

**Fairfax Baptist Church**  
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**December/January 2011/2012**

# The SPAN

We're on the web:  
 A Grace Place  
 www.fairfaxbaptist.com

**Church Services & Bible Study:**

Bible Study — Sundays at 9:30 am  
 Worship Services — Sundays at 11:00 am  
 Bible Study — Tuesdays at 7:00 pm  
 Bible Study — Thursdays at 10:00 am  
 Church Office Hours — Mon-Fri, 10:00am-3:00pm

**Pastor/Choir Director:** Dr. Jim Hoffman, Th.D  
**Music Assistant:** Charlotte Balis  
**Organist/Pianist:** Audrey Peterbark Ross  
**Adult Education Coordinator:** Dr. Dick Thompson  
**Youth Director:** Joseph Mendez  
**Children's Coordinator:** Jenifer Kerns  
**Administrative Assistant:** Laura Jaumillot  
**Custodians:** John and Joann Jenkins

December Nursery Schedule		
	<u>Nursery Room</u>	<u>Toddler Room</u>
4th	Flora Griffis	Ruth Blevins, Haley Skeins
11th	Terrie Jolliffe	Emily and Daniel Gardiner
18th	Penny Bispo	Nancy Ambler, Ashley Dobbins
25th	Julie Stevens	Vicky and Amanda Zehring

January Nursery Schedule		
	<u>Nursery Room</u>	<u>Toddler Room</u>
1st	Pat Skeins	Ruth Blevins, Haley Skeins
8th	Patti Cook	Emily and Christina Gardiner
15th	Pat Coleman	Anita Naylor, Paulina Song
22nd	Elaine Fox	Sharon Martin, Samantha Kerns
29th	Cherie Pratte	Kristina Barlow, Brian Maupin

**Prayer & Praise List**

Baughman, Charles & Ruby  
 Berkery, Frances  
 Bevis, Randy  
 Campbell, Louise  
 Conger, Diane  
 Cutchin, John  
 Forsman, Wendell  
 Gurney, Iva  
 Harris, Stephanie  
 Harris, Virgil & Diane  
 Hatton, Donnie  
*Dr. Hoffman's and his family*  
 Hyde, Elizabeth  
 Irvin, Odell

Jones, Issac  
 Kimball, Lew  
 Lavinder, Irma  
 Lindsey, Frank  
 Lisiewski, Sandy  
 Malone, Art  
 McClure, Shonnon  
 McNeal, Bob  
 McRobie, Pauline  
 Moyer, Bea  
 Pearia, Alicia  
 Petrovich, Corey  
 Pratt, Clara  
 Raymond, Linda

Rodman, Cindy  
 Rose, Anne  
 Smith, Bob  
 Smith, Peggy  
 Stallings- Wood, Mandy  
 Trivett, James (Slim)



**People Serving in the Armed Forces from Fairfax Baptist:** Emerson Davis, Matt DeWeese, Pierre Epeeé, Peter Knight, Mark Pearson, Matthew Reese and Sean Rodman.

*Anyone who is in "italics" has recently been added to the list or had a status change.*

- December 7th**  
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- December 21st**  
World Peace Day
- December 25th**  
Christmas Day
- January 1st**  
New Year's Day
- January 16th**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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**Pastor's Message**

by Dr. Jim Hoffman, Th.D

I am writing on Tuesday the 22nd of November. Mom passed away on the 16th of November one day short of being 4 months since Dad passed away. We had a memorial service for her on the 19th of November in St. Augustine, Florida. Remarkably, all my children, grandchildren and Teresa were able to be there, divine destiny. Mom will be laid to rest tomorrow the 23rd of November, one day and one month since Dad was laid to rest, in Atlanta, Georgia at Westview Cemetery where my dad and brother are buried.

I will not take use of this forum to perform some type of catharsis. But, I have much gratitude and thankfulness for the generosity, prayer and affection our church family has shown my family and me personally. And, much thanks to those who read my words and are praying for my family from journeys before.

Much lies heavy on my heart and time will have to be the muse the Holy Spirit uses for healing and articulation. I am a void held together by the web of the Holy Spirit. And, the Spirit of God moves upon the deep to bring light out of darkness, joy out of tears and lifts us out of the miry clay and sets us upon the Solid Rock. But, it is a process not a product. I am humbled to walk the journey with you.

