

The First Baptist Informer Rockingham, North Carolina

“To know Christ and make Him known.”

Volume XXXIV * Number 44 * November 13, 2011 through November 19, 2011

Never Forgotten

samaritanaspurse.org

God can turn a troubled life around. Just ask Dejan.

When he was 6 years old, Dejan was removed from his home. He and his five siblings were placed in three separate orphanages. Although heartbreaking, it was better than the life they faced with an alcoholic mother and an absent father. At least someone would provide for their basic needs in the government-run homes.

Aleksandar and Marija, a husband-and-wife team who partner with Samaritan's Purse in Macedonia, lived next to Dejan's facility. Not having any children of their own, they enjoyed spending time with the orphans. Dejan, a sweet, energetic little boy, was one of the children they befriended. The Macedonian couple was concerned by some of the “talents” Dejan was learning from other children at the orphanage, especially the art of breaking into houses and shoplifting. The facility was located in the center of town, and the boys and girls were granted limited access to the outside world. With little supervision, it was easy for them

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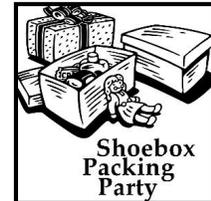


The Lord's Supper

November 13, 2011

11:00am Worship

A special offering will be taken to benefit our Benevolence Fund.



Shoebbox Packing Party

November 13, 2011

12:00pm

Snack Lunch

\$150



OCC Collection Week

November 14-19, 2011

10:00am-4:00pm



Backpack Pals

November 14, 2011

5:30-8:00pm

Those wishing to participate, please contact Debbie H. by 11/13.



Cub Scouts

November 16, 2011

6:30pm



Senior Adults

Southern Christmas Show

November 17, 2011

8:00am-5:00pm

Resource Recording Team, Monday, November 14, 2011: ; **Attendance Report, November 6, 2011:** Sunday School—87; Worship Service—148; Youth Worship (11/2/11)—28.

Serving on Sunday, November 13, 2011: **Ushers**—Charlie Auman, Gene Coen, J.C. Lamm, Chris McDuffie; **Greeters**—Irene Aiken, Virginia Cole, Jean Woodall, Robert and Nora Smith, John and Beth Ray; **2&3s**—Virginia Auman; **Children's Church**—Beth Ray; **Nursery**—Helen Cox; **Sound**—Sam Brigman; **Security**—Charles Harrill; **Deacons of the Week**—John Yates, Steve Bullard; **Wednesday Family Night 11/16/11**— Potato Bar, drink, and dessert: \$5.00 plate, \$12.00 for a family of three or more.

Coming Soon...



Beginning
January 2012

Call Anne Tyson for
information and
to sign up!



Baptist Men's Breakfast
Sunday Morning
November 20, 2011
8:30 am

Join us for a wonderful
breakfast prepared by Ken
Robinette and crew, and
fellowship provided by the
Baptist Men. All are invit-
ed!



Mr. Clyde Jenkins
Anonymous (2)

Dr. and Mrs. Moosa Hajisheikh
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Harrelson
Miss Evelyn Marks
Mr. B.T. Phillips

Mr. Jake Killian
Anonymous (1)

Miss Evelyn Marks
Mr. and Mrs. Steve McIver

Mr. Harold Matthews
Anonymous (4)

Mr. And Mrs. Elaine Davis
Miss Evelyn Marks
Mr. and Mrs. Steve McIver
Mrs. Betty Yount

Rev. Nash Odom
Miss Evelyn Marks
Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Yates

Mrs. Peggy Percival
Miss Evelyn Marks

(Continued from front.)

to skip school and get into mischief.

"He was confused," Marija said. "I remember him coming from time to time to our door, and the only thing he would ask for was a hug and a bandage for a scratch on his knee. He just wanted to be shown affection."

Dejan's life took on a new direction when Samaritan's Purse delivered gift-filled shoe boxes from Operation Christmas Child to the orphanage. The gifts not only warmed the young teen's heart, but also provided the opportunity to come to church for the first time and to hear about the heavenly Father who loved him.

After the shoe box gifts were handed out and children heard a Gospel presentation, orphanage officials permitted some of the youth to start attending church services for the very first time. Dejan was one of them. He enjoyed the services so much that he continued going to church regularly.

