoral Care - Administrative Assistant			
Chad Barlow	574-4392	Donna Wills	889-8117		

HOW TO CONTACT THE FALLS CHURCH

Email a staff member: use the first initial and last name @thefallschurch.org (e.g., Lois McDonald is lmcdonald@thefallschurch.org).

For other contact information, go to www.TheFallsChurch.org/staff or consult the Parish Directory.

Bookstore: Becky Irvine (703) 532-1526

Report a member hospitalization, birth or death: reception@thefallschurch.org or the Church Office at (703) 532-7600. Request a hospital visit, home visit or home communion: the Pastoral Care Team at (703) 574-4401.

Request assistance for a variety of personal, family, or marriage problems (health, financial, etc.): the Pastoral Care Team at (703) 574-4401.

Request premarital counseling, wedding, funeral, or baptism information: Donna Wills at dwills@thefallschurch.org or (703) 889-8117.

Add or update your contact information: Membership Records Administrator Becca Sheffler at (703) 574-4409 or bsheffler@thefallschurch.org or go to the Web site and click on "Inside TFC," then on "Add/Update Your Contact Info."

For information on Confirmation, contact Becca Sheffler, (703) 574-4409. For

schedule of Confirmation classes, contact Erin O'Keefe, (703) 574-4420.

Get an address from the Parish Directory: reception@thefallschurch.org.

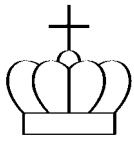
Lost & Found: Bring all eyeglasses, Bibles, keys and other found items (not including Youth Ministry) to the Church Office.

Request or reserve use of a room for an event: Submit a completed room request form, downloadable from the Web site (click on "Resources & Support" and "Facility Use"), to Facilities Manager Daron Keller at (703) 574-4417 or dkeller@thefallschurch.org.

If you have records or historical material you believe should be part of TFC archives, contact Becca Sheffler, TFC archivist, at (703) 574-4409 or bsheffler@thefallschurch.org

Submit items for *This Week at The Falls Church*: to weekly@thefallschurch.org or to relevant ministry. For Needs and Blessings send to Glenis Pittman at gpittman@thefallschurch.org or (703) 574-4403.

Submit an article to *The Current*: Susan Fertig-Dykes at sfertigdykes@thefallschurch.org. Direct inquiries to (703) 574-4407.



The Falls Church
 115 E. Fairfax Street
 Falls Church, VA 22046
 703-532-7600
www.TheFallsChurch.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES

November

- 6 All Saints & Generational Healing Service
- 6 Parenting Class begins (John and Susan Yates)
- 11 Veterans Day Service, Historic Church, 7 pm
- 11-13 Cornerstone Leadership Weekend
- 24 Thanksgiving Day Service, Historic Church, 10 am

December

- 1 Women's Christmas Dessert, 7:30 pm
- 2-4 Mike Evans Healing Conference
- 4 Monthly Healing Service (within conference)
- 4 Youth Confirmation classes begin
- 4, 11 Baptism prep for January 8 Baptism
- 11 Youth Ministry "The Gift" 6:15 pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Services:
 3 pm, Main Sanctuary, Family Service
 6 pm, Main Sanctuary, Eucharist
 8 pm, Main Sanctuary, Eucharist
 10:30 pm, Historic Church, Eucharist
- 25 Christmas Day Service, 10 am, Main Sanctuary
- 31 New Year's Eve—Falls Church Watch Night

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Please see listing at left for Christmas Services schedule.

Sunday

- 8 am Historic Church
(Communion, Rite I)
- 9 am Main Sanctuary
(Morning Prayer,
Communion 1st
Sunday)
- 11 am Historic Church
(Communion, Rite II)
- 11 am Main Sanctuary
(Contemporary
Service, Communion
1st Sunday)

Wednesday

- 12 pm Historic Church
(Healing Eucharist)

Saturday

- 5 pm Main Sanctuary
Evening Prayer
Communion 1st
and 3rd Sat.

First Sunday*

- 7 pm Historic Church
(Healing Service)

* If holiday weekend, moves to second Sunday

Visit www.TheFallsChurch.org for more information and a full calendar.