

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 two happiest days of the year for Christian believers are Christmas, the day of Christ's birth, and Easter, the day of Christ's resurrection. As is the custom, every year in springtime as the grass turns green and the flowers bloom, and as the trees come back to life, we celebrate the joyful news of life's victory.

In between there is winter, which, in spite of its beauty, is characterized by bleakness, cold temperatures, and the shortness of the days. In this brief reflection that comes at the beginning of the month of April, with Easter at hand, it is with the winter of life that I am concerned.

The inhospitality of winter serves as a metaphor of the difficulties of life that we sometimes describe with the same adjectives; cold, dreary, barren, dark. A "bleak midwinter" can describe the weather in February or it can refer to the darkness of war, disease, or sin, the heaviness that sometimes hovers over life and threatens to rob its splendor.

The Christian Faith addresses this heaviness. Its beginning came to a small band of believers whose hopes, and

April



He Is Risen

their understanding of life, were shattered when Jesus died. Skipping over of the troubling end of the life of Jesus, and our own troubles, to travel the distance between Christmas and Easter without the Passion in-between, is to miss the point of the whole drama, and to miss the power of resurrection.

We all know about the hard side of life because we have all experienced hard things. We are called to a mature faith. In a way, believers ought to be the most mature of all people, able to handle the hardships of life, and to help others by following Christ's example of sacrifice and service, and by seeing beyond the darkness of

life's winters to the springtime of life and light that follows.

The Maundy Thursday service on April 6th at 7 pm is a worshipful way to help. Attention to the tragedy of the night of the arrest and the cross on the next day deepens the joy of Easter faith. I pray that for each of you the observances of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter will touch the depths of that joy.

Blessings,
Mark

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
4:00 pm Cross Making

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6
7:00 pm Communion
Fellowship Hall

Good Friday

Friday, April 7
11:00 Stations of the Cross
Noon Service at St. Mary

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9
9:15 am coffee & pastries
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship

April Panera Volunteers

Apr 6 - Faulk
Apr 13 - Faulk
Apr 20 - Brown
Apr 27 - Grubbs

Thanks to all who volunteer.

PERSONALS

-Jennifer Turner took a trip to California to visit a friend.

-Randy Turner took a trip to Florida

-Larry, Pam, and Erin Faulk took a cruise to the Eastern Caribbean for Erin's spring break.

-Bud Salyer welcomed a new great-grandson on March 11.

-Randy and Jennifer Turner took a trip to Cancun, Mexico.

THANK YOU

Once again you have given generously to our Change for Change offering. You contributed \$221 for the summer lunch program for Delaware children. Thank you.

-Pam Faulk

THANK YOU

FBC Family:

Thank you for hosting James' recent Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Special thanks to Peter for helping arriving guests feel welcome, to Mark for offering an opening prayer, to Larry for his videography, and the FBC family for their attendance and support.

Sincerely,

-The Reynolds Family

WOMEN'S NEWS

The women will be meeting twice this month, but not on our normal Saturday, which would have been April 15. Instead, we are gathering in the Fellowship Hall at 4:00 on Palm Sunday. We will be learning how to make crosses out of the palm leaves that were used in the church service. Hopefully some of us will bring them back to hand out on Easter morning.

On Friday, April 21st, the ladies of the church plan on attending Aspire event at the Grace Lutheran Church in Westerville. Aspire is a one night event full of laughter, learning, stories and music. We will be meeting at our church and car pooling to dinner and then to Aspire. We already have tickets and we have 7 tickets available. Please see Candy if you are interested in attending. Also there is a flyer on the bulletin board with more info about the event. It is a wonderful event and we hope that you will join us!

Business Meeting

Please join us for our Quarterly Business Meeting on Wednesday, April 26th. We will share in a covered dish dinner at 6:30pm, followed by a brief business meeting at 7:00pm.

Mission/Outreach News

In February, a collection of new items was given to the Turning Point Shelter. At the end of February, Jean Ekelberry and Elizabeth donated many of their sewn items such as baby quilts to

Turning Point as well. Thanks to all who shopped, purchased, or took the time to make things for this shelter.

It brings as a smile to their faces to see that others are thinking of and praying for them.

During the month of March the America for Christ offering was taken. Thanks to all who so generously gave so that others needs may be met.

On March 12, as we set our clocks back one hour, we emptied out pockets of change to be given to Andrews House for the Delaware City Schools summer lunch program. Those that have low income appreciate lunches being provided for their children in the summer. Thanks to all who gave their change.

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
Devin Allison
- 29 Deb Fogle
Benjamin Trigg

Please report any errors.

Appreciation for Conger Elementary Staff

During the month of April we will be collecting items to make "Thank You" bags for the staff of Conger Elementary School. The staff works so hard daily for the children and this is a way we can say how much we appreciate the work that they do.

Last year we filled 70 bags. Suggestions of items you can donate to be put in the bags: Items must be individually wrapped.