When Dejan was 19 and out on his own in the city, church became his refuge. The following year, he committed his life to the Lord Jesus Christ. The love and sense of belonging that he experienced brought Dejan to a new level of maturity and gave him a sense of purpose. He realized that he could be a mentor to kids who had experienced similar loneliness and loss.

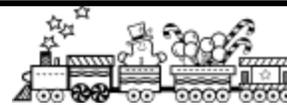
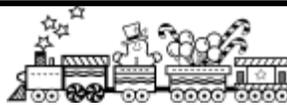
Now 26, Dejan feels called to reach out to underprivileged and abused children. He is active in youth ministry at one of the churches that Aleksandar pastors. The church operates a soup kitchen for children of Gypsy families who live at the city dump in Skopje, and feeds 80 to 120 kids daily.

Last spring, Dejan and the youth pastor started Thursday afternoon gatherings for children at the settlement. They share the Gospel, play games, and sing worship songs. In addition, Dejan is taking Bible classes at an evangelical Christian training center in the city. The Bible school, which was started by Aleksandar and Marija, receives financial support from Samaritan's Purse to provide scholarships for 30 students this year.

Dejan hopes the education he receives at the Bible school will equip him to share the life-changing message of God's unconditional love—something he began to see when he received his gift-filled shoe box—with children who think they have been forgotten. His greatest desire is to see neglected or abandoned youth come to know Jesus as their Savior.

"When I was young, the love and hugs from the Christians helped me go through the difficult days," Dejan said. "I want to pass the same love to these children. Maybe some of them will get saved as well."

Operation Christmas Child helps bring hope to disadvantaged youth in Macedonia.



Have You

Turned In Your Estimate of Giving Card?

FEED THE FAMILIES



Anyone interested in volunteering to help prepare and serve a Thanksgiving meal to those in need, please contact the church office (895-4016). Opportunities to help include decorating \$150, providing desserts, heating food, serving food, and clean-up. Thanks!



11/13 Carolyn Bridgman
 11/13 McKayla Ard
 11/14 Kitty Maddrey
 11/15 Inell Allen
 11/16 Tom Cox
 11/18 Davis Hilton



	Week of	Oct
Giving Summary	Nov 6	MTD
Gen. Oper. Fund	9,359	36,682
Chall. to Maint.	—	1,250
Memorials & Hon.	495	1,675
Radio Ministry	400	800
Van Fund	—	20
Baptist Men Fund	400	—
Fellowship Fund		500
Christmas		
Mission Offering	—	30
Total Gifts	10,654	40,957

General Fund Yr-to-Date Summary:	
Budget req. to date 2011	388,693
Actual gifts to date	322,200
YTD req. under actual gifts	(66,493)
% giving to req.	83%

From the Pastor...

It was a unique, special, and meaningful service this past Sunday as we recognized and remembered our military veterans. Thank you to those who worked to organize and implement the program, and to all who participated in it. Especially we thank our veterans!

It seems hard to believe, but Thanksgiving is quickly approaching. To direct our thoughts in that direction, I submit to you the following story:

There is an old proverb of a little fish which overheard one fisherman say to another, "Have you ever stopped to think how necessary water is to life? Without water our earth would dry up. Everything and everybody would die." The little fish swam away horrified: "I must find some water at once! If not, in a few days I'll be dead!" So he went swimming away as fast as he could. But where could he find water? He had never heard of it before.

He asked the other fish in the lake, but they didn't know. Out into the large river he went, but no fish there could tell him where to find water. He kept swimming until he reached the deepest place in the sea. There he found a wise old fish. "Where can I find water?" the little fish asked. The old fish laughed, "Water? Why, you are in it right now! You have never been out of it since the day you were born." So the little fish began his long swim back home, saying, "I had water all the time, and I didn't even know it."

This is like many of us in America today. We have the wealthiest nation in the world, with more things than we can imagine. Yet, we still search for happiness in the material world. The Hebrew writer tells us, "Be content with such things as ye have" (Hebrews 13:5 KJV). This does not mean we should abandon all desire to better ourselves, but it does mean we should look around and see the good things God has already blessed us with. Contentment is one of life's richest blessings.

