

Family Life

Bulletin of the Church of Christ in Falls Church, Virginia

Volume 46, Number 51

December 18, 2011



Tune's Notes

"Perhaps we've gone too far."

He may not have said those actual words, but I'm sure by 1546, King Henry VIII of England thought something like them. Bible reading was *so* popular that folks would

often read the Bible during worship assembly rather than listen to the preacher. Plus, they formulated opinions that often ran counter to accepted Church doctrine. And, since the King was considered the head of the Church of England, readers had opinions about him too – and often not too complimentary.

The king tried to cut down on these opinions by restricting the Bibles. By 1539, a new Bible had appeared, very large in size, called the "Great Bible," and the King decided that was the only one people should use. He made Tyndale's and Coverdale's Bibles illegal – which was more than ironic because the Great Bible was but a revision of Tyndale's and Coverdale's.

In 1560 the Geneva Bible was published and this became the most popular English Bible for half a century.

Why so many Bibles? Each one allowed time for further study and reflection, an opportunity to consult other versions and manuscripts (though there weren't that many) and practice to produce a better reading. But also, each one contained copious notes – much like our Study Bibles today – that helped to sway the beliefs of the reader in the direction of the preparer.

That's what made the next Bible so unique: it appeared without theological comment. This Bible, a translation prepared by 47 of Britain's greatest scholars, was initiated at the request of King James I of England in 1604. It was completed and published in May of 1611, 400 years ago this year and became the single most influential piece of literature in the history of mankind.

Though few of us use the King James Bible anymore, it remained the best selling Bible until 1988. It is still number 2. The plethora of Bibles now available to us, and our short memories, often obscures how hard it was to get the Bible into English, and how many gave their lives to make it happen. Owning one is a blessing. Reading it a privilege – and a duty for every Christian.

Love you all
Mike



If I Die Young

As part of the Sunday Night Live series focusing on the message of music, last week we looked at the song "If I Die Young" by the Band Perry. At first it seems as if this might be a depressing song about the death of a young person. A closer listening brings out a deeper message.

One of the the deeper messages is to make the most of the time you have because you are not guaranteed any more time. Jesus tells us that He is the Good Shepherd. As His sheep (His followers), He comes to give us a full life. That life is made up of every experience we have - positive or negative. Some of those make us happy and some make us sad. As the Good Shepherd, Jesus makes all these experiences come together not to make life empty but to make them full in us. No matter how long we follow, it is a full life.

Later Paul writes in a letter to Timothy about running the good race. This is the next deeper message. We are all running a race. How we run the race is up to us. Do we run a good race, following the course laid out for us by the LORD or do we try to run our own race? The choice is ours. Paul is at the end of his life and encourages Timothy who is in the middle of his life to run the good race. Paul urges Timothy to keep his eyes on the LORD and be victorious!

One of the goals of this series is to help teens and students to listen carefully to the music around them for what the message is. If the message is positive and encouraging they should continue to listen to such music. If the message is negative and destructive they should stop listening to such music. You can help your teen or student by asking them questions about what they listen to.

GRACE + PEACE
AHL

Rainbow Christian Services Annual "Christmas Card" Collection Ends Today

For 42 years, Falls Church members have sent out a "Christmas Card" to each other while also collecting funds in support of a Church of Christ organization, **Rainbow Christian Services**, whose mission is to serve the children of the Metropolitan area.

Continuing through today, you may make a contribution that about equals what you might otherwise have spent in cards and postage. **Please make out your check to Rainbow Christian Services** and give it to

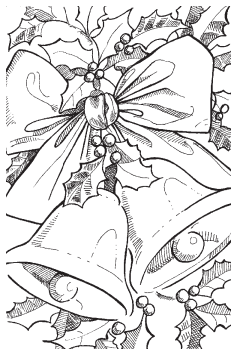


Sally Dasher or **Denise Rachel**, who have graciously consented once again to collect funds. All the names will be added to the group card which will be published in *Family Life* next Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day.

The first "Rainbow Christian Services Christmas Card" collection was taken in 1969. Although the orphans home no longer exists, RCS continues its mission to serve children.

Supporting U. S. Armed Forces at Christmas

Clayton and Gina Tune are taking donations from now through the end of the year for the "**Support U. S. Armed Forces**" (SUSAF) non-profit organization.



The SUSAF mission is to support and encourage our military and their families and to raise money to provide gift packages which will be sent to military personnel and their families all over the world.

Please make out your check to **Gina Tune** and give it to her or **Clayton** by the end of December.

Talk to either one about donating online. Packages will be sent out as donations come in, but all packages will be sent by January 2 and all donations are welcome and appreciated!