- Granola bars
- Chips
- Tea bags
- Hot chocolate
- Dried fruit snacks
- Pencils
- Pens
- Candy
- Chocolate
- Cheese crackers
- Pretzels

The items can be placed in the box in the front entrance of the church in April and we will pack the bags and deliver them in May for Appreciation Day.

Please bring items by April 23rd.

Easter Offering

A special Easter Sunday offering will be taken on April 9 and will be given to Helpline.

Prayer List

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

Name	Reason for Prayer
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Janet Lathrop	Health Issues
Jay & Caldwell Lovell	Health Issues
Pat Gosser	Health Issues
Candy Lee's sister-in-law Patty	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!

THANK YOU

Thank you to Mike Reynolds for leading worship on February 19th. He gave us some examples of "Glory Be" moments and ways to think about them in our lives.

Choir Practice

It has been great to have choir members preparing for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter to sing. Thanks to all who give their time and voices so that we can have the choir as part of the service.

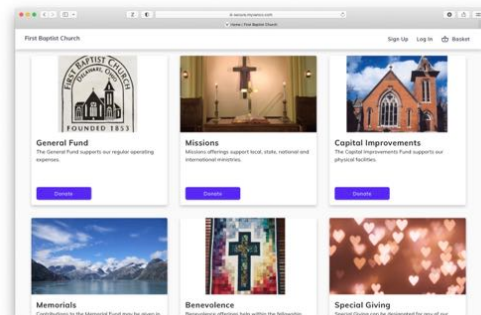
Financial Update

For the first two months of 2023, expenses in our general operating fund exceeded income by \$2,071. This is due to our winter heating bills and our February property tax bill. Contributions to Missions, Capital Improvements, and Memorials were received and appreciated.

-Larry Faulk, treasurer

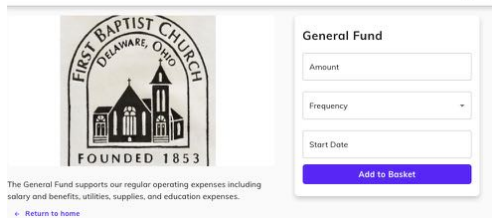
Consider Online Giving

If you would like to make an offering or donation to FBC, but cannot attend a worship service or would rather not have to write a check and mail it to FBC, you can now make an offering online. Visit our website at FBCDelaware.org and click on the "Donate" button.



You are presented with separate boxes for each of the giving areas: General Fund, Missions, Capital Improvements, Memorials, Benevolence, and Special Giving as well as one of the ABC Special quarterly offerings.

When you click on “donate” in one of the areas, you can enter an amount, a frequency, and a starting date.



On the next screen, you can choose to give by credit or debit card, or electronically from a checking or savings account. After entering your name and address, you can process your giving and save your profile to simplify future online giving.

If you need assistance in the process, please contact me at lfaulk01@aol.com or 614-204-1098. Your gifts to FBC are appreciated.

-Larry Faulk, treasurer

Sermon Manuscripts Available

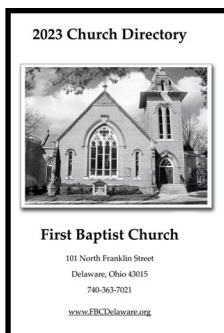
If you would like to read some of Dr. Allison’s sermons, they are available on our website. There are currently manuscripts for 2021 and 2022 online. Others will be added soon.

Interested in Membership?

There are several ways in which you can join our fellowship:

- 1 - By profession of faith and baptism
- 2 - By a transfer from a sister Baptist congregation
- 3 - By a statement of faith from other Christian faith traditions







We are mindful that some who wish to be a part of the FBC family life may not be interested in formal membership. Please don’t feel any pressure. For those who are interested, mention it to Dr. Allison, and he will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Then in a worship service where there can be a formal affirmation, we will present your decision to join.



Church Directory Available

The 2023 FBC Church Directory is available in the Welcome Center. Please take a copy. If you would like an electronic copy, let me know and I can email you one.

- Larry Faulk

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sixth Sunday of Lent 2 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Holy Communion 4:00 pm Women's Cross Meeting April newsletter available today 	3	4	5	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Candlelight Communion Service  8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	Good Friday 7 11:00 Stations of the Cross Noon Good Friday Service St. Mary	8
Easter Sunday 9 9:15 am coffee and pastries 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 	10 5:30 Deacons	11	12 6:30 Choir	13 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	14	15 8am Men's Breakfast Bob Evans
16 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Noon Board of Christian Education	17	Holocaust Remembrance Day 18 	19 6:30 Choir	20 8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown	21 Women's Aspire Event Meet at Church to Carpool	Earth Day 22 
23 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service May newsletter deadline today	24	25	26 6:30 Covered Dish Dinner 7:00 Qtrly Business Meeting	27 8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	28	29
30 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service May newsletter available today	May Day 1 	2	3	National Day of Prayer 4  8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	April Mission Focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Offering - Helpline Items for Teacher Appreciation Bags 	