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I have been complaining a little about Easter coming early this year. Waiting until later in April gives springtime so much more time to bless us with seasonal warmth and trees filling out and all the flowers of the season. I have long thought I would be willing to make Easter the second or third Sunday in April and leave it that way. But things are not that simple.

March 31st, which is both Easter this year, and the day the newsletter will be published, is actually not the earliest that Easter can come. That would be March 22, which doesn't happen often. The last time it occurred was way back in 1818 and it will not happen again until 2289, a gap of 467 years.

I have always believed that Easter was the Sunday after Passover, the date of which is determined by a lunar calendar, which explains why it moves around from year to year. Apparently I am mistaken. Some years Easter actually precedes Passover, like this one when Easter is on March 31st and Passover is April 23rd.

And things are made even more confusing by the Julian calendar used by the Orthodox in the Eastern traditions. Sometimes their Easter comes as late as early May. (In an occasional and coincidental occurrence, both the Eastern and Western churches will celebrate Easter on the same day next year, which will be April



the 20th). In the Gregorian calendar, which is used in the Western churches, Easter comes on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. It is all too confusing.

It doesn't really matter, of course, when we celebrate the Resurrection, but only that we honor it every day. The bright side of an early Easter is that we live for a few weeks longer in the time after the resurrection, and are given more time to contemplate it. And I have made too big of a fuss.

This Good Friday just past, I took my turn giving the sermon at the Community Good Friday service. The emphasis was the meaning of the Cross. The following is part of what I left them with, and offer here now as words of encouragement for the months ahead:

"The cross is God accepting us in the power of redeeming love. It is the triumph of mercy over judgment. It is God's kindness to all the world. It is the foundation of our kindness and mercy toward, and acceptance of each other. It carries us across divides and makes impossible friendships possible. It liberates us from excessive selfishness, from the seemingly never-ending habit of attaching eternal significance to lesser things, and somehow failing to attach eternal significance to eternal things. It dispenses with fear, calms anxiety, and makes new beginnings possible."

One can say much the same about the Resurrection. Good Friday and Easter operate in tandem to strengthen our hope in new beginnings, so that the news of the world does not get the last word.

I am reminded of the passage in the 21st chapter of Revelation near the end of the Bible, when the New Heaven and Earth come down:

"And the one seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' Then he said, 'write this down, for these words are faithful and true.""

They are at that.

**Blessings, and Happy Easter** 

- Mark

# April Panera Volunteers

Wed	Thur			
Apr 3-Faulk	Apr 4-Faulk			
Apr 10-Grubbs	Apr 11-Grubbs			
Apr 17-Brown	Apr 18-Brown			
Apr 24-Faulk	Apr 25-Faulk			

Thanks to all who volunteer their time for this mission..

# PERSONALS

-Dr. Bob Caulkins was recently a patient at Grady and is now receiving comfort care at Willowbrook South. His room number is 259.

- Ken Shears is at Sarah Moore receiving rehab for a broken pelvis. He and Pam would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers.

-Dave Lovell's nephew was killed in a car accident on March 1.

-Seven ladies from the Second Baptist Church joined our women for lunch on March 9.

-Will Fogle played a beautiful violin piece in church on March 3. Thanks Will.

-Gabe Fogle and the OWU tennis team spent a week in Florida in March. Will Fogle went there also.

-Rolf Remlinger went on a music cruise in March.

-Pat Lauver recently cracked a rib and her sternum in an accident.

-Jim Snyder would like to thank everyone for their prayers during his son Jeff's successful openheart surgery.

-Richard and Laura Brown traveled to Iceland in March.

-Larry, Pam, and Erin Faulk went on a Disney Cruise during Erin's Spring Break.

-Don't forget to RSVP to Deb Lovell and Rolf Remlinger for their reception in May. (See March newsletter or bulletin board in Gathering Place)

# ABW - Women's Fellowship

Our March meeting was on the 9th to accommodate all of the Spring Break trips. Women's History Month was perfect for inviting the Second Baptist Women for a potluck lunch. Seven of their members joined the nine members of ours for the first combined meeting since the Pandemic. Thank you to all our women for providing lunch.

Our next meeting will be on April 20th, in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a sack lunch and enjoy Springtime. - Laura Brown

## **Mission/Outreach News**

In March, the America for Christ offering was collected. Thanks to all who gave so generously to support vital ministries.

The Change for Change offering was collected in which you emptied your pockets of loose change to support the summer lunch program for school children Delaware.

Thanks to all who continue to fill the People In Need basket with food for those in need.

Thanks to all who pick up unsold items from Panera on Wednesday and Thursday nights to be distributed by Willis food pantry and Andrews House. Since we are picking up 2 nights a week now, we could use more volunteers. See Pam Faulk if you would like to help with this mission.

Our March/April mission will be collecting the Easter offering which will be given to Helpline. Helpline connects those in need with agencies to give them food, housing, and necessary services.

In April, we collect items for the Teacher Appreciation Bags given to the staff at Conger Elementary School.

A box will be in the Welcome Center for your donations. Suggested items: (All must be individually wrapped) Candy, Chocolate, Chips and snack items, Granola bars, Cheese crackers, Dried fruit snacks, Hot chocolate packets, Tea bags, Pretzels, Pencils, Pens.

Last year we filled 70 bags

## 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 Lovell Benjamin Trigg

Please report any errors.

#### Page 3

# THANK YOU NOTES

The church has received the following thank you notes recently. These can be found on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place.

