

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015•740-363-7021•www.FBCDelaware.org

The Perfect Mile, by Neal Bascomb, is the story of the chase for the four-minute mile between three athletes on three different continents in the spring and summer of 1954. The book highlights the careers of Kansan Wes Santee, Australia's John Landy, and primarily Britain's Roger Bannister.

Throughout the first half of the 20th century, runners had lowered the world record down to just over four minutes, but no one had been able to crack the barrier. It is hard to imagine it now, but then it was believed that the four-minute mile was beyond human capability and that anyone who accomplished the feat would die in the effort. The chase was associated with the attempt to climb Mt. Everest, and to break the sound barrier; its achievement was seen as the triumph of the human spirit.

It has been said of Roger Bannister that his belief that he could break the record came not so much from a refusal to believe that he would die or because he had overcome his fear of death, as from his willingness to die. That may be overstated. Remarkably, Bannister was in training for a medical career and on the day of the race he had worked a shift at a hospital in London and taken the train from London to Oxford for the attempt. He later became a renowned neurologist and claimed that he was more proud of his



achievements in that field than those on the track.

Roger Bannister passed away at the age of 88 on March 3rd, among the notables the world has lost so far this year. Having been a runner of sorts myself, and a fan of the sport of track and field, the news of his passing has been on my mind.

April is the month of Easter, a time to celebrate new birth, renewal, and resurrection. It is a time to think of Jesus who was also faced with more than the possibility, but the reality of his own death. The scripture tells us that no one took his life but he gave it willingly (John 10:18).

Like Bannister, his willingness came not so much because he believed he would not die or that he had overcome his fear of death. Unlike Bannister, who was seeking a temporary human triumph, Jesus was willing to die for the people he loved. For a while, Roger Bannister inspired those who were interested in his quest and his achievement of it.

The wonder of it has faded with the passage of time. In a much greater way and to a much greater extent, Jesus has inspired many more people to love and compassion, goodness and peace; to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

The death of Jesus stands out as the supreme revelation of God as suffering love, as we were reminded in our Lenten Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark. The raising of Jesus at Easter is the revelation of God's victory over death and sin and emptiness. It is the foundation of the Church's faith.

Celebrate it with the heartiness reserved for life's best celebrations. Be renewed once again by the magnitude of his sacrifice and the specter of his raising.

Have a wonderful Easter,  
**-Mark**

## ***From Our Pastoral Intern***

Happy Easter!  
As we start off the month of April with the resurrection of Christ, I am reminded that we have spent the last couple of weeks reflecting on the events leading up to both the cross and the tomb. But on this Resurrection morning, we are reminded that although the tomb was empty when the women arrived, the miracle

which occurred was no joke. As we progress through the season of Easter, let us continue to be reminded of the pinnacle moment of the Christian faith, the proclamation that has rung throughout the centuries: Christ is risen! Christ is indeed risen!

During the month of April, the youth will continue their ecumenical church visit by returning to Zion UCC for their morning worship on April 22nd, with a youth group meeting taking place that evening.

Blessings and Peace,  
*-David L. Harris, Jr.*

### **Holy Week Services**

#### **Palm Sunday**

Sunday, March 25  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship

#### **Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, March 29  
7:00 pm candlelight  
communion  
Fellowship Hall

#### **Good Friday Stations of the Cross and Service**

Friday, March 30  
Stations of the Cross  
11:00 am  
Worship Service  
St. Mary's 12:00 Noon

#### **Easter Sunday**

Sunday, April 1  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship

Mark your calendars and plan to attend. You are encouraged to invite family and friends to all of these services.

## **Mission / Outreach News:**

Our next meeting will be April 22 at 2:00 p.m. Come and join us and bring ideas to reach out in our community.

### **Getting Ahead Program Stepping Up Meal**

Nine Getting Ahead sessions have been offered to date with 58 graduates! A new session of 9-week training to community members who are committed to making a more stable life for themselves and their families will be offered at William St. Church.

To enable community members to commit to attending the training, meals are offered prior to each class. We have been asked to provide a meal or two for those participants. Many at First Baptist have been so willing to buy and prepare the food as well as serve and clean up. The meals have been greatly appreciated.

On Wed., April 11th we will be providing a meal. The meal will be planned and a sign up sheet will be in the Gathering Place for those interested in helping.

Meal providers and servers need to arrive at 4:30 p.m. at William St. Church. Those serving and/or cleaning up will be finished by 6 p.m.

Thanks for all the wonderful meals you have prepared in the past. Thanks to all who have served and cleaned up.

If you have questions, ask Mary Lou Lovell.

## **Easter Offering**

Offerings in the Easter envelopes will be donated to Disaster Relief through One Great Hour of Sharing.

### **Teacher Appreciation for Conger Teachers**

The first week in May, we will be showing our appreciation to the teachers at Conger Elementary School. In the past we have filled bags with treats, pencils, pot holders, potato cooking bags, snacks, and items teachers enjoy. We will be making 55 bags this year. We need your help to fill them.

