

Good News Letter

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As I write this article the NCAA basketball tournament is getting ready to begin. Today there will be sixteen games and it will be that way again tomorrow. It is called March Madness. Baylor, my college team, will play Yale (by the time I finish a final draft I will know how that game went). The NCAA tournament has become a spring tradition and it is a great distraction from everything else going on in the world.

One of the other things going on in the world is politics. Honestly I don't mind being distracted from it. But since the relationship between faith and politics is one of the hot button issues, perhaps the April newsletter is a good place and time to present what I think about it as long as no one thinks my ideas are generated by my thoughts about our church. They are not, but come from thirty years in ministry in times when the political have been increasingly contentious.

The first thing to say is that citizenship is a part of Christian responsibility. We should be good citizens and participate in the process. It is not, however, my place to tell you how to vote nor should I be compelled to vote in a particular way. That is between the individual and God. I acknowledge that the political climate is charged and divided. There are some Christians who believe that there is one right way to vote and every other way is wrong. I do not share this view. It makes me uncomfortable to have such expectations placed on me and I won't place them on others.

I do, however, have a vision for life in the church among people who might disagree about politics. It is good to be reminded that only rarely are there political solutions to spiritual problems and that the rule of love is the highest rule. For Christians, relationships are more important than political ideas or individual voting habits. My vision



for our church is for our common faith to rise above the rancorous climate. My hope is that people across the spectrum of ideas would be welcomed and not judged, that the love we share in Christ would unite us in mission and fellowship. It is my prayer that even if the political climate gets worse, our community would be characterized by respect.

Let the only madness be in the basketball tournament. By the way, Yale beat Baylor to my great disappointment.

– Mark

Thank You All

I want to thank all of you who contributed to the Change for Change offering for the Delaware summer lunch program for children. We collected \$157.13 in change!!! As always, the jar will be on the table in the Welcome Center throughout the year if you do not want to hold onto your change at home. I will empty the jar each Sunday and keep the change for you until November.

– Pam Faulk

Attention All Women

Were you aware that the women of our church get together once a month for fellowship? Please join us for breakfast at 9:00 on the second Saturday of the month. This month it will be on April 9 at Panera.

Fellowship Signups Needed

Thanks to all who have contributed to our fellowship time for the first quarter of the year. The signup sheet is available in the gathering space for volunteers for fellowship time this Spring. Please keep it simple. Some cookies, brownies, veggie platter, or cheese and crackers are appreciated. Coffee, juice, and water are supplied.

Volunteers

The following people have graciously volunteered their time in April.

Kid Connection

- April 3 Lana Palmer /
Colin Ferguson
- April 10 Open (Please sign up) /
Claire Turner
- April 17 Open (Please sign up) /
Aidan Ferguson
- April 24 Pat Gosser/Alec Ferguson

Fellowship Time

- April 3 Pat Gosser
- April 10 Faulks
- April 17 Triggs
- April 24 Open (Please sign up)

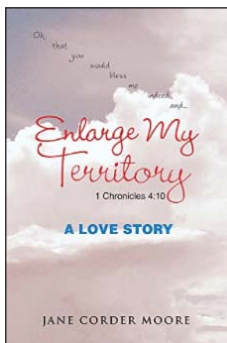
Panera Pick-up

- March 31 Gosser
- April 7 Faulk
- April 14 Open (Please sign up)
- April 21 Faulk
- April 28 Gosser

As you can see, there are several openings where no one has volunteered. Please sign up today and let's get all the blanks filled in until the end of May.

An Author Among Our Fellowship

Jane Moore has written a book about the months following the car accident that caused Jimmie's catastrophic injuries. It is a love story entitled ENLARGE MY TERRITORY. It was published by AuthorHouse and is now available through Amazon. I have read Jane's book and found it totally engrossing and touching. I would recommend it to all our church fellowship.



– Pam Faulk

PRAYER LIST

This list is prepared by the Deacons. Prayer requests will be removed after 2 months unless "renewed". Please send changes to Larry Faulk (Lfaulk01@aol.com).

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Deacons	Ray Serviss	Health issues
	Gosser Family	Condolences on the death of Raleigh's grandson
	Ken Frische	Hospice Care
	Alvin Cox	Health issues
	Betty Porter	Recovery from oral surgery
	Christina Kilhefner	Transplant recovery
	Penny Hagaman	Health issues
	Steve Baker	Health issues
	Bora Porter (Janet's daughter)	Health issues

Remember daily all the men and women in the military — those stationed in the USA and those deployed throughout the world. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Dr. Brown to Speak

Dr. David Brown will be the guest preacher on Sunday, April 17th.

Dr. Mark Allison will be on vacation April 11 -17. If you have a need during his vacation, contact one of the deacons.

Let Us Know

The deacons would like to know what's happening with you and your family. Let us know about your health and well being challenges that we can share with the congregation. We do not want to be nosey, but we want to be available to provide support for what you are experiencing.

If you or someone close to you is ill, or goes to urgent care or the emergency room, or is having a crisis that we should know about, please call one of the deacons. The deacons and a primary phone number are:

- Larry Faulk - (614)-204-1098
- Dave Lovell - (740)-369-6041
- Jennifer and Claire Turner - (740)-816-0269.