I thought I once loved with all the joy  
 and madness exercised,  
 But it was only a mirage,  
 a tease of something far away,  
 I thought I once grieved  
 with all the darkness and pain embodied,  
 Yet it was only a vapor, a mist and a  
 sheer to the full fabric of that reality.

For now the journey brings loss  
 without reimbursement,  
 And the depth and reality of love  
 has been embodied  
 With loss upon loss and grief upon grief.  
 But joy comes in the morning for I  
 saw it on my dying beloved's face.

I love you, your pastor

**FBC Advent/Christmas Schedule**

**You are invited to join us for all of these services  
 in anticipation and celebration of the birth of our Lord!**

**Advent Worship Service of Hope**  
 November 27, 2011 - 11:00 am

**Holiday Family Brunch**  
 December 3, 2011 - 11am-1pm

**Advent Worship Service of Peace**  
 December 4, 2011 - 11:00 am

**Advent Worship Service of Joy**  
 Chancel and Chapel Choirs  
 December 11, 2011 - 11:00 am

**Advent Worship Service of Love**  
 Christmas Musical by the Chancel Choir

"God Is With Us—A Festival  
 of Carols and Classics"  
 December 18, 2011 - 11:00 am

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**  
 December 24, 2011 - 7:30 pm

**Christmas Day Worship Service**  
 December 25, 2011 - 11:00am



### Handbell Choir

Wednesdays

6:30pm

Last Practice, Dec 14th

Resumes, Feb 1st

### Chancel Choir

Wednesdays

7:00pm

Last Practice, Dec 21st

Resumes, Jan 11th

### Chapel Choir

Sundays

9:30am

Last Practice, Dec 11th

## Noteable News

By Charlotte Balis

November was a memorable month with our Veterans Day and Thanksgiving worship services. We thank our soloists, Noah Bae and T.J. DuBois, for delightful Special Music. Appreciation is extended to our Handbell Choir, making their debut at our Thanksgiving worship service: T.J. DuBois, Dr. Hoffman, Mark Lancaster, Mike Mehaffey, Wendy Knight, Audrey Peterbark Ross, and myself. We thank Audrey for inviting her piano student, Stephanie Gaber, to be a part of our Thanksgiving service.

We now look forward to December with its meaningful Advent music. December 4 will be our Advent communion service. On December 11, the Chapel Choir will be singing with the Chancel Choir. On December 18, the Chancel Choir will present *God Is With Us: A Festival of Carols and Classics* by Tom Fettke, with narrations read by Jeanne Hogarth.

*"God Is With Us" is traditional in style, but features innovative twists and turns. It combines exciting and moving classical music by Faure, Beethoven, Vivaldi, Tchaikovsky and Billings with some of the world's most loved Christmas Carols. It begins with the awe-filled simplicity of Georgian Chant and concludes with a fun, festive journey through favorite carols with a Nutcracker flair. And in between, there's indescribably beautiful music, worthy of the celebration of such a glorious and miraculous event...the birth of Jesus Christ.*

We thank our December soloists, Joe Byram, Christopher Doheny, Jenifer Kerns, Mark Lancaster, Mike Mehaffey, Audrey Peterbark Ross, and Wendy Knight. We especially thank each and every member of our Handbell Choir, Chancel Choir, and Chapel Choir.

All of our Advent music is in anticipation of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, when we celebrate the appearance of God on earth in the body and human soul of Jesus Christ. Such an event is so thrilling and humbling. Join us as we exclaim the hope, peace, joy and love of our Savior's birth!

## Women's Fellowship Cr.

By Linda Davis

At the November meeting, we had an inspiring program on compassion. One way we are practicing showing compassion is by preparing a Thanksgiving food basket for a family in need.

In December, watch for the MITTEN TREE in the church foyer. Our goal for this project is to fully decorate the tree with mittens, hats, scarves, etc. There will also be an overflow box under the tree. The items will be distributed through the Clothes Closet to those who need them. We invite the church membership to help us decorate. Start watching for bargains!

On December 13th, we will be holding our Christmas luncheon at the Olive Garden restaurant in Fair Lakes.

In January, the circle will sponsor a church-wide blanket drive for the benefit of Church World Services. This is the only global mission we do during the year. For \$25.00 you can send 5 blankets to help people in need. Checks should be made payable to Fairfax Baptist Church with "blanket drive" on the memo line. Last year our church donated \$625.00. Let's strive to do even more this year!