Clayton & Gina conducted an appeal for a similar program last year, directed to those wounded in combat. The program this year focuses on all troops and their families. Christmas can be a particularly stressful time, especially if a family is separated by long distance, limited funds or the additional stress of deployment. For further details about this program, consult the specifics located on the bulletin board in the lobby.

Holiday Schedule

A few schedule modifications will be made for the upcoming Christmas holidays, according to **Kevin Rachel**, Elder, and **Scott Mills**, Deacon for Children's Education.

December 25:

- 1) There will be a combined adult class in the Fellowship Hall.
- 2) There will be NO Children's Worship that morning.
- 3) There will be NO EVENING SERVICE that day.
- 4) Only Cradle Roll/Nursery and the 2 & 3 year old class will meet that day. All other children's Bible study classes through the 6th grade will be combined and will meet in Room 121 (where the pantry is located).

January 1: There will be a combined adult class in the Fellowship Hall.

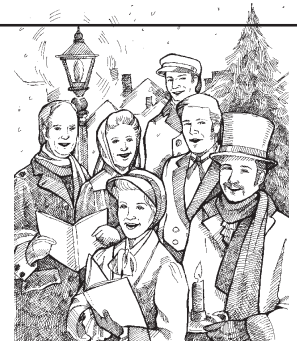
SPECIAL NOTE: Children who are interested in Bible reading or leading singing at this combined class are encouraged to add their names to the Lads to Leaders sign-up sheets in the lobby, and to attend the upcoming Lads to Leaders song leading classes that will be announced separately.

Christmas Caroling Set For Today

The annual **Christmas Caroling to Shut-Ins** is set for today between 2 & 4 pm. Music will be provided.

This year we would like to send groups of 8 to 10 singers to different locations. If possible, three groups would be fantastic.

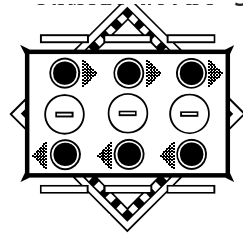
Please let **Bill or Mary Ann Kincaid** know you're planning to attend. That is particularly important this year, so that they can make the arrangements with shut-in members.



“Wednesday Night Out” on Holiday

The popular “Wednesday Night Out” dinner program **will not meet** on Dec. 21 or Dec. 28. This allows a holiday for **Monica Tune, Catherine McDaniel and Yvonne May** who prepare the meal each week for the Falls Church family to enjoy. MANY, MANY THANKS to them for their yeoman’s service!

Wednesday



Night Out

Check the bulletin board for the sign-up sheet for the return of this program in 2012!

And if you wish to come, just add your name - PLEASE!

Memorial Donations List

There is a list on the members bulletin board regarding memorial contributions. This list includes the name of a deceased person, the date of his or her passing, the name and address for the contribution, and the name and address of the person who should receive acknowledgement of that gift.



One teaching assistant is still needed to assist teachers in the Sunday night class for grades 1 & 2.

The assistant must have been a member of the congregation for at least 6 months. Please see **Scott Mills** to volunteer.

“A.N.T.s” Is on Leave

“A.N.T.’s” (Adults at Noon Time) will be taking a wee (ants DO tend to be on the small side) hibernation break over the winter.



According to **Monica Tune**, the myrmecologist who is best acquainted with this species, they do plan to return in the spring. Watch this column (or better yet the bulletin board) for future developments.

Two of our Elders are available after morning assembly in room 223 on the main level to meet with anyone who would like prayer for special concerns.

Snow or Inclement Weather Closing Policy

Please Post This Notice Where You Can Find It When You Need It

The weather definitely is cooler, and it’s time to review our policy with regard to snow and collateral closings.

Not only heavy snow, but also icy conditions or a power failure can cause a cancellation. This is particularly true after dark. If the weather is at all doubtful, please call before coming.

We will attempt to alert you of any closings. However, sometimes that is impossible, so here are the tips you may use to prevent coming here to a closed building.

On Sunday, if weather conditions seem questionable, call the church at 703-820-4506. When you hear the recording, press **#5 - News** to learn of cancellations. You also may check the home page of our website: www.fallschurchcoc.org

During the week, program closings are linked to the Fairfax County Public Schools, as follows:

On Tuesday: If schools are closed or have a two-hour delayed opening on Tuesday, Ladies Bible Class will not meet.



Winter Closing Policy

On Wednesday: There will be **no** mid-week service if schools are closed due to inclement weather, whether school has been cancelled all day or closes early, or if all evening activities are cancelled.

The following are ways in which we will try to contact you:

1) If you will give us your name, your cell phone number, and the name of your cell carrier, we will notify you via text-message of any change in service times.