Youth Group

The FBC youth group hosted the Marion Association Youth on March 13, 2016 for a time of fellowship, games, devotion, and snacks. We made resurrection eggs telling the story of Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and the Resurrection. We played lots of games and had an Easter egg hunt. We had 10 kids and lots of fun was had by all! Thank you to Larry & Pam Faulk, Pat Gosser, Dr. Allison, Michele & Josh Mounts, and Mary Lou Lovell for coming to help hide Easter eggs, taking pictures, setting and cleaning up, and being a fun support for the youth. Our next youth group meeting will be on April 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room.

– Debbie Fogle

Mission/Outreach News

The Mission/Outreach Team met on February 28, 2016.

The team discussed ways to show appreciation to the teachers at Conger Elementary School.

We are asking that the congregation be a part of this by donating

Birthdays and Anniversaries



April 10 Jane Mercer
Connor Trigg
15 Ray Serviss
Tyler Wayne Fogle
20 Tammy Ferguson
27 Colin Ferguson
29 Deborah Fogle
Benjamin Trigg

*Names and dates are from the
2014 church directory.*

items to be placed in a bag to be given to each of the teachers.

We will be collecting the items through April 24th. There are 30 teachers. Items that we would like to include are:

candy, chocolate, cheese crackers, apples, and granola bars. If you have something that is not on the list that you would like to donate, let Pam Faulk or Mary Lou Lovell know. We are planning to assemble the bags on May 1st.

These bags will be given in early May.

There will be a box labeled "Teacher Appreciation Donations" in the welcome center in which to place the items that you bring.

We also would like to remember our college students. There will be cards in the Assembly Room for you sign on April 3 and April 10th. We are planning to send these cards in envelopes with a snack to let our college students know that we are thinking of them and praying for them as they approach final exams to conclude their school year.

Please make sure to sign all of the cards as you have a snack at fellowship time after church on April 3rd and 10th.

You may remember that we have provided meals for the "Stepping Up" class members last Spring and Fall. This part of the "Getting Ahead Program" which is a 16 session financial independence program facilitated by Delaware STEP for hard-working, low-income persons who are committed to transforming their lives. Each participant creates a personal plan for their pathway out of poverty and is actively engaged in improving the lives of people in our community.

On Wednesday, April 13th and Monday, May 23rd we are asking for help to prepare and serve a meal.

We will need 3 people to serve and clean up (4:30p.m. to 6:30 p.m.). We will need 4-5 people to prepare food for the "Stepping Up" class members. Food is to be at William St. Church by 4:30 p.m. If you would like to help and are not able to prepare food, you can give a monetary donation.

Please sign up on the Get Connected Slip. There will be a sign up sheet for food items that you would like to prepare during fellowship time after the church service, April 3rd and April 10th.

See Pam Faulk or Mary Lou Lovell for questions.

Bonnie Ristau and Nancy Miller are planning to come to our church on April 3rd and tell us about the "Getting Ahead" Program, the upcoming "Bridges" workshop for the community and the "gift card drive".

The next Mission/Outreach meeting will be April 10th at 1:30 p.m. Come join us! New ideas welcome!

— Mary Lou Lovell

Personals

• Two names were left out of this column last month, and I do apologize. Brianna Showalter was also on the Hayes Merit Roll for the second quarter, and Aidan Ferguson also sang in the all-city student choir in

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

15 Years Ago

April 2001 Newsletter

Edith Hall, 98, died in March at the Delaware Court Healthcare Center. Born in 1903, she had been a member of our church for many years. Her husband, Walter Hall, preceded her in death. The funeral was held at First Baptist with Rev. Robert Hughes officiating.

Former member Jack Smith, 74, died in March in Salem Ohio. He was a member for many years and was director of Parks and Recreation in Delaware until he retired.

30 Years Ago

April 1986 Newsletter

The pastor's office has been redecorated, including wood paneling and carpet (which was free).

It is good to see Nellie Sheets attending church again after her recent surgery.

45 Years Ago

April 1971 Newsletter

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Seckman, Vienna, West Virginia, are announcing the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Linda Louise, to Peter Alexander White, son of Mrs. Carolyn White. A July wedding is being planned by the couple.

Debbie Pettit and Ed Snouffer were married in our church. Ed is in the army and is stationed in Texas. Debbie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pettit.

A gift was made to the church in memory of Mr. A. J. Birdsell from his family. His family said he loved the church and was warmed by the fellowship.

February.

- Janet Lathrop was in the ER after several falls but is home now.
- Ellen Brown had successful back surgery and is recuperating at home.
- Please offer condolences to the Gosser family. Raleigh's grandson was recently killed in an auto accident. Raleigh would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers.
- Ray Serviss was recently in the hospital for a procedure for kidney stones and then was diagnosed with blood clots in his legs. He has been undergoing treatment for the blood clots.
- Ken and Pam Shears recently took a trip to Arizona.
- Larry, Pam, and Erin Faulk took a Spring Break Cruise to the Caribbean.
- Dave Lovell had his second cataract surgery which went well.
- Claire Turner was recently featured in an article in the Delaware News about her role in the Hayes Production of LES MISERABLES. Bravo to Claire for nailing the part of Fantine. Hopefully, you all got to see this absolutely wonderful production of Les Mis.