# Dr. Mark Allison and First Baptist Church,

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers in memory of our mom Sara (Sally) Williams. They provided comfort to our family at a difficult time. A special thank you to Mark for leading the service and to Mary Lou for playing the piano. Our mom loved the First Baptist Church.

-Steve and Stephanie Williams, Judy Williams, Susan and Bob Bauer

### First Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for the donation in memory of Craig Reynolds. The Athletic Department is currently pricing AED's to purchase in Craig's name. Thank you again for the donation.

- Mike Lindsey, AD, Pleasant Local Schools

### THANK YOU

Thank you to my First Baptist family for the contribution to my father's memorial at the Pleasant Local Schools. So far over \$6,000 has been raised through gifts, which will be used to purchase additional AEDs (automated external defibrillators) to be placed near athletic areas at Pleasant.

Also, thank you for your prayers in my recent job search. I have been selected to serve as Assistant to the President for Leadership Investment (a fancy term for fundraiser) at Randolph-Macon Academy, a college

# Prayer List

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

### Name

Richard Lovell Dr. Allison's sister Ken Shears Janet Lathrop Pat Gosser Jenni Pedzinski and family Pat Lauver Trigg Family

#### **Reason for Prayer**

Health Issues Health Issues Health Issues Health Issues Father's stroke Recovery Continued Prayers

Condolences to the Reynolds family on the death of Mike's father Condolences to the Lovell family on the death of Dave's nephew Jay

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

preparatory school in Front Royal, Virginia. This job involves travel, but when I am not traveling I will be working remotely from Delaware.

### THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for contributing their loose change last month for the Change for Change offering. We were able to send \$234.50 to Andrews House to supplement the funds for the summer lunch program for Delaware children. -Pam Faulk

# 1989-1996 Missing Bulletins

Please check your personal archives. I am looking for any FBC Worship Bulletins for any Sundays from 1989 - 1996. I have been making archive copies of our church bulletins for our website and I can't find any from 1989-1996.

-Larry Faulk

### WORLD HEALTH DAY

On April 7 we will celebrate World Health Day. Around the world, the right to health of millions is increasingly coming under threat.Diseases and disasters loom large as causes of death and disability.Conflicts are devastating lives, causing death, pain, hunger and psychological distress.The burning of fossil fuels is simultaneously driving the climate crisis and taking away our right to breathe clean air, with

### Graduation

Brennan Howe Rutherford B. Hayes High School Class of 2024

All are invited to come and help us celebrate Brennan's high school graduation.

> May 25, 2024 1pm - 4pm Mingo Park 3 season pavilion

indoor and outdoor air pollution claiming a life every 5 seconds. The WHO Council on the Economics of Health forAll has found that at least 140 countries recognize health as a human right in their constitution. Yet countries are not passing and putting into practice laws to ensure their populations are entitled to access health services. This underpins the fact that at least 4.5 billion people - more than half of the world's population - were not fully covered by essential health services in 2021. To address these types of challenges, the theme for World Health Day 2024 is 'My health, my right'. This year's theme was chosen to champion the right of everyone, everywhere to have access to quality health services, education, and information, as well as safe drinking water, clean air, good nutrition, quality housing, decent working and environmental conditions.

# FBC History / Historical Special Services

I have been making copies of several of our FBC historical documents and programs of historical Special Services to include on our website. Visit our website at <u>fbcdelware.org</u> and click on FBC History or on Historical Special Services to view some of them. 50th, 75th, and 100th year anniversary items are included as well as a tribute to our first parsonage and 25th and 40th anniversary celebrations of pastor J.B. Stephenson.

If you have other significant historical documents in your personal collection that I can copy and include, I would appreciate it. -Larry Faulk

# **Easter Lily Dedications**

Jim Snyder

In Honor of Jane Moore In Memory of Mary Alice Snyder In Memory of Olive & Brooks Snyder

Dave & Mary Lou Lovell In Memory of Jay Emmer-Lovell In Memory of Dr. Robert Lovell In Memory of Jennie Lovell In Memory of Margaret Morby In Memory of Ray Morby

Candy Lee

In Honor of Maureen Howe In Memory of Bim Howe

Pam & Larry Faulk In Honor of our children & grandchildren In Memory of our parents

Carol Grubbs

In Honor of Jim & Anna Brown In Memory of Nick Haycox In Memory of Teresa Griffith

Pam Shears

In Memory of Gene Lathrop In Memory of Francis & Bill Shears

Richard & Laura Brown In Memory of our son, David Brown



# First Baptist Church 101 North Franklin Street

April 2024

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Easter Sunday March 31	April 1	2	3	4	5	6
9:15 am Coffee and Pastries 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service <b>AFC Offering Ends</b>	April DAY Fools Day		6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk		
9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Holy Communion	Solar Eclipse 8	9	10	11	12	13
			6:30 Choir			
World Health Day	***	5:30 Deacons	8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs		
14 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service noon Board of Christian Education	15	16	6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera	<b>18</b> 8:45 Panera	19	20 8 am Men's Breakfast-Bob Evans 11:30 am Women's Luncheon
			Pickup - Brown	Pickup - Brown		Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service May newsletter deadline	Earth 22 Day	23	24 6:30 Potluck Dinner 7:00 Quarterly Business Meeting 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	25 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	26	27
28	29	30	May Day 1	National 2 Day of Prayer	<ul> <li>April Mission Focus:</li> <li>Teacher Appreciation Bags for Conger Elementary School</li> </ul>	
9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service May newsletter available today			6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup -Gosser	8:45 Panera Pickup -Gosser		

Delaware, Ohio 43015