You can write these on your attendance cards or send us an email.

- 2) We will send out an email to all members.
- 3) We will post the notice on the home page of our website - www.fallschurchcoc.org or via Twitter - <http://twitter.com/cocfc>
- 4) We will post a notice on the church’s phone system. If you dial the church’s number (703-820-4506) and it rings but there is no answer or message, it means there is no electrical power to the building.
- 5) If all these fail, call your Agape group leader, one of the Elders, or Mike Tune.

Farewell to Ruth Ditto

April 8, 1921 - October 27, 2011

Ruth Opal Wachter Ditto passed from this life Oct. 27 at the age of 90 and following a long struggle with alzheimer's disease. She was one of the few remaining charter members of the Falls Church congregation when it was established in 1949.

Her husband, **Bill**, also was a charter member. He passed away Nov. 23, 2010. She is survived by her only remaining sibling, her sister Roxie Weese whose daughters Susan Weese and Patti French also are part of this congregation; her son and daughter-in-law Dale Gene and Teresa Winston; her son and daughter-in-law Bill and Kathy Ditto; her daughter and son-in-law Christine and Art Embrey; nine grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Born in Berkeley Springs, WV, she was the fourth child born to Charles and Bessie Mae Stotler Wachter. Hers was not an easy life. Her father died when she was a young child. Her mother later married Elwood Myers, who introduced his new family to the Church of Christ.

Ruth was an humble and unpretentious person, but had a cheerful, sweet and outgoing personality. She loved talking with people and loved doing things for her family. In addition to keeping her home immaculate, she sewed everything she could, did cross stitch, and kept grandchildren who always felt very special. To supplement family income, she worked in the gift wrap department at the Woodward & Lothrop at 7 Corners Shopping Center, walking to her job from her home.



She married Dale Wince, and their son Dale Gene was born. However, that was during World War II. Dale entered military service and was killed at Anzio Beach in 1944. She then became reacquainted with Bill Ditto who also was from Berkeley Springs and had just returned from service with the U. S. Marines. They were married Oct. 22, 1946, and celebrated 64 years of marriage!

They were married at the Arlington Church of Christ where they were baptized in 1948, then became charter members at the newly organized Falls Church congregation the following year.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Keeping Contact with Our Missionaries

This is the time of year when we think of people we don't see very often, including the dedicated men and women whose work Falls Church supports in the mission field.

If you would like to write or send greetings cards or let them know you are thinking of and praying for them, you can find those addresses on the list on the bulletin board.



Do you want to listen to all the sermons preached at the Church of Christ in Falls Church? You can find them on our church's Sermon Blog (<http://cocfsermons.blogspot.com>). You can scan the qr code to the left with your smart phone or tablet and jump straight to the Sermon Blog. Here you can also subscribe to the Sermon Podcast which will automatically send the Sunday sermons to iTunes or your podcast reader of choice.

If you enjoyed Mike Tune's series on the Book of Revelation, all the sermons are available online at the Sermon blog (<http://cocfsermons.blogspot.com/search/label/Revelation>). You can scan the qr code to the right with your smart phone or tablet and jump straight to the Revelation sermons.



Prayer Reminders:

Blanca Alvarez, Dot & Haldon Arnold, Crystal Berry, John Bowden, Eloise Fishback, Winnie & Desiree Flint, Randall & Ann Ford, Sonia Garnett, Joe & Zula Garrett, Larry Goodrich (and his family, all of whom lost homes in wildfires), Frances & Ed Harris, Diana Kuhn, Joshua McKay, his mother Dawn & sister Molly, Alma Milligan, Augustino & Natalina Olango, Lee, Mariko & Elena Price, Sylvia Sartori, Jeremy Sims, Bess Smith, Mildred Smith, Candice Spiess, Ellie & Don Thie, Barbara & Harry Thompson, Erica Walker-Chenevert, Roxie Weese, Susan Weese, Charles Welch, Dara Widner, Lois Woods, Ken & Lesya Yeatman.



Pray
WITHOUT
CEASING

We express our deepest sympathy to **Ken Yeatman** and to his family on the death of his father Dec. 15. Service arrangements were incomplete.



Prayer Requests:

Gary Allmond requests prayers for several family members. His stepfather **Paul** was concerned about further surgery, but has learned his condition is not so serious and he will have a less serious procedure Jan. 23. His father has an enlarged thyroid gland which will be removed surgically Feb. 16. His sister and her husband, **Shanda & Jeremy Noe**, are experiencing family problems.

Donna Altman, a former member, is dealing with serious health issues.

