

Good News Letter

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In some traditions, including many Protestant denominations, one of the elements of worship is the Passing of the Peace. It is very simple, worshippers turn to those near them and greet one another, one saying something like, “the Lord be with you,” and the other responds, “and also with you.”

For the first time in history, as far as we know, everywhere on earth people are restricting movement, practicing “social distancing,” working together on the same project, to slow and stop the COVID-19 pandemic. For the last three Sundays, and for at least the next month, we are not meeting together for worship services, or any of the other meetings in the life of the church. There has been no in-person Passing of the Peace.

Now we are entering the holiest time of the year, with Palm Sunday and Easter upon us, and we will not be able to get together. I encourage each of you to find creative new ways to observe the season, especially during Holy Week. As we have done the past two Sundays, there will be worship videos each Sunday.



Look also for a Good Friday Community Service on a live-stream from First Presbyterian Church (I will be participating, it will be at 12 noon). I hope to provide a link to that service on our website, so keep an eye out there. There are also daily scripture readings for Holy Week given here in this newsletter, and these can be a helpful way to observe the season.

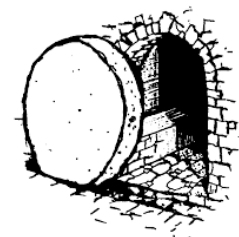
I don't want to miss the opportunity to thank Larry Faulk for putting the videos together. I do not have the expertise to make the technology work. And also to Mary Lou Lovell for coordinating the music and recording the piano and organ,

as well as Will Fogle and Randy Turner for their playing and singing. I, of course, don't have the ability to make the music. And also to Jim Snyder, and others in the near future, for recording the scripture readings. They have all been invaluable to me and to our congregation.

Finally, let me encourage all of you. Make phone calls and send cards and letters. Yes, use the old methods of communication, and the new ones too; send emails and texts. And pray. Pass the Peace. As many have said, these are difficult times. Solitude and distance are hard. I am sure that we will get through this experience; as individuals, as a church, a country, and a worldwide community. There have been sacrifices and loss, and there will be more. Stay faithful, God is present with us.

The Lord be with you,

- Mark



Note From Dr. Allison

Thanks to everyone who viewed the worship videos on fbcdelaware.org and have given feedback. Things are changing quickly because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to Governor Dewine's "Stay-at-home" order, I am suspending my office hours and working from home, and there will be no more Open Sanctuary until further notice. I do have my phone with me 618-210-9714 and my computer mallison1@twc.com, if you need to contact me for any reason.

- Mark

Vote Ohio

The March 17th primary election will conclude April 27, if you have not already voted, you can still vote by mail. You can order a ballot by going to ohiosos.gov, and follow the instructions to request an absentee ballot. You will need access to a printer so that you can sign the request, and send it by mail to the Delaware County Board of Elections at P O Box 8006, Delaware, OH 43015. You may also call the Delaware County Board of Elections at 740-833-2080, if you do not have a printer, and they can help you request a ballot.

Panera Pickup

Even though we may be "quarantined," Panera has remained open and our mission continues. A special thank you to Deb, Will, and Gabe Fogle for volunteering to pick up Panera for the next few weeks as long as Panera can give us bread and Andrews House is able to receive it.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



April

- 2 Cathy Reynolds
- 4 Taylor Turner
- 5 Evan Allison
- 10 Lauren Reynolds
Connor Trigg
- 15 Ray Serviss
- 20 Tammy Ferguson
- 27 Colin Ferguson
- 29 Deb Fogle
Benjamin Trigg

Please report any errors.

America For Christ

Since church was canceled during most of March, we had not yet reached our goal of \$700 for the America for Christ offering.

We are continuing the promotion of this special offering during April. Since church is not in session, you can mail a check to the church or contribute through our online giving.

- Pam Faulk

Change For Change

Thanks to everyone for bringing in their loose change last month. We received \$234 which will be given to the Delaware Summer Lunch Program for children.