As the season of Thanksgiving approaches may we focus on the good things we have, instead of on the things we don't have. *O God, help us to be content, realizing that we are in your hands!*

See you on Sunday as we share in the observance of the Lord's Supper. Jim Nelson

Choir Notes

Terrific Tuesday children are working on their Thanksgiving music for a special dinner to be held Tuesday, November 22. Choir chimes will be playing on Sunday, November 20. These two groups not only perform, but learn music vocabulary and note values. Music knowledge they learn at school also carries over into their church lives. Please encourage our children. Marjorie Hinson

Children and Youth

You're invited! Terrific Tuesday Families and FBC Families, Thanksgiving Meal and Program, Tuesday, November 22, 5:30 pm. Please join us for an evening of food, fellowship, and music. The turkey and dressing will be provided and we are asking our church family to provide covered dishes to finish off the menu. For those who were not able to attend last year, we had a wonderful evening of fellowship with our TT families. This year will only be better if more of our church family is able to join us. Please call me or the church office to sign up.

Reading is a wonderful way to travel around the world, into outer space, or into the theological world. Having completed several novels recently, I picked up Francis Chan's book entitled, Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit, for my next reading venture. For those who have read Crazy Love, or any of his other books, you know Chan has an interesting way of viewing things. I would

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like to share just a teaser from this book to possibly entice you to pick this read up for a perusal. Chan writes: *Years ago, when a random thought came into my head, I decided to share it with my wife. "Have you ever wondered what caterpillars think about?" I asked.*

Not surprisingly, she said, "No."

I then proceeded to tell her about the confusion I imagined a caterpillar must experience. For all its caterpillar life, it crawls around a small patch of dirt, up and down a few plants. Then one day it takes a nap. A long nap. And then, what in the world must go through its head when it wakes up to discover it can fly? What happened to its dirty, plump little worm body? What does it think when it sees its tiny new body and gorgeous wings?

As believers, we ought to experience this same kind of astonishment when the Holy Spirit enters our bodies. We should be stunned in disbelief over becoming a "new creation" with the Spirit living in us..."

Chan sets out to help the reader understand that there is no way to "completely explain the Spirit or to go back to the apostolic age. The goal is to learn to live faithfully today." He says that 1) "it is impossible for us as finite humans to completely understand an infinite God;" 2) "Many of us don't need more knowledge about the Spirit from a cerebral vantage point—what we need is experiential knowledge of His presence;" and 3) "we can never 'go back,' only forward, seeking what it means to live faithfully in the time and culture where God has placed us."

A copy of this book will be in my office and available for lending. Debbie Holloway

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, November 13

Prayer Time	9:00 am
Praise Singing in E-100	9:30 am
Sunday School	9:45 am
Radio Broadcast on G-104 FM	10:45 am
Morning Worship/Lord's Supper	11:00 am
OCC Packing Party/S150	12:00 pm
Morrison Worship Service	3:00 pm
Signing Team	3:15 pm
Praise Team Rehearsal	4:00 pm
Children/Youth Activities/Bible Study	4:30 pm

Monday, November 14

WOM Group #2	10:00 am
Backpack Pals/Hamlet	5:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, November 15

Terrific Tuesday	3:15-5:15 pm
Morrison Ministry (Yokefellow)	7:00 pm
WOM Group #3/Women of the Bible	7:30 pm

Wednesday, November 16

Wednesday Family Night	5:45 pm
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* * * WEDNESDAY * NIGHT * FAMILY NIGHT	Supper	5:45pm
	Adult Prayer Meeting	6:30pm
	Children/Youth Activities	6:30pm
	Cub Scouts	6:30pm
	Adult Choir	7:30 pm

Thursday, November 17

Senior Adults/Southern Christmas Show	8:00am—5:00pm
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RADIO SPONSORS: If you can't be present in the sanctuary for the worship service, listen to the broadcast on WJSG, G-104 on your FM dial. The following area businesses sponsor the broadcast: Crump Realty, Jenkins Automotive and Industrial Supply, Medical Center Pharmacy, Moss Brothers Tire and Service, Carter Funeral Home, and Dr. Kevin Aiken.



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