Jose & Jackie Arevalo request prayers for a friend **Amy Wassenberg** who has been diagnosed with bone cancer that is terminal. Their son was a close friend of Oliver's and Amy's husband was Jessica's basketball coach.

Sharon Holland is scheduled for surgery Dec. 22 to remove a rod from her collarbone. She is a former member and appreciates the prayers of this congregation.

Fern Musteen's granddaughter **Louisa Allison** was hospitalized recently for a respiratory virus.

Augustino Olango was scheduled for back surgery on Friday at the University of Virginia Hospital in Charlottesville.

Abby Smith asks continued prayers for her sister **Brittney Roberts**. Brittney's unborn child is much better but Brittney is experiencing family problems.

Gary & Dara Widner ask continued prayers for their daughter-in-law who is better in terms of the baby but still has to take it easy.

Continuing Concerns

NOTE: To keep this list current, names will be published for three weeks then removed unless office is requested to continue.

All those dealing with drought & fires, especially Texas & Oklahoma, and with storms & floods across the nation; all those who need employment or have been affected by economic pressures; all who have been affected by the earthquake & tsunami in Japan (12/4);

Sue Adams, cancer treatments (mother of Erin Adams, 12/4);

(Cont'd in next column)

Continuing Concerns (from first column)

Anneliese Alderman, dementia (mother of **Rob Alderman**, 12/11);

Sandra Arevalo, chemotherapy, and **Doris Williams**, cancer (sister and friend of **Jose Arevalo**, 12/11);

Leroy Auxier, under hospice care (father of **Travis Auxier**, a friend of **Steve & Sally Dasher**, 12/18);

David Benson, recovering from accident (grandson of **Frances Harris**, 12/18);

Richard Bowles' friend Sean, making progress (11/27);

Mary Boyce, not doing well; **Greta Harvey & Robin McLemore**, doing well on new medications; **Darlene Walker & Angela Watson**, improving; **Vanessa Lovejoy**, cancer (friends or relatives of **Erica Walker-Chenevert**, 12/4);

Jack Cameron, heart disease (husband of **Renee Hoppis's** cousin Yvonne (12/11);

Kimmy Campbell, cancer has returned (friend of **Patti French**, 12/11);

Carrie Coenen, new diagnosis of liver cancer plus additional surgery (friend of **Fern Musteen**, 12/18);

Tom Cooney, still very ill (friend of **Crystal Berry**, 12/4);

Beverly Dawson, health problems (mother of **Mark Dawson**, 12/11);

Danny Edmonds & his family as they deal with his incurable cancer (Lindauer Rd. C of C in Forrest City, AR, 12/11);

Claudia Lopez Espinoza, thyroid cancer (sister of **Ignacio Espinoza**, 12/4);

Kaylee Farnsworth, much improved (3-year-old daughter of youth minister in Florida, 12/18);

Malcolm Fentress, chemotherapy (brother-in-law of **Paul Smith**, 12/11);

Deloris Freeman, now on dialysis (friend of **Vickie Witt**, 12/4);

Mary Gallagher, one more eye surgery this month (sister of **Jim Shoenhard**, 12/11);

Amy Girimont, health problems (former member, 12/4);

Joe Gantt is doing very well in treatment for cancer (brother of **Martha Ashley**, 12/4);

Nadine Grigsby, stroke (mother of **Susan Smith**, 12/11);

Helen Harris, serious health issues, and **Ollie May**, arthritis and other issues (mother and aunt of **Benita Harris**, 12/4);

Christine Henderson, continuing cancer treatment, and **Roger Jones**, improving slowly (friend and father of **Heather Jones**, 12/11);

Lynn Huff, stroke (mother of **Billie Bohannon & Sylvia Sartori**, 12/11);

Megan Jarrell, starting another round of chemotherapy (cousin of **Jon Hessling**, 12/18);

John Kline, chemotherapy (brother of **Winnie Flint**, 12/11);

Frances Maxwell, cancer (mother of **Melanie Barham**, daughter-in-law of **Donna Barham**, 12/11);

James McCollum, serious health problems and now out of work, & **Nicole Tenorio**, recovering from accident (friend & relative of **Mary Jo Allmond**, 12/4);

Jaden Morrow, infant undergoing cancer treatment, and his mother **Brittney Trainor** (friends of **Angela & Rebecca Eckstone-Hayes**, 12/11);

Lenora Pong, more chemotherapy (friend to many, 12/11);

Betty Shaver, cancer treatment (friend of **Vickie Witt**, 12/18);

Bertha Sullivan, health issues (grandmother of **Jean Doran**, 12/11);

Jency Taliaferro, cancer (former member, 12/11);

Linda Weatherby, cancer, and her husband **Joe Ramirez**, lymphoma (friends of **Anna Souza**, 12/4);

Laurie Whiteman, recovering from surgery (friend of **Scott & Susan Rosen**, 12/11);

John Whalen, quite ill (father of **Kevin Whalen**, co-worker of **Dorothy Eckert**, 12/4);

Belinda Wynkoop, serious health problems, and her mother **Aileen** (former members, 12/11).