Women's Fellowship

Because of the virus, we are going to maintain a social distance for another month and not have an April lunch.

Favorite Hymns

Several of the hymns you have chosen as your favorites will be included in the recordings each Sunday until we meet again for worship. If you don't hear your favorite, we will include it when we are together again for worship. Please tune in to the worship services on the website - fbcdelaware.org

Thanks From Getting Ahead

Many, many thanks for the meal you shared with us during the Winter 2020 Getting Ahead sessions. Due to world events, our last six sessions have been postponed. We're hoping to resume in early May with a late May graduation. But I didn't want to wait that long to thank you.

Your offer of a meal may seem like a small thing to you but your generosity eases the food insecurities of our participants in a big way, and boosts the nutritional value of their meals. I've heard many repeat again and again how much they'll miss your delicious meals once they graduate.

With gratitude, I wish you well,
Susan Fehl
Getting Ahead Coordinator for
Delaware County

Easter Offering

The Easter Offering will go to HelpLine. HelpLine puts people in need or crisis in contact with a broad range of community resources.

Personals

> Sophia Stephenson, wishes to thank the many people in the church who sent her a card on her 99th birthday.

> Thank you for prayers for Dave Lovell during his stay at Grady Hospital because of an allergic reaction.

> Ken Shears was recently given a prayer shawl from the church. Pam Shears thanked everyone for the shawl, prayers, and kind thoughts on Ken's behalf.

> On March 1 we served as a neutral church for Rev. Greg Roth to preach for members of the East Livingston Baptist Church in Columbus.

> The Delaware Piecemakers, who meet monthly in our church, had their quilts on display at the Delaware Library during the month of March. In the March 7 Delaware Gazette, Nicole Fowler's library column was about the Piecemakers' quilts and Jeanne Ekelberry and her quilt were mentioned.

> Pastor Mark Allison had an article in the Delaware Gazette on March 14.

> Steve Baker has been in the hospital with heart problems and an infection.

> Bev and Alvin Cox are home from Florida. Alvin had some complications from treatment while in Florida and had to go to the Cleveland Clinic.

> Peter White was recently featured on WOSU's program "Columbus Neighborhoods" in a story about the Marion railroad station. You can view this episode by going to our website fbcdelaware.org and clicking on the Announcement: "Peter White Shares the Marion Union Station."

Prayer List

This list is prepared by the Deacons.
Please send changes to Larry Faulk (lfaulk01@aol.com).

Name	Reason for Prayer
Alvin Cox	Health Issues
Raleigh Gosser	Hospice Care
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Raeleen George	Health Issues
Steve & Sharon Baker	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	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!

Email From Emerson & Ivy Wu

Dear Mary Lou,

Thanks for thinking of us and the prayers. We are fine in Taiwan (Republic of China, NOT People's Republic of China). Taiwan's population has 23.78 million (2018). There have recorded 267 confirmed cases as of today (3/27/2020) on China's Coronavirus outbreak. Taiwan government did and are doing a good job on controlling the spreading. Most of the confirmed cases are those who travel to and from foreign countries. People can still go to work and school. Yet, most people try to avoid the crowd and limit the social activities. There were couple times when we took the big city bus in the daytime, we were the only two passengers on the bus. There's one funny news happened yesterday - One man flew from Hong Kong to Taiwan. He paid about US\$100 for the air ticket. (About half price of the regular ones.) He was the only passenger for the entire airplane. After he landed, he was interviewed with tons of "wows".

Praying for your safety and Lord's provision on your daily necessity. Praying for the church, too.

Blessings,
Ivy and Emerson

Continue Giving

As you know our worship services and activities have been cancelled due to the recommendations to keep vulnerable members of our population safe. Although we are not attending services, there are still some ongoing expenses that occur to ensure our church is ready to attend when all is well. Even when we are not present in the building, we want to offer some options on how to continue your giving while following the recommendations to keep every safe and well.