We appreciate so much the church body for the help you give us with these projects. And remember, we always welcome new faces and new ideas.

## Shoebox Collection

By Dolores Testerman

FBC members, along with members of the American Legion collected an incredible amount of 120 shoeboxes filled with toys and goodies for children in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Program. Thank you for this amazing outpouring of generosity as well as the many monetary donations that were received.

I'd especially like to thank the following people who contributed much of their time to make this project the success it was: Jean Beylor, Gerri Buroker, Florence Rowland, Pat Skeins, Ann Hall, Martha Collier and Laura Jaumillot. I would also like to thank Pat Jurgensen for coordinating the collection of boxes donated by her group at the American Legion. Jenifer Kerns and the Children's Church kids also deserve thanks for their help in the decorating and wrapping of shoeboxes.

## Things Jesus Did

By Dr. Dick Thompson

### Jesus says, "He Who Believes in me Will do what I do (John 14:12)"

Jesus Prays to God Often – Mark 1:35; John 17; Luke 22:42-45

Thanks God for Food. At Last Supper, he gave thanks for bread & wine Luke 22:17 & 22:19; Also blesses food (e.g. at feeding 5K, Mk 6:41& Emmaus Luke 24:41–The blessing is a form of Grace.)

Jesus Reads & Knows Scripture – Luke 2:46-47; Matt 4:4–10; Mark 12:18-27

Goes out of his way to help others; Matt 8:7 Offered to go to Centurion's house to heal servant.

Jesus has compassion on people & heals sick (Matt 14:14) feeds them (Matt 15:32); HELPING OTHERS

Jesus socializes with tax collectors (Mark 2:15-16); with Pharisees (Luke 7:37); with friends Mary & Martha (Luke 10:38-42 & John 11); with followers on road to Emmaus (Luke 24:15ff); with disciples in upper room -- John 20:19-23.

Jesus never adopts his hosts' self-destructive bad habits. John 8:46

Forgives sins – forgives adulterer John 8:1-12; Paralytic Mark 2:5; Luke 7:48; on cross (Luke 23:24).

Jesus Feeds & Cooks for His Friends (John 21: 9ff). Jesus cooks fish & bread for disciples who had been fishing all night before.

Jesus is not too good to do servant work – washes disciples' feet at Last Supper. John 13:4-5.

Jesus is not fooled or trapped by the so-called smart guys. Taxes to Caesar; Resurrection? (Mark 12:13-27).

Jesus obeys God His Father – "always does what pleases Him" (John 8:29); Jesus says only what God taught him to say – (John 8:28).

Jesus Dies for People's sins Matt 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 19; Jesus' command to us: Love one another enough to lay down your life for your friend (John 15:12-14).

Jesus is Raised from the Dead – Matt 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, and John 20.

Performs miracles to fulfill prophecy: blind see, deaf hear, dead raised, lame walk, lepers cleansed – Luke 7:22

Tells people off – Woe to scribes & Pharisees – Matt 23; Pilate (John 19:11).

Gets exasperated at lack of faith & says so – "How much longer must I put up with you? [NIV, NRSV]..." Mark 9:19

Calls his disciples dumb: "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see ..." [NIV]

## Precious Hymns

By Ken Sutton

When I was just a little lad  
I went to church with Mom and Dad.  
I heard a lot of preachers preach.  
I listened to the teachers teach.

I learned the songs right from the start,  
Could quote the Bible, some by heart.  
When I grew up, alas I strayed.  
A lot of errors I have made.

Where e're I went one thing was clear.  
The hand of God was always near.  
The hymns I learned back in my youth  
Were always there in love and truth.

But now I'm old and time grows short.  
I pray that God will know my heart.  
And at day's end with joy I'll say  
That Jesus led me all the way.

Some day I'll join in Heaven's choir,  
Will sing for years and never tire.  
And when I look on Jesus' face  
I'll thank Him for abundant Grace.



To FBC:

*Thank you for your prayers, cards, phone calls and memorial fund donations as well as the beautiful flowers and reception for Mary Shrader's "Celebration of Life" Service.*

Mary Shrader's Family

Pictures:

*The beautiful Thanksgiving Cornucopia was a wonderful adornment for our Sanctuary.*

*Just a sampling of all the shoeboxes donated for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Project.*