During the month of April there will be a box by the front door for the items that you bring.

Suggestions :  
Individually wrapped items such as granola bars, chips, cheese crackers, fruit snacks, microwave popcorn, muffins, hot chocolate, tea bags, cookies, chocolate, hard candy, and tootsie rolls. pencils, note pads, or items you think the teachers could use.

The teachers have been delighted with the bags in the past. Thanks for your continued support to let the teachers know they are appreciated.

### **America for Christ**

Thank you all for contributing to the America For Christ offering. As of March 18, we had received \$565 toward our \$700 goal.

-Mary Lou Lovell

## Change for Change

Thank you all for contributing your loose change in March. We were able to donate \$151.10 to the Summer Lunch Program for Delaware children. Please remember to hold onto your loose change for when we change our clocks back in November. If you do not wish to hold onto it for that long, you can bring it to church on any Sunday and put it in the plastic jar on the table in the Welcome Center and I will keep it for you until November.

There were a few foreign coins in the offering. If you would like these back or if you collect foreign currency, please see me. -  
-Pam Faulk

## Personals

- Erin Faulk visited Matt and Marci Cooper and their family for a weekend in February.
- Lana Palmer was hospitalized in March. She thanks everyone for their cards and prayers.
- Please be in prayer for Lisa Lawrence and her daughter Cory. Lisa's husband Matthew passed away on March 15.
- Colin and Aidan Ferguson and Will Fogle traveled with other Hayes and Delaware orchestra members to New York City where they performed, attended a workshop, and saw the sights.

## Brothers All

Brothers All will be singing for the Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Rehearsals will be:  
April 8  
April 15  
April 22

## Volunteers For April

### Kid Connection

- April 1 Lana Palmer
- April 8 Pam Faulk / Gabe Folge
- April 15 Pat Gosser / Aidan Ferguson
- April 22 Candy Lee / Hannah Nace
- April 29 Volunteer needed / Will Fogle

### Fellowship Time

- April 1 Easter Sunday - no snacks
- April 8 Lovell
- April 15 Chambers
- April 22 Guebert
- April 29 Lee

### Panera Pick-Up

- April 5 Fogle
- April 12 Faulk
- April 29 Lovell
- April 26 Faulk

### Rides for David Harris

- Apr 1 Open -please volunteer
- Apr 8 Open -please volunteer
- Apr 15 Open -please volunteer
- Apr 22 Open -please volunteer
- Apr 22 Open -please volunteer

Please notice that volunteers are also needed for rides for David Harris.

**Thank you all for volunteering your time and talents.**

## Thank You

Dear ladies of First Baptist:  
Many thanks to all who helped and provided such a wonderful lunch for the Scott and Debra Nace memorial service! It was amazing and you sent home extra!  
We were so comforted by you love and kindness.  
-The Nace and Hunt families.  
Warmest regards,  
Judy Hunt

## Maunday Thursday Service

Please plan to join us for our annual Maundy Thursday "Upper Room" candlelight service of worship and communion, Thursday, Mar 29, at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.  
-Larry Faulk

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



### April

- 5 Evan Allison
- 10 Jane Mercer  
Connor Trigg
- 15 Ray Serviss
- 20 Spencer Chesser  
Tammy Ferguson
- 27 Colin Ferguson
- 29 Debbie Fogle  
Benjamin Trigg

*Please report any errors.*



## Prayer List

This list is prepared by the Deacons.  
Please send changes to Larry Faulk ([lfauk01@aol.com](mailto:lfauk01@aol.com)).

Name	Reason for Prayer
Alvin Cox	Health Issues
Lisa Lawrence and Family	condolences on the death of Lisa's husband Matthew
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Ken Peterson	Health Issues
Ben Geary	Health Issues
Kilhefner Family	Brother's Health Issue

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

### Attention All Women of the Church

Our April activity will be a covered dish luncheon at our own church in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, April 14 at 11:30. We have invited the ladies from Second Baptist Church to join us. Beverages and table service will be provided. All women and girls are invited. Bring a friend. Offer a ride to someone.

If you need a ride, call Pam Faulk, MaryLou Lovell, or Deb Guebert.

### General Fund Falls Behind

Our expenses for Jan, Feb, and the first half of March have been nearly \$5,000 more than our offerings to the general fund. This is a shortfall of about \$400 per week. Higher utility bills than last year, along with our property taxes have contributed to the shortage. While we are current with our bills, this deficit is a concern.

We need to encourage others to join in our fellowship and to share in our worship, education, and service.

*-Larry Faulk, treasurer*

### Newsletter Options

The "Good News Letter" is available by email. If you would like to save the time and postage needed to mail it to you, please send me your request at [lfauk01@aol.com](mailto:lfauk01@aol.com) and I will make sure you are added to the list of those who receive it via email.

The newsletter is also available each month on our website: [www. FBCDelaware.org](http://www.FBCDelaware.org)