These are some of the options that are available:

1) Mail a check to our church: 101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

2) Use the online giving option located on the website: www.FBCDelaware.org

Click on "Offerings and Donations" Click on "Click Here" to make an Offering or Donation Online Fill in the offering amount and make your offering In the top right corner, you can also make an account with a password to save time the next time you make your offering

Thank you for continuing to give so that we can complete the mission of our church and keep the church functioning during this time.

Thank you and take care,
- Deb Fogle

Card / Prayer Chest Ministry

If anyone would like a supply of cards, please e-mail (pact16@neo.rr.com) or call me (330-697-0923) and let me know and I will deliver them to your doorstep. I was talking to Genevieve this morning. She is into the L's with praying thru the directory. We were talking about maybe four or five of us willing to do that, start at the beginning at different times, so someone would be praying for someone different from the directory at different times. I think that would be a great way of carrying on the prayer chest without having to pick names from the chest. I would be willing to coordinate it if anyone was interested. She is on the L's, so today I will start at the beginning. Let me know if you have any questions.

- Candy Lee

Email From Jeni Pedzinski

Dear Mary Lou,

What a blessing to hear from you. It's utterly unimaginable that this has become reality the world over. We are in about the same

Readings for Holy Week 2020:

Monday April 6
- John 12:1-11

Tuesday April 7
- John 12:12-20

Wednesday April 8
- John 13:21-32

Thursday April 9
- 1 Corinthians 11:23-26,
and John 13:1-17, 31-35

Friday April 10
- Psalm 22

Saturday April 11
- Matthew 27:57-66

situation here. It's kind of fascinating, in a scary way, to be part of this incredibly historical and significant time in the world. This kind of thing is not at all normal.

You and the others at church are being wonderfully creative in responding to the restrictions and creating new ways of connecting and worshipping as a body in Christ. What a sweet service to them, that you would all work together to put something like that together. Well done. Actually, it's so interesting that anyone, from anywhere, nearly, can "attend church" with almost any church in the world right now because so many churches have responded similarly by putting resources and videos and live feeds online.

I do pray that you will escape this terrible virus, and that the church will not suffer any loss. The death toll around the world is absolutely staggering. Just staggering.

As for me ... like so many around the world, I'm coping with the

particular effects of this situation on my own life and work, such as losing major donors for this year already, which means sadly informing a lot of really sweet and deserving students/families that we won't be able to help them.

For some families it means their children won't be able to continue their education...not only because of the scholarship but because of how the virus is affecting their income, debts, etc.

Please pray especially for the director of NLCF. Her name is Bee. She's supposed to be "on vacation" this week and she's had no break at all because of various things going on. I feel terrible that - in this rare emergency situation - I've had to contact her to help deal with things. Usually it's my job to make sure no one bothers her ... but there was really no way around it this week. Makes me feel a bit like I'm not doing my job well.

Anyway - put into the context of the world's suffering, it's really not that big of a deal - but hard nonetheless.

I'm deeply grateful for the prayer of the church. May God help us rise to praise Him still.

With love and gratitude,
Jeni

Rev. Jennifer T. Pedzinski
Missionary to Thailand



First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015







April

2020

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

All onsite services cancelled for April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			April Fools Day 1 	2 7:45 Panera Pickup - Fogle	3	4
Palm Sunday 5 Online Service Available 	6	7	8	Maundy Thursday 9  7:45 Panera Pickup - Fogle	Good Friday 10  Noon Community Service Live-Stream	11
Easter Sunday 12 Online Service Available 	13	14	15	16 7:45 Panera Pickup - Fogle	17	18
19 Online Service Available May newsletter deadline today	20	21	Earth Day 22  Take Care of the Earth	23 7:45 Panera Pickup - Fogle	24	25
26 Online Service Available May newsletter available today	27	28	29	30 7:45 Panera Pickup - Fogle	April Mission Focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • America for Christ • Easter Offering for HelpLine 	