We pray for the safety of loved ones serving in dangerous locations: in Afghanistan - **Shevon Boykins-Saide**, **Chuck Kerry** [plus his wife & daughter **Becki (May) & Addison Kerry** in his absence], **Keith Pangle**, **Rolando Rufino & Byron Zaharias**; in Iraq - **Jay Stewart & Rogelio Viera**; overseas - **Justin Cauthen**.

General Information

For Children:

❖ An attended nursery and a nursing mother's room -- located adjacent to the Assembly Center -- are available during our assembly.

❖ For ages 2 through pre-kindergarten year, Children's Worship is conducted in rooms 223 and 221. Children are dismissed after communion.

Recordings: Recordings of sermons at Falls Church are available for no charge on our web site after about four days. Recordings also are available in CD format for \$5.00 and may be ordered by completing a CD order envelope located in the foyer.

Assistive Listening System:

Personal sound receivers are available for hearing enhancement in our Assembly Center. Our ushers will be happy to supply one of these aids for your convenience upon request.

Nursery Attendants

December 18, 2011

Morning

Lisa Swetnam

Erica W-Chenevert

Evening

Yvonne May

December 25, 2011

Morning

Ida Goetzinger

Patty Woods

Evening

NO SERVICE

Children's Worship

December 18, 2011

2/3 Gina Tune, Abby Smith

P-K Misty Marshall, Meaza Zemech

December 25, 2011

2/3 Karen Beck, Heather Musser

P-K A. Venkatesan, TBA

Worship Today, December 18, 2011

Hymn #995

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Hymn #1003

Silent Night! Holy Night!

Prayer

Oliver McDaniel

Hymn #454

Rock of Ages

Communion/Collection

Josh Byrd

Hymn #1008

Angels from the Realms of Glory

(Children ages 2 through pre-K dismissed to Children's Worship)

Bible Reading (*Luke 23:33-43*)

Caleb Shoenhard

Bible Lesson

Mike Tune

Hymn #140

Love Divine

Announcements

Joe Bryan

Introduction of Visitors

Kevin Amores

Prayer

Kevin Amores



Song Leader

Bill Kincaid

Ushers

Perry May, Joshua McKay

Robert Spiess will lead singing this evening; Mark Shannon & Hal Swetnam will lead prayers.

December servers: Mark Dawson, Ryan Dowdy, Bill Furr, Jimmy Gallagher, Richard Gunselman and Beni Venkatesan

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:30 am
Morning Assembly 10:30 am
Evening Assembly 6:00 pm

Tuesday - Ladies Bible Class 10:15 am
(October through April)

Wednesday Bible Classes 7:15 pm

Office Hours 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Contact Information

6149 Leesburg Pike
P. O. Box 1036
Falls Church, VA 22041
Office Phone: 703-820-1346
Fax: 703-820-1348
Email: office@fallschurchcoc.org
Website: www.fallschurchcoc.org

Elders

Joe Bryan Steve Dasher
Wayne Doran Bill Kincaid
Jim Lane Oliver McDaniel
Kevin Rachel Joseph Tucker

Deacons

Roberto Alvarez Jose Arevalo
Matt Bensky Ben Bohannon
Ignacio Espinoza Perry May
Joshua McKay Scott Mills
Saul Reyes Kevin Thie
John Waterston Ken Yeatman

Habtu Zemech

Missionaries

Gary & Sue Babcock, Kent County, RI
Pedro & Mireya Batres - Nicaragua
Clarence & Pam Campbell - South County, RI
Henry & Rosa Gutierrez - Nicaragua
Gene & Janice Luna - WBI/Guatemala
Deanna Meredith - Concepcion, Chile
Omar & Tana Palafox - Leon, Mexico
Recardo & Monica Reyes - Cuemavaca, Mex.
Don & Esther Roarabaugh - Torrington, CT

Staff

Mike Tune, *Pulpit Minister*
Josh Byrd, *Youth Minister*
Mary Ann Kincaid, *Secretary*

Statistics

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Bible Study 207
Morning Assembly 312
Evening Assembly 119
Contribution \$12,592
YTD Average \$11,420
Budget Goal \$11,577

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

Classes & Online 89

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Prayer - Scott Mills

Song Leader - Joseph Tucker